

Mendocino Listserv Survey Comments

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[297,353,831](#)

Thank you MCN for providing these great lists. A group of local moderators lightly, respectfully and fairly enforcing community chosen rules is my vote. The reason is that I hope moderation done right will long protect the lists to allow continued free sharing of ideas within the community. These lists may be a last stand against the massive consolidation of news media and the corporate control of most modern social media platforms which we have witnessed. These shifts have enabled mass propaganda and censorship, now increasingly automated by artificial intelligence. Therefore, despite our differences, I hope we will work together to guard our fundamental right to share various ideas and to hear what others in our community honestly think and feel. I especially want to hear why my friends and neighbors believe as they do, relatively unfiltered, when we may disagree. Debate can be an educational sport and few sports lack rules and referees of some sort. If exchanges devolve into personal attacks due to individual frustrations and communication styles, issues can get lost and the utility of the list for all can be diminished. Let's keep it civil to keep it going. It has been great to learn from many of you and an honor to meet some of you in person.

Saturday, Jan 13th 12:06AM

[297,325,629](#)

rather tricky. I hope it can be fair and reasonable. It's hard sometimes to read comments by those we disagree with, but they should have a say also.

Wednesday, Jan 17th 11:32PM

[297,323,730](#)

I vote to have [NAME] moderate the Announce List. There's only a small handful of people who have polluted the List. Those few people would receive warnings before they're banned. If subscribers to the Announce list would either block or delete the posts of the people that offend them, the List could remain as it is. My comments are regarding the Announce List only. - [NAME]

Saturday, Jan 13th 12:14PM

[297,272,601](#)

It would be great to request that users default to REPLY vs. REPLY ALL. What I find most annoying is these guys who keep engaging with one another in an angry manner -- and ALWAYS using REPLY ALL so that they can show off whatever they think they're showing off (cleverness? manliness? God only knows what). Somehow excessive use of that should be strongly discouraged. It's like going on the P.A. system in a grocery store when you're having a spat with your husband while standing in line. Why? Also, I don't know the implications, but it might be nice if everyone had to identify themselves. I've had people publicly denigrate something I'd written -- but then they won't even say who they are!

Tuesday, Jan 16th 11:10PM

[297,117,406](#)

I love the list serve!

Saturday, Jan 13th 10:21PM

[297,112,289](#)

There is a reasonable acceptable use policy for the Announcement list, it has never been enforced. I think if it were enforced to be Announcements (which maybe need to be better defined), moderation is pretty straightforward. If the content is not concerning an announcement of an event, sale, job posting, etc. then it does not belong on the list.

Saturday, Jan 13th 5:09PM

[297,075,661](#)

I stopped using listserv several years ago because it was dominated by a few individuals who repeatedly posted multiple irrelevant vituperative threads. Some moderation would be a great improvement to this community service.

Saturday, Jan 13th 1:48AM

[297,074,377](#)

I used to enjoy the Announcements a lot more, when it was about buying/selling/events/rentals and other pertinent activities. Then it somehow morphed into posters using the list as a personal Facebook page, with numerous "creative" projects and opinions that have little to do with announcements. Then came the personal insults and public brawls which have all but driven me away, and driven many others

away. Bring back the original terms of conditions and make them stick.

Saturday, Jan 13th 12:53AM

[297,073,644](#)

Thank you for this survey, and for the MCN Listserv

Saturday, Jan 13th 12:16AM

[297,073,348](#)

1.It would be nice to keep the list serve in some fashion 2.Civility needs to take priority over free speech. Insulting and assaultive speech should not be allowed. 3.Those who break the rules or are inappropriate should be removed. 4.Though I feel the the list serve should be for those of Mendocino County, possibly a "guest" designation could be given to those outside the county on a permanent "Trial Basis." They must agree to abide by the designated rules and can be removed permanently, or a designated amount of time, if determined to be inappropriate, the same as residents of Mendocino County. 5. Advertisements, if any, should be local to Mendocino County and "qualified." 6.To the best it can be achieved, insulting language, assaultive language, inappropriate language, spamming, and phishing, should not be acceptable or allowed. 7. Though sometimes limiting, text only works. Images can be too large or inappropriate. Links to appropriate websites can give messages when needed. Best wishes with the listserv, which is a valuable part of the community.

