

NO. 216 OCTOBER—DECEMBER 2012

NAVA News

The Quarterly Newsletter of the
North American Vexillological Association

NAVA 46 in Columbus, Ohio

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Ohio county flags in front of the
Ohio Statehouse in Columbus
Steve Grant



FROM THE PRESIDENT

A Busy Year Awaits

Friends:

Thank you again for entrusting with the leadership of the North American Vexillological Association by re-electing me as president. I have worked hard to justify this trust and am grateful for this renewed opportunity to serve you.

My philosophy of leadership remains unchanged: focusing on the long- and short-term needs of our discipline while building a collaborative atmosphere of trust and understanding that promotes organizational stability and fosters the ethical use of entrusted authority. I have tried to express this philosophy in my writings in this space over the past year and your many expressions of support and agreement with those thoughts have been particularly encouraging.

I note that the Executive Board has been reconfigured, as Ted Kaye steps down as treasurer after 12 years in that post, and Annie Platoff retires as second vice president after four



years. Ted continues his service to the Association as a member of the Nominating Committee and Annie will continue hers in the new post of director of the Digital Library.

Mary Ann Docktor-Smith begins this board year as our new treasurer

after a year as secretary; as I noted last year, she is a delightful soul who combines savvy business skills with a cheerful demeanor. Christopher Bedwell is our new second vice president; those of you who have attended an annual meeting will know him from his handling of the auction and his administrative skills will be very useful over the coming year. John Hartvigsen is our new secretary and his infectious energy, vision, and enthusiasm for vexillology will be of great use in this key role that includes chairing the membership committee.

Columbus was a bittersweet meeting as we met noting the absence of our departed friend John Purcell in his home state. NAVA 46 was a very good meeting, thanks to the tireless work of David Breitenbach, Peter Kinderman, Bill Belanich and many, many others, including First Vice President Gustavo Tracchia who ably coordinated and chaired the program. NAVA 47 in Salt Lake City next year promises to be an excellent meeting as well based on the sneak preview in Columbus from John Hartvigsen, who is leading the organizing there.

Our completely overhauled website has now gone live, and those of you who have visited it agree that it is a thing of beauty. Shane Sievers, our information technology officer, did a great job coordinating the relaunch of NAVA.org and we are very fortunate to have him working for us. Now that the "front-end" is up and running, Shane is turning his attention to the "back office" part of the website to beef up the members area and provide us with additional technology to make your administrative contacts with the Association

smoother and quicker so that you have more time to study those flags!

As Editor Peter Ansoff notes in his column, I believe that we should have a meaningful discussion about changing the name of *NAVA News* to reflect its growth from a simple mimeographed newsletter about Association business to a significant publication in its own right that provides a forum for original vexillological scholarship complementing *Raven*. The *NAVA News* name does not accurately describe this reality; the name itself does not indicate anything related to flags, which in my view is a serious omission.

Consider the American Historical Association's comparable publications. The *American Historical Review* is similar to *Raven* by publishing the most significant contemporary scholarship in our discipline, while the magazine *Perspectives on History* provides news and information about the historical profession with articles and commentary on all aspects of the discipline, including new research and how history is used by non-practitioners. But both publications' titles indicate their ties to the sponsoring discipline and indicate to librarians and researchers this important tie.

There is plenty more to discuss, but I will close for now. As I am always reminded, the central charge on the NAVA president's flag, the Cheyenne Indian "Woheiv" star, symbolizes hope and guidance. Once again, I will endeavor to provide both in the coming year.

HUGH BRADY

PRESIDENT

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NAVA News

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EDWARD B. KAYE, LAYOUT

STEVEN A. KNOWLTON, JOHN A. LOWE, DAVID B. MARTUCCI,

HUGH L. BRADY, *EX OFFICIO*

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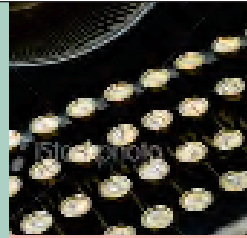
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New Members for 2012

The Executive Board thanks those who renewed their membership during the past year, and welcomes these new members for 2012:

