The Vatican Flag: Proportions & Alternatives

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The Chilean Miners’ Rescue Capsule & Flag Temporary Exhibit, Smithsonian Institution
Ted Kaye
noted that flag conferences were consumed by fights over "political details" while flag organizations were the regular targets of attempts by a minority to manipulate the organization for their own ends—usually personal aggrandizement.

These problems persist 25 years later to some degree in all organizations, including ours. Perhaps that is not unusual given human nature. We must be on guard against these distractions, address them when they arise, and continue making progress toward our common goals.

Dr. Smith’s antidote for these distractions was the creation of a vexillological foundation headquartered on a university campus in a facility with excellent exhibition and library space. Supported with an adequate endowment, the foundation would not only make flag material available to scholar and hobbyist, but also engage in an active publication program to disseminate flag knowledge throughout the world. Vexillological organizations would continue their specialized missions, but the foundation would be the preeminent leader in the pursuit of vexillology.

While this vision is not yet fully realized despite recent progress, Dr. Smith’s six “fundamental commitments” for the foundation provide a fuller philosophy for a responsible approach to our work as vexillologists and an antidote to pettiness and personal gain. Here,
Another NAVA first is in the offing.

Canadian City Flags, the long-awaited sequel to American City Flags, will appear this year as Raven 18. It reflects the work of over a dozen volunteers, doing extensive research, writing, artwork, editing, and fact-checking, culminating in a first-of-its-kind volume on the municipal flags of Canada.

Its 100 articles cover the 67 largest metropolitan areas of Canada, plus at least five flags from every province and territory. The articles range from the Greater Toronto Metro Area, Ontario (with over 5 million people), to Carmacks, Yukon Territory (population 425 in 2006).

Kevin Harrington, editor of Flagscan and president of the Canadian Flag Association, says “This civic flag parade had its beginnings back in the early twentieth century—Ottawa, 1903; Montréal, 1939—but there were few flags on the ‘floats’ until Canada adopted her distinctive national flag in 1965, then the provinces got flags (long after Nova Scotia and Québec had theirs). From the 1960s to the 1980s great numbers of municipalities decided to fly a flag alongside the national and provincial ones, a flag of their own. Bravo to editor Ted Kaye and his team of researchers for publishing this volume on the beauty and wide acceptance of Canadian civic symbols—long overdue in a nation now mostly urban!”

Final work on editing, fact-checking, and artwork is currently under way and NAVA members can expect to receive both Canadian City Flags AND Raven 19 (2012) during this calendar year. We are excited to bring this project to fruition, sharing our research with NAVA members and the world.

Thank you!

The Canadian City Flags Team

Canadian City Flags coming soon!

Scholarly: we must “always be characterized by the highest standards of academic excellence and activity”;

Impartial: we must “never be beholden to commercial ends, ideology, nationalism, or the interests of specific individuals or governments”;

International: we must “recognize flags as a phenomenon encompassing all eras and areas of human society and one which cannot be understood through a parochial or xenophobic approach”;

Permanent: we need, “above all, the financial resources guaranteeing the possibility of pursuing vexillological objectives indefinitely into the future;”

Cooperative: we must be “actively engaged in both research and services with other associations and institutions for that mutual enrichment possible only by interaction with the whole of the vexillological world; and finally”

Vexillocentric: we must “in principle and in fact always measure our success in terms of what has been done to advance the study of flags.”

Just as Dr. Smith could only guess in 1987 what vexillology would look like today, so we too can only guess the state of our intellectual pursuit in 2037. But a firm pledge today to the six fundamental commitments will ensure that “the joys of scholarship and fellowship in vexillology” are fully shared by our successors in the field.

