WINNING DESIGN
NAVA XXIV FLAG

by Kevin Harrington

R W WHITE/GOLD
W R BLUE

The designer of the winning entry is Sandra Armstrong, who works with Canada’s Defense Ministry in Ottawa. Sandra, a long-time and active member of NAVA, is a co-host of the NAVA 24 Conference in Metro Toronto this October.

On the flag, whose vertical bars and large central panel recall the design of Canada’s National Flag, appears a trillium in white and gold. The trillium is the floral emblem of the province of Ontario. NAVA’s colors of red, white and blue complete the symbolism.

The contest attracted a large number of participants, equally divided between Americans and Canadians - a total of 38 designs by fourteen contestants.

Congratulations, Sandra!

Thanks to judges Peter Edwards, Toronto, Ed Burke (Flags Unlimited), Thornton, ON, and Daphne Warner (All Nations), Oshawa.

Thanks for a job well done to the entrants whose names we list alphabetically: Sandra Armstrong, Donald Booth, Richard M. Crossett, Kevin Harrington, Don Healy, Ralph Holberg, Peter Kinderman, Wolf Linke, Mark A. Liss, Darrell Neuman, David Powson, Fred Rol, José Roldan, and Neal Wilson.

NAVA XXIV meets at the NOVOTEL Hotel North York, 3 Park/Home Ave., Willowdale, North York, Ontario, M2N 6L3 Canada, October 5-7, 1990. NAVA will be meeting jointly with the Canadian Flag Association, who will be holding their first meeting. We will also be celebrating the 25th anniversary of Canada’s National Flag.

Have you mailed your reservation to host Kevin Harrington, 50 Heathfield Drive, Scarborough, Ontario, Canada M1M 3B1, cost $89 Canadian dollars.

Make your hotel reservations with the hotel at the address given above. Tell them you are registering with the NAVA meeting; the special rate will be $89 Canadian, per night plus taxes, per room (single or double) with a full breakfast included on Saturday and Sunday. 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 with a speaker, Mr. Derwin Mak, who will give a talk on Chinese flags.

For transportation details refer to the March/April 1990 NAVA News, page one.

TRIBUTE TO FRANCIS HOPKINSON ON FLAG DAY

by Earl P. Williams, Jr.

It was the Flag Day ceremony of the century, for on June 14, 1990, the citizens of Bordentown, N.J., paid a belated tribute to the designer of our beloved Stars and Stripes, Francis Hopkinson. And although it was 213 years late, the tribute was a pleasant surprise for many southern New Jerseyites who had never heard of the man. They now have a new hero.

A month before the event took place, Bordentown Township students attending the Peter Muschal School lobbied their state senator, C. William Haines, and persuaded him to read a resolution honoring Hopkinson as our Flag’s designer on the floor of the New Jersey state legislature. Ms. Ellen Wehrman and her 4th grade pupils, who were responsible for this milestone in history, achieved something that had been tried in the past but failed. But they didn’t stop there; they went on to persuade U.S. Senator Frank Lautenberg to enter a statement honoring Hopkinson in the June 5th edition of the Congressional Record (Vol. 136, No. 69) just in time for Flag Day. These statements were read at the Flag Day ceremony, which was held at the Carslake Community Center in Bordentown.

A color guard dressed in colonial uniforms from the New Jersey National Guard gave the ceremony an extra appeal. Incidentally, one of the members of the color guard was 2nd Lt. William Driver, a descendant of the William Driver who coined the term “Old Glory.”

Francis Hopkinson, a 7th-generation descendant of the Flag designer attended along with his wife and cousin. Speakers included (1) the Rev. Charles Erb, S.V.D., who gave the invocation and recalled seeing the Flag’s raising while taking part in the 1945 liberation of Dachau, (2) Bernard Bush, Director of the New Jersey Historical Commission, (3) the Rev. David K. Taylor, President of the Bordentown Historical Society, who read the various congressional statements, etc., (4) Lt. Col. Dennis J. Foster, Provost Marshal, Ft. Dix, who spent two tours in Vietnam and recalled that the Army and the Flag share the same birthday, and (5) myself. At the end of the ceremony, the replica of Francis Hopkinson’s Flag that I donated to the Bordentown Historical Society was dedicated.

All of the local papers gave the event excellent coverage spanning two days (June 14th and 15th). The town will host a Flag/Hopkinson Day ceremony each year.

The Hopkinson Flag, with its field of 13 red and white stripes and its union of 13 six-pointed stars in a 3-2-3-2-3 horizontal arrangement, will be housed in a glass case at the Historical Society’s headquarters and put on permanent public display by the end of this summer. Visit the Society’s headquarters if you’re in the vicinity.
COLLECTOR'S CORNER
"J is for Jamaica"
"K is for Kuwait"

by Nicholas Artimovich

The latest installment of "Collector's Corner" included additional photographs because there were none to include in this issue. I would, however, like to briefly concentrate on one of the flags listed under "K", that of Kuwait. The flag consisting of a red field with the name of the country in Arabic was, apparently, difficult to comprehend to the authors of The Book of Flags published in numerous editions in England during the 1950's and 1960's. The flag is first mentioned in the 1950 edition as "red and bears a strange native emblem in white." The 1957 edition really gets definitive when the flag is reported as displaying "an Arabic inscription in white." Not until a later edition is the inscription identified as the name of the country. This points out the difficulty in obtaining accurate information about flags in some parts of the world.

