

The US NAVY'S Betsy Ross of Connecticut

# The Lady Patriot

Lucretia Shaws-13 Star's & Stripe's Flag



shaw

Capt. Gary Gianotti  
April 24, 2014

# Navy Agent's Wife



Pictured Above is the home of Capt. Nathaniel & Lucretia Shaw's home in New London, Connecticut.

A Revolutionary War Patriot and wealthy merchant who owned a number of ships used for privateering, New London's Nathaniel Shaw, Jr. was the naval agent for the both the Continental Congress and the State of Connecticut. His responsibilities included drawing up orders for privateers and handling the disbursement of the prizes taken. Shaw directed much of these activities from his own home. The Shaw Mansion served not only as his operational command post during the war but also, until 1907, as home to subsequent generations of the Shaw family. Today, the mansion serves as the headquarters for the New London County Historical Society. The Next several paragraphs are taken from the historical societies write up on the flag.

[Nathaniel Shaw 13-Star Flag – National Treasure | New ...](#)

Sometimes it just takes new eyes to help you “discover” treasure. We've written in the past about the 13-star flag in our collection that was restored, reframed and hung for the exhibit that marked the 225th anniversary of the

## The US NAVY'S Betsy Ross of Connecticut

Burning of New London. Late in the summer 2007, a new member, Gary Gianotti, visited the Shaw Mansion to do some research on Norwalk privateers. Seeing the flag and hearing of its history he was very impressed because he was aware of just how rare that flag might be. In the following weeks he contacted national-level flag experts and became even more excited.

When the historical society purchased the Shaw Mansion to be its headquarters in 1907, the 13-star flag was discovered in the attic of the house. Jane Perkins, who sold the house to us, was the great-great granddaughter of the original builder, Capt. Nathaniel Shaw. Miss Perkins told Mrs. Dudley Bramble, Regent of the Lucretia Shaw Chapter of the DAR, that the flag belonged to the Naval Agent, Nathaniel Shaw (Jane's great-great uncle), and Mrs. Bramble documented the conversation.

The flag was on exhibit for a long time on the landing to the second floor, framed and sandwiched between two panes of glass. At one point a visiting scholar, Dr. Henry Moeller, who was a vexillologist (a flag expert), urged the society to remove the flag from this poor environment and restore it before it was too late. In one letter he noted that our stewardship of this item was ... well, not stewardship. The flag was eventually taken to the textile lab of the University of Rhode Island. When they removed the flag from the glass, pigment from the flag could be seen remaining on the glass. Repairs were made, and it was stitched between two layers of a scrim-like mesh which was mounted between two layers of archival matt board. It was framed with archival quality materials and installed as part of the exhibit last September. The flag is hand-stitched and apparently made of silk ribbons sewn together for the stripes. The stars on the field of blue (the canton) are in a very unusual pattern, a circle of ten with three in the middle. The claim has always been that this is a handmade American flag from the late 18th century – from the office of a person who would be very likely to have such a banner, bearing in mind that the purpose of the flag was to identify American ships.

Below I added comments to the rest of the societies document, where it all can be better explained. So why haven't we taken our flag to the Smithsonian to be authenticated?(GG-The Smithsonian Textile Academics in the early 1900's falsified textile identification deliberately. Prior to the 1900's, the few flag historians, such as Admiral Preeble, wrote flag a document that praised

## The US NAVY'S Betsy Ross of Connecticut

three flags above the Smithsonian's Star Spangled Banner. This may have caused the Smithsonian to retaliate by falsifying the textile methods of identification. You should note that this problem of identification only exists with 18th century flags and the Smithsonian refuses to correct or address this destruction and devaluation they brought upon many important historical flags in the last 70 plus years. Why would this have been done on purpose and why would they allow incorrect identification methods in this science continue? There are several reasons to explain why? God forbid if the Smithsonian is ever wrong, if these textile dating methods were corrected, the institute would be responsible for the restoration of debunking many historical flags that are now nearly worthless in historical value and monetary value. The past owners could bring on law suites that they could never pay back. Another reason for why this happened, is the academic enemy with in our society. The best way to ruin a nation or a county is by destroying its symbolism. What is a person with no identity and what is a country with no identity? Another fact in the historical flag world, by not correcting these identification methods. Many priceless flags have become devalued so greatly that historical flags collectors can acquire these very rare flags for next to nothing!) So why correct it the problem? Who cares today?

