NAVA NEWS
NORTH AMERICAN VEXILLOGICAL ASSOCIATION
VOLUME XXIII, No. 3 MAY/JUNE 1990

NAVA MEMBERS MEET LOCALLY

NEW ENGLAND

From an invitation sent out by Lynn Knights and John Szala, a meeting was held on February 19, 1990 of New England NAVA members at the First Church of Salem, Salem, MA. Six members were in attendance. They were (clockwise) Pam Anderson, Jim Craft, Lynn Knights, (not pictured) Whitney Smith, Joseph Staub and John Szala. Rev. Szala welcomed the members and acted as host for the meeting. Lynn Knights spoke on the need to formalize chapters within NAVA and proposed that the "chapter" pursue this with the main organization. Whitney Smith was asked to take minutes and write to the President. He was instructed to ask for guidance and guidelines to be formulated by NAVA. During lunch there was further discussion of chapters and the direction of NAVA. Following this the members shared various research projects they were working on as well as discussing flags in the news. Whitney Smith talked on the new flags of Namibia and Hong Kong. Lynn Knights showed the new flag adopted as the Milford, NH, Bicentennial flag. Joseph Staub talked about the design for his fraternity chapter flag. John Szala had a box of newspaper clippings and past issues of NAVA News that were available for the members and Whitney Smith brought Mr. Crampton’s latest book for sale. The next meeting was set for April 22nd at 2pm to be held at the First Church.

MORE ABOUT NAVA XXIV

Toronto, Ontario, October 5-7, 1990

In celebration of the 25th Anniversary of the Canadian Flag the guest speaker at NAVA XXIV will be The Honorable John Ross Matheson. He was responsible in aiding the Prime Minister in having this flag approved in 1965. He also authored the book Canada’s Flag.

Remember, the location of the meeting will be the NOVOTEL Hotel North York, 3 Park Home Ave., Willowdale, North York, Ontario, Canada M2N 6L3. The special rate will be $89 Canadian per night, plus taxes, per room (single or double occupancy) with a full breakfast included on Saturday and Sunday at no extra charge.

Continued on page 6

NORTHERN CALIFORNIAN VEXILLOGISTS GET TOGETHER

by Scott Guenter

Rich Kenny sent out a flyer to all NAVA members in the northern California/Nevada area inviting them to join him in his home in Oakland on Sunday afternoon, 11 March 1990, to discuss the feasibility of having regional get-togethers in the San Francisco Bay area for flag discourse, flag fun, and general vexillological camaraderie. Ten members answered his call: in attendance were Gil Vegas from Carmichael, CA, Ben Weed from Stockton, CA, Martin Francis from San Leandro, CA, Phil Allen from Berkeley, CA, Scott Guenter and John Lindeen from San Jose, CA, Ted Kaye, Pat Conway, and Steve Tyson from San Francisco, CA, and Rich Kenny from Oakland, CA. The afternoon began with the group having an opportunity to examine elements of Rich’s well known (and quite impressive) city flag collection, and talk soon turned to debates over the flag of a reunified Germany, discussions of the need for municipality codes for flag design and use, and evaluations of the Hungarian practice of putting holes in their national banner (where once the symbol of communism appeared). It was obvious that all present felt such a get together was beneficial in expanding their own flag interests, making vexillological contacts, and in reinforcing the aims of NAVA. Accordingly, the group decided to meet quarterly and to have a combination of open forums, social gatherings, and presentations or displays at future meetings. The possibility of group visits to flag displays and collections was also favorably considered. These vexillologists decided (after rather lively debate) to tentatively call themselves the Golden-Gate Area Vexillological Association (GAVA) and each kicked in five dollars to cover mailing costs for keeping in contact. Steve Tyson agreed to host the next meeting Saturday afternoon, 16 June 1990, at his San Francisco home, and Martin Francis volunteered to host a 9 September 1990 meeting. All were in accord that the group was supplemental to NAVA and in no way a replacement. Following more flag talk, several members watched “Trooping the Colours,” a video Ben Weed brought along about the use of flags in the annual celebration of the Queen’s Birthday in London, England.

GAVA is off to a fine start. Any Northern California/Nevada members of NAVA who did not get a chance to attend the meeting but would like to receive notification of future gatherings, please contact Rich Kenny at (415) 531-5170. A $5 donation would also be appreciated.