Friday, Jan 12th 10:56PM

[297,068,773](#)

I have a number of additional suggestions / recommendations / extra tweaks to the above (which is very clear, good, and thorough, thank you). I don't not have time + capacity to write all my suggestions down, but am happy to have a brief, up to 30min focused call with a member of this team to pass on my thoughts if that's of interest. I do not have time or capacity to join this steering group, but do have many years of helping shape and facilitate community. My email is below. Many thanks for all your hard work so far, it is much appreciated.

Friday, Jan 12th 5:47PM

[297,059,744](#)

While I agree that a very small number of obnoxious posters have got us to this point, (and personally am sick of them) I do not believe any kind of moderation beyond limiting size of postings and Bcc can

still allow for free speech. It is a very slippery slope to try to censor anything as what is acceptable to one maybe unacceptable to another. Free speech means FREE of censorship. "Moderation" is just a PC form of censorship. I would be a shame if this community which has always prided itself on the principles of freedom & democracy were to eliminate free speech in the list serv.

Friday, Jan 12th 2:42PM

[297,056,565](#)

I find the Announce List to be a great community resource for information, activities, advice and more. Though blocking users I find offensive has worked for me, it doesn't seem to for some others, so it seems some moderation of those who don't follow Acceptable User Terms would be useful. I don't participate in the Discussion List and it would be greatly appreciated if discussions were actually kept on the that list, perhaps even blocking those who persist in using the Announce List for that purpose.

Friday, Jan 12th 1:44PM

[297,055,668](#)

Free speech you [INSULT]

Friday, Jan 12th 1:40PM

[297,050,156](#)

When abuses/abusers are tolerated you create a space that excludes the most vulnerable populations. LGBTQ, people of color, disabled people etc. By moderating the listserve you create an environment where all are welcome except bullies. By leaving it unmoderated you create an environment where only bullies and people who can or will tolerate that are welcome. Research shows that consulting a diversity panel about more complex cases helps mitigate discrimination by moderators. We all have biases and no matter who you choose they will not be perfect. Please include a policy of doing so in cases regarding marginalized identities.

Friday, Jan 12th 11:13AM

[297,047,101](#)

Thank you for your efforts.

Thursday, Jan 11th 11:07AM

[297,035,513](#)

If the announce list just published announcements there wouldn't be a problem.

Friday, Jan 12th 4:37AM

[297,031,519](#)

All objections that have been going around in circles the last year or three are baseless. In every case individuals choose to read things that they object to, and then they expect us to all be like oh I'm soooo sorry that you can't control your [INSULT]. Personally, I subscribe to the digest version of the announce list and I read the top of the list where the subject lines are and then I read the announcements that I am interested in. Sometimes I am interested in them because of what they are about, sometimes because of who posted it. I'll admit that sometimes it is frustrating to have to scroll through so much stuff to get to what I care about, but I am amused by the people who complain about this. [INSULT]. Now if someone were to [THREAT SCENARIO] to force you to go on the listserv and read their posts, for sure, call the cops. But this is too far fetched to consider as a rational possibility. [NAME] hit the nail on the head when he told [NAME] he needs to [INSULT]. Absolutely every complaint he has is baseless and he has become the primary guy who plays with [INSULT], who I've been ignoring for 5ish years The only new rule that would help anything is if you made it so the machine would not post posts that start Re: whatever to the announce list. It doesn't matter what one announces, but if you reply to the list rather than the poster then you are discussing it and there is another list for that. Simple, short, addresses all the issues that have come up, and can be done by the machine. This might reduce the kneejerk reflex posts. But then you might need to schedule the digests to go out on a time schedule regardless of how many announcements there are. Some days there are fewer digest and they might not come every day if there was no discussion posts, and post are already often out of date on the digest list I advocate turning the list over to [NAME], that is the only decent option that has been offered. If you want to be on a moderated list, [WEBSITE] offers moderated access to the announce listserv, yet another reason that my opening statement, All objections that have been going around in circles the last year or three are baseless, hits the nail squarely on the head.

