

NEWSLETTER OF THE GOLETA DEPOT PROJECT

Volume 3 Number 1 Spring 1983

Published Quarterly at the Institute for American Research, Goleta, California
Editor: Gary Coombs, Circulation: Phyllis Olsen
Printing: Courtesy of Kimberly Press

DEPOT DISPATCH This is the first issue on our new quarterly publication schedule. You probably noticed a few changes. One is that we are currently using first class postage. This was necessary because we need a mailing list of 200 in order to use bulk mailing. First class is a very expensive alternative, so if you know of anyone not getting the **Dispatch** who would like to, please send us their name or have them get in touch with us. Remember, there is no charge for the **Dispatch**, although we suggest a \$2 donation (tax deductible) to the Institute for American Research (300 N. Los Carneros Rd, Goleta 93117) to help defray the costs of publication and distribution.

DONATIONS Another change that you will notice is that the **Dispatch** no longer carries the mail-in coupon for becoming a Depot Friend. Although the list of Depot Friends is now final (586 was the closing tally), you may still make a donation to the depot by sending your tax-deductible contribution to: Goleta Beautiful Depot Fund, 300 N. Los Carneros Rd., Goleta, CA 93117.

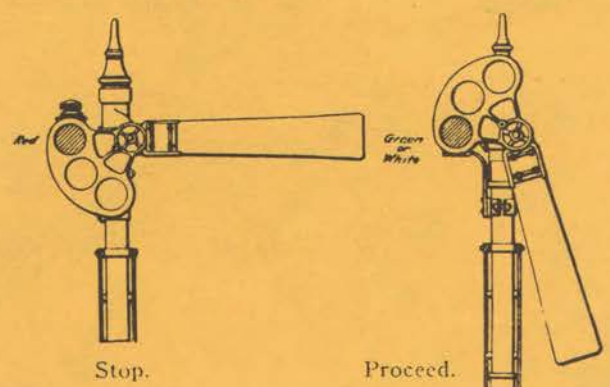
DEPOT HISTORY We have now sold about 800 copies of **Goleta Depot: The History of A Rural Railroad Station**. They may be purchased at the Depot and at most local bookstores.

OFFICES There is still one office space available for rent in the Depot. The office covers about 370 sq ft and we are looking for a nonprofit organization for a one-year lease. Call **Dick Sandow** at 967-0451 for further information.

CONSTRUCTION Work on the building has progressed very slowly due to all of the rains that we've had this winter. Have you seen the new "GOLETA" sign which now graces the front of the building? It was built by **Ralph Moore**, painted by **Gary Coombs**, and mounted by Gary and **Gene Allen**. It really adds a lot to the look of the landmark!

We are now beginning work on the restoration of the railroad office. This was the Depot's "action-center" and it should be the show-piece of the museum when it's completed. Please call **Gene Allen** at 967-2095 if you can lend a hand with this important work. Painters and carpenters are especially needed.

SEMAPHORE SIGNAL The train order signal at Goleta Depot was a simple two-position station stop semaphore, like the one shown at right. The center ("caution") position was apparently never used at Goleta, and was absent from the original signal board. We hope to have our semaphore installed and working again by the end of summer.



THE DARK CRYSTAL The December movie fund-raiser co-sponsored by **Goleta Beautiful** and **Metropolitan Theatres** brought in nearly \$300 for the project. Thanks to **Norma Cavalletto** for all of her hard work and to **Jim Draggoo** of Metropolitan for his help and support.

DEPOT PAINTING If you haven't purchased your print of Lynn Sexton's watercolor of the depot, you are really missing out. The cost is only \$15 and some signed/numbered are still available at \$20. Both versions are accompanied by a capsule history of the depot and a description of the art work. The **Frame-Up** has donated a lovely frame for our display copy. The prints may be viewed and purchased at the **Institute for American Research** on weekdays from 1-5 p.m. or in the Depot on tour days.



RAILROAD ADVENTURE Our Feb. 11-12th train trip to **San Luis Obispo** was a fine success. We took a group of 18 and everyone had a great (if somewhat soggy) time. On our return ride, most were already talking about when the next trip would be and where we would go.

The answer is that a trip to **Sacramento** and the **State Railroad Museum** has been scheduled for May. We have tentatively set the trip for the weekend of either the 14th or the 21th. In either case, we would leave on Friday from the Santa Barbara station shortly after noon and return on Sunday by 5 p.m. Depot Friend **Roger Levenson**, who will accompany us, is arranging a special tour of the Railroad Museum with his friends there.

The cost will be \$180 for the first person (double occupancy) and \$150 for each additional family member. This price includes rail fares and two nights lodging. Call Phyllis Olsen at 964-3549, from 1 to 5 p.m. weekdays, for further information and reservations. For the San Luis Obispo trip, we had quite a waiting list. Call today so you won't miss out!

DEPOT TOURS We now have a team of eight docents, under the able direction of **Phyllis Olsen**, who conduct tours of the Depot on Sunday afternoons from 2 to 4 p.m. Docents are still needed to help staff. Please call Phyllis at 964-3549 afternoons or 967-6295 evenings, if you are able to lend a hand. Docents are expected to staff once every two months. We guarantee that you will get a lot out of the experience.

IMPORTANT MEETING On Friday, April 29th, there will be a special meeting of Depot Friends and other persons interested in the depot, to be held at the Goleta Library, 500 N. Fairview Ave, from 7 to 9 p.m. We plan to show some new slides and have some refreshments, but the main reason for the meeting is to get people together so that we can discuss the depot's future. Please put this date on your calendar and plan to attend this most important meeting.

THANKS A special thank you to **Kimberly Press** and **Bill McNally** for continuing to donate the printing of the **Depot Dispatch**.

ASPHALT REGATTA The second annual Institute for American Research **Asphalt Regatta** will be held on Saturday, March 26th, at Goleta Beach County Park, beginning at 9 a.m. If you would like to participate in this "walk-jog-bike-a-thon" on the scenic Goleta Bikeway, information and entry forms may be picked up at **Barclay's Bank** in Goleta, the **Goleta Valley Chamber of Commerce**, and the **Institute for American Research**. Proceeds benefit the Depot and Institute programs. If you can't join in, please support the event by sponsoring a participant.

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U.S. Postage
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Santa Barbara, Calif.
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