

2024 FALL CONFERENCE

Minutes

D/C Robert Blevins, AP, called the Conference to order at 0903

Chaplain Nancy Gorman, S, gave the invocation

Chaplain Gorman honored those members who have crossed the bar since Summer Council.

<u>SQUADRON</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>MM's</u>
Rockville	Joel D. David	4 MM
Rockville	P/C Henry F. Senz, N	30 MM
Rockville	P/C Jon Van Winkle, SN	36 MM
Northern Virginia	William H. Wright, SN	21 MM
Mainline	P/C Lance Parry, AP	15 MM
Patapsco	P/D/C J. Brian Becker, AP	25 MM
Northern Virginia	Bill Wright, SN	21 MM
Smith Mountain Lake	David Eberle, SN-CN	14 MM
Northern Neck	Nancy Boylan	
Northern Neck	Larry Paule, AP	1 MM

D/FI/Lt Lance Blevins, P, lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

District Secretary D/Lt/C Penn Hess, AP-IN, called the roll of the Squadrons present and reported that a quorum was present. (D/C, 4-D/Lt/C, 1-Committee Chairs, 8- Squadron Cdr; 7- PDC; 25- Squadron Delegates; 46- Total)

D/C Blevins changed the order of business to expedite the conduct of this meeting

D/C Blevins appointed Staff Commander Jeff McKinney JN-CN as Parliamentarian.

D/C Blevins called upon Past Commander Joe Gibson, AP to introduce the P/D/C's present:

1992	William McManimen, III, SN
2009	Ralph A. Bernard, AP
2012	Jeff McKinney, JN
2016	Randy Stow, AP
2019	Walter Neese, SN

2022 Stephanie Ward, AP

2023 Joe Gibson, AP

D/C Blevins introduced our Chief Commander Ralph Bernard, AP who gave a few remarks

D/C Blevins asked if there were any comments on the minutes of the 2024 Spring Conference. Hearing none, they stand approved as distributed.

REPORTS FROM THE BRIDGE OFFICERS

D/LT/C Gene Danko, SN gave the Treasurer's Report. The report is on file for this meeting. The current state of our holdings is sound, with \$22,002 in checking and \$88,542 in investments. We currently have \$4,400 in cash holdings should the need arise. The restructuring of the CD ladder is almost complete.

D/C Blevins asked if there were any questions on the Treasurer's Report. Hearing none, the report will be placed on file for the annual audit.

D/LT/C Penn Hess, AP-IN, gave the Secretary's Report. The report is on file for this meeting.

D/1st/Lt Denise Robinson Asst Admin Officer presented the Administrative Officer's Report. National and District events are listed on the District Website home page.

D/Lt/C John O'Reilly JN-CN presented the Educational Department's Report:

the First Place winner of the Prince Henry Trophy for the Squadron showing the greatest percentage increase in completions of Advanced Grades courses over the previous year was Smith Mountain Lake.

The CARAVELLE TROPHY is presented to the squadron showing the greatest percentage increase in completions of the Seamanship, Piloting and Advanced Piloting courses over the previous year.

3rd place Squadron Patapsco River

2nd place Squadron Northern Neck Sail and Power

1st place Squadron Cambridge Sail and Power

D/5 SEAMANSHIP AWARD IN MEMORY OF P/R/C KENNETH G. SMITH, SN The Seamanship Award is presented to that Squadron in District 5 with the highest percentage of eligible members completing the Seamanship course during the year.

The 3rd place winning Squadron is: Northern Virginia Sail and Power

The 2nd place winning Squadrons is: Northern Neck Sail and Power

The winning Squadron is: Cambridge Sail and Power

HENRY E. SWEET EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION TROPHY This award is presented to that Squadron which has shown the greatest percentage increase in completion of the Advanced Grades and Elective Courses over the previous year.

3rd place Squadron is: Wilmington

2nd place Squadron is: Cambridge Sail and Power

1st place Squadron is: Northern Neck Sail and Power

DISTRICT COMMANDER'S TROPHY FOR ADVANCED GRADES recognizes those Squadrons that have been successful in teaching Advanced Grade courses, Seamanship, Piloting, Advanced Piloting, Junior Navigation, and Navigation.

3rd place Squadron is: Cambridge Sail and Power

2nd place Squadron is: Dundalk Sail and Power

1st place Squadron is: Patapsco River

DISTRICT 5 COMMANDER'S TROPHY FOR ELECTIVE COURSES is presented to that Squadron showing the greatest percentage increase in completion of the Elective Courses taught during the previous year.

3rd place Squadron is: Annapolis Sail and Power

2nd place Squadron is: Richmond Sail and Power

1st place Squadron is: Wilmington

WORKBOAT AWARD The Workboat award recognizes Squadrons that have done the most work in teaching members in both elective and advanced courses. It is based on the total number of members that have completed these courses.

3rd place Squadron is: Wilmington

2nd place Squadron is: Dundalk Sail and Power

1st place Squadron is: Northern Neck Sail and Power

D/Lt/C Bill Hammett, JN presented the report of the Executive Department.

Individual VSC awards:

3rd place: John W Nash, Annapolis

2nd place: Frank Brown, Nansmond River

1st place: Ed Furst, York

Squadron VSC awards:

3rd place: Smith Mountain Lake

2nd place: Nansemond River

1st place: York

REPORTS OF GENERAL AND STANDING COMMITTEES

D/Lt Louis Kates gave his report and asked for a motion to approve the 2024-2025 budget that was passed by 2023 Summer Council. A motion was made and seconded to accept the budget. During the discussion, the budget was amended by motion to add 10K to expenses for insurance. The budget was approved as amended.

District 5 Law Officer, Nick Montalto reported that the insurance issue was his main task and was being worked.

P/D/C Stephanie Ward, AP gave a report from the Nominating Committee. At the time of the conference, the committee was still looking for a DEO, District Secretary, and Assistant Administrative Officer

The Educational Fund Officer reported the Educational Fund is in good order but Squadrons can donate \$1.00 per member to be on the Honor Roll.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Cdr Lenore Blevins, S of Patuxent River Sail & Power Squadron reported on the 2024 Summer Council & Rendezvous at Solomons Island. Thirteen Squadrons were represented, 94 members, and 23 boats attending. Patuxent River returned \$696.44 to the district.

NEW BUSINESS:

C/C Bernard recommended that the Fall Council be eliminated. A motion was made, seconded and approved that the Rules Committee amend the Bylaws to optionally eliminate the Fall Council.

Chaplin Gorman gave the Benediction.

D/C Blevins adjourned the meeting at 1009.