CHESAPEAKE BAY

The NAVA Members in the Chesapeake Bay area of Virginia, Maryland, District of Columbia, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and even West Virginia have been getting together at least once a year about the time of Flag Day for a number of years. In March, Jim Lipinski and Dick Clark invited the group to meet in Alexandria on March 31st for an extra get-together. Jim reports that “nine people attended...we all had a good time...and there was quite a bit of information exchanged.” Dick Clark’s excellent collection of Civil War flag reproductions, Regimental and State both North and South, were exhibited throughout the restaurant. The attendees talked about their individual projects and recent acquisitions. Sue Leeland said her children’s sticker book of flags will be out in the Fall. Nick Artimovich reported on his recent selection of flags from the State Department, and Tom Carrier told of the 8x16 Royal English flag flown on the U.S.S. Constitution when Queen Elizabeth was aboard with President Gerald Ford that he had acquired.

Official organization of local chapters in NAVA was part of the group’s discussion, as was the upcoming customary June meeting.
FROM THE PRESIDENT . . .

DON HEALY

The past couple of weeks brought three pieces of mail that are worthy of note as their topic was similar and they reflect as advancement in NAVA that has been talked about for many years.

First, came a letter from member Jim Lipinski inviting people in the mid-Atlantic states to a special “Chesapeake Bay chapter” get-together in Arlington, VA on the last day of March. This was followed by a note from NAVA vice president Scot Guenter that he was planning to attend a “San Francisco Bay Area chapter” social in Oakland, hosted by Rich Kenny.

Then came the real surprise. Dr. Whitney Smith sent in a copy of the minutes from a newly organized “New England chapter” attended by six NAVA members from that region.

With the formation of a third unofficial chapter, the time has come for NAVA to take seriously this concept of regional subgroups. The members of the special By-laws Committee, all of whom are involved in these informal “chapters”, will include the subject of chapters in their proposed revisions of the By-laws to be presented at NAVA XXIV in Toronto. The subject was discussed when three of the four committee members met on March 22nd.

The existence of these “chapters” has proven to be a beneficial development for the organization. The two older groups have proven their value in different ways. The San Francisco group was largely the result of their joint work for the very successful International Congress held there in 1987. The Chesapeake group formed the nucleus of those that contributed to the improvements seen in this newsletter over the past three years. The minutes of the New England group reflect their hope to support NAVA and the NAVA News is similar ways.

The existence of these informal groups provides the individual members a chance to meet on a more frequent basis than the once a year annual meeting and provides an opportunity for members who cannot get to the annual meeting to still enjoy a day with their fellow vexillologists. I firmly believe that the more NAVA can offer its members in the sharing of both vexillological information and business tips and techniques for our commercial members the stronger our organization can become. As long as NAVA offers quality membership, the loyalty of its members will grow and that will lead to a growth in vexillology itself.

I wish our new informal “chapters” all the best of luck. I encourage members to take advantage of these “chapters” and even host an informal get together in your own area if there hasn’t been one.

I look forward to seeing the fruits of our new “chapters” published in NAVA News so that we all can benefit.

Hopefully, when we all get together in Toronto - Scarborough/ North York this coming October, we will have a lively discussion on “chapters”. I hope you will make every effort to attend NAVA 24. Through the efforts of your Executive Board, your committee members, you editor, historian, NAVA 24 hosts, parliamentarian and all the other members that contribute their time and effort to this organization, we are building a better NAVA. You can contribute, too - try it!

COLLECTOR’S CORNER

“F” is for “Finland”

“G” is for “Guyana”

by Nicholas Artimovich

Again in this installment of Collector’s Corner I will combine the information for flags of nations beginning with the next two letters of the Alphabet. On one hand, there are not enough countries beginning with either letter to warrant a column to itself. On the other hand, I couldn’t begin to do justice to the vexillological history of Germany if I devoted the entire article to that nation. I have limited by chronology of German flags to those used as “National Flags.” I strongly recommend that the reader go to Flags Through The Ages and Across the World which has a more extensive outline of German flag history. There, 13 different flags are identified as National Flags, Civil Ensigns, War Ensigns, State Ensigns, State Flags, etc., etc.

FIJI

1908-1970 British Blue Ensign with arms in fly.
1970-date Field of flag changed to Lt. Blue.

FINLAND

1917-1918 R. Field with Y. lion rampant.
1918-1978 W. Field with Lt. B. Scandinavian Cross. (4'x6') (State flag had arms in shield at the intersection of the cross.)
1978-date Cross color changed to Dk. B. (Arms of State flying now on a square instead of shield shaped outline.)

FRANCE

1794-date The tricolor. Vert stripes of B/W/R. (During the 19th century, the Kingdom was reestablished a couple of times and variations of the royal arms were used singly or in conjunction with the Tricolor.)

