
Title Page: Utah’s Mammoth Statehood Flag hangs from the Salt Lake Temple in Salt Lake City, Utah, circa 1897. The huge flag was displayed on the south wall with its union to the east, near the taller towers. Source: Special Collections, Marriott Library, University of Utah.

Back Cover: Figures from “The Cinco de Mayo Flag Flap”, “Utah’s Mammoth Statehood Flag”, “The ‘Forward Russia’ Flag”, and “Applying Sebeok’s Typology of Signs to the Study of Flags”. 
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Editor’s Notes

With this volume Raven resumes its standard format: several excellent articles on varied flag topics. Most were presented first as papers at NAVA’s annual meeting 2010 in Los Angeles, California; they represent the pinnacle of vexillological scholarship in North America and include the winner of the Captain William Driver Award.

The offerings in this volume continue a Raven tradition of broad and diverse flag scholarship. Unusually, three of the members of the Editorial Board of Raven contributed articles—demonstrating the deep commitment its members have to vexillology and furthering their personal research in the field.

This publication is a team effort: thanks go to the members of the Editorial Board, who review and approve all submissions to this journal, and especially to Annie Platoff for her ever-invaluable proofreading assistance. With this volume we welcome two new members to the Editorial Board: Perry Dane and Ken Reynolds; both have published their work in earlier volumes of Raven and bring deep vexillological experience. We also mourn the passing of John Purcell, founding member of the Editorial Board, whose work on this issue was among the last of his innumerable contributions to NAVA.

As usual, Raven generally follows the Chicago Manual of Style; however, it adopts the more logical British style of presenting quoted material inside the commas and periods that belong to the surrounding sentence.
Dedication: To John Purcell

We dedicate this volume to the memory of our colleague, Dr. John M. Purcell, an outstanding vexillologist and a NAVA member since 1968, who died as this volume was readied for typesetting. As a founding member of the *Raven* Editorial Board, he helped guide our annual journal through 19 volumes, reviewing scores of prospective articles and offering authors insightful feedback. He served as NAVA’s corresponding secretary, recording secretary, and president. He also established NAVA’s flag design committee, advancing his interest in vexillographical excellence.

A keen scholar, John’s 40 years of research into U.S. municipal flags culminated in *Raven* 9/10, *American City Flags* (2003), and he contributed several articles to *Raven* 18, *Canadian City Flags* (2011). His vexillogical writings also appeared in *The Flag Bulletin, NAVA News, Banderas*, and *Banderín*. He co-edited *Flagwaver*, the journal of the Great Waters Association of Vexillology, since its inception in 1996. In 1999 he received both the Whitney Award from NAVA and the New Directions in Vexillology Award from the Canadian Flag Association, in 2005 he was named a “Fellow of the Federation” by the International Federation of Vexillological Associations, and in 2010 he was granted honorary membership in NAVA for “distinguished service to the association”, an honor shared by only seven others.

He was a professor of Spanish and Foreign Language Education at Cleveland State University (Ohio). We will miss his gentle charm, the twinkle in his eye, and his tireless devotion to the study of flags.

May those who read this journal take a lesson from his meticulousness in research and his unwavering commitment to advance the field of vexillology, and adopt these virtues as models to pursue in their own work.