



## NAVA's Executive Board Reelected

The 36th Annual NAVA Convention is now history. Held in Denver, Colorado, it was a small meeting but many of those who attended thought

the plus side of that was the close personal interactions that were possible at such a meeting.

As reported in the Retrospective

article that starts on page 4, we altered our fiscal year and reelected our officers, although the office of President was contested, with a nomination from the floor.

There were many excellent presentations given and the Driver Award went to Peter Ansoff, who has done excellent research on the Historical Sources of the First U.S. Navy Jack, which, it turns out, wasn't a jack at all.

The NAVA Flag Conservation Committee made its first recommendation for an award that was ratified by the Executive Board (see article on page 13) and chose a second project to support for this year's effort. Please send your tax-deductible donations for this worthy cause.

The Board also ratified the selection of Montréal, Québec, Canada as the site for next year's meeting and decided that we should return to the traditional U.S. Columbus Day/Canadian Thanksgiving Weekend. Please plan to be there!

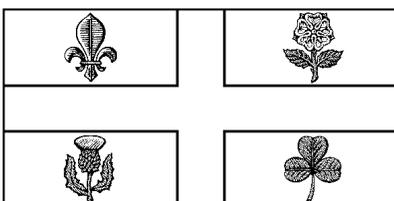


Left to right: Treasurer Ted Kaye, First Vice President Andy Biles, President Dave Martucci, Secretary Rich Monahan, Second Vice President Kevin Murray. Photo by Mason Kaye.

### NAVA 37

MONTRÉAL, QUÉBEC  
CANADA

OCTOBER 10-12, 2003



The Civic Flag of Montréal



David Ott of Beaumont, Texas, displays the flag of the so-called "Republic of Georgia" used by the Antifederalist Society of Chatham County, Georgia, U.S.A. The flag is white with a dark blue star. He unfurled this flag at NAVA 36 in Denver; see the article that begins on page 4.

### July—September 2002 INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

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# The Companion Flag

By Scott Wyatt

**What is it?** The Companion Flag is a symbol of all that human beings have in common: the love of children, the desire for health and knowledge, concern for the safety and happiness of loved ones, our shared susceptibilities to pain and pleasure, illness and injury, etc. It's called the Companion Flag because it is flown below the other flags of the world, on the same pole—never alone.

**What does it look like?** The Companion Flag is a white flag with a single stripe of color across the top. The width of the stripe is 20% of the overall height of the flag. The stripe's color is *any color appearing in the 'host flag'* (i.e., the flag displayed directly above the Companion Flag). When a Companion Flag is flown below the flag of the United States, for example, the stripe at the top of the Companion Flag will be either red or blue (at the discretion of the displayer), matching the red or blue in the US flag; when a Companion Flag is flown below, say, the flag of Brazil, the stripe at the top of the Companion Flag will be either green, blue, or gold.

**What's the purpose of the Companion Flag?** Its purpose is to increase and, more importantly, *sustain* public awareness of all that human beings have in common, without denying our differences, or telling people how to think, feel, or act when human differences collide. It's a gentle but constant reminder to all of us—especially our children—that it's both possible and desirable to honor *all parts* of ourselves, and other human beings: both our differences, our separation, and diversity (represented by the host flag), as well as all that we have in common with people everywhere in spite of our differences (represented by the Companion Flag).

An awareness of what we have in common is the ground for compassionate understanding, and serves to underscore the essential dignity of all human beings.

The Companion Flag is designed



to be flown below *all* of the other flags of the world as a matter of course: below every national, provincial, state, municipal, corporate, fraternal, religious, athletic, and scholastic flag. Quoting at length from the Companion Flag web site:

Flags are remarkable symbols — a unique marriage of elegance, power, and simplicity. They are displayed in virtually every population center, large or small, throughout the world. In addition to over 200 national flags, there are thousands of provincial, state, municipal, corporate, fraternal, religious, scholastic, athletic and familial flags. Generally speaking, no two are alike. However, all have one thing in common: they symbolize our *diversity* and *separation*. They divide us. *Every flag in use today draws a line of division over the world's population:* under each, there is a group of people embraced and included, while the rest of the world, by definition, is excluded.

There are many important human differences manifest in our world, to be sure. There are differences of culture, nationality, race, history, language, and religion. There are political and economic differences, distinct philosophies, traditions,

values, mores, etc. It is understandable and appropriate that people sharing these differences and other special qualities take pride in them, and cherish the emblems which they, or their predecessors, have chosen to represent them. Certainly, such symbols are not bad.

But just as there are differences, there are identities in the human experience which are remarkable and far-reaching. The love of children, for example; the instinct and desire to live; the desire for health, knowledge, and happiness; the concern for the safety and happiness of loved ones. These are the same the world over.

We humans share the same biology. We are vulnerable to illnesses and injuries. We feel sensations of pain and pleasure. We come into the world helpless, and require love, protection, and nourishment to survive and grow. Although there are differences, we dress and protect ourselves from the elements. We communicate in symbols. We have the same range of emotions. We are imperfect, and conscious of our imperfection. To a large extent, we accept and build upon the same body of knowledge. We build buildings, bridges, hospitals; embrace rules and customs; desire many of the same foods and products. We laugh and cry at many of the same things. We create and take pleasure in art, music, poetry, and storytelling. We value and keep alive the memories of our forebears. The list, it seems, is endless.

As one writer put it, human beings are like pyramids whose differences can be found only in the top few layers of stone. This may be true; but, how do we explain the fact that, in looking around us, we tend to see a threatening array of human differences? Could it be that our essential sameness is that part of the human pyramid hidden below the horizon, out of view?

The flags of the world are universally accepted symbols marking and celebrating the division and separation of the world's people. Beautiful

and enduring, they are worthy of the place they hold in our hearts, to be sure; but, at the same time, it is no longer enough to *just symbolize*, or to *just speak* of, our differences. To do this is to paint only half a picture — to describe a pyramid with reference only to its top few layers of stone. If the flags of the world are meant to represent us (and they are) — and if we are to live under them (which we do) — then the time has come to complete their symbolic mission. The time has come to insure that both our differences *and our essential sameness* — two distinct factors which are, after all, “at work” simultaneously in our daily lives — are depicted and honored simultaneously, as well.

The Companion Flag, flown with the other flags of the world, will accomplish this goal. The Companion Flag is a reminder — gentle, ever-present, and conspicuous — that our lives, and the lives of people everywhere, are informed and influenced as much by our *essential humanity* as by circumstances, conditions, and perspectives that are distinct and idiosyncratic. Both influences are valid; neither can be denied. But the former is special. Humanity is our common bond. It is a part of each of us, yet the same for all, no matter where we live or how pronounced our differences. The Companion Flag is a symbol of our shared humanity. Its adoption will mark an historic moment of global self-recognition, mutual understanding, and respect.

**Where is it flying?** The Companion Flag is a new and (as far as I know) unprecedented idea. Unless I am mistaken, it is the world’s first tangible symbol representing “all that human beings have in common” and the only flag in the world designed strictly as a ‘companion flag’ to be flown below the other flags of the world—never alone. (I am not a flag historian. Any corrections or clarifications from NAVA members—and all other feedback, positive or negative, on the Companion Flag Project—will be most appreciated.

