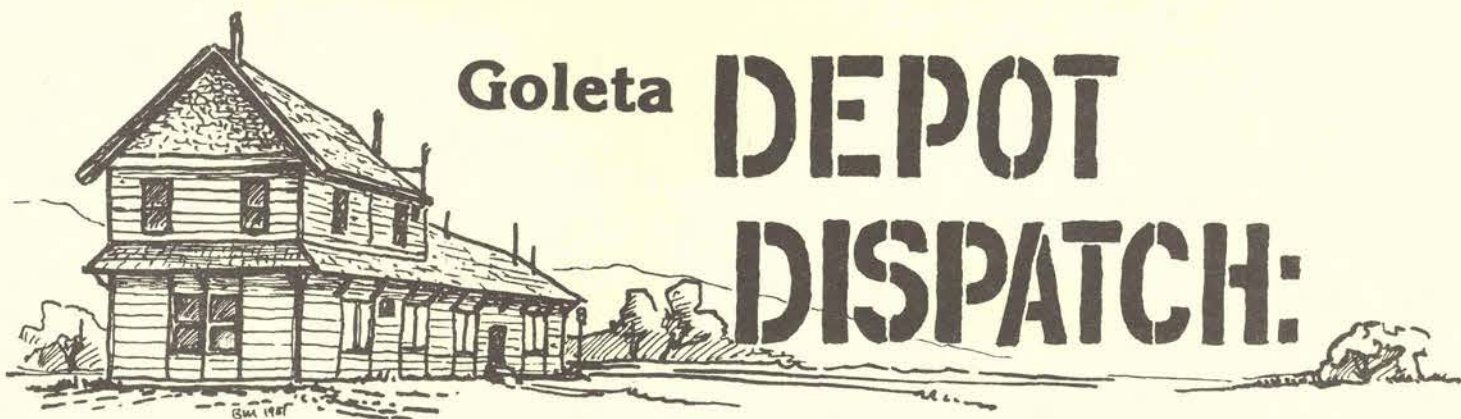


Goleta **DEPOT** **DISPATCH:**



NEWSLETTER OF THE GOLETA DEPOT PROJECT

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DEPOT DISPATCH This is the last monthly issue of the **Depot Dispatch**. Beginning in the Spring, the **Dispatch** will be published quarterly, so long as enough people are interested in receiving the Depot news. If you would like to continue getting the **Dispatch**, we'd like to keep sending it to you. Just send your name and address to: **Depot Dispatch**, Institute for American Research, 300 N. Los Carneros Rd, Goleta, CA 93117. There is no charge for this service. However, we ask that you consider enclosing a \$2 donation to the Institute to help defray its expenses in preparing and distributing the newsletter.

MAJOR GIFT RECEIVED On November 19th, the Depot Project received a most welcome contribution of \$5,000 from a donor who wishes to remain anonymous. This money will be used to further the restoration effort.

FRIENDS PHOTO 11x14 inch offset prints of the Depot Friends photo taken on Oct. 10th are now available at the Institute for American Research. The cost is \$1. Proceeds go to the depot.

DEPOT HISTORY The Goleta Depot book can now be purchased at the following locations: Institute for American Research, Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, and Santa Barbara Historical Society Museum. Persons who placed advanced orders should pick up their copies at the Institute. Sorry, the hardcovers are all sold out.

Special thanks to the **Holiday Inn** for giving us such a wonderful reception party on November 28th to honor the book's publication.

CONSTRUCTION PLANS Watch for the following changes and additions out at the depot over the coming months: the original redwood gutters will be restored or replaced; the "GOLETA" signs will return to their proper homes on the Depot roof; the semaphore signal will be installed on the loading dock; a section of track will be laid out front by SP work crews and there will be a wig-wag and probably other equipment as well. We will also be out-fitting the waiting room and railroad office with artifacts and other memorabilia.

CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING In years past, when railroad stations were as numerous as windmills in rural America, it was common practice for the Southern Pacific Railroad agents and their families to place the traditional Christmas tree in the depot's second story window bay, where its lights of wonder and hope could be seen and enjoyed by travelers on passing trains.

On December 17th, we will endeavor to rekindle this bit of our local heritage, when the Christmas tree will again return to its customary place in Goleta depot's bay window. The tree will be lit every night until Christmas, so if you're in the neighborhood, drive by and enjoy, or stop off any weekday afternoon and add a personal ornament to the tree.

