2016 Annual Meeting
NAVA 50 in San José

By Steven A. Knowlton

From October 14-16, 2016, 47 members of the Association, along with thirteen of their companions, gathered in San José, California area for the 50th Annual Meeting. The program committee for NAVA 50 consisted of James Croft, chair, and members Christopher Bedwell, Pete Loeser, Ken Reynolds, and John M. Hartvigsen. The NAVA 50 local arrangements committee consisted of Pete Loeser, chair, and members Peter Ansoff, James Ferrigan, Ted Kaye, and Bill Trinkle. The local arrangements committee found a number of vexillological activities for the weekend.

Upon arrival at the cozy Doubletree Hotel Campbell, attendees were greeted by a panoply of historic California flags flying from the portico. Inside, the atrium was festooned with past NAVA annual meeting flags that could not fit into the meeting room, giving all the hotel’s guests a sense of the occasion. The welcome packets prepared by the local arrangements committee...
As I have frequently related, my interest in flags stretches back to childhood. I often explain that I was born with the “flag gene.” When I learned of Whitney Smith’s virtual creation of vexillology as a new academic discipline it changed and enriched my life. Quite frankly, I cannot imagine my life without the opportunities and personal enrichment that vexillology and NAVA have afforded me. I have seen the Association grow from its infancy to a strong and vital organization.

My involvement with vexillology, like the study itself, has many facets. I have completed original research and published in all of NAVA’s publications, The Flag Bulletin and other journals and publications. I have shared my results in print and broadcast media.

Nevertheless, my interest has been manifest in other aspects of vexillology.

- I have collected a large number of actual flags in many sizes and enjoyed the tactile and visual impact of flags.
- I have collected a large library of books, pamphlets, and ephemera telling the fascinating stories of flags. NAVA’s publications are an essential part of this collection.
- I have designed flags that I have been thrilled to see displayed and flown. Expanding the experience of flag designing, I have made diagrams and patterns that my wife has used in sewing actual flags. I have worked with flag manufacturers on the production of flags offered commercially. I have worked with my state legislature to pass flag design legislation.
- I have been part of flag ceremonies for the military, university and schools. My study of flag etiquette has enabled me to make a greater contribution as a planner and participant.
- I have worked with a private non-profit foundation to bring flag displays to communities all around the United States. I am completing my last year as President of the Association. In all I have served five years as a NAVA elected officer. This has been a very rewarding and yet challenging opportunity.

It has been rewarding to become associated with some of the finest individuals I have known. The strong friendships forged are treasured associations. So many volunteers contribute to NAVA’s projects. Significant contributions of time and finances make our Association’s progress possible. Members contribute countless hours, limited by work, family and other assignments. Financial contributions may be monetary or in kind. Difficult to calculate, NAVA has received many thousands of dollars in multiple contributions during the last few years alone.

Service in NAVA also has its challenges. Difficult issues have been handled by several boards, with which I have served. Additionally, there are always disagreements. NAVA’s members
Greetings fellow vexillologists!
NAVA News 229 marks our last issue for 2016 which is traditionally reserved for coverage of our Association’s annual meeting. Although I was not able to attend the 2016 annual meeting as I was a candidate for public office, thankfully, several folks who were in attendance have stepped up to provide some great content. We’ve taken a slightly different approach for this issue and are featuring a more visual depiction of our annual gathering. Once again, Ted Kaye has volunteered to provide photographs of the event and many excellent shots are included in this issue. I’d also like to give a special thanks to our former Association secretary, Steven Knowlton, who has authored our lead story summarizing the entire weekend’s festivities. Ted’s and Steven’s contributions are very much appreciated and speak to the unselfish nature of those of us who have contributed to this organization. NAVA is built upon our shared passion for vexillology and the lifeblood of our Association is the work of many volunteers along many different fronts to advance our interest in flags. Our capacity to appreciate vexillology is augmented by the diversity of this group. The many and varied pursuits that contribute to our collective success include researchers, historians, conservators, government officials, flag retailers and manufacturers, writers, designers, and flag aficionados of all stripes. Like many volunteer organizations and social groups, one can only expect to get out of NAVA what one puts into it.