Tyler Amick, *Austin, Minnesota*
 Keith Bassolino, *Annandale, Virginia*
 Jess Bluck, *Bloomfield, Indiana*
 Maria Bluck, *Bloomfield, Indiana*
 David Boyce, *Harrisville, Utah*
 Paxton Butler, *Kansas City, Missouri* (US Flag Store)
 Declan Coles, *Garden City, New York*
 William Gordon Couch, *Baltimore, Maryland*
 Ken Dale, *West Linn, Oregon*
 Wilder Davies, *Denver, Colorado*
 Steven Dieter, *Ottawa, Ontario*
 Abigail Driskill, *San Antonio, Texas*
 Thomas Durbin, *Mansfield, Ohio*
 Chinwe Eburue, *Lagos, Nigeria*
 Michael Esposito, *Mount Prospect, Illinois*
 Xing Fei, *Guangdong, China*
 Belinda Gagné, *Dieppe, New Brunswick*
 (The Flag Shop—New Brunswick)
 Michael Gahan, *Winthrop, Massachusetts*
 Timothy Gallagher, *Amherst, New Hampshire*
 Doug Hansen, *Clovis, California*
 Dale Hawkins, *Tehachapi, California*
 Douglas Hedwig, *Patterson, New York*
 Ryan James, *Salt Lake City, Utah*
 Michael Kerwin, *Groton, Massachusetts*
 Steven Knowlton, *Memphis, Tennessee*
 Amy J. Langston, *Cary, North Carolina*
 Russell Martin, *Hermitage, Pennsylvania*
 Gregory Matson, *Washington, D.C.*
 John McCarter, *Okatie, South Carolina*
 Liam McGinnis, *Brooklyn, New York*
 Ethan McGinnis, *Brooklyn, New York*
 Chris Mitchell, *Atlanta, Georgia* (Federal Flags, LLC)
 Nora Oppenheim, *Washington, D.C.*
 Josh Phillips, *Christiansburg, Virginia*
 David Rehman, *Alameda, California*
 Kenya Richardson-El, *Alexandria, Virginia*
 Darrell Rivers, *Huntington Beach, California*
 Michael Rudolf, *Tunkhannock, Pennsylvania*
 Karl Shehu, *Waterbury, Connecticut*
 DeVaughn Simper, *Taylorsville, Utah*
 Tom Stevenson, *Saint Michaels, Maryland*
 Kelly Swyers, *Mount Uniacke, Nova Scotia*
 John Thomas, *Signal Hill, California*
 Henry P. Van de Putte, *San Antonio, Texas*
 Ralph Visano, *Buffalo, New York*
 David G. Wagner, *Washington, D.C.*
 Jane Walker, *Dubuque, Iowa* (Made in USA Flags)
 Robert Williamson, *Columbus, North Carolina*
 Gary Wilson, *Digby Neck, Nova Scotia*
 Mike Young, *Wimberley, Texas*
 (Eagle Mountain Flag & Flagpole Co.)



EDITOR'S NOTE

Editorial Musings

Dear *NN* Readers,

It was great to see so many old friends in Columbus at NAVA 46, and also to make some new ones. I hope you enjoy the extensive coverage of the event in this issue. We also feature an article by longtime NAVA member Earl Williams that presents some new thoughts on the genesis of the American flag. I suspect that the latter will generate some controversy, which of course is welcome. Disagreement and discussion are the meat-and-potatoes of scholarship.

At the last NAVA board meeting (which I attended in my past president hat), President Brady floated the idea of changing the name of *NAVA News*. As I commented at the meeting, I'm sort of 50-50 about this. On one hand, it's certainly true that *NN* is more than just a newsletter—we're publishing a significant amount of original scholarship as well as the traditional features and organizational news. Also, the current name is somewhat prosaic and doesn't contain any references to its own subject matter (flags and symbols). On the other hand, *NN* has been in publication for nearly a half-century under its current name and has strong recognition in the vexi-community.

It seems to me that the name discussion ought to be a part of the bigger conversation about NAVA publications that I outlined in my previous column. What exactly is *NN*, and what we want it to be? What is the right mix of content for *NN*, vis-a-vis NAVA's other publications (*Raven* and the website)? For example, would it make sense to expand *Raven* to include shorter research articles, and possibly increase its frequency, rather than including such material in *NN*? How is all this affected by the demise of the other major North-American-based vexillological publication, *The Flag Bulletin*, and the reduced publication schedule of the Canadian Flag Association?

I agree with President Brady that this particular topic needs to be thoroughly discussed among the membership. Let's hear your comments! If appropriate, we'll devote some space in future issues to the ongoing conversation.

PETER ANSOFF
 EDITOR

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NAVA 46 Columbus, Ohio 2012

Columbus Day weekend in Columbus, Ohio—a fitting time and place for NAVA's 46th annual meeting, coinciding with the bicentennial of the capital city's founding in 1812. Organized by GWAV, the Great Waters Association of Vexillology, NAVA 46 hosted over 50 flag enthusiasts and guests. David Breitenbach led the organizing committee, assisted by Bill Belanich and Peter Kinderman, succeeding even though none lived locally.

