



Newsletter of the Goleta Depot Railroad Museum

Volume 11, Number 1 — Spring 1991

Asphalt Regatta Set for March 30

Museum Leaders Will Donate \$6 for Every Entrant

Please join trustees, staff, docents, and your fellow members at the Asphalt Regatta on March 30. Your attendance will earn an automatic \$6 for the museum, and every person you bring with you (friend or relative, member or non-member, club associate, etc.) will earn an extra \$6.

This has been made possible because six people — Board President Anna Dato, Trustees Gene Allen, Dave Hieter, John Starr, and Bill Wallace, and Museum Director Gary Coombs — have each pledged a donation of \$1 for every person that participates in this year's Regatta. That's \$24 for a family of four; \$60, if a club or organization sends 10 members.

Don't let this challenge go unanswered! Show these leaders that you care — and make them pay for it! — by attending the Regatta and bringing as many others with you as possible.

This year we celebrate the Asphalt Regatta's 10th Anniversary. All funds raised benefit the Goleta Depot Railroad Museum.

To participate you may walk, at your own leisurely pace, over either one of the event's two courses at Lake Los Carneros County Park: one course is about a mile long and the other is about two miles in length (It takes most people 30-90 minutes to complete a course). There are always plenty of people to walk with, if you like. Some people elect to ride their bikes or jog, instead.

Participants should assemble at the museum **not later than 9:45 a.m.** for registration and the traditional group photograph.

As an added bonus for all participants, lunch will be provided following the event by members of the Board of Trustees and Museum Docent Association.

Many participants will be collecting pledges of their own, in addition to the automatic \$6. If you wish

CALENDAR OF MUSEUM EVENTS

RAILFAIR '91 TRIP: May 6-9 to California State Railroad Museum, Sacramento.

MINIATURE TRAIN RIDES: March 9, April 13, and May 11. Hours: 1 to 4 p.m. Tickets \$1.

HANDCAR RIDES: March 16, April 20, and May 18. Hours: 1 to 4 p.m. Free.

FILMS: Every Sunday afternoon. Coming features: *Deccan* (rail travel documentary on India), in March; *Agatha Christie's Murder On The Orient Express*, in April; and *Changing Trains* (rail travel in Great Britain), in May. Free. Call the Museum for times and to make reservations (964-3540).

"UNCLAIMED FREIGHT AND BAGGAGE SALE": June 22, Noon to 4 p.m., during the first day of *Another Steaming Summer '91*. Sale of railroadiana, collectibles, furniture, and rummage.

MUSEUM HOURS: 1 to 4 p.m., Wed. thru Sun.

to find your own sponsors, too, please call Assistant Director Phyllis Olsen at the museum, 964-3540, any weekday from 1 to 5 p.m. for more information.

If you can't participate, but would like to sponsor someone who is, please complete and return the accompanying form, which lists many of those who are already entered.

The Regatta is organized by the Board of Trustees of the Institute for American Research, the nonprofit organization that operates the museum. This year, the Board has set a goal of \$9,000 for the event.

Railfair '91 Excursion Group Filling

Excitement is mounting as Railfair '91 — the event to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the California State Railroad Museum — draws closer.

Our museum's excursion to Railfair '91 will depart Santa Barbara on May 6 and return May 9, with two full days in Sacramento to join the festivities. We have reserved hotel and Amtrak space for a group of 32.

The Railfair '91 theme is "Railroads on Parade: The Evolution of the Iron Horse." The first and only previous Railfair, held in 1981 to mark the opening of the state rail museum, is widely considered to be the premier celebration of railroading in the West, but Railfair '91 promises to improve on its predecessor.

Among the locomotives expected to attend: 4-6-6-4 U.P. 3985 *Challenger*; 4-6-4 Canadian Pacific 2860 *Royal Hudson*; S.P. 4449 *Daylight*; 4-4-0 Virginia & Truckee 22 *Inyo*; U.P. 844 (also 8444); and many others!

Coming all the way from Great Britain are the 4-6-2 *Duke of Gloucester* and a replica of the 1825 Stockton & Darlington #1 *Locomotion*. Railfair, which is designed for the whole family, will also include many special exhibits, displays, and demonstrations.

The state museum recently made its long-awaited formal announcement of preparations for the new



S.P. No. 1233, built in 1918, will appear at Railfair '91.

Don't be left out! For reservations or further information, call Phyllis Olsen at the museum at 964-3540 any weekday afternoon.

Members Earn Big Commissions For Museum

Last year, Dave and Jane Hieter and their sons, Chuck and Matt, took a transcontinental Amtrak trip during their summer vacation. A few months later, Gene and Alma Allen also journeyed cross-country via Amtrak.