JAMAICA

pre-1962
1962-date
British Ensign with arms in fly.
Y diagonal cross, top and bottom of field are G, hoist and fly are N.

JAPAN

1854-date
W field with R sun disk.

JORDAN

pre-1918
1918-1920
Arab Revolt Flag of horiz stripes of N-G-W with R hoist triangle.
1920-1921
Stripes changed to N-W-G.
1921-date
Seven-pointed W star added to R hoist triangle.

KENYA

pre-1963;
1963-date
British ensign with arms in fly.
Field horiz striped N-dkR-dkG, center stripe fimbriated W.
Native shield and spears in center in W, dkR, N.

KOREA, NORTH

pre-1948
1948-date
Flag of unified Korea flown (see South Korea.)
Unequal horiz stripes of B-R-B with W fimbriations separating stripes. W disk with R five-pointed star set on R Stripe at 1/3 of the distance from the hoist to the fly.

KOREA, SOUTH

pre-1950
1950-date
W field, R-B "yin-yang" symbol in center, N "kwae" symbols placed diagonally around center. (24" X 24")
Similar flag readopted with minor artistic modifications.

KUWAIT

pre-1961
1961-date
R field with W arabic script "Kuwait". (3' x 5')
Field horiz striped G-W-R, with N trapezoid at hoist.

4 x 6 CORNER

by Don Healy

This installment can be considered a hodge-podge because it has no theme, but touches on many different areas.

First, for those wishing to update their collections, at the loss of an historic flag, the newly merged Yemeni Republic, comprising the former states of the Yemen Arab Rep. and the Peoples Dem. Rep. of Yemen; that's North and South Yemen, respectively; has adopted a flag of three stripes — red over white over black.

This flag could be made by taking the old flag of Upper Volta and removing it from its stick and inverting it. You could wait, the time needed to produce this one should be short, so it should appear in the near future.

When it does, it would be a good time to supplement your collections with a large number of historic flags. The new flag of Yemen is identical to the former flag of Libya (1969-1973), for instance.

It also served as one of the flags used by the rebels against the British in old Aden.

If you invent it, you will have imperial Germany (1870-1918), Upper Volta, the German state of Salm-Salm (1803-1806) and the German County of Salm-Horstmar (1803-1806). In other areas, NAVA member John Hall, from England has reported that Zephyr Flags makes the small 3"x6" flags for the Royal Naval Association and the Royal British Legion.

The legion's flag is a three stripe flag, blue over orange, over blue, bearing the name on the central stripe and the Union Jack in the upper canton, equal to the width of the upper stripe. The association uses a flag of dark blue, bearing its insignia with a large white 'R' and 'N' on either side.

Dave Pawson checks in with word on the existence of the first Oklahoma state flag - red with a big white star and the number 46 as well as the flag of the Cherokee Indians. He found them in the Texas-Oklahoma area.

That about does it for this session. Happy hunting.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

THE FLAG BULLETIN CONTEST

by Whitney Smith

Europe now seems poised to produce several new (or revived) national flags. What will the next decade bring? What will an up-to-date flag chart look like at the beginning of the 21st century? THE FLAG BULLETIN is sponsoring a competition to answer those questions. First prize will be a lifetime FLAG BULLETIN subscription, second prize a 10-year subscription. Separately, another lifetime subscription will be awarded to the entrant who, in the opinion of the Editor, submits the best guesses concerning the designs of new national flags as of 1 January 2001.

To enter, list all flag changes in the civil and state flags of independent nations occurring between 1 January 1991 and 31 December 2000.

The competition is open to FLAG BULLETIN subscribers only, but not to employees of the Flag Research Center or their families. All entries (only one per person, please) become the property of the Flag Research Center. The decision of the Editor concerning independent countries and flag changes is final. Winner will be announced in Vol. XL, No. 1, OF THE FLAG BULLETIN. All entries must be postmarked on or before 30 November 1990 and received no later than 31 December 1990.

Be sure to include your name and address. Send queries and entries to the Flag Research Center, Box 580, Winchester, Mass. 01890 U.S.A.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The 1990-1991 Nominating Committee, Lynn Knights, John Lowe, and Woody Ridgway, offer the following slate:

President - Don Healy, Vice President - Scot Guenter, Cor. Secretary - Adam Stoffi, Rec. Secretary - Kevin Harrington, Treasurer - David Pawson.

