

The Vexilloid Tabloid

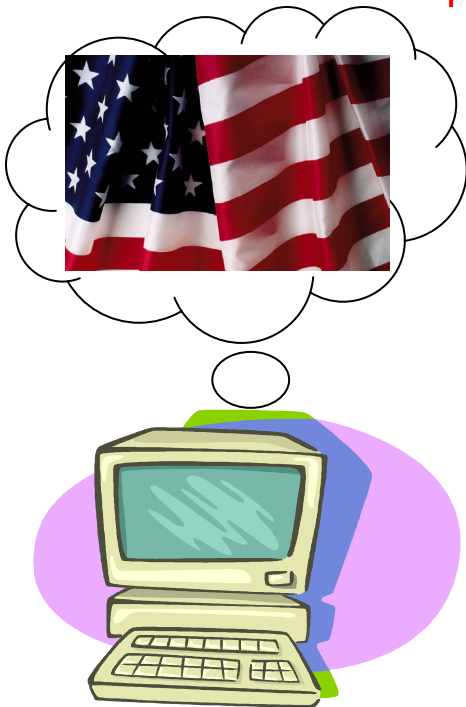
Portland Flag Association

“Free, and Worth Every Penny!”

Issue 22 July 2009

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“There is no flag large enough to cover the shame of killing innocent people.”—Howard Zinn, American Historian

King Maximilian Starts His Own Country!

By Max Liberman

The Kingdom of Æfira is a sovereign nation of twenty citizens, established in 2007 as an experiment in constitutional monarchy.

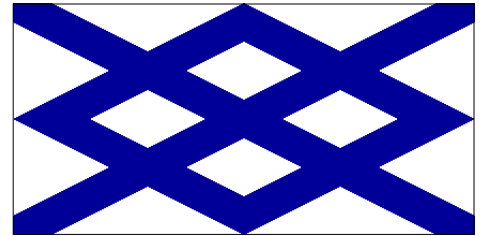
Æfira is governed by its Parliament, consisting of the Sovereign (elected for life; presently His Majesty King Maximilian), the appointed House of Lords and the elected House of Commons. The government is largely based on the Westminster system and the English common-law tradition, although numerous reforms, including a written constitution, have been made. For the interested, more information may be found at <http://aefira.net/>.

The following flags were adopted with the passage of the Flags Act 2009 and the Flags and Ensigns Order 2009. They are primarily inspired by the flags and ensigns of the United Kingdom; the *fret azure* was chosen in place of the crosses of SS. George, Andrew and Patrick as a simple, secular and (relatively) unique national symbol.

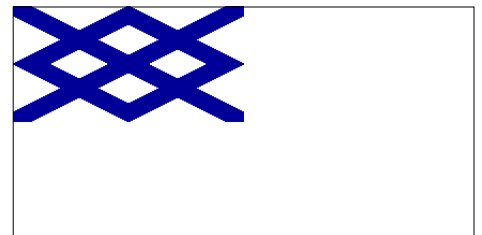
In order of precedence:



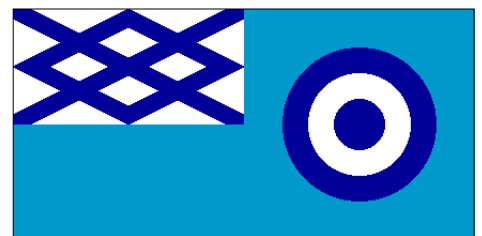
The Royal Banner



The National Flag and Jack (CSW/---)



The Royal Navy White Ensign (---/--W)



The Royal Air Force Ensign

(Continued on page 6)

If you wish to compliment the editor, or to contribute in the future, contact John Hood at 503-238-7666 or vivijohn@comcast.net. If you wish to complain, call your mother.

Nicknames of Flags

By John Hood

Have you ever considered that flags have names? We usually think of flags by the country they represent; e.g., "Is that the French Flag?"

