

NAVA NEWS



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A picture of a Russian soldier standing guard at a road checkpoint under a soviet flag, Yahoo news photos. Other news photos and video showed Russian tanks entering Grozny flying the hammer and sickle flag of the USSR. Some vexillologists have speculated that this is not a revival of communism, rather it is believed the Russian Army has no funds to replace their old flags.

Special thanks to Steve Stringfellow for sending this photo.

* * * *

SAD NEWS

NAVA member Don Klett died March 6 of a stroke. The Executive Board extends deepest sympathy to Don's family on behalf of the entire membership.

NAVA NEWS NOW QUARTERLY

The last few issues of this journal have had more color in them, thanks to a generous donation from Taiji Tanaka of the Tanaka Flag Company in Osaka, Japan. Again we express our sincere thanks for this underwriting. The response has been positive about this change.

As discussed in Victoria, the Board has decided to reduce the frequency of NAVA News to quarterly in favor of longer issues with color as a stan-

dard feature. This will allow us to keep the same budget for layout and design, printing and mailing. It is felt that longer issues, such as the present double issue, allow more space for in-depth vexillological topics to be explored.

This change will go into effect next issue. Readers can assist by sending in articles, clippings, drawings, reports on their activities, etc. We need your help! Thanks.

PRINCE GEORGE BRITISH COLUMBIA

by James Croft



W/B
Y
B
B/Y

The armorial* flag of Prince George uses the striking colour combination of blue and golden yellow. The blue, along with the two wavy stripes, signifies the confluence of the Fraser and Nechako Rivers at this city (the blue and white stripes with a salmon at the base of the coat of arms is another symbolic reference to these

rivers). The region's prosperity is indicated by the golden yellow on the flag. In 1807 the Northwest Company of Montreal, under the leadership of Simon Fraser, established a fur post here which began the development of the wealth of the area. The "fraise", on the base of the flag, is a pun† on the founder's name — Simon Fraser — and can also be found with the same symbolism in the coat of arms of Simon Fraser University and the District of Coquitlam, British Columbia.

The two snowflakes indicate that

continued on page 13

* An armorial flag consists of the elements of the shield of a coat of arms spread or "emblazoned" across the field of a flag.

† "Canting" is the term used in heraldry when a symbol is used as a pun on a name.

THE CYBERVEXILLOLOGY "PROBLEM"

by Phillip L. Nelson

For some time, I have resisted the requests (and temptations) to address the issue of cybervexillology because this area of the vexillological world is still evolving and there is an impulse to either defend it with vigor or to classify all cybervexillological activity with suspicion. After all, there is a lot of erroneous material on the Internet which trusting people take for truth. But the field is burgeoning. Many vexillological organizations now have websites in order to promote themselves and offer a taste of the flags of their region or in general to the public. Few, however, use the Internet as a medium to provide a service to the general public.

As an editor for the Flags of the World websites (and receiving the daily deluge of E-mail traffic with questions and submissions from the general public as well), I see both the gems of the flag world and the misconceptions that people have and pass on to "correct your information." Some of this information is so absurd that it can be readily identified. Other information is not so easily identifiable. But, there are the numerous comments received that say "Thank you for the greatest flag site on the web. Your research is truly astounding and of great interest to amateurs like myself."¹

Cybervexillology, however, is an outgrowth of the popularity of the Internet. Never before have people had access to so much information on flags. FOTW alone has over 8,000 related images available for viewing. And with a projected 20,000 page views a month², it has become a major source of information for those trying to identify flags, discover the meaning of the colors used, or just to get acquainted with one's own national flag or that of another country. But not all information can be gleaned from the Internet and the quality of sites is variable - ranging from very good to totally erroneous.

Just as there is no vexillological work

in the print medium that is totally free from error, the same holds true for even the best sites on the Internet. And despite the fact that the two mediums are different, there is a distinct relationship between the printed word and the virtual work. The print media, the scholarly texts, the news reports, and so on, become the source information that is used to render images and information into a format that is available for the masses. And if the information in these basic source documents, regardless of the prestige of the authors, is erroneous, then this can find its way to the Internet. For instance, when Reuters reported that Rwanda had adopted a new flag, queries abounded about if anyone had seen the flag. As we later discovered, the news report was in error. Rwanda was proposing a new flag; Reuters had reported it incorrectly; the cybervex community was criticized for "starting" the rumor.³

The same possibility of error holds true for information that is contained in old flag charts. Not every image is perfect, and where possible and when identified, this information is posted with the note that the image is in error solely because the chart has been reprinted so many times that people may want to see what information may be available.

Meanwhile, one can look at what Internet ferreting can also contribute to the vexillological world. It is important, for instance, to note the time at which any significant text on flags was produced. Politics play an important role in the definition of the meanings of a country's flag and the symbolism of the design elements. One can easily cite the information from a text which says the elements in the flag of country X means this, but this may conflict with the current interpretation that has been adapted or rewritten due to these changing political situations. Such discoveries, on the country's official website can obviously create conflict because the revisionism underway conflicts with the information presented in classic vexillological texts. In such instances, FOTW has adopted a policy to present both the classical and contemporary interpretations.

If there are shortcomings to cybervexillology, it is the way it is perceived.

Cybervexillology is not a replacement for traditional vexillology. Rather, it is supplementary, a populist approach by bringing vexillology to the masses.

Cybervexillology cannot and should not be perceived as the all-knowing source, rather just another outreach that hopefully can whet the appetites of aspiring flag scientists.

Cybervexillology should be as accurate as possible, while being easy to use.

Unfortunately, it is in this area that most flag-related sites fail as a vexillological asset. Many personally built sites have a high percentage of error (and the authors really don't care about this). And even the best should be viewed not as a final product, but a continual work-in-progress.

And there are additional factors that limit the potential ability to be perfect in the rendering of the image of a particular flag. There are literally hundreds, thousands, or even millions of colors available in graphic programs for use by the artist. Unfortunately, for the Internet, only 216 of these colors are considered "browser-safe." While most images could be rendered to a relative degree of accuracy in a browser-safe color, there may be images where producing the exact shade is impossible.

Another factor that constrains the ability of cybervexillology is the human factor. Unlike the printed page where dozens of images can be presented on a page without any problem, the Internet poses a different problem. Pages must be laid out from top to bottom for ease of viewing. Page sizes contribute greatly to the ability or inability to communicate. For instance, studies have shown that the average Internet surfer will wait 10 seconds for a page to load, then hit the back button on his/her browser.⁴ A large number of graphics adds to the time it takes for a page to load in the browser and can adversely impact the perception of the consumer. Unfortunately, these page "overloads" are all too common, even on some of the better sites. Therefore, the cybervex community has the underlying requirement to deliver the most accurate information as quickly as possible or face the risk that the customer will go to John Smith's homepage that is riddled with error upon error.

And there is the problem of language. While many sites are in English, many are in the native language, which creates a barrier to understanding. Even more distressing is the situation when the source attempts to translate the information into English and uses translation software. This creates more problems than are resolved because the translation is only as good as the software. The result is images that do not

Notes

1. This is reproduced unedited from an FOTW post dated December 15, 1999, and only one of numerous examples.
2. Information based upon the web logs of one FOTW mirror and extrapolated to project the potential impact of FOTW.
3. Based upon a FOTW mail list message dated October 4, 1999.
4. Lynch, Patrick and Horton, Sarah. 1997. Yale C/AIM Web Style Guide. Yale University School of Medicine

AUSFLAG WINNERS ANNOUNCED

match the written description.

And while the growth industry in vexillology during the 1990s has been the flags of municipalities and other sub-national entities, in many instances there are not texts presently available to verify that the information on site A is either a true or false representation.

Recently, I received the following communication, which demonstrates the concern that is in the vexillological community regarding the quality of information on the Internet: "... the lack of reliability and the pervasive sloppiness[. Is anyone trying] to cure this?"