GABON

1958-1960 Horiz tricolor G/Y/B (wellow stripe somewhat narrower) with French tricolor in upper hoist.
1960-date Horiz tricolor G/Y/B.

GAMBIA

pre-1965 British ensign with badge in the fly. Badge was elephant, palm, with letter “G” in the base. (3'x5')
1965-date Horiz divided R/W/B/W/G (white stripes are narrower.)

GERMANY

1868-1919 Horiz tricolor N/W/R. (3'x5')
1919-1933 Horiz tricolor N/R/Y.
1933-1935 Horiz tricolor N/R/W and Nazi flag of R with W disk, black swastika.
1935-1945 R with W disk, black swastika. (3'x5')
1945-1952 Swallowtailed horiz striped B/W/R/W/B.
1952-1959 Horiz tricolor N/R/Y for both E. and W. Germany
1959-date Horiz tricolor N/R/Y for W. Germany
1959-date Horiz tricolor N/R/Y with state arms in center for East Germany

GHANA

pre-1957 British ensign with badge in the fly. Badge was elephant, palm, with “G.C.” in the base (for “Gold Coast”, the colonial name.)
1957-1964 Horiz tricolor R/Y/G/ with N star in center.
1964-1966 Central stripe changed to W.
1966-date Central stripe changed back to Y.

GREECE

Greece has used two basic flag designs since gaining independence from Turkey in the early 19th century. The first is the blue field with a white cross, arms extending to the edges. The second uses the white cross on a blue as a canton of a blue and white striped field (9 stripes total.) The use of either or both flags on land, on the sea, and the shade of the color blue have varied. Below is the best chronology that I can come up with.
1833-1970 B field with cross used as national flag on land within Greece.
1833-1975 Striped flag used as merchant flag and naval ensign. (Dk. B changed back to Lt. B in 1920's.)
1970-1974 B field with cross abolished. Only striped flag used.
1975-1978 Striped flag abolished. Only B flag with cross used.
1978-date Striped flag reestablished as national flag, Lt. blue.

GRENADA

pre-1967 British Ensign with badge in fly.
1967-1974 Horiz B/Y/G with central W oval containing nutmeg. (20'x30')
1974-date Diagonally divided field: top and bottom Y, sides V, R border around field. Central R disk with Y star. Nutmeg in hoist triangle. Three Y stars in both top and bottom R border

GUATEMALA

pre-1871 Horiz striped B/W/R/y/R/W/B
1872-date Vert striped B/W/B Arms in center of state flag were last changed in 1968 by removal of ribbons from base, design of bird was also changed, along with minor artistic revisions. (4'x6')

GUINEA

1958-date Vert tricolor R/W/G.

GUINEA-BISSAU

pre-1966 British Ensign with badge. Badge consisted of sailing ship with motto “Damus Petimusque Vicissum.” (4'x6')
1966-date G field, Y triangle with base at hoist and apex at fly, R...
This time I have three anniversaries for you to celebrate. Each one has a special flag that can be added to your collection.

First we salute Cincinnati's Bicentennial with a blue & white muslin flag that is available from FLAGGS, USA, 1989 madison Road, Cincinnati, OH 45208. (Thanks, Terri Amann).

Second, we head west and celebrate the centennial of Washington State with a green and white flag (fig. 1) that is widely available in the Evergreen state. You might try CUTTY SARK of BELLEVUE, 10235 Bellevue, WA, 98004. Sorry, I don't know the asking price or shipping charge for this one. (Thanks, Don Klett & others).

Lastly, AVENUE of FLAGS, P.O. Box 1, Casper, WV, 82601, is offering a reproduction of the Wyoming Territorial flag (fig. 2). More info about this flag will appear in the next NAVA News. (Thanks, John Mokler).

I know there aren't many listed this time, but at least you've gotten locations. Happy hunting.

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FLAG DESECRATION LEGISLATION - HISTORICAL ANTECEDENTS

Part 4: Hoffman Challenges The Law

by Scot Guenter

Many states passed laws against flag desecration after South Dakota pioneered such legislation in 1897. In 1907 the Supreme Court affirmed the right of states to do so. But it was not until the summer of 1968, as controversy and protests over U.S. involvement in Vietnam continued to accelerate, that the federal government felt the need to establish a national law protecting the official banner of the republic from acts of desecration.

This statute made it a crime "to knowingly cast contempt upon any flag of the United States by publicly mutilating, defacing, defiling, burning or trampling upon it." The maximum penalty was set at one year in prison and a thousand dollar fine. It was an angry response to new and varied uses of the national flag spreading through the counterculture. This was evidenced by Rep. James H. Quillen of Tennessee's remark on the floor of Congress when he exclaimed that "anything short of the firing squad would not be too severe" for those who defiled the flag, as he successfully argued for the passing of such legislation.