Well, the Smithsonian, can't really do that.(GG-Today they can do silk weave dating and origin identification in England) They can examine the stitching, take samples of the material and perhaps rule out an 18th-century existence – for example they could identify a dye in the fabric which wasn't available at the time.(GG-The Dyes used are period) However, even if the materials proved to be authentic to the 18th century by scientific examination, it is the provenance of an object such as this, that is, the physical history of where the object came from, which can best provide authentication. The provenance of this flag is impeccable; however, we will admit that it is not unassailable.

Visiting vexillologists have vetted our flag and agree that we have every reason to believe this is the real deal — exactly what it appears to be, one of the rare examples of an American flag that can be documented back to the American Revolution.

## The US NAVY'S Betsy Ross of Connecticut

On one of my visits to the Shaw mansion, I saw the needle art work that Shaws wife Lucretia had done. Showing the Shaw Family coat of arms that has three five-pointed stars across the center of a shield, I suggested that the arrangement of three stars surrounded by a circle of ten stars may have been an attempt to personalize the flag. Also, another coat of arms of the Shaw family showed the same pattern of the Stars arrangement, showing drinking cups that represents the true ancient Shaw coat of arms design in the same star pattern arrangement.

Before I get into the symbolism meaning, allow me to address details on the flag itself and the Background of Lucretia Shaw

Lucretia Shaw was the beautiful wife of Nathaniel Shaw, a prominent New London merchant and agent of the colony for naval supplies. On her husband's behalf, Lucretia entertained the most noted men of her day at their mansion, which stands to this day. Her pity and compassion for American prisoners of war led her to selflessly step aside from her luxurious home and minister to these strangers personally. As a direct result, she contracted "gaol fever" and died, thus sacrificing her own life for the Revolution.



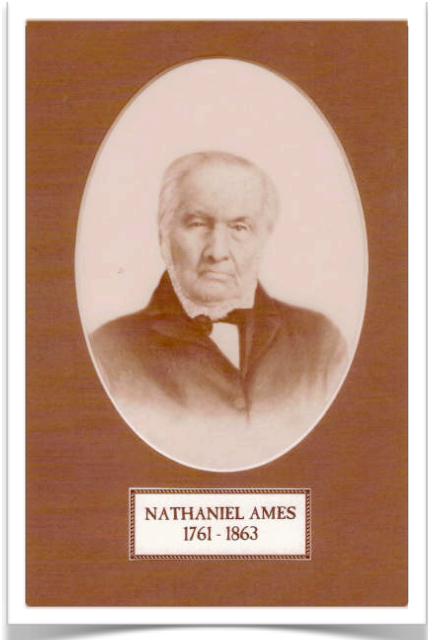
The Dust of Nathaniel Shaw Esqr., who died 15th April, A.D. 1782, aged 47 years. And of his Wife Lucretia that died 11 Decemr. A.D. 1781, aged 44 years.

In 1938, The Lucretia Shaw Chapter erected an iron fence around the entire burial ground. Very important evidence was overlooked that proves our Heroine made the flag for her husbands office. Lucretia died in 1781, page one shows that the flag itself was never finished because she died in the process of making the flag! The top tassel strip was never attached and the hoist leading edge of the flag

## The US NAVY'S Betsy Ross of Connecticut

was never finished. Why would this flag have never been completed and the answer is that she died in the process of making the flag. This forgotten Heroine deserves higher honors than any famous flag maker in United States history. Today, not one flag period to the Revolution has ever been found or proven to have been made by Ross herself. Except I can say I advanced her history, where I would bet any dollar that I have found two or three surviving examples that were made by Betsey. Few people have ever seen an original image of Ross and this painting of her was done late in life by one of students of Benjamin West. Nathaniel Waldo, the famous artist painted this painting of Ross. Waldo was a native, born and raised, who began his painting career in New London Country, right down the road from Lucretias home, where she made her flag.

Vexillologists today are a group of people who I have studied in depth. They have been known at these national gatherings on 18th century flags to violently explode with argument towards people speaking, with information that advances the study. Flag historians tried to tell me that I could not prove the Shaw flag was period to the American Revolution because there is no first hand document that say's so? Forensics science and the new Silk textile identification methods say the flag is period and evidence of the flag not being finished speaks for itself. Pictured below is the rare Ross painting by Waldo and the flag to the right is his cousins flag.



