Canada’s Black Loyalists
Page 7

The John Shaw Flag in the Maryland Statehouse. For more information, see page 2.
Dear Friends:

This issue of NAVA News represents a new beginning for the Association. The first all-digital edition restores this publication to its historical purpose of publishing matters related to Association business and summarizing current vexillological information appearing in other media.

Soon, you will receive the first issue of the Flag Research Quarterly in the mail. The FRQ provides a forum for vexillological scholarship and commentary complementing—and not competing with—Raven: A Journal of Vexillology, which remains our pre-eminent publication for original scholarship.

The reorientation of our publications program was prompted by the diligent work, over 25 years, of NAVA News editors Grace Rogers Cooper, James Croft, James Liston, David Martucci, and Peter Ansoff to publish high-quality vexillological articles that aid in understanding how flags aid in our understanding of the human condition.

Peter especially built on the work of these editors and it was his work, together with Ted Kaye, Jack Lowe, and Martucci, to bring you and other flag scholars thoughtful and useful articles, commentary, and reporting. I especially want to thank these four gentlemen for their work on NAVA News these past four-and-a-half years.

As the world of vexillology changes, the Association must provide financial support to test innovative ideas. The FRQ is a prime example where the Board, after a review of current programming, determined that we needed to rethink the status quo and chart a new course to fill the void left as vexillological journals ceased or suspended publication.

We must challenge our deep-seated and outmoded assumptions about creating value for members and scholars. We cannot assume that we are already doing the “right” things and that our only concern is to improve efficiency and communication about what the Association is doing.

Working to create meaningful value and promote collaboration should become our standard operating procedure. Starting and maintaining dialogues with colleagues in other fields ought to the standard, not the exception. And prudent use of our financial resources that provides an opportunity to advance vexillology should be the standard by which we measure how we fulfill our non-profit purpose.

As we approach our 50th anniversary in 2017, I hope that we will use the next few years to have honest, open, and productive conversations about how we can best promote the scholarly study of flags.

HUGH BRADY
PRESIDENT

COVER PHOTO / PHOTO DE PAGE COVERTURE

The John Shaw Flag
A corrected replica of the important Revolutionary-era John Shaw Flag now hangs in the Maryland State House, thanks to the efforts of Association member Richardson A. (Dick) Libby.

The original flag flew over the State House as the U.S. Congress convened there in late 1783. Maryland’s governor and council ordered John Shaw (the chief mechanic, maintenance supervisor, and carpenter of the state house) to make two U.S. flags in preparation for the Congress’s move to Annapolis.

No drawing or other notes remain for the design of these flags. In 1983, designs were postulated and flags were made with the help of Grace Rogers Cooper (curator of textiles at the Smithsonian Institution, author of “Thirteen-Star Flags: Keys to Identification,” and editor of NAVA News, 1987-1995). One replica, with the canton in the upper left corner, was flown exactly 200 years after the original flags’ debut.

However, Libby subsequently found a 1794 painting of the state house showing the flag’s star field running along the entire hoist. Based on his advocacy, a corrected replica now hangs in the state house. (See NAVA News 203: 2-3)

Contact Hugh Brady: pres@nava.org

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Call for Meeting Papers and Displays

If you wish to present a paper or set up a display at NAVA 47, please mail the following to First Vice President Gustavo Tracchia by 30 June 2013:

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.
5) Notice if you do not wish to be considered for the Captain William Driver Award.

Please send a complete copy of the paper (in publishable form in both hard-copy and electronic file compatible with Microsoft Word with high-resolution image files) by 31 August 2013. Presenters who have not provided this copy will be deleted from the meeting program.

Send materials to:
Gustavo Tracchia
82-67 Austin St. #205
Kew Gardens, NY 11415
USA
(718) 847-2616
e-mail: vp1st@nava.org
The North American Vexillological Association / Association nord-américaine de vexillologie reserves the right to accept or reject any presentation without prejudice.

“Join your fellow members in Salt Lake City, Utah, for the 47th annual meeting of the North American Vexillological Association. We plan an exciting flag-filled program, hosted by the Utah Flag Association.”

John Hartvigsen
NAVA 47 Committee

NAVA 47 Info

REGISTRATION
Registration forms are online: <www.nava.org>. **Early registration fee is just $135.**

Meeting Deadlines:
- Early registration—30 May 2013
- Papers/Displays, concept—30 June 2013
- Regular registration—31 August 2013
- Papers/Displays, final—31 August 2013
- Hotel reservation—14 September 2013

MEETING HOTEL
Salt Lake Plaza Hotel
122 West South Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah, USA.
Reserve: (800) 366-3684
Meeting Code “NAVA”.
Rooms are set aside for NAVA 47 registrants at $99/night plus tax. Triple and quadruple rooms are $109/night. Parking is available at the hotel for $5 daily.

