

Len K. Fettig – Unit Accomplishments

It took me a couple of years to get involved in my Unit's activities; after our move to Bella Vista, AR in 2004. There were several DBC's in the metro-area. What was missing was an organization to support them and communications to unite our Unit.

Unit 247 was completely inactive for six years. There were no Board meetings, no election of offices and no tournaments.

At the Clubs, very few Special Games were held; especially ones that justified a higher entry fee. Most of the club managers were just going through the paces, without any real game plan.

I started off slowly, by asking if I could create a web site for our Unit. I next added a quarterly newsletter for our players. A Sectional tournament sounded like a good idea, so I did that.

It was time for me to actually be on the Unit Board as I continued to build things up.



Because of the dormancy of our Unit, people needed to be trained to do the various jobs.

It took some time, but now we are at a point where we are developing people to take on more responsibilities.

The Club managers, who were reluctant to run special games, have come around and now my Unit tops the District for participation in: STaC, NAP and GNT events, as well as frequency of Club play (per member) and new member retention.

I've passed along my responsibilities as Unit President, Webmaster and Tournament Chair. I'd like to find someone to take over as Bridge Newsletter writer. I do a lousy job of it, but after six years it still gets published on schedule.

At the Unit and Club levels, we need to develop more introductory teaching programs and the Unit financials need to be strengthened. I am optimistic about the future of my Unit. We have come a long way in ten years; from comatose to fully functioning.

Several times people have asked me for the Secret to the accomplishments in my Unit. I've never been able to answer the question. I feel that we are just doing the things that need to be done. People are rising to the occasion. We have plenty of volunteers. The positive momentum shows in just about every aspect of our geographically-spread out Unit.

Over the years I have been on lots of management teams. I have started new organizations, shut down organizations that were no longer viable and pulled organizations back from the brink of collapse. Being involved in turning around my Unit has been incredibly gratifying for me. We are so very fortunate to have the kinds of people in NW Arkansas that want to serve their respective bridge communities.

Build for Tomorrow