Both the Hieters and the Allens made their travel arrangements through the museum, earning about \$250 in commissions for Goleta Depot. Using the museum did not cost anything extra, but it did benefit the museum.

The museum sincerely appreciates the thoughtfulness of the growing number of members and friends who make their Amtrak reservations through us. Many local residents also find the museum to be a convenient alternative to traveling all the way downtown to the Amtrak station.

The museum initiated this program several years ago, not only as a source of revenue but also to restore another of Goleta Depot's historic activities — the selling of train tickets.

Welcome New Members

New members include Jean Cady, Anne Cole, Ida Hartnett, Nancy and Warren Miller, and Charles and



Railfair poster depicts streamliner era of '30s America.

"Museum of Railroad Technology," a major, 114,000-sq. ft. addition, and we expect to hear and see a lot about it at Railfair.

The cost of our museum trip is \$289 per person, based on double occupancy. It includes roundtrip rail from Santa Barbara, one-day's admission to Railfair and the railroad museum, and three nights at the Holiday Inn, which is located on Sacramento's downtown shopping mall and a convenient walk to Railfair, the museum, and Old Town.

This is the last notice that will appear in the *Depot Dispatch*. Press releases will be going out to the media in March and the group should then fill quickly.

Goleta Depot Dispatch: Newsletter of the Goleta Depot Railroad Museum

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(Members, continued from page 3)

Anne Weger. New Life Members are Jack and Harriet Cogan, Jeff Korpela, Mid-State Bank, and Barbara Philip. Jesse Cole, age four, and Kortney Korpela, age seven, are our newest Junior Engineers. Heartfelt greetings and thanks to all of you!

Gratitude is also expressed to those renewing members who took advantage of the new Contributing Member category to give a generous, added measure of support for our programs. These inaugural Contributing Members are Don H. Hollister, Joe and Diane Lemons, Mrs. Ernest F. Menzies, Isabel Friend Newman, and the Raytheon Co.

Renewals have also been received from the following Sustaining Members: Christine Allen, Corey and Jill Anderson, C.B. Baldrige, Betty Bazzi, Lucille Beckman, Robert A. Burtness, Sam Caccese, Helen J. Coffey, Mr. and Mrs. Homer Dahms, Claude J. Dellevar Jr., Albert C. Hardy Jr., Harry L. Harrison, and Gregory W. Hawkins.

Other renewing Sustaining Members are Mrs. Josiah C. Jenkins, Ellen G. Keeter, Frank and Gloria Kellogg, Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Kramer, G. Ronald Larriveu, Susan and Andy Lentz, Lorraine D. Macomber, William O. McKeag, Don and Brenda Pommerville, George R. Potter, Theresa M. Ruether, John and Evelyn Schaller, and Fred and Linda Ziesenhenné.

Thanks to these and to everyone else who has renewed their memberships for 1991.

Renew Those Memberships!

Some members have yet to renew for 1991. Please return your membership envelope with payment as soon as possible. Thank you.

Groups Visit For Tours, Train Rides

Since the first of the year, several groups of young people have made weekday visits to the museum. On Jan. 30, 50 first graders from La Patera School came to ride the miniature train, which was operated by Docents Gene Allen and Paul Conover.

Tours of the historical landmark and museum, given by Phyllis Olsen, were enjoyed by a group of 32 from a Foothill School 3rd grade class and by 20 representatives from El Rancho School's Cub Scout Bears, Den 1, Pack 122.

Guided group tours and charters of the miniature train are available by advance reservation. There is no fee for guided tours for youth groups.

Model Railroad Exhibit Receives Donation of Rolling Stock

In January, longtime museum supporter and volunteer Bill Everett contributed a sizeable collection of HO-gauge rolling stock to the museum for use in the

model railroad exhibit. Conservatively valued at about \$600, the equipment includes 51 pieces: an S.P. Daylight steam locomotive; a Daylight diesel engine, six Daylight cars; a private car, *Pacific*; an S.P. cab-forward; four S.P. F-unit diesels; and 37 freight cars of various types.

In Memoriam

We mourn the loss of Rachel Wallace, longtime member and wife of Docent Stuart Wallace. Rachel passed away in January. Sincere condolences to Stuart, the family, and friends.

Institute Joins Oral History Clearinghouse

The Institute is now a member of the Santa Barbara Regional Oral History Clearinghouse. The purpose of the clearinghouse is to promote the orderly development and coordination of oral history in Santa Barbara County.

Others members are the Carpinteria Valley Historical Society, Lompoc Valley Historical Society and Museum, Prelado de los Tesoros, Santa Barbara Botanic Garden, Santa Barbara Historical Society, Santa Barbara Museum of Art, Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation, Santa Ynez Historical Society, and UCSB Library.