<http://www.nava.org/nava-meetings/meetings/47>
South American Field Report

By TIAGO JOSÉ BERG
OPPOSITE TOP: The national flag flying in the Colombian Capitol, Bolívar Square, Bogotá. TOP LEFT: The presidential flag of Colombia and the flag of the Colombian National University, Bogotá. BELOW (Clockwise from left): The flag of the State of Rio de Janeiro, showing detail of the coat of arms. The national flag of Monaco and the Monegas princely standard, Consulate of Monaco, São Paulo. The Vatican flag in a church in Araras (São Paulo). Note the incorrect ratio of 3:5. The flags of the Federal University of the State of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, and Rio de Janeiro. TIAGO JOSÉ BERG
City Flag Hits the Street
By EDWARD B. KAYE

Portland Flag Association member John Niggley first spotted them—Portland city flags on N.E. Multnomah Street. Installed in the fall of 2012, they are part of a $200,000 “traffic-calming” project on 16 blocks of that street.

According to Ross Swanson, the project manager, the goal was to proportion the street to meet the existing vehicle capacity by reducing the number of lanes and adding a non-drivable buffer, painted the new “beeswax” no-drive color.

The Portland Bureau of Transportation’s earlier “Going to the River” project had placed several speed bumps on N. Michigan Avenue. The team placing the thermoplastic warning chevrons on the speed bumps added several extra decorations, including a palm-sized city flag. That little flag received enthusiastic feedback and inspired Swanson to put larger flags on N.E. Multnomah.

Swanson, trained as a landscape architect, is a big fan of the Portland city flag, and uses it as his computer’s desktop image. He provided the vendor with a CAD image, which became a template for the colored thermoplastic flag which was then torched to the pavement.

The city placed ten flags at a cost of about $300 each. They measure about 3 by 5 feet, and closely match the official colors.

They have spurred interesting questions, such as “Why put the Norwegian flag on the street?” and “Isn’t that the Timbers’ flag?”—this second is quite reasonable, as the Timbers Army (the fan group of Portland’s major league soccer team) flies the Portland city flag more than any other group or location—including the city.

Contact Edward B. Kaye: kandsons@aol.com
Black Loyalists were inhabitants of British America of African descent who joined British colonial forces during the American Revolutionary War.

The British strategy aimed both to recruit soldiers and to undermine the Southern plantation economy. Many had been enslaved and decided to join the British in return for promises of freedom—up to 100,000 slaves took refuge behind British lines. However, as the British retreated at the end of the war, the British gave many of these blacks a certificate of freedom and arranged for transport to Canada, Florida, and the West Indies.

Over 3,500 Black Loyalists were evacuated to Nova Scotia and New Brunswick in 1783, although subsequent problems with land grants, climate, and violence led nearly half to emigrate to Sierra Leone after 1791. The economic situation gradually improved for those who remained, and a large number of their descendants live in the region.

The Black Loyalist Heritage Society, based in Birchtown, N.S., is "committed to discovering, interpreting, safeguarding, and promoting the history and heritage of the Black Loyalists." It maintains a Black Loyalist registry, publishes a newsletter, sponsors archeological research, and runs a museum.

On 15 March 2006 the Canadian Heraldic Authority granted arms and a flag based on those arms to the society.

According to the Authority, the appearance of the shield portrays directly the nature and purpose of the Black Loyalist Heritage Society. The shield’s background is black. Loyalist civil coronets allude to the vast majority of people fleeing on fleets of ships who were non-combatants. The ship’s wheel is taken from the emblem in use for some time, and represents the ship bringing the settlers to their new homes. On one hand, the wheel represents the past, alluding to the ships of the landing in 1783. On the other hand, it represents the present, alluding to the Society’s role of community development, with the various interests meeting together and steering towards a goal.

On the crest, the lion and coronet represent the soldiers under the banner of the Crown whose actions allowed the people to settle in Nova Scotia. The anchor alludes to the sacrifice of the families that required them to raise anchor in their previous home and set down in their new home. The mantling’s ermine spots . . . represent apparent footprints symbolizing the trek the settlers had to make.