As NAVA News editor-in-chief since 2014, I’ve been fortunate to have been exposed to the broad range of our Association and breadth of our field, and there’s always fascinating vexillological stories to report. In fact, one story just hit my desk that I know many of you will find compelling from a vexillological and socio-political perspective. At a recent Conservative Political Action Conference (CPAC) in Washington D.C., 1000 “Trump flags” were distributed to attendees. Supporters of President Trump eagerly waved the red, white, and blue tricolor flags with the word “TRUMp” emblazoned in gold lettering. But the flags were a clever and insidious political prank—they were really Russian national flags. It was a commentary on the ongoing allegations of Russian cyber hacking into the recent U.S. election and potential collusion between the hackers and American political operatives. It’s important to note that as vexillologists we do not promote partisan agendas but seek to examine an action such as this for its intrinsic value as a crafty deployment of vexillographic ingenuity. I’m happy to report the next issue of NAVA News will feature an interview with the “poli-vexillographers,” and I know you will find the story riveting!

Byron DeLear
Editor-in-Chief, navanews@nava.org

have strong opinions. I do not use my president’s column to express partisan opinions about Association politics because it is both the executive board’s and my belief that this is not an appropriation use of the Association’s serial publications and website. As expressed to me by many members, we all need to work in an atmosphere of friendship and camaraderie.

Since I am term limited, I will end my term as NAVA’s president this coming October. As I continue my future membership, I desire to be able to look back with fondness on my service and on those who have served with me.

John
included the usual list of attendees and schedule for the meeting, but also literature on the history of San José and California’s flags, along with souvenir patches and temporary tattoos of the California state flag (affectionately called the Bear Flag), and “hand-waver” copies of the Bear Flag and the swallow-tailed meeting flag designed by Tony Burton.

The first event of the annual meeting took place Friday afternoon in the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library on the campus of San José State University (SJSU), which also serves as a branch of the San José Public Library. The George Henry Preble Lecture, co-sponsored by the SJSU Department of History and open to the public, began with an introduction by Jim Ferrigan in which he unveiled a full-sized reproduction of the seven-foot tall unit flag of the Evergreen Home Guard held in the Zaricor Flag Collection. (The original may be seen at https://perma.cc/X78R-9DMK).

Dr. Tamara Venit-Shelton, a historian at Claremont McKenna College, then presented a lecture on “The 1861 Settlers’ War,” in which the Evergreen Guards flag made its debut. Her lecture was related to her book A Squatter’s Republic: Land and the Politics of Monopoly in California, 1850–1900, and demonstrated how conflicts arose between landowners who had received grants from the Mexican government prior to the 1848 cession of California to the United States and squatters who came to the San José area in the wake of the 1849 gold rush. In one such conflict, in 1861 a group of squatters formed in irregular militia unit and literally wrapped themselves in the giant Evergreen Home Guards flag in protest of government actions to support landowners’ rights. A lively question period followed, and was concluded with the presentation of the Association’s thanks to Dr. Venit-Shelton by President John Hartvigsen.

A full evening of social activities commenced with the Presidents’ Reception held in the Orchard Room of the Doubletree Hotel, where the intimate space made it easy for all the attendees to say hello over drinks and hors d’oeuvres. Following the reception, many attendees joined a group dinner at the Rock Bottom Restaurant and Brewery, whose capacious patio allowed for al fresco dining on a temperate evening.

The evening concluded with a session of Vexi-Bits, which allows for attendees to share newly acquired flags and other items of interest in brief talks. Lee Herold showed a rare example of a gopher-shaped finial used on flagpoles in the office of the late Senator Hubert Humphrey. Annie Platoff shared her Soviet Air Force ensign and gave a primer on distinguishing genuine flags made in the former U.S.S.R. during the Soviet era from more recent reproductions. Phil Allen displayed some flags he designed and had custom-sewn, including a Fourth of July-themed banner with fireworks and a University of California football team flag. He also showed a truly gigantic swallow-tailed Swedish flag, which Jim Ferrigan identified as a
courtesy ensign flown by U.S. naval vessels in Swedish ports.

