Dear Fellow NAVA Members,

Thank you for the honor of serving as your president for the coming year. The expressions of support and confidence from many of you have been both encouraging and humbling. I stand on some mighty big shoulders of past presidents and hope that my efforts will be found worthy of comparison to theirs. I am equally fortunate that you elected an able and willing board to provide advice, counsel, and assistance as I enter into my duties. Elected office—whether governmental or organizational—is necessarily a position of mutual trust. Trust on the part of the leaders that the members will give them the flexibility and latitude to make paths through and around a variety of shifting challenges. Trust on the part of the members that the leaders will listen, encourage, guide, counsel, and decide issues in a way that considers and balances competing viewpoints while achieving a shared vision.

To borrow from my fellow Texan, Lyndon B. Johnson, I believe that our organization “cannot be made strong by leadership which reacts only to the needs or the irritations or the frustrations of the moment. True leadership must provide for the next decade and not merely the next day”. In the next decade, NAVA will turn 50—a unique and significant milestone in vexillology. My leadership philosophy is to provide for the next decade by maximizing member participation, encouraging shared values, articulating a clear vision of the organization’s future, and building respect for the roles and tasks necessary to achieve that vision.

If we are to ensure that NAVA remain one of the preeminent vexillological associations in the world over the next decade, it is imperative that every member give of his or her talents. Only by harnessing our diverse individual skills and knowledge can we keep NAVA as a young and dynamic organization despite our longevity of existence.

Contact Hugh Brady: pres@nava.org

This does not mean that NAVA members need to make a particularly onerous commitment—but I believe we should all make a commitment of some kind to NAVA. A simple goal on your part of recruiting one new member or contributing a short item to NAVA News over the coming year would be a tremendous contribution to sustaining and expanding our work. For those with more time, designing new programs, serving as an appointed officer, or organizing a regional meeting or annual NAVA meeting could be more ambitious goals. But let me be clear: no contribution of time and effort to NAVA is too small and all are welcome.

I look forward to visiting with as many of you as I can over the coming months about how your executive board can help provide for the next decade. And please always feel free to call or write me with thoughts, issues, and concerns.

Again, thank you for this opportunity to serve you and I hope that you join me in looking forward to the coming year with excitement for our possibilities.

HUGH BRADY  PRESIDENT

Cover photo: Texas flag merchandise displayed in a Congress Avenue shop in Austin, Texas during NAVA 42. Photo by Ted Kaye

NAVA News
PETER A. ANSOFF, EDITOR

HUGH BRADY, JOHN A. LOWE, DAVID B. MARTUCCI
EDITORIAL BOARD

North American Vexillological Association
FOUNDED 1967
A MEMBER OF THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF VEXILLOLOGICAL ASSOCIATIONS

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Call for Proposals/Notice of Meetings

NAVA 43: The next annual meeting of NAVA will be held in Charleston, S.C., 9-11 Oct. 2009. To volunteer with the organizing committee, please contact Ted Kaye at treas@nava.org.

23 ICV: JAVA (the Japanese Vexillological Association) will host the 24th International Congress of Vexillology 12-17 July 2009 in Yokohama, Kanegawa Prefecture. For more information, visit: http://yokohama.fiav.org.

NAVA 44: If your local group might like to host NAVA 44 (2010), please contact NAVA president Hugh Brady at pres@nava.org.

24 ICV/NAVA 45: NAVA and the Chesapeake Bay Flag Association will host the 24th International Congress of Vexillology in 2011. 24 ICV will convene in the Washington, DC area in conjunction with NAVA 45. For more information, contact Peter Ansoff, pastpres@nava.org.

Call for Articles for Raven 16

Raven seeks material for its 2009 volume and beyond. Proposed articles should be from 300 to 5,000 words and present new scholarly findings relating to flags. Send the text and images on computer disk in Word Perfect or Word (no Mac) with images as separate jpeg files, along with a paper copy and any associated photographs or figures, to: Ted Kaye, Raven editor, 2235 N.W. Aspen, Portland, OR 97210-1218.