I began the effort to introduce the Companion Flag and promote its adoption in January 1999, and the

initiative (now under the auspices of a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization, Companion Flag Support International) remains headquartered in Seattle. Since 1999, the Companion Flag has been adopted or displayed in many places throughout the world: from Ekaterinburg, Russia, to Haifa, Israel, to Sapporo, Japan, to Tashkent, Uzbekistan. It was honored as “A Gift of Service to the World” by the 2000 Parliament of the World’s Religions in Capetown, South Africa. It was adopted as a millennium symbol in Victoria, British Columbia, and Winston-Salem, North Carolina. The Companion Flag has been flown routinely at Seattle Center (Seattle’s main downtown park and site of the Space Needle), and it is on display at various churches, schools, homes and businesses throughout the Pacific Northwest (US). The City Council of Quesnel, British Columbia has formally adopted the Companion Flag, and it flies below the Canadian flag outside city hall on each of 11 United Nations Days throughout the year. The list goes on.

**Why do we need the Companion Flag?** I’ve noted already that an active awareness of what we have in common (even as we acknowledge and celebrate our differences) is the ground for compassionate understanding, and serves to underscore the essential dignity of all human beings. Against these ideals, as we all know, stands a long and still-metastasizing record of man’s inhumanity to man.

At the core of the Companion Flag concept is this idea: that a great many of our problems don’t arise from a definite or even passionate sense of our differences, but rather from an *unalloyed* sense of differences—from the belief that our differences and special affiliations are the sum total of our experience.

It is a fact—albeit a paradoxical one—that human beings are both different and the same. If one fully accepts this—if one accepts that people are in some ways different (e.g., different races, nationalities, religions, etc.), and in other ways the same (e.g., the love of children, the desire for health and knowledge,

concern for the safety and happiness of loved ones, etc.), it is frankly surprising that our forebears thought only of creating a symbolic landscape dedicated to our differences.

Or perhaps it isn’t. The renowned theologian and ethicist Abraham Joshua Heschel has written:

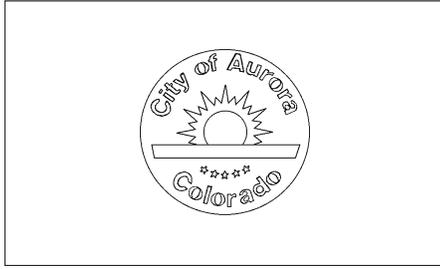
“The human mind is one-sided. It can never grasp all of reality at once. When we look at things, we see either the features which they have in common, or the features which distinguish them.”

This tendency—the tendency of the human mind to see either the features that things have in common, or their distinguishing features, but not both at once—illustrates the difficulty of getting our minds around the paradox of humanity. It may also explain why the flags designed and passed down to us by our forefathers are limited to a celebration of human differences.

In any case, it is only through an act of will that we, and our children after us, will counter the tendency to see in each other, and to honor in ourselves, only our differences (ignoring all that we have in common). Flying the Companion Flag is a straightforward expression of that will—of the desire to fully embrace the paradox of humanity: the fact that we are, at once, both different and the same. Wherever the Companion Flag is flown, the message conveyed by the Companion Flag and its host flag, soaring together, is unmistakable: *Here we are proud of our differences, our diversity, and our special affiliations, but we are mindful, too, of our essential humanity, and all that we share in common with people everywhere.*



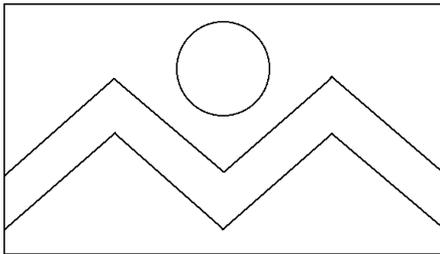
NAVA member Scott Wyatt, a resident of Seattle, Washington, is the founder of the Companion Flag Project and president of Companion Flag Support International. He can be contacted at [swwyatt@attbi.com](mailto:swwyatt@attbi.com) or 206-297-01021. To learn more about the Companion Flag Project, visit the Companion Flag web site: <http://www.companionflag.org/>.



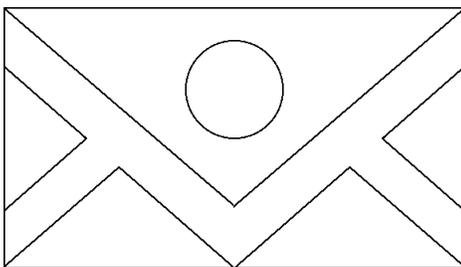
*Flag of the City of Aurora. The field, lettering and bar under the sun are blue; The circle is white. The sun is white with gold rays and the 5 stars are gold.*



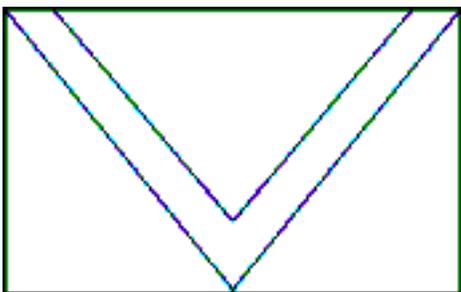
*Seal of the City and County of Denver*



*Flag of the City and County of Denver. Gold sun on blue over white over red.*



*The NAVA 36 flag, gold sun on blue with two red triangles at the bottom and two blue triangles at either end, separated by white.*



*NAVA's flag, blue over white over red.*

# Highlights of the NAVA 36 Convention

**Denver, Colorado, August 30 - September 1, 2002**

*by Andy Biles and Dave Martucci*

The 36th Annual Convention of the North American Vexillological Association was held at the Denver Airport Marriott at Gateway Park in the City of Aurora, Colorado, which is located in Denver County, just southwest of the City of Denver. As always a flag competition was held to determine the best design for a meeting flag, the final design chosen was co-designed by NAVA President Dave Martucci and member Secundino Fernandez. Based on the flags of the City and County of Denver and of NAVA, it depicts the sun of Denver over the V of Vexillology over the mountains of Colorado.

The Denver Airport Marriott is located at the entrance to Gateway Park and is a modern facility. On one side of the gateway are huge flags of the U.S., Colorado and the City of Aurora; on the other side are the flags of the U.S., Colorado and the City and County of Denver.

After registration, a reception Friday evening welcomed all with special salutations to six new members, first time attendees, and accompanying guests.

After breakfast Saturday morning, new member and first time attendee Dean Thomas from California brightly brought the group to muster with his bugle call. The registrants and guests rallied in front of the hotel for the parade of flags. The flag of the United States of America was carried by Martin A. Francis who smartly stepped off leading the assembled. Others quickly fell in abreast to keep up with Martin's spirited stride. Others joined carrying the national flags of Canada, Mexico, The NAVA 36

flag, the state of Colorado, and the cities of Denver, and Aurora. More members fell in carrying national, state, provincial, city, county and parish, personal, and favorite flags.

The jolly group marched to the six flag pole plaza marking the entrance to Gateway Park. More photos, and salutes were made, and Dean Thomas sounded the bugle call for the opening of the Convention and then the return march and onto the meeting at hand.