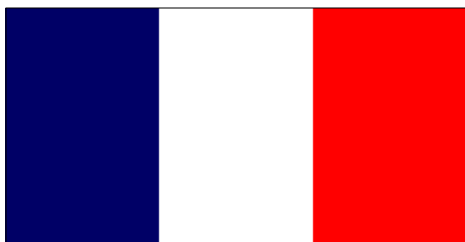
"There is the Wallonia Flag." While browsing through *Flags of the World*, I found that many countries' flags have names or nicknames and that some are very specific.

Our own flag is known by several names. *Old Glory* would probably be the most official. That was the name William Driver gave the flag presented to him before his round-the-world voyage in 1831. That flag is now in the Smithsonian Institute. However, *The Stars and Stripes* is just as popular a name. *The Star Spangled Banner* actually only refers to the flag of 1795 to 1818 with fifteen stars and fifteen stripes.



Star Spangled Banner

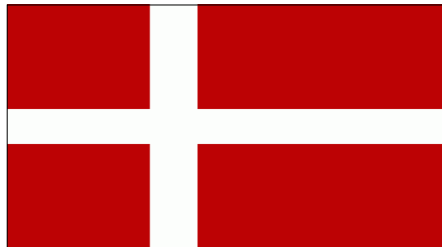
Many countries with a three-colored flag refer to it as *The Tricolor*, but the French are quite specific that theirs is the *Drapeau Tricolore*.



Drapeau Tricolore

One of the oldest would be the *Dannebrog* (Danish Cloth/

Banner) of Denmark which legend has going back to 1219 when



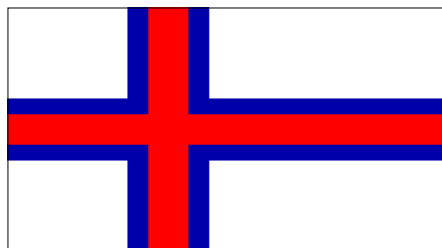
Dannebrog

it fell from the sky to help King Valdemar defeat the Estonians. A very young flag is that of Greenland. The *Erfalasorput* (Our Flag) was adopted in 1985.



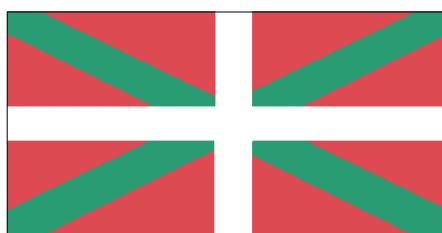
Erfalasorput

The Faroe Islands also use the colors of the *Dannebrog* but have added blue for the Norwegian heritage and call their flag *Merkið* (The Sign/Mark).



Merkið

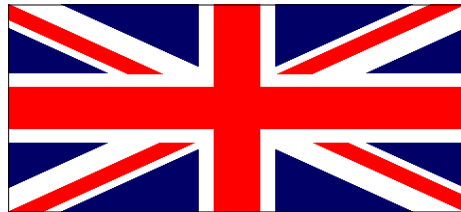
The Basque People have the *Ikurriña* (Our Flag), which is



Ikurriña

complex. The United Kingdom has the *Union Jack*, which is

more complex and easily flown upside-down. But for real complexity,



Union Jack

the 1844 Union of Sweden and Norway takes the cake (or salad). The *Union Mark* or *Sillsallaten* (Herring Salad) is a combination of the Norwegian and Swedish colors and resembles a smörgåsbord salad of pickled herring, beet roots and potatoes.



Union Mark/Sillsallaten
(Herring Salad)

The Caribbean has stars in some flags. *La Estrella Solitaria* (The



La Estrella Solitaria

Lonely Star) is the name of Cuba's flag and *La Monoestrellada* (The Single Star) is from Puerto Rico.



La Monoestrellada

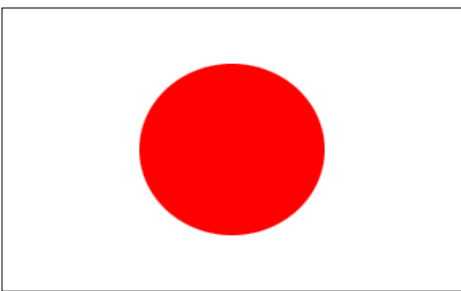
Nicknames of Flags

A little further south is Guyana with *The Golden Arrow*.



