



PANAMA CANAL SOCIETY  
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINTUES  
A.L. ANDERSON PARK, TARPON SPRINGS, FL  
March 9, 2024

Meeting was called to order at 11:52 am by Bill McLaughlin, President.

Bill welcomed all the Zonians for attending and announced we have 31 signed-in; thus, we meet the quorum. He welcomed the members and guests present. Chaplain Bill Lane gave the invocation and led a prayer for departed friends and family. Sgt. at Arms Ted Kaufer led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Bill thanked Bill Lane, Ted Kaufer and Kathy Malin for chairing this event and making the picnic possible. Bill asked everyone to read through the Space Coast picnic minutes and to make a motion to approve later.

Bill introduced Past President, Betty LeDoux then he introduced the Board Members present who were Laura Kosik, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President; Mike Young, Director; Margaret McLaughlin, Director-at-Large; Ted Kaufer, Sergeant-at-Arms; Bill Lane, Chaplain; Anna Hertrich, Office Assistant; and Kathy Malin, Office Manager.

Bill asked if all had read the meeting minutes from Space Coast Picnic General Membership Meeting. Ted made a motion to approve the minutes as written, Louise Murphy seconded, and the motion carried.

The Society is on a membership campaign and looking for marketers. Please encourage descendants of Zonians to become a member or even sponsor an Associate Member.

Bill asked all to vote for the new 2024-2026 Executive Board. The nominations and ballots are in the March *Canal Record* that have been mailed out and will be arriving soon. Deadline is the end of June.

The 2024 Reunion is July 5 – 9 at the Rosen Shingle Creek Resort in Orlando. Registration opened in mid-December and closes on June 14<sup>th</sup>. The yellow pages are online and are in the December book. Betty LeDoux announced we will be selling out of rooms and cannot obtain more rooms due to a 2<sup>nd</sup> conference being held at the hotel. She encouraged all to register because you have 72 hours to cancel your hotel room if an emergency arises.

Bill announced that the theme is “A Star-Spangled Reunion” with dances every night from Thursday to Saturday. Our reunion will be on the other side of the convention center closer to the parking lot. So, turn right and go down the escalator this coming year. We are anticipating many attendees, and the luncheon was cancelled due to the high price of banquet food. Margaret, Bill’s wife, had an excellent idea to have Frankie Preto play Lucho music for an hour in the clubhouse during lunch hour. The clubhouse will be in a larger room.

The Board needs volunteers at the Reunion. See Anna Hertrich here today or call the office to volunteer. The golf tournament is limited to 72 players, so register early.

The PCS/UF Luncheon is Saturday, April 6 in Gainesville. Registration closes on April 1<sup>st</sup>.

Bill called the representative from the Friends of the PC Museum. Kathy Egolf spoke about the museum being 25 years old and the donations keep coming into the museum and the silent auction. She encouraged the members to attend the luncheon in April at the George A. Smathers Libraries. This year the museum’s Albert H. Nahmad Panama Canal Gallery’s new theme is the Panama Railroad. There is a Hawaiian cruise in



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September to raise money through Condor Tours and Travel. The UF team will be bringing part of the Museum displays to the Reunion. On Friday afternoon, UF is hosting a Canal Zone Trivia during the Cultural Seminar. You should organize a team and join the fun.

Carole Miller took over the microphone and since her sister, Mickey passed, she has taken over organizing the Silent Auction. They are still looking for items and volunteers. Carole then told the group about joining the Friends of the PC Museum which is only \$26 a year. She has membership forms here today too. Every month a PC Museum member receives an email called "Gator Tails" with informative information on the PC Museum. Carole is looking for volunteers for the Silent Auction and is using Sign-up Genius.

Bill thanked Kathy and Carole and stated the Museum is one of the most important aspects of the Reunion.

Raffles items were drawn followed by the door prizes drawings. Bill Allen made a motion to adjoin, Jean Medinger seconded, and the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 12:57 pm.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bill McLaughlin".

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Bill McLaughlin, President

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kathy Malin".

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Kathy Malin, Office Manager