*Denver Airport Marriott at Gateway Park. Photo by Kevin Murray*

The meeting was attended by 32 members and guests. Everyone enjoyed the close personal contacts that were made.

The flags everyone brought for the parade were hung in the meeting room thanks to a fine loan of poles and stands by The House of Flags in Littleton, a suburb of Denver. Thanks go to first timer John Seebeck, the owner of The House of Flags!

Promptly at 1000 hours President Martucci called the business meeting to order. Minutes were read and approved. Officer and committee reports were delivered and discussed. A bylaw change



*The attendees of NAVA 36 at the height of the Flag March. Composite photo by Dave Breitenbach*

regarding a new fiscal year of January 1 through December 31 was offered which produced a lively discussion. Past treasurers and certified public accountants, many who are active members, all thought the change of the fiscal year a good idea. The motion passed.

Scot Guenter, Bea Jones, and John Purcell were elected as the new Nominating Committee. The slate of current officers was offered for re-election. Gustavo Tracchia was nominated for President from the floor by Whitney Smith. This produced animated discussion as well. By secret ballot Dave Martucci was re-elected, and the other officers all re-elected by acclamation.

Next, offers from Montréal, Canada and Oakland, California were presented for next year's meeting site. A vote was taken and

Montréal, Canada captured the count! President Martucci adjourned the business meeting.

Exhibits and information were set up in an adjoining room for all to look over, to buy things and to enjoy the materials presented. Several of the displays related to the papers presented. Others were personal collections, organizational, and two commercial ones. NAVA member Daniel Broh-Kahn could not attend but sent all registrants gift packages

of Six Sided Simulations games, as well as a decorative display. You could read delightful little excerpts from all the NAVA newsletters; these were provided by Mark Liss, past historian of NAVA. From California Bea Jones had assembled a table display of the Flags of the African Diaspora, Martin A. Francis displayed his collection of the Flags of the 50 United States, and Members were encouraged to buy some NAVA mementos from our NAVA shopkeeper, Mason Kaye.

After lunch, everyone gathered for the afternoon presentations. Andy started off the proceedings by showing his now-famous Checkpoint Charlie flag he picked up in Berlin during the Cold War. A jaunty paper was delivered by our new bugle master Dean Thomas discussing the flags of the German Democratic Republic. Shopkeeper Mason Kaye con-



*Dean Thomas bugles in the meeting. Photo by Dave Breitenbach*

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ducted an auction of last year's NAVA 35 (Norfolk, Virginia) flag.

Our second speaker, Bob Reynolds, a first time attendee from Oklahoma, provided us with his study of vexillology and geography. He also supplied a table display which demonstrated his Click and Learn Software Company. Presentations were frequently interspersed with surprise door prizes.

The last talk of the afternoon was a delightful presentation by David Ott of Texas. He gave a provocative talk about The Anti-federalist Society of Chatham County, Georgia, USA and showed its flag of the Republic of

Seebeck who provided flag poles, stands, gifts and other hardware and mementos which so added to the success of the entire event. He received a jolly hand.

After a lovely meal, Scot Guenter gave a signal delivery on the significance and flags relating to September 11th. His speech was most stimulating and thoughtful. A token of appreciation was given him. All were thanked for com-



Master of Ceremonies Andy Biles renders a proper nautical salute with Peter Ansoff, this year's Driver Winner, after piping him aboard. Photo by Dave Martucci.

torical paper on the documentary sources for the first US Navy jack.

Next, Andrew Biles showed slides from a Cuban trip pointing out the flag and family coat of arms of Señor Diego Velasquez, the first governor of Santiago de Cuba. The flag can be seen in his home, now a museum. The time was 1516 and this was the original capital of Cuba.

Ted Kaye told us of NAVA's involvement in the Utah flag design contest. Our member, Lois Campbell had to leave early and could not give us a personal account from a Salt Lake City resident's point of view.

Annie M. Platoff, who hails from



Martin A. Francis in front of his U.S. State Flags display. Photo by Andy Biles.

Georgia (dark blue star on white). The group broke business for the day approximately at 1630, and were urged to visit the exhibits.

Saturday evening we all gathered for the activities. Members were brightly decked out in formal wear, Scottish kilts, and various colors. All were welcomed and gifts of gratitude for first timers and, new members of the organization were presented to Dean Thomas, John King, John Seebeck, Peter Ansoff, Robert Reynolds, and James Bolinger. A hearty round of applause sounded. A special recognition was directed to John

ing, and many socialized prior to breaking for the evening.

The moderator opened the Sunday morning session by reading excerpts from some of the earliest NAVA newsletters citing Whitney Smith for generating this seminal study, and David Martucci for designing the NAVA seal as a youthful vexillologist. He then piped in the first speaker, after rendering appropriate salutes. Peter A. Ansoff, one of the three first time members giving presentations led off with his very interesting his-



Andy Biles holds up the flag of the Provincia de Magallanes, the 12th and southernmost region of Chile. The stars are white on blue over white over tan. Photo by Dave Martucci.



What do I hear for this fine flag? Going once, going twice, ... Sold to the highest bidder! Photo by Dave Martucci



Andy and most of the Board went to a local steak house, Evangeline's, where he was peppered with great fun! Photo by Dave Martucci.

Kansas but now living and working in California, presented a very entertaining paper on the use of flags in the manned space program.

Prior to the last presenter, Andrew Biles held up the flag of the Provincia de Magallanes, the 12th and southernmost region of Chile. David Ott knew it, and this heralded Gus Tracchia's presentation on new flags in the provinces of Argentina.

Speakers were all applauded and awaited the decision of the Board for the winner to be announced. The Captain William Driver award was presented to Peter A. Ansoff, who donated the prize money to NAVA and he was warmly thanked for his generosity. President Martucci reminded us that the National Flag Foundation co-sponsors this annual award.

All were thanked for their participation, and the flag was waved signaling the end of the meeting.

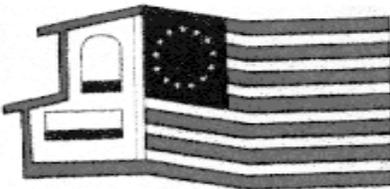
After the meeting closed, many of the members enjoyed the local scene in the Denver area.

See you next year in Montréal! Remember the meeting date returns to the U.S. Columbus Day/Canadian Thanksgiving weekend.



A visit to the House of Flags. John Seebeck, the proprietor is seated and behind him stand President Dave Martucci, First Vice President Andy Biles, Treasurer Ted Kaye, Shopkeeper Mason Kaye and Second Vice President Kevin Murray. Photo by Dave Martucci.

More photos are available on the NAVA web site. <http://www.nava.org>



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# Native Americans Encounter Lewis & Clark



Location of encounter on map is approximate, based on date. Many of these peoples have moved to different locations today. The flags are modern and are not contemporary with the Lewis & Clark Expedition.

Quoted material is from the Journals of Lewis & Clark. This is not a full listing of Lewis & Clark encounter tribes. In some cases more than one tribe is represented by a single flag.