Nominations for an office may also be made from the floor at the annual meeting.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

NAVA News Contributors

Nick Artimovich
Robert Coykendall
Kevin Harrington
Don Healy
Ted Kaye

Lynn Knights
Kim Lipinski
Whitney Smith
Gus Tracchia
Earl P. Williams, Jr.

PAGE 2  NAVA News Sept./Oct. 1990
FOLLOW UP - NAVA MEMBERS MEET LOCALLY . . .

CHESAPEAKE BAY

by Nicholas Artimovich

Five members of the "Chesapeake Bay Chapter" sponsored "Flag Evaluation Day" at the Mall in Columbia, Maryland, on June 16. The original intent of this effort was to offer a free service to the general public — that of examining any and all flags brought to the table and establishing their age, usage, history, etc. Evaluation forms were available to document details of size, design, condition and other pertinent data for the flag's owner. While it is unfortunate that no one other than NAVA members brought flags to the mall, we had numerous attempts at answering the question so familiar to NAVA members, "What on earth is vexillology?" Approximately 250 to 300 people stopped by the booth to view the flags on exhibit, to pick up literature on the state flags of Maryland, Virginia, and D.C. (the rights to copy which were graciously granted by the Flag Research Center), or to vote on our straw poll regarding the proposed amendment to the Constitution regarding flag desecration. The poll approximated the closeness of the vote in Congress: 104 were in favor of amending the constitution to allow the prohibition of flag burning, 96 were against, and 8 were undecided — a virtual dead heat.

NAVA members in attendance were Grace Rogers Cooper, our textile expert; Jim Lipinski, who loaned a NAVA flag and a U.S. Army standard for the display; Dick Clark, a specialist in Southern/Confederate flags; Tom Carrier, our expert on flags of heads of state who unveiled his 8-foot by 16-foot Royal Standard of Great Britain; and Nick Artimovich, who provided a few antique American flags and recently collected foreign flags for display. Also, Jack Lowe was able to stop by for a visit on his way to Baltimore that evening.

This event did not escape the attention of the national media: Cable News Network filmed segments with Nick discussing the history of flag desecration legislation, and illustrated with two early advertising flags: one with Grover Cleveland's portrait among the stars, and another with a commercial advertisement printed on the stripes. Also, Jack Carrier was able to stop by for a visit on his way to Baltimore that evening.

Of the hundreds of people who stopped by to chat about flags, there were nearly three dozen who were interested enough in NAVA to request membership application forms. Other NAVA "chapters" also engaged in outreach efforts to ferret out flag enthusiasts who have never heard of us or just to sensitize the general public about the knowledge that can be gained by the study of vexillology.

FROM THE PRESIDENT . . . DON HEALY

Like many of you, I'm preparing, as I write this, to head north and west to NAVA's Annual meeting in North York (suburban Toronto, Ontario, Canada, October 5-7. My money went in some time ago, the hotel room is booked and the anticipation is building.

Each autumn I go through this ritual, sometimes I fly, sometimes I drive; once I even took the train, but each journey offers, almost like a traditional wedding, something old, something new, something borrowed, something blue. This time the old includes the opportunity to visit an old friend in the Albany area as I head to Toronto; the new is the first time attending a Canadian Flag Association (CFA) meeting - it is their first, and I'm a member of it, as well as NAVA. Something borrowed is that the idea for my presentation came from fellow member Tom Carrier's fascination with the flags used by heads-of-states; and something blue - the departures from our meeting sites are always sad; I've attended a dozen NAVA meetings since joining way back in 1974, and the regular attendees are all good friends.

Over the years, NAVA meetings have been the inspiration for traveling to cities I might not have seen otherwise, Pittsburgh, Cleveland, Vancouver, Dallas, etc. Each has offered its own unique charm, some fascinating, and often little known, sights, great restaurants and lots of history, culture and entertainment. I have never regretted any of these trips and have fond memories from all.

As President, it is almost mandatory that I attend this year's meeting — that's like forcing a kid to eat ice cream. When I get my new calendar, each year, one of the first days marked for vacation is the weekend in October that honors Columbus on my side of our border, and celebrates Thanksgiving on the northern side of NAVA. I hope that some of those attending a NAVA meeting for the first time will find Toronto as rewarding as I did my first meeting in Baltimore. If you can't be there this time, the 1991 calendars are coming out soon. Plan to mark that weekend in October, it could start something that will keep you fascinated for a lifetime!

A note to the regulars, yes I will be bringing all 4,000 drawings and my flag card collection with me, so plan to put some time aside to do some digging through my files to see if you can discover flags you have never seen from places you've never heard of!

CORRECTION . . .

In my July/August 1990 column, I credited Kevin Harrington as the founder of the Canadian Flag Association. This was incorrect. Kevin disclaims being "the founder" of CFA. He reminds us that CFA was founded by Doreen Broverman (NAVA President 1986-87) in Vancouver.

