



The National Standard

BULLETIN OF THE VEXILLOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION OF THE STATE OF TEXAS

NUMBER
EIGHTEEN

SPRING-SUMMER
2020



EIGHT BELLS: James T. Liston, 1962-2019. *File photograph.*

MILESTONES: JAMES T. LISTON, 1962-2019

JAMES T. LISTON, a charter member of the Vexillological Association of the State of Texas, died Dec. 4, 2019, in Houston. He was 57.

He served as the Association's president from the date of its incorporation, April 19, 2000, to September 20, 2017, resigning due to the demands of his law practice. James was a fellow of the Association.

A former editor of *NAVA News* and a contributor to *The Flag Bulletin*, James's interest in vexillology flowed from his love of sailing. At the time of his death, he was president of Galveston Bay Power Squadron, historian of the Sussex Motor Yacht Club, and member of the national Flag and Etiquette Committee for the U.S. Power Squadrons. He was a past commodore of the Houston Yacht Club and an Admiral in the Texas Navy. James was a friend of the late vexillologist Peter Edwards through sailing before each of them knew the other was also interested in flags. His vexillological expertise was in nautical flags and the flags of the countries of the British Commonwealth and he consulted worldwide in these areas.

continued on page 4

CONTENTS

Milestones: Edwards....	2
VAST Fellowships.....	3
2019 Meeting.....	3



From top:

EIGHT BELLS:

Peter B. Edwards,
1931-2019.

File photograph.

PERSONAL FLAG:

The personal flag of Peter B. Edwards; granted by the Canadian Heraldic Authority in 1996. The burgee represents his vexillological specialization; the infinity symbol reflects the infinite number of designs used on yacht club burgees he included in the Burgee Data Archives. *Canadian Heraldic Authority.*

MILESTONES: PETER B. EDWARDS, 1931–2019

PETER BRIAN EDWARDS, an esteemed Anglo-Canadian vexillologist, died July 25, 2019. He was 88.

He established the Burgee Data Archives in 1978 and won the Captain William B. Driver Award in 1993. President of the Royal Heraldry Society of Canada from 1989–1990, Peter founded the Toronto branch and was named a fellow of that society in 1989. Peter's interest in vexillology flowed from his love of sailing; he was a friend of the late vexillologist James Liston through sailing before either knew the other was interested in flags. Peter and his wife enjoyed sailing Lake Ontario; the North Channel; and once to Martha's Vineyard.

Born March 19, 1931, in Great Crosby, England, Peter volunteered with the First Royal Tank Regiment for service in Korea as part of the U.N. peacekeeping forces and saw active combat. After his service in Korea, he returned to the United Kingdom, assigned to the 13th Battalion of the Parachute Regiment. Peter became a market researcher with the A.C. Nielsen Co. in Oxford; in 1954, he emigrated to Canada and worked in market research positions in that country and in the United States. He attended McMaster University, Hamilton, Ont., before receiving degrees from Toronto Teachers' College and York University, Toronto. Peter taught elementary, middle, and high school; he finished his career as a guidance counselor, and retiring in 1989.

He served in the St John Ambulance Brigade, Uniformed Division, for eight years, including two years as the Ontario Provincial Commissioner. Peter established the Royal Canadian Yacht Club archives and served as Honourary Archivist for ten years. In the United Kingdom, he was a member of the Honourable Artillery Company; The Cavalry and Guards Club; and was a Liveryman of the Merchant Taylors' Company. In Canada, Peter joined the Queen's York Rangers (1st American Regiment) and later the Governor General's Horse Guards as a Captain, receiving the Canadian Forces Decoration (CD). He was a life member of the Royal Canadian Military Institute and the Royal Canadian Yacht Club, and a member of the Whitby Yacht Club.

He is survived by his wife of 46 years, Patricia Carol (née Yeargin) and many cousins and friends in both North America and the United Kingdom. No services were held at his request.

Before his death, Peter transferred his vexillological papers to the Naval Marine Archive—The Canadian Collection, Picton, Ont.

Peter will be fondly remembered and missed by his friends.

THE NATIONAL STANDARD (Continuing VAST News) (ISSN 2165-0101 (Print); ISSN 2165-011X (Online)) is published twice each year by the Vexillological Association of the State of Texas, member of the Fédération internationale des associations vexillologiques. For questions or information, contact: VAST, 504 Branard Street, Houston, Texas 77006-5018 USA. E-mail: info@texflags.org Internet: www.texflags.org

VEXILLOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION OF THE STATE OF TEXAS

H.P. (PETE) VAN DE PUTTE JR. FF VAST President

HUGH L. BRADY FF Vice President | CHARLES A. SPAIN FF WSF Secretary-Treasurer



FELLOWSHIPS HONOR WORK TO ORGANIZE HEMISFLAG AND SUPPORT ASSOCIATION'S WORK OVER TWO DECADES

The Association's Board of Directors may elect as a Fellow of the Association any member who, among other things, renders exceptional service to the Association in the advancement of vexillology. The position of Fellow is an honorary position of the Association. Fellows may use the post-nominals "FVAST."