Three months later Abbie Hoffman, a radical student leader and co-founder of the Yippie Party, became the first person arrested under the new law. Hoffman was out protesting outside the 1968 Democratic National Convention in Chicago and had earned him a subpoena from the House Un-American Activities Committee in Washington, D.C. On his way to committee hearing on 3 October 1968, he was arrested by three Capital policemen in the hallway of the Cannon House Office Building. Hoffman was wearing a shirt that looked like an American flag (it should be noted that it was not a flag made into a shirt); on the shirt he wore two pins that read "Wallace for President, Stand Up for America" and "Vote Pig — Yippie in Sixty-Eight." He also played with a yo-yo.

The shirt was ripped from his back as he was led away, revealing a Cuban flag he had had painted upon his back earlier that morning. The remnants of the shirt on the prosecutor's table in a box marked "Exhibit A." "You owe me fourteen ninety-five for that shirt," Hoffman glibly told the judge. Bail was set at three thousand dollars. Gerry Lefcourt, Hoffman's attorney, based the defense on First Amendment rights, but the judge would have none of it. When asked if he had any last words before sentencing, Hoffman quipped, "Your honor, I regret that I have but one shirt to give for my country." He was sentenced to thirty days in jail.

The American Civil Liberties Union supported Hoffman in the subsequent appeals process. While Hoffman was going through this process, the Supreme Court ruled twice on the question of flag desecration. In 1969 the Supreme Court overturned a flag desecration conviction of a man who had burned a flag and made a radical speech; the court held that it was unclear whether he was convicted for his speech or the burning. In 1970, however, the Court split 4-4 and let stand the conviction of the owner of the Radich Art Gallery in New York City who had displayed in an exhibition window Marc Morrel's sculpture of an American flag molded in the shape of a phallos, draped on a cross.

On 29 March 1971, the U.S. Court of Appeals in the District of Columbia overturned Hoffman's original conviction. The appellate panel noted that Hoffman had done no physical damage to the shirt, which he had purchased commercially. Judge George E. McKinnon presented the majority opinion, agreeing that Hoffman had been convicted because of his controversial public image rather than because of an act of contempt for the flag.

The use of "symbolic speech" arguments to overturn convictions for flag desecration accelerated in the early 1970s. Arrests for the crime dropped off with the withdrawal of troops from Vietnam and the broadened interpretation of First Amendment rights. Now, almost twenty years later, the issue is arising again. Soon the U.S. Supreme Court will hear challenges to the latest federal law against flag desecration, passed last year as a political maneuver to forestall arguments calling for a constitutional amendment to address this issue.

This is the final installment in this series.
ON U.S. MILITARY FLAGS

(Part 4)

U.S. ARMY

DISTINGUISHING FLAGS FOR ORGANIZATIONS

by James B. Lipinski
4524 N. Pegram St.
Alexandria, VA 22304-1527

No area of flags of the U.S. Army is more dynamic than that of Distinguishing Flags for Organizations. These flags are of specific types with unique inscriptions, designed as unit designators, each for a specific unit. Their many changes reflect the ever-churning organization of the Army, both in structural concept and in re-designation of existing units.

A Distinguishing Flag consists of a combination of specifications: the type of organization (e.g., an Infantry Division); branch colors, contained in a series of color tables (e.g., orange and white for Signal Corps); for certain flags, canton branch insignia, contained in tables (e.g., Armor insignia is yellow on a green canton for an Armor Training Center); a background (field) color, table-prescribed; fringe of table-assigned color or colors; and, for those several which feature shoulder sleeve insignia, the charged insignia in the colors of the unit patch. In given circumstances, the piping of the unit patch is prescribed, so as to enhance display. Further, each flag has its unique inscription where lettered.

Thus, the individual Distinguishing Flag is very specific in its design. Suddenly one flag design serve more than one organization.

The current Army Regulation on Flags, dated October 1979, as changed, lists a minimum of 37 different TYPES of Distinguishing Flags, with 9 major tables designating component color mixtures for these flags. Within each of these types, there are widely varied numbers of uniquely inscribed editions. Representative examples of these types and associated tables are presented below. The revised regulation, still in draft form, provides 47 different types of these flags, despite some consolidations of the previous version listings. 9 major tables remain as guides in combining colors. (Obviously, space permits describing only a selected few of these many.)

Distinguishing Flags are authorized for indoor display and selected ceremonies. Provisional units are not, under normal circumstances, authorized Distinguishing Flags. (This statement is qualified since the Army is currently in the throes of determination of honors and identification of provisional units which were hastily formed for specific missions in the Panama operation.)

