A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT...

Scot Guenter

In the last issue of NAVA News, Whitney Smith suggested members think through two areas: the ongoing question of chapter status and just what the goals of this organization should be. This is sound advice. As we prepare to convene in San Antonio let me reiterate briefly what my position is on these subjects.

At the last convention I appointed a committee to look into the pros and cons of “official” chapters. This committee included members with a range of perspectives and it solicited information from NAVA members throughout the country, including requests printed in NAVA News. The summary of this committee’s review and its position was printed in the July/August NAVA News on page 2. I totally support less bureaucracy and busyness and more flag scholarship and vexillological communing ABOUT FLAGS; I feel the committee’s suggestion is reasonable, logical, and in the best interests of vexillology. The executive board joins me in endorsing it, and I encourage you to accept it. Let us gather together both regionally and nationally to study flags and share our diverse vexillological interests. Let such study and discussion be the main component of our meetings.

On the broader subject of goals of NAVA, permit me to summarize what my vision has been for this current administration. Financially we had been weakened by the expensive but poor service of the mailing company we linked up with a few years ago. My goal was to be frugal, to slowly try to rebuild our financial base this year and be cautious about making commitments we couldn’t keep in an era when many non-profit organizations are suffering because of economic hard times. The volunteer-based members’ mailing committee, headed by Jon Radel, has been a real boon to NAVA. At the same time, we have started to increase the holdings of the NAVA Shopper through donations, and a similar program has been instituted with the Kennedy Center flags to raise money for special projects. I am working on the continuing development of these offerings through the NAVA News.

My personal vision for special projects for NAVA includes an outreach through the National Geographic Society’s work in television being developed by former president Don Healy and plans to publicize the organization through periodicals and educational outreach being developed by the Publicity Committee. I do not have radical plans for growth and development. I feel that we are weakest in the area of producing vexillological articles and studies based on research. Given the large size of our organization and its raison d’etre, this is where growth must come, and I guess all of us, as individuals, should recognize this and be more productive. Still, I think that under Grace Cooper’s editorship, NAVA News has developed a vitality and the scholarly level and range of articles has increased. I am excited by the increased participation of a range of members; I applaud all that have contributed and encourage the rest of you to do so.

In short, then, my vision for NAVA as we gather in San Antonio includes the following: accept the committee’s recommendation on how to proceed with chapters and move onward; continue to be frugal with our limited funds while expanding the NAVA Shopper and spending some funds on publicity, media outreach, and education (and recommendations from the Special Projects Committee if the separate funds have been raised); celebrate what vexillological contributions we have made but realize that we should (as scholars and researchers) be doing much more; remember why we joined NAVA in the first place — and continue to learn and grow by interacting with the eclectic mix of flag enthusiasts who comprise our organization. The silver anniversary promises to be an unforgettable, rewarding conference, so I hope to SEE YOU IN SAN ANTONIO, OCTOBER 9-11... AND KEEP STUDYING THOSE FLAGS!

FICTIONAL FLAGS

By Gary S. Csillaghegyi

Two appearances of fictional flags in big budget films to be taken note of were the flags, national, presidential, cavalry and infantry colors and a dissident political honcho, of a mythical South American republic of Corteguay in Harold Robbins’ “The Adventurers”, actually loosely based on the life of Porfirio Rubirosa, a Cuban politico and playboy of the immediate post-WWII era. When the film made the rounds in 1970 or 1971, examples of the national flag were included for the theaters to display outside above their marquees, and inside in the lobbies. Because I knew the local Paramount theater manager, I managed to add one to my collection after it was all over, so I got the pattern quite exactly (Fig. 1). The flag is 2:3, with the orange middle section square. The white fimbriation between the orange square and the black edges is 1/5 the width of the black edge, therefore 1/20 the width of the flag, leaving the width of the black to be 1/5 the width of the flag. The black eagle is actually supposed to be a condor. Perhaps this represents 16 C. Spanish heraldic art. My drawing is from memory, since I no longer have the original (fire), and the film has never been re-released in any form, nor is likely to be.

The Presidential flag was medium blue, square, with the condor centered and surrounded by the golden collar of the nation’s highest decoration, the Order of the Condor, the automobile flag at least was bordered in heavy gold bullion fringe.

The Infantry Colors, as I recall them were orange, square, or nearly so, bordered in black with a silver embroidered laurel leaf and berry fimbriation separating the border from the field. The black condor was displayed in the middle with unit designations embroidered in silver beneath him, as I recall. I can’t remember for certain whether or not the collar of the Order was also present, but I don’t think so. As I recall, the colors were themselves fringed in silver bullion, and the lances topped with a long lance-head pierced to form the condor. They were quite beautiful!

