

ABC Mid-Atlantic 2024 Spring Conference

Minutes

D/C Joe Gibson, AP called the District 5 2024 Spring Conference to order at 1400.

District Chaplain D/Lt Nancy Gorman, S. gave the invocation followed by reading the names of District 5 members have recently passed the Bar

<u>SQUADRON:</u>	<u>NAME:</u>	<u>MM:</u>
Absecon Island	Ronald Kline, SN-	43 MM
Absecon Island	Charles Heuer, P	40 MM
Annapolis	Jerome Rapkin	15 MM
Annapolis	Henry Kipp -	16 MM
Colonial	Lonnie Byrd	
Dundalk	Mae Trott, P.	37 MM
Northern Virginia	Frederick Zugay, JN	15 MM
Patapsco River	Betty Coulter	11 MM
Smith Mtn. Lake	Lynn Baker –	2 MM
Smith Mtn. Lake	Helen D Trenor,	8 MM
York	Terry E. Witmer	45 MM

District 5 Flag Lieutenant - Cdr. John G. Linsenmeyer, AP lead us in The Pledge of Allegiance.

District Secretary D/Lt/C Penn Hess, AP, called the roll of the Squadrons present and reported that a quorum was present. (D/C, 5- D/Lt/C, 1- Committee Chairs, 11- Squadron Cdr; 9- PDC; 33- Squadron Delegates; 60- Total)

D/C Gibson changed the Order of Business to expedite the conduct of this meeting.

D/C Gibson appointed P/R/C Kenneth T. Perigo, SN Parliamentarian.

The minutes of the District 5 2023 Fall Conference were approved as distributed.

Junior Past District Commander Stephanie Ward, AP introduced our most esteemed Past Commanders.

2006	Kathryn Simkins, AP
2008	J. Brian Becker, AP
2009	Ralph A. Bernard, AP
2010	L. Chris Brown, SN
2011	Bernard S. Karpers Jr. M.D., SN
2012	Jeff McKinney, JN
2013	Marty Lafferty, AP
2016	Randy Stow, AP
2019	Walter Neese, SN
2020	Jeffrey Short, JN
2022	Stephanie Ward, AP

D/C Gibson introduced the Chief Commander's representative Vice Commander Chuck Wells, SN.

V/C Wells made a few remarks

D/Lt/C Gene Danko, SN presented the Treasurer's Report.

My report has been filed and distributed to the squadrons. Since then, the budget position and checking account balances remain essentially unchanged, aside from the minimum amounts for ongoing transactions in support of this conference. The investment account has achieved a 5.5% return in the last year due to the general increase in market conditions.

It was noted in the report that we incurred a deficit in the execution of the fall conference. The amount was \$6,177. This morning at Council, D/Lt Lou Kates requested a motion to adjust the 2024-2025 budget to prepare for a similar shortfall. This motion (and associated discussion) will be taken up later in this meeting, during the reports of General and Standing Committees.

D/Lt/C Penn Hess, AP presented the report of the Secretary's Department.

The following Squadrons received the National 2023 Distinctive Communicator Award for USPS websites.

- Absecon Island Power Squadron
- Annapolis Sail and Power Squadron
- Colonial Sail and Power Squadron
- Delhigh Power Squadron
- Dundalk Sail and Power Squadron

Kent Narrows Sail and Power Squadron
Main Line Sail and Power Squadron
Northern Neck Sail and Power Squadron
Northern Virginia Sail and Power Squadron
Patapsco River Power Squadron
Patuxent River Sail and Power Squadron
Richmond Sail and Power Squadron
Rockville Sail and Power Squadron
Smith Mountain Lake Sail and Power Squadron
Susquehannock Sail and Power Squadron
Virginia Beach Sail and Power Squadron
Wilmington Power Squadron
York Sail and Power Squadron
District 5

D/Lt/C William Hammett presented the report of the Administrative Department.

The report is on file and available in this conference's material.

Our 2023 Events

We had a successful Summer Council and Rendezvous in Rock Hall, MD and Fall Educational Conference at the Maritime Center in Linthicum, MD.

Meeting and Rendezvous Committee Chair - Stf/C April Bernard, P give the final report on the 2023 Fall Conference.

We had 64 people registered Friday and 70 Saturday. The total costs of the conference were \$13817.46. The total income was \$7579.00 (includes \$6410.00 from Henry Sweet Trust)

Overall the district lost \$6238.46 on the Conference.

Asst DAO Ralph Leasure, P presented the National 2024 Communications Awards for Newsletters.

Annapolis - Anchor Watch
Delaware River - The Barometer
Delhigh - DELHIGHLIGHTS
Nansemond River - Nansemond Light
Northern Neck - The Lighthouse
Patapsco River - The Bilgewater

Richmond – The Bullhorn
Smith Mountain Lake - The Signal
Virginia Beach - Cape Henry Flashes
Wilmington -THE LUBBER'S LINE
District 5 Mark 5

DAO Hammett reported that membership declined within our district in 2023. District wide we have loss of 7% of our total district membership, nationally there was a 6% drop. Part of this loss is due to four squadrons that retired their charters in 2023. These squadrons had a combined total of 13 members. Another squadron had seven members at the start of 2023, but no members by year's end. Within our district we gained 49 members. This means approximately for every two members lost, we gained one back.