Friday, Jan 12th 1:13AM

[297,029,399](#)

No one should be able to decide if a comment is a conspiracy theory or not, or kick someone out if they believe in something that currently might not be what the media tells us to believe.

Thursday, Jan 11th 11:39PM

[297,029,357](#)

I have no interest in the Discussion List. I don't care if it stays or goes and I don't care if it's moderated or not. But if it goes, I don't want its content and its denizens poured into the Announce List. If at all possible I would like a full stop on cross-posting to both lists Announce & Discussion (either as original posts or as replies). If the Discussion List address is in TO or CC fields, do not publish on the Announce List. That said, I have no issue with cross-posting to Announce/Breathe. 3 strikes for suspension is fair. Honestly, 1 strike for the 3 main [INSULT] would be fair. More than 1 person should be moderating - Ideally 3 or 5. Even if [NAME] were to take this on, he should have a partner or a team. Let's cut back on URLs to international stories (DG) or stories that have little or no relevancy to Mendocino County. They belong on Discussion. Moderation After Posting if possible. Moderation Before could kill the real-time flow of posts - and urgent local posts could get delayed. I suppose there is no perfect solution. Good luck and thanks for your efforts to preserve the Announce List.

Thursday, Jan 11th 9:54PM

[297,028,921](#)

1. "We are a group of Listserv lovers." What are your names, then? You have my name. 2. Your intro is [INSULT] and the list of checkbox answers to almost every question on the questionnaire is leading, and [INSULT], [NAME]

Thursday, Jan 11th 11:07PM

[297,028,448](#)

Moderation should have the goal of protecting those with less from those with more.

Thursday, Jan 11th 10:08PM

[297,027,987](#)

I have been on the listserves for years, I am so sorry that just a few [INSULT] individuals have brought us here and I thank u for trying to bring some sanity, while keeping the lists alive I have NO problem with whatever moderation you decide, banning ppl from the lists.

Thursday, Jan 11th 9:13PM

[297,025,276](#)

Moderation is censorship. Listserv members should be responsible for themselves and self-censor

material that they don't want to see or find offensive and block users whose content they don't want to see.

Thursday, Jan 11th 5:54PM

[297,025,067](#)

I commend you for your hard work on this. You have considered possibilities no one has mentioned before. We need some moderation to keep us in communication without so much stress. Bullies exist!

Thursday, Jan 11th 5:34PM

[297,021,310](#)

The Announce List can be more restrictive. The Discussion List can be more free-wheeling. The rules should be able to evolve over time. But, freedom of speech is important to me. I can accept insults, opinions and even lies. But there should be a limit on cruelty. Maybe a vote of the members in some cases. Politics, identity subjects, religion, Fund Me, etc. should be OK.

Thursday, Jan 11th 4:03PM

[297,020,050](#)

It's a shame that a handful of [INSULT] have brought this great community service to the point of near extinction. Their identities are known and they should be barred from participating in the new list serve for at least few months, then if allowed back, put on probationary period. If they can control themselves for the duration of probation they can rejoin but will be excluded for life upon the first offense if they relapse into their old ways. We're only talking about a few folks here and frankly, the list serves would be better off w/o them.

Thursday, Jan 11th 3:48PM

[297,019,124](#)

Though there should be a fair sense of freedom of self expression on the list. That said, a consistent and repetitive habitual attack by one person on another on the list should be considered combative and inappropriate. We need to find that line between freedom of self expression, and a list which has degenerated into a rolling head banger party. Humor and sarcasm are perfectly allowable expressions. Epithets, accusations, continual insults, and persistently abusive language are not conducive to list integrity or function and should be respectfully managed (if at all possible to extinction.)