## The US NAVY'S Betsy Ross of Connecticut

Vexillology prior to 2009, it was every persons goal in this field of study to be the first person to find an original Revolutionary War, period 13 Stars & Stripes. Several well known flag historians did discredit my research on restoring this Connecticut, New London County, Lady Patriots flag history. This was not at all a low point for me, this was fuel that feed the fire, within me to prove to the 13 Star's & Stripes Vexillology world. Where I was a better researcher in this field than all the flag experts combined, in the last 100 years, advancing this field of study.

This was accomplished less than two years after this 2009 Shaw Flag story. Proving a point that all of the Vexillology experts have done more damage to this history and our historical flag heritage. This is when I tracked down the only proven signed and dated, period 13 Stars & Stripes flag known to exist. The odds of finding this flag was many millions to one and the odds were even greater that the flag over a five year study, proved it was another New London County flag of the American Revolution. The owner of the flag was Nathaniel Eames-Ames, who served on the Privateer Marquise de lafayette. He helped build Fort Griswold, served in the Continental Army and then joined the ship for a two year voyage to Europe and the West Indies. Ames is the direct cousin of Nathaniel Waldo who is the only person to capture, the only image of Betsey Ross known to exist today.

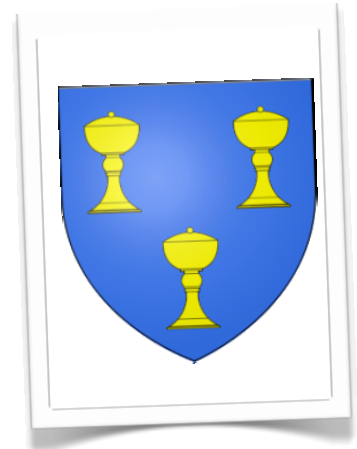
Today, these two flags are the most historically significant, surviving 13 Star's & Stripe's flags, period to the American Revolution, known to exist in United States flag history today. There have been many new advancement's on other flags that I have worked on recently that advances 18th century flags studies light years, beyond today's Vexillologist's. Who are ignorant and refuse to challenge the Smithsonian textile identification atrocity. Why? Because they want the flags devalued, so they can acquire them for nothing, period!

Having said this to you the readers of this document, the evolution of this flag history being destroyed by ignorance, greed and academic enemies with in our country. Adds to the many problems faced today with why many schools across the nation refuse to allow our children and why government officials refuse to give their "Pledge of Allegiance" at town or government meetings.

# Shaw Star Symbolism

## Who Were the Shaws?

In [George Crawford](#)'s 18th century publication, *History of Renfrewshire*, he stated that the [antiquary](#) Sir George Mackenzie claimed the clan descended from "Shiach, a son of [MacDuff Earl of Fife](#)" from whom the clan took its name. It has also been said the clan descends from a second son of Duncan I of Scotland, Earl of Fife, who was [cup bearer](#) to the [king of Scots](#). Later, the 18th century [heraldist](#) [Alexander Nisbet](#) claimed that the clan may have acted as [cup bearers](#) to [Alexander II](#) or [Alexander III](#).



Despite this, the arms of Schaw of [Sauchie](#) (the principal branch of the clan) allude to the office of cup bearer, and are [blazoned](#) as: *Azure, three covered cups Or*. In this way the arms are similar to those of the Butler family in England. Today members of Clan Schaw may wear a [crest badge](#) to show their allegiance to the clan. This crest badge contains the [heraldic crest](#) *a demi savage Proper*, and the [heraldic motto](#) *I MEAN WELL*. The crest within the crest badge is derived from the arms of Schaw of Sauchie. The principal family within the clan was said to have been the Schaws of [Sauchie](#) (their residence, [Sauchie Tower](#) still stands in [Clackmannanshire](#)). A member of this family was John Schaw of Sauchie, who was [Comptroller of the Royal Household](#) to James III. Other branches or families within the clan were located in [Kirkcudbrightshire](#) and [Ayrshire](#), and also around the towns of [Greenock](#) and Stirling.