In 2019, the board announced the election of fellows to honor them for their work in organizing HEMISFLAG: The 28th International Congress of Vexillology, held in San Antonio and supporting the work of the Association since its founding in 2000. The fellows are:

- ✦ John S. Adcock: service in connection with NAVA 42 and HEMISFLAG; support for placement of the FRC Collection at The University of Texas; and long-standing financial support.
- ✦ Graham M.P. Bartram: support for the advancement of vexillology in Texas.
- ✦ Petr Exner: for the design of the VAST seal and officer flags.
- ✦ John M. Hartvigsen: For service as HEMISFLAG Scientific Program Director.
- ✦ Michel R. Lupant: support for the advancement of vexillology in Texas.
- ✦ Anne M. Platoff: for service as HEMISFLAG Scientific Committee Chair.
- ✦ Lawrence D. Soucier: service in connection with NAVA 42 and HEMISFLAG; support for placement of the FRC Collection at The University of Texas; and long-standing financial support.
- ✦ Leticia Van de Putte: service in connection with NAVA 42 and HEMISFLAG; support for placement of the FRC Collection at The University of Texas; and long-standing financial support.
- ✦ Vanessa Van de Putte, for service as HEMISFLAG Congress Director and financial support.

The fellows join Dr. Scot Guenter and H.P. (Pete) Van de Putte, Jr., as Fellows of the Association. Dr. Whitney Smith and James T. Liston were elected Fellows in 2012 and 2015, respectively.

REPORT: 2019 BUSINESS MEETING, SAN ANTONIO

The Association held its annual business meeting on Thursday, July 15, 2019, at the St. Anthony Hotel, auxiliary to HEMISFLAG: The 28th International Congress of Vexillology in San Antonio. Among other business, members re-elected Pete Van de Putte, Hugh Brady, and Charles Spain as members of the Board. The Board met after the annual meeting and elected Mr. Van de Putte as President, and re-elected Prof. Brady as Vice President and Justice Spain as Secretary-Treasurer. The 2020 annual business meeting is scheduled to be held Saturday, February 29, 2020, at the AT&T Hotel and Conference Center auxiliary to the 124th annual meeting of the Texas State Historical Association in Austin.



LISTON'S PAPERS WILL GO TO U.T.

continued from page 1

James was born November 12, 1962, was born in New Orleans, Louisiana, and grew up sailing the waters of Galveston Bay where hundreds of young sailors later enjoyed his tutelage.

A graduate of Clear Lake High School, Clear Lake, James attended Principia College, Elsah, Ill., and completed his undergraduate work at The University of Texas at Austin, graduating in 1984 with a bachelor of arts degree in history with honors, concentrating in British history. He received his law degree from the University of Houston Law Center in 1987. In law school, James served as research editor of the *Houston Law Review* and as President of the Admiralty Law Society. He was admitted to the State Bar of Texas in 1987.

James practiced law in Houston for almost three decades, specializing in appellate, admiralty, and maritime law. For several years, he co-authored the annual survey of maritime law for the *Texas Tech Law Review*. He began his legal career as a central staff attorney for the First Court of Appeals in Houston. James served as an adjunct professor of legal research and writing at the University of Houston Law Center, where many future lawyers benefited from his love of the law and passion for writing. James was admitted to the State Bar of Texas and to the bars of the U.S. Supreme Court, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, and the U.S. District Courts for the Southern and Eastern Districts of Texas.

"James reveled in the wonder and mystery of ships and the magic of the sea," his obituary notes. "He loved a good limerick and everyone he met was his shipmate and friend." James is survived by his mother, Roberta; brother, Jonathan; sister Becky Liston Carter (John); nephew Alex Carter and niece Tina Carter; aunt and uncle June and Cory Liston, uncle Perry Vogel, and cousin Tracey Liston.

A memorial service was Dec. 15, 2019, at the Houston Yacht Club. Justice Spain represented the Association at the service.

Before his death, James made arrangements for his vexillological papers to be donated to the Whitney Smith Flag Research Center Collection at The Dolph Briscoe Center for American History at The University of Texas at Austin.

James Liston will be sorely missed by his many friends.