

**PANAMA CANAL SOCIETY, INC.**  
**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES**  
**LATINOS y MAS, OCALA, FLORIDA**  
**OCTOBER 6, 2012**

**President Tom Wilder** welcomed the 49 members and guests in attendance to the General Membership Meeting held at Latinos y Mas in Ocala, Florida and called the meeting to order at 11:55 a.m.

In the absence of **Chaplain Cheryl Russell** the president gave the invocation and **Sgt. at Arms Brittney Wilder** led the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The president welcomed past president Pete Foster who was in attendance. The president also introduced the board members that were in attendance including 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Mike Coffey; 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Shirley Avery-Bentley; Directors Mike Young and Kelly Parthenais; By-Laws Chairperson Kathy McInturff; Sgt, at Arms Brittney Wilder and Office Manager Nancy Van Siclén.

The meeting adjourned for lunch and reconvened at 1:00 p.m.

The president announced that prior to the commencement of the meeting, copies of the minutes from the Annual Meeting held on June 29, 2012 at the Orlando World Center Marriott in Orlando, Florida were distributed to the membership, and therefore, the membership was asked for a motion to accept the minutes as written. Pete Foster made a motion to accept the minutes; it was seconded by Anne LoFranco-Channon. Motion carried.

The August 2012 Profit and Loss Comparison stands for audit.

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President and Reunion Coordinator Mike Coffey** reported to the membership that 2013 would be the final year at the Orlando World Center Marriott and that in 2014 we would be going back to Rosen Shingle Creek Resort. He did say that the World Center is under a major renovation that will include three new waterslides and a poolside bar and grill. We are currently working on the “yellow pages” and on Thursday the Annual Golf Tournament will be held and the cost will stay at \$80.00 per golfer.

Mike reported that we are planning on displaying pictures from “Zonian Days” in the Canal Zone at the reunion and if any member wanted to share pictures they could either email them to Bill McLaughlin in 300 DPI as an attachment or mail them. If they are mailed Bill will scan the pictures and return them to the sender.

There will also be a “Back to the Teens” Dance on Thursday evening hosted by BHS/CHS 63, 68 and 73 with Bob Rupp’s Band “Trolling 69ers” and his son Shawn Rupp playing Country. We will again have the Thursday night Owl Show.

On Friday night we will be going back to the two separate dances – the after hours dance will start at 11:00 p.m. and Mike reported that we have had several suggestions to change the music on Friday night. So this year we are having a band called the Blue Stone Circle which plays all types of music.

On Saturday we will again have the pool party and we are still looking at options for the music. The Annual Luncheon will also take place on Saturday and Tom Wilder is working with the Pilots Association for a speaker. And on Saturday evening we will again have the Murga and Frankie Pretto and the Parranda Band.

In the absence of the Editor Jacque Vowell the president reported that the October issue of the *Canal Record* was delivered to the Post Office on Friday, October 5, 2012 and that the membership should be receiving their copy sometime during the following week.

The **Bylaws Chairperson Kathy Malin-McInturff** reported that in the October issue we are asking the membership to vote on an amendment to broaden the scope of membership which we are calling an Associate Membership. This membership may be awarded with sponsorship by an active member. The Associate Membership would pay the annual dues plus an additional ten dollars. They would not be allowed to hold office or vote, but does permit attending functions, meetings and speaking. They would also receive a subscription to the *Canal Record*. Kathy urged the membership to read the bylaw and send in their ballots.

The president introduced the newest member of the Society “Zonie”. Tom explained that a former board member, Pam Reid, suggested the idea and over several meetings donations were accepted to purchase “Zonie” which this year we were finally able to accomplish. Several members had their picture taken with “Zonie”.

**President of the Panama Canal Museum at the University of Florida Joe Wood** reported that since the end of July the entire collection of artifacts are now at the University of Florida. Joe also stated that the University of Florida has received a leadership grant to support the integration of the Panama Canal Museum Collection into the Smathers Libraries in the amount of \$477,312.00 with a matching amount from UF of \$541,976 for a total of over \$1,000,000.00. With this grant it will provide for hiring three employees, preserve the collection and help fund the centennial exhibit at UF in 2014.

Joe announced that James Brooks-Bruzzese will have a special opening night performance to commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the opening of the Panama Canal on August 15, 2014. Joe also announced that Peggy Huff as agreed to stay on and will write the articles for the *Canal Record*. Also, till the end of this year Kathy Egolf will be selling merchandise at the Society monthly meeting, and then after that you will be able to purchase them on the web.

Tom Wilder reported that the next monthly membership meeting will be held on November 3, 2012 at Tom Statham Park Pavilion near Titusville, Florida and the Annual Christmas Luncheon will be held on December 1, 2012 at the Wine Cellar Restaurant in North Redington Beach, Florida.

The president thanked Kathy Wilder for organizing the luncheon and presented her with a token of appreciation from the Society.

Door prizes were awarded.

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

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**NANCY VAN SICLEN**  
**OFFICE MANAGER/SECRETARY**

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**TOM WILDER**  
**PRESIDENT**