GAVA
GOLDEN-GATE AREA VEXILLOLOGICAL ASSOC.

by Ted Kaye

Steve Tyson hosted the second quarterly meeting of the newly-formed Northern California flag group on a Saturday afternoon in June 16, 1990. As a dozen GAVA members stood around the broad flag-making table in the middle of Steve's workshop, he described the process of manufacturing a flag — from the initial design to the final grommets. He also showed several flags collected during a recent trip to Asia, including unusual Burmese military standards and Chinese silk banners.

The group spent three hours engaged in a far-ranging discussion of various flag topics, such as NAVA chapters, Eastern Europe, pennant brackets, flag desecration, new books, 51-star flags, and the upcoming NAVA meeting in Toronto. Steve brought out his latest design — a gentle spoof on the flag desecration issue in the form of a U.S. flag with fabric flames on the fly.

GAVA will next meet at the home of Martin Francis in San Leandro at 2:00 p.m. on 9/9/90 (California's 140th birthday). RSVP: (415) 531-5170 or (415) 632-7585.

Pictured (left to right): David Phillips, John Lindert, Scot Guenter, Steve Tyson, Wally Pasley, Phil Allen, Ted Kaye, Rich Kenny, Martin Francis, Gil Vegas.

FOLLOW-UP . . . continued on PAGE 6

NAVA News Sept./Oct. 1990 PAGE 3
ON USA MILITARY FLAGS
Colors and Streamers

(Part 5 cont. from July/Aug. 1990 NAVA News)

by James B. Lipinski

As depicted in Figure 1, the shield of the Coat of Arms of the 9th Infantry is described as having a field of blue, the Infantry color. The regiment’s Indian campaigns are noted by the wigwam. Philippine Insurrection and China Relief Expedition service are shown by the sun, a Filipino symbol, and the Chinese dragon. The chevron marks the 1898 participation in the battle of Santiago, where the regiment crossed the San Juan River at the “bloody angle”, as the location was known.

The crest is the insignia of the 2nd Infantry Division with which the regiment served in World War II, and is surrounded by the Fourragere awarded the regiment by the French government in World War I, based upon two awards of the Croix de Guerre, with Palm. The flag of the 9th infantry is typical of that of the dozens of Infantry Regiments on active service and in reserve posture, except that Army National Guard units allocated to a state use the crest approved for the state and all color-bearing organizations of the Army Reserve have the Lexington Minuteman crest above the eagle’s head.

The color of the United States Corps of Cadets at West Point is gray, with the coat of arms of the Military Academy centered thereon. The coat of arms consists of the US shield, bearing the helmet of Pallas over a Greek sword. Above the shield is an eagle with a scroll inscribed DUTY, HONOR, COUNTRY, WEST POINT, MDCCCII, U.S.M.A. A scroll below the shield is inscribed U.S. CORPS OF CADETS. The fringe is gray, black and yellow. Cords and tassels are the same.

Streamers, awarded in recognition of a display of heroism or meritorious service or to indicate a state of experience or training, as a group effort, are attached to the organizational color (or guidon of non-color bearing units) just below the finial, as depicted above. On ceremonial occasions, a fourragere or lanyard is also attached to the flagstaff of those organizations which have been awarded this decoration. The flagstaff displayed above clearly shows the fourragere and the streamer therefor, the gold and yellow streamer of the French Medaille Militaire, in addition to other (unrecognizable) streamers.

Streamers for organizational colors are of two sizes; 23/4 inches hoist by 4 feet fly for the US Army Flag and the color of the 1st Battalion, 3rd Infantry, and 3 feet fly for organizational colors.

In addition to the streamers for battle or campaign participation (discussed in Part 3 of this series), organizational colors bear a number of other types of streamers. The organizational color streamer problem is not of the magnitude of that of the US Army Flag, since the former bear battle streamers for only those battles in which the organization has participated, while the US Army Flag displays one each of all the battle streamers awarded all units of the Army. A sampling of color bearing Infantry Regiments reveals the number of streamers are in the 30-70 plus range for the most part, with a preponderance nearer the lower number. The 9th Infantry Colors (Fig. 1) carry 57 Campaign Streamers and 16 Award Streamers.

Other types of streamers displayed include US Unit citations; foreign decorations awarded the unit; combat or state of readiness indicators; Confederate service; war service; and, on occasion, Rifle or Pistol Team markers. In addition to the letters thereon, streamers are embroidered with other devices such as an Indian Arrowhead to indicate service in the assault waves of a parachute, helicopter or waterborne attack against a fortified and defended beach or territory (e.g., Normandy); Palms, Stars and other symbols peculiar to foreign decorations; and Earned Honor Devices for a subordinate element of an organization which actually earned the honor for the entire organization. Representative examples of streamers follow.