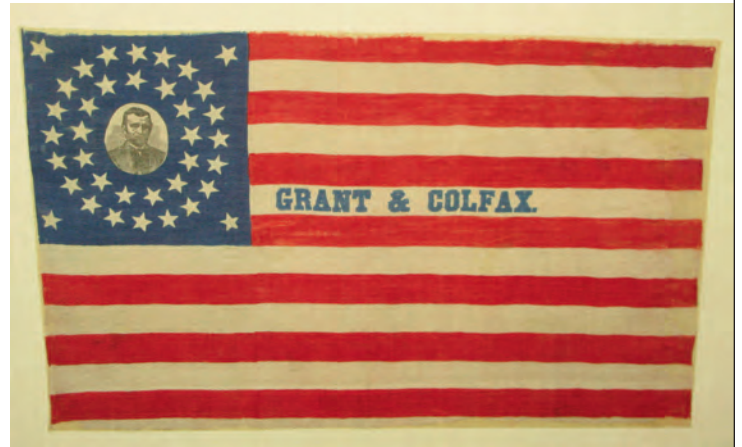


The Renaissance Columbus Hotel served as the venue, providing a central location for the meeting. Many attendees started the weekend by visiting the nearby Ohio

Statehouse, with its guided tours, extensive displays, and many historic flags. As if in



The rear facade of the Ohio Senate Building.



A flag from the 1868 U.S. presidential campaign.

welcome, on the rear façade hung a huge service flag, with two stars, gold over blue. Inside, exhibits celebrated Ohio political history and the eight U.S. presidents from the state.

Before the meeting's formal opening, NAVA's president Hugh Brady hosted a memorial event at the nearby Athletic Club of Columbus for John Purcell, a co-founder of GWAV, a life-long Ohioan, and a member of the organizing committee until his death in June. Several NAVA members spoke with warm memories of John, who generously left much of his flag collection to NAVA to be shared at the meeting.



CFA president Kevin Harrington remembers John Purcell.

At the welcome reception at the hotel, attendees greeted old friends and welcomed new ones, including Xing Fei, a professor at Guangdong University in China, and his sister, Su Wang. Flags of all past NAVA meetings festooned the meeting room and lobby, carefully hung in chrono-



Hanging past NAVA meeting flags.

logical order by David Breitenbach and his volunteers. The FIAV, NAVA, and GWAV flags at the front of the room bore a black crepe header in memory of John Purcell and his role in those organizations.

Jack Lowe led a large group of hungry participants to dinner at a nearby Italian restaurant, extending the camaraderie into



Enjoying the welcome reception.

the evening.

Starting on Saturday morning, first vice-president and program chair Gus Tracchia moderated the presentations for the next two days, including a panel discussion about the future of NAVA, which engaged all attendees in the conversation.



Gus Tracchia.

On display tables flanking the meeting room, flags and books for sale drew eager buyers. From new flags to old, to new and classic flag books, no one left disappointed. It seems one cannot leave a NAVA meeting with a lighter suitcase!



Dave Martucci offering flag items for sale.



Chris Bedwell auctions flags (Magallanes, Chile shown).



Seeing Civil War flags at the Ohio Historical Society.

After a delicious group lunch, all boarded a bus for the Ohio Historical Society for a welcome and tour by Cliff Eckle, a long-time curator who showed the display of ten conserved Ohio regimental flags from the Civil War. He then opened a storage cabinet with even more treasures, not yet conserved, and answered questions. Visitors then spent quality time exploring the rest of the museum and its interesting exhibits.

Saturday evening, after posing for the group photograph while sporting a broad assortment of flag ties, attendees enjoyed a sumptuous banquet, beginning with toasts to the queen of Canada and the president of the United States.

David Breitenbach shared an entertaining slide show which he billed as John Purcell's humble response to all the accolades—images from over 40 years of NAVA meetings culled from John's files. The former Vexillonnaire Award, now named for John, was presented to him posthumously



Enjoying the Saturday evening banquet.



The 2011-12 NAVA Board: Ted Kaye, Annie Platoff, Hugh Brady, Gus Tracchia, & Mary Ann Docktor-Smith.

and accepted by his sister and brother-in-law. A full-sized NAVA 46 flag went to its designer, Bill Belanich.

At Sunday morning's business meeting, NAVA members heard reports from officers and committees and elected a Nominating Committee and officers for 2012-13: Hugh Brady, president; Gus Tracchia, first vice-president; Chris Bedwell, second vice-president; John Hartvigsen, secretary; and Mary Ann Docktor-Smith, treasurer. Spurred by the panel discussion, Jack Lowe proposed a scholarship fund to help young vexillologists attend NAVA meetings, with pledges in hand of \$5,000. Younger members at NAVA 46 included Collin Simpson, Amy Langston, and Adrian Wagner.

After more engaging presentations, the group adjourned and the NAVA board and past presidents hosted new NAVA members at a welcome lunch, then returned for the final presentations. Several attendees presented "vexi-bits". The NAVA board announced the winner of the Captain



Steve Knowlton receives the Driver Award.

William Driver Award: Steven A. Knowlton for his “Pragmatic Unity and Visual Synecdoche in Tennessee Flag Culture”.

In what has become a highly-anticipated tradition, NAVA members bid on flags in an auction led by incoming second vice-president Chris Bedwell. Donated by several generous NAVA members, their sales benefited NAVA. About 30 flags sold—some for high prices (great for NAVA) and some for a steal (great for attendees).

