A Functional Approach to Flag Specification

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Postage Stamp Unveiling the 50-Star US Flag, the Longest-Flying Flag in US History
FROM THE PRESIDENT

Moving Forward

Dear NAVAites,

I’m honored to introduce our new NAVA News editor, Daniel Broh-Kahn. Daniel is well-known to most of you as the creator of the “Vex” series of collectible flag cards. I’m confident that his publishing experience (not to mention his irreverent sense of humor) will be a great asset in getting NAVA News back on schedule without sacrificing the editorial and graphic quality that you’ve come to expect. As you can see from the issue that you hold in your hands, Daniel has already begun to put his editorial stamp on NAVA News. Please join me in thanking him for taking on this key position.

(Daniel and I also share a sometime interest in the hobby of wargaming. If we start to talk about CRTs and Secondary Zones of Control, well, try to be tolerant!)

In the same breath, I hope that you will also join me in saying a big THANK YOU to Hugh Brady, who volunteered to stand in as interim editor and put NAVA News 193 together in record time. He took the helm on the fly, steered us through a very complicated transition, and produced an outstanding product. A dip of the colors also to Shane Sievers, our webmaster, who bulldogged the arrangements for our first ever use of a commercial printer/mailer.

On that subject, we are still finalizing some of the printing/mailing details as I’m writing this. We should have the kinks worked out by the time you receive this issue, and with luck we’ll be able to get the newsletter to you on a much more regular and professional basis from now on. As always, please let me know of any problems that you have with receipt of your issues.

NAVA recently passed a milestone of sorts. The first organizational meeting of our Association (known as “NAVA Zero” by old hands) was held on 3-4 June 1967, which makes us 40 years old this year. Our legal birthday was not until 19 March 1968, when Whitney Smith, Robert Gauron and Emmet Mittlebeeler signed the Articles of Incorporation that made us a corporation. However, our seal shows “1967” as our birth date, so I guess we can say that we’re over 40. The Flag Institute, our sister organization in the U.K., stated in the last FI Gazette that “[The] Flag Institute is the oldest and largest vexillological society in the world . . .” I had to point out to them that, in this one instance, the colonies have something that’s older than the mother country.

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On Deck

I am the new editor of NAVA News, and my first comment is this: What do you, the members of NAVA, want to see in the NAVA News? In addition, tell me what you like or dislike, about this, or any other issue!

As I told the Board when I accepted this job, my attitude will be: This is your NAVA News, not mine, not the board’s, not any one individual’s. So you, dear member, need to tell me what you want to see.

Stumped for ideas? Well I have some. In addition to our usual excellent crop of scholarly articles, I’d like to see a summary of recent flag changes (like Serbia, Montenegro, and Venezuela), with the reasons behind the change—and with images, of course!

• NAVA membership: Tell us about yourself. When did you get into flags, and why?
• Flag Book Reviews: How about a comparison and contrast? There are new books coming out all the time.
• Special interests: What are yours? Are you only interested in jacks and ensigns? Tell us!
• Collections: I am convinced that many of you out there have some great vexi-collections. Let’s share! Think you have the ultimate Table-Top Flag collection? Show us!

continued on next page
Happy Birthday to Us: 
NAVA Turns 40

NAVA's beginnings can be traced to a full-page notice in the Winter 1966-1967 issue of The Flag Bulletin. Addressed equally to the vexillologists of the United States and Canada, the notice from Dr. Whitney Smith was a call for a conference to take place on 3 June 1967 in Boston, Massachusetts.

The conference held on 3-4 June 1967 gave North American vexillologists their first chance to meet in person, although some had corresponded. This was particularly important because of the healthy mix of scholars, hobbyists, flag manufacturers, and those involved in flag promotion. Sites of flag-related interest were visited. Dr. Smith set up an exhibit of flag books and flags at the meeting rooms at Boston University; others brought small flags or publications as handouts. Participants discussed terminology, flag colors and preservation, ways of making vexillology better known, and the problems of communication and research in the field.

There was broad agreement that a formal association should be launched, not simply to represent North Americans at the international level in FIAV and international congresses, but to offer the benefits of fellowship and scholarship to those throughout the United States and Canada on a regular basis.

That agreement marks the birth of NAVA, which turns 40 this year. (The formal birth certificate—the articles of incorporation—was signed several months later on 19 March 1968.) The NAVA president chosen in June 1967 was Professor Pierre Lux-Wurm, while Dr. Smith was chosen as secretary; there were no other officers.

