



NEWSLETTER OF THE GOLETA DEPOT PROJECT

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**SEASON'S GREETINGS** Here's wishing you a warm and cheerful holiday season and a bountiful New Year.

**CHRISTMAS PARTY** Our Christmas party and tree trimming is planned for Saturday, Dec. 15, from 6 to 9 p.m. Please bring along a snack, hors d'oeuvre, or dessert to share. See you there!

If you haven't done so in the past (or even if you have), please bring an ornament for the Christmas tree. We would like to have as many Depot Friends represented on our annual tree as possible, so if you can't attend, you might consider mailing an ornament, or dropping one by when you visit the depot during the holidays. Please put your name and the year on the ornament, so that your present to the depot may be remembered in future years.

**TRAIN EXHIBIT** This year we have a special Christmas treat for Depot Friends. Bob Burtness has a large collection of Lionel trains and equipment which he sets up each year throughout the rooms of his home for the pleasure of relatives and friends. This year he has offered to have a special open house for Depot Friends on Thursday, Dec. 13, from 5 until 9 p.m.

If you would like to take advantage of this unique opportunity to see this marvelous collection of model trains, please call the Institute office (964-3549) for reservations and directions.

**LIGHTS** When you attend the Christmas party on Dec. 15, you will surely appreciate the fact that we now have a string of walk lights marking the once-dark corridor between the parking lot and the depot. We can thank Bob Hiestand, Ray Baird, and Gene Allen for all of their hard work in installing the lights, and the Santa Barbara Foundation and Goleta Valley Chamber of Commerce/S.B. County Bed Tax for sharing the costs of materials.

**TRACK UPDATE** We were very disappointed to learn that the Southern Pacific Railroad would be unable to provide the materials needed for the construction of track in front of the depot. This was an unfortunate result of the corporate merging of the S.P. and the Santa Fe, which is now in progress.

The Depot Committee has decided, nevertheless, that 1985 will be the year that the track goes in -- one way or another. As a first step, the Southern Pacific has presented us with a \$500 donation, which will be used toward the costs of track construction, estimated at \$11,800. To raise the remaining funds, we will be applying all monies from the 1985 Asphalt Regatta toward the track project.

**HELP WITH GRADING NEEDED** We are also looking for assistance in completing the grading that is needed before the track can be laid. Please contact Gene Allen (967-2095) or Gary Coombs (964-3549) if you can help or know of someone who can.

\*\* 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

**NEW DISPLAYS** The museum now has for display six Southern Pacific travel posters from the 1950s and 60s, and a large Pullman Coach Co. promotional pamphlet from the same era, which tells the history of the Pullman sleeping cars. The full-color posters and pamphlet were a gift of James and Henny McCulloch; they were mounted by Paul Heuston and framed by Ralph Moore and can now be seen in the waiting room and freight office.

**BOOKSHOP ITEMS** It's not too late to get your copy of the 1985 "America's Trains" calendar, now available in the museum bookshop, upstairs at the depot. We also have a few copies of the Santa Barbara Magazine issue which contains the article on Goleta Depot. Sorry, neither of these items can be mailed.

**OUR NEXT PUBLICATION** Gary Coombs and Phyllis Olsen are currently working on a short book dealing with the railroad stations of Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo counties. They would deeply appreciate any help that Depot Friends could provide in locating historical photographs of depots on the Southern Pacific Railroad, the Pacific Coast Railway, and the Santa Maria Valley Railroad. They are also in search of personal anecdotes relating to any of these railroad stations.

**DEPOT DAY** The second annual Depot Day celebration on Oct. 14 was a tremendous success. Visitors seemed particularly enthusiastic about the Depot Project slide show, the live steam exhibit and train rides, the model railroad layout (presented by the South Coast Society of Model Engineers), and Depot-Grams. Thanks to all of our volunteers and those who donated auction, rummage, and baked goods.

Next year we are planning an even better event, with longer train rides and a portion of the permanent HO layout completed and ready for viewing. The date will be Sunday, Oct. 20.

**DEPOT-GRAMS** A number of Depot Day attenders took the opportunity to send Depot-Gram greetings to friends and loved ones all over the country. You may still order a Goleta Depot-Gram, carrying your personal message, by calling the Institute office any weekday afternoon. The cost for a 15-word greeting is only \$1.

**ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP** It is now time for all Depot Friends (and Institute members) to renew their memberships for 1985. You can save us a lot of time and postage if you will take the trouble to complete and return the accompanying form at your earliest convenience. At the same time, would you please consider becoming a patron member of the Depot Friends or making an additional contribution -- every dollar received from members is vitally important to our programs.

The Goleta Depot Committee wishes to extend its thanks to all Depot Friends for their support during 1984. Special thanks to our patron members for the past year: Gene Allen, Ray Baird, Barclays Bank, Lucille Beckman, Bob Burtness, Country Meat Market, Goleta Chevron Service, Goleta Valley Chamber of Commerce, Great Goleta Pizza Co., Gripp Family, David and Kathryn Hall, Ellen Keeter, Susan and Andy Lentz, Roger Levenson, Mrs Jesshill Love, Gordon and Merna McClenathen, Alice McFeeters, Robert McNeel, Ralph and Charlotte Moore, Isabel Newman, Mrs John Porter, Walt and Bonnie Raskin, Raytheon Co., Gertrude Reed, George Retherford, Suzanne Salazar, Ed and Jeanette Silva, Ernest and Metta Thomsen, Stuart and Rachel Wallace, and Mary Lou and Doc Williamson.

**DOCENTS NEEDED** Weekend tours are the principal means we have for sharing our wonderful Goleta Depot with both local people and visitors to our community. Hundreds each year enjoy and learn about the landmark as a result of this tour program.

Now, the program is threatened by a shortage of museum docents. Currently, we have only 10 docent volunteers and are thus unable to offer tours each and every week. We are urgently in need of additional museum docents to supplement the hard-working core that we presently have.

Docents undergo a brief training program and apprenticeship, after which they are expected to give two hours of their time once every two months as a tour leader. If you are willing to make this commitment, please help us to share Goleta Depot with others by becoming a depot docent. For further information, call Phyllis Olsen (964-3549, afternoons) or Sandy Mowry (968-2521, days).

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#### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND RENEWAL FORMS

Please send completed forms with payment to: Institute for American Research, 300 N. Los Carneros Rd., Goleta, CA 93117.

Donations are deductible from State and Federal income taxes and are greatly appreciated.

Please enter my name as a Depot Friend:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

I have enclosed the following 1985 dues:

- Active Member (\$5)
- Patron (\$25)      Student (\$2)
- Contribution (amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_)

Make check payable to: Goleta Depot Fund

Please accept/renew my membership in the Institute for American Research:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

I have enclosed the following 1985 dues:

- Sustaining Member (\$10)
- Life Member (\$100)
- Contribution (amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_)