

Panama Canal Society General Membership Meeting
November 5, 2016

Meeting called to order at by Mike Coffey (President).

Location: Kelly Park East, 2550 North Banana River Drive, Merritt Island

Mike thanked the Randie & JoEllen Deakins, Bob & Kathy McConaughey, Fran & Bob Morrissey and Richard Grimison for hosting and putting together this picnic.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Invocation: Given by Richard Grimison

Board Attendees: Shirley Avery (1st Vice President), Kathy Malin (Director), Jacque Vowell (Editor) and Richard Grimison (Chaplin)

Absent: Kelly Parthenais (2nd Vice President), Noreen Hanson (Treasurer), Tom Wilder (Immediate Past President), Brittney Wilder (Director), Patrick Smith (Director), Bill McLaughlin (Historian), Lee Bentley (By-Laws Chairman), James Beattie (Sargent-at-Arms) and Cheryl Williams (Office Manager)

Members attending: 34 members attended, 10 guests totaling 44 people attending this year's picnic.
Break for Lunch - General membership meeting started at 12:53

Mike asked for a motion to approve the October 15, 2016 minutes. Kathy Malin motioned to approve the minutes, Shirley Avery seconded the motion and the minutes were approved by all.

Mike told everyone this is great picnic at the Tradewinds.

December 10, 2016 - Holiday Luncheon at the St. Petersburg Yacht Club, and that there will be 4 vendors to purchase Christmas gifts from.

February 17-19, 2017 - Carnavalito and we are looking forward to Fran playing. We have signed a 2-year contract with the Double Tree Hotel. Friday there will be a Happy Hour, for those arriving early. The information will be in the December issue of the *Canal Record*.

April 1, 2017 - is the UF Luncheon. Panama Canal Society has sponsored a case in the Panama Canal Corridor. There is one case remaining for \$9,000.00. The pedestals for the CHS Bell & BHS bust are fully funded. They will have the Grand Opening on April 1, 2017. You can donate towards the last case, go online for more information. The Luncheon can only seat 100 people, so make your reservations early. UF is trying to purchase a 3D Audio that starts talking when you arrive at the case.

May (TBA)2017 - We will have the picnic at Phillippe Park.

July 5-9, 2017 - The 85th anniversary Reunion will be held at the World Marriott Center. There is a new restaurant that sells burgers and ice cream, similar to the one at the Rosen Shingle Creek.

Shorty & Slim will be playing at the Pool Party. BHS Class of 1972 will host the Thursday Night Dance.

Friday Night Dance will be a Rock & Roll band TBA.

Saturday Night Ball will be Frankie Pretto. There will be a Murga Saturday night starting at 8:30. Mike asked if there were any questions, and there were none.

Mike thanked everyone for keeping up with their membership.

Data Base Update: James Beattie (BHS 92), has worked over 300 hours on our new data base. We will be going live in December. Reservations will be faster, along with the opportunity for mass emails to remind our members their membership is due, and of upcoming events. We will need correct email information on our members.

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At our last Executive Board the board voted on hiring a new part time employee. Betty LeDoux will be working at the office starting in December through the Reunion.
Mike complimented Cheryl on her efforts to grow membership.

New Business: There was no new business.

There were several raffles and a 50/50 to help pay for the shelter.
The group sang Happy Birthday to Richard, and Janice Scott motion to adjourn the meeting and Jane Huff seconded the motion.

Cheryl Williams
Office Manager

Mike Coffey
President