**NORMANDY**

Fig 4 PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

Figure 4 represents a Presidential Unit Citation, a solid blue streamer with the name of the action in white. This award also authorizes each member of the unit to wear a special badge on the uniform. The award is made to a unit which displays such gallantry, determination, and esprit de corps in accomplishing its mission under extremely difficult and hazardous conditions as to set it apart and above other units participating in the same campaign.

**TUY HOA**

Fig 5 VALOROUS UNIT COMMENDATION

The Valorous Unit Award is granted for unit extraordinary heroism in action. The unit must have performed with marked distinction so as to set it apart from other units in the same action, but of lesser degree than that required for the Presidential Unit Citation. The streamer is blue, white and red, with the embrodiering in yellow.

**SINAI 1985**

Fig 6 SUPERIOR UNIT

The Superior Unit Award streamer, of scarlet, yellow and green, with white lettering, is awarded to a unit for outstanding performance during peacetime of a difficult and challenging mission under extraordinary circumstances. It is interesting to note that the streamer depicted here was awarded the 502nd Airborne Infantry Battalion for service with the Multi-National Force and Observers in the desert peace-keeping role. When returning from this period of difficult service, a portion of the unit filled the plane that crashed in Newfoundland on December 12, 1985, killing all 284 aboard.

(To be cont. in the Nov./Dec. issue)
BOOK REVIEW

by Nicholas Artimovich

I recently purchased a copy of a new book on the US Flag titled Saga of the American Flag: An Illustrated History. It was written by Candice M. DeLellis and Jack A. Bonkowsi, and published by Harbinger House in 1990. While I did not expect to learn much new about our national symbols from this book, neither did I expect to find such an accumulation of mistakes, faulty research, and erroneous conclusions. After looking at the illustrations, which are all original artwork for this publication, I was disappointed with the scholarship. But after reading a few pages of text I was prompted to write this book review. While it seems to be mostly a compilation of errors I have found, there are some areas, particularly later on in the book, where useful information is found. I would caution any NAVA member against recommending this book to anyone without becoming aware of its shortcomings.

Saga of the American Flag is a book designed to capitalize on the recent controversy surrounding the desecration of the flag of the United States. Its illustrations, all original works of art designed for this book, show many of the banners used throughout the country’s history. The use of artist’s conceptions of the various nineteenth century versions of the Stars and Stripes is an unusual feature of, though not unique to, this book. Unfortunately, both the artwork and the text suffer from a lack of research. Many errors, both ancient and modern, are perpetuated in this book.

The first chapter is devoted to the history of flags. The Danish flag is illustrated and described as the “World’s first national flag (1229).” This is in error, albeit a minor one, since the snow flag was the first “national flag” such until the period after the American and French revolutions. The Danish flag was, like nearly all early flags, a personal flag of the king/queen of state/royal family. The Danish flag should be referred to as the earliest designed national flag, unless you believe that the red-white-red of Austria has earlier documented history.

The combination of the crosses of England and Scotland are accurately portrayed in the first Union flag of Great Britain (I give the authors credit for not calling it the “Union Jack”) but when the cross for Ireland is added, the artist made no attempt to show the proper positions of the diagonal crosses for Scotland and Ireland as they are counterchanged. The red diagonals are randomly placed within the white arms of the St. Andrew’s cross. Thus, they show a Union Flag which is neither upside down nor right-side-up.

Chapter two begins the history of the American Flag, but the flag attributed to the sixteenth century Spanish explorers is the flag adopted in 1945 showing the eagle, shield, and pillars of Hercules. The basic red-gold-red field of this flag wasn’t adopted until the 1780’s.

The story of Massachusetts Bay (incorrectly referred to as simply “Massachusetts”) Puritans removing the St. George’s cross from the red ensign is briefly explained, but the illustration of the compromise flag does not match the description in the text. The text describes a red ensign with the St. George’s cross and a pine tree in the upper left corner of the field. The illustration shows a red flag with a white canton and a tiny green tree tucked into the upper left comer — as if the St. George’s cross was removed as an afterthought. (It is also stated that the “New England pine tree . . . exists on the back of the Massachusetts state flag today.” The authors seem unaware that the tree was removed via a revision of state law in 1971.)

The “Markoe Flag”, more commonly known as the Philadelphia Light Horse flag, is credited to be the “first flag to use 13 stripes to symbolize the 13 colonies . . . “ While this flag is known to have been made in 1775, it originally had the British Union in the canton. It is not known when the thirteen stripes were placed over this union.

The flag of the United Train of Artillery is credited with being the first to symbolize the colonies using 13 stars. Unfortunately, this flag was made well after the Revolutionary War. The flag of the First Rhode Island Regiment is shown with a canton of 13 stars but the field is missing the device.

The history of the Stars and Stripes is the subject of the third chapter. The Grand Union flag is briefly dispatched with a single paragraph, while the stars and stripes flown by John Paul Jones in 1778 was “the first flag to receive recognition as representing the United States as a nation.” I don’t know why they refuse to mention the salute granted by the Dutch to the Grand Union flag in 1775. The flag combining the British Union and the American Stripes was truly the first American flag.

