



# Goleta **DEPOT** **DISPATCH**

Newsletter of the South Coast Railroad Museum

Vol. 38, No. 2 — Summer 2018



## All Aboard for *Depot Days*

Come to Our 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Event on August 11 & 12

Depot Days is that special time when we stop to celebrate the saving of our landmark Goleta Depot, along with its colorful history and its significance as a community treasure.

Join us for a fun-filled celebration for the whole family! Only \$5 per person to enjoy the following and more:

- Railroad handcar rides and miniature train rides\*
- Live music from local talent **Rick Reeves**
- Kids' activities and entertainment (bounce house, story time, arts and crafts, toy train table, and more)
- Silent auction (Sunday) and vintage treasures (Saturday)
- Displays of steam engines and model railroads
- And yes, much more!

Mark your calendars for the big event Aug. 11-12, 11 am-4 pm.

\*Must be 34" tall for miniature train ride and 48" for handcar.

## New Fun in the Visitor Center!

We unveiled our new toy train table at the museum visitor center this month. Museum associate **Alexis Aguiniga** was about to lay out the tracks when an industrious group of "professional" railroad builders rushed in and took over.



We think they did an excellent job, but there's always room for more builders and engineers. Come and join the fun!

## \* Help \* Serve \* Educate \*

*The Railroad Museum needs volunteers* in all visitor-service areas. We can use your help as:

**Engineers and Conductors** to operate the miniature-train and handcar

**Gandy Dancer Crew** to help maintain the tracks of the Goleta Short Line

**Sales Associates** at the museum store

**Station Agents (docents)** to share the historical landmark and model railroad exhibit with guests

Volunteers commit to at least three hours each month. Both weekend and weekday openings are available. For more information, please contact Rich Kaplan at the museum office (805) 964-3560.

Visit our website at [www.goletadepot.org](http://www.goletadepot.org)



## Helping Hand Brings Explosion of Color to Depot

Keeping the Museum beautiful is an unending task – a chore always in need of helping hands from the community. One young lady in particular has stepped up to keep our treasured depot looking fresh and pretty as, well, as a wild flower.



**Katelyn Rode**, ninth grader at San Marcos High School, has created a flower garden at the depot. The garden stretches 4 feet by 30 feet and is designed to attract

Monarch butterflies. Moreover, it's stocked with drought-tolerant plants.

Katelyn's hard labors were part of her earning the difficult Silver Award as a Senior Girl Scout with Troop 50886. "I enjoyed working on this project, as I learned great skills, including fundraising," says Katelyn. The project helps the depot, but also "educates the public about the plight of the Monarch butterfly as well as provide a new habitat for butterflies, bees and hummingbirds."

The depot most heartily thanks Katelyn and her fellow scouts in troop 50886. We're glad the youth of our community are appreciating the treasure of our historic depot!



## Families Flock to Fun at Bunny Express

The Goleta Bunny Express rolled into our depot on Saturday, March 31. The celebration was a booming success with over 400 tickets sold. The *Santa Barbara News-Press* featured the event on page one and reported: "**This 16th annual event was a chance for Goletans to once again discover this gem ... and introduce younger generations to the world of trains while offering the usual celebratory spring fun.**"



## Upcoming Events at the Goleta Depot

Mark your calendars for all these fun activities.

- **August 11-12 — Depot Days**

A fun-filled celebration of our historic train station

- **Oct. 27-28 — Haunted Depot.**

Too scary to miss

- **Nov. 23-Dec. 23 — Candy Cane Train**

**South Coast Railroad Museum**

TO  
SAN FRANCISCO.  
363 6/10 M.

**GOLETA.**

ELEVATION  
37 FEET



## What Would Franklin Do?

We think old Ben Franklin would have approved. We're talking about the little free library located in front of our museum gates. It is a terrific replica of our train depot and was lovingly constructed by long-time volunteer **Clay Rushing**.



Franklin launched America's first lending library way back 1731, when books were far too expensive for the average citizen. Franklin always liked ideas that showed we do better by working together. And what could be a better example of that than a free library? Certainly too, our railroad museum — which depends entirely upon volunteer work and donations — embodies Franklin's idea of building institutions that strengthen our community and remind us of our shared history.