The dissident political honcho, then, was called ‘EI Lobo’, and his flag indeed displayed an orange wolf’s head in silhouette against a green field. I do not remember the details sufficiently to make a drawing. How anybody in the Andes would get the idea of using a wolf as a badge and sobriquet, I do not know, either; but then I have read novels that talk about hummingbirds in Europe, also!

To be continued
THE 2nd CITY FLAG OF MISSISSIPPI
By C. Paige Herring

The second municipal flag of Mississippi was adopted on 7 July 1992. The flag is the result of a competition held by the Hattiesburg Flag Committee.

The Committee’s development was brought about by a chance meeting with the Mayor of Hattiesburg, J. Ed. Morgan, and NAVA member Paige Herring. After consultations with Morgan and City Council members, the Committee was founded with Herring as chair and was made up of members from each of the city’s five wards.

A competition was used to solicit designs from the residents. Following a competition that lasted one month, the Committee met and went through the design selection process. With over seventy designs, the Committee had to set some criteria for selecting the future flag. Some examples are as follows:

1. Ease of reproduction.
2. Reflect Hattiesburg and Mississippi.
3. Cost effectiveness (for the benefit of the population).

With these in mind, the committee began to eliminate designs. The seventy-plus designs were narrowed to five that would qualify for the final flag. submitting by David Ott and others.

The City Council of Mississippi submitted an official request for the flag committee to design, submit, and vote on a flag for the city of Hattiesburg.

The competition lasted one month, and the designs were narrowed down to five that would qualify for the final flag. These five designs were then submitted to the City Council for voting.

The following is the approved recommendation of the flag committee that was submitted on July 7, 1992.

In accordance with the purpose for which it was formed, the Flag Committee, after soliciting designs, selecting designs and voting on the designs, will like to present its recommendation for the city flag of Hattiesburg.

The Committee recommends for the city flag one with width three-fifths of its length; with three equal vertical stripes of green-white-green (with green symbolizing the forest region and agriculture and the white symbolizing unity, purity and progress); with a seal centered overall. The seal is to be a six-spoked wheel of yellow (symbolizing both wealth and industry), with the letters (in Times Roman Script) H-A-T-T-I-E-S-B-U-R-G-M-I-S-S; and in Times Roman Italic Script) T-H-E U-B-C C-T-Y-Y, 1-8 and 8-4 placed on the upper curve, lower curve, left side and right side of the wheel’s rim, respectively, in black: with a pine tree centered on the hub and on the white stripe (symbolizing the city as a hub and its location as the hub of the pine belt).

Progresso Produce Inc. will sell 20 tons of Texas onions. In true Texas tradition, each onion will be wrapped and labeled with Texas flag and logo “Texas 1015”.

Pantone Color Chart. The specific colors are Green #348 and Yellow #109.

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1. Ease of reproduction.
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3. Cost effectiveness (for the benefit of the population).

With these in mind, the committee began to eliminate designs. The seventy-plus designs were narrowed to five that would qualify for the final test, a vote of the people. (The idea was that if the public played a significant part in the selection, then they would be more likely to spend money on the flag.)

The vote was held during Hattiesburg’s “Old Time Festival” on 10 May 1992. With over 600 voters participating, the ballot was an interesting break from the vendors and other activities of the day. At the end, the winning design, a hybrid of all the designs, won by cornering 26% of the vote. (See design.)

After the adoption, Mayor Morgan said that Herring and the committee “came back with a very nice-looking flag” that the flag “added a nice touch” to the city.

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Progresso Produce Inc. will sell 20 tons of Texas onions. In true Texas tradition, each onion will be wrapped and labeled with Texas flag and logo “Texas 1015”. 1015 being the type of onion. (Houston Post, June 10, 1992).

Houston Post columnist Lynn Ashby wrote in his column of June 16, 1992 about the project to clean up the “Great Seal of the State of Texas.” Those attending NAVA 25, last year in Minneapolis, remember well Kin Spain’s Driver Award winning report on his involvement with this project. See the May June NAVA News if you want to obtain a complete copy of Kin’s excellent paper. (P.S. Sorry I haven’t written to you, Kin, thanking you for the copy you sent, it was great!) (Houston Post article) Submitted by David Ott.

Most Texans are unfamiliar with the code of etiquette associated with flying the state flag. The two big points in the state code include the vertical hanging of the flag (the white stripe should be to the audience’s left) and Texas, since it was formerly independent, should take precedent over ALL flags other than the U.S. national flag when displayed with them. Other than that, the main regulations parallel the U.S. Flag Code. No fines or jail terms are specified for flying the Texas flag incorrectly, but defacing the state or national flag is punishable by up to $3,000 fine and one year in jail. (Beaumont, TX Enterprise, June 13, 1992). Submitted by David Ott.