The Golden Arrow

So whether it is the *Hinomaru*



Hinomaru

(Sun Disc) of Japan, the *Le Coq Hardi* (The Bold Cock) of Wal-



Le Coq Hardi

lonia, or the *Maple Leaf* of Can-



Maple Leaf

ada, be aware that to the natives it's not just "the flag" waving in the breeze but it may actually have a name.

Flags from Elsewhere

These shots were taken on our trip last fall:



Independence Day in Casablanca (the whole week, actually) had flags everywhere.



In Cadiz: Cadiz Province, Spain, Andalucía, National Police



More Moroccan Flags



On Lanzarote Island: Canary Islands, Spain, Hari (city)



In Cadiz: Andalucía (civil), Spain, unknown

Flags in the News

The Oregonian, March 10, 2009

WEST LINN — Kim Pearson had no idea the American flag atop her sports store was upside down until a man stepped inside around lunch hour Friday to complain about the apparent sign of disrespect.

"I said, 'Oh, no, not again! We didn't do it!'" said Pearson, owner of Home-town Sports.

The flags atop her business and another building in the 1700 block of Willamette Falls Drive have been inverted twice since August. No one seems to know by whom or why.

"We're in Oregon, so it could be anyone," Pearson said.

Landlord Tim Tofte was not amused.

"I'm very upset by it, and so were the people who called," he said. "Even the policeman who called was upset—he was a veteran."

Flying a flag upside down is a traditional sign of distress, but neither Tofte nor Pearson knows what message, if any, is behind the prank.

Tofte fixed the flags Sunday morning.

He wouldn't elaborate on how he suspects the prankster reached the roofs, but Pearson said it would take at least a 10-foot ladder.

"We recognize that as a country, we're at war, and we have lots of problems," Tofte said. "But we think it's very disrespectful for our troops, and we don't want this done."

—Yuxing Zheng

There seemed to be a lot of flags in the paper and on television lately. Here are just a few with clean pictures, compliments of FOTW, that show



ALESSANDRA TARANTINO/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Protest in Italy | A demonstrator waves a Communist Refoundation Party flag Friday in Rome. Tens of thousands of factory workers, public employees and jobless people marched through the streets of the Italian capital to protest the conservative government's handling of the economic crisis.



Communist Reformation Party of Italy



Tamil Tiger supporters protest in front of Brandenburg Gate.



A demonstrator waves a Guatemalan flag in Postville, Iowa to commemorate the immigration raid a year ago.



The flag of The Speaker of the House is too recent to be in FOTW yet.

(Continued on page 5)

Flags in the News

(Continued from page 4)

the flags more clearly. Some of the flags could not be identified.



Supporters of Shahbaz Sharif, president of the Pakistan Muslim League, waving modified League flags with "Pakistan Muslim League" in Urdu.



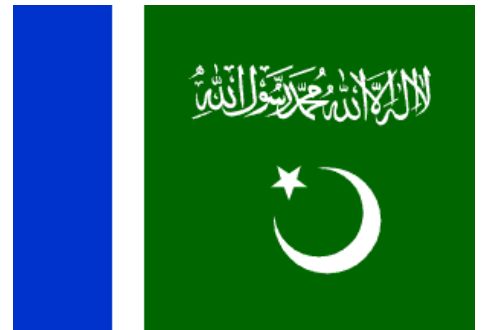
Muslim League without writing.



Khaksari Flag



A rally by the Khaksar Tehrik, a social movement, waving a variety of flags.



Party Jamât-e-Islam (Islamist Party) with shahada.



Pre-revolution flags with and without the sun behind the lion.



Pre-revolution Iranian flags in Southern California

October Meeting

The next meeting of the Portland Flag Association will be at 7 p.m., Thursday, October 15, 2009, at Scott Mainwaring's house, 7144 SW 29th Ave., telephone (503) 977-3222. See the map below. The meeting is week later than usual because of the NAVA conference in Charleston, SC. This is tentative since Scott is out of town and cannot confirm it. If there is a change, everyone will be notified.