And that is the challenge that is facing the vexillological community today.

This new medium offers a greater visibility to flag information to the millions that have Internet access. The constraints, identified above, must be accepted. The fact that vexillology is not static, rather dynamic, with variations of flags shown in the classical texts being actually used by people or political causes needs to be understood.

Can such an agency to monitor and improve vexillological content be created? For such a proposal to work, there would have to be a standard developed. And that standard would have to include the basics of vexillological documentation as adapted for an interactive environment. Long scholarly texts, for instance, may have their place, but they may not necessarily be adaptable to the Internet environment. The human factors play an important role, particularly if the goal is to present vexillology to the masses rather than to an elite corps.

Additionally, attitude plays an important role in the development of any cybervexillological standard. Traditionalists may see the necessity of longer and better presentations of data while those in the vexillological community see the image presentation as key. Individual perceptions on the out-of-hand "inferiority" of a cybervex product can only result in any standard being considered "dead on arrival." What is needed is, of course, an open dialogue balancing the vexillological expectations and the technical considerations that have to be considered.

And key to any proposal would be the necessary independence of such a standards development group composed of people well versed both in vexillology as well as HTML, graphics, etc. If, for instance, FIAV were to develop a standard, then trying to enforce a standard on non-FIAV members or organizations would be difficult (of course, this leaves a question of the viability of enforcement in general). FOTW, for instance, is not a member of FIAV, although it has a large number of members on its mailing list and editorial staff who are members of FIAV-affiliated organizations. The independence of such a standards agency would also allow the dissemination of the resulting standard(s) not only through vexillological organizations (through journals, etc.) but also via electronic means to those people or organizations attempting to set up sites that may address specific subjects or areas of interest.

But is it hopeful that such a standard for cybervexillology can be developed?

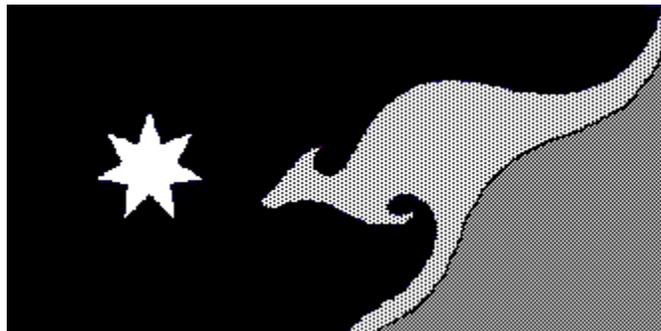
The critical dependency will be the evolving relationship between vexillological organizations and those sites that attempt to present as accurate flag information as possible. If, for instance, vexillological organizations treat cybervexillology with suspicion, if cybervexillology is considered the illegitimate stepchild of vexillology, if vexillology is deemed unworthy of mass distribution, then what can be the result but anarchy and misinformation in the world of flags on the Internet?

The Executive Director of Ausflag, Mr Harold Scruby, announced 26 Jan 2000 the winners of the Australian Flag - Professional Design Competition & Exhibition. Members of the Design Institute of Australia, the Australian Graphic Design Association, the Royal Australian Institute of Architects, Australian Writers and Art Directors, the Australian Textile



Design Association, the Flag Society of Australia and the Society of Interior Designers of Australia were invited by Ausflag to enter the Competition. Over 2,500 entries were received. The judges, representing the abovementioned organisations; Mr Russell Bevers, Mr Michael Bryce, Mr Tony Burton, Ms Louise Cox, Ms Janne Faulkner, Mr Ron Hurley and Mr Harold Scruby, chose the best 100 designs. All the designs are on display on the Ausflag web-site: <<http://www.ausflag.com.au>>. The Judges, like the

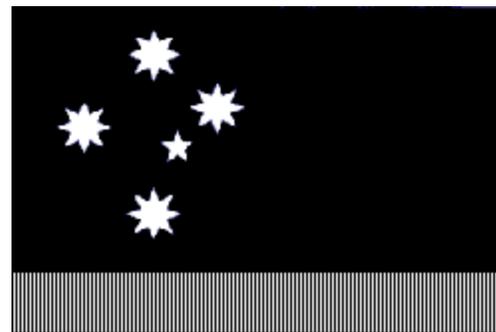
Australian people, were stuck between the Southern Cross and the kangaroo being the preferred symbol for the Australian flag.



W/B+ Y R ≠

The Judges chose the pure simplicity of the Southern Cross design by Franck Gentil, of Sydney, for the first prize, which features the large golden Federation Star in the place of the Union Jack on a dark blue field with the Southern Cross in the fly in white.

Second prize was awarded to George Margaritas, of Melbourne, who submitted a bold kangaroo leaping towards the Federation Star. His colours, a white star on blue, a gold kangaroo leaping from the red fly, utilises a combination of the Australian and Aboriginal flags.



W/B+ M-

Third prize was awarded to Peter Lambert who submitted a Southern Cross design on a blue ground, over a terra cotta earth.

Flags and Emblems of the Commonwealth Games

by Dean Thomas

“The British Empire Games will be designed on the Olympic model, both in general construction and its stern definition of the amateur. But the Games will be very different—free from both the excessive stimulus and the babel of the international stadium. They should be merrier and less stern, and will substitute the stimulus of novel adventure for the pressure of international rivalry.”

The above paragraph was the policy statement on the first British Empire Games which was held in the Canadian city of Hamilton, Ontario in 1930. Since those Games, and the founding of the British Empire Games Federation two years later, this statement has remained largely intact. The Games have endured for well over sixty years, including name changes to reflect the evolution of the British Empire and her colonies into what is now called the Commonwealth of Nations with its alliance of independent states and Dominions.

These Games are run every four years, not in the same year, but in the even numbered years between each Olympic Game. Thus, not only clashing with the larger event was avoided, but it also provided a valuable springboard for athletes of the British Empire who were preparing for the Olympic Games. The Commonwealth Games have always been known as “The Friendly Games” and continue to be regarded as something special by the participating nations.

Like the Olympics, these Games have flags representing itself and its ideals. Like the Games itself, these flags have evolved to reflect the changes that were taking place throughout the British Empire. The principal flag was the ceremonial standard which was raised on a large flagpole within the main stadium at the opening ceremony of the Games and flew throughout the duration, when it was ceremonially lowered at the closing ceremony. After being folded, the flag is then entrusted to the mayor of the host city who is asked to pass it on in due course to the mayor of the next host city.

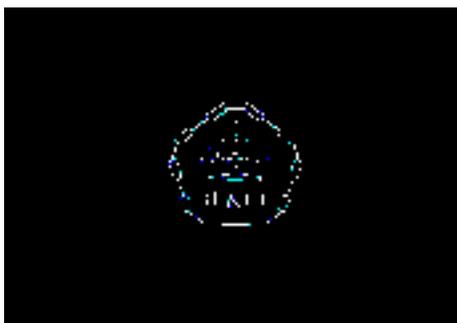
When the Commonwealth Games Federation was contacted for information regarding their flags, they

could not supply any data. All of the information listed here therefore is based on photographs in various books on the Games and written descriptions supplied via various National Commonwealth Games Federation web pages. The flags illustrated within this article are reconstructions based on the above sources. Should anyone have any additional data on these emblems, please contact the author.



**BRITISH EMPIRE GAMES
1930-1950**

The ceremonial flag of the British Empire Games consisted of a large 2:3 flag of Royal Blue. The size of the flag was approximately 3 1/2 yards by 5 yards [3.2 m x 4.6 m]. In the center of the flag was a depiction of the British King’s crown of yellow with a red inset. Centered beneath the crown were the words “BRITISH EMPIRE GAMES” in bold yellow lettering. This flag was unique amongst all of the Games ceremonial flags in that the host city and year that city held the Games was stitched onto the flag (like the battle honors stitched onto military flags). Judging from various black-and-white photographs, these “host honors” were colored white. The flag is depicted as it would have looked flying for the last time at the 1950 Games in Auckland, New Zealand.