John Hartvigsen concluded the presentations with an invitation to NAVA 47 in Salt Lake City next year. He leads the organizing committee for what promises to be a rewarding and fun event, matching the great job by the GWAV organizers of NAVA 46 in Columbus.

Photos: Ted Kaye

NAVA 46 especially thanks:

Advertising Flag Company for supplying the large meeting flags and **Annin & Company** for producing the table flags, and **Peter Ansoff** for providing AV equipment and support;

Commercial Members of NAVA for underwriting the Driver Award: **Ace Banner & Flag, Advertising Flag, The Bear Flag Museum, CRW Flags, Dixie Flags, The Flag Guys, The Flag Shop, Flags Bay, Herold Flags, Jeff R. Bridgman American Antiques, Preservation Designs, Six-Sided Simulations, & TME Co.;**

Cliff Eckle and **The Ohio Historical Society, GWAV, Peter Kinderman and Flaggs USA, Bill Belanich, Peter Ansoff, VAST, & the staff of the Renaissance Columbus Hotel;**

Peter Orenski, Ron Strachan, Peter Ansoff, Carita Culmer, & Chris Bedwell for their contributions of items for the auction;

The membership of NAVA and its board & volunteers;

and most of all, the Organizing Committee Chair: **David Breitenbach.**

NAVA 46 PRESENTATIONS



A Mole Hill of Summary: Evaluating Graphic Representations of Revolutionary War-Era American Flags
Peter Ansoff



Vexillology on the World Stage
David Breitenbach



A Look at Traditional Chinese Flags across 18 Centuries
Xing Fei



Reciting the Pledge for the First Time in Utah
John M. Hartvigsen



Pragmatic Unity and Visual Synecdoche in Tennessee Flag Culture (Driver Award)
Steven A. Knowlton



The Truth in our Stars: The Symbolism behind their Use in Flags
Amy J. Langston

Terri Malgieri was unable to attend.

Tapestries of Colored Lights
Terri Malgieri
(presented by Mary Ann Docktor-Smith)



Wayne's World (of Flags)
David B. Martucci



Of Tablecloths & Soviet Relics: A Study of the Banner of Victory (*Znamia Pobedy*)
Anne M. Platoff



“A Symbol of our Place in the World”: The Raising of the National Flag on Canadian Warships, 15 February 1965
Kenneth W. Reynolds



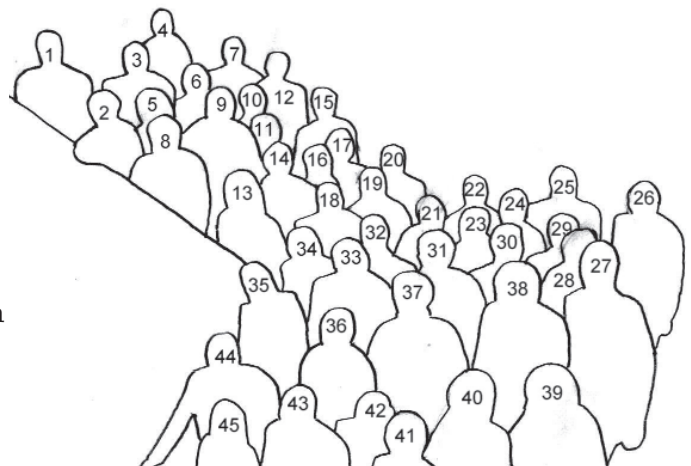
Colors of the Confederacy: Consecration & Controversy
Catherine Wright



NAVA 46 Attendees

- 1 Peter Ansoff
- 2 Adrian Wagner
- 3 Jack Lowe
- 4 Pat Pyles
- 5 Su Wang
- 6 William Belanich, Jr.
- 7 Lowell Pyles
- 8 Gary Randall
- 9 Henry Moeller
- 10 Mark Ritzenheim
- 11 Xing Fei
- 12 Clyde Simpson
- 13 Cathy Wright
- 14 Barbara Moeller
- 15 Hugh Brady
- 16 David Breitenbach
- 17 Collin Simpson
- 18 Peter Kinderman
- 19 Annie Platoff
- 20 Michael Platoff
- 21 Al Cavallari
- 22 Rich Monahan
- 23 James Ritchie
- 24 Sharon Ritchie
- 25 Ken Reynolds
- 26 Gus Tracchia
- 27 Ted Kaye
- 28 Stan Mottaz
- 29 Steve Knowlton
- 30 Christopher Bedwell
- 31 David Ott

- 32 Kevin Murray
- 33 John Hartvigsen
- 34 Christopher Maddish
- 35 David Wagner
- 36 Gwen Spicer
- 37 Kin Spain
- 38 Randy Smith
- 39 David Martucci
- 40 Janet Martucci
- 41 Mary Ann Docktor-Smith
- 42 Scot Guenter
- 43 Kevin Harrington
- 44 Gil Vegas
- 45 Amy Langston



Did Francis Hopkinson Design Two Flags?

