



*An Affiliate of the A. P. S.*

## **Alliance Newsletter 43 19 January 2016**

### **Welcome Our New Officers for 2016-2017**

President Deane Briggs  
Vice President Frank Crown  
Secretary Larry Baum  
Treasurer Wayne Farley  
Trustees  
Maurice Bursey  
Tom Lera  
Mike O'Reilly  
John Walker

### **-->>> CSA Questionnaire <<<--**

*The most important significant event of the first quarter of 2016 is a CSA Questionnaire that will be distributed to all members in the very near future. Those that do not have email will receive it by regular mail.*

*The questionnaire is quite comprehensive and contains questions on both the future direction of the Alliance and demographics of membership.*

*The importance of completing and returning the questionnaire cannot be understated. This is your chance to weigh on what, if any, changes in direction the Alliance should take. Every member should complete and return the questionnaire soon after receipt. Do not put it aside for another day and end up forgetting it. Complete and return it.*

**Your answers will be the basis for any changes in the direction of the CSA.**

## **Annual Meeting in St. Louis**

*The 2016 Annual Meeting of the Alliance will be held in St. Louis 1-3 April 2016 in conjunction with St. Louis Expo 2016. Make your plans to attend now.*

*The show hotel is the Renaissance St. Louis Airport Hotel, 9801 Natural Bridge Road, St. Louis, MO 63134. At limited number of rooms are available at the special rate of \$89 per night. Call 800-468-3571 or 314-429-1100 to make your reservation. You must as for the special "Stamp Show" rate.*

*Also plan to attend the Southern Supper on 1 April at 6:30 PM in the hotel. The cost is \$75 per person. Make your reservation by sending a check made payable to the Confederate Stamp Alliance to: Larry Baum, 316 West Calhoun Street, Sumter, SC 29150. Please indicate your choice of Chicken or Pork.*



*Located at Lambert International Airport, the hotel offers easy access via I-70m U-170 and I-270 to all points in the St. Louis area. Complimentary transportation to and from the airport is available.*

## **Still Time to Enter an Exhibit**

*The deadline for entering an exhibit at the St. Louis Expo is fast approaching. Applications will be accepted through 31 January, so get your application in now.*

*This is a great opportunity to show Confederates. Click the link below to get your application.*

[Exhibit Application](#)

## **Authentication Service Has New Recording Secretary**

*Stefan Jaronski has taken over the duties of Recording Secretary for the Authentication Service from Frank Crown. All items submitted for authentication should now be*

directed to Stefan.

*This change requires the use of a new authentication application form.*

***New application forms are available by clicking on the link below. Stefan's address is on the bottom of the first page of the form.***

[Authentication Application Form](#)

## **Going to the Big Show? World Stamp Show - New York 2016**

*If you are planning on going to the World Stamp Show in New York, 28 May - 4 June 2016 at the Javits Center, the CSA could use your help. The Alliance will have booth at the show and is looking for volunteers to give one or two hours of their time to man booth. Right now we just need the names of those interested in helping.*

*If you can spare an hour of your time to spread the word about Confederate philately contact Frank Crown, [fcrown@knology.net](mailto:fcrown@knology.net).*

## **Why a Certificate?**

*Have you ever wondered if the cost of authentication certificate is worth the price? Here are a few reasons.*

*1. Peach of mind. Know that the special items in your collection are genuine. There are many fakes in the market today and more are produced daily. While many may only fool a novice Confederate collector, others, particularly those of value, can be difficult to detect.*

*2. If selling your collection at auction a certificate is an excellent way to insure you don't get returns of your material. Look at the terms of sale in the auction catalogs of the two major auction houses that routinely sell Confederate collections. They state any lot accompanied by a certificate issued by a recognized authentication service within five years of the sale date is sold "as is" and in accordance with the description on the certificate. Such lots may not be returned for any reason, including but not limited to a contrary certificate of opinion.*

*3. One advantage of using the CSA Authentication Service is that you will many times receive a certificate with an opinion more than just "genuine" or "fake." The certificate may also give additional details that the owner was not aware of such as the year of use or the identity of what appears to be an illegible postmark.*

## **Mid-Year 2016**

*The 2016 Mid-Year will be held in Memphis and hosted by Jerry Palazolo. The dates are September 9-10. Mark it on your calendar now.*

## **Recording New CSA Finds**

*New Confederate finds are still being accumulated for future editions of the CSA Catalog. The list is growing, thanks to you. In addition to unlisted new finds, quality images are being sought to replace old black and white tracings or poor quality color images used in prior catalogs.*

*It is important that the images you send are of high quality (300 dpi or greater) in "jpg" or "tif" format if they are to be used in future editions of the catalog. If the item of interest is on a cover (and most are), please send a scan of the cover as well as a high resolution scan of just the marking b. In this case, bigger is better! Please do not send "pdf" files or other digital formats unless there is no other choice. Those images cannot be used, but they are still recorded.*

*If you spot something in a small auction catalog, a private archive or on eBay but have no way to get a good image, it should still be recorded. Please advise what the new listing is, as sometimes the images are so small that I literally cannot make out what I'm seeing.*

*Please send digital images and information to Trish Kaufmann at [trishkauf@comcast.net](mailto:trishkauf@comcast.net) If you are not a computer user, please send color photocopies to 10194 N. Old State Road, Lincoln DE 19960-3644.*

## **A Few Words about Certificates**

*Certificates are opinions, they are not guarantees. But, as noted above in "Why a Certificate?" they are like a five year guarantee in the auction arena.*

*If you have something authenticated use a service that specializes in your item or items. Unlike many of the national expertizing services the CSA Authentication Service only examines Confederate material. Consequently, the members of the service have detailed knowledge of Confederate material, both good and bad.*

*Are mistakes made? The answer is an unfortunate yes. This is something that occurs with any of the expertizing services. The best example of this is the "Petrie" fake of the large or rectangular Macon 5c provisional. The identifying characteristics of this fake were first published in 1899. Yet for the next 100 years this fake was found in famous collections and received good certificates from various expertizing services, including the CSA Authentication Service.*

*When a mistake is made by the CSA Authentication Service every effort is made to recall the certificate and make the proper correction.*

*Will an opinion on an item submitted today be the same 20 years from now? Yes, in most cases. However, in the case of the more unusual items, opinions can change. The reason for this is the ever expanding universe of information that may be pertinent to a particular item. Information not just about stamps, but information on the individual who may have written a letter or received a letter, information on mail routes and schedules, information on post offices and everyday information from contemporary newspapers.*

*All expertizing services and their examiners operate in specific segments of time. The*

*information known to examiners in the 1970s is quite different from the information known today. An item authenticated in 1975 may, or may not, receive a different opinion if submitted for authentication today.*