

PANAMA CANAL SOCIETY, INC.
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES
CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL, MELBOURNE, FLORIDA
FEBRUARY 1, 2014

President Tom Wilder welcomed the 92 members and guests in attendance to the General Membership Meeting and Carnavalito at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Melbourne, Florida and called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

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

Tom welcomed Past President in attendance including Pete Foster, Bill McLaughlin and Bob Russell. He also introduced the board members in attendance including 1st Vice President Mike Coffey; 2nd Vice President Shirley Avery; Directors Noreen Hanson, Kelly Parthenais and Mike Young; Treasurer Bill McLaughlin; Past President Bob Russell; Bylaws Chairperson Kathy Malin; Sgt. at Arms Brittney Wilder; Chaplain Cheryl Russell; Editor Jacque Vowell and Office Manager Nancy Van Siclen.

Prior to the commencement of the meeting copies of the minutes from the general membership meeting held at Carne Chophouse in Tampa, Florida were distributed, and therefore, the membership was asked for a motion to accept the minutes as written. Bill McLaughlin made the motion to accept the minutes; it was seconded by Shirley Avery. Motion carried.

The December Financial Statement was distributed and stands for audit.

1st Vice President Mike Coffey reported that we will be celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the opening of the Panama Canal at the reunion this year. Mike reported that the Golf Tournament has been changed from Thursday morning to Friday morning; reminded members to send in their reservations early for the drawing that will take place during the Society picnic on March 22, 2014 where you have the opportunity to win two nights free at Rosen Shingle Creek during the reunion. Also, Rosen Shingle Creek is offering if you stay for four (4) nights and decide to stay the 5th night your cost for your regular room would be \$40.00 in honor of their 40th Anniversary.

Cheryl Russell reported that the University of Florida at Gainesville is planning several activities during the weekend of August 15th where they will celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the opening of the Panama Canal with seminars, symphony and dinner on Saturday evening.

Tom reported that the Society office has new hours effective November 1, 2013 and they are posted in each Canal Record; the Society next general membership meeting will be at Philippe Park in Safety Harbor, Florida on March 22, 2014.

He also announced that our Annual Luncheon Guest Speaker at the Reunion will be Mr. Jorge L. Quijano, the CEO of the Panama Canal Authority.

Tom Wilder thanked Bob and Frances Morrissey, Randy and JoElla Deakins and Terry and Sue Deakins for making the arrangements for Carnavalito and thanked Margaret McLaughlin for the table center pieces and presented a token of appreciation from the Society.

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

NANCY VAN SICLEN
OFFICE MANAGER/SECRETARY

TOM WILDER
PRESIDENT