Use a minimum of formatting and do not embed graphics or footnotes. All articles will be reviewed for acceptance by the Raven Editorial Board and may be edited for length, style, consistency, and clarity. Authors will sign a publication agreement and copyright will vest in NAVA. The deadline for submission for consideration in the 2009 review cycle is 15 February 2009.

New Members for 2008

NAVA’s Executive Board thanks those who renewed their membership during the past year, and welcomes these new members for 2008:

Mr. Ray Anthony, Bristol, England
Ms. Elaine Bagwell, Dublin, California
Mr. Gerald Baranzyk, Hayward, Wisconsin
Mr. H. William Beare, Jr., McNeil, Texas
Mrs. Elizabeth Brown, Falls Church, Virginia
Mr. Werner Camps, Tessenderlo, Limburg, Belgium
Dr. Steven Carol, Scottsdale, Arizona
Mr. Paul Carrol, Portland, Oregon
Mr. Rich Dansizen, Mapleton, Illinois
Mr. Thomas Davis, Maryville, Tennessee
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Mr. Todd G. Greenawalt, Everett, Pennsylvania
Dr. Gene Hertzog, Green Valley, Arizona
Dr. Richard Hobart, Pembroke, Ontario
Mr. Matthew Knowlan, Lake Elmo, Minnesota
Mr. Ervin Laskowski, Poth, Texas
Mr. Will Levin, New York, New York
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Mr. Gregory Nedved, Brooklyn, Maryland
Ms. Nichol Nelson, Glendale, Arizona
Mr. Billy Newkirk, Jr., Louisville, Kentucky
Mr. Chris Potgieter, Jeffreys Bay, South Africa
Ms. Hadley Powell, Fort Worth, Texas
Mr. Jeffrey Read, Rockville, Maryland
Mr. Jeremy Roth, Munich, Bavaria, Germany
Mr. Lawrence Soucier, Austin, Texas
Miss Sabina H. Starin, Portland, Oregon
Mrs. Sarah Brady Strange, Mayfield, Kentucky
Ms. Katherine Trinkle, Sacramento, California
Hon. Leticia Van de Putte, San Antonio, Texas
Mr. George Walters, Norcross, Georgia
Mr. Jeff Williams, St. Louis, Missouri
Mr. Eric Zavadil, Poughkeepsie, New York

MILESTONES

HALF STAFF

“I would like to nominate this year’s meeting as one of the best coordinated I’ve ever attended”, says seasoned NAVA hand Jon Radel. And well he should—the 42nd Annual Meeting of NAVA ran smoothly and took place in the most opulent setting yet—the Renaissance Revival-style Texas State Capitol.

Over 50 members of NAVA and their guests convened in Austin, Texas from 10-12 October 2008 for NAVA 42. They enjoyed outsized Texas hospitality, an opening reception hosted by the Texas Trial Lawyers Association, scholarly presentations, flag displays, a flag-filled tour, a short business meeting, a formal banquet, and the company of like-minded vexillologists. Austin mayor Will Wynn (what a great name for a politician!) officially greeted attendees with a letter in the meeting program. The event marked the 75th anniversary of the official re-adoption of the Lone Star Flag in 1933.

The warm Austin weather matched the welcome of the organizing committee, members of the co-sponsoring Vexillological Association of the State of Texas (VAST): Kin Spain, James Liston, Pete Van de Putte, and especially Hugh Brady, the local organizer extraordinaire.
To begin the weekend’s tour schedule, Hugh reprised his first job as a guide in the capitol, showing off the history, art, and politics of the grand old building Friday night. A highlight was the original San Jacinto Battle Flag in the Senate chamber.

Then Saturday, the Center for American History at The University of Texas received the busload of NAVA visitors, pulling a dozen outstanding flags from its extensive collections so that staffers Lynn Bell and Helen Graves could have NAVA members provide expert consultation on items with mysteries in their provenance or identification. Another stop on the tour took in the Austin History Center to see the original 1919 Austin City Flag on display.

The Saturday night banquet took place in the Lt. Governor’s Reception Room, an elegant suite, with an outstanding banquet generously sponsored by Texas state senator and new NAVA member Leticia Van de Putte.

Dr. Robert T. Maberry, Jr., director of the Historical Flags of Texas conservation project, gave the keynote address on the history of Texas flags, and signed copies of his authoritative work Texas Flags.

