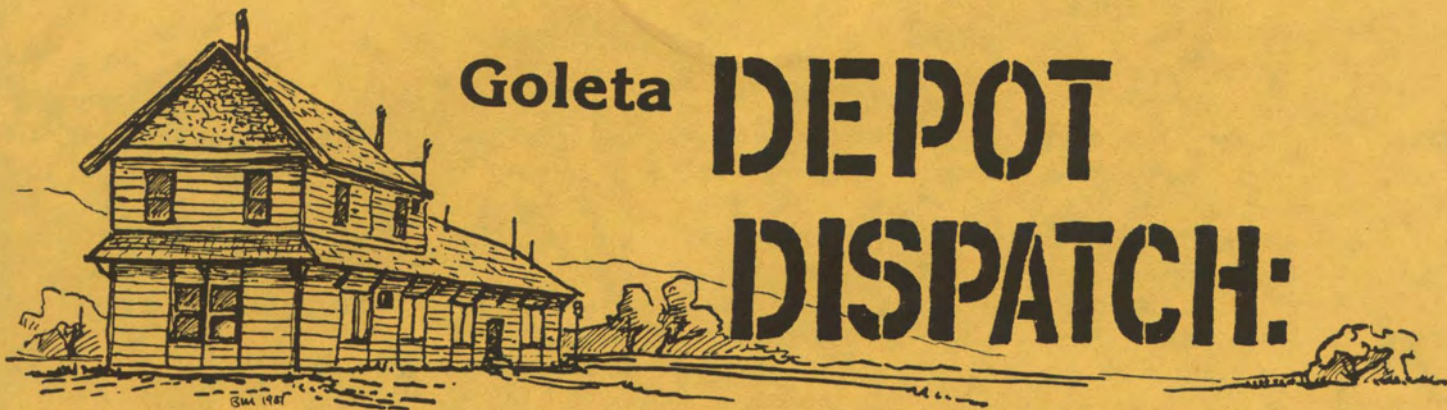


Goleta DEPOT DISPATCH:



NEWSLETTER OF THE GOLETA DEPOT PROJECT

Volume 4 Number 2 Summer 1984

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

DEPOT FRIENDS DINNER On Tuesday, July 17th, the Depot Friends will be having a special dinner at the Holiday Inn to honor the contributions of our museum docents and other volunteers and to review the progress of the depot project.

A no-host social hour at 6:30 p.m. will be followed at 7:30 by a delicious buffet dinner featuring roast round of beef, baked chicken, stuffed mushrooms, green beans almondine, and many other delights. The cost is only \$9.50 per person, which includes tax, tip, dinner beverage, door prizes, and much more. Please return the accompanying card with check payable to "Goleta Depot Fund" by July 10th to hold your reservations.

MUSEUM ACQUISITIONS A number of items have been acquired over the past quarter which are now a part of the depot museum. Seymour Johnson generously donated an old candlestick telephone, which Joe Heumphreus has installed down in the depot freight office. The phone is actually being used now as our downstairs extension.

Mr. and Mrs. James McCulloch recently contributed a number of railroad artifacts and printed materials to the museum. Most notable are four Southern Pacific waiting room travel posters and a dispatcher's telephone. We were particularly overjoyed to receive the dispatcher's phone, since these are extremely rare.

Some time ago, Bob McNeil gave us an old wooden desk which once was the foreman's desk in the (recently-demolished) S.P. roundhouse in Santa Barbara. Ralph Moore and Gary Coombs have refinished the desk, which now occupies a central place in the depot freight office.

We want to extend the deepest of thanks, on behalf of everyone who visits and enjoys our museum, to all of the people who helped to make these acquisitions possible.

MUSEUM ITEMS NEEDED We are looking for a straight-backed wooden chair for the desk in the depot office. Please call us at 964-3549 if you have one to donate.

We are also in search of an old metal floor safe to take the place of the Railway Express Co. safe which once occupied the space beneath the staircase in the freight office. If you know where one of these can be found (for sale or as a donation), please let us know.