Thursday, Jan 11th 3:32PM

[297,017,046](#)

I think any moderation will be extremely difficult (fraught with different opinions, time-consuming, contentious) and will understand/ be happy with the listserves continuing with no moderation. I marked preferences (above) that I think are highest priority and mostly doable. But I'm not sure any of it is realistic. Kudos to any of you for trying.

Thursday, Jan 11th 2:58PM

[297,015,756](#)

I'd like to know who "we" are, i.e. the people behind this survey. I would very much like to be able to do my own moderation. I do NOT want to get the list as individual emails. I want to use the digest form but would love to be able to block certain people in that format. Right now there are only 3 posters I would block. I have a thick skin.

Thursday, Jan 11th 2:33PM

[297,014,862](#)

THANK YOU! I do not use the Discussion List so have left that blank

Thursday, Jan 11th 2:17PM

[297,014,435](#)

It's so ironic that the changes to ownership of these Listservs seems to have been brought on by threats of legal action that likely came from some of the same few participants who have perpetrated, and have since perpetuated, the very behavior on the lists that created the problem in the first place.

Thursday, Jan 11th 2:10PM

[297,014,044](#)

Good luck ! I think all attempts at moderation are going to be problematic. It seems it is always newcomer do gooders who put the list serve's existence in danger. Why can't they just ignore or block posters????? I might be wrong, but that's my opinion. Thanks for saving the list serve!!!!

Thursday, Jan 11th 1:57PM

[297,013,475](#)

Be sure the Announce list is only used for announcements and not discussion.

Thursday, Jan 11th 2:00PM

[297,013,260](#)

read-only access for all, regardless of domicile or ban status timeout penalties for offenders, larger for repeat offenders using covert aliases not allowed impersonation not allowed What technical controls does the listserv mail processor have? reputation scores? individualized delays based on score? individual post rate limiting? Individual propagation delay? Removal from outgoing queue once flagged? Automated flag processing? I'd try aim for automating and democratizing as much of the reputation scoring as possible and have the quorum handle fallout but not individual posts.

Thursday, Jan 11th 1:35PM

[297,013,172](#)

I am in favor of limited moderation, based on complaints by a given number of users (e.g. 2 or 3). When complaints are made, a reason should be given (personally threatening, racially inflammatory, etc.) only then will the moderators review the post(s) in question. Three moderators, and two out of the three required to sanction a poster. The person(s) identity making the original complaint shall NOT be given. If deemed objectionable, then a warning issued. Three warnings and the offending poster shall be suspended from the list for a period of time. (e.g. 30 days.) Two or three suspensions and the poster shall be banned from the list. Personal replies that are threatening or personally insulting and that are responses to List postings ("Reply" vs. "Reply All") shall be considered as if they are list postings. An offending poster should not be permitted to end-run the requirements by making personal replies to people. I think that all users should be encourage to block posters that they personally feel violate the terms. [NAME]

Thursday, Jan 11th 1:22PM

[297,011,980](#)

There are really SUCH a few [INSULT] among the Announce Listserv subscribers (e.g. [NAME], [NAME], [NAME], [NAME]) who post offensively, inanely, and incessantly. If they are booted off the list, it will cut down on the vast majority of the dross and ensuing public discussion about how to cut

the dross ("ACK! How do I block these [INSULT] again?!"). The absence of those half-dozen offenders would make the Announce List a much more pleasant place, but honestly, privately blocking them (which I already have) achieves the same result. Which is easier, though?: 1) Train (and retrain) a thousand individual users on how to manage their personal inboxes, or 2) knock the known offenders off the list at the outset? While I favour no moderation as an ideal, 2 is MUCH simpler. Therefor, I would agree to flag-style moderation.

Thursday, Jan 11th 12:58PM

[297,011,157](#)

No more than three moderators should advise manager.

Thursday, Jan 11th 12:31PM

[297,010,831](#)

Keep announcements short

Thursday, Jan 11th 1:05PM

[297,010,626](#)

Please save the list. It is occasionally irritating but overall informative and very helpful.

Thursday, Jan 11th 11:35AM

[297,010,501](#)

The bot problem is easily solved with a CAPTCHA at enrollment.

