



Pennsylvania Central District
2024 Biennial Meeting Minutes
White Haven, Pennsylvania
Saturday April 6, 2024

Call to Order: Master Brian Hallock called the meeting to order at 11:03 am.

Meeting Appointments: District Master Hallock appointed SK John Meenan Secretary, SK Martin Sowa Pilot, and SK Patrick Daggett Sentinel of the 2024 Biennial meeting.

Certification of Membership Cards: SK Martin Sowa (Pilot) certified that all in attendance had current membership cards

Presentation of the Colors: Colors were presented by District Marshal Martin Sowa and the Pennsylvania Central District flag team.

Opening Ode: was led by SK John Meenan, District Secretary.

Opening Prayer: was conducted by District Friar Rev. August Ricciardi

Pledge of Allegiance: was led by District Marshal Martin Sowa

Appointment of the Credentials Committee: Master Hallock appointed SK John Meenan, Chair of the Credentials Committee, and SK John Scandale, GK, SK Mark Rongone, and SK Thomas Kurtek, members of the Committee

Appointment of Resolutions Committee: Master Hallock appointed SK Martin Sowa Chairmen of the Committee on Resolutions, along with SK Michael Hunsicker, SK James Szoszorek, and SK William Hallock members of the Committee

Appointment of 2024 Biennial Meeting Scribe: Master Hallock appointed SK Patrick Daggett Scribe of the Biennial Meeting.

Credentials Committee Report: SK John Meenan delivered the report of the Committee on Credentials.

District Secretaries Report: SK John Meenan delivered a report to the District Secretary indicating the theme of the meeting and how we need to be more united as brothers. He suggested we must move away from the past, move past legacy regalia, and begin to know why we do what we do—emphasizing that we do what we do for the good of our faith, parishes, and communities.

Reading of Minutes: SK Patrick Daggett (Scribe) delivered the reconstituted minutes of the March 27, 2022, Biennial Meeting. The motion to accept the reconstituted minutes was made by SK Chris Musso and seconded by SK Jim Szoszorek. The motion passed unanimously.

District Friars Report: District Friar SK Rev. Gus Ricciardi delivered the report of the District Friar. The report stressed the four core principles of the Order: Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism. He

emphasized that in these current difficult times, we, as Knights, must remain rooted in the truth of our faith, we must not be passive in times of difficulty, we must remain vigilant to take the right actions in times of difficulty, and we must remember that we have chosen a life of service. Still, we are but a link in a chain. Copy attached.

District Marshals Report: SK Martin Sowa delivered the District Marshals report centered on the theme, "They know who we are; They know when we're there. He emphasized the Color Corp and the need to grow the membership and stressed that it's not the new uniform; it's THE uniform. For local events, the Assembly Color Corp Commander will take the lead.

District Masters Report: District Master SK Brian Hallock delivered the District Masters report. His report stressed the principle of Fraternity. The report emphasized that while we have approximately 65 members in the Color Corp, not enough are present for important events like the Chrism masses and other important solemnities in the two Diocese in our District. Master Hallock reported the requirements for Star Assembly have been revised. He also encouraged participation to attain the Supreme awards; he emphasized that the main problem with Assemblies not receiving awards is the failure to submit the proper forms and paperwork. He announced a schedule for Color Corp training. He emphasized the importance of working with the Councils because that is where new Fourth Degree members come from. Master Hallock reported the significance of the 125th Anniversary of the Fourth Degree at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City on February 22, 2025; he encouraged all members of Color Corps Members to keep the date open as assistance will be needed. He indicated that the District would be asked to participate in a mass commemoration of the 125th anniversary of the Pennsylvania Central District, along with some other special events. --Copy attached.

Resolutions Committee Report: SK Martin Sowa read the two resolutions from Assembly 2604 and Assembly 938 in support of the nomination of District Master Hallock for a second term. --Copies attached.

Necrology Report: SK Jim Nardone, State Treasurer, delivered the Necrology Report of the 24 deceased Sir Knights reported to the District by the Assemblies. A prayer was intoned with the ringing during the reading of the names from each Assembly. Copy attached.

Unfinished Business: No unfinished business was reported.

New business:

Nominations for Master of the District: The District Assembly read the process of resubmitting the name of the incumbent Master, provided there is a unanimous vote from the District Assembly in favor of the incumbent Master, who has requested a second term. SK John Meenan, presiding over the nominations, asked Incumbent Master SK Brian Hallock if he wished to accept a second term. Master Hallock indicated he would accept a second term. A motion came from the chair to submit only the name of SK Brian Hallock for reappointment as District Master. A motion was voted and approved unanimously. The name of SK Brian Hallock, Incumbent District Master, is to be forwarded to the Vice Supreme Master for reappointment.

- A question regarding bringing District Assembly Bylaws up to date and a committee to do so was brought forward. The chair indicated that it would be examined in the future.
- District Assembly was briefed on some information on the updated Fourth Degree Exemplification and its possible rollout before the end of the calendar year.
- Master Hallock also noted that as of July 1, 2024, there will be no more Social Baldric. There are three upcoming Exemplifications this year. May 25, 2024, Nazareth; August 24, 2024, Lords Valley; and December 28, 2024, Scranton. A suggestion was made to rent uniforms for Fourth Degree Exemplifications possibly.

Audit Committee Elections: Master Hallock read the nomination letter of the current Audit Committee incumbents SK Steve Dondero - Chair, SK Tom May, and SK Brian Hughes. Master Hallock asked for any additional nominations from the floor. No further nominations were brought forward. Master Hallock called for a motion to re-elect the incumbent Committee Members. Motion by SK Jim Szoszorek second by SK John Unger. The motion passed unanimously.

Master Hallock offered a Thank you to all involved in planning and conducting the 2024 Biennial Meeting.

Retiring of the Colors: Colors were retired by District Marshal Martin Sowa and the District Flag Team.

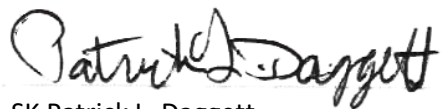
Closing Ode: was led by District Secretary John Meenan

Closing Prayer: was led by District Friar SK Rev. August Ricciardi.

All committees released/dismissed

The meeting adjourned at 1:03 pm by District Master Brian Hallock

Respectfully submitted,



SK Patrick L. Daggett

Deputy District Warden
Pennsylvania Central District
Scribe of the 2024 Biennial Meeting