Next to nothing has ever been found on the identity origins of the three famous Shaw families from the American Revolution, Nathaniel of New London, Joseph of Bridgewater, MA and John Shaw of Maryland. These three Shaws had in common, that they were members on the Councils of Safty. John Shaw the Maryland cabinet makers was famous for making the two famous Maryland State House Flags. When George Washington resigned his command, the famous Shaw flags were part of this important historical moment. John Shaw was involved in preparing the State House for Washingtons resignation. Washington had even spent time with Nathaniel Shaw Jr. where the General was Shaws guest at the mansion.



## The US NAVY'S Betsy Ross of Connecticut

Important genealogy history has been overlooked on both Washington's ancient ancestry and the Shaw's ancestry. The Shaw's mansion has the preserved art work that the Shaws original coat of arms represent the original Sauchie line symbolism or a direct link, that connects to the royal families as cup bearers, the definition is below.

A cup-bearer was an officer of high rank in royal courts, whose duty it was to serve the drinks at the royal table. On account of the constant fear of plots and intrigues, a person must be regarded as thoroughly trustworthy to hold this position. He must guard against poison in the king's cup, and was sometimes required to swallow some of the wine before serving it. His confidential relations with the king often gave him a position of great influence. The position of cup bearer is greatly valued and given to only a select few throughout history. Qualifications for the job were not held lightly but of high esteem valued for their beauty and even more for their modesty, industriousness and courage. There is much more to the roll and their responsibility with this title, who more to trust than a direct family member in your own royal family. Their duties also had the bearer's handle the money for the household and provide the guards to protect the royal household.

When we see the ancient Shaw family name that bears this symbolism to the Shaws of Sauchie, who are said to originate from the son of King Duncan I. If this is true, Duncan I is the son Crinan and Bethoc, daughter of Malcolm II of Scotland. This is the important lost connection to the story, Duncan is the brother to Maldred of Allerdale, lord of Cumbria. Maldreds son Gospatric is the son who was given the title, Earl of Dunbar. The famous Earls of Dunbar have a mystery being studied today. Through their unbroken chain of documented, direct royal blood of the true ancient Kings and Queens of Ireland, Scotland and England. Who originate from the ancient royal Scythians invaders who conquered Britannica. The Scythian Prince and his wife's line, Egyptian princess Scota, where the name Scotland, Scott, originates.

What does all of this ancient royal history have to do with Shaws flag and Lucretia? The said, Shaw direct male line to King Duncan I, his brother Maldred is the key piece to this story segment. Maldreds son, Gospatrics line of sons has a branch that changes their name or title with the name. Sir Patrick Fitz Dolfin of Raby, born in Hertburn, who married the sister of

## The US NAVY'S Betsy Ross of Connecticut

William the Lion, King of Scotland. Patrick Fitz Dolfin's son is William Fitz Patrick de Hertburn who's name becomes William de Wessynton I. Does this name ring any bells? If not, let me share this with you! William de Wessynton is the direct documented grandfather of President George Washington. Nathaniel Shaw jr. and George Washington would be direct cousins, who can be traced back to the same ancient, direct grandfather Crinan. Crinan also went by the name Conan, where it is believed that Robert E. Howard the author of Conan the Barbarian, based ideas of his fictional story creation, from some of the history of Crinan and his name!

[WASHINGTON Family Genealogy.pdf - Ingilby History](#)

Now, this Shaw-Washington direct family connection can make the best academics skeptic and I would think it would especially make Vexillologist laugh. Now, there are DNA historians working on this Dunbar-Washington history, where no DNA has yet been used to prove that the Washington's are Dunbars. 19th Century historians have even wrote another entire royal line history of Washington being from the Royal Viking lines who settled in Orkney Scotland(King Odin). Where the famous Sinclair line took their title name after that royal family line. Except, this Ingilby document is one of the most accurate documents to date, proving that the Washingtons are from the direct Dunbar line of males. Regardless, over hundreds of years of time, it does not mean that one of the mothers did not roll hay while dad was out at war. Also a maternal grandson could have taken the name male name and title of this male line, DNA is an issue with Washington lines also?

What would make you the reader believe that this researchers information is credible to make such claims? Aside of being acknowledged as on of the nations leading United States, Great Seal and historical flag authorities, also I am being acknowledge by Scholar associates to the University of ST. Andrews in Scotland. My most recent research has rewritten the Scott surname identity origins, who used the first name Scott, in reference to the origins of the name Scott. Being first used in Scotland, ever in Scottish history that is found in writting. Over looked by the best academics since the name first originated. Which directly connected to Shaws and Washingtons royal families to those direct royal families.