By EARL P. WILLIAMS, JR.

On 14 June 1777, the Continental Congress adopted a national flag for the United States. Although no committee of Congress was specifically created to design the flag, it had its origin in the Marine Committee of the Congress.

One might ask why a national flag would have its roots in the Marine Committee. One might expect the Marine Committee to create a naval flag—not a national flag. Would the national flag serve as both? The only man to claim that he designed the U.S. Flag—Continental Congressman Francis Hopkinson (1737–1791) of New Jersey—was also the only person to claim that he also designed the *naval* flag of the United States. When the resolution establishing the U.S. Flag was adopted, Hopkinson was serving as chairman of the committee's Navy Board at Philadelphia. The resolution reads:

*Resolved That the Flag of the united states consist of be distinguished by 13 stripes alternate red and white, that the union be 13 stars white in a blue field representing a new constellation.*¹

(The words “consist of” and “distinguished by” were edited out.)

After the Continental Admiralty Board members adopted a seal designed for them by Hopkinson in the spring of 1780, he wrote them a curious letter on May 25 asking for “payment” in the form of a quarter cask of the “public wine” for designing the flag of the United States, continental currency, other seals, and the Great Seal of the United States, among other items. In subsequent bills to Congress for payment in cash, Hopkinson referred to designing “the great Naval Flag of the United States”, “the Naval Flag of the United States”, and “the Naval Flag of the States”. Although his flag

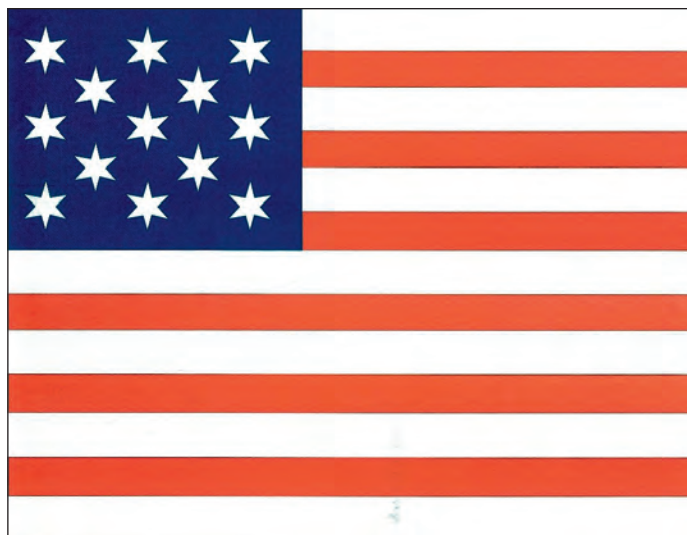


Figure 1. Conjectural drawing of Francis Hopkinson's proposed Flag of the United States of America. (Earl P. Williams, Jr. /The Flag Guys)

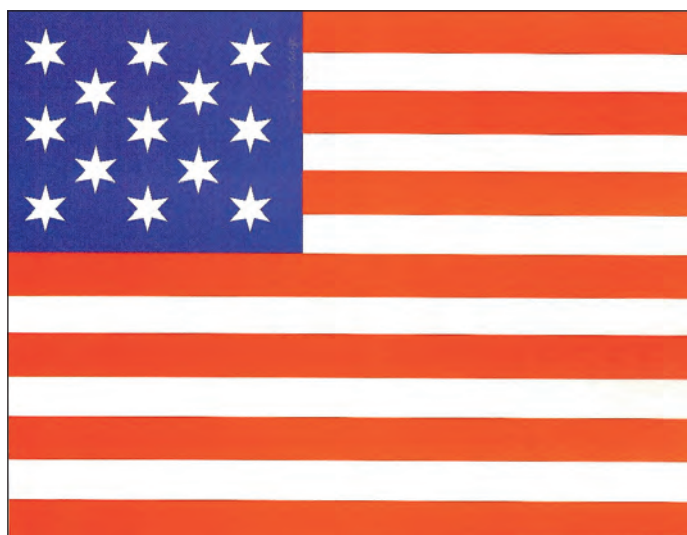


Figure 2. Conjectural drawing of Francis Hopkinson's proposed Naval Flag of the United States. (Earl P. Williams, Jr. /The Flag Guys®)

drawings have not been found, I believe that Hopkinson's U.S. Flag and U.S. Naval Flag were slightly different and that the difference lay in the pattern of the *stripes*.

In the spring of 1780, while Hopkinson was the Continental Treasurer of Loans, Congress tapped him as a consultant to the second Committee on the Great Seal of the United States because of his heraldic expertise. He prepared an obverse and reverse and then submitted a revised version of each. His second obverse for the

Great Seal and the seal that he designed for the Continental Admiralty Board offer clues to how his U.S. and Navy flags might have looked. For example, the outer vertical stripes (pales) of the Board of Admiralty Seal are *red*, which would be more appropriate for a naval flag.² On the other hand, the outer thin, diagonal stripes (bendlets)

of Hopkinson's second obverse for the Great Seal are *white* (argent), in keeping with having red (gules) stripes charged on a white background—a heraldic practice, as with George Washington's coat of arms.

