



PANAMA CANAL SOCIETY  
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES  
Philippe Park, Safety Harbor Florida – MARCH 21, 2015

Meeting called to order by Mike Coffey at 12:05p.m.

Patrick Smith led the Pledge of Allegiance

Mike Coffey did the Invocation.

Attendees: There were 48 members and guests at the luncheon.

**Welcome and Introductions of Past-Presidents**

Margot Jordan - 1997-1998

Betty LeDoux - 1988-1989 & 2000-2002

Tom Wilder – 2008-2014

Mike introduced the **Board Members present:**

Tom Wilder – Immediate Past President

Kathy Malin – 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

Noreen Hanson – Treasurer

Kelly Parthenais - Director

Mike Young – Director

Patrick Smith - Sergeant at Arms

Jacque Vowell – Editor

Cheryl Williams – Office Manager

Copies of the minutes were placed on the tables and Mike asked everyone to review them so that we can vote on them when we reconvene after lunch.

**The meeting was reconvened at 12:50 p.m.**

**Motion to accept minutes:**

Herbert Jordan motioned to approve the minutes, it was second by Margot Jordan and approved by all members attending.

**Treasures report.**

Noreen reconciled the Governor’s Club and it is up to date. She gave a brief update of the finances and the update stands for audit.

**Other Officer Reports:**

**Bill McLaughlin** & Margaret could not be here so Mike delivered his report.

We are having another great Cultural Seminar this year on Friday afternoon. We are honored to have Dr. Peter Szok as our guest speaker. Dr. Szok is a professor of History at TCU in Fort Worth, Texas. He has conducted research in Panama for over two decades and is the author of *Wolf Tracks: Popular Art and Re-Africanization in Twentieth-Century Panama*.

We will have a new band for Friday Night “Party Night Dance”. We have selected a band called “Caliente Band” which has gained a reputation of being one of the hottest bands in Florida. Their sound list covers everything from the oldies all the way to the hottest hits of today (salsa, merengue, bachata, etc.)



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Once again we are planning to provide an exciting agenda for all attending the Annual Luncheon. This year we will have renowned Canal Zone artist Mr. Al Sprague as the speaker and presenter. The deadline for purchasing tickets is June 1, 2015, and a limit of 10 tickets per member will be imposed due to limited seating availability.

You can find more information about these events and more in the Canal Record.

As always, volunteers are needed to help in registration and information. Contact the chairpersons or office if you would like to be a reunion volunteer.

There has been a change to the location of Bingo since the December book was published. Bingo will now be located in Gatlin E-1.

**Kathy Malin** discussed the survey that the University of Florida Museum would like to conduct along with the Panama Canal Society. Donations are still needed for the Friends of the Museum's silent auction. Kathy will be happy to accept any donations. She talked about the Friends of the Museum cruise. She urged everyone to go to [www.ufpcmcollection.wordpress.com](http://www.ufpcmcollection.wordpress.com), The UF Panama Canal Museum Collection Blog and share stories and comment on the pictures.

**Patrick Smith** suggested the idea of giving the members joining the Governor's Club a discount. Mike stated that the bylaws would have to be changed. We are looking for ways to reward Governor's Club Members.

**Kelly Parthenais** thanked everyone for coming. The picnic location this year was right on the water and she is going to try to get the same picnic shed next year.

**New Business:**

Changes for next year's agenda:

Friends of Panama Collection Museum luncheon will take place in lieu of the Ocala Luncheon and will be in Gainesville, FL sometime in March 2016.

Der Dutchman will be the last time to have this event. The spring picnic will move to May in its place.

We are going to get in touch with the South Florida group to see if they can change the date of their picnic so that it doesn't conflict with the Christmas Luncheon.

Mike reminded everyone to register for the reunion early.

The Free Night Drawing was done and John Harris of Dothan, AL. won.

**Motion to Adjourn:**

Kathy Malin motioned to adjourn the meeting; it was seconded by Laura Kosik at 1:09 p.m.