BRITISH EMPIRE AND COMMONWEALTH GAMES 1954-1966

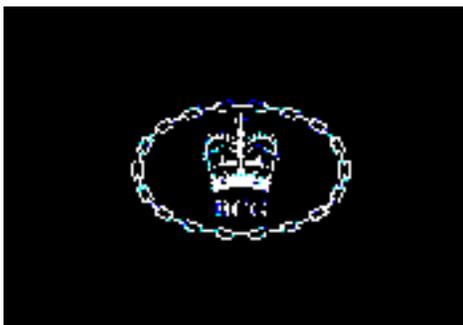
In 1952, The British Empire Games Federation changed its name to the British Empire and Commonwealth Games Federation. A seal was devised to represent the federation and this seal was incorporated into the new ceremonial flag.

The seal depicted the British King’s Crown (this time without the colored inset), in reference to the Sovereign who is the symbolic head of the Commonwealth of Nations, within a 20-link chain representing the links between the nations of the Commonwealth arranged in the shape of a pentagon representing the five continents where the nations of the Commonwealth are situated; Europe, Africa, The Americas, Asia, Oceania. Beneath the crown, but still within the chain, were placed the federation’s initials: “BE&CG.” The crown, initials, and the chain were colored yellow and were placed within a Royal Blue disc. This disc, in turn, was placed in the center of a 3 yard by 5 1/2 yard [2.7 m x 5 m] Royal Blue flag. This flag and seal were first used at the 1954 Games in Vancouver, British Columbia.

It is noteworthy that between the adoption of this seal and flag and the holding of the 1954 Games, Queen Elizabeth II ascended to the British Throne, but interestingly enough the Queen’s Crown did not replace the King’s Crown. This seemed to hold true right up to the last British Empire and Commonwealth Games in Kingston, Jamaica in 1966 even though the medals from these Games clearly depict the Queen’s Crown.

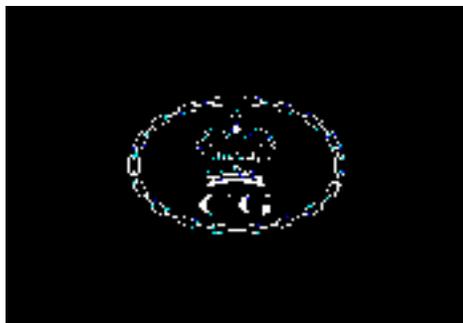
BRITISH COMMONWEALTH GAMES 1970-1974

It was during the 1966 Kingston Games that the British Empire and Commonwealth Games Federation voted to drop the word “Empire” from its name. With this development, the Games Seal was amended to reflect the new name, plus the Queen’s Crown was finally placed in the seal. On the ceremonial flag, these changes were also introduced, but with a change in the configuration of the chain from pentagonal to oval.



The oval chain was in the same proportion as the flag — 2:3 — and had more links. The basic colors and size of the flag remained the same. The pentagonal 20-link chain arrangement was retained for the basic seal.

This flag first flew at the 1970 Games in Edinburgh, Scotland. Of all the variants of the ceremonial flag, this flag was used for the fewest number of Games, the second and last Games where it was flown were the 1974 Games in Christchurch, New Zealand.



**COMMONWEALTH GAMES
1978 onward**

In 1974, during the Christchurch Games, the federation voted on its last name change: The Commonwealth Games Federation. With that change, the last amendments took place, which was simply to remove the initial “B” from the seal and the ceremonial flag. This change was made in time for the 1978 Games held in Edmonton, Alberta.

This seal has had some observed variances in the number of links (I’ve seen some seals with as few as sixteen and one with as many as forty links, though twenty seems to be the accepted standard) and in the detailing of the Queen’s Crown, most likely due to different manufacturers. On other variants of the current seal, as well as on earlier versions of the seal (British Empire and Commonwealth Games, British Commonwealth Games), the chain was

arranged in a circle which was said to stand for the equality of all Nations of the Commonwealth.

On close inspection of the ceremonial flag at the 1990 Games in Auckland, New Zealand, the lettering “CG” was in a wider font than the previous flag. As this new lettering was simply put on a blue patch and stitched directly underneath the crown, it is surmised that this flag was the older “BCG” flag with the newer “CG” covering the older lettering.

A similar sized flag which was used for Opening Ceremony rehearsals had the chain in a circle, rather than an oval. It is surmised that the oval shape was used in this flag for aesthetic reasons.



**COMMONWEALTH GAMES
FEDERATION FLAG**

In addition to the Ceremonial Flag, the CG Federation has its own unique flag which is flown wherever the federation meets. This flag has the current seal placed offset towards the hoist on a white flag. The flag is bordered in red-white-blue “blocks.” In order not to break the red-white-blue sequence, this flag has a proportion of 8:15.

There have been a couple of observed variances in this flag. One had the chain in a circular rather than a pentagonal shape and another had a “barber-pole red-white-blue-white” bordering instead of the official “red-white-blue blocks.” This can be attributed to different flag manufacturers “interpretations” of the specifications.



**Venues and Years of The
Games**

| | | |
|--------------|----|------|
| Hamilton | CA | 1930 |
| London | UK | 1934 |
| Sydney | AU | 1938 |
| Auckland | NZ | 1950 |
| Vancouver | CA | 1954 |
| Cardiff | UK | 1958 |
| Perth | AU | 1962 |
| Kingston | JM | 1966 |
| Edinburgh | UK | 1970 |
| Christchurch | NZ | 1974 |
| Edmonton | CA | 1978 |
| Brisbane | AU | 1982 |
| Edinburgh | UK | 1986 |
| Auckland | NZ | 1990 |
| Victoria | CA | 1994 |
| Kuala Lumpur | MY | 1998 |
| Manchester | UK | 2002 |



The 1970 Games were the first to make use of a specific emblem. The 1974 Games continued this practice, with the NZ motif in red and blue on white slyly resembling a Union Jack, but distinctively New Zealand. This emblem (above) was used on white flags at the event.

These emblems proved ideal for sponsorship and merchandising considerations and became a major way of raising funds as well as drawing attention to the Games. More information on the other Games logos can be found at <<http://www.greenheart.com/mrskiwi/gamepage.htm>>.

NAVA member Dean Thomas served as a volunteer for the XIV Commonwealth Games which was held in Auckland, New Zealand, in early 1990. He advised the Opening Ceremonies organizers on vexillological matters and ended up assisting them in getting the national flags checked, and where necessary, updated, helped get the cultural flags designed, advised the organizing committee on the placement of flags around Mt. Smart Stadium, and pulled double-duty as the escort for the athletes who carried the ceremonial flag to the main flagpole. The flags you see illustrated here are all hand drawn by Dean (some of them with only memories to draw on).

THE BALTIC ASSEMBLY



BALTI ASSAMBLEE
BALTIJAS ASAMBLEJA
BALTIJOS ASAMBLĒJA

The parliament of each of the Baltic States appoints 20 parliamentarians to the Baltic Assembly. Its sessions are held twice a year, in spring and autumn, in one of the Baltic states on a rotation basis. The work of the Assembly is directed by the Presidium which is chaired by the head of the national delegation of the State where the next regular session will be held; the heads of the other two national delegations are Vice Chairmen. The Presidium directs the

preparation of sessions, co-ordinates the work of BA bodies during the sessions and between them, supervises the performance of the budget of the Baltic Assembly, represents the Baltic Assembly and maintains relations with international organizations, as well as with the parliaments and Governments of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania.

Committees are appointed for the preparation and consideration of the issues which are of interest to the Baltic Assembly; they are Budget and Audit, Communications and Information, Economic and Social Affairs, Education, Science and Culture, Environment Protection and Energy, Legal, and Security and Foreign Affairs.