Lewis & Clark called the Wishram-Wasco Chinookans "Echelutes" from the term meaning "I am Wishram]-Wasco]" October 24, 1805



Chinook



Confederated Tribes of Siletz  
Chinook are one of the tribes



Yakama Nation  
"200 men singing and beating on their drums" October 16, 1805



Colville Confederated Tribes  
Nez Perce are one of the tribes



Nez Perce  
"We purchased considerable quantity of sammon" September 22, 1805

Warm Springs, Wasco & Northern Paiute



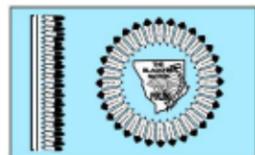
Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Reservation  
"Met Walla Walla Chief Yalleppet" April 27, 1806



Flathead of the Salish & Kootenai  
"Down the creek to the forks where we met a party of the (Flathead) [Salish]" Sept. 4, 1805



Blackfoot  
"The Indians soon asked to smoke with us" July 26, 1806



Pawnee  
"Met a Pawnee Chief" November 10, 1804



Mandan, Hidatsa & Arikara  
Wintered 1804-05 at Mandan Villages; Camped at Hidatsa Village October 27, 1804



Northern Cheyenne  
"Cheyenne Chief invited us to his lodge" August 21, 1806

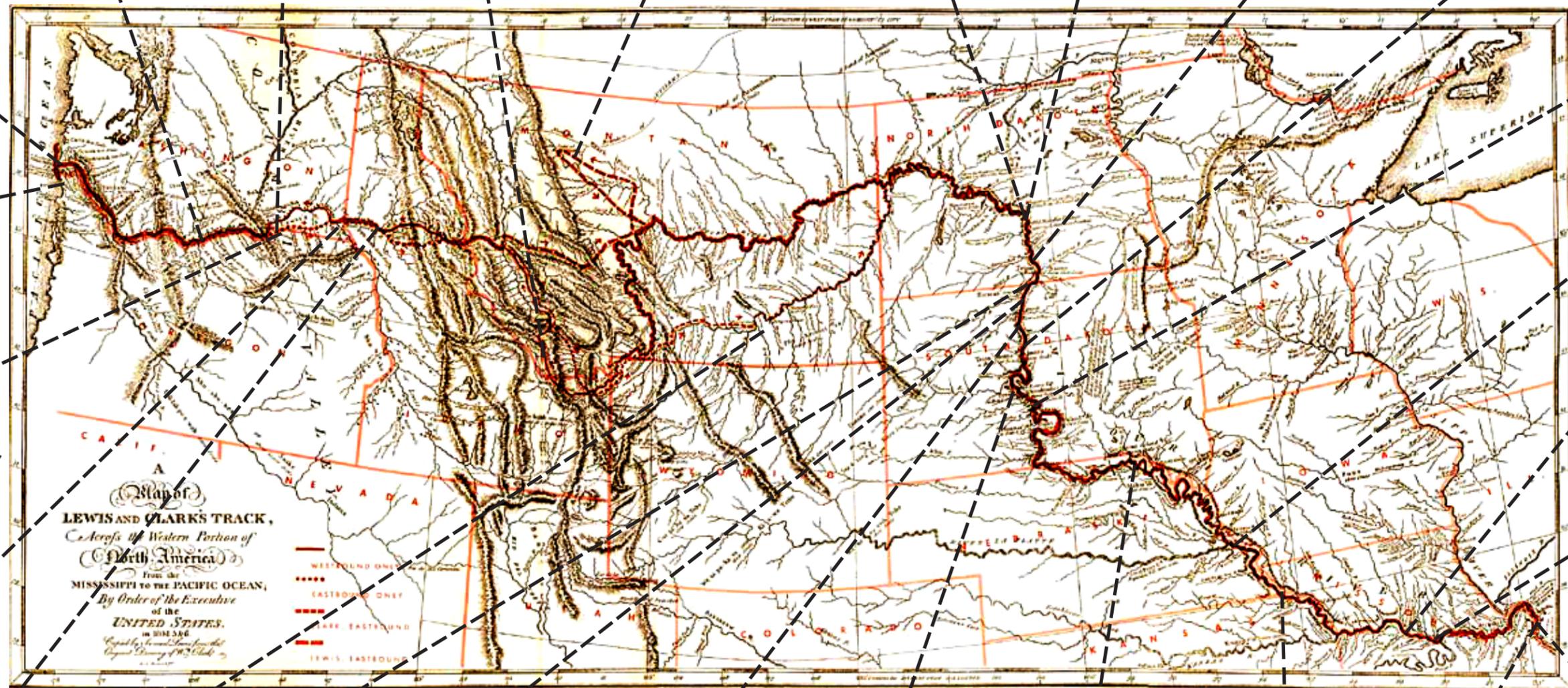


Kickapoo  
"Passed 12 canoes of the Kickapoo" September 21, 1806



A US Flag for use by the Indian Department in 1803, 15 stripes, 17 stars plus the Eagle. (Howard Madaus)

Research by Don Healy & Ted Kaye. Concept by Dave Martucci. Flag Graphics by Peter Orenski. Map by William Clark.



Yankton Sioux  
"Met 10 well dressed warriors" September 26, 1804



Otoe-Missouria  
"Informed tribes of new Gov't (USA)" July 27/28, 1804



Omaha of Nebraska & Iowa  
"Met canoeists of the Omaha (Mahar)" May 27, 1804



Osage  
"Received gifts from the Osage" May, 1804



Sac and Fox of Iowa  
"A Sac Chief with 8 or 10 arrived & stayed all night" March 5, 1804



Crow  
Mentioned in journal



Standing Rock Sioux



Sisseton & Wahpeton Sioux  
"Prepared some clothes [and] a few medals for the Chiefs of the Teton Band of Sioux"



Flandreau Santee Sioux



Lower Brulé Sioux



Santee Sioux of Nebraska



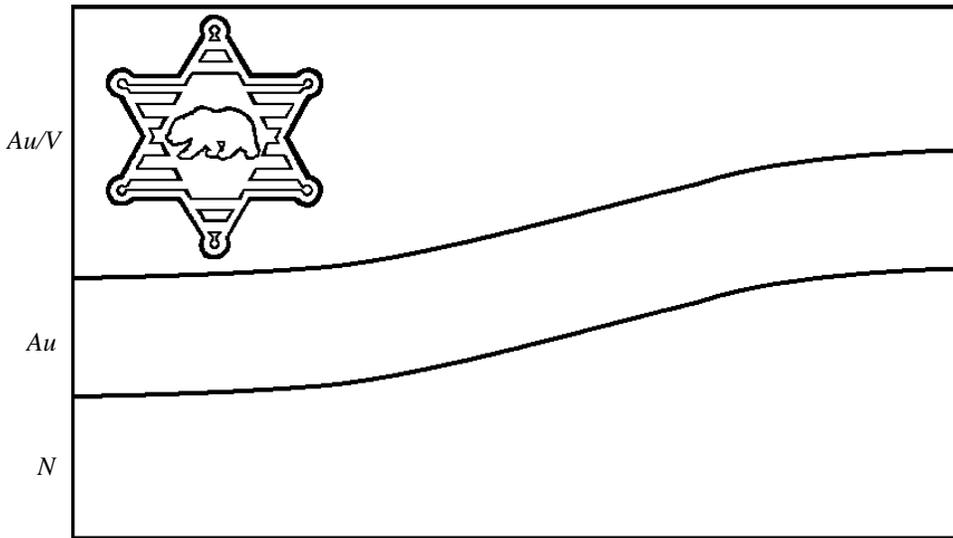
Comanche  
Met someone going to trade with them