HUGH BRADY
PRESIDENT

(continued from previous page)
Vatican City’s flag proportions are perplexing. Since the state’s establishment in 1929, its constitution has shown a square flag in the form of an infantry color (Fig. 1); but current state flags at the Vatican not square but oblong, in the same proportions as Italy’s flag (2:3). Clearly the matter is unregulated, even though Vatican authorities stipulate that square proportions are official.1

I have seen this variance firsthand during my own residence in Rome in the 1980s and 1990s, in more recent visits, and in various photo archives. Until recently, only one flag was square in actual practice: Vatican City’s infantry color, carried by the Swiss Guard on ceremonial occasions. Hence I once speculated that square proportions were required only for that flag. (Analogously, both Italy and the defunct Papal States used square infantry colors despite oblong state flags and ensigns.) However, in 2009 it became oblong too (Fig. 2).

More recently I have learned that Vatican state flags were often square in the first decades after 1929; and links to several telling photos are available at my Vatican...
flag webpage (Fig. 3). Early usage thus confirms that the Vatican flag is officially square for all flag formats, although this is no longer observed. Historically though, the square proportions are quite accidental, as shown by a Vatican archives dossier that attests the flag design process in 1929. That process is instructive.

Following the signing of the Lateran Treaty on 11 February 1929, which normalized relations between the Vatican and the Kingdom of Italy, papal authorities received many flag inquiries. Since papal flags had rarely been seen since 1870, when the Vatican lost temporal power to Italy, what was the “correct” design? Initially papal authorities were unsure; and they described a design found in a contemporary book by Attilio Vigevano. His tome on the defunct Papal States military contained an illustration of its final infantry color—a square, plain bicolor. In contrast, Pio Pagliucchi—a historian enlisted by the Vatican to study the flag question—recommended that Vatican City adopt the former papal civil ensign: a bicolor with the tiara-keys emblem on the white stripe.

Pagliucchi’s proposal was accepted in time for the creation of the new state, which occurred on June 7 when the Lateran Treaty was ratified. He himself knew that this ensign had been oblong when worn by papal merchant ships from 1825 to 1870. Nevertheless, a Vatican artist employed Vigevano’s illustration—a square infantry color—as an artistic template (Fig. 4); and then added the tiara-keys emblem to the white stripe, enhanced the finial and staff, and omitted the fringe. This draft was slightly modified in the 1929 constitution, and again in 2000.

Clearly, once the Lateran Treaty was signed in February, papal authorities needed a credible flag quickly—in time for the creation of the new Vatican state, four months later. Thus the flag’s proportions were a coincidental afterthought in the design process. Vigevano’s illustration became an accidental reference point from the very first inquiries. The artist who returned to that illustration for the purposes of his design drafts, likely never considered the ramifications of the square proportions for state flags; but flag-makers clearly observed them in practice.

Square Vatican flags declined after several decades, probably due to the rise of mass production techniques. The Vatican purchases flags from Italian flag-makers who manufacture all flags in oblong proportions corresponding to Italy’s (2:3). Exceptions are expensive, and the self-regulation required by Vatican users and/or supply stores attempting to procure square flags, would likely be costly.

It is worth noting that alternate flag designs were also considered in 1929. Two were drafted from a like template—
a square infantry color. One was the plain bicolor itself, a design often used today as a simplified papal banner throughout the Catholic world. The other bore the tiara-keys emblem along the stripes’ median. The latter design (in oblong form) flew at some pontifical forts until 1870, and then at the Vatican as a proto-national flag.5 The illustration here is the clearest example of its display in the Apostolic Palace courtyard (Fig. 5)—shortly before the Vatican flag replaced it in June 1929.

A further proposal in 1929 was never pursued: a yellow–white vertical bicolor bearing a red oval shield along the stripes’ median, charged therein with the tiara-keys emblem. It came from Luigi Rangoni-Machiavelli, an Italian vexillogist who cited precedents in previous papal infantry flags.6 A similar design was later promoted by Archbishop Bruno Heim—the late papal diplomat and herald. He featured it in his writings,7 and flew it in London at the papal nunciature (which some papal diplomats emulated elsewhere). Along the stripes’ median, it bore a stylized version of the Vatican City state arms—a red shield with the tiara-keys emblem. A similar pattern sometimes appears as a banner-heading in Vatican displays (Fig. 6).

