



# CANAL GATOR TALES

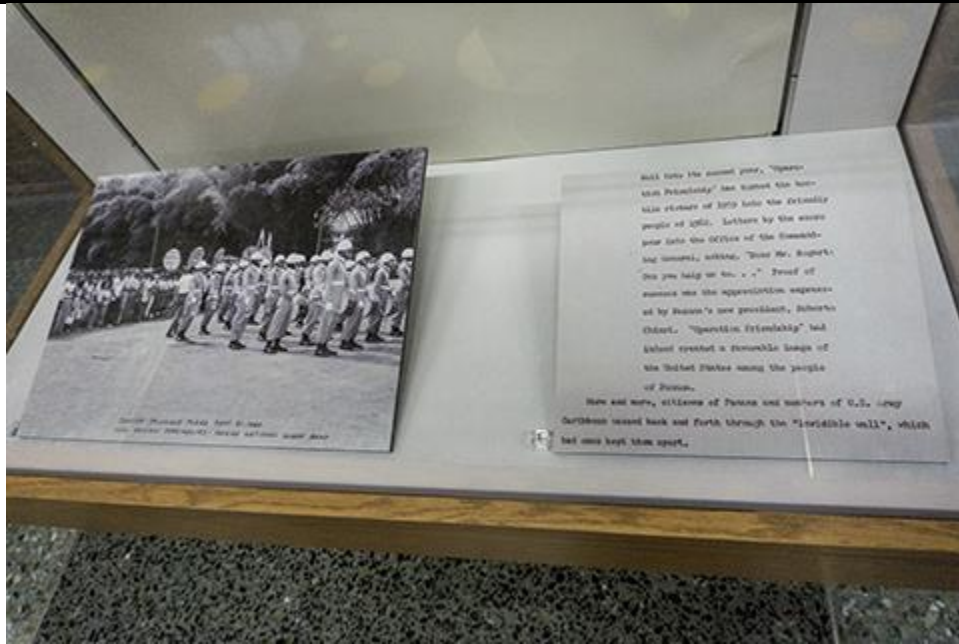
December 2019

## Exhibition Closing February 2020

*An American Canal in Panama*, our current exhibition in the Albert H. Nahmad Panama Canal Gallery, will close in mid-February. This exhibition looks at the relationship between the United States and the Republic of Panama, and examines events that led to the transfer of the Canal in 1999. For those of you unable to visit the UF campus to see the exhibition, we encourage you to visit our online exhibit <http://exhibits.uflib.ufl.edu/AmericanCanal>, and we also want to share with you some photos of the exhibition as it is displayed in the Smathers Library Building. The images below depict the first few cases, which address U.S.-Panama relations in the 20th Century up through the early 1960s. The exhibits feature photos, maps, and artifacts.







In the January issue of *Canal Gator Tales* we will share additional images of cases covering the 1960s through 1999. In future issues of we will regularly share images of the Gallery so that everyone can see how the exhibition is displayed in the Gallery. Our next exhibition, which examines the Canal during World War II, will open to the public on March 7, 2020 at the Joint meeting of the Friends of the PCMC and the Panama Canal Society here at UF.

Exhibition Sponsorship

The goal of the PCMC exhibition program is to educate and raise awareness about the American era of the Panama Canal. Exhibition sponsorship provides a unique opportunity to support this goal.

Through gallery, online, and traveling exhibitions, we share the memories and stories preserved in the PCMC, and introduce audiences to the treasure trove of distinctive and historically significant objects. Exhibitions are curated in the Albert H. Nahmad Panama Canal Gallery and at the Panama Canal Society Annual Reunion, among other venues. Online exhibitions are accessible freely at any time to a worldwide audience, and traveling exhibitions enable education in diverse locations.

We invite individuals, groups, and corporations to sponsor PCMC exhibitions. All sponsors receive acknowledgment in exhibition materials, including: invitations, programs, exhibition catalogues, signage, flyers, press releases, the UF PCMC website and e-mails sent to Friends members. Complimentary curator tours are also provided for sponsors and their guests. If you are interested in sponsoring an exhibition or would like more information, please contact John Nemmers, [jnemmers@ufl.edu](mailto:jnemmers@ufl.edu), 353-273-2766.

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## Support the PCMC - Renew!

Renewing your Friends membership is the easiest way that you can participate directly in ongoing efforts to develop the leading research collection for the study of the American era of the Panama Canal and to educate and raise awareness about that era. If you have renewed already, thank you for your important contribution. If you have not renewed, now is the perfect time!