Everything was brand-new in 1967; the organizers had no guidelines, no obligations, not even any examples from history or from other countries to follow in our work. NAVA would not have survived its early years without the help of people like Dr. Smith, Bob Gauron, Ashley Talbot, Gary Grahl, Emmet Mittlebeeler, Newton Blakeslee, Bill Spangler, Ralph Spence, Ken Hull, John Purcell, John Szala, Harold Diceman, John Lyman, and many others.

Their collective efforts established certain very important principles for NAVA that still govern our mission today: NAVA is open to all interested in any kind of flags, whether hobbyists, scholars, publishers, flag manufacturers, and others; and our emphasis is the study of flags (and related subjects such as state heraldry) as a scientific discipline rather than as a patriotic or commercial or religious endeavor.

The seal is based upon the design of a dream-catcher, the native rings intertwined with feathers, string, and beads that hang from many homes. A brown wooden curved piece of wood forms the outermost part of the seal and is shaped into a perfect circle. Centered within this framework is a stretched surface attached to the outer ring at sixteen distinct points. That surface is divided per saltire (an X-shaped division) divided into the four sacred colors of most Native American peoples. The top wedge is white and bears the silhouette of an eagle soaring overhead. The wedge at the hoist side is black, the fly end wedge is yellow and the bottom wedge is red and bears the image of Chief Ackley wearing a full headdress in white accented with black. Below the Chief's image is the identifier “Chief Willard L. Ackley” in two lines of black block letters. Crossing the “equator” of the seal is a Chippewa canoe bearing two Indians edging through a lake of wild rice beds, the traditional food of the Chippewa for centuries.

The Indian to the hoist is seen paddling while the other is harvesting the rice from the lake. Where the image lies on the black wedge, all items are shown in white; where the image lies upon the yellow all images appear in black. The handle of the paddle, some of the rice plants and the individual harvesting and his tool cross over into the upper white quadrant and appear in black wherever this occurs. The counterchanging of the black and white colors of the central image makes for striking contrast.

While the flag and seal are of 21st century creation, it recalls the long history of the Sokaogon people from the harvesting of wild rice through the centuries, the fight for federal recognition and now, with a flag, emergence into the present as a modern people. Chief Ackley would be pleased.

The Flag of the Sokaogon Band of Lake Superior Chippewa

By DON HEALY

Seventy years after acquiring federal recognition, the Mole Lake Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, now known by their native name the Sokaogon Band, have adopted a tribal flag. The flag honors both the long heritage of the Chippewa or Ojibwe or Anishenabe people and the man who worked tirelessly to gain that federal acceptance back in 1937, Chief Willard L. Ackley.

While based in Mole Lake, Wisconsin, the new name Sokaogon actually means “People of the Post” based upon the spiritual significance to the local Chippewa of a large post, possibly the remains of a petrified tree, found in the appropriately-named Post Lake.

The new flag is white and bears the tribal seal in the center. While no significance is known to have been given to the white background, it is generally accepted as a symbol of peace.

OF NOTE

50-Star Flag Waves Longest

This year marks the anniversary of the longest-flying flag in United States history. On 4 July 2007, the current 50-star flag will have flown for 47 years, which meets and exceeds the previous record held by the 48-star flag. Some brief facts:

50-Star Flag: Hawaii became a state on 21 August 1959, and President Dwight D. Eisenhower ordered the stars arranged in nine rows of stars staggered horizontally and eleven rows of stars staggered vertically. This arrangement took effect 4 July 1960. The flag was official for 47 years this year and nine presidential terms.

49-Star Flag: On 3 January 1959, Alaska was admitted to the Union, placing the 49th star on the flag. President Eisenhower on that day provided for the arrangement of the stars in seven rows of seven stars each, staggered horizontally and vertically. This flag was official for just one year and one presidential term when the 50-star flag was born.

48-Star Flag: On 4 July 1912, the United States flag grew to 48 stars with the addition of New Mexico (6 January 1912) and Arizona (14 February 1912). President William H. Taft’s Executive Order of 24 June 1912 established the flag’s proportions and provided for arranging the stars in six horizontal rows of eight each, a single point of each star to be upward. This flag was official for 47 years and eight presidential terms, longer than any other flag except one, through two world wars and the emergence of the U.S. as the leading nation of the world.