We look forward to seeing those of you that have been otherwise committed, and see some different flags, and hear some provocative discussion. Any and all flags, books or articles are welcome for "show and tell."

The enclosed supplement for local members is meant to stimulate a discussion on the design of a PFA flag. Perhaps we can even have a vote, or, at least, decide how we will decide. If you can't get to the

Some Flag Related Web-

NAVA <http://www.nava.org>

Flag Institute (United Kingdom) <http://www.flaginstitute.org>

Flags of the World <http://www.fotw.net>

Elmer's Flag & Banner <http://www.elmersflag.com>

Darwin, Northern Territory (Australia) <http://www.nationalflags.com.au>

Flag Society of Australia <http://www.flagsaustralia.com.au>

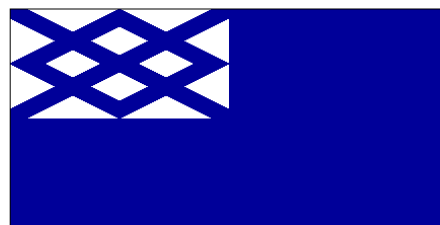
Flag Research Center <http://www.flagresearchcenter.com>

Southern African Vexillological Assoc. <http://www.sa-va.org.za>

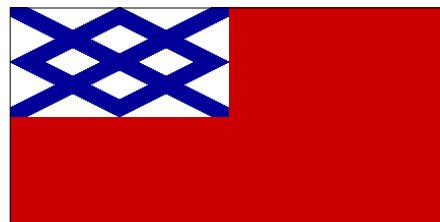
meeting, perhaps you can give the editor something to share with our readers. As you can see, snippets from anywhere can be used and it gives you an opportunity to add to your *curriculum vitae*.

King Maximilian's Country

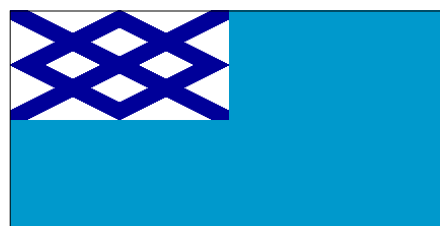
(Continued from page 1)



His Majesty's Government Blue Ensign (---/-S-)



The Merchant Marine Red Ensign (---/C--)



The Civil Air Ensign

Editor's note: My partner Vivian's niece was involved in a similar project at the University of Minnesota a few years ago, but the only flag her group designed was the National Flag for the Island of Nutopia.



July 2009 Flutterings You Need to Know

We did not have a big turnout this month as so often happens during the summer. Between members travelling to Alaska, California and Manchuria, there were still enough people to carry on well into the night.

Ted Kaye had just come back from FIAV 23 in Yokohama, Japan and put on a slide show of the proceedings.



The wind displayed the flags beautifully, but did cause some problems. Shown here are the flags of Japan, City of Yokohama, Japanese Vexillological Association and a special flag dedicated to the late Harry Oswald, a driving force in founding JAVA.



Detail of the special flag for Harry Oswald with his picture, Texas Flag, JAVA, FIAV 23 and prefecture flags.

As is always the case, attendees swap articles back and forth. Ted brought home a Japanese book of mons. A mon is, more or less, the equivalent of a heraldic crest and is used on clothing, stationery, roof



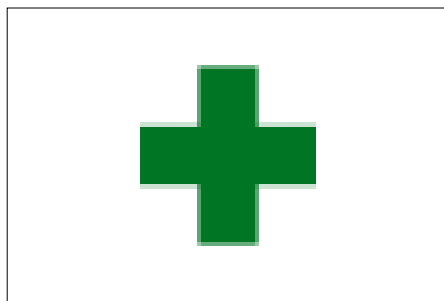
Members of JAVA holding their flag.

tiles, almost anything that a family might want to identify with. He



An example of Japanese mons.

also showed a book of Swiss flags, one of Moscow flags and a poster of flags of Japanese Higher Schools. A flag he brought back was rather unusual in that the ICV attendees agreed it was the "most-flown-flag in Japan"—it was seen at every construction site. The Green Cross of Safety was designed in 1919 (predating our symbol for the National Safety Council) to promote industrial safety.