Distinguishing Flags are 3 feet hoist by 4 feet fly, with 2 1/2 inch fringe, except that a totally new version of the flag of Major Army Commands was recently adopted, changing the size of that type flag alone to 4 feet 4 inches hoist by 5 feet 6 inches fly. Battal participation streamers, unit citation streamers and other award streamers granted units with Distinguishing Flags are component parts of the flag and are attached below the spearhead. A silver color band, 3/4 inches wide, embroidered with the organization’s official designation, is placed on the flagstaff of each National Color and accompanying Distinguishing Flag.

Representative examples of Distinguishing Flags are:

This flag, U.S. Army, Europe, represents a Major Command, under direct control of the Department of the Army. The flag is 4 feet 4 inches by 5 feet 6 inches and is fringed in 2 1/2 inch yellow. The background of the flag is dark blue. The shoulder sleeve insignia is in the original colors of the shoulder patch, which incidentally, is a modified version of the World War II patch of the Supreme Head-

quarters Allied Expeditionary Forces (SHAPE), General Eisenhower’s command. The size of the shoulder sleeve insignia, as represented on the flag, is modified to the dimensions most aesthetically suitable.

The American eagle is in its traditional color, and the scroll, bearing the command designation, is white, edged in yellow. Since all major command flags bear a blue background, there is no associated color table.

This presentation of the major command flag reflects the very recent change in the type. Until October 1989, the major command flag had been dark blue, with the shoulder sleeve insignia shown in the center of the field. Unfortunately, the shoulder sleeve insignia of some major commands consisted of a solid ball (circle) in a single color, or other similarly bland symbology, without lettering or other device thereon. The resulting flag appeared to be a commercial banner for some unknown product, rather than the designator of a military organization. One commander, with more than usual aesthetic vexillological realization, instituted a campaign to have the flag changed to something with at least some military flavor. His efforts were rewarded. [This writer had the distinct pleasure to have been a real-time observer of the process of this major change.]

The Army Chief of Staff approved the change in October of 1989 and the new colors shown in Figure 1 were issued to major commands in February of 1990. (The 40-some revised flags cost in excess of $28,000, an average of approximately $632 per flag.)

Figure 2 shows the basic design of a flag for a major Subordinate Command of a Major Command (the second level of Distinguishing Flags, if you will.) The flag is 3 feet hoist by 4 feet fly and is fringed in yellow. Here, the colors of the flag depend on the type of organization. A branch-oriented organization (e.g., Artillery, Infantry, Medical, etc.) has a flag background of the first color of the branch, with the 10-inch wide vertical stripe in the second color of the branch. (Each branch has two colors in the table for branch-oriented flags. For example, Artillery is 1) Scarlet, 2) Yellow; Infantry is 1) OG Blue, 2) White; Medical is 1) Maroon and 2) White. The table lists 24 sets of Branch colors.)

For a non-branch-oriented major subordinate element of a major command, the flag has a dark blue field, with a fringe of yellow, with the shoulder sleeve insignia in appropriate colors.

The Distinguishing Flags of an Army, and a Division of a Corps, bear the same basic configuration in design: two horizontal stripes of significant color, charged with the shoulder sleeve insignia of the unit centered thereon, all with yellow fringe. The size is 3 feet 1 inch by 4 feet fly. Again, tables establish the colors and arrangement of the stripes. A numbered Army displays a flag of horizontal white over yellow, with the patch centered. The Corps flag carries a blue stripe over white, with the patch centered. The flags of Divisions vary according to table-assigned colors by Division type. An Armored Division and a Cavalry Division fly a red over yellow flag, while an Airborne and an Infantry Division display a red over blue color, all charged with appropriate shoulder sleeve insignia.

Fig. 1

Major Command

Fig. 2

Major Subordinate Command

Fig. 3

Army, Corps or Division
Brigades of Divisions fly a flag somewhat similar to that of the Division, with the differences being that the stripes of significant color are vertical; the shoulder sleeve insignia, reflecting the Division to which a Brigade is assigned, is reduced from 15 inches to 10 inches in representation; and the number of the Brigade is shown below in 8 inch numerals. Colors are as above: the Armored and Cavalry Division displaying a red over yellow flag, but with Brigade number in Green; and the Airborne and Infantry Division flying red over blue, with the Brigade number in white. [Note that Figure 4, featuring an Infantry Division patch is incorrect in that the Brigade Number appears solid and dark, drawn as such here to enhance the illustration.]

