

**PANAMA CANAL SOCIETY, INC.
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
WINE CELLAR RESTAURANT - N. REDDINGTON BEACH, FLORIDA
DECEMBER 5, 2010**

President Tom Wilder welcomed the 73 members and guests in attendance to the General Membership Meeting held at the Wine Cellar Restaurant, N. Reddington Beach, Florida and called meeting to order at 12:00 Noon.

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

Tom Wilder recognized past presidents Muriel Whitman, Betty LeDoux-Morris, Jim O'Donnell, Margot Jordan, Faith Brundage, Bill McLaughlin and Bob Russell. Tom also introduced the board members in attendance including 2nd Vice President, Mike Coffey; Director Chris Wilder; Immediate Past President Bob Russell; Bylaws Chairperson and Reunion Coordinator Bill McLaughlin; Legislative Representative Jim O'Donnell; Chaplain Cheryl Russell; Sgt. at Arms Michael Young; *Canal Record* Editor Jacque Vowell and Office Manager Nancy Van Sicen. The president also welcomed Barbara Green the former Secretary of the Panama Canal Society.

The president thanked Betty LeDoux-Morris, Margaret McLaughlin and Kathy Wilder for hosting the luncheon and presented them with a token of appreciation from the Society.

The meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m. for lunch and reconvened at 1:05 p.m.

Prior to the commencement of the meeting, copies of the General Membership Minutes held on November 6, 2010 at the Tom Statham Park, Titusville, Florida were distributed to the membership, therefore, the president asked for a motion to accept the minutes as written. Betty LeDoux-Morris made a motion to accept the minutes; it was seconded by Margaret McLaughlin. Motion carried.

The October Financial Statement was also distributed to the membership and stands for audit.

Legislative Representative Jim O'Donnell highlighted the December Legislative Report for the membership (copy attached to minutes).

Editor Jacque Vowell reported that the deadline for the March issue of the *Canal Record* is January 8, 2011.

Bill McLaughlin Reunion Coordinator reported that the yellow pages are in the December issue of the *Canal Record* and urged everyone to please read them carefully since we are going back to the Orlando World Center Marriott this year and to please make note of the deadline dates for rooms, ordering tickets, cancellations, etc.

Bill also reminded the membership that if you submit your reunion paperwork for a hotel room prior to January 31, 2011 you will be eligible for a drawing for two free nights at the World Center. The drawing will take place at Carnavallito in February in Melbourne, Florida. He also mentioned that you did not need to be in attendance to win.

Membership Committee Chairperson Mike Coffey reported that the board has approved a 5-year membership (Governors Club) which included special gifts and benefits at the reunion. Mike reported that we have had several members join the new club and hopes more members will take advantage to this new program.

Betty LeDoux-Morris reported that Carnavallito will be held at the Hilton Melbourne Beach Oceanfront in Indialantic, Florida and that Randy and JoElla Deakins are the chairpersons hosting this event and that Frances Morrissey will be again playing the organ for our enjoyment.

Jerry DeTore representing the Panama Canal Museum reported that the he would like to read an article that is being published in the Review written by Charles Hummer, President Emeritus stating that the museum does not use the phrase “the museum is going out of business” or “this is the museum’s last reunion, last cruise or last anything”. The museum is not going out of business – it is being integrated into a major university to insure that its mission and the American era of Panama’s history continue beyond the days of its current volunteers and paid staff. I see it as growing to the next level. In other words, we’re going from a local and parochial enterprise to that of a major university that will bring our mission to domestic and international audiences and scholars.

Jerry also stated that the museum is planning two cruises in 2011 including a seven-day trip to the Eastern Caribbean on March 6, 2011 and a 14-day transatlantic cruise on May 7, 2011.

Several door prizes were awarded following the reports. The grand prizes were won by the following:

Floral Arrangement donated by Margaret McLaughlin was won by Norbert Quebbeman; golf package for four at Saddlebrook Resort donated by Betty LeDoux-Morris was won by Jim O’Donnell and a two-night stay at the Orlando World Center Marriott was won by Stephanie Coffey.

Bob Russell made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:50 p.m.; it was seconded by Hap Brandenburg. Motion carried.

NANCY VAN SICLEN
OFFICE MANAGER/SECRETARY

TOM WILDER
PRESIDENT