For more, visit www.usflag.org.
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NAVA 41: Hartford CT, 12-14 Oct 07

Driver Award Guidelines

1. The Captain William Driver Award was created in 1979 for the best presentation at the NAVA annual meeting. It is named in honor of Captain William Driver, who christened the United States flag “Old Glory”. The award is generously cosponsored by the commercial members of NAVA.
2. The award consists of a certificate and US$250.
3. The executive board shall determine the recipient of the award based on the criteria given below. At its discretion, the executive board may determine that no presentation delivered at the convention has met the criteria for the award and decline to give an award that year.
4. The criteria for the award follow, in descending order of relative importance:
   a. The presentation should be an original contribution of research or theoretical analysis on a flag or flags resulting in an advancement of knowledge in the field of vexillology.
   b. It should be characterized by thoroughness and accuracy.
   c. It should be well organized and, as appropriate, illustrated.
   d. It should be delivered well, i.e., interesting for the audience as well as informative, such that it is easily comprehensible.
5. No presentation may be considered for the award unless a completed written text is submitted in advance of its delivery.
6. No single individual may be given the award more frequently than once every three years.
7. Because of the conflict of interest, current members of the executive board are ineligible for the award.
8. If at all possible, the executive board shall not give the award jointly to co-recipients. In extraordinary circumstances, the executive board may recognize another presentation with the designation “Honorable Mention”.
9. As a condition of being considered for the award, presenters agree that NAVA has the right of first refusal to publish their presentation in either NAVA News or Raven: A Journal of Vexillology within two years of the presentation date. This right of first refusal extends to both the actual recipient of the award and the remaining non-recipients. A presenter who desires to have his or her presentation published elsewhere may decline to have the presentation considered for the award, provided that the presenter makes this fact known before the presentation is delivered.
10. These guidelines should be distributed to presenters in advance of the annual meeting.

Make Plans to Attend NAVA 41

The annual meeting of NAVA will take place in the Hartford suburb of Glastonbury, Connecticut, 12-14 October, 2007. Participants will enjoy top-notch presentations (see the Driver Award Guidelines in the sidebar), a tour of the Connecticut Historical Society’s flag collections, and interaction with like-minded flag enthusiasts for an entire weekend.

For those who cannot attend, registration as an "absentee registrant" brings a package with all materials received at the meeting by attendees. And watch NAVA News for the final selection of the meeting’s flag. See the NAVA website for the schedule, registration form, and payment information: www.nava.org.

Call for Meeting Papers and Flag

If you wish to present a paper or set up a display at NAVA 41, please mail the following to 1st Vice President Devereaux Cannon by 1 July 2007:
1) Your name, address, telephone number, and e-mail address if available;
2) Title of your paper, presentation, symposium, workshop or exhibit;
3) Abstract of your paper, presentation, symposium, workshop or exhibit;
4) Type and size of exhibit area and/or equipment needed, including tables, electrical requirements, Audio/Visual equipment, etc.

Please send a complete copy of the paper (in publishable form in both hard copy and electronic file) by 1 September 2007. Presenters who have not provided this copy will be deleted from the meeting schedule.

Send materials to:
Devereaux Cannon
c/o Old Republic Title
201 4th Ave N, Ste 150
Nashville, TN 37219-2011
USA
(615) 244-2101
e-mail: vp1st@nava.org

NAVA reserves the right to accept or reject any presentation without prejudice.

To submit a design for the NAVA 41 meeting flag, e-mail submission(s) to Devereaux Cannon by 30 June 2007. With a color rendering of the design, include your name, address, telephone number, and email address if available. By snail mail, postmarked no later than 30 June 2007, to:
Devereaux Cannon
159 Womack Rd
Portland TN 37148-5454
USA
The Scottish National Party (SNP) won 47 seats in the Scottish parliamentary elections held 3 May 2007; its leader, Alex Salmond, will be first minister. The party’s victory prompted the cartoon above. According to the party, “The primary aim of the SNP is to take Scotland forward to independence.” (The letters “SNP” appear on Mr. Salmond’s tie in the cartoon. The dreaming man is presumably British prime minister Tony Blair.)