And lastly, Pepperdine University, in southern California, has “slightly” modified the state flag in its advertising campaign. See for yourself if you like the change, or whether you think it’s just a lot of “bull!” (Los Angeles Times, May 2, 1992). Submitted by Frederick Patten.

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When the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C. opened its doors on May 27, 1971, the sixty-foot high Hall of States and Hall of Nations were adorned with 178 flags. The 93′x14′ (2.5mx4.3m) flags represented the 122 nations that the U.S. recognized and the 56 U.S. states and territories. These huge, colorful flags were an integral part of architect Edward Durrell Stone's magnificent design for the Kennedy Center and were made by the London, England, firm of John Edgington & Co., Ltd.

Every once in a while new flags would be added to honor emerging nations and obsolete flags would be replaced. For the last few years, I had been offering my assistance as a vexiologist to the National Park Service, stewards of the Kennedy Center. I had told the NPS which flags had become obsolete or were of incorrect/inaccurate design. By the end of the 1980's there was a backlog of missing and obsolete flags, and the NPS wanted to update the displays in both halls. The contracts were recently completed, and included many new flags for the countries of the former Soviet bloc. The new flags were made by the National Capitol Flag Company of Alexandria, Virginia, subscribers to the Flag Reserach Center's flag design specifications. National Capitol confirmed and elaborated on my recommendations to complete the project. (Some of the flags that were displayed were also made by National Capitol between 1971 and 1991.)

In appreciation for my small part in the process, the Park Service wanted to give me some of the obsolete flags that they replaced. Unfortunately, that's when things hit a snag. The NPS procurement regulations said that government property couldn't just be given away to individuals. If it had commercial value, it had to be disposed of through transfer to another agency that could use it, or it could be auctioned to the public. If it had no commercial value, it had to be destroyed. Well, except for vexiologists, who would have any use for an obsolete flag? I was told that the flags had to be wasted.

When it comes to flags, I don't give up very easily. Since the possibility of adding some of these flags to my personal collection had suddenly evaporated, I asked if all of the flags could be donated to our Non-Profit organization, the North American Vexillological Association. Well, that apparently is a legitimate way to dispose of the flags. After a few more months, and with letters from myself and Scot Guenter, the National Park Service Board of Survey Committee met and agreed to donate these flags to NAVA. On June 29 I went to the Kennedy Center and picked up five large boxes of flags and can now offer them to members in exchange for a contribution to the NAVA Special Project Fund.

The 32 flags included some real odd-balls, like the flag of Haiti. The field was black and red, appropriate since 1964, but the arms in the center predated 1964 by illustrating the old blue-red flags. Likewise, the flag of Romania included a beautifully hand-painted coat-of-arms which had become obsolete in 1965. And why the 1972-1977 flag of Libya was still hanging in 1991, long after the U.S. had severed diplomatic ties in a mystery to me. Time has taken its toll on many of the light blue fields or stripes, causing them to turn towards lavender. That is why I had overseen the displays in both halls. The contracts were recently completed, and included many new flags for the countries of the former Soviet bloc. The new flags were made by the National Capitol Flag Company of Alexandria, Virginia, subscribers to the Flag Research Center's flag design specifications. National Capitol confirmed and elaborated on my recommendations to complete the project. (Some of the flags that were displayed were also made by National Capitol between 1971 and 1991.)

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RUSSIAN and SOVIET NAVAL and MARITIME FLAGS

PART V: SOVIET MARITIME ENSIGNS AND FLAGS

BY John H. Ganez

With the exception of the abolishing of the imperial flags, the revolution of March 1917 brought about few if any flag changes. It was not until the Bolshevik Revolution of October 1917 that sweeping changes in the flags of Russia were made.

At first Soviet Flags were simply red. The decree of 8 April 1918 stipulated that the Russian flag should be red with the name of the country in gold letters in the canton (Fig. 1). On 10 July of the same year the initials “RSFSR” became the official variation (Fig. 2). Until the adoption of a naval ensign, these flags were also used by the navy. In 1920 a new civil ensign was adopted by the RSFSR (Fig. 3). This flag had oversized initials in gold centered on a red flag. It remained in effect until 1925.

The creation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in 1922 caused the need for a new flag. The USSR adopted the red flag with the star and hammer and sickle represent workers and peasants. The five pointed star represents the unity of the people in the five continents. Except for slight artistic changes it remained the same. The design dates from 19 August 1933. It was the civil and government ensign of the Soviet Union.

The merchant fleet, which is under state control, could be called upon to support naval units worldwide. Over half of the navy’s support while deployed is from merchant tankers.

