

NEWSLETTER OF THE GOLETA DEPOT PROJECT

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On April 29th, the Depot Committee held a special public meeting at the Goleta library to announce some recent developments regarding the depot and depot project. These developments are described in detail in this issue of the Depot Dispatch. Because these are important changes, this issue of the Dispatch is being mailed specially to the full list of Depot Friends.

**DEPOT TRANSFER** In March, Goleta Beautiful's Board of Directors unanimously approved the transfer of the depot and the County lease agreement to the Institute for American Research. This followed weeks of discussion by the Depot Committee, Institute directors, and Goleta Beautiful members, regarding the future of the depot. It was decided that the transfer was in the best interest of the historical landmark because of the Institute's technical expertise in the area of historic preservation and its extensive knowledge of the depot's history and its operation.

The Institute, of course, is no newcomer to the depot project. President Michael Glassow, together with Bob Hiestand, was responsible for coordinating the restoration of the depot's windows, smashed by vandals in the 1970s. Vice-President Paul Heuston has been the project's faithful photographer since the historic move to Los Carneros County Park on Nov. 19, 1981. Depot Committee members Gary Coombs and Phyllis Olsen are both Institute staffers. The Institute has published the Depot Dispatch since its inception, co-published Goleta Depot: The History of a Rural Railroad Station, ran several depot fund-raisers, and much more.

The Depot Committee and Institute Board of Directors are very excited about the transition, seeing it as an opportunity for the landmark to reclaim its former status as a center of local life -- as a model of historic preservation and adaptive reuse and a museum of quality and distinction which attracts visitors to our community and draws local people back again and again.

The Depot Committee will continue to be the decision-making body regarding depot development and operation; Depot Fund monies will continue to be used only for depot expenses.

**DEPOT FRIENDS REACTIVATED** There is a huge need for volunteer help at the depot. To answer this need, the Depot Committee has decided to "reactivate" the Depot Friends. What this means is that individuals, families, or organizations may become "active" members of the Friends for an annual fee of \$5 (\$2 for students). Active members will receive the Depot Dispatch, and may attend special Depot Friends functions. Most of all, Depot Friends earn the satisfaction of knowing that they have been instrumental in saving a unique community landmark and resource, for the enjoyment and education of all.

The annual membership fee has been set at a nominal amount because we want to encourage as many people to join and lend a hand as possible. If you believe as we do, that Goleta Depot is worth the time and effort, please help us by renewing your Depot Friendship today by completing and returning the accompanying membership form.

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

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Some points of clarification: (1) Persons who have made a contribution to receive the Depot Dispatch in 1983 may deduct this donation amount from their membership fee. (2) All memberships are up for renewal in Jan.; after June 30, the fee for the year will be 1/2 the regular fee. (3) Persons who made a contribution to the depot project prior to Dec. 31, 1982, will be acknowledged on the list of Depot Friends to be displayed in the depot museum, regardless of whether they elect to become active members. However, all other benefits are reserved for active members. For more info, contact membership chairman Christine Negus at 964-3436.

**SUB-COMMITTEES ORGANIZED** Three important Depot Friends sub-committees have been formed to handle our most pressing needs at the depot: Museum Docents (Phyllis Olsen, Chairman; Ph. 967-6295) to give public tours; Events (Nancy Ried; 964-5785) to plan and staff community and Depot Friends' activities; and Building and Grounds (Ray Baird; 967-0870 and Ralph Moore; 967-6153) to handle construction, maintenance, and cleaning. If you are interested in serving on any of these committees, please contact the respective chairmen.

**COMMITTEE EXPANDS** The Depot Committee will be expanding to seven members. The two new seats will be filled in an election to be held at the next Depot Friends meeting, July 19th, 7 p.m., at Goleta library. All active Depot Friends in attendance will be eligible to vote. Being a Depot Committee member is very demanding, but also very rewarding. If you would like to serve in one of these positions or if you would like to place another's name in nomination, please contact any member of the Depot Committee by June 30th.

**MASTER PLAN** The Depot Committee is in the process of preparing a Master Plan for Goleta Depot. This plan will become our guiding document for all aspects of depot operation, including: allocation of building space, landscaping, museum development and curation practices, organizational and procedural guidelines. A draft of the Master Plan is expected to be ready for the July 19th Friends meeting. Thereafter, copies will be available for review at the Institute for American Research library and the Goleta library reference desk. We encourage you to read over the plan and let us have your comments.

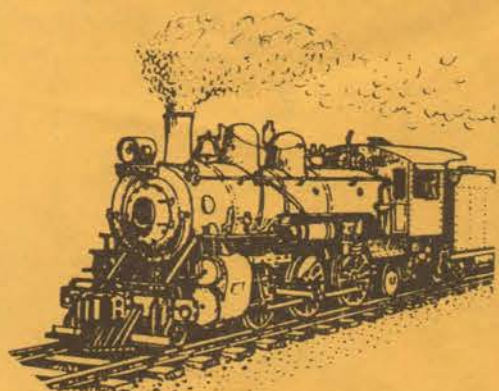
**PHASE III BEGINS** The first two phases of the depot project are now officially completed. They involved acquiring and relocating the depot and bringing it back to life through restoration and rehabilitation, obtaining tenants to secure a regular source of operating funds, and starting a railroad museum.

The Depot Committee would like to take the opportunity to thank everyone -- individuals, families, organizations, businesses, foundations -- that made this very special achievement possible with their hard work and their support.

At the April 29th meeting, Phase III of the depot project was formally begun. This third and final phase involves completion of restoration work, development of the museum and depot grounds. The cost of Phase III is estimated at \$34,600. It is expected that most of this money will be obtained through foundation and major corporate grants and in-kind contributions.

**CEREMONY SET FOR NOV. 19** On Nov. 19th, the second anniversary of the depot move, there will be a special event at the depot, highlighted by a landmark ceremony conducted by the Native Sons of the Golden West. Also on this occasion, the Depot Friends plaque will be unveiled and all door and window commemoratives will be ready for viewing. Last call: If you have not done so, please contact Phyllis Olsen regarding the inscription for your window or door plaque.

**TRAIN TRIP TO SAN LUIS OBISPO** By popular demand, we will be having another weekend trip to San Luis Obispo in August. We will depart at 12:30 on Friday the 26th and return at 4:30 on Sunday the 28th. The cost is \$95 and includes rail fare and two nights lodging (double occupancy). Call us at 964-3549 for further details. If you would like to join our group on Saturday, the Goleta Valley Chamber of Commerce is organizing a two-day version (8/27-8/28) of the trip. Please contact the Chamber (967-4618) if you are interested in this package.



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Please enter my name as a Depot Friend:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

I have enclosed the following annual dues:

Active (\$5)

Student (\$2)

Patron (\$25)

Contribution (indicate amount) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Return to: Goleta Depot Fund

300 N. Los Carneros Rd., Goleta, CA 93117

All donations are deductible from State and Federal income taxes and are greatly appreciated.