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

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THE DARK CRYSTAL On the day after Christmas, **Goleta Beautiful** and **Metropolitan Theatres** will be co-sponsoring Depot Project benefit performances of **The Dark Crystal**, the magnificent fantasy film by **Muppets** creator Jim Henson and the producers of **Star Wars**. Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$4 for children under 12 and may be used for any performance on Sunday, Dec. 26th. They may be purchased at the following locations: the Lily Pad (Fairview Shopping Center), Santa Barbara Savings and Loan (1035 State St and 5887 Hollister Avenue), and the Institute for American Research. A ticket to **The Dark Crystal** will make a perfect Christmas present or stocking-stuffer and will help the depot as well!!

WINE AND CHEESE PARTY The Depot Surprise Trip on November 20th was a grand success. It was a beautiful day on the beach at **Henry Schulte's Rancho Dos Pueblos** and the **'55-'56 Chevy Club** provided transportation that was "really boss." We were treated to a showing of rare and antique women's fashions owned by **Marilyn Neilsen**. Thanks to all of the contributors of the delicious wines and cheeses and to everyone else who made the day so enjoyable. A very special thank you to **Nancy Ried** and **Mary Lou Williamson** of **N & M Catering** for organizing the event. Over \$1,000 was raised for the depot.

DEPOT PAINTING The **Institute for American Research** is pleased to announce that it has beautiful, full-color 12x19 prints of a painting of Goleta Depot by local artist **Lynn D. Sexton**, great-grandson of Goleta Valley pioneers Joseph and Lucy Foster Sexton. This is the same painting that graces the cover of Coombs' history of Goleta Depot. 200 of these prints are numbered and signed by the artist and sell for \$20; unsigned copies are \$15. Both versions are accompanied by a capsule history of the depot and a description of the art work.

The prints may be viewed and purchased at the Institute on weekdays from 1-5 p.m. or in the Depot Waiting Room on tour days. Proceeds are shared by the Depot and Institute programs.

RAILROAD ADVENTURE We are now planning a special **railroad trip to San Luis Obispo** for late January or early February. We will be leaving Santa Barbara station at 12:30 p.m. on Friday and returning at 4 p.m. on the following day (Saturday). The actual dates will be set when we know the preferences of those taking the tour.

We will be staying in downtown San Luis Obispo, within easy walking distance of restaurants, shops, the Old Mission, the County Historical Museum, and the enchanting self-guided tour of the city's neighborhood of historical Victorian homes.

The cost is \$60 for adults and \$40 for children, which includes rail fares, transportation to and from the SLO depot, and hotel accommodations. Please call Phyllis Olsen at 964-3549, weekday afternoons for information and reservations. Group size is limited so call today.

FRIENDS OF GOLETA DEPOT The newest Depot Friends are:

Howard Marion
William Everett
Frank Vasquez
Mr and Mrs Patrick McMahon
Metropolitan Theatres
Miratti's Liquors
Firestone Vineyards
Goleta Girl's Club

William Shrives
Phillip Goldman
Walter C. Douglas
Katheryn Marriott
Jonathan Green
Brink's Vintage Shop
'55-'56 Chevy Club

REMEMBER December 31st is the final date for new names to be accepted for the list of Depot Friends. The final, permanent plaque commemorating the Friends of Goleta Depot will contain only those names that have been submitted by the end of the year. To add a friend or loved one to the list, send their name, together with a donation of \$10 or more to: Goleta Beautiful Depot Fund, 300 N. Los Carneros Rd., Goleta, CA 93117.

DEPOT TOURS Docents are still needed to help staff the depot during tour hours, Sundays 2-4 p.m. Please contact Gary Coombs at 964-3549 days or 964-1325 evenings, if you are able to lend a hand.

NEW TENANTS The **Goleta Valley Chamber of Commerce** and the **Santa Barbara Audubon Society** have now completed moving into their leased spaces in the depot.

SOME CLOSING WORDS by Gary Coombs. Since this will be the last **Depot Dispatch** for many of you, I thought it would be appropriate to make a few summary remarks about the depot and its friends.

On behalf of Goleta Beautiful and the Depot Committee, I want to extend the deepest of thanks to everyone who has contributed to the depot project. Whether you purchased a \$1 chance on the Depot Quilt or donated thousands of dollars, whether you helped sell hot dogs or gave hundreds of hours of skilled labor and equipment, the part that you played was **absolutely essential** to our success.

We hope that you will stay with the depot in the months and years ahead. Please stop by whenever you get a chance -- to say hello, maybe lend a hand, to look over new additions to the museum, and watch the depot once again become a center for social life in the Goleta Valley.

For my own part, I want to tell you what a pleasure it has been to work with so many very fine people and to watch a community respond to a cause in which it believed. I hope that we will have the chance to join our efforts again some day.