Clay Rushing and his wife **Beth** have long manifested that Franklin spirit as ongoing volunteers at the museum. Among other accomplishments, Clay has replaced the flooring in the model RR room and painted the Depot's exterior. Thank you Clay and Beth!

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**Rick Wells** and **Parker** lent their new 25-ton switcher locomotive to the Depot for the Goleta Bunny Express, ensuring that all visitors had a great time.



**Miguel Marquez**, interpretive specialist for the Juan Batista de Anza National Historic Trail, awards certificates of appreciation to Trails and Rails volunteers **Ryan Bates, Ester Ross, Bern Verbit, Becky Reid, Mike Topping, Ed Leska, Diane Kirchner** and **Noel Langle**.

## Volunteers and Donors Feted

A very special group of people gathered at the Goleta Depot on June 2. Serenaded by **Rick Reeves** on guitar, sipping wine provided by board member **Brent Muchow**, feted and honored were *those special people who keep our museum alive and humming: our volunteers and donors*. Board president **Steve Wagner** led the tributes, declaring, "This party is just a small display of our very great appreciation for all the donors and volunteer who sustain us day in and day out." Yes, generously offering their time and resources, it's our donors and volunteers who keep this museum alive and available to the community.

## Treasures Needed for Depot Days UFBS

Summer is here and that means Depot Days is fast approaching. Our annual event kicks off on Saturday, August 11 with an event known to all local treasure hunters: our Unclaimed Freight & Baggage Sale (UFBS).

The annual UFBS features model trains, related accessories, artworks and other enticing objects you may find desirable. **If you have any items you wish to donate for the UFBS sale, please contact Brent Muchow** at [bmuchow1@cox.net](mailto:bmuchow1@cox.net) or by phone or text at (805) 331-5988.



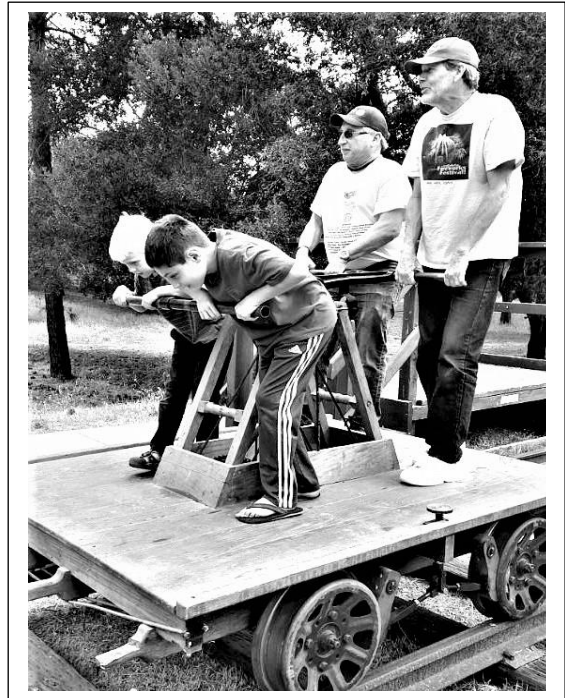
# Become a Member Today!

**It's back—our Annual Membership in the South Coast Railroad Museum.** Join and be a supporting member of your local museum. We are dedicated to celebrating Goleta and its railroad station and their long, unique history.

Annual dues are \$25. Besides being a proud sustainer of our local institution, you will enjoy these benefits:

- **\$2 tickets** to the Goleta Shortline miniature train (regular price is \$2.50)
- **10% off** all merchandise at the Visitor Center
- **Subscription** to our digital newsletter
- **Exclusive invites** to museum events

Send in your dues today to support the South Coast Railroad Museum and its mission of preserving our history and sharing it with the entire community.



## Membership Application to the South Coast Railroad Museum

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
Street \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State and Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone (optional) \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, it's OK to email me newsletters and announcements

Choose your desired \$25 membership category:

- Annual Individual/Family
- Junior Engineer Club

Special interests? (Please indicate: model trains, lectures, family events, volunteering, or other interests) \_\_\_\_\_

*Enclosed is an additional donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to support the Railroad Museum and its public outreach activities (Donations may be tax deductible. The South Coast Railroad Museum is a 501-c-3 nonprofit community organization, and our federal ID number is 95-2579618.)*

Send your dues and application to:  
South Coast Railroad Museum  
300 N. Los Carneros Rd.  
Goleta, CA 93117