The flag and logo are light blue on a white field.

http://rc.lrs.lt/baltasm/ba_str_en.htm

CALL FOR PAPERS

If you wish to present a paper or set up a display at the **34th ANNUAL CONVENTION of NAVA** (6-8 October 2000 in Lansing, Michigan), please mail the following information to 1st Vice President Andrew R. Biles, Jr. by **30 JUNE 2000**:

- 1) Your name, address, telephone number, and email address if available;
- 2) Title of paper, presentation, symposium, workshop or exhibit;
- 3) Abstract of same; and
- 4) Type and size of exhibit area and/or equipment needed, including tables, electrical requirements, AV equipment, etc.

NO EXHIBITS OR PRESENTATIONS WILL BE ALLOWED IF THE NOTIFICATION LISTED ABOVE IS NOT MADE IN A TIMELY MANNER.

A COMPLETE COPY OF THE PAPER OR PRESENTATION OR NATURE OF EXHIBIT MUST BE RECEIVED BY **31 AUGUST 2000**.

Send to:

Andrew R. Biles, Jr.
16035 Maple Wild Ave SW
Seattle WA 98166 USA
Telephone: 1 (206) 244-1666
Email: abiles@pol.net

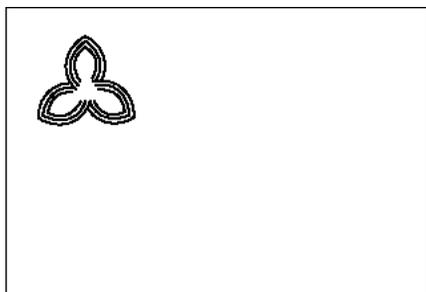
NAVA reserves the right to accept or reject any presentation without prejudice.

Red, White, and Blue

A Dutchman was explaining the red, white, and blue Netherlands flag to an American. "Our flag is symbolic of our taxes. We get red when we talk about them, white when we get our tax bills, and blue after we pay them."

The American nodded. "It's the same in the USA, only we see stars too!"

Submitted by Lewis A. Nowitz
New York, NY, USA
lanowitz@pipeline.com



B-/W



Above is a photograph taken November 1999 at the Frostbite Flag society meeting. The two handsome gentleman are (from your left to right) Lee Herold and Nathan Bliss. The two flags being held are (again from your left to right) The Frostbite Flag society Flag and Ensign. The flag, based on the International Code Flags for F.F.S. is white with two red lozenges and a blue square. The Ensign is a white swallowtail bearing two F's in dark blue and light blue.

We are casually creating additional flags as a fun exercise in vexillography. Look forward to our Jack, Rank flags, Head of state, and whatever else we dream up while sitting around talking flags.

GARY SCOTT CSILLAGHEGYI-BENSON: A LIBERTARIAN'S PASSING

by Yael R. Dragwyla, Seattle, WA, December 19, 1999

Gary Scott Csillaghegyi-Benson was much loved by people all across the United States as well as in other countries. He died at his home in Seattle, Washington, the evening of July 10, 1995, about 7:00 or 8:00 p.m., in his sleep, at the age of 52. He is mourned by many.

Gary was one of the most brilliant and learned people I've ever known and one of the kindest and most generous-hearted. He spoke seven languages fluently, twenty "passably" (for anyone else, this would have meant fluently, he was that good a linguist!), and could puzzle out just about anything else.

Born in Dayton, Ohio at 8:10 a.m. on November 11, 1942, Gary was raised on his parents' estate in Holbrook, Arizona, went to Wasatch Academy in Arizona for high school, took a baccalaureate in planetary science and celestial mechanics, branches of astronomy, at Amherst College in Massachusetts, served as an interpreter in Germany for U.S. Air Force Intelligence during the Vietnam era, and also attended UCLA, where he studied in a master's program for astronomy. Before NASA was severely cut back in the 1970s, he also trained as an astronomer-astronaut candidate, and would almost certainly have been with the first or second U.S. manned Mars expeditions had NASA been able to go ahead with those as they had scheduled before the cut-backs. The end of NASA's Mars program broke his heart, but to the end of his life he never lost hope that eventually humanity would go into space. Above all, he loved Mars, even above his beloved ancestral Transylvania, and would have given anything to have emigrated there as a colonist.

After the Mars program ended, Gary was ordained as a priest of the Syrio-Chaldean Church, a Christian Eastern denomination related to the Greek and Russian Orthodox churches. Everyone who knew him became his parishioner, for Gary was always there for everybody, and was always ready to console, to help during disaster, to be with us in our grief and sorrow and our joy, or just to feed us when we were hungry and clothe us when we would otherwise have been in rags, regardless of our

religious beliefs or lack of them. He was Life's own great minister, and because of him, we who knew and loved him have a community where otherwise we would have been no more at best than a mere mob.

He made fine banners and flags for many years, and had his own business in Santa Barbara and here in Seattle, Starflag. He also made ritual equipment for occultists. He was a member of the Augustan Society of genealogists, as well as of the North American Vexillological Association, and had many of his articles on flags, flag-symbolism, and genealogical issues published in their publications and elsewhere.

In 1991, he began a course in training as a paralegal, which he completed in 1992.

He was an insatiable reader of science-fiction from an early age. His favorite authors included Marion Zimmer Bradley, Harry Turtledove, and many other of the science-fiction greats. In addition, his friends included many members of that community, including the aforementioned Marion Zimmer Bradley, her husband, Walter Breen, Poul and Karen Anderson, Jerry Pournelle, and many others. He corresponded by both email and "snail-back" with people all over the world. He was also associated with the Society for Creative Anachronism since the early 1960s, and at one point, in the '60s, was Baron of Los Angeles in the SCA.

He was a dedicated libertarian, and was extremely active in the Libertarian Party since its inception in California in the 1970s. When he moved here in 1989, he became very active in the affairs of the Washington State Libertarian Party, and up until his death was an editor of the local newsletter of the party, and a coordinator for party activities in this area.

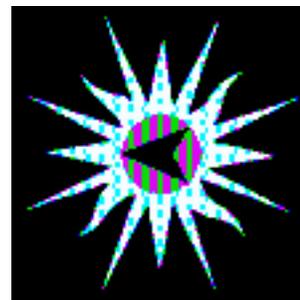
He was extremely well-educated not only in the sciences, but in the humanities and the arts, as well. He was a devoted fan of the Ring Cycle of Wagner, and always attended that opera whenever he could. He kept up with all the latest developments in biology, astronomy, physics, biochemistry, ecology, and planetary science, and up until his death was a voracious student of all phases of

human history and pre-history. He was also artistically gifted, and in addition had a talent for writing and poetry.

He was the most devoted of friends, the most loyal of allies. He loved all of us with all his heart. He was extremely courageous, and his talent for the tall tale and the outrageous fib concealed a solid, rock-hard core of honesty and love of truth and justice I have never found in anyone else.

He was the wind beneath my wings.

It is my hope that the world-spanning community that is his greatest memorial will eventually realize his two greatest hopes and dreams: the first successful colonies of Earth on the planets of other Suns and true liberty everywhere on Earth. Ad astra, Gary!



Gary S. Benson, later known as Gary S. Csillaghegyi, was one of my early correspondents about flags. Like me, he had a fascination with Central European heraldry and vexillology, and was a Sci-Fi Vexillologist. Although I never met him, we corresponded for a number of years and traded information and fantasies dealing with flags. I still have a set of scale drawings he did back in the late 60s of the flags of the Czar, Kaiser and Emperor of Austria. It was during this era that Gary mused on what the "Greater Arms" of the USA would look like. I was surprised when a large painting of it arrived from the west coast.

Long time NAVA members may recall the series of articles Gary wrote for NAVA News back in the early 90s entitled "Fictional Flags." One such fictional flag design is shown here, in tribute to Gary, my interpretation of the Galactic Empire "Spaceship and Sun" symbol from Isaac Asimov's Foundation trilogy.