Attached is a link of a document written by a well respected published author of ancient genealogy in the UK, Mr. Fred Fleming. Who wrote this

## The US NAVY'S Betsy Ross of Connecticut

paper, so that academics could never disprove my accomplishment, with being the person who has made one of the most significant, documented, genealogical discoveries in Scottish identity history.

<http://www.electricscotland.com/webclans/minibios/s/Paper-Trail%20Genealogist.pdf>

Below is what Mr. Fleming wrote on my research, the direct Dunbar family blood connection. This is the Dunbar line, linked to the Fleming/Scott line of Buccleuch. This Scot line is the direct family to who made our nations first Government and Great Seals of the United States. Our Seal maker was close with George Washington and the Seal maker Robert Scot made flags that academics know nothing about. Which will be presented in my future book. After you read this below, do not be a skeptic, when I tell that there is no doubt by a documented history, a direct family connection. Between the ancient Shaw's and Washington families that does exist. Did they know this? Its not known!

(Fred's Work) Now for that story I promised you. About a month ago I received an email from Gary Gianotti. He began his email by complementing me on the books I have published concerning the early history of the Fleming family. He further wrote that he had found good use for some of the information in these books while conducting his own research into the origins of the Border Clan Scott. He thought it might interest me to learn that Anselm le Fleming was the true forefather of the Scotts of Buccleuch, and not Uchtred, son of Scott, who is usually claimed to have been the first Scott. I must say that I was initially skeptical. I knew that Anselm le Fleming was a grandson of Michael Flandrensis of Furness in Cumbria, who was himself a grandson of Erkenbald Flandrensis, progenitor of the Fleming family. Anselm was married to Agnes, the daughter of Edgar of Dunbar. Edgar was the youngest son of Gospatrick II, Earl of Lothian. Okay, here we did have a palpable Scottish connection, but Anselm himself lived in Cumbria, and he had four daughters, but no son. However, I decided to carefully check the sources that Gary had given me. Indeed, various charters of Kelso Abbey undoubtedly confirm that Richard Scott (Ricardus Scotus) of Molle (present-day village of Morebattle in the Scottish Borders) was the son of a certain Anselm and a certain Agnes. (It must be stated that neither the surname "le Fleming" nor the surname "de Dunbar" is mentioned in the charters; but I ask you: What is the likelihood

## The US NAVY'S Betsy Ross of Connecticut

of there having been a second Anselm and Agnes husband-and-wife team in the twelfth century?) It is odd that so many historians of the Scott family, through the years, have studied the text of these charters without ever noticing the fact that Anselm (Anselmus de Molle) had been the father of Richard Scott of Molle? Sir Walter Scott, novelist and poet, probably examined the charters of Kelso Abbey in the early nineteenth century while researching his family history. He came to the conclusion that Uchtred (Grandfather of Richards Wife) had been the father of Richard, who was the father of Richard Scott of Molle. Still, we do not know for sure that Richard Scott, who we now know for sure was the son of Anselm, actually was the first Scott in the line of the Scotts of Buccleuch. The charters of Kelso Abbey have nothing to say concerning any son of Richard Scott. Is there any way to know for sure? There is. Provided that the male line of descent from Erkenbald Flandrensis was preserved as far down the line as Anselm le Fleming, and that the names Anselm le Fleming, Anselm de Furness, and Anselm de Molle all refer to a single individual, and that Richard Scott actually was the first Scott, we should expect to find a substantial number of matches between the Y-DNA test results of Flemings and Scotts. If we should find these matches—and there are indications that we shall—we shall also have discovered the Y-chromosome signature of Erkenbald Flandrensis, a discovery that should enable us to delve even more deeply into the past with the help of genetic genealogy. After all, once you have reached as far back as the eleventh century, it is not that much further back to Carolingian or even Merovingian times.

---

GG-The Scot line was one of the highest ranking and most powerful families in Scotland's history. Who, held high ranking government positions, right along side the Steward's-Stuarts, until the were exiled.

Below, I attached the meaning of the name Jacobitism. Based on my research, I believe the reason why nothing exists on any genealogical documentation on the three Shaw families in America. Would be that they were secretive Jacobites, followers of the Stuarts.

