

Editor's Report 2013

As of this meeting, I have served as editor for 5 ½ years, creating 22 issues, two of which have been special issues(Arkansas/Kentucky). All have been delivered on time.

Over the past two years, I have attended shows in many of our member states, taking with collectors, Officers and displayers, acting as an envoy for the society and the Journal.

In the coming year, I plan on attending more, with my end goal of attending a show in every one of our member states.

This traveling has paid off with many new authors stepping up and contributing. New authors are the lifeblood of the Journal.

Journal production isn't what it appears to be in the finished issue. Articles still come in that I have to entirely retype before formatting. I still have many pictures that I need to scan, and then work on to make them worthy of publication. Sometimes the quality is so poor, I have to print the picture and then scan my printed picture. Many times the pictures will not have captions, so I must write those. I have been promised articles and pictures that never come through. So the deadline in the Journal is just for events, as too many think they can jump onboard an issue at the last moment. Presently, April is at the printer and July is ½ finished. It is easier to stay ahead of the game than trying to come up with things at the last moment. My goal has been to have the issue on the street as of the cover date, not being printed as of that date.

You would actually think the time spent producing each issue would be less than it was several years ago. But that is not the case. The Journal takes approximately four weeks to put together, spent over a period of three months. I spend many a Saturday and Sunday sitting in front of a computer screen. Production is always in flux, and articles and pictures may be moved from page to page, removed or copied to be used in the next issue. The goal is to produce the best issue possible.

I am still contacting all societies a week or more before the issue goes to the printer so that their shows are listed correctly as well as their officers. This has been very successful.

I have taken on several new people to help proof the Journal in the past six months, and this has paid off. I have three extra set of eyes onboard, and each one catches things the others do not. These three are collectors, but do wish to remain anonymous to the readers. I have respected their wishes.

In an effort to keep the Journal above the "buying and selling" of our shows and members, I do rewrite portions of articles where someone is discussing their "purchasing" of an artifact. While we all know that this happens on a large scale at every show, I will change "bought" to "acquired." I want to give us as good a posture with the academic community as possible.

I have, at the urging of members, brought up the issue of "looting" and have attempted to address it to the membership.

I have finally succeeded in getting most of the "filler" out of the Journal. Previous editor's utilized lots of pictures to make up for lack of content. I have also maintained the 9 point type face for the past two

years, allowing for 1/3 more reading material. Years before, articles I wrote for other editors were edited down. Today, I am able to add to the Journal lengthy articles without sacrificing the entire issue to just a few articles.

I have tried to be balanced in the artifact presentation, including all areas of interest. If you collect Paleo, Archaic, Woodland or Mississippian, there is something in each issue of interest. I added a "Letters to the Editor" column in order to share some of the interesting comments.

The past two years I have featured past collectors, and not a show goes by where I don't hear from someone telling me how much they have enjoyed this direction. The final two issues of the year will continue this focus, and after that, the 60th Anniversary issues. I have plans in 2015-2016 to focus on archaeological sites, parks and museums, and have been traveling gathering materials.

My phone number is in the front of the Journal, and I field approximately 10 calls a week regarding society issues. I also created a FACEBOOK page for the Journal, and I attempt to put up pictures several times a week. Many times these are shots that have not been in the Journal, so this is added content. I also deal with questions from those on FACEBOOK regarding the society, membership issues and archaeological questions.

I make every attempt to keep the Journal "clean" – that is, no glorification of reproductions, which is a plague on the collecting community. If I have doubts, I will share it with others...and if there is not a 100% positive outcome, I will refrain from publishing something. In a future issue, I will be publishing something that I had reservations about. The article was sent in by a well-respected archaeologist, but I was hesitant due to some questions of my own. I submitted the article with his permission, to two other well respected members of the professional archeological community. The final article will include their responses, and will make for fascinating reading. It also helps us, since we need to be respected by the professional community. Part of acquiring this respect, is the total repudiation of looting and looters. We have finally moved beyond the 1990's and those whose goal was to outlaw collecting, but just barely. Our society and its membership need to respect the laws and not encourage activities of any sort that will make us appear in a bad light.

The coming year is our 60th Anniversary. I am excited about what I can do with issues throughout the year. I urge you all to contribute. Feel free to call me or e-mail me at any time. I am open to any ideas, and will do my best to help in any manner possible.

Finally, last year we had an issue with articles posted on the *arrowheads.com* website. I was directed to deal with several things.

1. Have *arrowheads.com* add a link to our website after each article and credit the Central States Issue and author.
2. Acquire from the authors included permission to utilize their material in this manner

I can report to you that both of the above have been completed. I was approached by *arrowheads.com* in adding more articles to their website, for which I did not grant them permission at this time. If the delegates would like them to add additional articles, that can be added to the agenda. I assume we have enough material already up there to generate interest in our organization.

Thank you