Dave Martucci

A Fictional "Greater Arms" of the United States of America

Painted by Gary S. Csillaghegyi before his death in 1995, and presented to NAVA in 1999, this four foot square painting on plywood represents a fictional concept of what the "greater" arms of the U.S. would look like, in Eastern European style. The "grand quarterings" on the shield and on the wings and tail of the Eagle represent the 50 States and are arranged in order of admission (see key). For more information, see article.

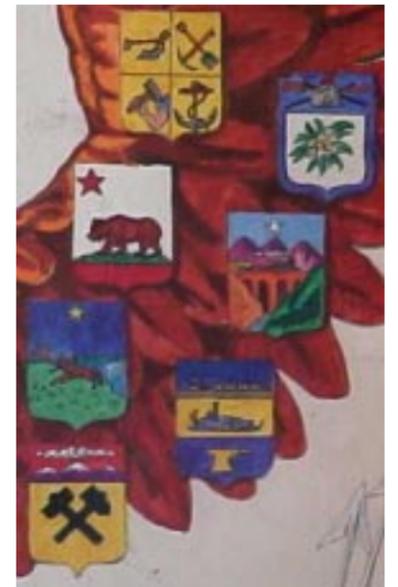
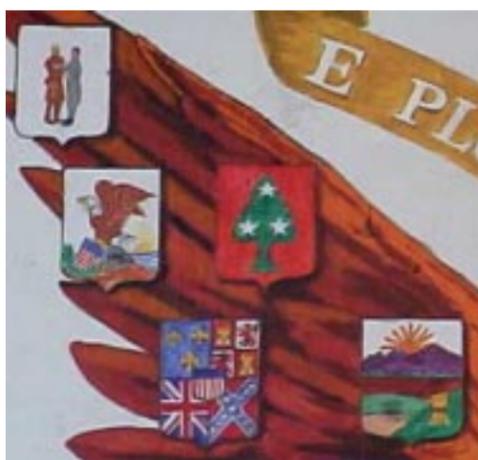


(Left) The main shield showing the inescutcheon of the US and the arms of the first fourteen States.



(Right) The full achievement.

(Below) The top dexter, top sinister, bottom dexter and bottom sinister portions of the wings showing the next twenty-four State arms.



KEY to the GRAND QUARTERINGS ON the FICTIONAL "GREATER ARMS" of the UNITED STATES of AMERICA

Painted by Gary S. Csillaghegyi



| | | | | |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 1. DE | 11. NY | 21. IL | 31. CA | 41. MT |
| 2. PA | 12. NC | 22. AL | 32. MN | 42. WA |
| 3. NJ | 13. RI | 23. ME | 33. OR | 43. ID |
| 4. GA | 14. VT | 24. MO | 34. KS | 44. WY |
| 5. CT | 15. KY | 25. AR | 35. WV | 45. UT |
| 6. MA | 16. TN | 26. MI | 36. NV | 46. OK |
| 7. MD | 17. OH | 27. FL | 37. NE | 47. NM |
| 8. SC | 18. LA | 28. TX | 38. CO | 48. AZ |
| 9. NH | 19. IN | 29. IA | 39. ND | 49. AK |
| 10. VA | 20. MS | 30. WI | 40. SD | 50. HI |



(Above) The final twelve State arms displayed on the Eagle's tail.

(Right) Detail of the Eagle's head showing the fine painting style of the artist.



(Below) Details of the three medals displayed on the achievement.



V E X I B I T S

By John H. Gámez

The Mail Tribune (Medford, OR). The owner of Los Dos Amigos Mexican Restraunt in Roseburg, OR no longer flies the Mexican flag from one of two poles on his property. Originally, restrantuer Gustavo Anaya flew the Mexican flag from a higher pole than the American flag. After several complaints were received, he lowered the Mexican flag to the same level of the American flag. Although many people were supportive of Anaya's right to fly the Mexican flag, he decided not to fly it any longer when at least one protester vowed not to eat there as long as the Mexican flag flew above. *Submitted by James M. White.*

The New York Times. July 29, 1999. New York City mayor Rudy Guliani raised eyebrows when ordered that the flag of Arkansas be flown over City Hall. This was meant as a gesture of gratitude to Republicans who helped support him while on a campaign stop in Arkansas. Guliani plans to run for a U.S. Senate from the State of New York. New York Democrats are saying that this is a jab at First Lady Hillary Rodam Clinton, who is not only running for the same Senate seat, but is also formerly the First Lady of Arkansas. African-American leaders are also incensed. They point out that the flag is based on the Confederate flag. *Submitted by Anna K. Weisz.*

The New York Times. July 20, 1999. A dispute of the New York City practice of raising flagpoles with yardarms attached led to the resignation of Reba White Williams, the head of city's Art Commission. Parks Commissioner, Henry Stern, likes the idea of yardarms as an appropriate adornment to very plain flag poles. He circumvented Art Commission rules by not seeking approval of changes in equipment or landscaping. *Submitted by Anna K. Weisz.*

Beaumont Enterprise. Dec. 23, 1918. Some in-depth research into old newspapers reveals that the World War I Allies had agreed to fly the "Allied Maritime Council's Flag" on captured Central Powers' merchantmen. The flag was a horizontal tribar of white, blue, and white. *Submitted by David Ott.*

Chicago Tribune. July 18, 1999. Dwight York (a.k.a. Black Eagle Malachi York) leads a cult known as the "Nuwaubian Moors" deep in the woods of Georgia. The cult, whose compounds resembles a Cecil B. DeMille epic, has declared itself the independent state of "Tama-Re" or

Egypt of the West. They have issued their passports, currency, license plates, and have even raised a flag. No details of the flag's design were given. *Submitted by J.E. Beard.*

Beaumont Enterprise. Feb. 20, 1999. Josh Letney is a Middle School Student who has been suspended several times for wearing a bealt bucle with the Confederate battle flag design. He has worn it for two years. Because he lives in Jasper, TX, the site of the grizzly killing of an African American man, it recently became an issue. Letney responds, "It's our heratige ... its my right to wear it." *Submitted by David Ott.*

The Christain Science Monitor. Feb. 18, 1999. Östersund, Sweden not only drempt of hosting the next Winter Olympics, but is also running the world's most polite independence movement. Calling itself the Republic of Jamtland, it boasts its own army, visa, seal, and website. The Army's actions have been limited to setting up toll roads, border stops, visa checkpoints, and "friendly hijackings." At the airport the portrait of the Republic's president is seen rather than the King of Sweden's. The flag, a horizontal tribar of blue, white, green, with a seal in the center stripe can be seen everywhere in the Republic. Historically, Jamtland was independent from the 9th century until 1178, when it was conquered by Norway. It was ceded to Sweden in 1645 and has been fighting assimilation since ("Resistance is futile"?). The goal of the movement is the eventual reunification with Norway. *Submitted by David Ott.*

Los Angles Times. July 2, 1999. Two separate viewpoints make powerfull statements against The Anti-Flag Desecration Amendment. Tim Vivian of Bakersfield points out that Nazi legislation madated loyalty to the Nazi flag, much the same way that the sacrilization of the flag would do. He notes, "It is dictatorships that make patriotic symbols sacred and turn patriotism into a requirement, then a false god." A conservative view by Benjamin Zycher, states that current wave of politically correct legislation in which "hate crimes" are judged can lead to dictatorship. He makes the example in cases of assault. A person can be hurt by an assault but if it is deemed a hate crime, we seek not

to punish the crime but the thought process. Flag burning is a traditional way of disposing of the flag and protest. Both acts destroy a flag, but one is punishable because of the "thought" rather than the act. Punishing of thought, he adds, is the road to dictatorship. *Submitted by Frederick Patten.*

The New York Times. March 23, 1912. A historic clipping reveals the possible wherabouts of the commission pennant of the USS MAINE, which was destroyed in Havana Harbor in 1898. The pennant was given to George C. Mages when he sailed his yacht from Key West, FL to Havana in order to help aid any victims of the explosion. In gratitude Mr. Mages was presented with the ship's pennant. Later, a very ill Mr. Mages wanted to give the pennant a permant home. It was then presented to the Spanish War Veterans of Chicago, where it was given to the Public Library. *Submitted by Tim Lynch.*

