MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

DOREEN BRAVERMAN

It is up to the individual active members of NAVA to make sure the association grows in numbers and strength. The organizational members, the flag manufacturers, retailers and institutions will always help where they can, but it is the individual members who provide the raison d’etre, now and tomorrow, for NAVA.

I am sure that you have had this message preached to you many times over the years. Today, I will suggest ways that each of you can be part of NAVA’s growth:

1. Lecturing: Universities, schools, clubs and service groups are always looking for speakers and resource people. If you have a vexillological topic, researched and prepared, offer your services to these institutions as a guest lecturer.
   
   Some of you are already involved in lecturing. I would appreciate your sending me the list of your speech topics. We can publicize your presentation; perhaps someone from the other side of the country is interested in hearing your speech! Don’t forget to take NAVA membership forms with you. Mark Liss will be happy to send forms to you.

2. Displaying Collections: Show your collection at every convenient opportunity: fairs, hobby shows, private shows. Some of these showcases are free for the setting up; others charge entry fees. Often, you are encouraged to sell items so your costs are defrayed. If your collection is not saleable, any of our manufacturing members would be pleased to suggest simple flag items that would sell easily at your booth. Again, have NAVA membership forms in plain view on your counter.

3. Guesting on a Talk Show: Radio and television stations are always looking for new ideas for talk shows. Flags and related topics are well received by the listening audiences. The word “vexillology” is good for five minutes discussion, all by itself. Give NAVA membership forms to the station receptionist and s/he will be pleased to mail them out to listeners who inquire about our association.

4. Writing Letters to the “Editor”: All and any flag incidents can be brought to the fore with a letter to your local newspaper editor. Include a picture and usually it will be printed. Sign your name as a member of NAVA and invite readers to contact you, directly, for information. When they do, send them a NAVA membership form.

5. Distributing Membership Forms Through Local Libraries: Get to know your librarian; pass along flag articles to her/him; suggest that the community would benefit from more NAVA members and request that membership forms be available on the library counter or leaflet rack.

6. Registering NAVA in Directories and Rosters: The next time you see a copy of a register of associations, check to see if NAVA is listed. There are many such registries on your library shelves. If we are not listed, notify Mark Liss, our Corresponding Secretary, who will ensure that we are duly registered.

Perhaps you have some ideas to share with us on other ways to help NAVA grow and prosper. Remember, it is up to us to tell others about our great organization. As somebody once wrote: He who whispers down the well, About the goods he has to sell, Will never make as many dollars, As he who flies his flag and hollers!

We do not need to holler, but we can certainly speak up about NAVA!
This past weekend I picked up the illustrated flag at a flea market. It has been some time since I bought a flag "blind" and I don't quite know what to make of this one.

I have illustrated the obverse of the flag, as best I can. The seven red splotches are actually five-pointed stars, and the yellow used on the shield and torch are actually gold. Other than that, the illustration stands as is.

The reverse of this flag is the Chilean national flag. As shown here, a red, white and blue braided string runs around the edge of the flag and off the bottom for tying to a small pole. The approximate dimensions are 8 x 11".

While I am sure that this is some kind of Chilean flag (I can see the obvious), I am baffled as to what kind. And why is the national flag depicted on the back?!

I believe the crown is the one associated with Charlemagne.

Best regards,
Whitney Smith, Ph.D.

David Pawson
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March 9th, 1987
Dear Dev:

Enclosed is an illustration of a flag I received an inquiry about. I am not able to identify it and I am hoping possibly you can publish it in NAVA News where someone may recognize it.

The background of the flag is white; the saltire is blue with yellow feathers; the shield above is red and bears a yellow crown.

I believe the crown is the one associated with Charlemagne.

Best regards,
Whitney Smith, Ph.D.

The 4" x 6" Corner

Here are some more flags to be on the lookout for when hunting down 4" x 6" flags:

Canada (pre-1957)
Royal Canadian Air Force
Serbia (Redrawn)

All four states of Micronesia are now available in 4" x 6" size:

Truk, Kosrae, Ponape, and Yap.

I hope you have luck in obtaining these latest issues.

Don Healy, 523 Centre St., Trenton, NJ 08611
THE COLLECTOR’S CORNER

With this issue of NAVA News we inaugurate a column designed to expose members to the world of collecting flags and flag related memorabilia. The initial series of illustrated articles will feature antique U.S. flags from the collection of Nicholas Artimovich.

Nick has been collecting U.S. flags for over 15 years, and his collection encompasses a wide variety of star patterns, advertising overprints, political campaign items, etc. Other collectors are encouraged to submit similar illustrated pieces for publication so that NAVA members will appreciate the diversity of flag collecting.

Collector’s Corner 1

The first series of illustrations for the “Collector’s Corner” will follow the U.S. Flag from the middle of the 19th century to the middle of the 20th century. The 28 Star Flag illustrated here was an official U.S. flag from July 4, 1846 to July 3, 1847, following the admission of Texas as the 28th state on December 29, 1845. The material is an unusual linen bunting with all sewing done by hand. The three grommets are also hand stitched. The flag’s overall dimensions are 31” x 49”. The blue canton is extremely dark, while the red stripes have faded considerably and can best be described as “salmon.”

U.S. flags made prior to the Civil War are scarce today, but the 28 Star Flag is a particular rarity with only one other example known to the author, that being owned by the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland. Interestingly, these two flags follow the long established pattern of circular star arrangements for use on land, as was the flag shown here, versus the pattern of stars in rows on the naval flag owned by the Academy.