The distinctive flag of the Sea Rescue Service (Fig. 5) is similar to the Red Cross flag but is superimposed over two blue crossed anchors and the letters C-C-C-P in gold in the arms of the cross. This flag is based on the flag of the Finnish Sea Saving Society. The flag was adopted in 1923.

The Soviet hospital ships Ob, Venuse, and Svir probably used the Russian Red Cross flag (Fig. 6) as a distinguishing flag. The addition of the Red Crescent honored the large Soviet Moslem population.

These ships are white with red crosses on the hull. The stack markings indicate that they used the Soviet civil ensign.

The distinguishing pennant of the Fisheries Inspection Service (Fig. 7) was white with a red border, red sickle and hammer, and red fish. Adopted in 1933 and used by vessels Soviet territorial waters engaged in enforcing Soviet fishing regulations.

LOCAL HAPPENINGS

NEW ENGLAND VEXILLOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

A letter from Lynn Knights, President of the local group NEVA, reports that plans for NAVA 27 are well on their way. The NAVA 27 flag design has been chosen and will be unveiled in San Antonio during the NAVA 26 meeting. The group will also host a reception for the attendees to tell them more about Portland, Maine and what to expect in 1993. NAVA 27.

NEVA (and NAVA) member PAM ANDERSON graced a two-column photograph on the front page of the “Manchester Union Leader”, Sunday, June 14, 1992. Pam is the owner of the High Flying Flag Company; she designs, makes and sells flags.

Lynn is pictured in the 100th Anniversary book of Branch 44 National Association of Letter Carriers holding New Hampshire’s first NALC Branch flag, designed by Dr. Whitney Smith and Letter Carrier Forrest Evarts. The three color design is in the shape of an envelope with the Branch designation and the State of New Hampshire displayed (also NALC and 44). The flag was sewn by Pam Anderson and the project coordinated by Lynn.

CHESAPEAKE BAY VEXILLOLOGISTS

For the tenth time NAVA members in the Chesapeake Bay area met to Show and Talk about FLAGS. The oldest of the “local groups” first met in 1983. Ten members and one spouse assembled on July 11, 1992, Don Healy, Trenton, NJ, won the “no prize” for the member who traveled the farthest (over 200 miles to West Virginia). The group talked for hours about both the flags they had brought and their current flag projects; details submitted by some of the attendees follows. A minimum amount of time was spent of “chapter organization”. It was mutually agreed that less organization was better than more.

John Blair and wife, and Bob Banks left before the others assembled for the photo.

Nick Artimovich brought a wool U.S. presidential flag from the early 20th Century. (See photo of attendees.) Nick’s version has the hand-painted emblem sewn into the dark blue woolen field. He brought two other wool American flags: a small one with only 30 stars, machine sewn stripes, indicating that it may have been “repaired” from a 35 star flag by cutting off the torn heading with its column of 5 stars. His large U.S. flag has 35 stars in two rings, one star in the center, and one in each of the four corners of the canton, a very scarce and attractive pattern for this era.

Nick’s foreign flags were equally unusual - a wool merchant flag of China with a yellow disk on a red field, and a Swedish Merchant Ensign with the Union Mark in the canton, predating 1905. 3x5’. He also had a Soviet Naval Ensign, recently “liberated” from a submarine according to the dealer.

Nick gave each member a patriotic slate pencil dating from the late 1800’s. He had bought a box of 100 earlier in the day at an antique mall that were mis-labeled “Fireworks, 1930’s - $10.00”.

Continued on Page 8

Page 4 NAVA NEWS September/October 1992
LETTERS . . .

THE GEORGIA FLAG DEBATE

(Ed. Note: Vexi-Bits is a Digest of vexillological items from newspapers and periodicals submitted by NAVA members. The items are not the opinions of Don Healy or of NAVA as an organization. The quoted suggestion to submit a Georgia flag design proposal was made by Dave Pawson, who did write to Governor Miller and submitted two flag designs for his consideration.)

Dear Editor:

It's a shame the Georgia Flag Debate is being reported in such a way that casts all supporters of the current design (with the Confederate Battle Flag) as white supremacists and racists. There are people who love the flags of the Confederacy and the state flag which memorialize them and yet are no friends of racial segregation and bigotry.

It's a shame that decent southerners allowed hate groups like the KKK to use the Confederate Battle Flag as their own. But the fact that they did does not make it a symbol of racism, any more than their use of Old Glory makes it a symbol of racism.

It's a shame that the history of the War Between the States is portrayed in our history books and PBS documentaries as a war for and against slavery.

It's a shame that the great constitutional debates between the opposing sides are ignored, such as whether the founding fathers intended the constitution to limit government, or concentrate it.

It's a shame the historians fail to report that the 1860 census shows there were more free blacks living in the South than in the North, or that some northern states (including Illinois, "Land of Lincoln") actually had laws prohibiting blacks from living there.