Indeed, in one form or another, papal flags and banners are among the most widely flown in the world—not only by offices of the Holy See itself, but by many Catholic shrines and institutions as well. Perhaps one day in practice, Vatican City will return to the unique, square form of the flag that marked the end of the “Roman Question” in 1929.

Rev. Becker is a Roman Catholic priest and a NAVA member in Plainview, Minnesota. He lived for Rome for eight years and received a doctorate in theology. His research on the flags of the Vatican has previously appeared in The Flag Bulletin, Flagmaster, and online at http://vatflag.tripod.com. His monograph Flags of the Papal States: 1800–1870, which appeared as Flag Bulletin No. 213, was formally presented to Pope John Paul II at the Vatican in December 2004. NAVA News is pleased to be able to publish more of his definitive research on this subject.

1 Archbishop Paul Marcinkus, Pontifical Commission for Vatican City State, letter to Whitney Smith, 14 January 1986, Flag Research Center files.
4 Attilio Vigevano, La fine dell’esercito pontificio (Rome: Stabilimento Poligrafico per l’Amministrazione della Guerra, 1920), plate 1.
6 These include the infantry color pattern used from 1831 to 1849, and another from ca. 1850 to 1860. See http://vatflag.tripod.com.
The mystery “Red Feather” flag, originating in the Community War Chest campaigns of the Second World War, found in Virginia. The flag recognized participation in charitable efforts; the stars may have signified the number of agencies supported. ROBERT WILLIAMSON

The House of Flags Museum, founded in 2001, recently opened its newly remodeled facility in downtown Columbus.

The museum is dedicated to educating visitors in the history of the United States as told by our flags. The faithfully reproduced full-sized flags are arranged in four “theme” rooms on the main floor: Defenders of Freedom, Birth of a Nation, Price of Liberty, and the United States of America. We display over 300 United States, military, state, and international flags including all 27 official U.S. flags from 1776 to 1960.

In 2012 we will open our second floor as a 3,000 square foot presentation room, library, and conference room with areas for special flag displays and educational programs. Visit www.houseofflags.org and flagmuseum@gmail.com for more information.

Robert Williamson is a NAVA member and board chair of the House of Flags Museum
“My Own Flag”
A new educational flag kit for kids

This article is about a NAVA member’s ongoing project, and is meant to inform the membership and solicit opinions and suggestions. It is not an advertisement and does not imply NAVA’s endorsement of the product.

By JAMES F. BABCOCK

Flags are among the most powerful and emotion-laden symbols used by human beings. Beautiful to behold, intriguing for the thoughts their emblems embody, flags—like postage stamps—can be vectors on a path of discovery of world geography and the social and political history of Earth’s many different peoples.

Vexillologists know this, but perhaps many parents don’t, so the parent crutch included with a new educational package makes the promise of intellectual stimulation explicit.

“My Own Flag”, a VexiKid Kit™, was created as a means to entice a young person to enjoy the fun of learning about the world through flags, and to learn about flags by creating his or her own personal flag. “You can do it!” promises the kit’s opening paragraph.

Several pages of information explain the principles of good flag design, provide good and not so good examples, discuss color theory and the use of colors in flags, show the various flag shapes and their names, and provide a diagram of flag terminology.

This explanatory material is supplemented by a step-by-step guide for designing one’s own flag—choosing a flag shape, favorite colors, personal symbols, and combining them into one or more distinctive designs.

Getting right on with it is facilitated by inclusion of 12 colored pencils and a sheet of colored cut-out panels that fit onto blank forms. Voilà! Instant experimentation and gratification. Kids who tried the kit found it “cool”.

Also included in the kit is a nine-page
full-color catalog of the 218 flags of nations and territories. On these pages are questions to stimulate further exploration among the flags and sources of information about flags: “Which flag uses only a single color? Why?” “How many countries are islands?” “Which countries show this constellation [the Southern Cross] in their flags? Where are they located?”

