



MICHIGAN STATE NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

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Dear Members, A number of rumors have been circulating. Your Secretary has researched the claims and offers the following results.

President

Julianna Wostyn

Vice President

Brian Malnar

Secretary-Treasurer

Mike Strub

Immediate Past

President

Dr. Andrew Parks

Board of Directors:

William Anderson

Al Bobrofsky

Dr. John Chirco

Steve Friedman

Steve Garvin

Brett Irick

Thomas Klunzinger

Steve Marzilli

Joe Peruski

Dany Rothfeld

Chuck Sharpe

Ron Sirna

Legal Counsel

TBA

Rumor: *MSNS is giving away or selling your personal information.*

Fact: MSNS will NEVER give away or sell your personal information. Your board consists of dealers and collectors with the same security and privacy concerns as you. We never turn over our mailing list unless it is to a company with a contractual obligation to use the list once and destroy it. Such is the case, for example, with the mailing of your MichMatist to you. The "Ship And Insure" member benefit information will also be provided to you in this way. This has never been a security problem.

Rumor: *Use of a club credit card puts club funds at risk; we should only use checks.*

Fact: Your club now has one credit card, controlled by your treasurer, which earns points worth approximately one percent of purchases. Over the decade prior to 2014, there were 60 occasions (2.5% of all payments made) when an officer's credit card was used to pay over \$9000 of club expenses. Starting this year, points and benefits have accrued for your club, rather than any individual officer.

Rumor: *The board voted to make it more difficult to join our club, by re-designing our membership form to require a member to be the "recommender" for every applicant.*

Fact: The requirement is at least 47 years old. Past President Al Bobrofsky attests: All copies of the by-laws since 1967 (Article II Section 7) state: "... each applicant shall be proposed by a member in good standing." Because the Secretary was not requesting the name of this proposing member, your board added "Recommended By" to membership forms. The idea: Members recommending other members improves our security.

Rumor: *As a condition of entry to future conventions, we will force attendees to give us personal information, e.g. a driver's license – or we will even, supposedly, photocopy it.*

Fact: At the request of our own membership, we will require of attendees that adults show us a driver's license or other photo id to prove the name written on their name tag is their own. They do not have to provide or show us anything more. A phone number, email address, and/or mail address may be provided to the club at the attendee's option, which would be used for notifications about future numismatic events.

Rumor: *Board members can no longer exhibit.*

Fact: Board members may exhibit, just not competitively (starting December 1, 2014). This resolves the appearance of a conflict of interest. It holds officers to a high standard.

Rumor: *Membership is declining because of the new membership form.*

Fact: My MichMatist article research yielded an interesting fact: overall membership is stable over the last 40 years! Also, logically, reduced numbers of renewals could not be caused by a form which renewing members are not even asked to fill out. Membership oscillates by as many as 300 people during a year based on late renewals, dealers and assistants renewing only for the second convention, etc.

Please contact the Secretary to verify rumors!
I'm glad to be of service.

Michael C. Strub