DAO Hammett presented the membership growth awards.

Division One (squadrons with less than 50 members)

3rd Place (Tie): Absecon Island & Patapsco River - 5% growth.

2nd Place: Virginia Beach - 8% growth

1st place: Cambridge - 38% growth

Division Two (squadrons with 50 or more members) :

3rd Place: Main Line - 8% growth.

2nd Place: Smith Mountain Lake - 11% growth

1st Place: Northern Neck - 24% growth

D/Lt/C John O'Reilly, JN-CN presented the report of the Educational Department.

DEO O'Reilly announced the Exceptional Service Award – given to Assistant DEO Mike Maszczenski, N. The full report is filed on the district website.

D/Lt/C Bob Blevins, AP presented the report of the Executive Department. The report is filed on the district website.

D/Lt/C Bob Blevins: Presented Vessel Safety Checks

Top Producers Nationally are:

2nd place District 5: Frank Brown, AP-IN of Nansemond River: 258

1st place District 5: Edward Furst Jr., S of York: 404

District 5 Honorable Mention Squadrons:

Kent Narrows: 107

Northern Neck: 154

Annapolis: 231

Squadron VSCs :

3rd place: Smith Mountain Lake: 262

2nd place: Nansemond River: 335

1st place: York: 423

VSC Century Club

Bill Eldridge for the 5th year

Ed Furst for the 9th year

Frank Brown for the 10th year

D/Lt/C Bob Blevins: Presented the Cooperative Charting Awards

District 5 had a good year with one Squadron earning National Honor Roll status. - Kent Narrows:

Dick Radinski, AP-CN;

Chuck Wells, SN-CN

John Locke, SN-ACN, and

Larry Miller, S

We also had one individual earning National Honor Rolls status from Annapolis Sail & Power Squadron, and that is Ron Ricketts, AP with 345 credits

D/C Gibson gave his report. Which is on file.

REPORTS OF GENERAL AND STANDING COMMITTEES:

Law Committee: (D/1st/Lt Nick Montalto, SN)

All but one squadron has adopted a DBA fictitious name

D/Lt/C O'Reilly: the Squadrons who have achieved the Honor Roll with 100% contribution of at least \$1.00 per member to the USPS Educational Fund are:

<u>SQUADRON</u>	<u>TIMES ON HONOR ROLL</u>
ABSECON ISLAND	12
ANNAPOLIS	10
CAMBRIDGE	12
COLONIAL	11
DELAWARE RIVER	20
DELHIGH	35

DUNDALK	18
KENT NARROWS	23
MAIN LINE	17
NANSEMOND RIVER	13
NORTHERN NECK	10
NORTHERN VIRGINIA	21
OCEAN CITY	17
PATAPSCO RIVER	26
PATUXENT RIVER	17
POTOMAC RIVER	8
RICHMOND	12
ROCKVILLE	18
SMITH MOUNTAIN LAKE	10
SUSQUEHANNOCK	23
VIRGINIA BEACH	18
WILMINGTON	5
YORK	9

100% PARTICIPATION BY DISTRICT 5 SQUADRONS

D/Lt/C Bob Blevins awarded certificates and lapel pins to members who have received their 25th Merit Marks this year.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Squadron</u>
Arthur Aikin, SN	Nansemond River
John Brian Becker, AP	Patapsco River
Antonio Curro, AP	Ocean City
Bonita Mae Curro	Ocean City
Joseph Deady, SN	Dundalk

D/C Gibson Reported that the morning’s council meeting has forwarded a motion to increase the district’ 2024 budget to \$10,000, the additional funds to support this year’s fall conference at the Maritime Center. The motion was seconded and passed without discussion by the Conference,

D/C Gibson called on PDC Marty Lafferty to make a motion to allow Kent Narrows Squadron to dissolve. The motion was seconded by Dundalk and approved.

D/C Gibson requested Vice Commander Wells to take the command of District 5 and conduct our elections.

V/C Wells requested all members of District 5 Bridge, except the District Secretary, please leave the Bridge.

V/C Wells requested P/D/C Jeff Short, JN-IN present the report of the District Nominating Committee:

PDC Short presented the report

V/C Wells asked if any other nominations been received by petition?

D/Lt/C Hess responded that none has been received.

V/C Wells called for a motion that the Secretary be instructed to cast one unanimous ballot for election of officers and committee members as presented by the Nominations Committee.

PDC Simkins made the motion, PDC Becker seconded. There was no discussion, the motion was approved with one opposing vote.

V/C Wells: declared the motion carried and the Slate elected.

D/C Elect Blevins took the podium, seated the new bridge officers and announced the new committee chairs and appointments.

Budget & Finance Committee: Louis Kates, AP

Law Committee: Nick Montalto, SN-IN

Personnel Committee: P/D/C Brian Becker, AP

Educational Fund Officer: Frank Brown, AP

District Flag Lieutenant: Robert Lance Blevins

Chief Aide to the Commander: Lenore Blevins, S

Chaplin: Nancy Gorman, S

Parliamentarians: Warren Stevens, SN and Kenny Perigo, SN-IN

Merit Mark Coordinator: Randy Stow–

D/C Elect Blevins appointed all committee members and staff as published in the 2024 District 5 Directory.

D/Lt Nancy Gorman gave the Benediction

D/C Elect Blevins declared the Conference adjourned at 1530.