The idea of Scottish independence may not be as fantastic as it seems. Scotland’s population of just over 5 million is greater than that of Norway or Ireland, and comparable to Denmark and Finland. Like Norway, Scotland has extensive oil reserves in the North Sea and additional resources of wind and tidal energy. The independence movement also appears to have significant popular support. Actor Sean Connery, himself a lifelong Scottish nationalist, wrote in a recent op-ed piece that “The debate on an independence referendum is one for another day, and I firmly believe that the answer will be yes.”

The vexillological consequences of Scottish independence are food for considerable thought. The removal of the Scottish saltire from the Union Flag would likely prompt a redesign of the flag, which might, in turn, spark a discussion on the appropriate representation of Northern Ireland. There is also the question of Wales. Because of its status as a principality of England, Wales has never been represented on the British flag; however, it is possible that popular demand might trump heraldic purity.

Ironically, the Scottish Socialist Party proposed last year that the Scottish saltire flag should be replaced because it does not reflect the cultural and ethnic diversity of modern Scotland. Apparently this idea has not yet achieved significant traction.

References
NAVA News Contest!

As many of you know, U.S. state flags are not known for their originality, and the derogatory term for many is “Seal On A Bed Sheet.” So, on the following two pages are state flag designs proposed by NAVA member Clay Moss to rectify that situation. Your job is to identify those designs.

Here’s how the contest works:

1) On a sheet of paper, write out numbers from 1-36.
2) Identify each state as represented by its hypothetical new flag.
3) Send your entry to the address below.
   Note that entries are due by 1 September 2007.
4) The answers, with descriptions behind the flag proposals will be announced in the next NAVA News along with the winners.

The address for entries is:
NAVA News Flag Contest
P.O. Box 328
Cockeysville, MD 21030

For example, proposed designs for the flags of Florida and Kentucky are shown in this column. Note that each state will only have one new design on the pages, but they might include Florida and Kentucky!

Coast Guard Re-Establishes Storm Flag Program

By TED KAYE
The U.S. Coast Guard is re-establishing a Coastal Warning Display (Storm Flag) program at selected Coast Guard boat stations to warn the public of approaching storm conditions. Coast Guard stations participated in the National Weather Service’s (NWS) official Coastal Warning Display program for over 100 years until it was discontinued in 1989. Coast Guard Capt. Jim McPherson, said “Storm flags are a nautical tradition for mariners and the Coast Guard is pleased to bring back this part of our maritime heritage…These nautical flags are intended to visually communicate to the American public the lesson of past hurricanes to take personal responsibility for individual safety in the face of an approaching storm.” Starting 1 June 2007 selected boat stations will hoist flags to alert seafarers to small craft advisories, and gale, storm, and hurricane warnings. Coastal residents are urged to tune to NWS radio broadcasts for the latest information when they observe a flag hoisted as part of this program. Source: www.newsblaze.com
The Arms and Imperial Banner of

By GUSTAVO TRACCHIA & RAÚL JESÚS ORTA PARDO

While to Dr. Samuel Johnson “history is a narrative of miseries”, fortunately—when seen through vexillology—history is nothing but joy, pride, and fascination. Reading about and researching the symbolism of the Imperial Banner of the Pahlavi Dynasty is an excellent example.

The Imperial Banner consists of a pale-blue field with the national flag in the upper hoist and the Pahlavi arms in the center. Over the arms is the Pahlavi Crown and below is the Imperial motto. (Fig. 1)

The banner’s pale-blue field was chosen by the first Pahlavi although the blue was already in fashion with the preceding Qajar Dynasty (1808-1925). In the canton is the national flag, depicted as the traditional horizontal tribar of green, white, and red. At the center of the white stripe appears the ancient device and astrological symbol—the Lion and the Sun—despite the Islamic culture and religion of the country. The green, white, and red tribar echoes many historic Iranian/Persian flags which used one, two, or all three of these colors in many forms and vexillographical renditions.

Attributes and Symbology

The Imperial Banner’s main device is the Pahlavi coat of arms: a circle quartered in cross and bordered Or (yellow) with Argent (white), Gules (red), and Sable (black) rosettes which are seen in the cornices of ancient buildings. (Fig. 2)

The first quarter is enameled pale blue with a lion armed with a scimitar and accompanied by a rising sun standing on a terrace, all Or and Argent. This quarter shows the best-known symbol of Iran: the Sun and the Lion, ancient figures with a long history in Persia. They appear on a flag from 1423. (Fig. 3) (The Lion and Sun symbol was chosen as the equivalent of the Red Crescent [International Red Cross] during the 1899 Hague Convention. The Red Lion and Sun was in use until 1980 when the Islamic Republic waived the rights granted by that convention, choosing the Red Crescent instead.)

