Merry Christmas Gimlet Brothers

From me, my family and the association I want to wish all my Gimlet Brothers and their families a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. If you know a Gimlet Brother or fellow Veteran in need during this holiday season reach out and offer a helping hand. Say Merry Christmas with a meal or meal voucher, at least a cup of coffee. Invite that person in for Christmas breakfast or dinner. If the veteran is homeless donate some warm clothing or bedding. Many of us veterans know what it is like to be alone, cold and hunger during the holiday deployments, longing for a home cooked meal and a warm place to sleep. Help a Brother Gimlet or fellow Veteran in some way to let that person know he or she is not forgotten for their sacrifices as we remember the sacrifices our lord and savior made for all of us.

End of year message:

I want to thank those Gimlets, past and present, which have assisted the association along with those who have sent in their new applications and dues in a timely manner. Since the new beginnings in 2016 I have spent more out of pocket money to put the wheels of the association in motion than I have received. Gimlet Brothers it takes money to maintain and operate the Gimlet Association and I cannot continue to do so without your help.

Within the next few months there will be more expenses to complete the association's transformation to nonprofit status as well as ongoing monthly expenses. With 2017 upon us it's been six months since the rebirth of the Gimlet Association 21st Infantry (GimletNation). Sometime within the next six months major decisions must be made as well as major change to leadership. In the past six months I've received many inquiries about the future of the association as well as suggestions about how best to grow the association; however, all those with suggestions chose not to step forward and help implement suggested changes to build up the association. I find that somewhat disturbing.

Older members as well as new members question the need to fill out a new application/enrollment form, and question the need for dues? All associations require dues. Many state that because they already belong to the association by way of Regiment Gimlet on Facebook there is no need to complete a new application or pay dues.

Many Gimlets are of the opinion that because they post to the "Regiment Gimlet" site on Facebook that they are automatically members of the Gimlet Association (Gimlet Nation). Regiment Gimlet is simply another communication venue tied to the association along with Twitter and Yahoo.

The new application will update your personal information such as mailing address, email address and phone number(s). I send e-mails and they are returned undeliverable, the same for USPS mail. For years I supported the association out or my pocket; however, since retirement I no longer have the funds to chase members to support the association as needed. My wife informs me that my credit card has almost reached its limit. Many Gimlet Brothers continue referring to the association as "My" association. The 21st Infantry Regiment Gimlet Association belongs to all of us Gimlets, past and present.

Show ownership in our Gimlet Association by paying dues and voicing your opinion as how best to maintain and operate the association. If you don't care to become a dues paying member at least make a donation to keep our regimental association alive.

Please, take a few moments to legibly complete the new application that can be found on the Gimlet website. The association asks Gimlet Brothers old and new to complete a current application and send it along with applicable dues or donation in care of Ron "Mitch" Mitchell at: 2251 North Rampart Blvd., #168, Las Vegas, Nevada 89128.

Sadly, I must report that the Regimental convention/reunion in the planning phase for Las Vegas summer 2017 is now history. The event planner notified me that the date has come and gone to put together a convention/reunion for summer 2017 in Las Vegas; however, there is ample time to put together a Regimental reunion/convention for 2018.

Not a single Gimlet returned any of the surveys posted or sent out to members regarding the convention/reunion. Only four Gimlets indicated any interest in attending the 2017 convention/reunion; also, neither of the two active battalions showed interest in a reunion event for 2017. Maybe I did not receive responses or maybe there was lack of interest because other conventions/reunions are scheduled for summer 2017. Anyway the window closed on the date to submit numbers to the event planner for a summer 2017 21st Infantry Regimental convention/reunion.

I promised I would stay at the helm of the association until June 2017; however, my leadership past that date is doubtful. It is time for new leadership. I am hopeful that within the next six months qualified Gimlet candidates will step forward to assume leadership roles. The association must acquire younger Gimlets to provide leadership for the future: Gimlets who are in touch with wants and needs for younger and future Gimlets.

Any Gimlet interested in serving as president of the association of other elected or appointed position(s) within the association please contact me for more information at: <u>gimletnation21@gmail.com</u> or <u>gimlet21infantry_info@yahoo.com</u> I will remain active to assist the new leadership if asked.

Once again, I wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, and remember Gimlet Brothers or Veterans in need during the holiday season.

Bore Brother Bore!

R. Mitch Mitchell, President Gimlet Association 21st Infantry