

Mini-NAVA NEWS

May, 1980

Editor: Dorothy H. Claybourne; Associate Editors: Lynn Knights, W. W. Ridgway

NAVA-14: A Progress Report

Bill Spangler, President of Dettra Flag Co., Inc., reports that he is expediting our order for the outdoor copy of NAVA-14's special flag.

The flag will be hoisted with three other flags in a four-flag ceremony opening the events of NAVA-14. It will fly during the three-day meeting and then be retired to the Tumbling Waters Museum of Flags in Montgomery, Alabama.

The NAVA-14 flag is the third flag in NAVA's history to be especially designed for an annual meeting.

INTERESTING MASTER'S THESIS STUDY

Sylvia Woodward is working on her master's degree in graphic design at Yale University and has worked with several architectural firms. Her thesis is on the use of flags in architecture, a subject NAVA members know very little if anything about.

RECENT FLAG EXHIBIT

From Willingboro, N.J.: Bob Stallop, (16 Paddock Lane, 08046) writes:

Last week my VFW Post had the honor of entertaining a distinguished guest, Howard E. Vanden Clute, Jr., the Commander-in-Chief of the VFW of the U.S.A. This is the first time in the history of our post that we were visited by a commander-in-chief, and he is the first one that resides in the State of New Jersey. ... For our commander and me it was a big thing. I dug into my small collection of larger flags and added a replica of the historical naval version of "The Don't Tread on Me" flag and a garrison-size flag of the State of New

Jersey to the decorations. You never saw such an elaborate display of red, white and blue in your life. We had the VFW Hall covered with flags, bells, balls, bunting, and even 'VFW Post 4914' written in red, white and blue bunting."

NOTES AND QUERIES

Q. Can you explain why the flag, when folded triangularly, as at a veteran's funeral, must show the blue field only and have four stars showing?

A. I have found no information on the origin of this and consider it probably developed spontaneously in the military in order to have a dignified and orderly way of folding the flag. All kinds of symbolism and explanations are ex post facto. (W.S.)

Q. What are the specifications for the "Union Jack" of Great Britain?

A. Dr. Whitney Smith has very detailed specifications (illustrations in color, proportions and design spelled out, date of introduction, etc.) for any flag. The price is \$15.00, and may be ordered from the Flag Research Center, 3 Edgehill Road, Winchester, MA 01890.

Q. I am anxious to obtain whatever back issues of NAVA News and NAVA Yearbook that are still available. Could you please tell me from which member of the Association I might obtain them.

A. Past NAVA publications may be acquired from William C. Spangler, President, Dettra Flag Co., Oaks, PA 19456, while they exist. Dettra is NAVA's repository for these items, but, naturally, not all publications are still available.

Q. I would like to display "Flags in Space" at the next NAVA meeting. Can you help me?

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A HAPPY WELCOME TO NEW NAVA MEMBERS

ENROLLED SINCE JANUARY 1, 1980

New Active Members:

Brazerol, John P.
4124 E. Superior Street
Duluth, MN 55804

A foreman for Northwestern Bell Telephone Co.
"Just like flags. I fly 3 flags while in residence at my cabin in Ontario - usually the American, Canadian and a welcome flag or maybe the Minnesota State Flag." John finds flags and their history very interesting.

Carrier, Thomas J.
4027 Rocky River Drive #18
Cleveland, Ohio 44111

A former paratrooper, he designed the flag for the 820 Airborne Division and also made the battalion's banner. He is interested in national flags of the world and state and Provincial flags. His other interest is Government, how it works, etc., and he has created his own paper country with a constitution, national flag, seal, etc. The sovereignty of Camdenshire is just two years old.

McConville, Thomas W., CRD USN (Ret.)
3114 St. Luke's Lane
Baltimore, MD 21207

Retired Naval Commander who is interested in American historical flags has more than 50 flags in his collection, and also an extensive collection of color slides (over 250) of historic interest to the America's discovery and development.

Rittinghouse, Wesley E.
7709 W. 96 Street
Overland Park, KS 66212

Interested in Confederate flags and military flags; he also collects flags, having 55 in his collection.

Schaller, Arch
c/o The National Flag Co.
1819 Freeman Avenue
Cincinnati, Ohio 45214

* (No information at this time.)