It's a shame the historians are afraid to tell us that upwards of 93,000 blacks served in the Confederate Army, many in state militia units BEFORE the Confederate Congress authorized recruiting slaves or free blacks. At Petersburg, black Union troops wielding rifles and bayonets were fought by black workers wielding shovels and picks. In Charleston, South Carolina, there were at least two groups of free blacks who, as early as January 1861, published statements of their allegiance to South Carolina and their willingness to serve in her defense.

Yes, it's a shame the Confederate Battle Flag, and the present flag of the State of Georgia, are smeared as racist symbols. But then, it's the only politically correct thing to do. And politicians being what they are, truth will lose out to political expediency, at least for a while.

And yes, it's downright shameful that marketing of an "Old Glory Condom" for safer(?) sex would be considered patriotic (Would you trust your life to a condom, with their relatively high probability of failure?) while the Georgia State Flag memorializing those, both black and white, who fought for hearth, home, and constitutionally limited government, is considered an embarrassment.

The following is a quote from the May-June 1992 issue of Confederate Veteran, a journal of the Sons of Confederate Veterans:

"On February 13, 1956, John Sammons Bell, then an Atlanta attorney and Georgia State Democratic Party Chairman and later Chief Judge, Court of Appeals of Georgia, saw his lifelong dream come true. On that date Governor Marvin Griffin (an SCV member) signed into law Judge Bell's State Flag Bill. Judge Bell not only researched and drafted the bill but he designed the present state flag.

"Judge Bell thought of the idea while attending a Confederate Veteran reunion in Millen, Georgia in 1923 at the age of 9. He thought what a great idea it would be to honor these gentlemen and thousands like them (by incorporating the Battle Flag in the state flag). His idea of creating a living memorial to the Confederacy had become reality."

Your obedient servant,
Ken Barnes
714 Ash Street
Vandenberg AFB, GA 93437

* * *

Dear Friends:

The article on "The Georgia Flag Debate" by Don Healy (July/August 1992 NAVA News) contained a number of inaccuracies which I wish to correct.

There never was a 1799 Georgia state flag. According to Dr. Whitney Smith no legal documentation has been produced substantiating that a blue flag with the Georgia state seal in the center ever existed. One expects such errors from the *New York Times*, the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, the *Trenton Times*, et al, but not from NAVA News.

The current Georgia state flag was conceived and designed by John S. Bell well before the Supreme Court issued its decision on segregation. This flag was created by Judge Bell to honor all Confederate veterans with a living memorial by incorporating into the state flag the Confederate battle flag under which these men had served and many had died.

Judge Bell is a member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans and it is this organization which is legal custodian of the Confederate flags. The KKK has no legal or moral monopoly on those colors. The Confederate flag is no more a symbol of the KKK than the Stars and Stripes which is also freely flown by the Klan.

The Confederate flag commonly flown by the KKK is not the battle flag but the naval jack. This is a technically, but isn't that the purpose of vexillology—to be exact and precise? In this very issue of NAVA News is an article on "Russian and Soviet Naval and Maritime Flags" which notes the differences among the Russian naval jack, the Russian naval pilot jack, and the Russian merchant pilot jack.

It the alleged "1799 blue flag" did, it would have been the flag of a slave state. The pre-1956 state flag which Governor Miller and the NAACP felt should be abolished is a modified version of the first Confederate flag, the Stars and Bars. It was flown by the state government during the time when an earlier Supreme Court had declared segregation legal. Those promoting either flag as a more acceptable state flag, therefore, are being inconsistent in their position or else they are unfamiliar with Georgia history.

Some may say "Let's use commonsense, but most people are unaware of thesefacts. To them the Confederate battle flag is the only Confederate flag and it alone is a symbol of segregation." But is not the purpose of NAVA and vexillology in general to educate, to correct historical errors? If not, then let us publicly say so. Let's employ the rationale of "commonsense" consistently and begin by condoning the belief that Betsy Ross designed the first Stars and Stripes.

In the NAVA News article there was the suggestion that members consider submitting unsolicited designs for a new state flag to the governor of Georgia. Since perceptions not facts are what count, why not suggest that unsolicited designs for new state flags also be submitted to other governors? The state flag of Hawaii with its British Union Jack is offensive to many Irish Catholics. The state flag of Maryland with its historical association with the Catholic Church is offensive to many Protestants and pro-choice advocates. The flag of Puerto Rico is offensive to many people because of the attempted assassination of President Truman by Puerto Rican nationalists. This list can easily be lengthened to include not only state flags but church flags as well.