Jacobitism was the political movement in Great Britain and Ireland to restore the Roman Catholic Stuart King James II of England and his heirs to the thrones of England, Scotland and Ireland. The movement took its name from Jacobus, the Latinised form of James, and refers to a long

## The US NAVY'S Betsy Ross of Connecticut

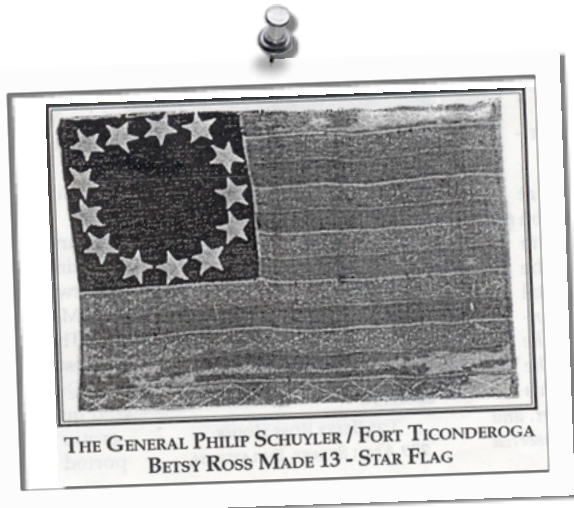
series of Jacobite risings between 1688 and 1746. After James II was deposed in 1688 and replaced by his daughter Mary II, ruling jointly with her husband and first cousin (James's nephew) William III, the Stuarts lived in exile, occasionally attempting to regain the throne. The strongholds of Jacobitism were parts of the Scottish Highlands and North-Eastern lowlands, Ireland, and parts of Northern England (mostly within the counties of Northumberland and Lancashire). Significant support also existed in Wales and South-West England.

Today, Shaw descendants, who are members of the Sons of the American Revolution can not find paper sources prior to their families coming to America. The best logical explanation is that the Shaws were Jacobites. Not long ago I read that between the Shaws of Sauchie, a cadet branch, that a Sir John Schaw(Shaw) of Greenock was a wealthy merchant, who was said to be the richest commoner in Scotland around 1700. Another account says that when ever the exiled Stuart King needed money. Shaws gave them vast sums of money, not asking for the money to be repaid. What are the odds that Nathaniel Shaw Jr. is directly related? Shaw was a very wealthy shipping merchant and the odds are that his wealth had to come from being inherited. What now can be said is that there is reason to believe, Nathaniel Shaw Jr. is directly related to a branch of the ancient "Cup Bearer lines of Shaws", or he would not bear these arms in New London. Nathaniel Shaw would not have the wealth he had in America, if it was not passed down to him from a well to do merchant family.

Today, the United States Navy and Government should recognize this important lost history of one of the United States, original Naval flag designs. Lucretia Shaw, deserves to be acknowledged for her personal sacrifice and for her leaving us, one of the most historically significant National flags surviving in US history today. She has earned a place that should be recognized in United States history that is more significant than our nations beloved Betsy Ross, for putting her life in harms way to help save the lives of men who were sick and dying. She died for her country, Ross did not, she gets a great deal more credit with flag history for being known, where Shaw is not. Today, not one flag ever made by Ross has been found. Both where flag makers!

The last part of this document will show flag designs the flag experts really never addressed, these pattern design.

The US NAVY'S Betsy Ross of Connecticut



The original Washington 13  
Star's in a Circle Arrangement.  
Attributed also to Ross  
making this design.



Always recognized as the  
Cowpins flag design. This star  
pattern has been seen on Ship  
paintings from New Haven,  
CT. in 1790's!



Both this and the last flags  
were attributed to person?  
Members of Congress?  
Privateer ship owners, Navy  
Agents or a General?

# Attributed Star Pattern's



Nathaniel Shaw Jr. three Stars in the center for Cup Bearer history of his family. Privateer ship owner, US Navy and CT State Naval Agent. Merchant!



John Hancocks, four stars in a circle, member of Congress. privateer ship owner. Hancock, Waldo and Ames are cousins. Adams to them both also.



US Navy's first Star Pattern, 5-4-4 origins represents PA State Navy and US Navy. This flag maybe by Ross and Scot the engraver.