Stubbe, Alvin E.
5390 Grove Avenue
Delta, B.C. Canada V4K 2A7

Retired after 26 years in the armed forces and 11 years in the Department of Indian Affairs. His prime interest in flags is yachting flags, with military coming into a close second. All flags he has collected over the years have been donated to yacht clubs and military organizations. His other interest in flag-related matters: Heraldry.

Young, Suzanne
600 Brewer Drive
Hillsborough, CA 94010

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New Associate Members:

Berg, Dr. Eugene
Room 607, Advocate's Chambers
Nedbank Bldg., 200 Andries Street
Pretoria, 0002, South Africa

An advocate, Dr. Berg is interested in South African flags and has a secondary interest in Heraldry.

"...by all means in our power we ought to inculcate, among the children of this country the most fervent loyalty to the Flag."--Theodore Roosevelt

Billault, Jean Paul
No. 40 Rue Charles Moureu
75013 Paris, France

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Brazerol, Janis
4124 E. Superior Street
Duluth, MN 55804

Mrs. Brazerol is a housewife who works part-time at the junior high school. She works with her husband on his collection and enjoys his interest with him. She says, "The American flag is one of the most beautiful flags and John and I enjoy flying it on nice days in Duluth."

Fain, Baron (real name Earl IV)
Deerfield Academy
Deerfield, MA 01342

Baron is a student September through May and is at home in Dallas during summer: 4427 University Blvd., Dallas, TX 75205. Germanic and European flags, with any historical flags pertaining to Europe, are his chief interests. He designs flags for his "own alternate world" as a hobby. Also interested in Heraldry, military uniforms and emblems.

Hiden, Mats
55, Rue Emile Semal
B-1310 LaHulpe, Belgium

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Midura, Jonathan
c/o Unsworth & Co.
1831 Pennsylvania Avenue
Linden, N.J. 07036

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Wahnon, Sheppard
64 Grohmans Lane
Plainview, N.Y. 11803

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New Institutional Member:

Schultz, J.C., Enterprises, Inc.
40 S. Wolf Road
Northlake, IL 60164

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Changes of Address:

Healy, Donald T. Active member
1285-D Redwood Boulevard
Novato, CA 94947

Midura, Edmund Associate member
c/o American University in Cairo
866 United Nations Plaza
New York, N.Y. 10017

We would like also to welcome anew all those members, Active, Associate and Institutional, who have renewed their members in NAVA since January 1, 1980. Keep 'em flying!

It would be greatly appreciated if the members who have not yet returned their questionnaires would do so. If you have misplaced it, I'll send you another on request. Thanks!--The Editor.

"Behold the gorgeous ensign of the Republic,
now known and honored throughout the earth
...not a stripe erased or polluted, nor a
single star obscured!"--Daniel Webster

NOTES AND QUERIES (Cont. from page 1)

A. Other than your getting in touch with NASA - but you continue to say that they have not responded - there is no way that I could help you. (I've asked Dr. Smith, and there is nothing he can do either to help you with this matter.) Perhaps another member out there would get in touch if --

Q. Has NAVA ever made anything of Alice of Old Vincennes and the marvelous feat she did in flag history?

A. None to my knowledge. (A note to members: Alice of Old Vincennes is a historical novel by (James) Maurice Thompson that was extremely popular around the turn of the century. Of course, the writing is old-fashioned, but it is, nevertheless, a work of interest to flaggy people like us. Alice Roussillon, whose real life experiences Thompson followed as closely as fragmentary evidence permitted, was the adopted daughter of Gaspard Roussillon, Vincennes' leading citizen when the French surrendered to the British in December 1778. Rather than see the French colors taken by General Hamilton, Alice jerked the flag from its staff and hid it. When George Rogers Clark heard of her exploit he gave her the honor of raising the flag--emblematic of American supremacy after Hamilton's surrender. The house where Alice is traditionally supposed to have lived is marked.

OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO NAVA MEMBERS

The NAVA seal will soon be available as a beautiful badge from Flags International (10845 U.S. Highway 20, Osceola, Indiana 46561). Round, 3 1/2" in diameter, the seal will be available in mid-June. \$25.00 value, \$13.50 NOW. (Price has already increased for next order.)

Mike's firm is considered to be one of the world's most unusual flag retail companies. As you drive U.S. Highway 20 at Osceola, look for his sign bearing the

National Flag Foundation's copyrighted eagle (used with permission) and see Mike Tancey's establishment for yourself.