If NAVA is to have credibility, it must be impartial. The article by Don Healy suggested that NAVA members might wish to become involved in changing the Georgia state flag. It is only fair, therefore, that NAVA News also suggest that members might wish to become involved in the defense of the Georgia state flag. Those interested in preserving the Georgia state flag may contact: SAVE THE FLAG!, P.O. Box 1314, Thomaston, GA 30296-1314.

At this time I would like to respond in advance to those of who may say that the Georgia state flag doesn't deserve to be treated objectively because the Confederate flag is a symbol of secessionism, slavery, treason and war.

The current United States was formed when 9 states seceded from the Articles of Confederation, an illegal act, to form a new government under the U.S. Constitution. No force was used to prevent the secession. No force was used to compel the other states to join this new government.

Under the U.S. Constitution, the heart of secessionism was not the South but New England and in particular Massachusetts. Massachusetts threatened secession in 1803 over the purchase of the Louisiana Territory, in 1811 over statehood for Louisiana, in 1814 over the War of 1812 with Britain — during those hostilities Massachusetts was actively trading with the enemy which was a treasonable act, and 1844-1845 over the admission of Texas.

The state of West Virginia was created from portions of the state of Virginia by Abraham Lincoln on the principle of secessionism.

The Confederacy was not established to preserve slavery. Slavery was protected by the U.S. Constitution. One-quarter of the slave states remained in the Union with their slave institutions protected by Lincoln.

The last states to join the Confederacy, Arkansas, North Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia, did so in response to Lincoln's call for 75,000 volunteers to invade the South.

The Confederacy is open to non-slave states. In February 1861, the *New York Herald* called upon New York City to accede to the Confederacy. If Union troops were not present to prevent the holding of such a referendum, abolitionist George W. Curtis declared that New York City would have voted for the Confederacy.

Not one official of the Confederate government, civilian or military was ever tried for treason. This was not due to the Lincoln Administration's desire for reconciliation. The Union government had privately approached the U.S. Supreme Court on the prospects of holding treason trials. Lincoln's own Supreme Court said that if such trials were held the Court would...
Dear Editor:

I respectfully disagree with a portion of the proposed minutes of the October 12, 1992, annual meeting in Minneapolis, as printed in the November/December 1992 NAVA News. I do not mean to imply any criticism of the recording secretary - the meeting was long and a great deal of debate took place, making it very difficult to record everything.

In part 8, old business, the only amendment to the bylaws that carried was the proposed revision of the bylaws previously circulated with the annual meeting notice. There were, however, three so-called "nonsubstantive" changes made to the proposed revision in sections 1.04(a), 4.1 (b)(2) to conform to existing practice. These were allegedly not amendments, for the bylaws require notice to the entire membership and, therefore, the bylaws cannot be amended by action of those members at the annual meeting without the required notice.

The "nonsubstantive" changes made at the annual meeting were as follows (deletions indicated by strike; additions by underlining):

§1.04. Relationship with FIAV.
(a) The association shall be a member of the International Federation of Vexillological Associations (FIAV).
§4.11. Parliamentary authority.
(b) Alternate rules of order may be adopted by action of the executive board.
§7.11. Program committee.
(b)(2) . select a keynote speaker with the assistance of the executive board.

An aside: At the annual meeting it was argued that these three "nonsubstantive" changes were essentially "one time only" occurrences made necessary due to the total revision of the bylaws. As a member of the bylaws committee, I believe the power to make such "nonsubstantive" changes is highly questionable in light of the bylaws requirement that notice of proposed amendments be given to the entire membership. Although the three changes are essentially harmless, I will recommend that they be formally ratified at the 1992 annual meeting in San Antonio after the required notice so we do not establish a bad precedent of the NAVA members present at the annual meeting approving a bylaws amendment that is different from the proposed amendment mailed to the entire membership. I think the potential danger of allowing the members present at an annual meeting to approve such allegedly "nonsubstantive," "modified," or just plain "different" amendments is obvious. I am not however, suggesting there was any bad faith motivation to the action taken in Minneapolis; in fact, it seemed like a good idea to me at the time.

In addition, the following amendments were proposed at the 1991 annual meeting:

§3.05. Organizational members.
(c) Organizational members shall have all privileges of the association except voting, holding office, and serving on committees.
§6.02. Nominating committee.
(a) A nominating committee of three members shall be elected by the voting members as the annual convention meeting.
(b) The nominating committee shall consist of:
(1) a member elected by the outgoing executive board;
(2) a member elected by the incoming board; and
(3) a member elected by the voting members at the annual meeting.

The nominating committee shall determine which members are qualified to serve in the various elective offices and shall present a proposed slate of officers at the next annual meeting.

(d) Nothing in this section shall prevent nominations from the floor at the annual meeting. Finally, in part 9(bX), new business, the minutes state that I was selected by the outgoing executive board as its nominating committee appointee. This is technically correct, but I could not serve and the board later appointed Michael Halleran.