The Support Command of a Division, Figure 5, is authorized a flag which reflects the Division assignment by the ten-inch shoulder sleeve insignia centered on a vertical stripe of the first color of the type of Division, flanked on each side by the second color of the type. Support units of Armored and Cavalry Divisions show a center stripe of yellow, with red on either side, while Airborne and Infantry support units feature a blue center stripe with red on either side. Where necessary, piping of shoulder patch is in white.

U.S. Army Training Centers, which are oriented toward a single type of basic and advanced training, present an interesting exercise in the application of color combinations in their flags. Basically, the Training Center flag is of a solid color, with the branch insignia in the canton. However, each flag has table-assigned field color for the flag, for the fringe, for the canton, and for the insignia therein.

For example, the Engineer Training Center (Figure 6) is authorized a flag of scarlet background (field), white fringe, and white canton with the Engineer castle branch insignia thereon in scarlet. However, the flag of an Artillery Training Center would have a scarlet field, yellow fringe, and scarlet branch insignia on a yellow canton. A non-branch oriented Training Center flies a teal blue flag, with yellow fringe and canton, and with teal blue insignia in the canton.

### SUMMARY
The continual changes in Army organization render the area of Distinguishing Flags one of the more expensive facets of the Army's total flag program. It is envisioned by this writer that the future will see a major effort to reduce the total number of designs, with a basic flag format to which the unit designators are added (except for the historical Organizational Colors of the Army). The redesign of the Major Command Flag was a first step in this direction. The concept of a basic format suitable to all activities appears to have been successful in the U.S. Air Force, and it can be anticipated that this concept will be given due consideration by the Army. Meanwhile, the plethora of existing designs provides the vexillologist with a wealth of study possibilities.

**N.B.**
As indicated earlier, space permits us to examine only a small number of the rather overwhelming assortment of Distinguishing Flags authorized the Army. Any member desiring further information of a specific flag or flags may obtain same by contacting the writer of this column.

**N.B. 2**
As predicted in Part 3 of this series, President Bush, in a ceremony at Fort Myer, VA, during early March, appended a streamer to the U.S. Army Flag for Panama services. In the Armed Forces Expeditionary colors of green and white, the streamer was inscribed "PANAMA 1989-1990". It became the 169th streamer displayed on the U.S. Army Flag. Similar streamers, without dates as is the custom, were added to the colors of all color-bearing units which participated in the operation.

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**THE NAVA SHOPPER**
NAVA has small supplies of some past meeting flags, both NAVA and FIAV, for sale to its members. These flags were distributed to those attending the meetings. A few remain that we are now making available.

The cost includes shipping and handling anywhere in the world. Here is an opportunity to obtain souvenirs of the meetings you missed. All requests should be sent to:

The NAVA Shopper
Dave Pawson, NAVA Recording Secretary
2700 Ave. K, Suite 700
Plano, TX 75074

All checks should be in U.S. funds and made out to NAVA. The flags are available on a "first come, first serve" policy.

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NAMIBIA'S NEW FLAG

A woman holds the new red, green and blue flag to be raised Wednesday at Windhoek as Namibia becomes an independent nation. Seventy-five years of South Africa rule ends at midnight Tuesday.

From the San Francisco Examiner 3/20/90

HURRAY FOR THE BLUE, RED, GREEN AND GOLD

Namibia's new flag — a blue, red, green and gold affair featuring diagonal stripes and a bright sun in the upper left corner — was designed by an American, Donald Stevenson. The 43-year-old owner of a design agency in Windhoek grew up in Novato and was a U.S. army officer after graduating from West Point. His entry in the flag-design contest won over 800 other entries, says his mother, Mary Lou Stevenson. He has lived in Namibia for the past seven years, where he is married to a woman whose family was among the region's early German settlers. South African businesses are flooding into Namibia because with its independence the country no longer is subject to the international economic sanctions against South Africa, its former colonial ruler. They also like the pro-private enterprise policies adopted by the government of President Sam Nujoma. Namibia doesn't have an embassy in Washington yet, although one will eventually open.

From the San Francisco Curon 3/22/90

LETTERS . . .

March 10, 1990

Mrs. Grace Cooper, Editor
NAVA News
RRP West, Box 43A
Great Cacapon, WV 25422

Dear Mrs. Cooper:

I am writing to update you on the project underway here to re-design the Minnesota State Flag. To date, there have been two hearings sponsored by the House Governmental Operations Committee under the auspices of an 'advisory', or informal study. This summer, the same Committee in the state Senate will hold a similar hearing.

The flag which we have proposed to spur dialogue (see NAVA News, July-Aug. 1989) has been altered with the removal of the composite emblem in the center of the star. This was due to criticism engendered by the inclusion of the state bird, the common loon.