Dr. Maberry received VAST’s inaugural William Wharton Award, given to a person making an outstanding contribution to Texas vexillology, while Michel Lupant, FIAV’s president, and Whitney Smith, founder of organized vexillology, were both named “honorary Texans” by proclamation of the state’s governor.

During the meeting sessions on Saturday and Sunday, eight members presented on a variety of flag topics (see page 5), emceed by program chair Gus Tracchia. Annie Platoff, a research librarian at the University of California, Santa Barbara, won the prestigious Captain William Driver Award for the second time, for her entertaining, informative, and colorful presentation “Lions and Babrs and Bears: Analyzing the Flags of Russia’s Federal Subjects”.

In special presentations, Dr. Peter Keim summarized his new book A Grand Old Flag and showed two important flags from his collection, while describing his theory of why the stars and stripes were selected in the original design.

NAVA member and JAVA liaison Zach Harden spoke about plans for the 23rd International Congress of Vexillology, to be held in Yokohama in July 2009.
Christopher LaPlante, from the Texas State Archives, shared the founding documents of Texas vexillography, including the original sketches for the 1835 flags and the 1878 law formalizing the Lone Star Flag as the state’s emblem.

The entire board of FIAV (the Fédération internationale des Associations vexillologiques) also attended the meeting, in part to confer with NAVA’s board about the upcoming 24th International Congress of Vexillology in the Washington, DC area in 2011. Traveling the farthest to attend was Sanjay Rao, from the Indian Vexillological Association, who came from his home in Andhra Pradesh.

The flags of past NAVA meetings lined the Capitol Auditorium, and NAVA member Tom Green’s extensive collection of historic Texas flags decorated the corridor of the Capitol Extension. The popular “Vexi-Bits” session provided an opportunity for an eclectic “show-and-tell” of interesting flags and flag stories. The Vexillonnaire Award went to Peter Ansoff (see page 9), and Al Cavalari, NAVA Shopkeeper, sold out of NAVA hats.

During the business meeting, the slate proposed by the nominating committee was elected by acclamation. NAVA’s 2008-09 officers are: Hugh Brady—president, Gustavo Tracchia—first vice president, Annie Platoff—second vice president, Bill Trinkle—secretary, and Ted Kaye—treasurer. Minutes of the business meeting are available in the “Members Only” section of the NAVA website.

The group photo appears on page 14; more photos from NAVA 42 are on the NAVA website: www.nava.org.

Participants in NAVA 42 returned home with many souvenirs, including a NAVA 42 flag, flags bought at very attractive prices at the auction benefiting NAVA, and memories of an informative and entertaining weekend devoted to camaraderie and flags.
NAVA 42 PRESENTATIONS

Backwards and in the Dark: Some Observations on U.S. Flag Etiquette
Peter A. Ansoff

County Flags: Developments in British Vexillology
Graham M. P. Bartram

History of the First Republic of Texas Flag
Thomas Bruce Green III

The Saga of the John Shaw Flag
Richardson A. Libby

Flags over Sikkim
Michel R. Lupant

Lions and Babrs and Bears: Analyzing the Flags of Russia’s Federal Subjects
Anne M. Platoff

What is Vexillology?
Whitney Smith

Two Years into a Vexillological Adventure: The Bear Flag Museum
William J. Trinkle

NAVA 42 especially thanks:

Advertising Flag Company for supplying the large meeting flags;

Annin & Company for producing the table flags;


CONTEST CORNER

The Franco-British Union Flag Contest (continued)

In NAVA News 198, we announced a contest to design a flag for the alternate-historical “Franco British Union” of 1940. We’ve extended the deadline until 31 January 2009, the closing date for NAVA News 201.

Note that your design does not have to be limited to some kind of combination of the existing British and French flags. The idea is not just to come up with an attractive design, but one that would fit realistically into the could-have-been-historical scenario. Remember that this would be a union of two proud and individualistic nations, each of which has its own strong vexillological history and tradition. Also, it’s likely that there would be variants of the flag for use as regimental colors, naval ensigns and jacks, aircraft insignia, etc.

