



# CANAL GATOR TALES

February 2018

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## Gainesville Luncheon and Meeting

The joint meeting of the Friends of the Panama Canal Museum Collection (PCMC) and Panama Canal Society will be held on Saturday, March 3, 2018, in Room 100 of the Smathers Library Building on the University of Florida campus in Gainesville.

General Membership Meeting and Luncheon  
Saturday, March 3, 2018 at 12:00 PM

University of Florida  
Smathers Library  
1st Floor, Room 100  
1508 Union Rd  
Gainesville, FL 32611

### Meeting Information

The Smathers Library Building will be open on Saturday, March 3,  
from 11:00 AM until 3:00 pm.

Prior to the luncheon, the Albert H. Nahmad Panama Canal Gallery  
will be open to visitors

The Luncheon and General Membership Meeting will be held in Room 100  
beginning at 12:00 pm.

### The buffet will feature

Spanish style baked chicken, yellow rice, black beans, Johnny Mazetti, baked  
plantains, salad, and desserts, iced tea, coffee and water



### Registration

The cost of the luncheon is \$30.

Seating is limited, so make your reservation now!

**Deadline for reservations is February 16, 2018.**

The registration form is in the December issue of *Canal Record*, or contact Kathy Malin at 904-923-6039

### Parking

Parking will be available at the lot at 1542 W. University Avenue from 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. **Important Notice:** All vehicles must be removed from the parking lot by no later than 4:00 p.m. on 03/03/2018.

### Parking Instructions

[cms.uflib.ufl.edu/portals/communications/Parking-instructions.pdf](https://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/portals/communications/Parking-instructions.pdf)

Parking is limited, so carpooling is encouraged. If you do intend to park in this lot, please print the **parking pass** and place on your dash.

When you arrive there will be a parking attendant present. Please provide the attendant with the parking permit. In the event you do not have the parking permit with you, the attendant has been instructed to allow anyone attending the PCS Luncheon and Meeting to park.

### Driving (and Walking) Directions

To reach the Off Campus Parking, use the Gainesville exit for Newberry/University and turn right (East) toward the University.

**This road will take you all the way to the parking lot and campus.**

As you drive east, be aware of the sign for 8th Avenue (left lanes).  
Keep in the right lane to stay straight on Newberry Road.

Just before 34th Street, the lanes divide. Keep left to stay on Newberry.

At 34th Street, Newberry becomes University Avenue.

As you continue east, you will pass the stadium on your right (about 20th Street).

From University Avenue, turn left onto NW 16th Street.

Take the immediate right to enter the parking lot.

The walk from parking to Smathers Library is short. Cross University Avenue  
Go to the left of Library West. Smathers Library is on your left.

*There is a large brick sign in front of Library West, saying "George A. Smathers Libraries, University of Florida." Smathers Library does not face Univeristy*

Avenue, but is at the end of the colonnade that connects Library West and Smathers Library.

### Spotlight on Recent Gifts

The Panama Canal Museum Collection is always growing. This treasure trove of historical and cultural heritage resources continues to expand thanks to donations from within the Zonian community and beyond. For more than a year we have been operating under a new collection development policy, which was written and implemented with guidance from the Executive Council of the Friends of the PCMC. As part of this process, we decided to disseminate information about the types of gifts that have been accepted (or not accepted), and we also plan to regularly acknowledge donors of important new acquisitions.

We are always looking to preserve unique historical records such as photos, letters, and diaries in the PCMC, over the past year we have acquired hundreds of these items. We received photographic prints, stereographs and slides depicting subjects such as ships, high school students, Elks Lodge activities, visiting politicians and dignitaries, and views of the Canal Zone. We accepted hundreds of postcards, many that include correspondence written between friends and families. We also collected several films and audiovisual recordings of Panama landscapes, cayuco races, Canal operations, interviews with Zonians, and other subjects.



Swimmers at Elks Lodge Youth Day, circa 1952, Gift of Bob and Marguerite Zumbado

We continue to receive many offers of printed publications, yearbooks, brochures, and newspaper clippings, which we typically decline because they are duplicates of materials already in the PCMC. However, we do continue to collect such items if they are unique and if they fill in gaps such as missing issues of periodical publications. This year, we accepted issues of *Parrakeet*, *Fledgling*, yearbooks from multiple schools, maps, and various souvenir booklets and travel brochures that we did not already have. We also collected a small number of manuals, brochures, regulations, and other documents relating to Canal personnel.