Particularly disturbing is the perpetuation of tales surrounding the Bennington Flag, The Guilford Courthouse Flag, and the Flag of the Third Maryland Regiment. All of these flags have been shown to be made of materials dating much later than the Revolutionary War period, but the authors still persist in placing these flags at battles during the 1770’s and 1780’s, particularly irritating is the discussion of the last flag listed, “South Carolina claims a Stars and Stripes, complying with the congressional Flag Resolution of 1777, was carried into battle by the Third Mountain Regiment on January 17, 1781, at Cowpens, South Carolina.” Ever since this flag has been in the possession of the State of Maryland, it has been known as the Third Maryland Regiment. It was so described by Gherardi Davis in 1908.

In chapter four we finally benefit from this book. “Legends Surrounding the First Official Flag” detail the Betsy Ross story as being without contemporary documentation. The Hulbert flag and the Easton flag are also looked at very skeptically. The request by Francis Hopkinson for payment for designing the Naval Flag of the U.S. is discussed, as is the very tenuous connection between the Washington Family coat of arms and the stars and stripes.

Chapter six contains artists conceptions of pre Civil War US Flags. While some attempt is made to conform to star patterns used on actual flags still in existence (i.e. 31 and 33 star flags with circular patterns), most are shown with the stars arranged in four or five rows. Such “stiff” patterns of stars were the exception, rather than the rule, and other patterns such as the “Great Star”, the “pentagon”, the “phalanx”, etc., could have been illustrated.

The canton of the Fremont Flag is correctly illustrated as being white with blue eagle and outline stars. Unfortunately, only the canton is shown flying from the staff! This flag has lost its field of stripes!

Some of the early flags of the United States are fairly well covered in Chapters Seven and Eight. The lack of the white border around the Confederate Battle Flag is the only error of note here.

Chapter nine deals with honoring the flag, and fairly covers the controversy surrounding the authorship of the Pledge of Allegiance, giving full credit to neither Francis Bellamy nor James Upham.

Chapter ten describes some of the factors surrounding the current flag burning controversy. As these events affect how the flag is viewed as a national symbol, the inclusion of this discussion is appropriate.

The appendix includes a listing of dates important to the flag such as the 1834 date when the US Army first used the Stars and Stripes as a field flag. Under July 21, 1969, it is stated that “unless repositioned or removed by other visitors to the moon, the Stars and Stripes will remain as positioned by the astronauts indefinitely.” The authors failed to consider the fact that this flag has, most likely, already completely deteriorated due to the intense ultra-violet radiation striking the moon without benefit of an atmosphere to shield the surface.

Unfortunately, in a separate table where the dates of admission of the states is listed with the “Official Design Number”, the “July 4” rule is not mentioned, leading one to assume that stars were added on the day that the state joined the union. While the text clearly spells this out earlier in the book, its omission from this table is unfortunate.

A discussion of the Flag Code and other rules, along with a glossary, helps make this book more useful. Unfortunately, the suggested reading list includes nothing by Whitney Smith, nor other noted vexillologists such as Grace Cooper, Howie Meden, or Richardson.

I don’t know if such an insignificant volume requires such a lengthy review, but it just set me on edge to see so much wrong in a book touting itself as a “definitive reference book” on the American Flag.
FOLLOW-UP (cont. from page 3)

NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER OF NAVA

by Lynn Knights

The third meeting of the New England Chapter gathered in the Trustees Room of the Forbes Library in Northampton, Massachusetts, on 22 May 1990. James Croft was host; others in attendance were Lynn Knights, John Szalo, Whitney Smith, and Richardson Libby. The meeting convened at 10:10 a.m.

Lynn Knights read letters from NAVA President Don Healy and Vice President Scot Guenter; also regrets from Pam Anderson and Dwayne Sargisson who were unable to attend.

John presented an outline for research techniques which would be useful in the workshop. The chapter is planning to present at the Toronto NAVA meeting. He raised the question as to whether the Driver Award should automatically be made every year regardless of the quality of presentations. He also suggested an award might be made for displays. It was pointed out that those who are adept at research are not necessarily good at making presentations. Whitney Smith pointed out that "keynote speakers" have become part of the regular procedure of NAVA meetings, although this originally had not been the case. He felt that this was a mistake for several reasons. Few of the talks really set a keynote or theme for the meeting. Moreover, the original idea had been to have someone with extraordinary information on flags who would not otherwise come to the meeting, but might be available because of the locale in a given year. Examples were William Filby (Baltimore meeting) and Nathaniel Abelson (Salem meeting). Neither were NAVA members and probably would not have come without a special invitation, but they were not paid for their presence. Regular members do not need the accolade of "keynote speaker" to get them to make presentations. A committee should look into the question for each meeting and make the decision.