Your continued support will make a difference now and for future generations. Your financial contribution ensures that we can preserve your history so that students and scholars can learn from it in decades to come. These funds enable a wide variety of activities including the preservation of historical materials, public events, promotional activities, scanning, exhibits, oral history interviews, and the ongoing physical organization and storage of the collection. A good portion of the funds are used to pay graduate and undergraduate student assistants who are employed to complete these activities, so in addition to supporting the PCMC your donation also supports student education and ensures that these students interact with and learn from the collection. For example, the [PCMC Blog](#) is managed entirely by students who are responsible for selecting topics and objects, creating posts, and communicating with blog followers.

Although individual membership is **only \$26 per year**, we encourage you to consider renewing at a higher membership level:

- Gorgas (Professional) at \$125+
- Stevens (Leadership) at \$250+
- Goethals (Executive) at \$500+
- Roosevelt (Presidential) at \$1,000+

When we recently mailed out our annual solicitation letters, we inadvertently failed to include renewal forms in many of the letters we sent out and we're very sorry about this. You can renew your membership with the Friends of the PCMC online at <https://apps.uflib.ufl.edu/pcmembership/>. Please note that you now have the option on this form to automatically make your membership an annual recurring gift. If you prefer to mail your membership gift rather than using the online form, please use this address: University of Florida George A. Smathers Libraries Development Office, P.O. Box 117000, Gainesville, FL 32611-7000.

If you need assistance with your renewal, please contact Pam Clark, Associate Director of Development & External Relations for the George A. Smathers Libraries, at 352-273-2505 or [clark.pamela.j@ufl.edu](mailto:clark.pamela.j@ufl.edu). If you have questions about

the activities that your gift supports, please contact John Nemmers, curator for the Panama Canal Museum Collection, at 352-273-2766 or jnemmers@ufl.edu. Thank you!

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## Silent Auction

The Friends of the PCMC will hold a silent auction at the Panama Canal Society Reunion in Orlando in 2020 in order to raise funds to support the collection. We are fortunate that volunteers have once again stepped forward to donate their time and energy to coordinate every aspect of the auction. Of course, we still need your help. First, please consider donating items for the auction. We accept everything from clothing and jewelry to art and decorative objects. Second, please consider volunteering your time to help at the auction with set-up and clean-up and everything in between.

If you are interested in donating your time or your items, please contact Mickey Walker Fitzgerald at mickeyftz@aol.com.

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## Sign Up for the Friends of the PCMC Caribbean Cruise!



We're excited about the cruise planned for March on Norwegian *Encore*, a large, new ship that will begin sailing this Fall, and the best part is that you will be able to support the PCMC while cruising the Caribbean on one of the most innovative ships to be launched to date. Lori Snow's Condor Tours and Travel will generously donate a portion of the proceeds to the Friends of the PCMC, so you are directly supporting the collection when you sign up for this terrific trip.

The 7-day cruise of the Eastern Caribbean is scheduled for March 8-15, 2020, and departs from Miami. The trip is scheduled conveniently after the Spring luncheon and joint meeting of the Friends of the PCMC and Panama Canal Society, which will take place on March 7, 2020, at the University of Florida in Gainesville. Ports include San Juan, Puerto Rico; St. Thomas in the US Virgin Islands; and Tortola in the British Virgin Islands.

For more information, please refer to the cruise flyer, <http://www.uflib.ufl.edu/spec/pcm/cruise flyer2020.pdf>.

Happy Cruising!



## Save These Dates

### Ongoing through February 2020

The *An American Canal in Panama* exhibition is available in the Albert H. Nahmad Panama Canal Gallery, Smathers Library Building, University of Florida, Gainesville. Contact John Nemmers for information about visiting the Gallery. An online version of the exhibition is available at: [exhibits.uflib.ufl.edu/AmericanCanal/](http://exhibits.uflib.ufl.edu/AmericanCanal/).

### March 7, 2020

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. Includes the grand opening of the 2020 exhibition in the Albert H. Nahmad Panama Canal Gallery.

### March 8-15, 2020

7-Night Eastern Caribbean Fundraising Cruise on Norwegian *Encore* with Friends of the Panama Canal Museum Collection. For more information, see the [2020 Cruise Flyer](#).

### June 24-28, 2020

Exhibit, Cultural Seminar, and Silent Auction at the Panama Canal Society Reunion at the Caribe Royale. Please contact Mickey Walker Fitzgerald if you wish to volunteer your time or items for the Silent Auction.

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