Jack Lowe shared two Israeli army unit flags, including one from the Golani brigade which saw action in the 2006 war in Lebanon. Scott Mainwaring showed his personal flag and a proposal for the Oregon state flag.

Bill Trinkle, who served as master of ceremonies for Vexi-Bits, pulled from his vast collection of California Bear Flag varieties a banner of the bear at a sunny beach. Peter Ansoff shared two house flags from sailing vessels: the ship’s flag of the Legacy, which conducts cruises on the Columbia River, and a mysterious house flag that may have been Japanese. Ted Kaye concluded by showing a new book by Željko Heimer on Vexillology, Sociology, and Croatian military flags (which Ted helped edit).
The opening ceremony of the annual meeting on Saturday morning kicked off with a touching address by John Hartvigsen in which he expressed not only the thanks of the Association to the local arrangements committee, but also to all the members of NAVA whose companionship and shared enthusiasm for flags has enriched his life. In place of the usual procession of flags (foregone due to the low ceiling), the playing of the Association's official musical composition, “Winchester Fanfare,” written by Mason Kaye, was accompanied by a PowerPoint slide show of national and Association flags.

The first morning featured five presentations on historical, social, and psychological aspects of vexillology, including three talks from first-time presenters—Hipolito Rafael Chacón, Rodney Deal, and Scott Mainwaring. All the presentations that were eligible for the Captain William Driver Award for the best paper were given on the first day, so that the award could be presented at the Whitney Smith Dinner Saturday night.

Steve Knowlton presented an overview of flags used by black nationalist organizations including the Universal Negro Improvement Association, the Moorish Science Temple of America, the Nation of Islam, and the Black Panther Party for Self-Defense.

Hipolito Rafael Chacón, in his Driver Award-winning paper, showed the connections between Cuba’s “Estrella Solitaria” (“Lone Star”) flag and later revolutionary, anti-colonial flags, including those of the Philippines, Catalonia, and a number of flags used in African independence movements.

Rodney Deal discussed a flag he has designed and marketed, which commemorates the end of the Civil War and emancipation, and symbolizes African American empowerment.

Amy Langston presented some of the many flags used within the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender communities, and discussed the findings of an innovative survey she performed to assess the relationship between religious observance and attitudes about flags for sexual orientations; her talk earned an Honorable Mention for the Driver Award.

Scott Mainwaring discussed a number of questions revolving around visual perception of flags, such as which way the flag appears to be moving (in a stiff breeze, is the hoist edge moving “into the wind” or is the fly end moving “away from the pole”?)

Michael Green gave a graphic designer's perspective on flags as “branding” for the entities they represent, and introduced the concept of a “pride funnel,” in which inadequate or unattractive symbolism for a political entity causes citizens to transfer their emotional allegiance to an entity lower in the hierarchy but with better branding—such as when New Yorkers with their seal-on-blue flag embrace the New York Yankees logo to represent their state, but Coloradans eagerly embrace their state flag.

Following a lunch break, the attendees enjoyed a silent auction of flags donated by NAVA members. The most popular item was Pete Van de Putte’s offer for Dixie Flag & Banner Company to design and custom-make a personal flag for the top bidder. Throughout the meeting, attendees also participated in a silent auction of a number of flags, flag books, and related items. John Hartvigsen then give his talk on the flag of the Third Reich, in which he traced the aesthetically striking swastika design beyond the account presented in Mein Kampf to a series of earlier German writers who embraced the ancient sun symbol as (probably incorrectly) attributed to the Aryan race of pre-history.
Often, NAVA annual meetings will involve a trip to a nearby museum to view a flag collection. This year, the flag collections came to NAVA, for a display called Tour of the Collections. Inside the Doubletree, six NAVA members who are also flag collectors displayed the highlights of their collections. Peter Ansoff had a number of shipping house flags and merchant ensigns which were salvaged by shipbreakers worked in Alang, India. Bill Trinkle allowed the attendees to inspect some of the early examples and variants of the California Bear Flag. Annie Platoff showed a number of Soviet-era flags, regional flags from post-Communist Russia, and NASA flags that have actually flown in outer space. Ben Zaricor and his daughter, Tanya, kindly brought rarely-seen early flags, including a 1780 thirteen-star flag with single ring and center star, a mid-Federal period U.S. merchant ship ensign, a 1876 Centennial patriotic U.S. flag, and a 1896 Semi-Centennial Bear Flag that came from the collection of Judge John Ball of San José. Jim Ferrigan’s flag collection featured many novelty flags he designed, including an “earthquake” pattern for the U.S. flag in which all the stars fell to the bottom of the canton. Phil Allen also displayed his designs, including a “tie-dye” U.S. flag, and a U.S. flag with rainbow colors in place of the red stripes.

