



NEWSLETTER OF THE GOLETA DEPOT PROJECT

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DISPATCH NOW MONTHLY This issue we begin publishing the **Depot Dispatch** on a monthly rather than a bi-weekly basis.

UPDATE ON NOVEMBER BARBEQUE Goleta Beautiful will be holding a barbeque on Sunday, November 8th at Stow Grove County Park, from 12 to 4 pm. Dinner will be served beginning at 1:00 and will include tri-tips, beans, salad and french bread; beer, wine and other beverages will be available. There will also be prizes and entertainment, and depot tours are planned. All proceeds go to the depot project. Tickets are \$6 for adults and \$4 for children 12 and under and may be purchased at the Goleta Valley Chamber of Commerce or Santa Barbara Savings and Loan (5887 Hollister Ave). Please plan to attend.

FACILITIES UPDATE The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors approved our architectural plans for the depot placement and restoration at their September 21st meeting.

The grading was completed at the Los Carneros Road site on September 29th and 30th. Thanks again to **South Coast Contractors** for this very valuable contribution.

Ray Baird reports that **G and M Construction** will donate the digging of the foundation trenches and **Tony Hernandez** will contribute the labor for placing the foundation concrete. We hope to have this foundation work begun by October 21st.

The move is now scheduled for November 4th and 5th.

FUNDING UPDATE Approximately \$19,000 in cash, building materials and labor is still needed to complete Phase 1 of the project which includes moving, site work, installation of utilities and restoration of the depot exterior.

Norma Cavalletto reports that, in response to **Santa Barbara Savings and Loan's** challenge, project contributions have been received from **Santa Barbara Bank and Trust** and **Crocker National Bank**.

Another major in-kind contribution has been received. **Santa Barbara Stone and Masonry Supplies Inc** has generously donated all of the concrete block that will be incorporated in the building foundation. Thanks to **Peter Da Ros** and **Phyllis Olsen** for making possible this substantial addition to the project.

** GOLETA DEPOT DISPATCH **
Institute for American Research
P.O. Box 2125
Goleta, California 93118

Nonprofit Organization U.S. Postage PAID Santa Barbara, Calif. Permit No. 575

FRIENDS OF GOLETA DEPOT Here are the newest Friends of Goleta Depot:

Walker A. Tompkins
Arne P. and Elizabeth E. Hvolboll
Burton A. Decker
Paul and Carol Fritz
Mr and Mrs Harry P. Hedge
Santa Barbara Bank and Trust
Glendale Federal Savings
Alvin F. Volkman

Crocker National Bank
M. J. Favro Family
Paul and June Crawford
Mrs Alma C. Jones
Mrs Marilyn Campbell
Santa Barbara Audubon Society
Sun Machinery Co.

Thank you and welcome one and all!!

ARE YOU STILL WAITING? To become a member of the Friends, make a one-time tax-deductible contribution of \$10 or more (\$5 for students and \$25 or more for businesses) to the Goleta Beautiful Depot Fund, c/o Goleta Valley Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 781, Goleta, California 93116.

Friends receive the **Depot Dispatch** and the names of all Friends will be on permanent public display at the restored depot. An alphabetical listing of all friends may now be viewed at the Chamber of Commerce, T.G. and Y., Institute for American Research and Santa Barbara Savings (5887 Hollister).

1901 OR 1902? AN ANSWER AT LAST - AN ODD ONE! Along with his Depot Friends contribution, **Walker A. Tompkins** sent us a nice letter detailing his reasons for using 1902 as the year of the depot's construction in **Goleta: The Good Land**. He explained that his informants, the late **Horace Sexton** and **Jim Smith**, both recalled seeing the depot actually being built. Although they were "hazy on exact dates", they did agree that the warehouse portion of the station was completed in the fall of 1901, with completion of the waiting room, telegraph office and agent's apartment not coming until early 1902.

Investigations conducted at the **Institute for American Research** by **Linda Dick** and **Gary Coombs**, however, suggest an earlier completion date. In reviewing early copies of the Santa Barbara **Morning Press**, these researchers found that the January 1, 1902 issue listed Goleta depot among "Improvements Completed and In Progress in and near Santa Barbara during the Year 1901". The depot builder was reported as "S.P.R.R. Co."; the cost, \$6500. On the following day, the **Morning Press** carried a story on "Railroad Improvements in Santa Barbara in 1901". It noted that:

For the convenience of travelers and patrons of the road **ornate station buildings have been built** at Sudden, Conception, Gaviota, Naples and **Goleta**, and all the usual sidings required for convenient operation of the road have been provided [emphasis added; we were as surprised at the use of the word "ornate" to describe the depot as you probably are.].

On the same day, a second article, entitled "The Beautiful Goleta Valley" stated:

...The Southern Pacific Company ... **has erected** a fine station building, a home for the agent and made other improvements of a substantial nature. [emphasis added]

Coombs and Dick view these three articles as certain evidence that Goleta depot was "essentially complete" by the end of 1901. It remains unclear whether the building was finished in the last few months of the year, as Tompkins' evidence would indicate, or still earlier. It should be mentioned that the **Morning Press** contains several other references to Goleta depot throughout the summer and fall issues of 1901. Unfortunately, none refer to the building as "just completed", "under construction", "new" or anything else that would reveal this last piece to our chronological puzzle.

DID YOU KNOW? Once upon a time, **Sunset** was "the Southern Pacific magazine."

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Please enter my name as a Friend of Goleta Depot

Name

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Individual/Family \$10 }
Student 5 } or more
Business/Organization 25 }

Make checks payable to: Goleta Beautiful Depot Fund
Mail to: Goleta Depot Project, Box 781, Goleta, CA 93116
All donations are deductible from State and Federal income taxes.