Holiday Party A Success

The Museum Docent Association did a terrific job organizing and hosting the Dec. 11 Christmas Party and Tree-Trimming.

Gene Allen and Paul Conover cut and set up the tree, which was donated by the Dos Pueblos Christmas Tree Farm. Jane Hieter and Theresa Caccese festively decorated the rooms and tree. Many members of the Docent Association provided delicious hors d'oeuvres, desserts, and other refreshments.

Sweetheart Special Now Boarding ...

As this issue of the *Dispatch* goes to press, museum staff are busy with last minute preparations for the Feb. 16-17 *Sweetheart Special* trip to San Diego. Watch for a report in the next installment.

Introducing ... the Trackside Shop and Gandy Dancer Theater

The contest to find names for the Museum Shop and Mini-Theater elicited a total of 16 entries. A blue-ribbon panel, headed by trustees Gene Allen and Jim Higman, selected the winners from the anonymous listing: *Gandy Dancer Theater*, suggested by Docent

(continued on page 4)

(*New Names*, continued from page 3)

Jim Breen and *Trackside Shop* offered by Asst. Director Phyllis Olsen.

Jim will receive a \$50 *Trackside Shop* gift certificate for his winning submission.

Docent Group Plans "Unclaimed Freight and Baggage Sale"

The Museum Docent Association voted at their January meeting to have an "Unclaimed Freight and Baggage Sale" as a museum fundraiser. It will be held in conjunction with the first "Steaming Summer" day on June 22. Sale items will include railroadiana, furniture, collectibles, and rummage.

We've made a good start, but much more is needed to make this a huge success. We need all of you to start saving your sellable items (No clothing, please). Watch your next *Depot Dispatch* for more information.

If you have items to donate, please call me at home, 967-3824.

— Jane Hieter
Docent Assn. Chairman

Cox Cable Award Received

The Goleta Depot Railroad Museum is one of 12 local nonprofit organizations to receive a grant from Cox Cable Santa Barbara in the form of a public service announcement. The grant, valued at \$2,200, includes all services and materials involved in the production of the 30-second video.

When completed, the public service announcement will appear approximately twice daily for four weeks on each of 12 Cox Cable channels, including CNN, ESPN, Lifetime, USA, MTV, Prime Ticket, Arts and Entertainment, Nickelodeon, TNT, and several others. Copies of the videotape will also be provided to the museum for distribution to local stations, including the network affiliates and KADY.

We will try to include a notice in the *Depot Dispatch* when the announcement begins to air.

We are very grateful to Cox Cable for this valuable contribution, which will help publicize the museum and attract additional visitors.

Endowment Helps Film Program, Collections Care

The Sunday afternoon film program is one of our museum's finest success stories.

Income from the museum's Richard and Georgia Thomas Endowment Fund, which made possible the purchase of the large-screen projection system, continues to contribute to the film program's growth and development. Many of the videotapes and public-showing rights were obtained with Endowment income. Recently, a locking cabinet to house the museum's bur-

geoning tape library was purchased with the same funds.

Endowment earnings are also being used to buy archival supplies to aid our efforts to protect and care for the rare artifacts, photographs, documents, and memorabilia that comprise the museum collections.

To date, Endowment investments have generated \$6,288, of which \$3,927 have been used for museum programs and activities, while \$2,361 remain available. Monthly income currently stands at about \$300.

Mid-State Bank Heads Lists Of Recent Endowment Donors

New contributors to the Endowment include Mid-State Bank, Barbara R. Philip, Jack and Harriet Cogan, and Michael A. Glassow. Also, Theresa Caccese and Anna Dato have recently increased their levels of commitment to the Endowment.

"Conservation Day" Will Be Feb. 23, Follows Initial Jan. 5 Effort

The need for maintenance, repairs, and housekeeping around the museum is greater now than it ever has been. The conservation of the historical landmark and of the other precious artifacts entrusted to us depends heavily upon a regular maintenance program.

To work toward meeting this demand, Director Gary Coombs organized a "Museum Conservation Day" on Saturday, Jan. 5 and invited staff and Docent Association members to join him in the effort. Accepting the challenge were Alma and Gene Allen, Dave and Jane Hieter, Mike Leska, Phyllis Olsen, and Al and Hilda Volkman.

The crew spent the morning hard at work, successfully completing a number of much-needed jobs around the building and grounds.

Another Conservation Day is set for Saturday, Feb. 23, beginning at 9 a.m. Members are invited to assist docents and staff in the preservation of Goleta Depot and the museum collections. More people are needed. Light refreshments will be served mid-morning.



Don't miss V&T No. 22, Inyo, appearing at Railfair '91.