The supporters consist of two lions, symbol of the pride of Africa, demonstrate courage, since the people needed that quality to face the hardships and to start a new life. The two coronets are shown red and green, which, together with black and gold, are the colors of Africa. Each coronet can represent new life emerging from sacrifice. The rock is the land area around Birchtown where the settlers landed in Nova Scotia, represented by the provincial flower, the mayflower.

The motto “speaks to the interest in their heritage displayed by the Black Loyalist Heritage Society members.”

The Loyalist coronet is a crown designed by the Authority to honor those institutions, such as cities and societies, which had loyalist ties.

James Croft is the director of the Institute of Civic Heraldry.
Contact him: jccroft@comcast.net
In October 2012, the House of Flags Museum in Columbus, N.C., exhibited the 48-, 49-, and 50-star National and Presidential Colors of the Eisenhower Oval Office for the first time in history. Over 1,000 visitors took advantage of the opportunity to see the Oval Office flags and learn about their history. As museum director, I prepared short lectures on the evolution of the president’s flags since the 1916 Woodrow Wilson version, accompanied with period photographs of the flag-making process. The Douglas family also shared the story of how the flags came into their possession. The 48- and 49-star versions were on loan from the daughter and son-in-law, Donna and Chuck Douglas, of Ludwell B. Pruett, who was in charge of White House flags for the Quartermaster Corps during the 1950s. The 50-star versions were on loan from the Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum.

The president’s colors are one of the most beautifully made and probably one of the most unappreciated flags in the United States. And yet, it represents the highest civilian office in our nation—the president of the United States, the commander-in-chief of the armed forces. The current design of the President’s Flag dates back to late 1945, during Harry S. Truman administration. That design had its genesis earlier that year with Franklin D. Roosevelt when he questioned if the new five-star flags for generals and fleet admirals appeared to out-rank the president’s four-star flag. President Roosevelt died in April 1945 and was not able to see the fruits of his question.

But the White House staff kept the question of the President’s flag alive while flag expert Commander Byron McCandless, U.S.N. (Ret.) was well into his extremely detailed research. Eventually, while dealing with the issues of World War II winding down, the White House staff, McCandless, and Arthur DuBois, Heraldry Chief, Office of the Quartermaster General, set a new standard for the President’s flag.

In 1959, after the admission of Alaska and Hawaii as the 49th and 50th states, Eisenhower signed two executive orders which modified the Truman design by adding stars for the two new states. Since Alaska was admitted in January 1959, the new 49-star national and presidential flags would become official on July 4, 1959. Because Hawaii was admitted in August 1959 the new 50-star flags would have to wait until July 4, 1960. Everybody knew that the 49-star flags would be short timers and the 50-star flags were already in production. Excitement over the new 49-star flag quickly passed, Eisenhower encouraged everyone to keep using their 48-star flags until the supplies were depleted. By then, the 50-star flags would be the official flags.

Oval Office colors usually stand throughout the president’s four-year term. But the 49-star colors were displayed in the Oval Office for no more than a year before being replaced with the new 50-star versions. The 48- and 49-star colors were replaced by Pruett, who was responsible for securing flags and colors for the White House at the time. He asked for, and received, the old flags as personal gifts. Since leaving the Oval Office, these remained in Pruett’s private storage for over 50 years before being publicly displayed.

The Eisenhower 49-star presidential flag will be on display at NAVA 47, the Association’s annual meeting from Oct. 11-13 in Salt Lake City. The flag will be a tangible part of my planned presentation describing the history of presidential flags. The paper will include highlights from a larger manuscript, “Evolution of the President’s Flags of the United States,” which is now in preparation.

Robert M. Williamson is the Director of the House of Flags Museum in Columbus, N.C. Contact Mr. Williamson: FlagMuseum@gmail.com
**Mid-Century Flags at the White House**

RIGHT: President Eisenhower signs the Alaska Proclamation admitting Alaska as the 49th state, 3 Jan. 1959. L to R, Front: Vice President Richard Nixon; Eisenhower; House Speaker Sam Rayburn. L to R Back: Rep.-Elect Ralph Rivers; Sen.-Elect Ernest Gruening; Sen.-Elect E.L. Bartlett; Secretary of the Interior Fred A. Seaton; Wayne Hendrickson; and David W. Kendall, Special Counsel to the President. BELOW: The 49-star flag is unfurled. NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
LEFT: President Eisenhower signing the Hawaii Statehood Bill, 18 March 1959. NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

CONTEST CORNER

Tough Trivia Ten
By GREG NEDVED

Answers to Last Issue’s Questions:
1. Which nation’s flag was used for target practice in June 2012 war games? A: North Korea (U.S. and South Korea fired at it but never hit it).