This outer-white-stripe configuration was, in my opinion, intended for the flag of the government, i.e., Hopkinson's Flag of the United States, while the flag with top and bottom stripes of red was for the Navy. My conclusion is that Hopkinson provided the Marine Committee with both designs and that we as a nation (including the government), have preferred his intended Navy Flag. Furthermore, Hopkinson mentioned designing the U.S. Flag only once—in his letter to the Admiralty Board—but mentioned designing the Navy Flag in each of his three bills to Congress. Today, traces of what I believe was his U.S. Flag are found in the Great Seal (the U.S. Coat of Arms), other similar seals, and on the back of the current one-dollar bill.³

Hopkinson added motifs from the U.S. Flag to three of the many seals that he designed: the Seal for the Admiralty Board, his two obverses for the U.S. Great Seal,⁴ and his temporary seal for the Board of War and Ordnance.⁵ He was the first of the many Great Seal designers to add motifs from the Stars and Stripes to the seal.

William Barton served on the final Great Seal Committee. He also prepared two designs. His first design is missing, but a realization of it appears in Patterson. In general, it shows red stripes charged on a white field. For example, on the dexter side of his shield, only the top stripe is red. Charles Thomson, the secretary of the Continental Congress, also served on this committee. His first proposal also ran into similar problems. In general, the pieces on the chevrons that he used show a white field, but since the number 13 (for the number of states) is not divisible by two, the dexter side of his chevron shows a top red stripe.⁶ Congress adopted the final proposal on 20 June 1782. It incorporated Hopkinson's red, white, and blue shield



Figure 3. Great Seal of the United States from the die cut in 1782. Note outer white stripes. (The Great Seal of the United States)



Figure 4. Great Seal of the United States from 1909 print. Note outer white stripes. (Patterson & Dougall)

with outer white stripes; his crest of 13 stars in a cloud; his arrows for war; and his olive branch for peace.

¹ Williams, p. 44.

² Placing the red stripes on the upper and lower edges would make the flag more visible from a distance against a sky background. Special thanks to Harold B. Langley, former Curator of Naval History, Smithsonian Institution, for this insight.

Hopkinson's actual design for the Seal of the Admiralty is known only through a few very poor impressions. The illustration published in *NN* 171 was a 20th-century realization.

³ For an inventory of Hopkinson's designs, see Martucci, pp. 8 and 9.

⁴ When viewing the obverses of Hopkinson's Great Seal designs, if one were to turn the drawings sideways, the constellation of 13 stars (asterisks), which were drawn freehand, would appear in a loose linear pattern similar to the pattern in Hopkinson's Board of War and Ordnance Seal. The closest symmetrical arrangement for this linear pattern is rows of stars in a 3-2-3-2-3 arrangement.

⁵ Knill, p. 27, states that the War Office was using a temporary seal before usage of the new (current Army) seal commenced on 8 March 1779. This temporary seal was possibly Hopkinson's Board of War and Ordnance Seal, which was dated 1778. The temporary seal features a blue flag with 13 six-pointed stars. Donald W. Holst, retired Curator of Armed Forces History, Smithsonian Institution, believes that this flag was an ordnance artillery flag. He further asserts that similar flags depicted in paintings by Charles Willson Peale and his brother James have been misidentified as General Washington's Commander-in-Chief flag (see Holst, Part I, pp. 123–125) and that the flag known as "Washington's Headquarters Flag" in the collection of the Valley Forge Historical Society is also an artillery flag (See Holst, Part II, pp. 171–172). Hopkinson did not list his Board of War and Ordnance Seal design in his bills to Congress. However, this design, when considered with what I believe were Hopkinson's two Stars and Stripes Flags, seems to indicate that he designed three flags for the government: a national flag, a naval ensign, and an army artillery flag. (Whether he specifically designed this flag as an artillery flag is not clear. It could be that the Board of War and Ordnance used the Stars and Stripes as the inspiration for this flag by just using the union of 13 stars on a blue field as a battle flag.)

⁶ See Patterson, chapters IV–V.