Florida Today. June 15, 1999. In the hoplessness that was Nazi-occupied Luxembourg, Frances Stahl found hope in the US flag she had sewn together from old sheets and an old coat. She had heard reports that American troops were nearby. She decided to make the flag to show to the approaching American troops. *Submitted by Bernard J. Couture, Sr.*

BBC News (online version). May 20, 1999. The Queen has agreed to allow the flag of the Prince of Wales along with the Queen's flag at the opening of the Welsh Assembly. The desision to fly the Prince's flag was made because many Welsh had taken offense at the idea that a "Welsch" flag would not be flown over a Welsh ceremony. *Submitted by David Ott.*

BBC News (online version). March 6, 1998. Queen Elizabeth has decreed that the Union Jack is to be flown over Buckingham Palace 24 hours a day whether or not she is in actual residence. The move was prompted by the death of Diana, former Princess of Wales. The Queen had initially refused to half mast the flag in her honor. The move is hailed as a change from the palace as being the Queen's to the palace of the people of the UK. *Submitted by David Ott.*

Flagwire.com. May 21, 1999. The government of Rwanda has announced that the national flag will be changed. It will be a red, white, and green tricolor with a new coat-of-arms in the center. *Submitted by David Ott.*

Houston Chronicle. Oct. 13, 1999. The US Congress urges all Americans to fly the US flag on every national holiday - except Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. The congressional faux pas was discovered by NAVA past president Charles A. "Kin" Spain, Jr. After a few letters to our elected representatives and several years worth of bureaucracy later, the oversight was correct in 1999. *Submitted by Harry Oswald.*

America. Oct. 2, 1999. Several letters to the editor complained that photos of members of the Knights of Columbus published in an earlier edition were inappropriate and may have been a joke in poor taste. The Knights in question were waving the state flag of Georgia, which contains the "Confederate battle flag" as part of the design. *Submitted by Anna L Weisz.*

The Washington Post. Sept. 5, 1999. AP reports that a proposed monument to the Confederate battle flag be built so that the aforementioned flag could be removed from atop the South Carolina Statehouse. The proposed monument would be a granite wall inscribed with the names of South Carolinians killed in the civil war and would also feature five flags of the Confederacy flying from poles at the wall. *Submitted by Jack Lowe.*

The Washington Post. Sept. 3, 1999. The Southern Party has a message for the rest of the country: the Confederate flag is not a symbol of racism. The party claims to reject attempts by groups such as the Ku Klux Klan which "pervert the symbols of southern Freedom and valor into symbols of racial malice." *Submitted by Jack Lowe and Bernard J. Couture, Sr.*

The Washington Post. Swedish hurdler Ludmila Engquist competed in the world track and field championships in Sevilla, Spain, despite having had a breast removed due to cancer and currently undergoing chemotherapy. At a press conference, the Olympic gold medalist and world champion showed off her new contact lenses. They were blue with the yellow cross of the Swedish flag, made for her in Finland. *Submitted by Jack Lowe.*

The Atlanta Constitution-Journal. Oct 31, 1999. The old joke was, "Who is buried in Grant's Tomb?" The new trivia question could be, "Where is Grant's Burial flag located?" It is on Display at the Radisson Natchez Eola Hotel in Natchez, Mississippi. Bob Dean, the owner of the hotel, purchased it at an auction in Atlanta. *Submitted by Juris N. Upmanis.*

Linn's Stamp News. Oct. 25, 1999. The U.S. Postal Service will issue a new stamp series called "The Stars and Stripes." Twenty different stamps on one pane depict the evolution of the U.S. flag from 1775 to the present. the flags were chosen for their historical significance as well as their esthetic value. *Submitted by Juris N. Upmanis.*

New York Journal News. Aug. 29, 1999. The U.S. Postal Service honored personnel of the U.S. armed forces, police, and fire departments who have protected Americans both at home and abroad. The 33¢ stamp features four waving lines, with half of the top two lines blue. The lines are symbloic of a waving US flag. The stamp also features the words "Honoring Those Who Serve" above and "The United States of America" below. *Submitted by Anna K. Weisz.*

Press Journal (Vero Beach, FL). July, 21, 1999. Four days before they were scheduled to arrive, the Sothern Christian Leadership Confrence, a major civil rights group, cancelled its national convention in Charleston, SC because lawmakers in that state would not lower the Confederate flag from the statehouse. The move is estimated to have cost the city several thousands of dollars in lost revenue. *Submitted by Bernard J. Couture, Sr.*

Florida Today. Aug. 21, 1999. A cartoon depicts the unchecked urbanization of the USA. It features a black canton with 38 cookie-cutter houses and nine horizontal rows of cars in places of 13 stripes. *Submitted by Bernard J. Couture.*

The Mail Tribune (Medford, OR). Sept. 7, 1999. Have you ever wanted a faithful replica of a 19th century U. S. military flag? The Color Guard, a small studio in Hamilton Dome, WY produces about 300 hand made and painted flags a year. The idea for the business started on a trip to Custer Battlefield. There David and Rosemary Wallace-Menard found no authentic reproductions of Custer's flag, so the couple began making one. The idea became a successful business for the couple. *Submitted by James M. White.*

New York Journal News. Sept. 9, 1999. Since Nov. 2nd, 1968 Beatrice Duffy of Westchester County, NY has flown a US flag from her front porch in honor of her son Keith, who was killed when the Viet Cong attacked the *USS Westchester County*. On or around Memorial Day of 1999, someone stole the flag and only left an empty beer bottle in its place. Keith was the only resident of Westchester County aboard the ship at

the time of the attack. *Submitted by Anna K. Weisz.*

A letter to the VexiBits editor sheds new light on the "Star Bangled Banner." Citing Walter Lord's *The Dawn's Early Light* and *The Rocket's Red Glare* by Scott Sheads, we learn a slightly different story of the flag over Ft. McHenry. According to eyewitnesses, the fort's garrison flag was raised at 9 a.m. as the British fleet departed. This was done after the lowering of the 17'x 25' storm flag. Testimony indicates that the smaller storm flag may have actually edured the bombardment. *Submitted by Earl P. Williams.*

Boston Globe (transcript). July 1, 1999. Boston failed in its attempt to outdo civic rival New York City with what was to be the world's largest free-flying flag. A 400 lb., 9,945 sq.ft. flag was raised but a strong gust of wind took control of the flag. The result was a 400 lb. ball of rags on the ground. *Submitted by Anna K. Weisz.*

National Post. July 1, 1999. This Canadian newspaper showed whimsical proposed flags for Canada. They ranged from a camoflauge pattern, to a sky scene, to the head of hockey superstar Wayne Gretzky. *Submitted by David Daniel Ruddy.*

San Antonio Express-News. March 27, 1999. Young Russian demonstrators in St. Petersburg protest the Allied bombing of Yugoslavia by burning an American flag outside the U.S. Consulate. They also held red flags with white disks on which were placed a black sickle and hammer emblem. *VexiBits ed.*

Beaumont Enterprise. Feb. 11, 1999. Old wounds never heal. A video store owner was persecuted because he chose to display a poster of Ho Chi Mihn and the flag of Communist Viet Nam in his store. 700 protesters carried the flags of the old Republic of Viet Nam. The store owner took his case to court and won the right to display his cherished emblems. *Submitted by David Ott.*

Flagwire.com. July 2, 1999. Amid feudal pomp and ceremony, there was a little bitterness and resentment as Scotland opened its first legislative body in nearly 300 years. The Union Jack flew along side the Scottish St. Andrew's cross. The Queen of England was present, as was the Scottish royal crown, but it sat at a table before her rather than on her head. Although it is the hereditary task of the 17th Earl of Lauderdale to carry the Scottish flag alongside the queen, he instead watched the ceremonies on television. *Submitted by David Ott.*

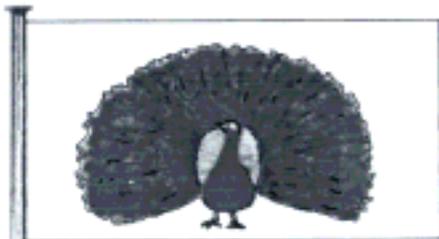
VEXILLIANA

by Kevin Harrington

What's up in the World's Vexillological Publications

Australia

Crux Australis, No. 54 focusses on the 1997 Australian Flag design Competition and ponders the sun on flags (Tony Burton/Ralph Kelly). No. 55 looks at Australia's ambivalence towards red and blue ensigns (Steve Duke/T. Burton); Paul Lindsay examines the peacock flags of Burma; Elaine Peters reveals "vexilloids on celluloid", imaginary flags of the movie and TV screen. Fauna on flags. More on the Ausflag competition. Many colour plates.