While some of the projects proposed in the kit will be challenging for younger children, they can enjoy trying them with the help of someone who has more experience in finding information on the Internet or in reference books in the public library.

However, the basic ideas are simple for, as vexillologists know, the best flags, even the more complicated ones, are themselves simple. And kids love flags!

James Babcock has been a NAVA member since 1998. For further information about the "My Own Flag" kit and its availability, contact jim.babcock@cox.net.

 Thanks to Elizabeth Brown (a NAVA member who works at the U.S. Library of Congress) we can present a better-quality image of the poster that appeared on page 9 of NAVA News 210. The summary in the LoC database is:

Poster showing Uncle Sam and Father Knickerbocker greeting a Bersagliere in a plumed hat; all three men bear rifles and swords. In the background, an American and Italian flag are crossed, with a flag similar to New York City’s displaying between them. Possibly the city’s tercentenary flag because it has the dates 1614 to 1914 on it.

SOURCE: Library of Congress, Reproduction number LC-USZC4-4965

This poster may have commemorated the visit of the Italian Mission to New York City in June 1917.
CONTEST CORNER

Tough Trivia Ten?
By GREG NEDVED

How many of these do you know...without looking them up?

1. Which future president ordered an American flag to be made by “the finest flag maker in Paris”?
2. Which country gave Bill Clinton its national flag with a hole in the middle?
3. What is Juan Escutia’s contribution to flag lore?
4. What “Irish flag” disappeared from the West Point chapel?
5. How many Canadian provincial/territorial capitals do not have flags?
6. What Canadian provincial flag fared the best in the 2001 NAVA survey?
7. Which country does not use blue on its Scandinavian Cross national flag?
8. What did an hourglass on a pirate flag represent?
9. South Korea and what other Asian country has a yin-yang symbol on its national flag?

Answers will appear in the next issue.
You can reach the Vexi-Quizmaster at gnedved@verizon.net

Postcard illustration of the International Naval Review held in Norfolk, Virginia, in conjunction with the 1907 Jamestown Exposition. Ironically, for four of the seven countries (Britain, Russia, Germany, and Japan) it shows the civil/merchant flags rather than the naval ensigns of those nations.

**NEW FLAGS**

**Canton, Mississippi**

The city of Canton's newly-adopted flag has a green field bearing a photographic image of its iconic courthouse alongside its motto, “One people/One voice/One goal” and its name.

It only flies in City Hall; each flag costs $300. The mayor, William Truly, realized the city didn’t have its own flag, and wanted one which “represented all of the people in the city of Canton”. Green is for hope and gold is for the city's success, achievements and prosperity.

“The courthouse touches all Cantonians; it’s a centerpiece of our community”, says the mayor. The city may add the year the city was founded (1836) to the corner of future flags. A Complete Flag Source in Jackson made the flag.

Alvin Davis, the city’s director of parks and recreation, sees it beside the Mississippi and American flags at city parks. “As the community sees growth and potential growth, it gives us the opportunity for us to show we’re united when we have special events and youth activities”, Davis said.

Lise Foy, executive director of the Canton Chamber of Commerce Main Street Association, said a new municipal flag can build pride in the community: “I think any time the city makes an effort towards creating unity and community pride, it’s a positive thing”.

On the other hand, Canton resident Gregg Guion feels the flag has been pushed on the city. “I didn’t even know we needed a flag”, Guion said. “It seems very narcissistic of the mayor to have implemented this without a vote or asking citizens what they think about it.”

**Appalachia**

Appalachia is a 205,000-square-mile region following the spine of the Appalachian Mountains from southern New York to northern Mississippi. The Appalachian Region Commission (a regional economic development agency) has adopted a flag. Its goal: “to represent the 25 million people of Appalachia, beyond politically imposed borders, and all its potential that is within its people.”