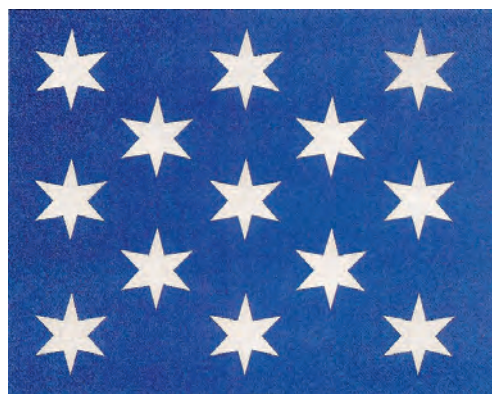


Figure 5. Flag traditionally known as Washington's Headquarters Flag, but believed by Donald Holst to be an artillery "gun flag". Possibly designed by Hopkinson. (Earl P. Williams, Jr. / The Flag Guys®)



Figure 6. Francis Hopkinson (1737–91): self-portrait. (Maryland Historical Society Museum and Library)

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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?
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? *Argentina and Uruguay.*
3. Who created the 1818 Grand Star Flag that was never adopted by the United States? *Samuel Chester Reid.*
4. What ideology did the flag at the lower right represent? *Belgian fascism (the Rexist Party Flag).*
5. What is the only U.S. state flag with a swallowtail? *Ohio.*
6. What is Robert Barrett's contribution to flag lore? *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? *Absaroka (parts of Wyoming, North and South Dakota, and Montana) would have been the 49th State to join the Union (see NAVA News #209).*
8. Which Chicago Cub rescued an American flag from protestors? *Rick Monday, on 25 April 1976 at Dodger Stadium, snatched away the U.S. flag that two protestors intended to burn in the outfield.*
9. What is the largest flag ever flown (on a flag pole)? *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? *Bury it.*

You can reach the Vexi-Quizmaster at gnedved@verizon.net



A New Flag for Manhattan?

By DAVID B. MARTUCCI

A series of recent photos, taken during press conferences in the New York City Council Chambers, seem to show a new flag for the Borough of Manhattan, New York City.

Our previous information, corroborated by earlier photos, was that the borough flag was the same as the city flag but with the seal of the borough president in the center. The recent photos, however, show some modifications to that design by changes in wording. The top inscription appears now to be "Borough of Manhattan" and at the bottom, "November 1, 1683", the date the colony was first divided into counties.

It is not known if this is an official design or not, but it does appear to be in current use.



To complicate matters, a photo of Mayor Michael Bloomberg giving his third inaugural address on 1 January 2010 shows a very different flag, with no lower inscription. This flag very much appears to be somewhat "home-made".



RAVEN 19

With its 2012 volume, NAVA's scholarly journal resumes its standard format: several excellent articles on varied flag topics. Three were presented first as papers at NAVA's annual meeting 2010 in Los Angeles, California; they represent the pinnacle of vexillological scholarship in North America and include the winner of the Captain William Driver Award. Unusually, three of the members of the Editorial Board of *Raven* contributed articles—demonstrating the deep commitment its members have to vexillology and furthering their personal research in the field. Volume 19, edited by Edward B. Kaye, comprises:



Emotion and Flags: A Personal Perspective

John M. Purcell, founding member of the Raven editorial board and professor emeritus of Spanish Language Education at Cleveland State Univ.—Cleveland, Ohio
This compelling essay describes the author's own relationship with flags over a lifetime of engagement and study—this volume is dedicated to his memory.

The Cinco de Mayo Flag Flap: Rights, Power, and Identity

Scot M. Guenter, founding editor of Raven and coordinator of the American Studies Program at San José State University—San José, California
When five white high school students in Morgan Hill, California, flouted a school policy against wearing flag-themed clothing, which had been aimed at reducing tensions on the day celebrating Mexican pride, the media firestorm decrying their treatment roiled the political airwaves.

Utah's Mammoth Statehood Flag

John M. Hartvigsen—leader of the effort to correct Utah's state flag specifications and active participant in the Healing Fields flag displays—Salt Lake City, Utah
As Utah prepared to celebrate its long-awaited entry

into the Union in 1896, locals sewed and displayed from the ceiling of the Mormon Tabernacle the largest flag ever made, a record which stood for 27 years and continued a tradition of large flags in Utah.

The "Forward Russia" Flag: Examining the Changing Use of the Bear as a Symbol of Russia

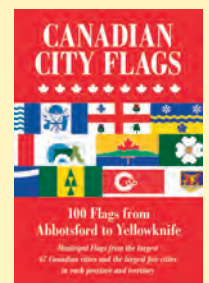
Anne M. Platoff, Slavic Studies librarian at the University of California, Santa Cruz—Goleta, California
A newly-developed flag displayed by avid Russian sports fans in support of their national teams marks a change in the use of the bear symbol—first only used by outsiders to represent Russia but now claimed by Russians as their own.

Applying Sebeok's Typology of Signs to the Study of Flags

Steven A. Knowlton, collection development librarian and assistant professor at the University of Memphis—Memphis, Tennessee
A leading semiotician, Thomas A. Sebeok (1920–2001), developed a useful typology which the author uses to analyze national and subnational flags, exploring them as signals, icons, indexes, and symbols and using extensive illustrations.

Also in the past year:

Volume 18 (2011) appeared as *Canadian City Flags*. This special full-color issue, a counterpart to the Vexillon-winning *American City Flags* (2002–03), covers the flags of 100 municipalities in Canada, including the 67 largest cities in the country and at least five in each province and territory.