The biggest disappointment of the weekend was the biggest relief to everyone else in San José. California had been suffering a drought throughout 2016, making it seem safe to plan Saturday night’s Whitney Smith Dinner for the hotel’s outdoor dining area. Alas, for the first time in months, it rained! Following a group photograph in the hotel lobby, a Mexican dinner was served in the Harvest and Orchard Rooms of the hotel.

After a round of toasts, the keynote address was presented by Bill Trinkle, proprietor of the online Bear Flag Museum (http://bearflagmuseum.org). Trinkle recounted the tumultuous days of 1846 when the Bear Flag first made its appearance over a fort in Sonoma occupied by Americans rebelling against the Mexican government, and went to tell of its adoption as the state flag in 1911. The address was full of details regarding eyewitness accounts of the flag’s appearance and use, legislative history, and design specifications. Californians have embraced their flag and use it widely on homes, places of business, and schools—to the extent that parodies, adaptations, and variant designs abound. Trinkle attributes its popularity to the air of rebellion and individualism embodied by the flag, which appeals to many Californians’ self-image. He concluded the talk by displayed a large
number of Bear Flag variations he has collected over the years.

The Whitney Smith Dinner often includes the presentation of awards, and this year’s festivities concluded with several. Hartvigsen presented the thanks of the Association to two Board Members, Secretary Cindy Williams and Treasurer Chris Bedwell, who are rotating off the board, along with First Vice President James Croft and Second Vice President Ken Reynolds, who were unable to attend and sent their regrets. The Kevin Harrington Award, conferred upon the author of the best article about flags published in a non-vexillological periodical, was presented to Carlos A. Morales-Ramirez, whose article “Learning Geography Through Flags” was published in *The Pennsylvania Geographer*, volume 53, number 2 (Fall/Winter 2015). The John Purcell Award, presented for an exemplary contribution that promotes public understanding of vexillology in North America, was given to Scott Mainwaring, who originated and promoted World Vexillology Day. The Captain William Driver Award was presented to Hipolito Rafael Chacón, and an Honorable Mention was given to Amy Langston.

President Hartvigsen also announced that Annie Platoff would receive the Devereaux D. Cannon, Jr. Grant for Research in Vexillology. She plans to use the grant to research Soviet flags in the Whitney Smith Flag Research Center Collection, which is part of the Dolph Briscoe Center for American History at The University of Texas at Austin.

The evening concluded with an announcement from Scot Guenter. As a director of The Flag Research Center, Guenter informed the gathering that *The Flag Bulletin* will resume publishing in the fall of 2017. To the end of recruiting authors for *The Flag Bulletin*, The Flag Research Center has named a class of Fellows, who are distinguished vexillologists who have agreed to contribute to *The Flag Bulletin* on a regular basis.

The annual business meeting was conducted on Sunday morning. FIAV Secretary-General Charles Spain visited Association Founder Whitney Smith the day before coming to NAVA 50, and with the permission of Smith’s family shared that Dr. Smith has advanced Alzheimer’s disease. Sadly, Dr. Smith died shortly thereafter, on November 17, 2016 ([https://perma.cc/9CRH-WVZ8](https://perma.cc/9CRH-WVZ8)).

President Hartvigsen shared his thoughts about NAVA being a three-legged stool, comprising annual meetings, publications, and presentations, with the unifying seat being a passion for flags among other members.
NAVA members. He noted that, as in any organization, there are occasional disagreements despite great camaraderie among the members. With that in mind, he urged NAVA members to not speak ill of the organization, but rather encourage new members to contribute and participate in the organization’s work.

