

## Advice from a Board Member

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Despite our better judgment, we will sometimes hang onto things longer than we should. We sacrifice our self-respect and make ourselves totally miserable in the attempt. Somehow we feel that if we put in that extra effort, the rest of the world will come around - it's human nature. Well, the fact is that rest of the world probably just doesn't care, and you are only hurting yourself.

I can remember back in the "old days" trying to get an artillery unit I once belonged to up to standards. I worked and slaved to improve our act. It even kept me awake on a few occasions. It took me two years to finally realize that the unit would never get off the ground, and the only thing these guys would ever have was "potential."

The Brigade needs a quality membership. We are always changing and we need the people who will go the extra mile. They are worth more to our organization than four men with this kind of "potential." I made the choice and you can too.

If you feel your unit is stifling your creativity, it's time to move on to one that won't. If you are tired of going to events alone, join an active unit. It may be years before your present unit is viable again. Worse yet, it may never be. Some of you have been out of the active Brigade for a while and are looking to get back into it again. If your old unit has "folded" you should seek out another one. The same holds true if you have relocated.

This thing we all do is a hobby, so it really doesn't matter if the unit you choose is French, German or British, or even if it is from Virginia, New York, or Massachusetts. You need to be happy. New blood is necessary for any high turnover organization to survive, but recycled blood is equally important. Little good can come of a disgruntled soldier who permanently hangs up his musket or rifle.



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