



NEWSLETTER OF THE GOLETA DEPOT PROJECT

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NEXT STOP: DEPOT DAY!! This year's Depot Day celebration (Oct. 14, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.) looks like it will be even better than last year's, so please plan to attend and support the Depot Project. In addition to the railroad tune contest, live steam exhibit, auction, and other entertainments from last year, we plan to add several new attractions. There will be antique car rides and authors Bill Everett and Gary Coombs will be signing copies of their new book, Mule Car and Trolley.

DEPOT-GRAMS We are particularly excited about a new Depot Day entertainment that we call the "Depot-Gram." This is our own, unique Goleta Depot way of sending messages for you or anyone visiting the depot.

Suppose you have a special message that you would like delivered to a friend or loved one. For only \$1, a Depot-Gram will give your message the impact it deserves! Come to the depot, fill out a Depot-Gram form, and our "telegraphers" will enter the message on our communications equipment, just the way it used to be done in the old days: Frank Vasquez, last Goleta Depot agent, will be on hand to work the station telegraph; Depot Friends will run the teletype. Your message will then be transcribed to our distinctive Depot-Gram card and sent to your addressee by first class mail.

The Depot-Gram idea has really begun to catch on around here and several people have asked if they could have the first Depot-Gram (as in the old days, all Depot-Grams will be individually numbered and logged), so we've decided to have a little auction to award the first Depot-Gram. If you would like Depot-Gram No. 1, write your name, phone number, and the amount you are bidding on a card and send it in a sealed envelope to: Depot-Gram Auction, Goleta Depot, 300 No. Los Cameros Rd., Goleta, CA 93117. The bids will be opened on Oct. 10.

DEPOT DAY BARBECUE Another addition to Depot Day this year will be a delicious beef barbecue. The meal will include tri-tip, green salad, beans, bread, and potato salad. All for only \$6.50. Tickets must be purchased in advance, by calling Phyllis Olsen at 964-3549, weekday afternoons, or sending your check by October 6 to: Goleta Depot, P.O. Box 2125, Goleta 93118.

RUMMAGE NEEDED This is our second and last 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 arrange for pick-up or delivery.

DEPOT FRIENDS DINNER The Depot Friends dinner on July 17 at the Holiday Inn made for a most pleasant evening. The food was magnificent and the company warm and congenial. Depot Committee Chairman Gene Allen took the occasion to present our hard-working docents with special badges to acknowledge the number of museum hours each has contributed.

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

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CALENDAR FOR SALE Among the new items in the museum bookstore is the 1985 "America's Trains" Calendar. We hope that many Depot Friends will elect to get their 1985 calendars at the depot. This full-color calendar also makes a perfect Christmas gift. We have only two dozen in stock, so stop by and pick up your copy right away. The cost is \$7.95 plus tax.

EXTERIOR PAINTING Gene Boswell deserves an enormous round of applause for all of his hard work this summer around the depot. Most importantly, he spent nearly 50 very hot hours painting the west side of the building. It really makes a difference!

MUSEUM ACQUISITIONS Thanks to Neil Fetter for the wooden office chair now being used in the freight office and to Pete Langlo for donating his time and materials to get the old teletype (which he donated to the museum last year) operating once again.

Next time you're out at the depot you will see two wooden barrels dressing up the loading platform on the west side of the building. These were acquired by Ralph and Charlotte Moore and set in place by Gene Allen.

We broke down and bought the lace curtains mentioned in the last Depot Dispatch. They really add a warm and homey touch to the upstairs agent's apartment.

ITEMS NEEDED We are still looking for the 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.

KEY FINANCIAL SUPPORT The depot received two important monetary contributions during the last quarter. Raytheon Co. donated \$500, largely as a result of the diligent efforts of Raytheon Industrial Relations Manager Frank Umanzio. The Goleta Valley Chamber of Commerce has again recommended and the Board of Supervisors has approved the use of \$3,000 of the Chamber's bed tax allocation to further the depot project. We cannot emphasize too strongly how vital these monies are to our work. Thanks so much to everyone at the Goleta Chamber, Raytheon, and the County for all of their help!

NEW DISPLAYS We are now beginning to place a strong emphasis on the design and construction of museum exhibits, to share our artifacts and knowledge with those who visit the railroad museum.

Our first effort was a small, hands-on display, which describes the operation of the railroad telegraph and allows the visitor to "Try Their Hand" at the telegraph key. Thanks to Ray Anderson for donating the code key and to Pete Langlo for supplying the sounder, sensitive relay, and background literature on railroad telegraphy.

Our second exhibit, which hangs in the waiting room, was a more ambitious project. It explains the purposes of the railroad caboose and tells the history of the Southern Pacific cabooses. It incorporates three detailed car models built by Stuart Wallace.

Our most recent exhibit is another hands-on apparatus which shows the workings of a motor car indicator. The indicator was supplied by Bill Shrives, who also helped explain its operation to us. The circuitry was designed and implemented by Ray Anderson. Gary Coombs crawled under the building to string the wire -- no encores are planned, thank you.

Be sure to take a look at these new exhibits, the next time you visit the depot. Ralph Moore has done all of the carpentry for these displays; Gary Coombs has prepared the textual material.

MORE CARPENTRY Ralph's handiwork is also evident in the swinging door which he built for the end of the express counter, and in the two donation boxes which now grace the walls in the waiting room and freight office.

SANTA BARBARA MAGAZINE The September issue of Santa Barbara Magazine will contain an article on Goleta Depot by Gary Coombs. We will be selling this issue at the Depot, so, if you're interested in a copy, stop by and get one. The cost is \$2.95.

EXTENDED MUSEUM HOURS This summer, we've been opening the waiting room and freight office exhibit areas on weekday afternoons. Although we haven't advertised the added hours, we have been getting a few visitors in -- enough to warrant continuing the experiment for a while. Stop by if you get a chance; the hours are 2-4 p.m.

MULE CAR AND TROLLEY Our latest publication, Mule Car and Trolley: The Story of the Santa Barbara Street Railway by William B. Everett and Gary Coombs will soon be ready. It will first be available at a reception at the Covarubias Adobe, 714 Santa Barbara Street, on October 7, 1984, from 2-4 p.m.

It's not too late to order your copy. Send \$20 to Goleta Depot Fund, P.O. Box 2125, Goleta, CA. The price includes tax and mailing (in case you cannot attend the reception).

FOURTH OF JULY About 1000 people visited the depot during the Fourth of July celebration at Stow House. The model railroad exhibit was particular popular. We heard many kind comments about how rapidly the depot project had progressed and what a good job had been done.

COMING EVENTS:

Oct. 7: Reception for Mule Car and Trolley

Oct. 14: Depot Day celebration

Dec. 15: Christmas Party and Tree Trimming