2. What two Latin American nations feature the “Sun of May” on their flag? A: Uruguay and Argentina.

3. Who created the 1818 Grand Star Flag that was never adopted by the United States? A: Samuel Chester Reid.

4. What ideology did the flag at the lower right represent? A: Belgian fascism (the Rexist Party Flag).

5. What is the only U.S. state flag with a swallowtail? A: Ohio.

6. What is Robert Barrett’s contribution to flag lore? A: He reported seeing the Star-Spangled Banner flying over Fort McHenry as the British were sailing away (he was a British sailor).

7. What does the “49” on the Absaroka flag represent? A: Absaroka (parts of Wyoming, North and South Dakota, and Montana) would have been the 49th State to join the Union (See NAVA News 209).


9. What is the largest flag ever flown (on a flag pole)? A: A Mexican national flag measuring 34.3 m x 60 m (112 ft. 6 in. x 196 ft. 10 in.) flown by the city of Piedras Negras, Mexico, on 2 December 2011 (according to the Guinness Book of World Records).

10. What is the proper way to dispose of the Canadian national flag? A: Bury it.

Contact Greg Nedved: gnedved@verizon.net

Long Island City, New York
By DAVID B. MARTUCCI

Long Island City was a rather short-lived municipality in Queens County, New York, but it apparently had a flag.

The city was created out of the western portion of the Town of Newtown in 1870, including the incorporated Village of Astoria, and the unincorporated villages of Ravenswood, Hunters Point, Blissville, Sunnyside, Dutch Kills, Steinway, Bowery Bay, and Middleton. In 1898, it became part of the Borough of Queens. Long Island City and Astoria survive as Queens neighborhoods, if not municipal entities.

Long Island City is today represented by one star in the inner circle of the New York Police Department flag, as one of the three cities that formed the City of Greater New York in 1898.

The image of the flag shown here is from the Greater Astoria Historical Society web site, on a now-defunct page. More information and a better photo of the original flag is wanted so that we can document it as a follow-up to American City Flags.

Vexillologists who are local to Queens, New York City, are asked to root around to find out where the actual flag is being held and to try to get high-resolution photos of it so that an accurate drawing can be made. Please rescue an historic flag from the dustbin of history.

Contact David Martucci: vex@vexman.net
FROM THE TREASURER

Association Finances: Another Financially Successful Year

I am very glad to report that our organization is in a sound and positive financial position as we begin 2013. Our final numbers for 2012 show a $4,523 increase in the Association’s reserves for the year.

Both Raven 18 (Canadian City Flags) and Raven 19 were published and sent to our membership during 2012 (with part of Raven 18 expensed in 2011), as was our quarterly NAVA News. We were especially fortunate to receive financial assistance from individual and organizational members to cover a substantial portion of the publication cost for Canadian City Flags. These generous contributions also allowed the Association to order a large supply of this publication, making it available for future purchase and wide distribution.

During 2012, the Executive Board approved a Dues, Budgeting, & Reserves Policy. This policy formalized many of the long-standing financial practices of the organization, including a balanced budget goal for each year’s annual expenses. It also set a policy for planning extraordinary expenditures, and setting a minimum amount of two times the prior year’s membership dues to be held in restricted reserves as a “rainy-day fund”.

One of the huge financial positives of our organization is the willingness of so many talented and committed members to do the work that makes the North American Vexillological Association / Association nord-américaine de vexillologie possible, all without compensation. My predecessor as treasurer, Ted Kaye, served in this position for eleven years, and I would like to both recognize his hard work, and also to express my appreciation for his gracious assistance to implement a smooth transition.

Please contact me or any member of our Executive Board with any questions, concerns, or suggestions with regard to Association finances.

Contact Mary Ann Docktor-Smith: treas@nava.org
ASSOCIATION BUSINESS

2012-2013 Board, Officers and Committee Directory

EXECUTIVE BOARD
President.......................................Hugh L. Brady, J.D., FF
First Vice President.......................Gustavo Tracchia, FF
Second Vice President...............Christopher P. Bedwell
Secretary.......................................John M. Hartvigsen
Treasurer.......................................Mary Ann Docktor-Smith

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Director of the Digital Library ......Anne M. Platoff, M.S., M.A.
Historian .......................................John A. Lowe, M.D., FF
Information Technology Officer.....Shane L. Sievers
Media Relations Officer ................John M. Hartvigsen
Flag Research Quarterly Editor .....Kenneth Hartvigsen, M.A.
Protocol Officer............................James J. Ferrigan 3d
Raven Editor .................................Ken Reynolds, Ph.D.
Registered Agent ...........................Ernest A. Aitchison, J.D.
Shopkeeper...................................Al Cavalari

STANDING COMMITTEES
N.B. The President is ex-officio a member of all committees.