Send your submissions to navanews@nava.org.
NEW FLAGS

United We Stand

NAVA member Hugh Warner and his wife, Gail, proprietors of U.S. Flag Service in Frederick, Maryland, have designed the “United We Stand” flag. It won the flag and banner design competition at the September 2008 meeting of NAVA’s cousin NIFDA, the National Independent Flag Dealers Association, in Atlantic City, New Jersey.

Warner writes that the flag “represents our great country and the freedom we all cherish so much… and it shows our pride along with our great American flag”. He based the design on an image of the ca. 1837 26-star Kingsboro flag, depicted on p. 92 of the 1973 Mastai book, The Stars and Stripes. FlagZone, of Gilbertsville, Pennsylvania, manufactured the first run of flags.

U.S. Flag Service bills itself as the nation’s largest historical flag dealer, and has been in business over 30 years. Warner served with the U.S. Army in Vietnam, the Army Reserve, and the Air National Guard, last active during the first Gulf War. Gail Warner considers that the flag “just has a warm feeling and is so pretty”.

The flag is available at a special discount to NAVA members by calling 800-USA-FLAG.

The MLK, Jr. Flag

Like many other Americans, Dwayne and Maria Ross displayed flags for seasons and holidays on their home. No flag, however, uniquely symbolized the national holiday celebrating the birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr. In 1998, Maria decided to design her own flag for that occasion. She started with a photograph of Dr. King that had been in her family for many years, placed it on a US flag background and added the slogan “Yesterday’s Dream / Tomorrow’s Reality”. She had one actual flag made to her design, and the family displayed it on Dr. King’s birthday and throughout Black History month each February. Maria’s mother liked the flag so much that she would borrow it to display on her own home as well.

When she borrowed the flag to display from a podium at a school’s King Day celebration, the school asked to display the flag for Black History Month. The real impetus to “go public” however, came on “Juneteenth”, 19 June 2000. On that morning, the Ross family awoke to find a seven-foot cross burning on the lawn of their suburban home. This ugly hate crime inspired them to spread the word about Maria’s flag, and make it available to the public. Ten years after the original design, they were able to obtain licensing from the King family and have flags manufactured for sale by Valley Forge. They founded Ross Flags (www.rossflags.com) to sell the flag in a variety of sizes, both as a horizontal flag and as a vertical banner.

continued on page 9
RAVEN 15

With its 2008 volume, NAVA’s scholarly journal Raven continues its standard format: several excellent articles on varied flag topics. Four were presented first as papers at NAVA’s annual meeting in 2007; they all represent the pinnacle of vexillological scholarship in North America and include the winner of the Captain William Driver Award. All five articles answer questions (or raise more) about the history of flags or a specific flag, about how flags were used, and about some of the deeper issues of flag design. Their scope spans four centuries and four continents. Vol. 15 comprises:

A Striped Ensign Flag in Philadelphia in 1754?
Peter Ansoff, NAVA president and determined debunker of revolutionary-war-era flag myths—Annandale, Virginia.
The flag of the East India Company has been frequently cited as a possible precursor to the U.S. flag, in part based on an engraving showing it flying in Philadelphia Harbor in 1754. This incisive and well-researched analysis demonstrates that in decorating a view of the city, the artist simply lifted an image of a “Bombay Grab” from an earlier engraving—the ship and flag were never in America.

The Oregon State Flag
Carita M. Culmer, retired librarian and former NAVA second vice president—Ashland, Oregon.
Oregon’s flag, the only state flag with a different image on its reverse, uses the escutcheon from the state seal and the beaver as its primary design elements. This article, by a native Oregonian, explores the origins of the seal in the 19th century and the flag in the 20th century.

Flags in Context:
A Discussion of Design, Genre, and Aesthetics
Perry Dane, professor of law at the Rutgers School of Law—Camden, New Jersey.
NAVA’s 2006 publication of its flag-design manual Good Flag, Bad Flag inspired a lengthy analysis and critique of its meaning, importance, and limitations, arguing for a more expansive view of flag design. This paper received the 2007 Captain William Driver Award.

