NAVA BY-LAWS

One of the most important items on the agenda at NAVA 17 will be the discussion on the proposed changes to the by-laws. Enclosed with this issue of NAVA NEWS is a printed copy of the by-laws with amendments. PLEASE...BRING YOUR COPY WITH YOU TO THE MEETING IN NEW YORK.

If you have any suggestions or comments regarding same, contact the President, Dr. John M. Purcell.

HIGH-FLYING FLAG CREATES BIG FLAP

William Seaway stands in front of his service station and his controversial flag, which the village of Bloomingdale, Ill., says is too big. Bloomingdale officials claim the 20-by-30 foot flag which flies atop a 60 foot pole, violates a local ordinance regulating the size of signs.

Seaway says the American flag "is not a sign," so the village board has no right to demand that he take it down. The town officials have filed a lawsuit seeking more than $6,000 in fines which the owner says he will fight.

Ronald Cope, village attorney, said the village rules allow a 20-foot pole and a flag no longer than one-third the length of the pole.

from: The Blade
Toledo, Ohio
21 April 1983

NAVA member Phil Allen of Berkeley, California, designed the official flag for NAVA 17 and explained the flag’s symbolism in the following way:

The field is white, blue hoist and orange fly - colors of New York City’s flag. The saltire cross motif suggests: 1) the city’s maritime significance, a port-of-call for cargo and humanity; 2) the jack of the Netherlands, the first European power to colonize the town; 3) the vexillological ‘V’.

The apple is a symbol of New York City today and commonly referred to as “the big apple.” Its red color completes the representation of NAVA’s livery in the flag. The “cutout” 17 within the apple can be read by viewers on either side of the banner. The “1” in ‘17’ is arched at each end to honor the 100th anniversary of the Brooklyn Bridge whose towers feature such arches. The entire apple device is intended to resemble a subway token, New York’s true “key to the city.”
Acting on the recommendation of Dr. Whitney Smith, your Executive Board has voted to confer honorary membership on Robert S. Gauron "for rendering distinguished service in the field of vexillology." Bob joined NAVA in 1969 and remained an active member until 1982 when, upon retirement from his job as associate editor of World Book Encyclopedia, he and his wife Maisel decided that they had to limit membership in organizations, and so he resigned with regret. Throughout Bob's years as an active member, he was one of NAVA's strongest supporters. Not only was he in attendance at most meetings, but he took an active role in donating his time and service to NAVA. He was elected to the post of Corresponding Secretary four times, holding that office from 1967 to 1971. During the year immediately before his retirement, 1980-81, Bob served ably and well as NAVA's president.

Besides the many years Bob devoted to help NAVA function, he found time to research many fascinating papers in various areas of vexillological interest, which he presented at a number of annual meetings. Among his subjects were such diverse topics as the flags of pirates, flags in American Indian culture, flags in national anthems, and, combining his interest in beekeeping, another avocation, bees on flags. In 1976, in commemoration of the United States' bicentennial observation, Bob produced a beautifully researched and illustrated paper entitled, "From Black Raven to Bright Stars and Stripes — 1,000 Years of United States Flag History." In 1979, at NAVA's thirteenth annual meeting, held that year in Salem, Massachusetts, Bob was the first recipient of the William Driver Award, presented annually by NAVA through the generosity of the National Flag Foundation to the person making the best presentation at the annual meeting. Bob's paper that year was entitled, "The Life and Achievements of Old Glory Driver — Godfather to the United States Flag."

We on the Executive Board are pleased to vote honorary membership for Bob, a friend and scholar who has helped to advance the cause of vexillology and the growth of NAVA. We welcome this opportunity to extend to him a token of our appreciation for his many years of work for us.