Phyllis Olsen is looking for volunteers to help her make lace curtains for the agent's apartment. Please call her at 964-3549, afternoons, if you can help, or if you know the whereabouts of a set of ready-made lace panels.

4449 RETURNS Historic Southern Pacific Engine 4449 will be passing through the Santa Barbara/Goleta area on Tuesday, June 19th, on its return to Portland from the New Orleans World's Fair. Don't miss the old GS-4 steamer, which will be pulling a complete Daylight train. Check the newspapers for times.

** 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

ANOTHER PIECE OF HISTORY RETURNS In days past, when Goleta Depot served the railroad, a wooden box with a distinctive sloping top hung on the outside of the building, between the baggage room and freight office doors.

This box was used by conductors for depositing way bills at night when the station agent was off duty. Way bills are receipts which record that railroad cars have been left at a given location. The bills show the time and place of delivery, the car identification number, and other information. The Goleta agent was responsible for cars left anywhere within the local yard (e.g. at Ellwood and La Patera), and the way bills were an indispensable record to help him keep track of these cars.

When the station was closed in 1973, the way bill box was removed. Frank Vasquez, Goleta's last agent, thought that it had been relocated to the Goleta Lemon Association plant, the Valley's most active shipping point. Amazingly, when we made an exploratory trip to the lemon plant earlier this year, we found the box still hanging on the building wall, where it had apparently been for over a decade!

With the help of Carlo Bottiani, the box was given to the depot by the Lemon Association. After a good sanding and a new coat of paint, Goleta's way bill box returned to its proper place next to the freight office. Today, our museum docents use the box when tours are given on Sunday afternoons.

MODEL RAILROAD EXHIBIT We are very near accord on a long-term lease agreement with the South Coast Society of Model Engineers for the construction of a railroad layout in the old depot freight house. For the last several months, the society has been renting the space and using it to house their modular layout, which they take to shows such as the annual December CALM benefit.

DEPOT FRIENDS PLAQUE The next time you visit the depot, make sure to take a look at the lovely oak frame that Bill Shrives made for the Depot Friends plaque. Thanks so much to Bill for helping us out once again.

LANDSCAPING EFFORTS For his Eagle Scout project, Steve Rowley has contributed an important addition behind the depot. Thanks to Steve and his assistants, we now have a nice granite walkway and picnic area where the pepper trees were planted last year. Ralph Moore has built two sturdy, wooden tables for the picnic area.

The girls of Brownie Troop 9 gave the depot a Saturday morning of their time to plant a bed of freeway daisies in the undeveloped area behind the waiting room and freight office. Thanks to Goleta Beautiful and Harriett Phillips for donating the funds to purchase the daisies and two rose bushes.

ASPHALT REGATTA The 3rd Annual Institute for American Research Asphalt Regatta garnered pledges of just over \$3,500 for the depot project. Special thanks to all of our participants, sponsors, and prize donors for their help in making this year's Regatta the most successful one that we've had. Hope to see everyone back next year.

LIFE MEMBERS Welcome to our newest Institute Life Members: Allen Models, Inc. and the Goleta Newcomers Club.

FOURTH OF JULY We hope everyone can make it to the Old Fashioned Fourth of July celebration at Stow House. The depot will be open again this year, so be sure to drop by and see what's new.

DEPOT DAY Depot Day is scheduled for Sunday, Oct. 14th, the final day of this year's Goleta Valley Days celebration. We have a number of new attractions planned for our second annual Depot Day event, so please put it on your calendar and plan to attend.

RUMMAGE NEEDED This is the first call for rummage, household goods, and collectibles for the Depot Day "Unclaimed Freight and Baggage Sale." If you have items to contribute, please call Phyllis at 964-3549, afternoons, to make arrangements for pick-up or delivery.

COMING EVENTS:

- June 19: Engine 4449 comes to town.
- July 4: Fourth of July at Stow House (depot will be open)
- July 17: First Annual Depot Friends Dinner (Holiday Inn, 6:30 p.m.)
- Oct. 14: Depot Day celebration
- Dec. 15: Christmas Party and Tree Trimming