In approximate proportions of 4:3, the flag has a red/brown stripe one-fifth of the flag’s height running along its base. The background is light blue, with a green right triangle at the hoist with its hypotenuse running from the upper hoist corner to a point on the red/brown stripe three-fourths of the distance to the fly. A white 5-pointed star, about half the height of the flag, overlaps the center of that hypotenuse.

ARC’s website says “We proudly fly our flag, while telling the REAL story of Appalachia.” On the flag, the diagonal division of the blue and green creates a slope signifying the hilly profile of Appalachia. Blue represents sky, unlimited vision, and potential; brown/red represents earth, hard work, and deep roots, along with the blood and sweat of Appalachia’s people (“the backbone of this nation’s rise to a world power”); the green triangle at the hoist signifies growth (both nature and human); and the white star represents purity and guiding light to a rising future, through its position on the side of the slope.

SOURCE: Jackson, Mississippi Clarion-Ledger

SOURCE: www.arc.gov
Unusual 17-Vertical-Stripe U.S. Flag Variant—
Portsmouth Marine Society

by PETER ANSOFF

The Portsmouth Marine Society is a non-profit, educational publishing house established in 1982 to develop maritime historical research in the Piscataqua River Basin of New Hampshire and Maine. However, it takes its name—and membership certificate—from an earlier group founded in 1808.

This image was on an engraving plate used to make membership certificates for the original Portsmouth Marine Society, and shows a U.S. ensign with 17 vertical stripes.

The society was founded in 1808, and the number of stripes reflects the number of states in the union at that time (although the flag still officially had 15 stars and stripes). The vertical stripes are reminiscent of the purported “civil flag” story that began circulating on the Internet about 15 years ago.

This image, however, is certainly not a civil flag—the vessel in the background appears to be a ship-of-the-line, and the image of the sailor is accompanied by a cannon and cannon balls. The origin of the plate is unknown; however, Portsmouth shipyards have built warships for the U.S. Navy since the Revolutionary War.

The Portsmouth Marine Society was dissolved in 1895, but reconstituted in the early 1980s. The original 1808 plates for the membership certificates had been preserved and were used to create reprints for sale to members of the recreated society. Portions of the certificate, including the flag, also appear on the society’s website (www.portsmouthmarinesociety.org).

Special thanks to Peter E. Randall of the Portsmouth Marine Society for providing the high-resolution image and allowing us to reprint it.
NORTH AMERICAN VEXILLOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

Budget Summary
(U.S. Dollars)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BUDGET</td>
<td>ACTUAL</td>
<td>BUDGET</td>
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**INCOME**

| Dues | 12,800 | 13,924 | 12,800 |
| Driver Award | 250 | 275 | 250 |
| Misc. Sales | 500 | 1,468 | 500 |
| Contributions - General | 1,000 | 920 | 1,000 |
| Contributions - Cons./Res. | --- | 555 | --- |
| Contributions - Raven | 2,500 | --- | --- |
| Interest | --- | 42 | --- |
| NAVA Meeting | 30,000 | 45,370 | 8,000 |

**TOTAL INCOME**

| 47,050 | 62,554 | 22,550 |

**EXPENSES**

**Publications**

| NAVA News | --- | --- | --- |
| Layout | --- | --- | --- |
| Printing | 4,600 | 4,647 | 4,600 |
| Mailing | 2,500 | 3,062 | 2,500 |
| Total | 7,100 | 7,709 | 7,100 |

| Raven | --- | --- | --- |
| Layout | 2,000 | 2,300 | 1,600 |
| Printing | 4,600 | 4,600 | 2,500 |
| Mailing | 500 | 520 | 800 |
| Total | 7,100 | 7,420 | 4,900 |