Standard Messages:
Institutional Identity and Symbolism in Chinese Postal Flags, 1896-1949
Lane J. Harris, Ph.D. candidate at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign and lecturer at Central Washington University—Ellensburg, Washington.
The Chinese post office used flags to mark its facilities—buildings and vehicles—during an era when it served as one of the only unifying institutions in an otherwise fractured nation ruled by factions, warlords, and quasi-states. From the “Flying Goose” to the “automatic canceller mark”, its flag designs invoked speed, loyalty, and reliability.

The Argentine Flag in Monterey
Gustavo Tracchia, NAVA vice president and Ottfried Neubecker Award-winner—Kew Gardens, New York
When the Argentine flag flew briefly over the California port town of Monterey in 1818, it represented not conquest but rather a call to join the Americas-wide revolt against Spanish rule. This article explains the full and complex story behind Captain Hippolyte de Bouchard’s actions.
BOOK REVIEW

Collecting the Flag
BY TED KAYE

A year after Madaus & Smith’s *The American Flag: Two Centuries of Concord and Conflict*, another gorgeous volume has come along, telling the story of the U.S. flag through the holdings of a personal collection. This time it’s from Peter Keim, a retired family-practice doctor, and his architect son, Nathan, who over 30 years have amassed what they call “one of the richest and most comprehensive collections of antique Stars and Stripes held by one family”.

The father-son duo weaves a deeply meaningful interpretation of the history of the U.S. flag, in a lavishly-illustrated volume in the full Dorling Kindersley style of colorful, active images on every page bursting from the glossy white background. Nathan brings an architect’s eye to flag design and construction, a welcome and unusual perspective.

Due to the book’s broad scope, it can be forgiven its propagation of a few flag myths—such as the “war stripe” or the misattribution of the Confederate Stars and Bars’ design to Mrs. Napoleon Lockett—and for other minor historical errors. It is not primarily a history book although the historical background provided is extensive and useful; the history included in the book should be treated as the context for understanding the flags themselves.

Depicting over 100 flags and even more related images, the book is a visual and vexillological delight, with excellent production values. Its chronological narrative follows states’ admissions and number of stars in the canton. Among the gems: a rare 19-star printed parade flag, an unusual 32-star (8-8-8-8) flag celebrating Minnesota’s admission, and a 33-star flag flown by Union troops at the Battle of Bull Run in 1861.

With easily twice the text of Madaus & Smith, the book is particularly strong in its explanation of textile technology, history, and terminology, and of their application to flags. NAVA member and antique flag dealer Jeff Bridgman has already given away 50 copies!

The Keims advance an interesting new theory of why the U.S. flag uses stars and stripes—they attribute the stars to the astronomical fascination of Francis Hopkinson and others (spurred by the 1770 Rittenhouse Orrery and the Lextell Comet the same year), and the stripes to the lashes of a whip (symbolizing for the colonists provocation and defiance). Dr. Keim articulated this theory in his presentation at NAVA 42 in Austin (above).

The outsized book (10” x 10”) includes a separate poster, with an innovative “Timeline of the Stars and Stripes”, a stunning 64-inch fold-out showing years (1755-1975), presidents, wars & conflicts, state admissions dates & maps, and key events in national, flag, & textile history, along with a nice little “Star-Spangled Banner History” and, on the back, 16 more flag images.

More than yet another pretty “picture book” on the U.S. flag, *A Grand Old Flag* is a loving but discerning tribute to the Stars and Stripes and a beautiful and important addition to the libraries of flag enthusiasts everywhere.

Contact Ted at treas@nava.org
Peter Ansoff Named Vexillonnaire for Virginia Municipal Flag Efforts

The Vexillonnaire Award, established in 2003, recognizes a significant and successful act of activist vexillology, involving flag design or usage, in North America. It honors the “engaged vexillologist”—someone who goes beyond the limits of descriptive study. The vexillonnaire becomes personally involved in a specific event of: creating, changing, or improving flag design, or promoting good flag usage or altering it for the better, or leading similar accomplishments in activist vexillology.

The Award honors a vexillonnaire who acts with documented success, informed by sound vexillological or vexillographic knowledge, in a distinctly public manner.

The winner of this year’s Vexillonnaire Award is NAVA member and immediate past president Peter Ansoff, of Annandale, Virginia.