The second quarter is enameled Gules with the “Faravahar”, a representation of the Persian God Hormoz or Ahura Mazda: a winged man holding a diadem in Or and Sable, with streamers in Argent, accompanied to the dexter by a sun Or. This evokes an image from ancient Persia, the spread-eagle emblem of the standard of Cyrus the Great, one of the glorious rulers of the ancient world. (Fig. 4) Hormoz or Ahura Mazda, the “wise lord”, was the supreme god of the Persians, whose cult was propagated by the legendary prophet Zarathustra. According to Zoroastrian teachings, Ahura Mazda created the world, mankind, and all good things in it.

The third quarter is enameled Sable with an ornamented border in Argent and Or, showing a scimitar
in Argent and Or accompanied by a star Or at the sinister. The scimitar represents "Zulfigar", the "Sword of Ali"—a sacred symbol to Shi’ite Muslims. The Sword of Ali was delivered from heaven by God to the Prophet Mohammed, to be given to Ali, his son-in-law. The five-pointed star is called the panj tan paak (the holy five), or the People of the House, representing the Prophet Muhammad, Ali, Fatima (the daughter of the Prophet and wife of Ali), and their two sons Hasan and Hussein. (Fig. 5)

This quarter holds the essence of Islamic Shi’ite belief. The black background alludes to the flag of the Quraish, the dominant tribe of Mecca to which the Prophet Muhammad belonged and said to be the "flag of the Prophet" (although many question this assertion). Some scholars claim the Prophet used flags of different colors, while others believe that his flag was white. That color represented opposition to old beliefs: the Prophet’s criticism of the polytheism practiced by members of his own tribe (which resulted in his famous Hegira—fleeing away—from Mecca to Medina, due to their persecution of him and the threats to his life).

The fourth quarter is enameled Azure and charged with a Senmurv, a beneficent creature from Persian mythology. Part bird, part mammal, Senmurv distributed plant seeds to mankind—a function with definite royal implications. It may equate with other mythical birds as the Greek phoenix and Hindu Garuda, together with Horus of the Egyptians and Kukulkan (or Quetzalcoatl) of the pre-Columbian cultures of Meso-America. Senmurv is described as very large, and so old that it has seen the destruction of the world three times over. (Fig. 6)

Over all is a circular inescutcheon, enameled pale blue and bordered by a circular band of pearls Or typical of the Sassanid period, representing coins of the Sassanina. (Fig. 7) (Sassanid kings ruled Persia from 226 A.D. until the mid-7th century when the Arabs overran them and replaced Zoroastrianism with Islam.) The main element is the snow-covered mountain Or and Argent, known to all Iranians as Mount Damavand, behind which rises a sun Or with five rays. About that iconic 5,671-meter-high mountain, photographer Nasrollah Kasraian has said: “Persepolis is the glorious remnant of ancient Iran. Imam Reza’s shrine is the pride of Islamic Iran. But the ever-graceful Mount Damavand is the only Iranian symbol free from the constraints of history and ideology. Empires, governments, and tribes have come and gone. Religions have fallen in and out of favor. And amidst all this social instability, Damavand has been a tower of stability and constancy; our only true, reliable friend.” (Fig. 8)

In the arms, a crown Gules and Argent forms the crest. The Imperial Crown, “Pahlavi”, created for the 1926 coronation of Reza Shah the Great, was unlike Western European crowns but similar to the crown used by the Qajar Dynasty that it succeeded. (Fig. 9)

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A Functional Approach to Flag Specification: 
The Flag of Fort Wayne, Indiana

By PETER ANSOFF
Art by PETER ORENSKI

It’s almost a mantra among NAVA members that flags should not have lettering on them. The logic behind this is that a flag’s primary purpose is to fly from a pole, which makes the lettering difficult to read. There’s also the point that most flags are “one sided,” so that any wording is backwards on one side. (All hail the Great State of Sionilli!)