**WEBSITE**

| 2,200 | 1,200 | 200 |

**DIRECTORY**

| 50 | --- | 50 |

**Meetings (Annual Mtg.)**

| 30,000 | 38,749 | 8,000 |

**Administration**

| Post Office Box | 450 | 455 | 450 |
| Mailings/Officer Postage | 300 | 123 | 300 |
| Supplies | 100 | --- | 100 |
| Bank Fees | 300 | 229 | 300 |
| Telephone | 75 | --- | 75 |
| Driver Award | 250 | 250 | 250 |
| Transfer to Cons./Res. | --- | 555 | --- |
| Contingency | 625 | --- | 825 |
| Total | 2,100 | 1,612 | 2,300 |

**TOTAL EXPENSES**

| 48,550 | 56,690 | 22,550 |

**CHANGE IN RESERVES**

| --- | 5,864 | --- |

**UNRESTRICTED FUND BALANCE**

| 46,908 | 46,908 |

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**TREASURER’S REPORT**

**NAVA Finances: Strong and Consistently Positive Results**

In 2011, NAVA ran a significant surplus for the fifth year in a row, far exceeding our budgeted goals. We are in solid financial shape with very strong reserves. We were able to fund our website overhaul and a special issue of Raven (#18)—Canadian City Flags (both to debut soon).

**2011 Results**

Several reasons account for last year’s positive results, among them:

1) NAVA membership remains steady and most members are paying their dues promptly or in advance.
2) The resounding success of ICV 24 / NAVA 45 delivered a significant financial surplus.
3) Contributions from generous donors helped underwrite several NAVA programs (including the annual Captain William Driver Award, the Emblems of the Indian States monograph, and sharing our publications with other FIAV member organizations).

**2012: A Balanced Budget**

The 2012 budget (approved by the budget committee and the board, and adopted at the 2011 NAVA annual meeting in Washington, DC) calls for income and expenses resulting in balanced budget. In essence it’s a conservative, steady-state budget. We also hold $2,954 in our Conservation and Research Funds and have reserved for the delayed publication of Raven 18.

**Current Challenges**

Maintaining and growing membership in a difficult economic climate means that NAVA calls on all members to help recruit and retain fellow flag-enthusiasts. We must continue our work to keep NAVA vital with new and veteran members.

Due to prudent management and outstanding volunteer efforts, however, I am pleased to report that over the past ten years we have run surpluses in all but three. We have added $25,000 to our reserves (more than doubling them), placing NAVA in a solid position to weather the downturn and even consider new programs.

Please contact me or any board member with any questions, concerns, or suggestions.

Contact Ted Kaye: treas@nava.org
NAVA News wants your articles and other vexi-news from around North America

Nearly all of the content of NAVA News comprises contributions from NAVA members and others in the vexi-community.

We’re always looking for short articles, news about members’ vexillological activities, photos, pictures, and descriptions of new and interesting flags, etc. To submit an item for publication, please contact the editor, Peter Ansoff, at navanews@nava.org.

The publication schedule is:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue No.</th>
<th>Deadline for Submissions</th>
<th>Approximate “In the Mail” Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>214</td>
<td>30 April</td>
<td>20 June 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>215</td>
<td>31 July</td>
<td>20 September 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>216</td>
<td>31 October</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>217</td>
<td>31 January</td>
<td>20 March 2013</td>
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Don’t wait—get started now on that article you’ve been meaning to write!

Good Flag, Bad Flag now in German

Thanks to Dieter Linder, president of the Wappen-Löwe Heraldry Society and member of the German Flag-Studies Society (DGF), NAVA’s guide to flag design is now available in German.

As Gute Flaggen, Schlechte Flaggen, it is available on the NAVA website—see under “Flag Design”.

Thanks go to Dieter for his initiative and outstanding effort in extending the reach of our flag-design guidance.

Vexillo.org: A New Social Networking Site for Flag Enthusiasts & Vexillologists

Vexillo.org aims to connect flag enthusiasts from the U.S. and around the world in an interactive flag-community. Members can make their own profiles, post photos and flag images, post upcoming events, chat with other members, and post their own flag blogs and videos. Vexillo.org will facilitate communications, expose your flag designs to the community, and benefit vexillologists around the world. Members can even create and run their own local, regional, and flag-specific groups. Visit us at: www.Vexillo.org.