Green Cross for Safety (Midori-jūji)

David Ferriday showed up wearing a tie! It was only momentary, however, just until everyone realized it had small Swedish flags embroidered all over it. He then showed us a set of sixteen drinking glasses of the Heritage Collection Series issued by Coca Cola in 1976. Each glass has a historical flag, mostly from the Revolutionary War, on one side and a description on the other. They were in excellent condition, having never been through a dishwasher.



An example of the Heritage glasses.

Max Liberman recently participated in the 1st Robotic Championships in Georgia and reports that the Flag Police could have issued many Wooden Flag Awards! There were flags from all the participating countries, but whoever set them up did several upside down. We almost expect the Union Jack to be wrong and South Africa frequently is in trouble, but Germany? Max and a group of young people are starting their own country, or at least the government, named Æfira as a school project. He showed the flags that have been designed and has written an article about them for this issue (see page 1).

(Continued on page 8)

January 2009 Flutterings

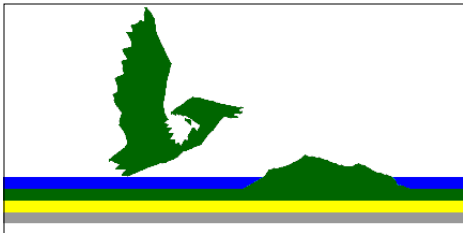
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John Hood received the common flag of Cape Breton Island from a friend in Halifax, Nova Scotia.



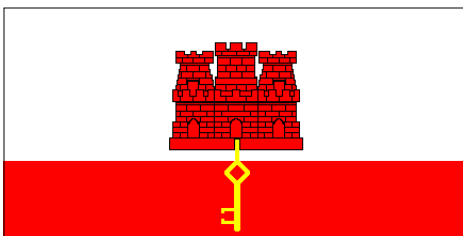
Common Cape Breton Island Flag

The official flag is not flown as much but is quite unique. The bald eagle forms a stylized map of the island.



Official Cape Breton Island Flag

John also had a flag of Gibraltar that Ted was able to acquire directly from the Territory's Purchasing Agent.



Gibraltar

The last but not least flag was one John's son had sent him. It was a 46 star flag John's mother had given her grandson so long ago that it had been forgotten. It would have been made sometime between 1908 and 1912 and measures 24" x 33".

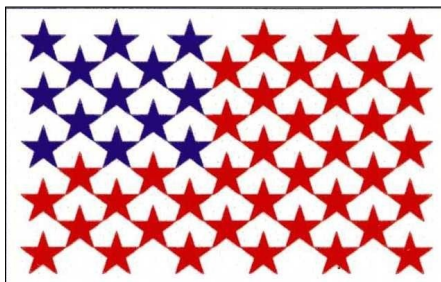


46 star family flag.

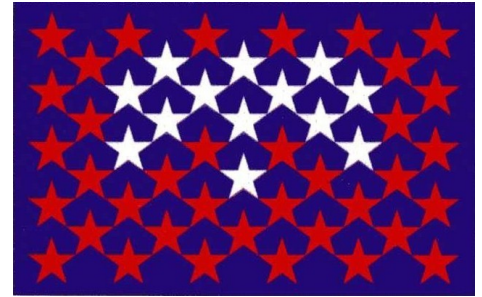
Then there were the usual reviews of the various periodicals John receives from around the world and the FlagInforms from the Flag Research Center. The proposed flag for our group was brought up again so a special supplement for the local members is enclosed with this issue that we might purposefully address the subject at the next meeting.

Fred Paltridge had a video of a news program on Southern Sudan which had an unidentified flag flying in the background. The image was poorly rendered and the flag could not be identified positively, but Max thought it looked a great deal like that of the President of Botswana—light blue with some sort of white circular device in the center.

