

Mark Lighterman – Election address

As a charter member of the CC&GTCC, I welcome the opportunity to serve this club as their next Secretary. For those who do not know my background, I have extensive experience serving on the board of other clubs for over 20 years. I have served as a board member and Past President (1993 to 2007) of the Florida United Numismatists, a coin club with over 3000 members and a 500+ table show that brings in an average of 10,000 attendees every year. I am a current officer of the Token and Medal Society having held the position of Secretary (with duties that included membership and banquet planning for the club's annual meeting, 1997-2005) and Treasurer (2005 to present.) I am also the Vice President of CONECA and both a National Volunteer (1996 to present) and the newly appointed National Exhibit Chairman for the American Numismatic Association. I have also been Chief Judge, Membership Chairman, Officer and a founder of many clubs throughout my years in the hobby.

What does this mean to the CC&GTCC. It means I will bring the knowledge of what has both succeeded and failed in these clubs to our great club. All these clubs have suffered the same problems the CC&GTCC has (loss of members, fewer new members, higher printing costs, etc.) They have all tried 'new ideas' to bring people into or back to their club. The CC&GTCC does not need to reinvent the wheel. There are many resources and sharing programs from other clubs that I can bring to the table that the CC&GTCC can utilize to make this great club even greater!

The membership is the driving force behind any club. Not just those online, but the entire membership. One can argue as to the percentage of members that are online but it eventually comes down to how many members visit any of the chip boards on a regular basis. The membership wants, and needs to be heard. At this point the journal is the only official means of getting information to its members. I will work with the board to use other methods of getting info out to the members on a timely manner.

On the same note the board must work as one and speak with one voice. The board must be on the same page and communicate with one another on all decisions made on behalf of the club. It is the job of the president to communicate with the clubs members with the backing of the board. I believe I can accomplish this with those elected, having worked with boards made up of many different personalities. This is an art and only one learns by experience.

This club is made up of two camps; the collector and dealer. Both are members and an important part of the club. Without both we would not have a convention. The board needs to be open to suggestions from both

camps. It can not be one camp nor the other.

Holding the title of Secretary is not just a title given to a board member but a responsibility with certain duties. I fully understand what is required of the position and what would be required of me if elected. and thus I request your vote for Secretary of the CC&GTCC.

Mark Lighterman