Sac and Fox of Oklahoma

# LOS ANGELES COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Ted Kaye



*New flag of the Los Angeles County, California, Sheriff's Department*

In January 2002, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department issued the following announcement to its 19,000 employees on its Teletype, Intranet, and bulletin boards:

**FLAG CONTEST**

*The Sheriff recognizes that a flag is a symbol that evokes history, tradition, and values. A flag and its logo help raise consciousness and pride, create recognition, and establish identity for an organization. As such, the Sheriff's Department, for the first time in its history, is conducting a flag design contest (open to Department employees only) to uniquely distinguish LASD and create a source of pride and identity for our employees and the communities we serve.*

**CASH PRIZE: \$2,500.** *If more than one design is declared a winner, prize monies will be divided equally between the contest winners.*

The announcement detailed the entry requirements. It specified the form and size of entries, where and when to make submissions, and the process for separating each entrant's name from the design.

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD) is the second-largest law enforcement agency in the United States (second only to the

New York Police Department). It provides sheriff services to California's most populous county as well as municipal police services to many of the county's cities. Established in 1850, its motto (selected in a similar competition a few years ago) is "A Tradition of Service".

Uniformed LASD personnel wear a tan shirt, green pants, and a black belt and shoes. Their badge is a gold six-pointed star with enlarged rounded tips; in the center a blue ring with "Los Angeles Sheriff's Department" encircles a silver grizzly bear (similar to the bear on the California state flag).

The department's chief executive, Sheriff Lee Baca, had recently instituted a strategic re-appraisal and reorganization under the title "LASD2", with key personnel assigned to the effort. After attending the funeral of a sheriff's deputy killed in the line of duty, at which the flag of a police officer motorcycle club figured prominently, he asked that an LASD2 team member lead the adoption of an LASD flag. As a very high-profile community leader (the highest-paid elected official in the U.S.), Sheriff Baca appreciated the value of flag adoption, which would coincide with his re-election in March.

Lt. Dave Waters received the assignment and did his homework well. He studied Peter Orenski's *A Flag for New Milford* (Flag Bulletin #168) and my *Good Flag, Bad Flag*. He talked then to the Los Angeles County Fire Department, which had recently developed a flag. He consulted me as he created the contest's rules, timeline, and announcement. He raised the prize money and contest costs from the Sheriff's Relief Association and corporate sponsors. He recruited seven judges and asked me to volunteer to advise the process. The judges were: Sgt. Gil Carrillo, Lt. Jacques LaBerge, Capt. Detta Roberts, Sgt. Gregory Saunders, Dep. Michael Schaap, secretary Jody Thurston, and personnel manager Yvette White.

By the contest deadline, 726 entries had been received, numbered, tabulated by name, and inserted in plastic sheets and filed in several 3-ring binders. Most of the entries were computer-generated, although some had been drawn with pen, colored pencil, or even crayon. Some were cut paper or collages. They ranged in quality from primitive to professional. A very few lampooned the process (perhaps because all entrants were LASD employees). Because of multiple submissions (of up to a dozen variations of a single design), far fewer than 726 people entered the design contest.

On February 18th, Lt. Waters, the judges, and I convened for a one-and-a-half-day session in a conference room at the La Mirada Community Center, where the LASD maintains a sheriff's station. Lt. Waters' 11-year-old daughter Stacey, usually home-schooled, observed the proceedings. The judges represented a broad cross-section of the department: 5 sworn personnel and 2 civilian employees; 3 white, 3 black, and 1 Hispanic; 4 men and 3 women; ranks from secretary to captain. Their charge: to select 6 finalist designs from which the Sheriff would choose the LASD flag. They had all prepared by reading a copy of *Good Flag, Bad Flag*, downloaded

from the NAVA website, and seemed eager and enthusiastic about the process.

I attempted to establish my credentials as a NAVA member, *Raven* editor, flag design author, and vexillonaire, but perhaps my most persuasive claim to legitimacy was as a Los Angeles County native! Serving as the judges' coach, I trained them on flag design and then organized the process of winnowing down the entries. As we progressed through the day, I constantly revised my plan of action. I warned the judges that flags drive strong emotions, and not to be surprised if their colleagues got somewhat worked up.

We began with a two-hour session devoted to the five basic principles of flag design from *Good Flag, Bad Flag*, enhanced by examples of other law enforcement agency flags (researched on FOTW and other sources by my son, Mason Kaye). Using Annin catalogs provided by Elmer's Flag & Banner in Portland, I led an interesting exercise where the judges identified the "best" and "worst" state flags, then discussed the reasons they'd chosen as they did (their "best": TX, NM, AK, AZ, CA; their worst: MD, GA, ND, NJ, NH). I demonstrated how flags wear at the fly with real examples.

We spent a lot of time exploring how the prospective LASD flag would be used. With "Form Follows Function" as the underlying principle, I wanted the judges to test designs against all potential uses. They listed: 1) exterior display at LASD headquarters and other sheriff's department venues, 2) internal display in offices, 3) car flags, 4) mounted patrol display in parades, 5) desk flags, and 6) coffee mugs, lapel pins, and bumper stickers.

With that background in place, we spent the rest of the morning on the "first cut". Laying out all the designs on large tables, the judges circulated and selected any design that deserved to be considered further, moving it to a separate table. The designers' names had been separated from the designs, now identified only by a number. There were no limits, no rules—but judges understood that if no one picked a de-



*Flag of the Los Angeles Fire Department. R field; Au ribbon with N letters; Bear in shades of grey with N nose and eye; Seal R center; Au bordered ring, R diamonds, N letters, W Fire Hat with Au details, Au cross with N details; bottom stripe N with Au letters.*

sign, it fell out of contention. While I stretched my "coach" role by advocating for certain designs, I did not select any myself. With much friendly banter, comparison shopping, and difficult decisions, the judges selected 72 in that first cut, a reduction of 90%. Time for lunch!

In the next step, we taped all 72 designs up on the wall at the front of the room, looked at them closely, then sat down. We began a rollicking discussion of their general merits, recognizability, symbolism, and meaning. The distance (approximately 20-25 feet) forced the judges to evaluate the designs as they might actually appear. At times, I would hold a design by its corner and simulate its draping; at other times I would hold one up and wave it to simulate its flying. Then we culled from those 72 by using the same method: pointing to each design in turn, I asked the judges if anyone thought the design was a "keeper"; if no one spoke for the flag, it came down. This reduced the field to 29 flags.