Letterhead shows a line drawing of the revised flag, which has been quite favorably received in many quarters. Nylon flags (3x5') are available for purchase.

We were intrigued by the proposal of Jose Rafael Roldan (NAVA News, Jan.-Feb. 1990) for a state coat-of-arms, but regret that such a move is not feasible in connection with our already complex endeavor.

We hope to keep you posted on the progress of our proposal.

Sincerely,
(Rev.) William M. Becker
Co-Coordinator

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Creighton Kern writes from Ridgewood, NJ, that he would like information on: Moroccan provincial and urban prefectural flags; Indonesian provincial flags; Egyptian governorate flags, and more Argentinian, Bolivian, Guatemalan and Salvadorian department/provincial flags.

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Roger Baert from Bruxelles, Belgium, writes: "Bravo pour les dernie numeros de NAVA News! Les sont de plus en plus interressants."

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David Ott, 205 Ridgeland, Beaumont, TX 77706, would like to correspond with a NAVA member knowledgeable on the Georgian, Latvian, and Lithuanian flags.

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... NAVA XXIV

Continued from page 1

The Registration fee will also be $89 Canadian. The fee will cover the cost of the Friday night Reception, the Saturday evening banquet including transportation, the Sunday luncheon, and the Registration package. There will be an Optional Tour of the city of Toronto at $12.00 per person, and on Sunday evening a special treat, a Chinese Dinner, $15.00 per person; the speaker will be Mr. Derwin Mak, who will give a talk on Chinese flags.

Fill out your Registration Forms and plan to meet with your fellow NAVA members and with the members of the Canadian Flag Association in October. You Canadi hosts are Kevin Harrington and Sandra Armstrong. Contact Kevin at CFA Headquarters, 50 Heathfield Dr., Scarborough, Ontario, Canada M1M 3R1, telephone (416) 267-9618, (evenings and weekends). For transportation details refer to page one of your March/April 1990 issue of NAVA News.
MEMBERS IN THE NEWS . . .  

HOPKINSON FLAG AT BORDENTOWN

The Bordentown, NJ, Historical Society will dedicate a replica of the Francis Hopkinson flag on June 14, 1990. It will be put on permanent display at the Visitor’s Center. The flag was donated by NAVA member Earl Williams, Jr. The activities are scheduled from 6 PM - 8 PM. In addition to the dedication there will be a picnic, for which a minimal fee will be charged. The ceremony will take place rain or shine. If it is a clear day the program will be held outside at the Gilder House. If it rains the program will move indoors to the Bordentown Community Center. NAVA members are welcome to attend. If you plan to go, please write Rev. David K. Taylor, President, Bordentown Historical Society, P.O. Box 182, Bordentown, NJ 08505, or call him after 5 PM at 609/298-1983.


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THE ANNUAL GEORGE WASHINGTON’S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

The Plaza, New York City, Feb. 16 1990

by Robert Coykendall

The story began at the Bicentennial of the Washington Inaugural parade up Broadway, New York City, April 30, 1989. Gus Tracchia, Chais Johnson, and I viewed awe-inspiring march, which included The Sons of the Revolution Color Guard, thirty strong, adorned in 18th century uniforms and costumes. They were bearing a variety of Revolutionary and Colonial flags - what a sight! The three of us noted, however, that our Navy flag was conspicuous by its absence.

Later at Fraunces Tavern, headquarters of and owned by the Sons of the Revolution, I asked Color Guard members about the omission. The response, “Why, do you want to give us one?” My answer, “Sure, I’ll give you one.” Little did I realize what I was getting myself in for. In future situations I will ask before I leap.

I was to learn that each year there is provision for a gift and presentation of a new flag replica of Revolutionary or Colonial design. This year - my turn. Specifics: 4’x6′, gold fringe, sleeve with pole and trappings, to be presented at two ceremonies, first in January to the Color Guard and second in February to the general New York Society.

To take the second ceremony first, the occasion was the annual Washington’s Birthday Banquet held at the now infamous Plaza Hotel. Can you really “Trump” that? What a beautiful hotel in its turn-of-the-century, 5th Avenue splendor. The banquet affair bore a decidedly military atmosphere, generously supplied with retired and active duty Military, Naval and Air Force officers. So, for the first time in my life I was presented with the opportunity of wearing my six Navy medals. The ceremonies were commenced with troopings of the colors by the Color Guard, some twenty strong. I was accorded the honor of joining them, bearing a second favorite flag, the Continental Grand Union. It was quite a thrill, especially as it was accompanied by the fife and drum company. There could not have been a dry eye among the 300 in attendance.

