NAVA News

Members and friends attending the 9th Annual Membership Meeting of NAVA, October 10-12, 1975, in Cleveland, Ohio are pictured above from left to right - standing - Bill Dwiggins, Gail Lingo, Mr. Cherry, Daniel G. Connors, Jack Lingo, Bette Goss, Bill Spangler, Mike Tancey, Hugh McClellan, Gary Grah, John Lehman, Ashley Talbot, Don Healy, Kevin Sheard, John R.B. Szala, John Purcell, Barbara Huff, Ken Huff, Carl Francolino, Mike Webster, Glenn Compton, James Hart, Emmet Mittlebeeler, David Ott, Claire Spangler, Charles Brannon, and Mary Louise Hardin. Seated - 1 to r - John Cross, Violet Cross, Wilma Tancey, Dorothy Claybourne, Eileen Cunningham, Florence Hutchison, Whitney Smith, Martin O'Malley, George McKale, and Ernest Aitchison.

The following were elected officers for 1975-76:

President - Whitney Smith
Vice President - John Lyman
Corresponding Secretary - John Purcell
Treasurer - Jack Lingo
Recording Secretary - Ashley Talbot
Citizens of the United States opened 1976 with red, white and blue flourishes to observe their nation's 200th birthday. Quite naturally, flags were the center of much attention. Among some of the festivities of vexillological interest were:

The Adman Club of Colorado Springs set off more than half a ton of fireworks from the 14,110-foot summit of Pike's Peak. The display was visible for 100 miles. At the same time, the flags of Colorado and the state's centennial flag were hoisted over the mountain, marking the start of the nation's Bicentennial and the State of Colorado's centennial.

The community of Red River, New Jersey celebrated the arrival of 1976 by raising its Bicentennial flag at one minute after midnight, at the summit of a 10,200-foot mountain. After the unfurling, officials planned to ski down the mountain carrying the flag.

Dorothy Hite Claybourne, Assistant Reference Librarian at the Pius XII Memorial Library, St. Louis University, has published "200 BOOKS, 200 YEARS: A Selected Reading List in U.S. History for the Bicentennial." Dorothy is an active NAVA member. The booklet costs $5.00 per copy.

Warden David Brierton of Stateville Penitentiary in Joliet, Illinois plans to have inmates who have artistic skill - and who can be trusted outside the prison - paint an enormous United States flag across the penitentiary's front wall.

SON'S SURPRISE — His parents left Jon Beasley, 20, money to buy avocado green house paint during their vacation, but returned to DeKalb, Ill., to find the bicentennial spirit had struck their son. Jon's father thought the red, white and blue 13-star American flag house was "kind of cool," but his mother said, "I guarantee that this house will be green by August."
The personal Armorial Bearings of Ernest E. Aitchison, Esq. were marticulated by the Lord Lyon on the 19th day of July 1972. The Armorial House Flag (5:4 in proportion) is based on the arms with fringe and tassels in the livery or family colours.

Blazon of Arms: Argent, an eagle with two heads displayed Sable, charged on the breast with an annulet Or, on a chief indented Vert between two spur-rowels a lamp of learning all of the Third; a bordure chequy Argent and Vert for difference.

The Arms are registered with the Norroy & Ulster King of Arms (Scotland IV, Folio 215), and the Flag will appear in the 1975 issue of the Armorial Who is Who by Lt. Colonel Gayre of Gayre and Nigg.

The international co-publishing program which produced Leonardo da Vinci's Madrid Codices and The Unknown Leonardo lives up to its reputation with an initial printing of 120,000 volumes of FLAGS THROUGH THE AGES AND ACROSS THE WORLD, edited by Dr. Whitney Smith, the Executive Director of the Flag Research Center in Winchester, Mass., editor of The Flag Bulletin, and President of the North American Vexillological Association.

Enhanced by over 3,000 historical paintings, heraldic designs, and flag reproductions - 2,600 in full color - this elegant volume shows flags streaming gallantly through the centuries - on spears and masts, fluttering from crenelated towers, stabbed into bullet-swept high ground, livening the United Nations plaza, leading every prideful parade there ever was.

The $39.95 price of the volume may prove prohibitive for some people, but no vexillologist, no serious student of flag study, can afford to be without this definitive work. Its storehouse of flag information will repay the owner's initial investment many times over.

This is THE flag book that must have an honored, special place in every vexillologist's library.

The book may be purchased from:

THE FLAG RESEARCH CENTER
3 Edgehill Rd.
Winchester, Massachusetts 01890 U.S.A.
**Bold Eagle Feathers Rocky’s Crest**

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Like at least one of his predecessors, Vice President Nelson A. Rockefeller was concerned about the image of his office.

Rockefeller said it wasn’t that he was frustrated with being No. 2, but he didn’t think much of the coat of arms that went with the job. He told friends the eagle in the vice presidential official seal looked like a "wounded quail."

It wasn’t a new complaint. Hubert Humphrey used to tell audiences they could gauge the importance of his job as vice president by the droopy eagle on the seal.

But Rockefeller, art collector and would-be artist, set out to redesign it. And like all good vice presidents, he first asked his boss if it was okay.

The project started months ago and culminated earlier this month with a presidential proclamation giving Rockefeller a new seal — no more limp-winged bird but a bold, aggressive eagle.

White House aides made sure the thousands of dollars of china, crystal and silver bought for the new vice president’s mansion wouldn’t be checked out because of having the old seal on it. Rockefeller aides assured them that no so much as a paper napkin or matchbook with the old seal would be wasted.

The proclamation repealed the original seal, weak eagle and all. It had been the vice president’s symbol since 1948.

Just to make sure there would be no mistaking what the official seal looked like, President Ford’s proclamation gave the following description:

"The coat of arms of the vice president of the United States shall be of the following design:

"Shield: Paleways of 13 pieces argent and gules, a chief azure, upon the breast of an American eagle displayed holding in his dexter talon an olive branch proper and in his sinister a bundle of 13 arrows gray, and in his beak a gray scroll inscribed 'e pluribus unum' sable.

"Crest: behind and above the eagle a radiating glory, on which appears an arc of 13 cloud puffs, and a constellation of 13 millets gray."

Rockefeller critics noted one other change. The old seal had only one arrow in the eagle’s law, but the new bold bird clutches 13. They call it a symbol of Rockefeller’s “cold warrior” spirit.

Rockefeller wrote Mr. Ford a thank-you note saying in part: "As you know, art and aesthetics are my weakness."

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**Flag Mystery Solved**

Two flags that have puzzled historians of the Revolutionary War for a century have been restored in a Bicentennial project for the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission.

The flags were used by the First Continental Regiment, formerly Thompson’s Pennsylvania Rifle Battalion, generally of South Central Pennsylvania and John Proctor’s Westmoreland County Battalion.

J. Duncan Campbell, director of the William Penn Memorial Museum, said that historians had questioned the reversed "P" for Pennsylvania in "1st P.M." The removal of old newspapers, used as backing for the flag for a Centennial exhibit, showed the opposite panel of the flag depicting the letters correctly, Campbell noted.

A similar discovery occurred, Campbell added, with the flag of Proctor’s Westmoreland Battalion where the hidden side showed reversed lettering. Not knowing about the double panel resulted in a display of the reversed side of the Thompson flag since the Centennial.

The two restored flags will form part of a Bicentennial exhibit of flags associated with Pennsylvania to be presented at the William Penn Memorial Museum later this year.