In the past years he has skillfully guided the flag-design efforts in the Virginia communities of Annandale, Springfield, and Leesburg, helping the local organizers run contests and judge proposals leading to the successful adoption of striking flags.

He has shown that much of that success is attributable to the political work behind the flag- adoption process, perhaps even more than the designing of the flag itself. (In fact, one of those three communities, Leesburg, is currently backtracking on its flag adoption!)

In naming Peter, NAVA’s Vexillonnaire Committee also recognized his work as NAVA’s president over the past four years in supporting NAVA members’ flag-design efforts throughout the U.S. and Canada. Members of the committee are chosen from among those who have been named vexillonnaires in the past. Awards may be made annually.


Thanks go to Peter Ansoff, NAVA’s newest vexillonnaire, for promoting good flag design and usage, showing that vexillology is a big tent, and can accommodate a wide range of participation, from distant and necessary scholarship to hands-on work with flags themselves.

At right: the flags of the Virginia communities of Annandale, Springfield, and Leesburg.

MLK Flag, continued from page 6

The flag was unveiled at the King Center in Atlanta on 24 May 2008 and has since been displayed at events in California and Texas. It now flies daily at the King Center.

As Maria Ross says, “This flag is a constant visual reminder of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s vision. If we are to continue to move forward, we must go back and rediscover that Dr. King’s dedication to justice, peace, and brotherhood lies within each of us. We are the enablers that contribute to making his dream become a reality.” Once again, a piece of colored cloth has become a source of inspiration, hope and pride. Strange, isn’t it, how flags can do that?

NAVA News wishes to thank the Ross family, especially Lori and Maria, for providing information and photos of the MLK, Jr. flag.
Mystery Flags

NAVA members promptly identified the mystery flags shown in *NAVA News* #199.

**World Sunday School Association Flag**

Fellow Texans David Ott and Dave Pawson both identified the “By This Sign Conqueror” flag as that of the World Sunday School Association.

Dave Pawson writes:

The mystery flag tentatively identified as “Lutheran” was the flag of the World Sunday School Association, an interdenominational organization that promoted Christian education. The WSSA was founded in 1889, renamed the World Council of Christian Education in 1947, and absorbed into the World Council of Churches in 1971.

(I first encountered this flag about 8 years ago, and was told that it was associated with the Ku Klux Klan. I deduced that this could not be true when I started seeing postcards on eBay featuring this flag being carried by black, Asian, and Hispanic children—see below.)
The flag was introduced in 1901, designed by the Reverend S. M. Johnson. It appeared on buttons and postcards, especially for Rally Days (days when a church would attempt to gather in their wayward sheep), until at least 1916.

I have not yet found anything with a date beyond this, and fear that the advent of WWI may have contributed to the flag's disappearance.

Dave also mentioned that he has prepared a paper about this flag that he was unfortunately unable to present at NAVA 42. His short piece on this flag is posted on FOTW at: http://www.crwflags.com/fotw/flags/christia.html.

Images courtesy David Pawson.

Chinese Generalissimo Flags

Of the matchbox cover illustrating Chinese flags from about the 1920s, Dr. Philippe Rault, a NAVA member in Brittany, France, writes:

The two mysterious flags [at the lower left and lower right] . . . were the flags of Generalissimo and Lieutenant-Generalissimo of the Chinese Army between 1912 and 1928. I found this in our excellent Belgian friend Roger Baert’s publication Vexilla Mundi. [The flags are also cited on FOTW, citing as the original source a plate from the New York Sun dated 28 February 1912.]

Please send your “Mystery Flags” to NAVA News at navanews@nava.org.
RAVEN Volumes Available to New Members

NAVA's annual journal, Raven, brings the pinnacle of North American vexillological scholarship to members. For a limited time, volumes 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 13, 14 (1998-2007) are on sale at $5 per copy. Plus, American City Flags, vol. 9/10 (2002-03), is on sale for $20. Through this offer, we hope to share NAVA's resources, especially with newer members who have missed those volumes.

Send order and payment to 1977 N. Olden Ave. Ext., PMB 225, Trenton, NJ 08618-2193, or via PayPal to treas@nava.org. Deadline = 1/31/09.