Next came my presentation of the Navy Flag. I was not all all sure that I would be able to execute my right face, left face, and about face without a stumble. Later, friends assured me they were well executed. I marched the center aisle with measured step while the SR president read the flag description and mini-bio of the donor. The flag then was presented to the president and Color Guard chairman, and posted. During the march I was backed up by the fife and drum company marching behind me. For me this was an experience never to be forgotten.

The first ceremony had been at Fraunces Tavern on January 31st. Assisting me in this presentation was Color Guard chairman, Peter Nimeroff, a capable leader with an easy style. The Color Guard proved to be a most responsive audience during my 15 minute talk and extended question and answer period. We may have future NAVA members from this group and even attendance at NAVA XXIV in Toronto.

Ed. Note: The Sons of the Revolution is a patriotic organization formed in 1876. (Encyclopaedia Britannica).

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NEW MEMBERS

MICHAEL L. COLBY (Active): 120 Northwood Dr., Fishers IN 46038. — Collector of American flags (from 36 stars to present). Gives talks on history and care of flags.

NANCY ENDRESEN (Student): 9434 Foster St., Urbandale IA 50318. — Collection over 400 4x6” foreign and over 100 U.S. and Canadian.

EMA MARINA GARCIA SAEZ (Foreign): Rua do Consolacao, 2143 20-Apt 201 CEP 01301 SP/SP BRASIL. — Swiss family Coat of Arms; Galicians in America; Brazilian flags since 1500; Lafayette’s flags; Ku Klux Klan; Australasia; S.M.G.M.’s flags and Commonwealth; Africa.

RAUL SANCHEZ (Student): 2614 Palmis Ave., Weehawken, NJ 07087. — International flags, representation of colors and designs.

CHANGE OF ADDRESSES AND CORRECTIONS

W.E. MILTON c/o Canadian Textiles, 1024 Rangview Rd., Mississauga, Ontario, L5E 1H3, Canada.

STEVE J. COWAN 10015 99th Ave., Apt. #906, Edmonton, Alberta T5K 0E8, Canada.


The Flag Guys request their listing to read “Flag Guys, The” and report that their interest is in sales, Retail and Wholesale.

NAVA News Contributors

Nick Artimovich, II  
Tom Carrier  
Robert Coykendall  
Scot Guenter  
Don Healy  
Ted Kaye  
Lynn Knights  
Jim Lipinski  
Gus Tracchia  
Earl Williams, Jr.

From left to right, Peter Nimeroff, Chairman of the Color Guard, Robert Coykendall, George C. Watson, President, Sons of the Revolution in the State of New York.
EDITOR’S NOTES...

I just received a telephone call from Dave Pawson. His father, William Pawson, had a heart transplant at St. Paul’s Medical Center in Dallas, on April 1. Mr. Pawson is doing very well and is expecting to go home by Easter. Those of us who attended NAVA XXIII in Dallas last October will remember meeting Dave’s father; we all send our best wishes for a speedy recovery.

Copies of the Bibliographies prepared by Historian Mark Liss, described in NAVA News, Jan./Feb. 1990, page 7, one on NAVA News articles and the other on NAVA Meeting presentations, are still available. For a copy of either or both write to him at P.O. Box 31521, Houston, Texas 77231.

From the Treasurer, “The last notice for dues was sent with the March/April NAVA News. Membership will be discontinued if the dues have not been paid,” as per Bylaws. And be sure to send all changes of address to the Treasurer, Gus Tracchia, at the address indicated in the left column.

We are happy to see that so many NAVA Members are taking the opportunity to meet on a local level, see Page one story. As suggested earlier, look over the membership list and note the addresses of the new members and try meeting on a local level. Once a year at the Annual Meeting is great but too far between meetings. Be sure to let me know when you meet so it will be included in NAVA News.

It was great to have Florida visits from Bob and Sandy Coykendall and from John Szala and Lynn Knights. Even with two or three of the prime topic is, of course, NAVA.

From Jim Lipinski, author of U.S. Military Flags, re: footnote concerning flag flying in Texas, in Jan./Feb. 90 issue of NAVA News, “Even the great state of Texas does not have the authority to contravene the Army’s regulations on precedence. Within Texas, as elsewhere, the regulation’s order of precedence applies in federal military formations or displays. The beautiful Texas flag is grouped with all other states’ flags, in order of admittance or in alpha order — all of which follow the Flag of the U.S., Foreign national flags, and the flag of the President of the U.S. I can well imagine that Texas is already working on getting the regulation changed.”