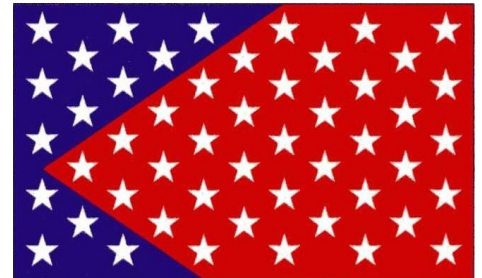
David Koski, a graphic artist/designer by trade, has been having "flashes of design" dealing with the U.S. Flag without stripes. Here are some of the dozen designs he showed us:



Thirteen stars in the canton.



A thirteen star eagle.



A bow to vexillology.

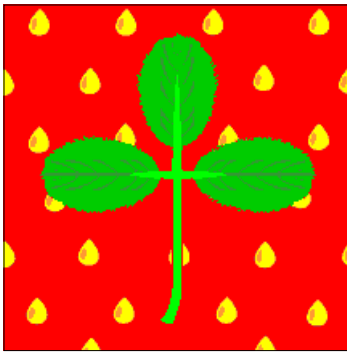
Mike Hale bemoaned the fact that the apps for his iphone dealing with flags are not useful since they describe the country and not the flag. A more scholarly app is needed that could be linked to flag flying days.

The following had nothing to do with the meeting, but it does have to do with the area. This triple digit heart has everyone talking so Vivian is flying banners that , at least, make one think cooler!



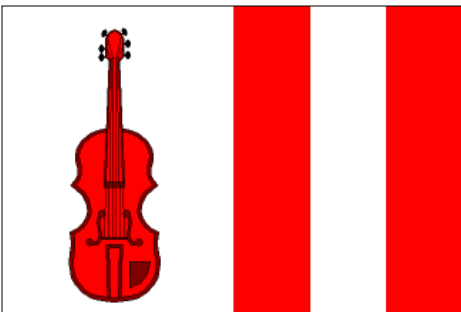
What Was that Flag? Answers to the last quiz

Canting on the old temp ground—
 Canting on the old damp ground—
 are they puns, amphigories, perhaps
 metaphors. In heraldry, and by ex-
 tension vexillology, canting is a vis-
 ual pun on a name. It was probably
 initiated in early times when most
 people were illiterate and the pic-
 ture of the leader's name was nec-
 essary for identification.



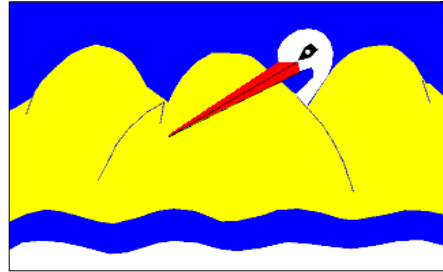
Jagodina, Serbia
 (jagoda = strawberry)

Jagodina is a little town in central
 Serbia and has been known as the
 “Strawberry City” since the 14th
 century.



Huslenky, Czech Republic
 (housle = violin)

This village near the Slovakian
 boarder was first mentioned early
 in the 16th century but with no rea-
 son for the name. The coat of
 arms has a tree of some sort instead
 of the stripes.



Kijkduin, ZH, Netherlands
 (kijkduin = watch dune)

This is a proposal made a few years
 ago but probably has not been ac-
 cepted. Kijkduin is a beach resort,
 now included in The Hague. The
 stork is on the coat of arms of Das
 Haag. Any one feel paranoid?



Anjouan, Comoros
 This island was also known as
 Ndzwani which means “hand” in
 Swahili

Anjouan is located in the Mozam-
 bique Channel and gained its inde-
 pendence from Comoros in 1997.
 There is much discussion about the
 configuration and placement of the
 hand.



Lipetsk (city), Russia
 (lipo = Lime tree)

Lipo can also be translated as a Lin-
 den tree, but no history is found.

What's that Flag?

Once again, all of these flags have
 something in common—other than
 the Scandinavian Crosses. What is
 it and where are they from?