As part of that exercise, I helped the judges test ways in which designs might be misinterpreted or ridiculed. For example, the blue ring on the badge often appeared as a significant graphic element. Without lettering and enlarged somewhat, the blue ring seemed very recognizable. The judges affirmed that it helped distinguish the badge from those of

other sheriff's departments. But when I asked what else it looked like, one judge immediately provided the answer that eliminated its consideration: "a doughnut" (perceived as the favorite food of law enforcement). Another design, with an expanding white diagonal emanating downward from a star in the hoist, looked to some like a helicopter searchlight, perceived as too intimidating.

In these steps, I was seeking consensus among the judges, avoiding any "scoring" and relying instead on their combined understanding of flag design to narrow the field. At this point, I asked individual judges to volunteer to speak for each design. By describing why they liked certain designs, the judges explored and reconsidered their own perceptions and shared their points of view with one another. At the end of the discussion, we went through another cull, leaving 18 semi-finalist designs.

All shared several common elements: the colors gold, green, and tan, and the badge, often with the bear, and most were very simple. One judge made a perceptive statement: "We are a para-military organization, and our flag should reflect that connection". So far, the judges had very similar opinions although the designs still varied greatly. But here we got stuck. We tried scoring the flags, using the criteria of simplicity, symbolism, color, attractiveness, and distinctiveness. This only

showed the wide disparity among the judges' opinions. While I would have eliminated a third of the remaining flags for using lettering or for their similarity to other existing flags, the rest all qualified as good designs, and each had strong supporters. At this impasse, we adjourned until the next morning.

I realized that we had moved beyond flag design and into a process of interpersonal dynamics and group decision-making. Unlike a civil/criminal jury brought together for one trial, these "jurors" all knew they might well interact again—thus they were less willing to formally challenge one another. They were

voted, those would probably have been eliminated.

While the "let's retain lettering" proponents were outnumbered, they were emphatic. They raised the valid concern that an organization as narrowly focused as LASD could not be sufficiently symbolized to the general public without the letters "LASD". Finally one judge, the female captain who commanded one of LASD's prisons, summarized—in terms all could understand—why words on flags are unnecessary, saying: "It's just like a hooker—we all know what a hooker looks like, she doesn't need a sign on her back saying 'HOOKER!'".

on making changes to each of the final designs, such as altering color shades, transposing colors, removing lettering, substituting badge/bear designs from other entries, and shifting the position of the charge. The judges especially favored a specific stylized badge from one set of entries and wanted that badge on all finalists. One design had support from most judges (and a version of it indeed became the final flag), but some judges were reticent to choose their favorites until all designs could be altered to reflect the judges' changes and rendered in consistent size, color, and style by a graphic artist.

The judges departed, leaving Lt. Waters to find and instruct the artist, consult the judges on their final opinions, brief the sheriff, finalize the design, announce the winner(s), and contract for flag manufacture. He and I visited LASD headquarters to inspect its flagpoles (the LASD flag would replace the county flag), where we observed the U.S. flag flying on its own left. I met Sheriff Baca briefly, and gave him the one-minute pitch for simplicity and no lettering. He understood, and said he enthusiastically awaited the judges' results. As a reward for my services I rode along on an exciting 90-minute helicopter patrol over Los Angeles County that evening before leaving California.

In the days that followed, Lt. Waters prepared the final designs and some variants for the judges' and then the sheriff's consideration. The judges conferred by e-mail and kept me posted on their deliberations. The sheriff selected one, and going beyond the initial plan, made his own changes to it (changing the tan portion to black).

The winning design combined the wavy center stripe from one entry, the stylized badge from another entry, and colors as modified by the sheriff. The wave design was submitted by Deputy Anthony Morga; the badge design was jointly submitted by Sergeant Brian Moriguchi and Lieutenant Richard Shaw. These entrants divided the prize money, to my knowledge the largest amount ever offered in a flag design contest. The upward-curving stripe symbolized to the judges "continuous progress into the future", while the colors represented the standard uniform and the badge uniquely identified the depart-



*Members of the jury examine some of the entries.*

also keenly aware that their colleagues in the department would hold them personally responsible for the flag—especially if any problems arose, leading them to additional caution. This went beyond my experience, so I refrained from pushing for votes.

One juror, a veteran homicide detective who had actually run against the incumbent sheriff in an earlier election and now served in the Office of the Sheriff, challenged the "no lettering" principle: "If it's good enough for the Marine Corps [to have lettering on its flag], it's good enough for us". He believed he spoke for longtime department members, if not for the majority of the judges, in insisting that the flag should say "LASD" or even "Los Angeles Sheriff's Department". At home, he actually had the large letters "LASD" set in tile on the bottom of his swimming pool so that the aero patrol could recognize his house. His persistence kept several designs with lettering in the running, although if judges had

The next morning, the homicide detective and leader of the "keep lettering" effort began the session by announcing his willingness to abandon that position. While he still would advocate for designs with letters, he would not oppose flags without them. Another judge mentioned passing by a McDonald's restaurant that morning and noting that the lettering on the flag was completely redundant with the golden arches. This broke the logjam and enabled the judges to proceed to winnow down the 18 semi-finalists.

Some were eliminated as resembling too closely other well-known flags (especially in black-and-white versions), such as Cuba, Trinidad & Tobago, and The Philippines. Others were discarded as less-worthy variations on a finalist. We continued the "keeper" method, where all judges had a say and any could voice support for keeping a design.

The judges quickly reduced the pack to 6 finalists, but often saying "I would vote for that if it were...". They insisted

## NAVA Flag Conservation Committee Active

by Richard T. Clark



NAVA Member Harry Oswald helps hoist the new flag of the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department.

ment, with the bear additionally representing California.

AAA Flags of Los Angeles fabricated the first LASD flag, which debuted at Sheriff Baca's re-election victory party the following week. A ceremony is planned for its hoisting at LASD headquarters later this year, with the flag delivered by the mounted enforcement detail color guard, who will hand it off to the color guard on foot; it will then be raised officially. LASD has ordered hundreds of flags for use throughout the county and for sale to raise money for its charitable activities. LASD attorneys have followed up having all the participants sign a notarized "Quitclaim of Copyright" confirming that we renounced any "rights, title, or interest of any kind whatsoever" in the flag's design.

This exercise taught me several lessons: Neophytes have an innate understanding of good flag design, and a modicum of instruction will enable them to apply it. The principles of *Good Flag, Bad Flag* apply well to the broad spectrum of entries such as found in a large contest, but individual judgment remains the best selector of final designs. I found that by educating the judges, they could quickly discard the majority of the entries without needing any formal scoring mechanism. That way they could focus quickly on the best designs. I saw the benefit that real-time electronic manipulation of flag images could have delivered to the proceedings—to have the judges watch an electronic display of a graphics program while an artist tested potential changes to a design would greatly enhance the speed and effectiveness of future deliberations. A final lesson learned: with trained judges, the final stages of the process require not flag design knowledge but group consensus-building skills.

### Board Approves Museum of the Confederacy as First Flag Conservation Project

The NAVA Board of Directors, at its August 30, 2002 meeting in Denver, Colorado, ratified the recommendations of last October's Annual Convention as well as the Flag Conservation Committee to adopt the flag conservation program of the Museum of the Confederacy as its first project in historic flag preservation.