The workshop was discussed further, including a list of possible topics people could research for presentation. It was stressed that it is important to focus on a manageable concept rather than a very broad one and it is important to avoid topics that had been covered many times before. Knowledge and enthusiasm are the key; what sounds like a boring topic from the title and what was in fact a boring talk in fact are functions of how the presenter organizes it, and how to present it.

Jim and Whitney stressed that specialization was important because it made the speaker the leading authority on a given topic, regardless of all the other vexillological work that had been done. Whitney stressed that everyone had the potential to make a real contribution; despite his own large collection there were many areas that had never been researched at all and many that had were given inadequate attention. It was also agreed that questions and answers from the audience should be solicited.

There was general agreement that John should pull together a written outline on research to be handed out, since he was uncertain of being able to attend the Toronto meeting. Lynn would focus on what to research, including compilation of a list of topics which he could put on his computer for printing out. Jim was to talk about where to look for information, based in part on his experiences in South Africa. Whitney was to give encouragement to those who might feel that they had nothing to contribute or were shy about getting started. It was agreed that Pam Anderson should be encouraged to work on a talk for the 1991 NAVA meeting concerning flag manufacturing, a topic little understood by most people. A possible video tape of good and bad presentations were discussed, but it was generally agreed that the group did not have the resources to undertake this. John suggested a video tape of the NAVA meeting itself would be helpful.

The group adjourned at 12:25 p.m. for lunch and reconvened at 2:15 p.m. The flag of the New England Chapter designed by John and made by Pam was displayed and officially adopted. Lynn was nominated as president and Jim as secretary; both were unanimously elected. It was moved, seconded, and unanimously approved that Jim write to Don Healy concerning the Chapter interest in the relationship between NAVA and the Canadian Flag Association. It was agreed that the next meeting be hosted by Lynn, which would begin at 10:30 a.m. on 11 September 1990 in Greenland, New Hampshire. The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Flag of the New England Chapter of NAVA
The background is the red cross of St. George on white, recognized as the flag of England. In the center is the green pine tree, first used as a New England symbol on coinage in the early 17th century. From 1686 onwards different versions of the New England flag have included the pine tree and the cross of St. George. The flag also includes a blue frame around the tree so that the NAVA colors (blue, white and red) are incorporated in the design, which was created by John Szalo and modified in Chapter discussions.

Description submitted by Whitney Smith.

BICENTENNIAL FLAG

MILFORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE

by Lynn Knights

The top Lilac band represents Milford's connection to the State of New Hampshire. The State flower is the purple lilac and the State bird is the purple finch. Lilac is the State color.

The Blue stripe represents the Souhegan River running through the heart of Milford.

The Gray stripe represents Granite, the bedrock of our Town. The Granite quarrying center of the granite state is Milford.

The Mill Wheel, a symbol of industry is placed across the river to symbolize the origin of the town's name ("Mill Ford"). The wheel is white representing both the mountain laurel abundant in this area and the winter snow. The outward spread of the spokes show Milford as the Hub of an expanding town representing growth with an eye toward a bright future.

The Gold bell in the center of the wheel links Milford with its historic past as the Keeper of one of the Paul Revere Bells. The color gold symbolizes the wealth of the community both in spirit and history.
LETTERS

I've assembled an interesting assortment of felt flags and would like to buy/sell/trade them.

Mike Tancey
10845 McKinley Hvy.,
Osceola, IN 46561-1697

I just came from an exhibit "Yokohama - Prints from 19th century Japan" at the new Sackler Museum (Washington, D.C.). I'm enclosing the booklet. I thought you might want to put a squib in the next NAVA News for people in the D.C. area and in California. The exhibit is interesting not only for its importance to Japanese history, but also vexillologically because of many depictions of the flags of western nations. There is one beautiful one of the U.S. flag in the dimensions of about 5:3 vertically with seven stripes and a white floral design in the blue canton — another example of why pictures are not a good source of flag documentation! I also meant to ask you when I saw you in Columbia (and then forgot) about color photographs. How do you handle them for the NAVA News? If I have something to submit, should I send a print, the negative, or what? Can a black-and-white print be made from a color negative, or should I be shooting all my flag pictures in black-and-white as well as color? I have some pictures from my trip last winter to Santo Fe which I hope to get around to writing up for you.

Sincerely,
•••••••••• Jack Lowe

Ed. Note: Please send photo prints, either black and white or color. Do not send negatives.

Although it is true that not all are, but some historic pictures do make good sources for flag documentation.
The Yokohama print exhibit will be in Washington, D.C. until September 9, in San Francisco October 10 - December 9 and in Los Angeles from January 10 - March 10, 1991.

Another wonderful idea out of Texas!

And, again, I cannot claim credit ... it belongs to a local disk-jockey named Scott Arthur, KQVE.

Why not make flags unburnable by manufacturing them from materials that will not burn? We did it for baby clothes and flight suits; why not flags?