Javier Hernandez, President/CEO of MetroFlags and Founder, Vexillo.org

Dues Reminder!

NAVA memberships run on a calendar-year basis, no matter when in a year a member joined.

All dues are payable 1 January for the full year; memberships lapse on 31 March if dues are not paid.

Please check your mailing label—it shows the year through which your dues are paid.

You can pay your NAVA membership dues via www.PayPal.com to treas@nava.org (more and more members are choosing this option), or by check to the NAVA P.O. box, or go to www.nava.org. & click the “Renew” link in the upper right of the home page.

Dues for 2012 remain the same: Regular (active): $40, Student (associate): $20, Commercial (organizational): $60, Subscription: $40. You can pay for multiple years at once and simplify your bookkeeping—many members do!

The designer of the NAVA 46 flag, Bill Belanich, describes it: The NAVA 46 flag reflects the location of the 2012 annual meeting which will take place in Columbus, Ohio. The white arc which separates blue from red is taken from the state flag of Ohio on which a red disc is surrounded by a white letter “O”, all resting on a triangular blue field. The arc forms the letter “C” representing the host city of Columbus. The colors of the flag are those of the flags of NAVA, Ohio, and the United States of America.

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All dues are payable 1 January for the full year; memberships lapse on 31 March if dues are not paid.

Please check your mailing label—it shows the year through which your dues are paid.

You can pay your NAVA membership dues via www.PayPal.com to treas@nava.org (more and more members are choosing this option), or by check to the NAVA P.O. box, or go to www.nava.org. & click the “Renew” link in the upper right of the home page.

Dues for 2012 remain the same: Regular (active): $40, Student (associate): $20, Commercial (organizational): $60, Subscription: $40. You can pay for multiple years at once and simplify your bookkeeping—many members do!

The designer of the NAVA 46 flag, Bill Belanich, describes it: The NAVA 46 flag reflects the location of the 2012 annual meeting which will take place in Columbus, Ohio. The white arc which separates blue from red is taken from the state flag of Ohio on which a red disc is surrounded by a white letter “O”, all resting on a triangular blue field. The arc forms the letter “C” representing the host city of Columbus. The colors of the flag are those of the flags of NAVA, Ohio, and the United States of America.
“Iran Nuclear Dreams”
A flag-based commentary on a contemporary issue.

Artist: Felipe Galindo.

MEMBER FLAG

Highlighting Flags and Knowledge

Jason Bates, who joined NAVA in 2011, describes his flag in this way: “My personal flag is an attempt to highlight my interest in the flags of the world (the green and blue circle in the middle represents the earth). The radiating rays of yellow, blue, white, and red represent my desire to learn and bring together knowledge of the world and its peoples. Knowledge is represented of history (red), science (white), culture (blue), and geography (yellow).”
Join your fellow members in Columbus, Ohio, 5–7 October 2012 for the 46th annual meeting of the North American Vexillological Association. We plan an exciting flag-filled program, hosted by the Great Waters Association of Vexillology (GWAV).

The NAVA 46 Organizing Committee
David Breitenbach, chair

REGISTRATION
A registration form is enclosed with this NAVA News, and is available on the NAVA website: www.nava.org. Early registration is $180.

Watch these Deadlines:
- Early registration—30 May 2012
- Papers/Displays, concept—30 June 2012
- Regular registration—31 August 2012
- Papers/Displays, final—31 August 2012
- Hotel reservation—14 September 2012

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS
Hear more Vexi-Bits than ever, enjoy a banquet, several interesting presentations, and the camaraderie of fellow NAVA members.

On Saturday, NAVA 46 will tour the Ohio Historical Society’s collection of Civil War battle flags and the Ohio State House which was restored to its original 1816 appearance in 1996.