Honor Roll of NAVA Contributors
December 2007—November 2008

NAVA gratefully acknowledges the generous contributions of its members and friends. Their support makes NAVA programs and publications possible.

Contributors to the NAVA Annual Fund
Phil Allen
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Roy McGinnis (in honor of Gavin McGinnis)
Rich Monahan
St. John's Parish
William J. Trinkle

Contributors to the American City Flags, vol. 9/10 (2002-03)

Contributors in memory of past NAVA leaders:
(Devereaux C. Cannon, Grace Rogers Cooper, John R. B. Szala, and Harry Oswald)

NAVA Classifieds


NAVA News wants your articles and other vexi-news from around North America

Nearly all of the content of NAVA News comprises contributions from our members and other members of the vexi-community. We’re always looking for short articles, news about members’ vexillological activities, photos, pictures, and descriptions of new and interesting flags, etc. If you’d like to submit an item for publication, contact the editor, Peter Ansoff (navanews@nava.org). The publication schedule is:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue No.</th>
<th>Deadline for Submissions</th>
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Don’t wait—get started now on that article you’ve been meaning to write!

Member Passwords

NAVA members need a password to access the Members Only section of the NAVA.org website. The Members Directory there is very useful. To receive or renew your password:

1) Go to http://members.nava.org or Go to NAVA.org and click on “Member Login”.
2) Enter your member number in the “Member ID” box (it’s on your mailing label).
3) Click on “Forgot Password?” and an e-mail with your new password will be sent to the email address on record.

You can also update your Member Profile and Personal Flag. E-mail Shane Sievers, NAVA webmaster, at webmaster@nava.org with any questions, suggestions, or concerns.
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 FLAG

The Maddish flag has 20 stripes emanating from the central star into the four corners, in four bands of five stripes each. The flag has three meanings:

1. 20 is an important number for the most mathematically-developed pre-Colombian civilization, the Maya, who came up with the concept of zero and had a base-20 numbering system, independent of the Old World, thus 20 stripes.

2. The 20 stripes also represent the 20 states that remained in the Union after the Confederate states seceded, in four bands:

Northeast:  ME, MA, NH, CT, RI  (New England)
Southeast:  NJ, NY, PA, DE, MD  (Eastern/Middle Atlantic; in original 13)
Northwest:  OH, IN, MI, IL, WI  (West of original 13, east of Mississippi)
Southwest:  MN, IA, CA, OR, VT  (West of Mississippi except VT, the first after 13)

3. The heavenly body of Ceres (Ambiguous Asteroid/Planet)—the five-pointed star also represents the 5th planet in our solar system, Ceres.

Recently the IAU has promoted (reclassified) this asteroid as a Dwarf Planet. A MySpace video explains Chris’s point of view:
http://www.myspace.com/the5thplanetfromthesun

Flag of Christopher Maddish, of Jenkintown, PA

For all NAVA Members’ flags, see:
http://www.nava.org/NAVA%20Membership/FlagRegistry.php

Members are encouraged to send in their personal flag designs for inclusion in the NAVA Member Flag Registry. Send your photos/drawings/images and descriptions to navanews@nava.org or mail to: Member Flag Registry, 1977 N. Olden Ave. Ext., PMB 225, Trenton NJ 08618-2193 USA.
NAVA 42  Austin, Texas  2008

Outer Circle (l to r):  Martin Francis, MaryAnn Docktor-Smith, Randy Smith, Vanessa Van de Putte, Leticia Van de Putte, Pete Van de Putte, Gil Vegas, Andy Biles, David Yañez, Joe Donovan, Tom Green, Margo Green, James Liston, Jon Adcock, David Ott, Jon Radel, Scot Guenter, Peter Turek, Gus Tracchia, Kin Spain, Michael Platoff, Annie Platoff, Graham Bartram, Hugh Brady, Christopher Maddish, Rich Monahan.


Not shown:  Neil Abelsma, Tom Edwards, Brian Erickson, Peter & Patricia Keim, Dennis & Janie Moore, Whitney Smith, Larry Soucier.

North American Vexillological Association
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Thank you!