Speaking of NFF, flag enthusiasts might wish to join George Cahill's organization. Inquire: National Flag Foundation, Flag Plaza, Pittsburgh, PA 15219.

DR. SMITH'S NEW BOOK

Flags and Arms Across the World by Whitney Smith (McGraw-Hill, 1980) endeavor to make available a reasonably priced (\$9.95), easy to use, accurate and up to date handbook to national flags and coats of arms. It is essentially an updated and upgraded version of the 100-page section in his Flags Through the Ages and Across the World covering contemporary national and provincial flags and arms. The author makes every effort to correct and improve and adds entirely new flags where necessary.

Smith deals thoroughly with the history and symbolism of the profuse illustrations with an integrated text, all on a single page for each country. In the 256 pages of the 4 1/2" x 7" hardbound book there are 803 flags and 181 arms in color (none in black and white), making the volume well worth its modest price.

You can probably get Smith's book at your local bookseller's; however, if you order from the Flag Research Center, add \$1.05 for postage and handling.

Some comments from NAVA members:

"It's an extremely interesting book, very complete and up to date. I strongly urge everyone to buy it."--Mike Tancey

"An excellent addition to any one's library!"--Hugh McClellan

"Whitney Smith has out-Whitney-Smithed himself. A really fine book."--Dorothy H. Claybourne

MEMBERS, PLEASE NOTE

A member of the American Iris Society would like a special flag for that organization's annual convention in St. Louis, the city of the fleur-de-lis, next year.

Any member out there care to give it a try?

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI: NAVA-14 Site

There is a new spirit of St. Louis! The mid-Western city has stopped singing its own blues. There is indeed a new spirit of St. Louis in the air; the old one, of course, was the plane, financed by St. Louis businessmen, that carried Charles A. Lindbergh nonstop from New York to Paris in 1927.

With a population of 622,236, St. Louis remains the dominant city in the state of Missouri and is currently in the midst of its greatest period of construction since the St. Louis World's Fair of 1904. Eero Saarinen's 630-foot-high Gateway Arch, is not only the monument to the conquest of the West that it was designed to be, but also it is a symbolic gauntlet through which the city has passed to re-enter the American mainstream.

The downtown area has been almost entirely rebuilt, beginning with the clearing of the 91-acre Jefferson National Expansion Memorial, on which the arch stands. The memorial occupies the original site of the city, which was founded in 1764 by Pierre Laclède Liguest, a New Orleans fur trapper, and named for Louis IX of France, the Crusader King.

Beer and Culture

St. Louis is the home of the world's largest brewery--Anheuser-Busch's almost palatial turn-of-the-century complex that sprawls over 142 acres in the near southside. It is also the home of Interco, the nation's

leading shoe manufacturer. Five years ago the city started its own national opera company and this year its first-rate symphony orchestra celebrated its 100th anniversary. The largest Japanese Garden in the country has been created in the Missouri Botanical Garden in the center of town, and the biggest and fastest roll coaster in the world resounds at Six Flag Over Mid-America, a nearby amusement park.

Against the backdrop of a dozen new sky scrapers and restored historic shrines like the Old Court House, where the Dred Scott trials changed American history, the St. Louis levee is once again the home of gaslit saloons, intimate live theater, swinging jazz and Dixieland joints, antique emporiums and flea markets, restaurants and art galleries, an area called Laclede Landing. Some of these are housed in paddlewheelers docked on the Mississippi, as for example the new Riverboat McDonald while others occupy what once were warehouses. Still others are spilling back into the ethnic strongholds of the city, neighborhoods which themselves are being revitalized and restored.

Architecture

St. Louis is a city of virtuoso brickwork, with decorative iron fences, gates and balconies and sprawling wooden backstairs and porches enhancing the most ordinary neighborhoods. If you have time and the inclination, strolling in the Central West End, bordering Forest Park, offers enough turrets, bay windows, stained glass, gables, carved limestone, flamboyant chimney work, buildings in progress and old ones being restored to satisfy any architectural buff. Here, too, are the city's private streets, behind whose ornate gates are some of the finest examples of residential architecture any where in the country.

If architecture is your bag, you might wish to contact the office of the St. Louis Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, 919 Olive Street (621-3484) for detailed information.

To be continued next month