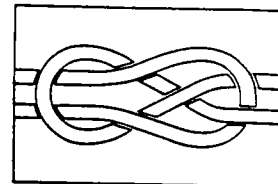


INFO-FIAV

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This bulletin has been edited by FIAV (Fédération Internationale des Associations Vexillologiques), the former secretary-general, Dr. Emil Dreyer, Flurweg 43, CH-3052 Zollikofen. It is distributed freely to all members of the Federation.

XVII. INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF VEXILLOLOGY, CAPE TOWN, 1997

The 17th FIAV congress, organised by the Southern African Vexillological Association, took place from 10 until 15 August 1997 in the BMW Pavilion at the Victoria and Albert Waterfront in Cape Town, Rep. of South Africa.

63 participants and 18 accompanying persons from 18 countries gathered in flags and friendship during a beautiful and most interesting week in Cape Town. Most of the participants came from South Africa of course (15 persons), followed by the United States with 9 persons, Germany with 8 and Australia with 5 persons. 4 participants came from Spain and each 3 from Switzerland and France. The other 11 nations were represented each by either one or two participants.

29 lectures of about 20 to 30 minutes of duration were presented, simultaneous translation in the French, German and English language was provided. Almost all of the lectures were delivered in English, 3 were in French and 2 in German. The scientific program was complemented by a computer seminar and several very interesting exhibits, like the exhibition of flag designs and prototypes which led to the South African national flag in the National Archives, and the one at the Maritime Museum, where replicas of historical flags of Southern Africa were exhibited. A magnificent day-long tour took the congress from interesting Cape Town Castle, past an ostrich farm, to a wine estate, where a splendid meal was served. The tour continued to the lovely Franschoek Valley, where a Huguenot memorial was visited.

The excellent closing banquet at the Kelvin Grove Club gave opportunity not only to present the Vexillon and some other awards, but to thank our Southern African friends for the successful congress and for their hospitality and to farewell our colleagues and friends until vexillology meets again in Victoria, British Columbia.

XVIII. INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF VEXILLOLOGY, VICTORIA, 1999

Mr. and Mrs. Webb, co-owners of *The Flag Shop*, and the Canadian Flag Society will host the 18th international congress of vexillology in Victoria, Victoria Island, British Columbia, Canada. The congress is scheduled for July 28 to August 2, 1999. You are invited to contact:

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