This notion makes more sense than we might realize on first thought. After all, it was the flagmakers that for all practical purposes determined just what colors Old Glory Red, White and Blue really were; moreover, they made the sizes they wished and before long, those became standard.

Yours very truly,
Gene Pettit
COL., USAR (Retired)
Member, NAVA

WELCOME TO OUR... NEW MEMBERS

RICK BROADHEAD (Student) 126 Castlewood Road, Toronto, Ontario M5N 2L4 Canada. — National Flags.

MICHAEL C. BROWN (Active) 30 Dayspring Terrace, Greenhills, OH 45218. — Hobby.

CHARLES P. EVINGHAM (Active) 2480 Niagara Falls Blvd., Tonawanda, NY 14150. — Promote understanding and use of flags.

LORELL JOINER (Active) 7507 Shady Lane, San Antonio, TX 78209. — U.N. and emerging nations. Past successes in merging of nations under one flag.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

TED KAYE, 2235 N.W. Aspen Avenue, Portland, OR 97210.

RONALD P. OUELLETTE, 12750 North 89th Street, Scottsdale, AZ 85260.

KENNETH G. WARD, Lot 81 Carbeen Crescent Nanango, Queensland 4615 Australia.

The Rev. Canon D. Ralph Spence is rector of St. Lukes Anglican Parish, Burlington, Ontario, Canada, some forty miles north of Youngstown, N.Y., U.S.A. (Ralph served as President of NAVA from 1977-1978. He was also one of the founding members.) Youngstown Flag Day has been a tradition for as long as people can remember. Formerly it was held on the parade grounds at Old Fort Niagara, now it is celebrated in the village at Constitution Park directly across the Niagara River from Fort George, (for King George III, of course) Canada.

Traditionally also is the invitation to our Canadian friends to join with us on Flag Day as there have been no shots fired across our border since the 1814 Treaty of Ghent closing the War of 1812.

The cover of the program appeared with an intriguing design of stars, maple leaves, and stripes, designed by local artist Tom Sullivan.

The flag raising ceremony was commenced by the troop in of three color guards. Appearing in splendor were the US Coast Guard, red-coated guards of Old Fort Niagara, and the V.F.W. Following were various sizes of Girl and Boy Scouts ... all to the tunes of fife and drum. The actual flag raising was accompanied by the Youngstown Chorus. The Star-Spangled Banner was sung for the raising of the 13-Star (Navy) Flag, Oh Canada accompanied the raising of the Maple Leaf Flag, and America the Beautiful for flying the flag of Youngstown.

The NAVA table with its background of colorful flags, including the NAVA flag, was adjacent to the gazebo podium. The table was manned by NAVA members Gloria and Don Vinsetta, who were charged with issuing name tags to dignitaries, answering questions, directing traffic, and giving out NAVA membership applications at request. Plans for the 1991 Flag Day are already underway.

RALPH SPENCE DISAPPEARS

Without a Trace?

by Robert Cockendall

Not so! Ralph Spence is alive, well, and appeared as guest of Honor at Youngstown Flag Day Ceremonies and festivities which followed. He won the hearts of many with his brief address, easy style, and good humor, not to mention his depth of vexillological knowledge.
EDITOR'S NOTES...

IMPORTANT... Be sure to read Nick Artimovich’s Book Review on page 5, even if your special interest is not the history of the US Flag. Nick’s review points out the importance of evaluating the books you read and also illustrates the contribution each NAVA member can make by carefully recording their observations and sharing them with NAVA members. As we raise our banners we want to raise our standards, too, and hopefully those of the community at large.

Michelangelo — how did you do it? I am finding it extremely difficult to work while in a horizontal position. Due to some minor foot surgery it is necessary for me to keep my left leg elevated above my hip. It is not only the typing and assembly that are difficult, I can’t read or think while so reclined! I am definitely a vertical worker and think better on my feet.

The next issue will include the extra pages I planned for this one but that my endurance and patience will not permit at this time. In the Nov./Dec. NAVA News look for: “Symbols of the Pima and Maricopa Indian Nations - The Gila River Indian Community” by Don Healy; “Forgotten Places, Forgotten Flags - Mecklenburg” by Kevin Harrington; the completion of Part V, “Organization Colors and Streamers” by Jim Lipinski, the NAVA XXIV minutes and reports from the annual meeting in Toronto - and much more.

Remember the Nov./Dec. issue will be late as the copy will necessarily be two weeks late getting to the printer due to the date of the Annual Meeting. But you’ll understand because you will be there — October 5-7 - NOVOTEL HOTEL, NORTH YORK, METRO TORONTO - ONTARIO - CANADA.

As we go to press, word from our Treasurer, Gus Tracchia, of ten new members: David Moggi, James W. Karr, Brian J. Erickson, Ron Hesson, Christopher Albright, David R. Lewellen, Benjamin E. Goble, Coral May Grout, Calvert A. Cree and the Emerson Flag Company. The addresses and areas of interest will appear in the next issue. Welcome to our new members.