In making its recommendation, the Flag Conservation Committee examined both the quality as well as the quantity of the MOC's efforts to preserve historic confederate flags. It also looked into the outreach activities at the Museum, including the display of restored items and its ability to educate the public on the history of the flags and how they were restored.

Since the solicitation of donations, which began in October of 2001, NAVA's Flag Conservation Program has raised US\$337.00. A check in this amount has been forwarded to the Museum's curator, Rebecca Rose. NAVA members will be kept apprised of how our donation was used so that everyone understands the importance for our undertaking this program. We encourage members to donate to our new project for 2002-2003, the Bedford Southside Dragoons Flag.

### Bedford Southside Dragoons Banner Chosen for Next Project

The Bedford Southside Dragoons Flag has been chosen as NAVA's historic flag conservation project for the coming year. While most of the US\$7,250 has already been raised for its restoration, a significant amount of money is still needed to provide for the banner's proper display, and for the development of educational materials relating to the history and conservation process of the flag.

The Bedford Dragoons organized 1 year before the Civil War began. In 1861, the Dragoons joined Company F of the Virginia Cavalry. Just before they headed off to battle, the

wives, mothers, and daughters of the 100 volunteers of the Bedford Southside Dragoons created a company flag from the silk of a woman's blue dress. It features, on the obverse, the image of George Washington. Above him is the slogan "Presented by the Ladies". Under Washington are the words "Bedford Southside Dragoons".

On the reverse appears the slogan "States Rights" above the Virginia state seal. Below, is the state motto "Sic Semper Tyrannis". In addition to being used at the Battle of First Manassas and Sharpsburg, the flag was also used during the Battle of Gettysburg in July of 1863, though as a secondary color, not the company's battle flag. Union soldiers captured it following the battle as the Dragoons retreated back to Virginia.

In 1919, Major William Graves, an ex-Dragon recovered the flag in Trenton, N.J., and turned it over to the William Terry Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, based in Bedford, Va. In 1932, the UDC donated the banner to the Bedford City-County Museum, where it resides today.

The restoration of the flag is being conducted by Fonda Thomsen and her company, Textile Preservation Associates, Inc., of Sharpsburg, MD. As a part of the process, Ms. Thomsen's company will humidify the flag with distilled water and dry it under glass with weights after the fabric has "relaxed". To prevent further stress, the flag will then be covered with a sheer, transparent polyester fabric and attached to a padded backing. It will then be enclosed in treated Plexiglas to filter out ultraviolet light.

If you are interested in participating in this year's flag conservation project, no donation is too small. Please make your check payable to NAVA and indicate on the "memo" section that it is to be used for the Flag Conservation Program.

Mail your tax-deductible contribution to: NAVA Treasurer, PMB 225, 1977 N. Olden Ave. Ext., Trenton, N.J. 08618-2193 USA.

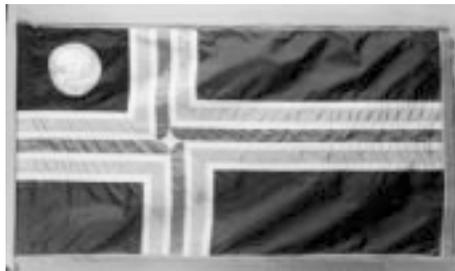
# Portland Gets a New Flag Thanks to NAVA Members

Mason Kaye

On September 4, 2002, Portland's city council voted unanimously to adopt the new flag for Portland proposed a week earlier by the Portland Flag Association, led by NAVA member Harry Oswald.

Portland, Oregon has had several flags in the past. The most recent was adopted in 1969 and created by graphic designer Douglas Lynch. It consisted of light blue offset crossed bars representing the confluence of the Willamette and Columbia Rivers where Portland is located, on a green background representing Portland's forested surroundings. A four-pointed star, symbolizing the city, was formed by the intersection of the bars. The blue bars were bordered by white-gold-white fimbriations, the gold representing wheat and commerce. The canton of the flag was dark blue, bearing the city seal. The seal was not originally part of Lynch's design, but the city commissioners had added it to the flag at the last minute, reflecting their own conservative tastes. Art commission members strongly opposed the city seal as an element of the flag, but to no avail.

The new flag changes four components of the 1969 flag. First, the blue stripes doubled in width, making them much more significant compared to their fimbriations. The four-

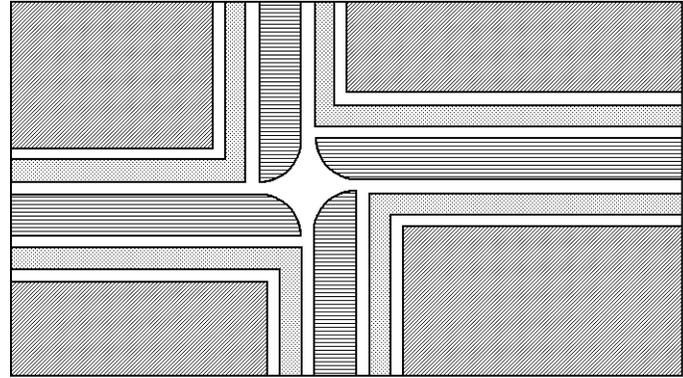


Portland Flag adopted in 1969. Same colors as the present flag with the first quarter blue bearing the City Seal.

pointed star became nine times larger, converting it from a minor blur to a major graphic element. The city seal was removed. The canton's dark blue background changed to the green of the rest of the flag's field.

Doug Lynch, 89, recently joined

Portland's new flag adopted in 2002. See article for colors.



NAVA. He is the long-time dean of graphic arts in Portland, and former chair of the Portland Art Commission. He joined the Portland Flag Association two years ago, and after sharing his experience of designing the city's flag in 1969, PFA members encouraged him to push for a revised design. He welcomed the opportunity to address some weaknesses and political compromises embodied in his 1969 design.

On August 28, 2002, Doug Lynch, Mike Hale, my father (Ted Kaye), and I all testified before the city council. Doug recounted the story of the previous flag's design, Mike spoke of the cost savings to the city of the simpler version, my father supported the new design in terms of the five basic principles from *Good Flag, Bad Flag*, and I gave the historical background of Portland's previous flags. Each commissioner was excited about the new design. Mayor Vera Katz asked that a real flag be ready the next week for the vote on the ordinance. Mike's company, Elmer's Flag & Banner, quickly manufactured one to Doug's new specifications.

The Mayor's chief of staff, Sam Adams, had already tested the design with all of the commissioners. Doug Lynch and Sam Adams live across the street from one another in Northwest Portland, and worked together to develop the new flag ordinance.

A week later, NAVA member John Hood picked up the new flag from Elmer's and mounted it on the pole

in the city council's chambers. Mayor Katz asked that the old flag go into the city archives, before calling for the vote which amended the City Code and made Portland's new flag official. PFA members applauded as her gavel marked the council's unanimous approval.

I hope to deliver a paper on the complete history of Portland's flags at 20 ICV next year in Stockholm. I have appreciated the opportunity to achieve the status of "vexillonaire" as well as researcher and reporter on the flags of my city.