The 2011-12 Raven Editorial Board:

Perry Dane, J.D., Rutgers School of Law; Scot M. Guenter, Ph.D., San Jose State University; Anne M. Platoff, M.S., M.A., University of California, Santa Barbara; John M. Purcell, Ph.D., Cleveland State University, *emeritus*; Kenneth W. Reynolds, Ph.D., Department of National Defence (Canada), and Hugh L. Brady, J.D. (*ex officio*), University of Texas at Austin.

Honor Roll of NAVA Contributors

December 2011—November 2012

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

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Call for Articles for *Raven* 20

Raven seeks material for its 2013 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 or Word Perfect (no Mac) with images as separate jpeg files, along with a paper copy and any associated photographs or figures, to: Ken Reynolds, *Raven* editor, 4653 Ogilvie Walk Crescent, Ottawa, ON K1J 1G8 CANADA.

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 2013 review cycle is 15 February 2013.

Contact raven@nava.org with questions.



Dues Reminder!

NAVA memberships run on a calendar basis, no matter when in a year a member joined. All dues are payable 1 January for the full year; memberships lapse on 31 March if dues are not paid. Please check your mailing label—it shows the year through which your dues are paid. You can pay your NAVA membership dues via www.PayPal.com to treas@nava.org, or by check to the NAVA P.O. Box, or go to www.nava.org. & click the "Renew" link in the upper right of the home page.

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

Nearly all of the content of *NAVA News* comprises contributions from NAVA members and others in 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. To submit an item for publication, please contact the editor, Peter Ansoff, at navaews@nava.org. The publication schedule is:

Issue No.	Deadline for Submissions	Approximate "In the Mail" Date
217	31 January	20 March 2013
218	30 April	20 June 2013
219	31 July	20 September 2013
220	31 October	20 December 2013

Don't wait—get started now on that article you've been meaning to write!

FLAG HUMOR



**Santa's sleigh with
Saami flags**

Artist: Gordon Gurvan
Used by license from
www.Cartoonstock.com.

MEMBER FLAG



Ben Koorengvel—Kirkland, Québec

Flag Blazon: *Gules, on a Lozenge Argent, a Slanting Cross Patée Gules.*

Ben Koorengvel describes his flag: "As is the case with many North Americans, I come from a multi-ethnic background (Dutch, German, Irish, and French).

"I therefore felt it necessary that my flag should be

representative of those cultures from which my ancestors originated, but also be in touch with my Canadian identity.

"The colours used on my personal flag are red and white. The reason behind this is twofold. First, they represent the country of my birth, Canada, whose official colours are the same. Second, they are a tribute to my French heritage. In 1534, Jacques Cartier flew the then-red-and-white-cross flag of France aboard his ship when he sailed into Québec, my home province.

"Having identical proportions as Canada's flag (1:2), my flag consists of a white lozenge on a red background. The lozenge in heraldry typically stands for honesty and constancy. Both are fundamental principles I strive to live by. The lozenge itself is charged with a red cross partly of my own invention, inspired by Germanic and Celtic cross design. The cross symbolizes my Dutch, German, and Irish roots."

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



**North American
Vexillological Association**

1977 N. Olden Ave. Ext. PMB 225
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PLEASE CHECK YOUR LABEL!
If the "Paid Through" date is **2012 or earlier, it's time to renew for 2013.**
Pay your NAVA membership dues via www.PayPal.com to treas@nava.org or by check to the NAVA P.O. Box.
Thank you!

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25TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF VEXILLOLOGY
ROTTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS
5–9 AUGUST 2013
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NAVA 47 Salt Lake City, Utah 11–13 Oct 2013

NAVA members will gather at the Salt Lake Plaza Hotel at Temple Square over Columbus Day Weekend in 2013 to attend NAVA's 47th Annual Meeting, the first held in Utah's capital city. Located in the heart of the city, the Plaza Hotel is across from historic Temple Square where the Mammoth Utah Statehood Flag was displayed beginning in 1896 (as described in the current *Raven*).

The host hotel features comforts and amenities to provide everything NAVA members require and expect for a memorable stay. Yet the hotel is affordable with room rates of \$99 for singles/doubles and \$109 for triples/quadruples. The pricing includes breakfast and free airport shuttle; covered parking is only \$5 per day.

The meeting venue is adjacent to the world-renowned genealogical resource, the Family History

Library, and is near world-class shopping at the newly opened City Creek Center which encompasses more than 20 acres of retail space amid foliage-lined walkways, streams, and a retractable roof that can be closed in stormy weather. Museums and historic sites, without entrance fees, can be found within easy walking distance of the hotel to keep companions and guests busy and happy while members talk flags.

Watch for the NAVA 47 webpage at nava.org and make your plans to attend. Salt Lake City and Utah have great traditions for flags; don't miss out when NAVA adds to the tradition! Salt Lake City is eager to welcome all to NAVA 47.

The NAVA 47 Organizing Committee
John Hartvigsen, chair