In accordance with the Bylaws, Article III, Section B. 4, the above will serve as official notice to the membership of its nomination of Robert S. Gauron as honorary member. Such notice must be made at least 24 days prior to the annual meeting. To quote the Bylaws directly, "The decision of the Executive Board in this matter shall stand, unless it is overruled within 24 days by the mail ballot votes of ten per cent or more of the membership." Persons objecting to the nomination should write to the president at 1748 El Dorado Blvd., Brunswick, OH 44212, USA, within 24 days of receipt of this issue of NAVA News.
YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE

10TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF VEXILLOLOGY


Write to:
CONGRESS HONORARY SECRETARY-GENERAL
A H Hamilton-Hopkins, BCom FCIS
Berry House, Limpfield Village, Surrey RH8 0DT,
England Telephone: 088 33 3836

THE FLAG RESEARCH CENTER AND ITS DIRECTOR

There is probably no repository of items related to vexillology as rich as that of the Flag Research Center, 3 Edgehill Rd., Winchester, Mass. 01890. Besides the 10,000 books, the FRC boasts a collection of 600 flags and numerous items related to the area of flag study. The oldest such item is dated 1493.

Dr. Whitney Smith, author, flag designer, consultant to various foreign governments and national and international organizations regarding flags and their symbolism, was NAVA's President from its inception until 1977. He founded the Flag Research Center in 1962, serves as its Director and edits a bimonthly publication, The Flag Bulletin.

Vexillologists throughout the world are lucky to have a person such as Whitney Smith and the Flag Research Center to help them in their areas of research and interest.

Dr. Whitney Smith

May-June 1983/NAVA NEWS, Page 3
NAVA 17 • NEW YORK

LOCATION
The Hotel St. Moritz has been selected as the site for our NAVA 17 meeting. A better address in Manhattan does not exist! Situated on fabulous Central Park South, this is unquestionably the most desirable location from which to experience the "Big Apple." In mid October, Central Park will be aglow in beautiful fall colors. Just a few steps from the hotel is upper 5th Avenue where all the best shops are located and it's only a short walk to Rockefeller Center, Radio City, Lincoln Center and the Metropolitan Museum!

Besides its location, the St. Moritz was chosen because of its unique meeting room facility. The Garden Sky Room occupies the entire 31st floor with outstanding views in all directions. In addition to our meeting room and our display room with reception area, a unique canopied outdoor terrace overlooks the best of Manhattan. A finer setting is impossible to find!

PROGRAM
In addition to the stimulating presentations by our members, your committee has made preliminary plans for a unique "flag tour." Arrangements are being developed for a personal guided tour of the UN Headquarters by Nat Abelson—recently retired from the UN. (You will remember Nat as our banquet speaker in Salem, MA.) The New York Public Library will host a reception for NAVA and present an exhibit of "flag books." In addition, plans are being developed for a very special luncheon and banquet program!

COST
As you can well imagine New York is not inexpensive—but we believe we have negotiated a relatively outstanding package.

Hotel Rooms - Fri., Sat. and Sun. evening...$75.00 per night.

Registration Fees...$125.00 per person
This includes: Continental Breakfast in the Sky Garden (Sat. & Sun.)
Wine & Cheese Party Reception (Friday evening.)
Luncheon - Saturday
Banquet - Saturday evening
Bus Tours, etc., etc.

REGISTRATION
At your earliest convenience (but, prior to Sept. 1 for sure,) complete the attached form and forward to Mr. C. R. Beard, Annin & Co., Verona, N.J. 07044

NAV A 17 REGISTRATION
☐ (I) (We) plan to attend NAVA 17 in New York, October 14th-16th
☐ I enclose check for...$____ (Make check payable to NAVA 17)
☐ My check will follow

Signature

Page 4 NAVA NEWS/May-June, 1983
DCT.14/16

RESERVATIONS

Hotel: Call the St. Moritz direct - Toll Free: 800-221-4774. Refer to NAVA and make your reservation(s).

Note: Plan to stay an extra day or two to truly enjoy New York (Room rates for nights other than above are at the special corporate rate of . . . $91.00.)
A flag of many meanings

Tension is high at Ole Miss over reminder of Confederacy

By Bill Rose
Knight-Ridder Service

OXFORD, Miss. — The ghosts of race wars past are rearing their ugly heads at the University of Mississippi, where a fight over whether students should wave the Confederate flag has sparked racial tensions not seen here since it took 3000 soldiers, bayonets and tear gas to enroll one black student 20 years ago.