We also continue to collect artifacts and ephemera. In recent months, we have accepted postage stamps, first day of issue stamp covers, a commissary coupon books, a gasoline ration book, clothing, and a small number of coins, pins, and medallions. And, finally, we also continue to seek digital resources, including personal narratives, memoirs, and digital photos. Examples of recent acquisitions include a [biography of Charles Chauncey Clement](#) and a [history of the bank closures in 1988](#).

The following is a list of some of our terrific donors from the past year or so. In the future, we will report on new acquisitions more frequently and recognize donors for their important contributions to the PCMC.

Carl N. Berg  
Robert Boyd, Jr.  
Luis "Louie" Celerier  
Donna Clapp  
Sherry Eid  
Stephen C. Elliott  
Stephen Flumach  
Edna (Morales) Foster  
C. Robert Gibson  
Peggy Huff  
Joyce D. Joubert  
Jan F. Lundy  
Brian McNamee  
Ralph Morales, Jr.  
Carol Offutt  
Shane and Janet Peterson  
Janet Reese  
Luella (Morales) Smith  
Paul Smith  
Marsha Sprague  
Elaine Stephenson  
Teresa Tartar  
Frank Townsend  
Yvonne Morales Vegas  
John and Lana Watson  
Ewald Wiberg  
Joe and Bev Wood  
Bob and Marguerite Zumbado

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### From the Stacks

Those working with the PCMC processing and rehousing project come across some interesting items! Recently, we rehousing a scrapbook of the USS Utah passing through the Canal in 1923. Included are picture postcards of the Navy visiting areas in the Canal Zone and Panama City. This item offers a rare glimpse of the interior of a naval vessel and daily activities of the seamen. Thumbing through, it seems as though they picked up some peculiar travelers along the way!





THE EVER-CURIOUS FEMALE OF THE SPECIES.



"BRUNO" GETS HIS SEA LEGS.

## Served in the Zone

The new exhibition in the Albert Nahmad Panama Canal Gallery at the University of Florida examines the role of food in Zonian experiences and culture. The Zonian cuisine that developed during the American Era of the Panama Canal combined the traditional cuisine of the U.S. with that of Panama and other cultures. The varying cultural influences on the food is evident in the cookbooks produced by community members, which feature recipes incorporating Panamanian products, Caribbean spices, and produce from Chinese gardens. The American citizens who resided in the Canal Zone share memories of their unique cuisine, and continue to preserve their distinctive food practices today.

The exhibition, *Served in the Zone*, features excerpts from oral histories and narratives contributed by Zonians, as well as a variety of historical photographs, publications, documents, and artifacts from the Panama Canal Museum Collection (PCMC). The exhibits address diverse themes relating to food, including popular recipes, dinner staples, community and social events, restaurants, holiday meals, school lunches, cultural influences, and shopping at the commissary. The exhibition also examines the international cultural influences and the impact that international conflicts and wars had on food in the Zone.

*Served in the Zone* opens in the Albert Nahmad Panama Canal Gallery on Saturday, March 3, 2018, at the regional meeting of the Panama Canal Society. Visitors are welcome to view the exhibition during weekdays and on Sundays when the Smathers Library Building is open. The exhibition is curated by Liz Bouton, Exhibits Associate for the George A. Smathers Libraries, with assistance from Lourdes Santamaría-Wheeler, John Nemmers, and graduate student assistant Lynea Wilson.



## Save These Dates

**March 3** Joint meeting of the Friends of the Panama Canal Museum Collection and Panama Canal Society at the University of Florida's Smathers Library in Gainesville, FL.

**June 27 - July 1** Exhibition, Auction and Cultural Seminar at the Panama Canal Society Reunion at the Orlando World Center Marriott.

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**Friends of the PCMC membership**

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If you haven't done so already, now is the time to renew your membership in the Friends of the Panama Canal Museum Collection at UF. If you're not a member already, please consider joining! The funds collected are used to support education and research through the preservation, conservation, digitization, and processing of the collection. Funds also support the creation and development of local, traveling, and online exhibits that increase awareness about the collection, the Panama Canal, the Canal Zone, and its people.

We maintain these efforts through the support of friends like you when you join or renew your membership. Dues and donations qualify for tax deductions. Thank you for your continued support of the PCMC at UF.

To join the PCMC Friends, or renew your membership (starting at \$26), please visit: <https://apps.uflib.ufl.edu/pcmmembership>

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