The nominating committee presented the following slate of candidates for the 2016–2017 executive board: for president, John Hartvigsen; for first vice president, Luc Baronian; for second vice president, Edward (Ted) McNabb; for secretary, Lee Herold; and for treasurer, John Adcock CPA. The slate was elected without opposition. There was a contested election for the 2016–2017 nominating committee, and Scot Guenter, Jim Ferrigan, and Hugh Brady were elected. Congratulations to the new executive board and nominating committee members!

The meeting concluded with two presentations. Carlos Morales-Ramirez summarized the work he published in his Harrington Award-winning paper on teaching geography through the study of flags.

Annie Platoff and Scot Guenter presented something new to NAVA: a scholarly dialogue. They spoke on “civil religion”—the use of religion-like activities to form a sense of national identity—as practiced in the Soviet Union and the United States.

Because Flag Research Quarterly 11 will be about the NAVA Flag Collection, which consists of the indoor annual meeting flags, the officer flags, and the NAVA, FIAV, U.S., and Canada flags, a preliminary color draft written by Charles Spain was printed and distributed at NAVA 50 so attendees could look at the actual flags and comment on the draft. This crowd sourcing for information about the Association’s flags allowed attendees a unique opportunity to participate in vexillological research on NAVA’s half century of flags.

The annual meeting’s last presentation featured President Hartvigsen inviting NAVA members to attend the fiftieth anniversary annual meeting in Boston next fall. Boston is an especially appropriate site to celebrate the end of a half-century of NAVA meetings, as the June 3–4, 1967 organizational meeting was held there.

Although the last official event of NAVA 50 was the formal investiture of the newly elected executive board members, many members spent the evening sharing meals, drinks, and one another’s company.
NAVA 50 Presentations / Communications

The Global Legacy of the Estrella Solitaria, Cuba’s Lone Star Flag
Hippolito Rafael Chacón, Ph.D., Montana

Flag of Remembrance 1865
Rodney D. Deal, Michigan

Branding the Nations
Michael Green, Texas

The Flag of the NSDAP and the Third Reich: The Impact of a Well Designed Flag
John M. Hartvigsen, Utah

Show Me the Race of the Nation Without a Flag, and I will Show You a Race of People Without Any Pride: Flags of Black Nationalist Organization
Steven A. Knowlton, M.L.I.S., M.A., New Jersey

The Intersectionality of Flags, Religion, and the Gay Pride Movement
Amy J. Langston, North Carolina

Which Way Forward? Directionality in Flag Perception and Design
Scott D. Mainwaring, Ph.D., Oregon

Geographies of Vexillology: Learning Geography Through Flags
Carlos A. Morales-Ramirez, M.S., M.A., Singapore

An Introduction to Comparative Civil Religion: The United States and the Soviet Union
Anne M. Platoff, M.S., M.A., FF, California
Scot M. Guenter, Ph.D., LF, FF, WSF, FVAST, California

The Twenty-Seventh International Congress of Vexillology
Imperial College • London • August 7–11, 2017
The Flag Institute, Congress Organizer

The Twenty-Seventh International Congress of Vexillology will be held 7–11 August 2017 at Imperial College, South Kensington Campus, London, UK. Additional information and registration is available at http://www.icv27.co.uk
NAVA 50 montage

1. John Hartvigsen
2. Charles Spain and Jim Brown
3. NAVA 50 and Evergreen Home Guard flags fly outside entrance to hotel
4. Bill Trinkle and Ben Zaricor
5. Jim Ferrigan and Annie Platoff
6. Bea Jones
7. Pete Loeser, NAVA 50 local arrangements committee chair
8. Deanna Hartvigsen and Mary Ansoff
9. Vanessa Van de Putte
10. Lee Herold
11. Ben Zaricor and Rodney Deal
12. Mary Ann Docktor-Smith and John Hartvigsen
13. Gary Randall and Jeff Spain
14. Pete Loeser and Tamara Vent-Shelton
15. Francophones Patricia Essapo, Maurine Meka Meka, & Luc Baronian
16. Amy Langston

ALL PHOTOS: TED KAYE
NAVA 50 montage cont.