Almost daily, blacks and whites confront each other in angry debate between classes. White students yell racial epithets and defiantly shove Confederate flags into the faces of blacks who were once their friends. Outspoken critics of the flag pick up the phone at midnight to be greeted with obscenities and death threats. The Ku Klux Klan is considering a march.

Last month, during Dixie Week on campus, there were sit-ins by black students singing "We Shall Overcome" and by a night-long march of 1000 angry whites to the doorstep of a black fraternity house, where they screamed racial slurs and dared a black, a former cheerleader who caused a stir by refusing to wave the Rebel flag, to step outside.

Chancellor Porter Fortune's attempt to defuse the crisis by halting the school's policy of distributing flags to students before each football game merely escalated the debate.

Alumni take sides

White alumni and students promptly began organizing a campaign to produce the flags privately and hand them to students as they enter the stadium.

Blacks are furious that Fortune stopped short of a complete ban on the flag. They asked that Ole Miss scuttle "Dixie," the fight song, and Col. Rebel, the mascot who is dressed like a Southern colonel in white goatee and gray tails.

They also demanded more grants for minority students, lower admission requirements for blacks and more black faculty members. Only six of the university's 504 faculty members are black.

Fortune, under intense pressure from wealthy white alumni who want their children to wave the same flag they once waved, has enraged blacks by refusing to stop the campus bookstore from selling the very flag he has dropped as a school symbol.

Flag sales at the bookstore are up 50 percent a month ago. Flags flutter from the antennas of cars and hang from dormitory windows in every corner of this rolling green campus set in the rural red clay hills of Lafayette County, where William Faulkner set his mythical Yoknapatawpha County and penned gripping novels dealing with Mississippi race relations.

Since the bloody riots that marked the admission of its first black student, James Meredith, in 1962, Ole Miss has been a model of Southern racial harmony. A black football player, "Gentle Ben" Williams, was named Col. Rebel (Mr. Ole Miss), a student who voted in 1965 by a 90 percent white electorate a black cheerleader and blacks have been welcomed to the raucous parties held by the white sororities and fraternities that dominate this party-loving, society-oriented campus.

Gov. William Winter has named a black man to head the State College Board.

Despite occasional tensions, blacks and whites have at least made overt efforts to understand and communicate with each other. Now, in one of those gut-wrenching emotional battles over symbols so peculiar to the changing South, the nacies have evaporated into open animosity. The smiles and the gestures and the pretenses and the proud but thin veneer of harmony are gone. The campus is split into two warring camps, each suspicious of the other.

Differing views of symbol

Last month, white hecklers showed up when Black Student Union president Lydia Spragin held a press conference to denounce the flag as "a symbol of racism" and to complain that Fortune had "insulted the intelligence of black students" with his "weak stand."

To the 746 blacks among Ole Miss' 9412 students, the Confederate battle flag is an embarrassment, a reminder of slavery and a symbol of southern resistance to progress that once relegated their parents to the backs of buses and inferior, money-starved Jim Crow schools.

Spragin was incensed that the Ole Miss yearbook had seven large photographs of robed Ku Klux Klansmen holding Confederate flags at an Oxford rally called to "Save the Flag." "How can I take that home and show that to my friends and tell them that's where I go to school?" she demanded.

To whites, the flag is a much more complex symbol.

To some, including many graduates of the all-white segregation academies that still dot the rural countryside, the flag is indeed a symbol of their racist leanings.

But to many others, it is part of the Southern psyche, part of what the university is all about.

"I honestly think until this happened, a lot of them never thought about it as racist," said Lee Freeland, an editor at the Daily Mississippian, the student newspaper that runs on its front page a small photo of the Mississippi state flag, which incorporates the Confederate flag in its upper left corner.

"S"n," she said. "There is a deeply ingrained feeling of racism in some students here."

