

Unit 143 Honors Milt Zlatic with Meritorious Service Award

Today is a very special day for Unit 143. We are recognizing an individual who has selflessly and, I might add, very quietly served our Unit for more than 25 years.

Milt served on the board in the 70s, the start of decades of giving. Some of you may not know of his generous gifts to the unit and district. Milt is a quiet giver, shunning any outward recognition. Milt upholds the integrity of the game of bridge and brings technology skills to the Unit.

First let's talk about his technology gifts he has given the Unit. Milt is known as the computer guy that can fix all computer related problems. He was a member of the original design team that created our website and was specifically responsible for setting up the interactive map of clubs as well as the online calendar. A few years ago he revamped our website by adding member lookup, 70% games, ACBL news feed, news ticker, member stats and the site search. More recently he also conducted the study to map out where our membership lives and posted the map representing our membership. Additionally, Milt independently improves our website with fun additions such as seasonally appropriate borders. He continues to maintain and innovate the Unit's website. He cleans up files and does whatever magic Milt does to keep the website working more efficiently. Whenever we are having an issue involving technology, the Board will discuss it, our very competent web team will apply themselves but if we hit a snag we always know that Miltie IS THE MAN! He can fix it or he will teach us how to do it ourselves. I hope this adequately paints the picture for you...Milt is the quietly steadily beating heart of our Unit website.

Earlier I mentioned that he tirelessly upholds the integrity of the game. Milt Zlatic has served as the Unit Recorder since 1995 and shortly after that has been the District Recorder. The recorder has many duties but generally Recorders receive, investigate and respond to players' reports. Most often these reports concern matters of player conduct and ethics. The ACBL requests that the Recorder be someone with (and I quote) acknowledged bridge ability and be a person with impeccable ethics, integrity, honesty and demeanor. This describes Milt Zlatic to a tee. He quietly puts himself on the line in controversial situations only to protect the integrity of the game we all love. How fortunate Unit 143 is to have such a man willing to give his time, many skills and judgment 24/7 for more than three decades.

I personally feel so very grateful to know Milt as a friend, a role model of principled action, a free giver of time and talent without expecting any recognition.

For these incredible contributions to Unit 143, it is my great honor to present to Milt Zlatic the Unit 143 Meritorious Service Award. On behalf of the Unit I give you this framed recognition and a gift card to Micro Center. THANK YOU SO VERY MUCH!