Collector’s Corner 2

The second flag illustration for the Collector’s Corner is a 29 Star Flag which was official from July 4, 1847 to July 3, 1848. The 29 Star Flag was necessitated by the admission of Iowa to statehood on December 28, 1846. This flag is one piece cotton muslin, with the blue canton and red stripes printed. The earliest known use of printing for flags was during the 1840 presidential campaign of W.H. Harrison when flag banners of cotton and silk were manufactured.

The flag shown measures 7” x 10” and was originally attached to a stick for waving by hand. Since flag manufacturers had no official guidelines for the placement of stars, they tended to produce attractive patterns which could be marketed more easily. The use of a larger central star within the rings of stars was not uncommon in the mid-19th century.

(See the 28 Star Flag illustrated in the last issue.)
WELCOME: We wish to welcome the following new members to NAVA:

Jean Pierre Boutin, Montreal, Canada
Gene Christian, Bronx, New York
Tony Costa, Ontario, Canada
Thornton Marshall, Dayton, OH
Mark Le Messurier, Ontario, Canada
Michael Miller, Oakland, CA
Henry S. Rosenthal, San Francisco, CA
Ron Smith, Los Angeles, CA
Joseph N. Staub, San Francisco, CA

APOLOGY: The Minutes of the Annual Meeting of October 11, 1986 were lost by the courier service between Toronto and Detroit in Pittsburgh in January and so I must apologize for only now circularizing these minutes with this issue of NAVA News.
MINUTES OF NAVA BUSINESS MEETING
October 11, 1986

The meeting was called to order by the President, Grace Rogers Cooper, at 9:15 a.m. EST in the Trenton War Memorial in Trenton, New Jersey. The minutes of the 1985 Business Meeting held in Kansas City, Missouri were approved as printed in the November/December 1985 issue of the NAVA NEWS. Reports were presented by the President, Vice President, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary as well as the following committees - Budget, Program, Publicity, Membership, Nominating, and Publications. The publications committee chairman, Thomas J. Carrier, declined to be reconsidered as NAVA NEWS Editor for the 1986-1987 term. The Treasurer, Woody Ridgway, was detained at home due to illness and his report was read and accepted.

The meeting then accommodated the welcoming remarks of The Honorable Arthur J. Holland, Mayor of Trenton, New Jersey and presented Grace Cooper with a proclamation proclaiming October 11, 1986 as North American Vexillological Association Day in Trenton, New Jersey. Earlier, a member of the Board of Freeholders presented a similar proclamation to the Board from Mercer County, New Jersey.

The Nominating Committee presented its slate of officers for the 1986-1987 terms as printed in the September/October issue of NAVA NEWS to wit: Doreen Braverman (Canada), President; Jim Ferrigan (Calif.), Vice President; Mark Liss (Tex.), Corresponding Secretary; Rich Kenny (Calif.), Recording Secretary; Gus Tracchia (NY), Treasurer. No nominations were offered from the floor and the above slate was approved by acclamation. Thomas J. Carrier, Grace Rogers Cooper, and Whitney Smith were nominated and approved as the Nominating Committee for the 1986-1987 term.

Discussion then began on the Meeting Site for NAVA XXII in 1988. Lynn Knights on behalf of Rev. John R. B. Szala (former NAVA President and NAVA NEWS Editor) asked the membership to consider the Rev. Szala's suggestion of holding the meeting in Newport, Rhode Island. Although no specifics were offered as to accommodations, tours, expenses, etc., the membership was reminded of the Rev. Szala's successful meeting in Salem, Mass in 1979. After further discussion it was moved and seconded that NAVA XXII will be held in Newport, Rhode Island in 1988. The Rev. John R. B. Szala, with the help of Lynn Knights, will host the meeting.

At this point, the Budget Committee's report was read with the suggestion that the annual membership dues in each category be raised to accommodate projected shortfalls in revenue beginning next year. It was suggested by the committee chairman, Nick Artimovich, that the dues be increased as follows: Associate Members (student) from $4 to $5, Associate Members (foreign) from $7 to $9, Active Members from $12 to $15, and Organizational Members from $25 to $35. After some discussion, the report was accepted. A motion was made and seconded to
increase the dues according to the committee report. Dr. Jack Lowe (MD) then made a motion to amend the main motion by striking out $15 in the Active Members category and substituting in lieu thereof $18 to forestall incremental dues increases possibly expected each year and to give NAVA a safe enough "financial cushion" each year after expenses. The motion was seconded and after discussion the amendment was agreed to. The motion was then whether to accept the increases of the other categories as outlined in the committee report. The motion was seconded and agreed to without further discussion. The increase in membership dues begin with the 1986-1987 term.

Under new business, Grace Cooper placed before the membership the recommendation from the outgoing Board to the incoming Board that a permanent address be found for NAVA. No discussion took place on the recommendation except that it was suggested that members consider whether a permanent address is advisable and to suggest possible addresses for discussion at the next Annual Meeting in San Francisco.

Don Healy (NJ) wondered why the State Department in Washington, DC flew outdated national flags at its DC headquarters and whether NAVA could send a letter asking that certain flags be changed to correspond to current national flag design. After some discussion it was agreed that Don Healy, after consultation with Alfred Znamierowski (VA), will furnish a letter with specifics to Tom Carrier (VA) who will then advise the State Department of our recommendations.

Lynn Knights (MA) remarked that the flag of Barbados was missing from the cover of the Membership and Handbook publications especially since NAVA now has an active member there. Publications chairman Tom Carrier (VA) was aware of the Barbados membership only as an Associate Member (Foreign). It was suggested that until the Barbados member takes on Active membership the flag of Barbados not be represented in upcoming publications.

Having no further business, it was upon a motion made and seconded that the Meeting be adjourned. It was so agreed and the Annual Meeting of NAVA XX adjourned at 10:25 a.m. EST.

Respectfully submitted,

THOMAS J. CARRIER
Recording Secretary