Thursday, Jan 11th 12:38PM

[297,010,419](#)

MUSD/MCN should not give up control of the listservs. The lists, and freedom of speech, are best protected under the auspices of a public entity liike the school district. They simply need to step up and take responsibilty. Also, the legal guidelines for listserv moderation, as delineated by the MUSD legal counsel, shuould be made public, not kept secret as [NAME] has done. . . .

Thursday, Jan 11th 12:26PM

[297,009,107](#)

I really enjoy the list as it is now

Thursday, Jan 11th 12:29PM

[297,007,330](#)

The list used to be a handy resource to buy and sell items, connect with community members, and stay informed about local events. Now it's bogarted by multiple repeat abusers (verbal abuse) and no amount of blocking has done the trick. I can think of three or four men who consistently hurl abuse and slander at each other, to the detriment of the whole list. Go spam each other's Facebook pages and get off our useful public forum already.

Thursday, Jan 11th 11:56AM

[297,007,298](#)

This is a vital resource in this community. Any moderation should not be used to censor dissenting ideas (political, etc), but to quell the garbage posts by non-locals that only seek to instigate animosity. There is no world wherein someone needs to respond to every post from all community members with negative intent. Though I figured out how block the spam and shit posters a long time ago and never see them in my dedicated listserv mailbox, I understand that they give the entire structure of the listserv a bad name, so I understand the need for moderation in that regard.

Thursday, Jan 11th 11:54AM

[297,007,160](#)

Offer free spam filter webinar, how to screen senders, etc. Please keep the announce list! I just delete the senders I don't want to read. Most repeat offenders get taken care of by my sender/spam filter. Local news about road closures, earthquakes, fires, etc. is critical for safety through the listserve participants.

Thursday, Jan 11th 11:53AM

[297,007,040](#)

I would like to see the lists kept local, for locals. We have almost no other way of reaching each other with info about local events, stuff for sale, Dr. recommendations, etc. Please keep Announce list for announcements, Discussion list for discussions and opinions.

Thursday, Jan 11th 11:38AM

[297,006,630](#)

Currently I moderate two listserves. One is a national, the other local. Both have strict guidelines that are enforced.

Thursday, Jan 11th 11:43AM

[297,006,446](#)

The listserv fills an important need in this community, particularly with the demise of local news sources. I would like to find a way to remove people that abuse it without infringing on the rights of the community.

Thursday, Jan 11th 11:35AM

[297,005,630](#)

Some of these questions were tough to answer because I didn't understand them, their implications, completely. I have been a community organizer and although I don't want to be a sole moderator, I think it's a good idea to draw from at least a small group of people for moderation. Diversity of race, sex/gender, and age would be ideal. The more transparent the process, the better for everyone.

Thursday, Jan 11th 11:18AM

[297,004,783](#)

I and block people whose posts are offensive to me. I do not want someone else to edit what I get to see because I am not a child, I am an adult fully capable of taking responsibility for my own email. Because some people don't want to take responsibility they want to take away my ability to make my own choices. Moderation is censorship because it removes my choice. If this was a new list this would not be an issue, I could choose a list with moderation. This proposal is TAKING SOMETHING AWAY that already exists. I CONSIDER THIS GROSS INTERFERENCE in a long standing community. If you want something else go make it somewhere else. Control of communication already happens in so many places in our corporate dominated. PLEASE don't take this away from us by allowing someone we don't know and have not elected to decide what we can and cannot read It's like there is a wild garden with thorns and funky smells and tangled paths and bugs that bite and you all want to pull every

weed and clean up every smell and eliminate every bug and make this like every other place all domesticated and 'safe' because you are not willing to learn how to block a sender. And 'excessive posting' is not the same as 'spamming'.

Thursday, Jan 11th 10:35AM

[297,004,570](#)

Please keep in mind first amendment rights.

Thursday, Jan 11th 10:57AM

[297,003,060](#)

free speech can be painful. i'm not an absolutist, but consider the MCN lists has not reached an elevation that requires guardrails.