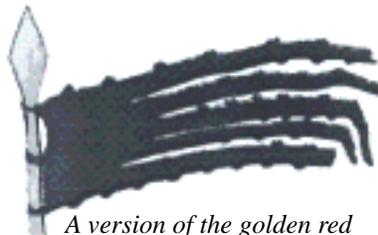
19th cy Flag of the Kingdom of
Burmah, v, b, y/w

Canada

Flagscan No. 54 and 55 both feature the events, lecture topics, and photos of ICV18/NAVA 33 held in Victoria B.C. this past summer. In each issue, Michael Faul introduces Chumley the vexi-gorilla as he visits Canada and "teases" the provincial flags. We see some of the designs entered in the ICV18 Flag Contest. A listing of 25 new flag and heraldic books. David Le Gallant gives a full account, in colour, of the flag and symbols of Acadia. In no. 55 Dr. W. Jilek describes the flags of the rebellious republics of southern Brazil. Dr. Zvi Ruder reviews the latest Israeli flag publications. Flags of Mozambique and Savoy.

All three heraldic publications of Canada - *Hogtown Heraldry*, *Heraldry in Canada*, and *Gonfanon* - contain references to flags in recent issues: the changes in the lion on

the Governor General's flag, arms and flags proposed for New Zealand and Toronto; Monsters in heraldry; Nunavut's flag.



A version of the golden red
Oriflamme, a standard of early France

Pavillonnerie (no. 5) reveals the secrets of the Oriflamme. (French)
Czech Republic

With 33 b&w drawings, the flags and symbols of Afghanistan form the chief article in *Vexilologie* no. 113. (Czech)

Finland

Liehuvat Värät talks about new flags (Kurdistan, East Timor); Iceland's flag, racing flags. Reviews: a book on the Estonian flag and a Scandinavian flag history. (Finnish)

Germany

In *Nachrichten* 15 Dieter Linder highlights ICV18 with special attention to the lectures of Dr. S. Guenter, Mason Kaye, Dr. J.M. Purcell, and Dr. W. Smith. Freddi Kollmus continues his interesting sections on Flag Questions and answers, and Flags on recent postage stamps of



Flag of the Perm Oblast, an
administrative region in the north
Urals, whence Siberia was
evangelized. Gold cross + w/r

the world.

Der Flaggenkurier No. 9 gives part 3 of the History of German flags; municipal flags in Mecklenburg (E. Günther); flags stamps of Canada, and "the question of arms or colours (alone) in civic flags" (J. Martykán). Many large colour plates. (German)

Great Britain

Six new or revised flags and ensigns of the Ukrainian navy appear in colour in *Flagmaster* 95, as do Russian postal and regional (11) flags. In coverage of ICV18 FIAV pres. Michel Lupant is shown presenting, Elanor Fern, daughter of the late Dr. William Crampton, with a plaque in memory of his great contribution to vexillology. Also seen: U.S. Army/Navy E pennant and British flags of civilians at war; flags of the Crusades; Confederate military flags of the midwest (Devereaux D. Cannon, Jr.); and House flags, e.g. Canadian Pacific, first and modern.



Province of Napoli (Naples), brown/
black on yellow, after R. Breschi

Italy

Eight flags of the provinces (not of the cities of the same name) - Milan, Mantua, Verona, Venice, Lucca, Rome, Naples and Palermo - drawn by Roberto Breschi, appear on a bright colour plate in *Vexilla Italica*, (1, XXVI, 1999); we also read the story of the emblem of the Italian Republic. (Italian)

(*Vexilliana* for remaining publications - the Netherlands to U.S.A. - will appear next issue)

PRINCE GEORGE, BC *continued from page 1*

Prince George is known as “British Columbia’s Northern Capital.” This is further emphasized by the snowflake symbol used as a civic badge and the motto on the coat of arms — “Shaping a Northern Destiny.” During the 1960s many sawmills merged into several large regional mills and along with the development of three pulp mills, the city experienced tremendous growth. The population increased from 14,000 to 75,000 from 1961 to 1996, and with an economy of forestry, transportation, and the service industry, Prince George has become the regional centre for the northern half of British Columbia.

There are other symbols on the coat of arms which reflect on Prince George’s history and environment.

Two local birds are used as supporters, the eagle and the osprey. To make these supporters unique to Prince George their wings are divided gold and blue. The dividing line is “embattled” as a reference to the original name of the city — “Fort” George. Each bird is crowned by a ducal coronet which is a reference to the city being renamed in honour of H.R.H. Prince George, Duke of Kent. On March 6, 1915, Prince George was incorporated into a city, and the golden mural crown, long a traditional symbol of civic authority, ‡ is used in the crest. It is charged with a black railway wheel signifying the arrival of the Grand Trunk Railway in 1914 and the British Columbia Railway in 1952, both of which were significant contributors

to the development of the city.

A moose head appears above the mural crown as a symbol long endeared by the citizenry and was displayed at the top of the old city’s emblem.

Special thanks to Auguste Vachon, St. Laurent Herald, and Robert Watt, Chief Herald, of the Canadian Heraldic Authority, and Alan Chabot, City Clerk of Prince George, for their assistance with this article.

‡ The mural crown is a crown in the form of an embattled wall and recalls the middle ages when important cities were surrounded by fortified walls. Today this symbol usually signifies civic authority.



FLAG DATA

Proportions: 1:2

Design: The flag is divided wavy into two equal horizontal sections of medium blue over golden yellow. There are two central, wavy, horizontal, counterchanged (when a shield is divided by a partition line and the colours on one side of the line are reversed on the other side) stripes, each one tenth the width of the flag. On the top blue field are two white stylized snowflakes and in the base, centered on the golden yellow field, is a blue fraise.

Designer: Graham Anderson.

Location: Prince George is located approximately in the center of British Columbia.



BADGE

On a hurt a snowflake Argent charged with a fraise Gules.
(On a blue disk a white snowflake charged with a red fraise.)



HERALDIC BLAZON

Arms: Per fess wavy Azure and Or a fess wavy counterchanged of the field between in chief two snowflakes Argent and in base a fraise Azure.

Crest: A mural crown Or masoned Sable charged with a locomotive wheel Sable issuant therefrom a moose head affronty Or.

Supporters: Upon a mount Vert set with Comon Red Paintbrush (custilleja munlata) and dexter a lodgepole pine bough and sinister a white spruce bough both fructed all proper rising above barry wavy Argent and Azure charged with a salmon leaping also proper, dexter a bald eagle the body proper winged per fess embattler Or and Azure ducally crowned Or sinister an osprey the body proper similarly winged and crowned.

Motto: SHAPING A NORTHERN DESTINY.

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To the Editor,

The ascendancy of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers into top NFL (National Football League) ranks during the '99 pro-football season provides an opportunity to expand on the subject of flags in sports, as recently covered by John Gámez in the May/June '99 issue.