This reasoning is correct as far as it goes. However, it’s worth remembering that flags exist to perform more than one function, and are used in venues other than outdoor flagpoles. For example, civic flags in particular are often displayed flat in municipal and state offices, meeting chambers, etc. In this environment, a name or motto on a flag is not illegible or backwards, and arguably makes the flag more distinctive. What we have here is a classic example of the truism that form follows function. The definition of a “Good Flag” depends in part on what the flag is to be used for. The city flag of Fort Wayne, Indiana, provides an imaginative example of how one community has recognized this.

The flag of Fort Wayne (Fig. 1) was rated 52 out of the 150 flags in the NAVA City Flag Survey in 2004. The most likely reason for its low rating was the lettering around the central disk. After an interview with survey organizer Ted Kaye, the Fort Wayne Journal Gazette observed that “Removing the ‘Fort Wayne Indiana 1794’ and making the fort bigger would vault our banner to near the top of the list.”

The design used in the survey was based upon an example that Dr. John Purcell, principal author of “American City Flags,” photographed in the office of the Mayor of Fort Wayne.

The newspaper story resulted in a short news spot on the “21 Alive” television news program in Fort Wayne, which aired on 30 November 2004. The spot showed a city flag flying on the City/County Building downtown, and the flag in the spot did not have lettering. (Fig. 2).

Which version was correct? It turns out that both were—sort of. The relevant language in Title I, Section 11.02 of the Fort Wayne Code of Ordinances reads as follows:

“(J) The words “Fort Wayne” or the abbreviation “Ft. Wayne” in standard block letters, blue upon the white band (or bands) or white upon either of the three blue fields, may be used at the discretion of the maker, but neither the word nor the abbreviation shall constitute a part of the official specifications of the emblems.”

The “official specification” of the flag thus matches the one flying on the City/County Building, without lettering. The one that Dr. Purcell photographed in the mayor’s office contains the “Fort Wayne” inscription, as allowed by the code, but also the words “Indiana” and “1794”, which are not mentioned in the code.

The code also allows a special variant of the flag for use when it is displayed vertically:

continued on next page
Sussex County, Delaware

The flag of Sussex County was designed in 1974 by William C. Scott of Selbyville, Del. Scott was a member of a committee appointed by the County Council to plan the county’s 1976 observance of the U.S. bicentennial. The Council adopted the flag on 3 December 1974. It currently flies on local public buildings and is available as a decorative “front-end” license plate (Delaware is one of about a dozen states which do not require a license plate on a vehicle’s front end, allowing for interesting alternatives).

Sussex County traces its history back to the 17th century. The first Europeans arrived in 1631 at what is present-day Lewes, and then with William Penn’s 1682 charter grant from James, Duke of York.

The Sussex flag is unusual among U.S. county flags—not simply a “seal-on-a-bedsheet” but a rather well-thought-out design that incorporates symbols related to the county’s history. The horizontal red-white-blue tricolor evokes the Netherlands’ flag, recalling the first settlers in what is now Delaware who came from there. The wheat sheaf symbol has long associations with William Penn, whose Pennsylvania colony originally included land on the south side of the Delaware River. The sheaf appears as a crest on the county seal, and also as one of the charges on the seal of Pennsylvania (which in turn appears on the Pennsylvania state flag).

“I did more time in research than anything else, maybe a couple of months,” said Mr. Scott, now 73 and still living in Selbyville. “The key to whatever I was going to design was simplicity.” He examined other flag designs, clipped newspaper articles about vexillology, and pored over books about Sussex County’s history. It was that research that led him to a design that, while seemingly simple, drew upon Sussex County’s Dutch and English beginnings.

Designers of civic flags could do worse than emulating the approach taken by Fort Wayne. A flag exists for a reason, and should be designed and judged according to how well it fills its intended functions.

2 Purcell, John. Email. 1 December 2004
Conclusion

The arms on the Imperial banner reflect the multicultural history, religion, and traditions of an important country which still very much affects our lives today. Starting in the 1920s, Reza Pahlavi wanted to modernize his country and was harshly criticized by many of his subjects for his pro-Western ideas. His central role was a system of power uniquely personal but he did bring many positive changes in the role of women, the rights of small peasants, and more widespread education. However, he did not forget his country’s traditions and history, which vividly appear on the devices chosen for his arms.

Acknowledgments

The authors would like to thank Peter Orenski for creating the renditions of the shield and arms, and especially acknowledge Maryam Ekhtiar, research associate in the Department of Islamic Art, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York City. Dr. Ekhtiar reviewed the research and added data, corrected mistakes, and expanded information. Mamnoon to them both!