Thursday, Jan 11th 10:22AM

[297,002,856](#)

I appreciate the listserv and hope it continues

Thursday, Jan 11th 10:18AM

[297,002,323](#)

I am opposed to 'moderation' in general. It is too difficult to make determination over some content. There is a thread with some examples on the Discussion list right now for consideration as a 'practice' run. Some consider them worthy of moderation while others feel that while they are rude and insulting, there is no clear consensus. This gray area is my concern. As much as we would all like a happy place, 'free speech' includes hateful and not productive speech. In my opinion, the answer to bad free speech is overwhelming countering amounts of good free speech. Users can use the blocking tool to simply avoid those they do not wish to read.

Thursday, Jan 11th 9:52AM

[297,001,883](#)

Light moderation of the Announce list is a must — it has (sadly) become a small version of a Facebook or Twitter, with hate speech and other unruly behavior. Certain participants should be banned, as should certain topics that reflect fake news or potentially dangerous views (such as anti-vax propaganda). The Discussion list is useless and beyond hope. Glad you're doing this!

Thursday, Jan 11th 9:46AM

[297,001,630](#)

moderation is done policy-based and can be automated to reduce emotional responses and be clear about rights and responsibilities

Thursday, Jan 11th 9:48AM

[297,001,572](#)

[NAME] is a good choice to moderate

Thursday, Jan 11th 9:37AM

[297,001,499](#)

Announce should be much stricter than discussion. Some of the above choices needed more nuance.

Thursday, Jan 11th 9:41AM

[296,999,844](#)

are you working with or independent of [NAME] offer to moderate?

Thursday, Jan 11th 9:08AM

[296,999,805](#)

I was not sure what was meant by some of the multiple choice options including “the sender of the lists.” I think the default when you hit reply should be email to sender of that particular message so if you want everyone to see it you have to select Reply All...if that is technically possible without messing up something else. You could consider including in your terms of use a link to “suggested best practices for clear respectful communication” for those who would like to know more about what is

proven to work well to clean up disputes. Link could lead to a page that says "If you are upset or offended while posting to this List, or if you need to post about something that could offend or frighten others, please use 'I' statements. For example, 'When I heard a loud crash on Gurley Lane just now at 2 PM I got scared. I think it sounded like a huge tree falling. I want to know if it fell on a house or road and if anyone needs help.'" Using so many 'I' statements may sound self-centered but it has better effects than saying what others may be thinking, may be feeling, should do, should feel, or are. It is particular helpful to write them in this order: I observed this I felt that I think that I need this."

Thursday, Jan 11th 8:34AM

[296,999,781](#)

I only use the announcement page. There's currently too much negativity and posts that are not simply announcements but are political discussions.

Thursday, Jan 11th 9:01AM

[296,997,449](#)

I pretty much gave up on listserv (announce list) because I could no longer handle [NAME]'s rants or [NAME]'s sad musings. What a delightful surprise when I recently re-signed up to discover that the announce list has gone back to what it should be- announcement of events, items for sale, places for rent, and people "in search of." Please keep it that way. ANNOUNCEMENTS ONLY. It is a great local resource! Do whatever you want with the discussion list.

Thursday, Jan 11th 8:03AM

[296,996,856](#)

The listserv Announce list is a valuable service for the community. As in life, we aren't going to get along with everyone nor like what everyone has to say. And as in life, we can do our best to avoid such people, and with the blocking option, it is possible to control our experience. Thank you.

Thursday, Jan 11th 7:48AM

[296,996,824](#)

I began and populated these lists with MCN email accounts - originally hyper-community based - when I worked for MCN in 1997. In the beginning I moderated them myself. The school district must either moderate the unacceptable and sometimes despicable threats or offload the process from the school district's responsibility. Having MUSD ultimately (even though they claim they aren't) host hate-

speech is not only mind blowing, but also sends the exact wrong message to the students and to the community about the school district's (lack of) values to the ethics and civic responsibilities we are trying to instill in our students.

Thursday, Jan 11th 7:51AM

[296,984,096](#)

Thank You!

Wednesday, Jan 10th 7:17PM