Very truly yours,
Charles Adkin Spain, Jr.

LETTERS...
July 21, 1992

Dear Editor:

I thought you might like to see this article... Dutchess Magazine, June 1992, page 24, "All Wrapped up in Old Glory." What began as an occasional interest in early American and Revolutionary War flags has developed into a quest to identify and catalog the design genealogy of the American Flag from its three founding roots: the St. George's flag of the City of Genoa in 11th century Italy; heraldic quartering of shields and royal flags about the same time; and the use of striped naval ensigns among maritime city-states around the 17th century.

Crosses have now disappeared, and the quartering reduced to the single prominent first quarter, or "canton," and frequently referred to as the "union" by Americans (from the British use of the Union flag in the canton). The stripes, highly visible at sea, remain today.

One flag survived the long succession of English and British flags to become the probable first ancestor, that of the British East India Company, a flag of seemingly many faces. One of its variants matches the first flag of the United Colonies, the Grand Union flag, which, in turn led to the first flag of the United States in 1777.

Aside from being a proud national symbol, the design of the American flag is truly unique. Twenty-seven official American flags have flown, yet the extent of the design genealogy of related national, military, state and related foreign flags is staggering, perhaps several thousand flags.

The goal of the Gallery is two fold: to document the design genealogy in a concise and pictorial format for easy reference; and to collect an historic or academic reference. One of its variants matches the first flag of the United Colonies, the Grand Union flag, which, in turn led to the first flag of the United States in 1777.

This is a rich and rewarding pursuit, albeit a hobby. Collecting and researching for accurate history requires patience and persistence. We are always looking for historic originals to acquire. Please contact us if you would like to receive our series of Guides to the American Flag.

Ed. Note: Congratulations to Lee on the five-page spread in Dutchess Magazine.

VEXI-TIDBIT

Dave Pawson and Scott Guenter made the Dallas Morning News headlines on June 26, 1992, when their protests caused the State Lottery to scratch the flag design from the ticket.

CONTRIBUTORS

Nick Artimovich
Gary Cassilaghlevi
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PAGE 6 NAVA NEWS SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 1992
Dear Mr. Pawson:

I have just received the most recent edition of NAVA News; my first since joining the Association. I had no idea what the newsletter would be like, but I must tell you I was quite impressed. I enjoyed all the news items, the letters from members, special reports and "tidbits." It is a wonderful sign of a vibrant, exciting organization. I am glad I decided to be part of it.

I really appreciated the "Collector's Corner" by Nick Artimovich. I hope this will be an ongoing segment that will start again with Afghanistan after finishing with Zimbabwe. It is extremely informative and a great item for a collector like myself.

I was also pleased to see the "NAVA Shopper." What a great idea! It looks like I will be sending some more money your way in the future. I might as well start with an order right now.

It looks like I will not be able to attend NAVA 26 in October but I am very excited to read that the annual meeting will be held in Maine in 1993. I will definitely be there.

Looking forward to hearing from you. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Carl H. Engstrom

July 17, 1992

Dear Editor:

NAVA NEWS: Just a line to tell you that Chiquita Bananas are now putting a new sticker on their bananas. "COLLECT FLAGS OF THE WORLD." There are two types of these as noted so far: the one just mentioned and another that has just the words CHIQUITA and their logo. Two examples are encased, each comes with a small flag.

I have seen so far: ALGERIA, AUSTRALIA, CANADA, CHILE, COLOMBIA, CUBA, FRANCE, GERMANY, FED. REP., GREECE, HONDURAS, HUNGARY, INDIA, ISRAEL, ITALY, JAMAICA, NEW ZEALAND, NIGERIA, PANAMA.

Sincerely,
Glenn E. Compton

"AMBASSADOR" RANDY BEARD

By Gustav Tracchia

I think we can all agree that Randy Beard of Annin is a great guy, or better still: "A Guy with Class." Ambassador Class.

Ambassador, by the way, is the magazine published by Trans World Airlines.

It is the type of magazine that you find in the front pocket of the seat on the airplane.

"Ambassador Class" is also the name of TWA’s executive class or business class with wider seats and more leg room.

An article entitled "Stars and Stripes Forever," and written by Elizabeth Ross (no joke) was published in the July 1992 issue.

The article was about Randy Beard of Annin & Co. It is full of interesting anecdotes, stories, and fabulous data. I was particularly impressed by the story recalled by Randy’s grandfather Luis Annin Ames. It seems that a distinguished-looking woman visited their showroom at the Fulton Street location in Lower Manhattan; "stunning young Ames by stabbing herself in the airplane. The passenger then turned towards me and asked, "What kind of association do you belong to?" But that’s another story. Congratulations to Randy and family.

