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Southeast Federation of Stamp Clubs Announces 2019 Rowland Hill Award Honoree

Atlanta, Ga. The Southeast Federation of Stamp Clubs has recognized Tony L. Crumbley as the recipient of the 2019 Rowland Hill Award. Established in 2005, the award is named after Sir Rowland Hill, the creator of the first postage stamp, and is awarded annually to a philatelist who has made outstanding lifetime contributions to stamp collecting in the Southeastern United States. Tony becomes the 12th Rowland Hill honoree.

Tony has been enjoying the pleasures of philately for more than 50 years. As a young fifth grader in Kannapolis, North Carolina, so as to pass the Boy Scout merit badge, he acquired his first worldwide stamps. Throughout the remainder of grammar school, he and neighborhood friends rode their bicycles to the post office on weekends to pick up the latest plate blocks.

Air Force life followed high school, and Tony continued to purchase the occasional plate block which he sent home for safe keeping. Upon leaving the military he walked into a newly opened stamp and coin shop in Charlotte to pick up some supplies for a new stamp trading venture. Within an hour, he was offered a part time job cataloging stamps and working weekends in the shop. This began his career as a stamp dealer

and introduced him to many new aspects of the hobby. It was during this time that he purchased his first Confederate collection. At the conclusion of the purchase, the seller gave him a cover and said, "Here, this is yours. Keep it and enjoy.". It happened to be a North Carolina cover dated May 27, 1861 – the day that North Carolina entered the Confederacy. Today, that cover remains a prominent element in his Confederate holdings.

In 1978, Tony had the opportunity to purchase a very large dealer's stock; he jumped back into the business setting up at as many as 27 shows a year. By the mid 1980's his focus turned to postal history. He currently does about 20 shows a year, primarily in the southeast. He brings his stamp business knowledge and experience to bear as a guiding force behind CHARPEX, the annual show sponsored by the Charlotte Philatelic Society and the Fortnightly Stamp Club,

Despite his credentials as a stamp dealer, it is his work as a philatelist that sets Tony apart among his colleagues in the stamp collecting community.

In January, 1982, Tony was one of the original 17 postal historians who gathered in Greensboro to form the North Carolina Postal History Society (NCPHS). The following month Tony produced the Society's first newsletter. Now, thirty-six years later, the society has just published newsletter number 144, with Tony still serving as one, of two, co-editors.

Tony is a prolific philatelic writer, having published several books and hundreds of articles. Today, his collecting interest focuses on anything North Carolina with a special interest in postal history, North Carolina state revenue stamps and North Carolina machine cancels.

Tony is an avid exhibitor, having won numerous gold awards at the national and local levels. His exhibits include *North Carolina Confederate and Independent States*

Postal History 1860 – 1865 (winning the Reserve Grand at Southeastern Stamp Expo 2013), *Postal History of North Carolina Educational Institutions*, *100 Years of Flight in North Carolina*, *Letters of Grief – North Carolina Mourning Covers*, and *North Carolina's Pioneer Era Machine Cancels 1898 – 1925*. He is a two-time winner of the Confederate Stamp Alliance Trophy, the highest CSA exhibiting award. He is one of four exhibitors to have won it more than once.

Tony has served organized philately in numerous leadership roles. He is a former Vice President of the Machine Cancel Society, the editor of the Confederate section of the *Scott Catalogue* and the editor of the North Carolina stampless and color cancel sections of the new *Confederate States of America Catalogue and Handbook of Stamps and Postal History*. He has served on the board of the NCPHS and in various officer positions in the Stamp Alliance (CSA) which made him an honorary General in 1997. Referencing Tony's service to the CSA, Dr. Deane R. Briggs, President of the CSA, said, "Tony has been outstanding in his support of our organization serving as Southern Vice President (1990-93) and as President (1996-97). I congratulate him on being recognized as a lifetime achiever".

Tony graduated from the University of North Carolina Charlotte with a degree in Business Administration, and then continued his graduate studies in Economic Geography. In civilian life, Tony was employed as Vice President of Research by the Charlotte Chamber of Commerce. In September 2012, after 36 years of trying to convince the world that Charlotte is the best city in the world, Tony retired having created an award-winning research team and playing an instrumental role in building Charlotte to what it is today.

Tony will accept the Rowland Hill Award on January, 26th, 2019 at the Awards Banquet of the Southeastern Stamp Expo in Peachtree Corners, Georgia.

Past Winners of the Rowland Hill Award

- 2005 Nancy B. Clark
- 2006 William H. Waggoner
- 2007 Lt. Col. (Ret.) Robert C. Effinger Jr.
- 2008 Ed Jackson
- 2010 Douglas N. Clark
- 2013 Bruce Roberts
- 2014 Frank J. Crown
- 2015 Charles O'Brien III
- 2016 Dr. Thomas W. Broadhead
- 2017 Roger P. Quinby
- 2018 John T. Burnett

About the Southeast Federation of Stamp Clubs

The Southeast Federation of Stamp Clubs is a registered non-profit organization representing 19 stamp clubs and societies in Georgia, Tennessee, North and South Carolina, Mississippi, Massachusetts, Maryland and Alabama which pool resources for a common goal of promoting and supporting stamp collecting activities and philatelic education in the southeastern region. Principal among these activities is the sponsorship and management of the annual Southeastern Stamp Expo, an APS World Series of Philately stamp show. The show will be held January 25 – 27th, 2019 at the Hilton Atlanta Northeast, 5993 Peachtree Industrial Blvd., Peachtree Corners, GA 30092.

About the Confederate Stamp Alliance

The Confederate Stamp Alliance is a non-sectional, non-political organization for fraternity, research and cooperation among a choice group of hundreds of collectors of Confederate stamps, covers, and postal history.