



Panama Canal Society General Membership Minutes
Carnavalito at Holiday Inn, 8298 N. Wickham Rd, Melbourne, FL
February 16, 2019

Meeting was called to order by Shirley Avery Bentley (President) at 7:00 p.m. Shirley welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming to Carnavalito.

Pledge of Allegiance: Lee Bentley

Invocation: Carl Orvis

A group picture was taken with attendees wearing their Carnival mask. A few door prizes were drawn while the dinner was being served. Meeting was adjourned for dinner.

The meeting was reconvened at 7:57 p.m. by Shirley asking all if they read the December General Membership Meeting Minutes on their tables and if there were any questions. Bob Russell made a motion to approve the minutes as written, Cindy Blom seconded, and the motion carried.

Shirley asked all attendees if they registered for the Reunion. March Canal Record will be mailed out at the end of this month and will include any changes to the Reunion information.

Shirley said the Reunion has three anniversaries of significant events that happened in Panama and the Canal Zone. They are: (1) the 1964 riots - 55 years ago; (2) the Panama Canal Treaty Implementation 1979 and the end of the American Canal Zone - 40 years ago; and (3) Operation Just Cause in 1989 - 30 years ago. Shirley announced Kurt Muse is the speaker at the Annual Luncheon illuminating his experiences during this time and Kaye Richey is organizing photos and videos. Kurt Muse will also be speaking at the Cultural Seminar along with other panel members: Joe Wood, Dick Morgan, Richard Wainio and Bob Rupp.

A new event called "Painting with a Twist" will be held at the Reunion and don't forget the 11th Annual Pool Party with *Shorty & Slim* playing. Richard Grimison is looking for sponsors if anyone was interested. Volunteers are also needed for the Reunion to run smoothly. Let the Office know if you are interested.

Cheryl Russell spoke about the PCS/UF/Friends of Museum annual luncheon on March 16 at the University of Florida in Gainesville. The museum will be displaying the significant Anniversaries. Cheryl and a group of Friends of the Museum just returned from a cruise to Cuba. This was a fund raising cruise where the Travel Agent donated \$1,000 to UF. Next year they are planning a River Cruise.

Richard Grimison read the Report on the ByLaws Committee for Proposed Amendment #39. There were 67 ballots, with 2 deemed invalid leaving 65 votes to approve the Amendment #39. It will commence on March 1, 2019. Bob Russell made a motion to the President that the ballots be destroyed, Carl Orvis seconded, and the motion carried.

Shirley drew the name for the Early Bird Drawing for 2 nights at the Marriott during the Reunion. Carl Winkler won.



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Richard and Diana Grimison came to the podium to draw for the Panamanian Gift Basket. Carl Orvis won the basket. They collected \$290 for the 50-50 drawing and Bob Morrissey won \$145.

The rest of the door prizes were drawn. Shirley thanked Peggy Huff and Diana Grimison for the beautiful table decorations.

The Panamanian and U.S. national anthems were played.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

There were 93 tickets sold.

Shirley Avery Bentley
President

Kathy Malin
Office Manager