17 Luc Baronian’s toast to the President to the United States during the Whitney Smith Dinner
18 Jack Lowe’s toast to the Queen of Canada
19 Lee Herold, Al Cavalari and Pete Van de Putte
20 Bill Trinkle and Cindy Williams
21 Mary Ann Docktor-Smith offers her toast to absent friends
22 Scot Guenter delivers his toast to the Association
23 Friday evening dinner at the Rock Bottom Restaurant and Brewery
24 Steve Knowlton and Peter Ansoff
25 Luc Baronian
26 Mary Ann Docktor-Smith and Randy Smith, accepting the 2015 Doreen Braverman Award given to Advertising Flag Co. and them
27 Chris Bedwell
28 David Ott
29 The audience at Viva-Bills

ALL PHOTOS: TED KAYE
North American Vexillological Association / Association nord-américaine de vexillologie

2015–2016 Awards and Honors / Prix et honneurs

Captain William Driver Award / Prix Capitaine-William-Driver

Hipolito Rafael Chacón, Ph.D., for “The Global Legacy of the Estrella Solitaria, Cuba’s Lone Star Flag”
Amy J. Langston, “The Intersectionality of Flags, Religion, and the Gay Pride Movement” (Honorable Mention / Mention honorable)

Kevin Harrington Award / Prix Kevin-Harrington


John Purcell Award / Prix John-Purcell

Scott Mainwaring, Ph.D., for originating and promoting World Vexillology Day

2015–2016 Officers, Committees, and Boards / Officiers, conseils et comités

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First Vice President / Premier vice-président
James A. Croft
Second Vice President / Second vice-président
Kenneth W. Reynolds, Ph.D.
Secretary / Secrétaire
Cindy Williams
Treasurer / Trésorier
Christopher P. Bedwell
President Emeritus / Président émérite
Whitney Smith+, Ph.D., LF, FF, WSF, FVAST
Past President Consultant / Président sortant consultant
Hugh L. Brady, J.D., FF

Nominating Committee / Comité des mises en candidature

Scot M. Guenter, Ph.D., LF, FF, WSF, FVAST
Chair / Directeur
Hugh L. Brady, J.D., FF

Appointed Officers / Les officiers désignés

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John A. Lowe, M.D., FF
Auditor / Vérificateur
vacant
Parliamentarian / Parlementaire
Hugh L. Brady, J.D., FF
Registered Agent / Représentant légal
Ernest E. Aitchison, J.D.
Flag Research Quarterly Editor-in-Chief / Rédacteur en chef

Flag Research Quarterly Editor / Rédacteur
Steven A. Knowlton, M.L.I.S., M.A.

Raven: A Journal of Vexillology Editor-in-Chief / Rédacteur en chef

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Director of the Digital Library / Directrice de la bibliothèque numérique
Anne M. Platoff, M.S., M.A., FF
Media Relations Officer / Directeur des relations avec les médias
James J. Ferrigan III
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Protocol Officer / Agent du protocole
James J. Ferrigan III
Shopkeeper / Responsable des ventes
Al Cavalarì

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Budget Committee / Comité du budget
Christopher P. Bedwell
Chair / Directeur
Hugh L. Brady, J.D., FF
Lee L. Herold
Cindy Williams
John M. Hartvigsen (ex officio)

Flag Design Committee / Comité de vexillographie
Christopher P. Bedwell
Chair / Directeur
James L. Croft
Edward B. Kaye, FF
John M. Hartvigsen (ex officio)

Membership Committee / Comité d’adhésion
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Chair / Directeur
Vanessa Van de Putte
Catherine Wright
John M. Hartvigsen (ex officio)
Edward B. Kaye, FF (adviser / conseiller)
Collin Simpson (adviser / conseiller)
William J. Trinkle, J.D. (adviser / conseiller)

