

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

The Executive Board of NAVA, including president Whitney Smith, vice president Pierre Lux-Wurm, corresponding secretary Robert Gauron, recording secretary Gary Grahl, and treasurer Thomas Hill, met in White Plains, N.Y., on 3 March 1968. Interrupting their eight-hour session only to enjoy the excellent cuisine of Mrs. Lux-Wurm, the Board took action on a number of important items of business.

Membership in NAVA, as reported by the treasurer, now stands at 35, including 27 active members, 5 associate members, and 3 institutional members. The Membership Committee met and elected Whitney Smith as chairman and Thomas Hill as secretary. Plans were made for a campaign to recruit as many more members as possible.

The NAVA Flag and Seal Committee also met, electing Gary Grahl as chairman and Thomas Hill as secretary. The committee reviewed the four designs, which had been submitted in the NAVA seal contest, and voted in favor of a design by Whitney Smith. A copy of the seal and an explanation of its symbolism are attached.

Other NAVA Committees were appointed and acting chairman were designated by the Executive Board so that the committees can begin work. It was agreed that all committees should meet as soon as possible (or that the acting chairman should correspond with others in his committee) in order to elect a permanent chairman and secretary, as required by the bylaws. Committees are also reminded that they must submit a written report of their activities to the president in September, 1968, preliminary to the annual membership meeting. This should include budget suggestions for the following year, motions to be presented to the annual meeting, and proposals for further activities. A minimum number of members were approved for committees in order to allow work to begin, but individuals who wish to serve or committees who wish to coopt members should write to the president. Committees as approved are listed below. Committees marked with an asterisk have already met and elected officers. For committees that have not met, the first individual listed has been designated acting chairman.

Auditing: Lawrence Tower, Ashley Talbot, John Bridgeman.

Budget: Emmet Mittlebeeler, Newton Blakeslee, Creighton Kern.

*Bylaws: Emmet Mittlebeeler, Robert Gauron, Pierre Lux-Wurm.

Color: Donald Rickter, William Dwiggins, Harry Manogg, William Spangler, Robert Gauron.

*Flag and Seal: Gary Grahl, Thomas Hill, Pierre Lux-Wurm, Linda Stock

*International Congress: Whitney Smith, Pierre Lux-Wurm, Lawrence Tower.

*Membership: Whitney Smith, Thomas Hill, Robert Gauron.

Nominating: Newton Blakeslee, John Hurley, Alexander Cochran.

Program: Creighton Kern, John Lyman, Emmet Mittlebeeler.

Public Relations: Abraham Goldminz, Ken Huff, George Beley, John Hurley, Harry Manogg.

Publications: Ken Juff, Philip Chaplin, Robert Gauron.

Terminology: Ashley Talbot, Newton Blakeslee, Robert Gauron.

Duties of Committees. In addition to the duties outlined in the bylaws, it was determined that the following would be the responsibilities of the various committees:

Auditing: To give specific instructions to the treasurer concerning the records he is to keep of NAVA finances.

Budget: To make specific proposals for any necessary or desirable changes in the bylaws; to consider whether it might be desirable to increase the number of officers entitled to sign checks on behalf of the association.

Color: To compile a bibliography of books and list of institutions concerned with the question of color specifications; and, ultimately, to work out an acceptable color specification system for use in the field of vexillology by manufacturers, publishers, and vexillologists alike.

Nominating: To send a questionnaire to each active member of the association asking him (1) which elective or appointive offices he would be willing to serve in and (2) what committees (in order of preference) he would like or would be willing to serve on.

Program: To submit specific recommendations to the Executive Board for long- and short-term activities that the association might undertake and for reports that members are willing to make at the 1968 membership meeting. The Board feels that the committee should consider assigning report topics to individuals, as well as polling members to determine their own preferences.

Public Relations: To compile a list of names and addresses of associations and institutions which have aims or programs similar or related to those of NAVA; to investigate the possibility of publicizing membership in NAVA and cooperation with NAVA through contacts with the leadership of such associations and through their journals; to make specific proposals to the Executive Board regarding opportunities for publicizing NAVA during 1968.

Publications: To formalize the NAVA Newsletter (format, editorship, periodicity, and objectives); to publish a 1967 NAVA Yearbook; to make specific plans for a 1968 NAVA Yearbook.

Terminology: To review critically the article on "States of the World" (in Vol. V. No. 4, of The Flag Bulletin) both with regard to its categories and the countries included under each category.

The 1968 Membership Meeting was tentatively set by the Executive Board for the week-end of 12-13 October in Hyattsville, Md. Further news will appear well in advance in the NAVA Newsletter.

The 3rd International Congress of Vexillology was discussed by the Board, with particular attention paid to the question of encouraging persons from outside the United States to attend. Tentatively, the week-end of 5-7 September 1969 was approved for the Congress and the Board recommended that the 1969 NAVA membership meeting be held at the same time and place. Further details will be sent out with the next issue of The Flag Bulletin.

Incorporation of NAVA will soon be an accomplished fact. Acting on the recommendation of the Bylaws Committee, the Executive Board signed the necessary documents to incorporate in the State of Illinois where corresponding secretary Robert Gauron will serve as registered agent.

Surinam Flag: The Flag Research Center received six proposed designs for a new Surinam flag, which have been sent to the appropriate authorities.

Corrections. In No. 3 of the NAVA Newsletter the address of Lawrence Tower was incorrectly given as 68th St.; it should have been 86th St. Also the firm to which Alexander Cochran belongs is now Cochran, Stephenson, and Donkervoet.



Since the Renaissance artists, sculptors, and others have made use of four allegorical female figures, representing the four continents -- Europe, America, Asia, and Africa. (See, for example, the end-papers in W.J. Gordon's Flags of the world.)

Each of these figures is shown with "typical" dress and with an animal peculiar to the continent. America, comprising the whole New World, appears as an Indian maiden with headdress, quiver and bow, and often with a parrot. The armadillo is her mount.

For the seal of the North American Vexillological Association it is proposed to show America and her armadillo to symbolize the geographical extent of the society. Although the arrows of war are not missing, she holds before her a flag to represent the exploration of new territories and a book for the pursuits of statesmen as the sources of new flags in North America.

The flag is that of the Association and of course the book suggests the scholarly interests of its members. Those who wish to do so may read into the armadillo the qualities of the vexillologist -- slow but sure progress, a tendency to burrow deeply, and imperviousness to outside pressures.