From the team's founding in the mid-'70s, its uniforms were among the grandest in the NFL, a confection of blood-orange red and orange* on white — Gulf/Caribbean psychedelic. And very un-piratical.

A makeover was announced by team officials on April 9, 1997. Of more general interest were the addition of black and pewter to the uniforms.

Of particular interest to vexillologists, though, is the Buccaneers new logo, as seen on players' helmets (the hoist and fly of formal identification in the football world), "... which consists of a skull and crossed swords on a wind-swept flag ... The flag is hung on a cutlass-type sword and also featured an orange football at the point where the swords cross under the skull ... The result is a pow-

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 by humor's grace, Mr Faul brings a delightfully light touch, deep vexillological roots, and sparkling whimsy.

The Vexi-Gorilla* made his/her fun-filled world debut in *Flagscan*, the Journal of the Canadian Flag Association, number 54, summer/été 1999, p. 3, with a romp through and across Canadian provincial flags. The twinkle-eyed journey continued in number 55 of *Flagscan*, and we salute our Canadian colleagues for introducing Chumley to the vexillological community. NAVA News is proud to present Michael Faul's first creation with US state flags, which we rushed to press while California is still in the Union. In the illustration below, you can see Bill

Gates discussing a browser deal ... oops, sorry, that's Chumley discussing a merger deal with the Californian bear over some fermented honey, carefully labeled just "HONEY"— which fools no one, least of all the letters, already under the effects ...

Would you like to see more? Please let the editor know your preferences.†

* Please do not call it a monkey — in fact do not call him/her an it! — for gorillas are sensitive critters, prone to flying into rages, especially vexi-gorillas to which — whom! — flying comes naturally.

† Since our new vexi-chum Chumley will soon appear on a number of flag souvenirs, which of the following would you like to see available: (1) table flags; (2) refrigerator magnets; (3) baseball caps; (4) T-shirts?



erful design and one that is uniquely suited to the Tampa Bay Region." Amen.

With the total sobriety of procedure expected of such moves in pro sports today, team officials wanted to reflect historical inspiration, a rallying of the franchise market community, and a 'We came to play' look in its re-symbolizing. It now looks as though the Bucs play on cinders, not a bad image in the NFL.

New teams (Carolina, Baltimore, Jacksonville) and the re-named Houston Oilers (now Tennessee Titans) sport notably ordinary uniforms and logos. Not Tampa Bay. its new flag logo is so striking I can practically see the rust on the blade and smell the blood in the flag.

Phil Allen
Berkeley CA

* A minus sign (-) to show a pale color.

To the Editor,

A number of years ago I attended a meeting in Springfield IL at the Howlett Building where there was a talk on the flags that are kept in what is called "The Hall of Flags" in that building. The flags are behind glass and in delicate and fragile condition.

According to an article in a Peoria newspaper, there are 464 battle flags; 346 from the Civil War [1861-65] with others from the Mexican War [1846-47] or the War of 1812. The speaker told us of the precarious condition which, because of original damage by cannons, remnants remaining, and the passage of over 100 years, demands that the utmost care must be taken in order to preserve these tokens of Illinois units and men involved in those wars.

 **JAPANESE VEXILLOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION ESTABLISHED**

On December 5, 1999, five Japanese vexillologists, Nozomi Kariyasu, Miru Takano, Akira Kumagai, Yasuo Tsujihara, and Shinya Tanaka met in Tokyo and decided to form the Nihon Kishougaku Kyoukai (NKK) as of January 1, 2000. It will also be known by its English translation; Japanese Vexillological Association (JAVA). JAVA is the first vexillological organization established in Japan.

The association is the result of work by Nozomi Kariyasu, a vexillologist whose name appears in the Japanese section of *Flags Of The World*. He was able to contact Japanese vexillologists from membership lists generously supplied by The Flag Institute and the Flag Research Center. Mr. Kariyasu lived in Australia for several years and was active in the Flag Society of Australia.

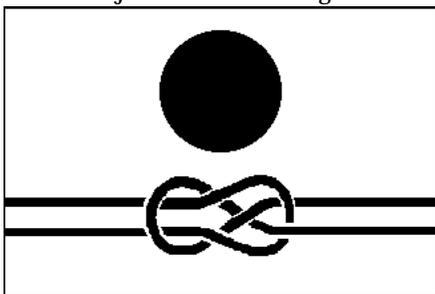
JAVA again met on January 16, 2000 when they announced a competition for the JAVA flag. Later, they chose the association's flag and logo after lengthy discussion from 61 excellent proposals.

The design chosen for the flag was by Mr Phil Nelson from the U.S.A. The flag consists of the Hinomaru above a traditional halyard (both in red) on a white background. The colors red and white are the colors of the Japanese flag. The Hinomaru has been an emblem of Japan since the 14th century and is the central motif of the national flag since 1870, officially adopted on 13 August 1999. The halyard was used to hoist flags and the halyard knot is a symbol of vexillology since 1960. The two symbols are designed to convey the symbolism of the Nihon Kishougaku Kyoukai (JAVA) in both a national identity and as a vexillological organization.

JAVA also decided to use a design by Mr Peter Exner from the Czech Republic as the association logo. The emblem reminds and combines the symbol of the sun from the Japanese national flag and the flag-halyards forming two interlaced loops as the symbol of vexillology.

Nozomi Kariyasu said, "We feel the emblem familiar and comfortable since the emblem is drawn in one stroke and round-shape and almost symmetrically which are characteristics of most Japanese emblem including Mon.

The two winners were named as JAVA honorary members and will receive Japanese flag books now available in Japan and the JAVA journal at no charge.



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Cont'd from page 14

According to Gary L. Smith who wrote the article, at that time the National Guard was trying to do what was needed in preserving and protecting the flags, but they discovered there was a high cost to do the sophisticated and proper preservation. At that time few legislators or donors came forth willing to give financial support or legislative impetus to allocate needed money. Apparently other states have been able to accomplish this task; however citizens should be made aware of these flag treasures and the problem.

Perhaps it is best not to attempt or disturb these fragile remnants of our past. I feel that periodically this subject needs to be discussed so the public is aware of this. You may be able to obtain information on a website about flags in your state. It behooves us to make inquiries as to who is in charge and if constant watchfulness is maintained to see that these historical flags are preserved as well as can be expected.

Elizabeth Hardy
Jacksonville IL

Nov/Dec 1999
INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

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- * VexiBits
- * Vexilliana
- * Chumley
- * Letters
- * JAVA Established
- * Mooney's Flag Cryptics

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Game 1. Word Scramble Flags

Hint: Notice that each word begins with a capital letter ...
Example: eCohisFirsOunAABIWteeld
Answer: A Blue Cross On A White Field ... Finland!

1. ARtnAnhiteGrWWeithededCrenesc
2. eAnnESugladAAn
3. ckanllriaadleYenglowBT
4. CtnSInanuon
5. teCuasOnreWhFsirgSqola

To win, mail in your answers and name and address on a post card to
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All correct entries received before the next issue is published will be entered into a random drawing for a vexillological prize. The prize for this game is a 3 by 5 foot flag, selected at random.

The answer in the next issue of *NAVA News*.

With respect to the flags of all nations ...

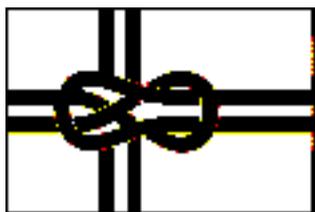
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CORRECTIONS



Nordisk Flag Selskab R/Y
 Pohjoismaiden Lippuseura
 Norrrena Fánafélagi
 Nordisk Flaggselskap
 Nordiska Flaggsällskapet

The Editor regrets the following errors that were published on the FIAV Members Flags Chart in the last issue. The name of the Nordic Society was not spelled correctly and the design of that flag was wrong. In addition, the flag of the World Vexillological Research Institute should have shown a YELLOW disc, not a white one.



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