An issue arises: Doug Lynch is always careful to describe the new design as an update or alteration of the flag, rather than as a change or a replacement. His long political experience has taught him that minimizing the extent of change makes it more achievable. But to vexillologists, is the current version different enough to be considered a new flag?



Members of the Portland Flag Association and of NAVA with the new flag. Left to right, Ted Kaye, Mason Kaye, Doug Lynch, John Hood. Kneeling is Fred Patridge.

Condensed from [globeandmail.com](http://globeandmail.com),  
Wednesday, October 2, 2002

## Historian designed Canada's flag

by Jane Doucet

The man whose design made the Canadian flag into one of the world's instantly recognizable national ensigns died in Sackville, N.B. on Sept. 13, 2002. Historian, educator, author and former provincial lieutenant-governor, George Stanley was 95.

Born in Calgary in 1907, Dr. Stanley was the only child of John and Della (Lillywhite) Stanley. From 1947 to 1949, Dr. Stanley held the first chair in Canadian history at the University of British Columbia. Awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship, he went to Ottawa in 1949 to research the history of Canadian government policy dealing with native people. He taught the first undergraduate course in military history ever given in Canada.

One of Dr. Stanley's most memorable and lasting achievements was his involvement in the design of the Canadian flag. In 1964, John Matheson, the parliamentary secretary for Prime Minister Lester Pearson, was in charge of the flag committee. Mr. Matheson sought out Dr. Stanley's opinion on a unique design for the flag, which the prime minister had promised Canadians by the end of 1965.

"Dad wanted it to be something simple that a schoolchild could remember and draw easily," said Ms. Stanley. "He also thought it should have a national symbol and incorporate Canada's official colours."

At the bottom of a memo that he sent to Mr. Matheson, he drew a rough sketch of the design he had in mind, which he based on the RMC flag. After receiving thousands of design submissions from the Canadian public, Mr. Matheson presented Dr. Stanley's sketch to the committee, which unanimously approved it. On Feb. 15, 1965, the first official Canadian flag was raised in Ottawa.

"What many people don't realize is that there was a lot of political tension tied up with cultural differences in Canada," Ms. Stanley said. "[He] received death threats because some people were angry that his design had political meaning."

For his part, Dr. Stanley believed the flag symbolized both French and English Canada, she said. "He had a very strong sense of duty to his country."

Dr. Stanley leaves his wife of 56 years, Ruth; and daughters Della, Marietta and Laurie.

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## 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.

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NAVA Membership entitles you to one free classified ad per year. Additional ads are US\$2.00 plus 10c per word above 21 words. Address, email, etc. doesn't count. Send ad information to NAVA NEWS ADS, 240 Calderwood Rd, Washington ME 04574-3440 or email them to [navanews@nava.org](mailto:navanews@nava.org). Checks/money orders should be made payable to NAVA. Sorry, no cash, please.

### Raven Contract Opportunity

Volume 9/10 of NAVA's journal, *Raven*, is currently in preparation. While many aspects of its production are provided by volunteers, NAVA has found it necessary to contract for formatting and typesetting services. In past years NAVA has received the services from an outside firm or a NAVA member (at a reduced rate). If you are interested in bidding on *Raven* 9/10, contact [raven@nava.org](mailto:raven@nava.org) or write the *Raven* editor at NAVA for a bid package. The bidding will close on 11/30/02.

The late Jim White, a long time NAVA member, from Medford, OR, generously donated his collection of flag materials to the NAVA Shopper. It includes various books, periodicals, ephemera, and over 300 4"x6" flags. For a complete listing, contact the NAVA Shopper at [shopper@nava.org](mailto:shopper@nava.org), or Mason Kaye, 2235 NW Aspen, Portland, OR 97210.

### NAVA News

Published quarterly by the North American Vexillological Association (NAVA), PMB 225, 1977 N Olden Ave Ext, Trenton NJ 08618-2193 USA. ISSN 1053-3338. Material appearing in NAVA News does not necessarily reflect the policy or opinion of NAVA, the executive board, or the editor.

Please send articles, letters to the editor and inquiries concerning advertising rates and permission to reprint articles to:

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# FLAG DESIGN COMPETITION

♣ NAVA 37 ♣ Montréal, Québec ♣ October 10 – 12, 2003 ♣

**Please help design a flag for NAVA's 37th Annual Meeting**

Each NAVA meeting displays a unique flag, distributed as a 4" x 6" souvenir to attendees and flown as a full-size flag at the meeting. The host committee invites NAVA members to enter the competition for the best design. The entry may symbolize or recall some or all of the following: the city, province, and/or country of the meeting, the number 37, NAVA, and vexillology. The designer of the winning entry will be recognized in *NAVA News*.

**Rules:**

- 1↷ Submit each entry indicating colors on a sheet of 8½" x 11" paper, a floppy disk, or an electronic .jpg or .gif file in FOTW format (216 pixels high, 16 color Browser Safe palette).
- 2↷ The flag's proportions should be 1 to 1.x, but adaptable to 3 x 5.
- 3↷ Clear descriptions or Pantone numbers of the colors should accompany the entry.
- 4↷ Individuals may submit up to 10 designs. Any beyond that number will be discarded.
- 5↷ This competition is open solely to NAVA members in good standing. Put your name and address on the back.
- 6↷ The competition closes MARCH 1, 2003: paper entries must be postmarked by MARCH 1; electronic entries must be sent by 3/1.
- 7↷ The entries will be judged by some members of the flag design committee, whose decision will be final.
- 8↷ Judges retain the right to combine or alter entries, while continuing to recognize their designers.

Send entries to:  
James A. Croft  
P O Box 365  
Northampton MA 01061-0365

or e-mail your design to  
[design@nava.org](mailto:design@nava.org)

## Question at NAVA-36

The question concerned the protocol of wearing American Flag patches on uniforms and how did the Air Force do it. I've checked with our folks who monitor and establish policies for the wearing of uniforms and have the following. This command, Air Force Space Command (AFSPC), has published its own guidance on how to wear a flag patch. The Air Force overall has not addressed the flag patch specifically and other major commands like us may have also issued guidance on it.

The rule: AFSPC specifies that, when worn (it's optional), the flag patch should be on the left shoulder.

The logic: The flag patch is to be worn such that it satisfies the flag protocol requirement that the canton be to the viewer's left. Also, the flag patch should be worn so that the flag appears to be "flying" properly as the wearer walks forward, i.e., the stripes should be to the rear. The left shoulder is the only place where both conditions are satisfied.

Note: The flag patch may only be worn on the "Flight Dress Uniform" (FDU) which, to the layman, is the green, single piece uniform you see pilots wearing - they call it a "bag." It can't be worn on the blue uniform nor on the "Battle Dress Uniform" (BDU) which is the mottled, camouflage-type pants and overshirt everyone wears when they're doing "dirty" work.

It was good to meet everyone in Denver last month and I hope to attend future meetings.

John King

Please note the following correction: The Flag Design Contest deadline is **MARCH 1, 2003**. The editor apologizes for the error in the last issue.

*Make your plans now!*



XX INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF VEXILLOLOGY  
IN STOCKHOLM JULY 28<sup>TH</sup> TO AUGUST 1<sup>ST</sup> 2003

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