United Press International

OXFORD, Miss. — Chancellor Porter Fortune yesterday rejected a number of demands from black students at the University of Mississippi, including abolishing the Col. Rebel mascot and singing "Dixie" at school events.

Fortune, in a 14-page report, said the University of Mississippi is committed to one of the demands, increasing the number of black faculty. But he said "special considerations to black students would constitute discrimination in itself."

John Hawkins, president of the Black Student Union, was not available for comment.

The chancellor had earlier announced an end to official university use of the Confederate battle flag.

While the chancellor said the university is working to increase its black faculty to 21 members by 1986, he ruled out demands for a separate budget for black cultural projects, a black affirmative action officer and more financial aid to black students.

Chancellor rejects most of demands
First Flag
The first National Flag adopted by the Confederate States of America was the Stars and Bars. It was raised over the Capitol Building in Montgomery, Ala., at sunrise March 4, 1861, while the Provisional Congress was holding its first session, being unfurled by a granddaughter of President John Tyler of Virginia. This Flag is the one used by the United Daughters of the Confederacy as their emblem.

Second Flag
At the battle of Manassas, July 21, 1861, General Beauregard was anxiously hoping for reinforcements while holding his ground against great odds. In the dust and heat the Stars and Bars could hardly be distinguished from the Stars and Stripes. This must not happen again. A new design was adopted in September of 1861. This Battle Flag followed the Cause to the end. It is the insignia of the United Confederate Veterans.

Third Flag
The likeness of the Stars and Bars to the Stars and Stripes often caused confusion, therefore the Confederate Congress on May 1, 1863, adopted this design for a new National Flag. The first of this pattern was sent by President Davis to enfold the body of Stonewall Jackson, and because of this it was sometimes called the Jackson Flag. It was also called the Stainless Banner. This is now the Flag used by the Juniors.

Fourth Flag
It was found that the third Flag, when hanging limp, could be mistaken for a flag of truce, so on March 4, 1865, Congress again changed the design of the National Flag. It was the last Flag of the Confederacy. In a few days Congress adjourned and the Flag was not made until some time later, when its design was found among the Records. It is now used by the Sons of Confederate Veterans as their insignia.
WHO BUYS A FLAG?

This is the question most often asked of Doreen Braverman, the owner of The Flag Shop, in Vancouver, Canada. Sooner or later, almost everybody buys a flag: tourists, boaters, ethnic groups, Legionnaires, rebels, marching bands; yes, even cheese lovers buy tooth-pick flags! Situated in a bustling shopping area of Vancouver, The Flag Shop tries to stock every national, provincial and state flag known. Six-feet and six-inches are the two most popular sizes, but The Flag Shop sews and prints other sizes as well. They also sell poles, accessories, decals and pins.

The second most-often-asked question is: How did you get into this business? Braverman admits that it was a fluke. No market study was carried out, nor any previous experience was involved. She bought a small regalia company that had a few boxes of flags. They were exciting to handle; it was a new field for Braverman and her one employee; the customers were interesting and happy people. The shop, however, was dingy and being on a fifth floor, not accessible to customers. She moved to a bright new location at street level, which prompted the former owner to call her "a silly goose." He said she would never get enough trade to pay the extra rent. She did, and the "silly goose" has been The Flag Shop’s trademark ever since. Two years later, The Flag Shop had to expand again. This time commercial sewing machines were purchased to keep up with the demand for sewn flags and banners. Now, with its own print shop down the street, and another store in Calgary, the staff tops the twenty mark. The growth has brought its challenges, but it is still an exciting business to be in.

The Flag Shop is ready to franchise, however, Braverman is not in any hurry. It takes a special kind of person to be a flag merchant. "You don’t flog flags," she says. "There is too much protocol involved in the business to treat expansion lightly." The staff at The Flag Shop relies very much on NAVA and also the Flag Research Center for up-to-date information on flags. They are often asked to give advice on design and tradition, so it is important that the vexillological resources are there for support.