Figure Sources

Fig. 1: http://www.fotw.net/flags/ir_imp-i.html
Figs. 2, 9: Peter Orenski
Fig. 3: http://www.iranica.com/articles/v10f1/v10f103fig18.html
Fig. 4: http://www.crystalinks.com/faravahar.html
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Fig. 6: http://webhome.idirect.com/~donlong/monsters/Html/Senmurv.htm
Fig. 7: http://www.grifterrec.com/coins/sasania/sas_rs/ard_i_i_sas_ardf_i_rs_o.jpg
Fig. 8: http://www.iranian.com/Sep96/Arts/Damavand/Damavand.html

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The supporters are two lions regardant Or (yellow), with uprooted tongues Gules (red) and armed with scimitars Argent and Or, recalling the ancient Lion and Sun symbol of the Iranian monarchy.

The Imperial Order of Pahlavi is pendant at the base, on a chain Or and Gules. On a symmetrical ornamental pedestal Or rests, in addition, a pale-blue pennant bordered Or on which appears in Arabic letters the dynastic motto: “Māra dād farmud, va Khod Dāvar Ast” (“Justice He [God] bids me do, As He will judge me”). The medallion of the Order of Pahlavi is the same emblem as the inescutcheon.
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CHUMLEY THE VEXI-GORILLA

Chumley the Vexi-Gorilla™ is the creation of Michael Faul, editor of Flagmaster, the distinguished journal of the Flag Institute in the United Kingdom. To a field not often blessed with humor’s grace, Mr. Faul brings a delightfully light touch, deep vexillological roots, and sparkling whimsy.

Member Passwords

NAVA members need a password to access the Members Only section of the NAVA.org website. To receive or renew your password, follow these steps:
1) Go to http://members.nava.org or
   Go to NAVA.org and click on the “Member Login” link.
2) Enter your member number in the “Member ID” box.
3) Click on “Forgot Password” and an e-mail with your new password will be sent to the email address on record.
Alos, update your Member Profile and Member Flag. Email Shane Seivers, NAVA Webmaster, at webmaster@nava.org with any questions, suggestions, or concerns.

Raven Special Members-Only Offer

Back issues of Raven at reduced prices! Because of the delays in the previous notice, we’re extending this offer!
Consider a gift to your local school or library.
Raven volumes 5,7,8,11,12,13: $10 each (usual price $15)
Raven volume 9-10, American City Flags: $20 (usual price $35)
Prices include U.S. postage and are good for orders placed only through September 30, 2007. Contact treas@nava.org for Canada/foreign shipping costs.
Send payment and shipping information via PayPal to treas@nava.org or to the NAVA mailing address.

President: Moving Forward

continued from inside front cover
(FI was founded in 1971.) However, I’d hesitate to say that we are the oldest in the world—you never know who might come out of the woodwork! October is approaching fast. If you haven’t made your reservations for NAVA 41 in Hartford, don’t wait—it promises to be another fine conference. Looking farther down the road, we’ve heard informally from our colleagues in the Vexillological Association of the State of Texas (VAST) that they are working on a proposal to host NAVA 42 in the Lone Star State. I’m quite excited about this possibility, since my exposure to Texas is currently limited to changing planes at DFW Airport. Then again, I certainly have the impression that the folk there are quite flag-crazy (which is a Good Thing, of course!)

Flaggily,
PETER ANSOFF
President

Committee Seeks Nominees

The NAVA Nominating Committee is putting together a slate of candidates for the board of directors to be proposed at NAVA 41 in October. All five officer positions (President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer) are up for election. If you are interested in serving on the board, or would like to propose a candidate, please contact one of the nominating committee members: Carl Gurtman, cgurtman@maine.rr.com, 207-363-4920, Dave Martucci, vex@vexman.net, 207 845-2857, and Rich Monahan, rmonah@netzero.com, 330-262-5760. The Bylaws describe officers/board members duties; the Bylaws are available in the members-only section of the NAVA web site.
The Stars and Stripes

In 1999, the U.S. Postal Service issued commemorative stamps showing real and imagined versions of the U.S. Flag over the years. Dr. Whitney Smith provided the historical commentary printed on the reverse of each stamp, while David Martucci was responsible for making sure the facts in the commentaries were correct.