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Chair / Directeur
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Kenneth W. Reynolds, Ph.D.
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Kenneth W. Reynolds, Ph.D.
Chair / Directeur
Kenneth J. Hartvigsen, Ph.D.
Anne M. Platoff, M.S., M.A., FF
John M. Hartvigsen (ex officio)
Luc V. Baronian, Ph.D. (adviser / conseiller)

Special Committees / Comités spéciaux
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Scot M. Guenter, Ph.D., LF, FF, WSF, FVAST
Chair / Directeur
Kevin Harrington, M.A. (T.), FF
Charles A. Spain, J.D., WSF
H.P. (Pete) Van de Putte Jr., FVAST
John M. Hartvigsen (ex officio)

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Christopher P. Bedwell
Hugh L. Brady, J.D., FF
James A. Croft
Scot M. Guenter, Ph.D., LF, FF, WSF, FVAST
John M. Hartvigsen
Kenneth W. Reynolds, Ph.D.
Dean C. Thomas
Cindy Williams

Grants Committee / Comité des bourses12
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Kenneth W. Reynolds, Ph.D.
John Hartvigsen (ex officio)

Flag Conservation Committee / Comité de conservation des drapeaux12
Laura K. Kidd, Ph.D.
Chair / Directrice
James J. Ferrigan III
Kenneth J. Hartvigsen, Ph.D.
Gwen Spicer, M.S.
John Hartvigsen (ex officio)

Organizational Members Advisory Committee / Comité consultatif des membres de l’organisation12
H.P. (Pete) Van de Putte Jr., FVAST
Chair / Directeur
Paul B. Swenson, M.A.
John Hartvigsen (ex officio)
NAVA's founder, Whitney Smith of Winchester, Massachusetts, the preeminent scholar on all aspects of the history, symbolism, and significance of flags, died on 17 November 2016.

The Flag Bulletin from November 2016 contains a full obituary on Dr. Smith.

He will be very missed by all at NAVA who were fortunate to know him.

The Smith family has conveyed Dr. Smith’s request that Secretary-General Charles Spain conduct public memorial services, which will be held in conjunction with ICV 27 in London and NAVA 51 in Boston. The Association will publish selected remarks and remembrances after NAVA 51.
Thanks

The program committee and the Association’s executive board wish to thank the following for their help in organizing and underwriting NAVA 50. / Le comité de programme et le conseil d’administration tiennent à remercier les personnes suivantes pour leur aide dans l’organisation et envers le financement de NAVA 50:

Joel Anderson, Anderson Design Group
Luc V. Baronian, Université du Québec à Chicoutimi
Anthony C. Burton for designing the NAVA 50 flag
Robert R. (Bob) Caggiano, Annin Flagmakers
Dr. Patricia Evridge Hill and the San José State University Department of History
Clay J. Moss
Randolph Smith, Advertising Flag Co.
Paul and Elizabeth Swenson, Colonial Flag Co.
William Trinkle Photography
William J. Trinkle, Bear Flag Museum
Rick Wyatt, CRW Flags
Advertising Flag Co. for the NAVA 50 large flags
Annin Flagmakers for the NAVA 50 table flags
Bear Flag Museum for the California state flag table flags
Colonial Flag Co. for underwriting the George Henry Preble Lecture honorarium
CRW Flags for underwriting the Presidents’ Reception
Dixie Flag & Banner Company for storing and caring for the NAVA Flag Collection
The Flag Research Center for underwriting the Captain William Driver Award honorarium
The Middlesex Institute for underwriting the Kevin Harrington Award honorarium
The Vexillological Association of the State of Texas for donating the engraved recognition certificates and the presentation folders embossed with NAVA’s name and flag
Philip A. Allen, Peter A. Ansoff, James J. Ferrigan III, John Middleton, Annie Platoff, William J. Trinkle, and Ben Zaricor for sharing their flag collections
Welcome to 2016’s new NAVA members!

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<td>Nicholas Acosta</td>
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<td>Walker Battreall</td>
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<td>Bear Flag Museum</td>
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50th Annual Meeting / 50e Réunion annuelle
San José, California • 14–16 October 2016

Left: NAVA 50 attendees.