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BHS Class of '61 Sponsors a Panama Canal Museum in a Trunk

Last year at the Panama Canal Society reunion, **George Garcia**, BHS '61, saw the Panama Canal Museum in a Trunk that the Museum has developed to go out to schools across the country and thought, "What a legacy our BHS class could leave if our classmates went together and sponsored a trunk for \$1500!" George figured it would take about a year to accomplish the goal of raising that amount. Little did he dream that the class would take only about half that time to raise the money--thanks to his great communication with classmates and their enthusiastic response. Along with two other donations the class made at earlier reunions, BHS '61 has now contributed nearly \$2000 to the Museum--more than any other class. **Elizabeth Neily**, museum director, is thrilled with the class's sponsorship of the trunk and comments, "If other classes follow the example of BHS '61, this project should really make an impact in so many places. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!" Now the class and the Museum will work together to select a strategic location for the placement of the BHS '61 trunk. Please contact the Museum if you would like more information on sponsoring a trunk.

Sun City Visitors Tour Museum

As visitors from Sun City Center arrived at the Panama Canal Museum last month, they were greeted by the individuals pictured below dressed in mola attire, montunos, a pollera, and a Guaymi dress. The Sun City Center Mini-bus Club provided transportation for the 17 guests - all of whom found **Gerry DeTore's** presentation, which included tales of growing up in Panama, museum displays, and the gift shop, to be well worth the hour and a half drive to Seminole. Those in the photograph are (from left to right): PCM trustee, Gerry DeTore, PCM education curator **Kalika Novoa**, Sun City Center visitor **Lois Scheidegg Andress**, PCM director Elizabeth Neily, PCM clerical assistant **Helen Morris**, PCM executive vice president **Kathy Egolf**, PCM volunteer **Cheryl Russell**, and PCM clerical assistant **Marilyn White**.



Take Note . . .

- ◆ The PCM's winter luncheon will be a potluck lunch at the Museum on February 14. Everyone is invited to bring a dish—appetizer, vegetable, fruit, entree, dessert, etc.—to share with eight to twelve people. Lunch will start at 12:00 p.m. and will be followed by a program of readings by authors from the Museum's Write of Passage book. Please contact the Museum if you would like to attend.
- ◆ If you have a Panama Canal treasure or some other special item you would like to donate to the PCM's silent auction at the Panama Canal Society reunion this summer, please contact the Museum.
- ◆ Contact the Panama Canal Museum or Travel Leaders (888-652-1365) about our February 2010 Dazzling Dutch Caribbean and Panama Canal cruise!
- ◆ Our specially crafted bateas have arrived at the Museum store courtesy of **Bruce and Chris Homa** and some willing Panama-to-Florida couriers. See our new store order form for a listing!
- ◆ Space Coast Bunco IV—Cocoa Village, FL, April 18, 2009. (Info: 321-455-1649)

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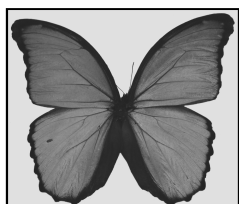
Marilynn Stevens
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Another BHS Class of '61 Gift Unveiled

Perhaps you saw the large painting of Vasco Núñez de Balboa in the Museum's exhibit room at the Panama Canal Society's 2008 reunion in Orlando. Known as both "cronista gráfico de la nacionalidad panameña" (graphic chronicler of the Panamanian nationality) and the painter from Los Santos, Juan Manuel Cedeño (b. 1914--d. 1997), the artist, painted the work in 1961. Donated to Balboa High School by the class of '61 (also a recent sponsor of a Panama Canal Museum in a Trunk), the painting was estimated to be worth \$30,000 at the time the Museum received it in 1999 when Balboa High School closed. Because of its tremendous size, the painting remained in its shipping crate from 1999 until this summer. Now space has been made for it to hang (floor to ceiling!) in the Museum's Charles W. Hummer, Jr., Library for Historical Research.

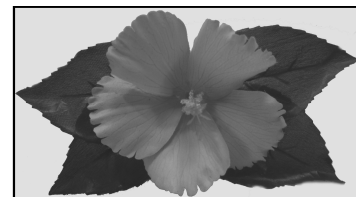


Paradise Found—Flora & Fauna



"Flora & Fauna" will be the theme for the Museum's exhibit at next year's Panama Canal Society reunion. This will complement the Society's "Paradise Found" theme.

You can help with this exhibit and other future museum projects if you have any good pictures of unusual flora or fauna of Panama such as square trees, rose apples, ginnups, breadfruit, honey bears, land crabs, sloths, tapirs, etc. Pictures with Canal Zone housing or identifiable CZ/Panama areas in the background would be especially nice.



Please send them to Panama Canal Museum, 7985 113th Street, Suite 100, Seminole, FL 33772-4785, ATTN: Gerry DeTore. After scanning we will send the pictures back to you unless you say we can keep them. If you prefer to do your own scanning, each piece of artwork or photograph should be scanned at 300 dpi and saved as a .jpg or .tif file, with no image compression selected. Images may be mailed to us on a CD. Paintings should be professionally photographed or scanned to ensure fidelity to the original. Please do not send originals. We would appreciate receiving all submissions by February 1, 2009.

Photos of montunos, montunas, polleras, and accessories would also be welcome for future projects and can be mailed or e-mailed (pancanalmuseum@aol.com) to the Museum, as well.

KEEP IN TOUCH!

If you haven't yet sent in your 2009 dues, notice that there is a box to check if you'd like to receive the Museum's e-Blasts. They're a wonderful way to keep up with the latest museum happenings, and we hope everybody will check the box! If you've already sent in your dues and didn't notice the box, you can e-mail us at office@panamacanalmuseum.org to let us know you'd like to be included.

THE PANAMA CANAL MUSEUM MISSION

The mission of the Panama Canal Museum is to document, interpret and articulate the role of the United States in the history of Panama, with emphasis on the construction, operation, maintenance and defense of the Panama Canal and the contributions to its success by people of all nationalities.

**MUSEUM
HOURS:
Monday - Saturday
10 AM - 4 PM**