



# CANAL GATOR TALES

October 2020

## Redesigned Website Now Live

The Panama Canal Museum Collection website has a new address: <https://pcmc.uflib.ufl.edu/>. The site has been completely redesigned with a new layout and navigation to improve functionality. Over the past few months we have reorganized, updated, and added new content, and we will continue to make improvements now that the new site is live.

The website is now managed using WordPress software, which will make it easier for us to update content in a timely manner. The WordPress system also ensures that the website is fully functional when displayed on smaller screens such as tablets or phones.



## New Membership Levels for PCMC Friends

As of this month, we have a new membership level: the Sibert level for memberships of \$250-\$500. The new membership level is named for William L. Sibert, who was an engineer and member of the Panama Canal Commission and who was responsible for commanding the Atlantic Division and oversaw construction of the Gatun Locks and Dam, the West Breakwater in Colón, and other key components of the Canal from 1907-1914. With the addition of the Sibert membership level, the Stevens level now starts at \$500 and the Goethals level starts at \$750, while the Roosevelt level remains the same at \$1,000 or more.

The current membership levels are:

- Galliard (Individual) \$26+
- Galliard (Household) \$50+
- Gorgas \$125+
- Sibert \$250+

- Stevens \$500+
- Goethals \$750+
- Roosevelt \$1,000+

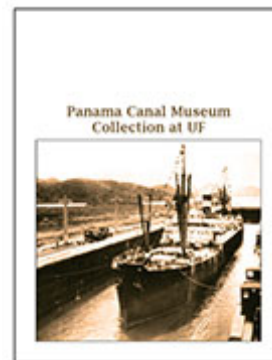
The changes to the membership levels are reflected on the PCMC Friends page online:  
<https://pcmc.uflib.ufl.edu/friends-of-the-pcmc/>.

## Memorial and Honor Gift Program Supports Oral Histories

Would you like to give a gift in honor or memory of a family member, friend, classmate, colleague, or group? Such a gift is a meaningful way to honor or preserve the memory of someone special to you, and it can be an excellent way to commemorate a special occasion, a milestone, an anniversary, or other significant event. The Smathers Libraries are pleased to announce that, effective immediately, all PCMC memorial and honor gifts will be used to support the oral history program. The oral history program was created to document the story of the Canal in the words of the people who lived it; capturing the details of life that are often not discussed in publications, not captioned in photographs, and not documented in other traditional ways. Your donations will help advance efforts to conduct oral history interviews that will be preserved as part of the PCMC for future generations. During the pandemic, we have shifted away from face-to-face interviews, and instead we are conducting interviews via telephone or online. We're also hard at work transcribing so that the text of the interviews will be available along with the recordings as part of our [online digital collection](#).

All memorial and honor gifts are tax deductible. If you donate any amount over \$25, you automatically become a member of the Friends of the PCMC. When you give a gift of \$50 or more in someone's honor or memory, we will send a card or email to your designated honoree or a recipient you designate notifying them of your gift. These beautiful cards and email messages will feature scenes of the Canal from the collection. Your name and the name of the person or group you are honoring or memorializing will also be acknowledged on the PCMC website, on an interactive digital monitor in the Albert H. Nahmad Panama Canal Gallery at UF, and in the Canal Gator Tales email distributed to all Friends of the PCMC.

In addition to membership in the PCMC Friends and the acknowledgements and recognition described above, for gifts of \$100.00 or more you have the opportunity to participate in our [Books of Honor](#) program. When you make a Books of Honor gift, a special PCMC bookplate will be placed inside a book in the collection and a virtual bookplate will be added to the online catalog. This will include your name and the name of the person or group you are honoring or memorializing. We try to select an appropriate book based on your preferences and your knowledge of your honoree's interests.



To make a gift by check, please make your check payable to the "UF Foundation/Panama Canal Museum Collection Endowment (017605)." Please indicate that it is an honor or memorial gift and provide the following information:

- The honoree's full name (an individual, a couple, or a group, such as a class).
- Your contact information, including your email address.
- The contact information for the honoree or another recipient you designate if you want them to receive an acknowledgment that the gift has been made in their honor or memory.
- If applicable, the occasion being recognized such as an anniversary, birthday, or other event.

Please mail your check to the Office of Development, George A. Smathers Libraries, University of Florida, PO Box 117000, Gainesville, FL 32611-7000.

If you prefer to make your gift online rather than by check, please use the [University of Florida Foundation gift page](#). Remember to indicate in the online form that your gift is in honor of or in memory of someone.

If you have any questions, please contact John Nemmers at 352-273-2766 or [jnemmers@ufl.edu](mailto:jnemmers@ufl.edu). Thank you for your support!



### IMPORTANT DATES

#### March 27, 2021

Joint meeting and luncheon of the Friends of the Panama Canal Museum Collection and Panama Canal Society at the University of Florida's Smathers Library in Gainesville, FL.

#### July 7-11, 2021

Panama Canal Society Annual Reunion, Caribe Royale Resort, Orlando, FL.

Of course, these events may be impacted by the pandemic, including any restrictions for large group events implemented by the University or State. But, we're thinking optimistically!

FRIENDS OF THE  
PANAMA CANAL  
Museum Collection  
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