To The Editor:

Seeing the notices in your letters column about the availability of 4x6" flags, members might like to know that the following are now obtainable: Afghanistan, Kazakstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, San Marino, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Belarus, African National Congress. Write to fellow NAVA member The Flag Guys, 283 Windsor Hwy., New Windsor, NY 12553 or call toll free 1-800-23203524.

Yours truly,
Al Cavalari

If you can help me, I research for my 4"x6" collection, obsolete flags of Afghanistan (kingdom, tricolor vertical stripe); Congo-Leopoldville (blue with 7 stars, and blue + 1 star and red stripe); Ghana with the white stripe; Zanzibar (red with cloves: and 1st republic); Bahamas old red ensign; Burundi (1st republic's flag without drum); Micronesia (with 6 stars); Suriname (white with stars); Sikkim; Spain (eagle changed after Franco) and Grenada (tricolor with nutmeg).

Yours sincerely,
Michel R. Lupant
6, clos de la Fature
B-1340 Ottignies
Belgium

Dear NAVA News:

In the Issue "A Case of Immunity" of the American police series " Columbo" on television with actor Peter Falk, the flag of the fictional Kingdom of Suari was shown:

It was an Arab Kingdom. The people dressed as sheiks. In the issue a diplomat of the Kingdom of Suari couldn’t be caught for murder because of diplomatic immunity. Columbo succeeds with the help of the King of Suari. Afraid for more punishment the diplomat rather wishes to put himself under American law.

Best wishes,
Rudi Koot
The Netherlands

GEORGIA FLAG DEBATE cont. from Page 5

have to find in favor of the Confederacy against Lincoln.

The War Between The States was the bloodiest conflict in our history. It was not begun by secession, but by the North invading the South.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I hope that NAVA and the field of vexillology will always remain true to their stated principles of exactness, preciseness, objectivity, and impartiality.

Sincerely,
Joseph E. Fallon
131 Purchase St., Apt. A-23
Rye, NY 10580

Ed. Note: Several items were also sent later, a "Q and A on the News" column from the Atlanta Journal Const., Sunday, July 5, 1992, refuting that the introduction of the 1956 flag bill was in defiance to integration, and an article from The Florida Times-Union, Jacksonville, FL, Sunday, July 5, 1992 interviewing Judge John Sammons Bell, whose flag "...to create a living memorial to a brave and valiant people who gave so much and suffered so much..." Also received was a copy of Georgia Flag Facts, a leaflet by the Georgia Committee to Save the Flag, 3209 S. Cobb Dr., F2-204, Smyrna, GA 30080. On page one it states, "Although no official action has ever been found in the record, a common design was seen shortly thereafter (the American Revolution) and was used frequently until 1879. It was a blue field with a white Georgia State Seal in the center."
EDITOR'S NOTES . . .

Please remember to send all changes of address to Treasurer, Dave Pawson. David keeps the Master List of members and also prepares all the mailing labels.

Be sure to mail your Registration for NAVA 26 in San Antonio, October 9-11.

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CHESAPEAKE BAY Cont. from Page 4

Bob Banks items: 20 Star U.S. Flag (circa 1818-1819) measuring 23"x30" with hand-stitched stripes and hand-embroidered stars. An undersize canton, just four stripes deep, rests upon a red stripe. Its union is configured in the famous 20 star "great star" arrangement.

48 Star "USA" Flag (1918 copyright). This all machine stitched commercial product bearing a REPUBLIC MFG. label was apparently inspired by the patriotic fervor of WWI. The use of 13 stars to form each of the three letters was probably deliberately symbolic, with the nine remaining stars marginally positioned along the canton.

President's Standard (Navy version with stenciled heading “Presidents Standard No. 1, New York Navy Yard, Oct. 1910”). The overall blue field measures 10'x16'. A white eagle contained within a depiction of the Arms of the U.S. measures 7 feet, wing tip to wing tip.

Don brought his most recent acquisitions the new flags of Azerbaijan, Uzbekistan, Croatia, Slovenia and Yugoslavia.

Jon Radel showed a couple of flags he has managed to acquire from overseas, including a silk flag of Nepal purchased in Katmandu, a crudely printed cotton flag of Sri Lanka, and a flag of Ukraine from the days of the U.S.S.R. He also showed a Confederate flag purchased at auction recently which was carefully labeled "hand-sewn" by the auctioneer, despite having been done on a zig-zag sewing machine. At the close of the meeting, he proposed that the next meeting, tentatively scheduled for November, be held at the house he’s in the process of purchasing. All agreed. Notification of this meeting will be made to NAVA members living in the Greater Chesapeake Bay Region.

NAVA News
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NAVA 26
OCTOBER 9-11, 1992

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