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Convention Committee
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Flag Design Committee
Gustavo Tracchia, Chair pro tempore; Christopher Bedwell.

Membership Committee
John M. Hartvigsen, Chair; Gustavo Tracchia, Vanessa Van de Putte, Cathy Wright, Peter Orenski (emeritus), Edward B. Kaye (advisory), Shane L. Sievers (advisory).

Publications Committee
Hugh L. Brady, Chair; Christopher Bedwell, Anne M. Platoff, and Shane L. Sievers (advisory).

ADVISORY COMMITTEES
N.B. The President is ex-officio a member of all committees.

Cannon Grant Committee
Anne M. Platoff, Chair; Perry Dane, Scot M. Guenter, and Ken Reynolds.

Flag Conservation Committee
Laura Kidd, Ph.D., Chair; James J. Ferrigan 3d, Kenneth Hartvigsen, M.A., Mark Ritzenheim, and Gwen Spicer.

Building 33, the former “Sail Loft,” at the Charlestown (Boston) Navy Yard as it looks today. In June 1873, Admiral George Preble suspended the Star-Spangled Banner from the third-floor windows for its first known photograph. The shutters are gone but otherwise the building appears the same. EDWARD B. KAYE.

Flag Research Quarterly Editorial Board
Steven A. Knowlton, M.L.I.S.; John A. Lowe, M.D., FF; David B. Martucci; Charles A. Spain, J.D.

Raven Editorial Board
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**Dues Reminder**

Memberships run on a calendar basis, regardless of the date a member joins. All dues are payable 1 Jan for the full year; memberships lapse on 31 March if dues aren’t paid. Your online Membership Directory listing shows the last year for which you paid. Visit <www.nava.org> and click the "Renew Membership" on the homepage. You can pay your dues by PayPal <www.paypal.com> to treas@nava.org or by mailing a check to 1977 N. Olden Ave. Ext. # 225, Trenton N.J. 08618-2193 USA.

**Grant Programs**

The Devereaux D. Cannon, Jr. Grant for Research in Vexillology supports original research in vexillology. This $500 grant is awarded on an occasional basis to individuals pursuing research which advances vexillological knowledge in North America. The deadline to apply this year is 30 June.

The Association promotes conservation, preservation, and restoration of historic flags through the Grace Rogers Cooper Flag Conservation Grant. Grants are awarded to museums and other repositories usually in amounts not less than $500. Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis. See <www.nava.org> for more details.

**FLAG HUMOR**

"I need Flag Day off."


**MEMBER FLAGS**

**David R. Mead** Twin Falls, Idaho

The coat of arms and motto are of the historic Mead family line of England, who arrived in America in 1630. The blue and white St. Andrew emblem is the flag of Scotland (on his mother’s side), blue for the ocean and the white of the white caps, also the signal flag for “M”—he is a retired U.S. Navy captain—and the acorns are for his six children, “from little acorns mighty oaks grow.” The green is for this good earth. The proportions are 1:1.3.

**Michael Rudolf** Tunkhannock, Pennsylvania

A green field representing the rural area of his home county, Wyoming County, Penn., is bisected from northwest to southeast by a blue band with a wide fimbriation of white, representing the Susquehanna River (which bisects the county in a similar fashion). The red circle is symbolic of the Christmas character “Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer” (even though the spelling of the name is different).

Members are encouraged to send in their personal flag designs for inclusion in the Association’s Member Flag Registry. Send your photos, drawings, and descriptions to navanews@nava.org, or mail to: Member Flag Registry, 1977 N. Olden Ave. Ext. # 225, Trenton N.J. 08618-2193 USA, or post them directly to the Member Database.
MILESTONES

Membership Anniversaries

40-Year Members: 1973
Mr. Ernest E. Aitchison, Esq., Orland Park, Ill.
Mr. James J. Ferrigan III, Reno, Nev.
Mr. I. Fred Koenigsberg, New York, N.Y.
Dr. Arnold F. Rabbow, Berlin, Germany

30-Year Members: 1983
Mr. Lionel R. Alves, Waterbury, Conn.
Mr. Joseph E. Fallon, Rye, N.Y.

20-Year Members: 1993
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Dr. Harold A. Lubick, Burbank, Calif.
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10-Year Members: 2003
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