



# Goleta **DEPOT** **DISPATCH**



## Newsletter of the South Coast Railroad Museum

Volume 21, Number 3 — Fall 2001

### “Steaming Summer” Arrives Aug. 11 & 12

The 15th annual *Steaming Summer*, the railroad museum’s only two-day event, will be held over the weekend of Aug. 11-12. The event gets its name from the miniature steam locomotives that visit the museum once a year to pull the Goleta Short Line trains and their passengers. For many museum visitors, it’s a unique opportunity to ride on a steam-powered train.

Daily admission to *Steaming Summer* is only \$3, which includes unlimited rides on the Goleta Short Line trains and the museum handcar.

Hours both Saturday and Sunday will be 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Museum members are invited to come early (10-11 a.m.) to watch the locomotives being steamed-up in preparation for the day's activities (Early-bird attendance is limited to members and their accompanying guests only, please.).

*Steaming Summer* is made possible by the generous sponsorship of **Toyota of Santa Barbara**. The **Goleta**

Lions Club provides additional support.

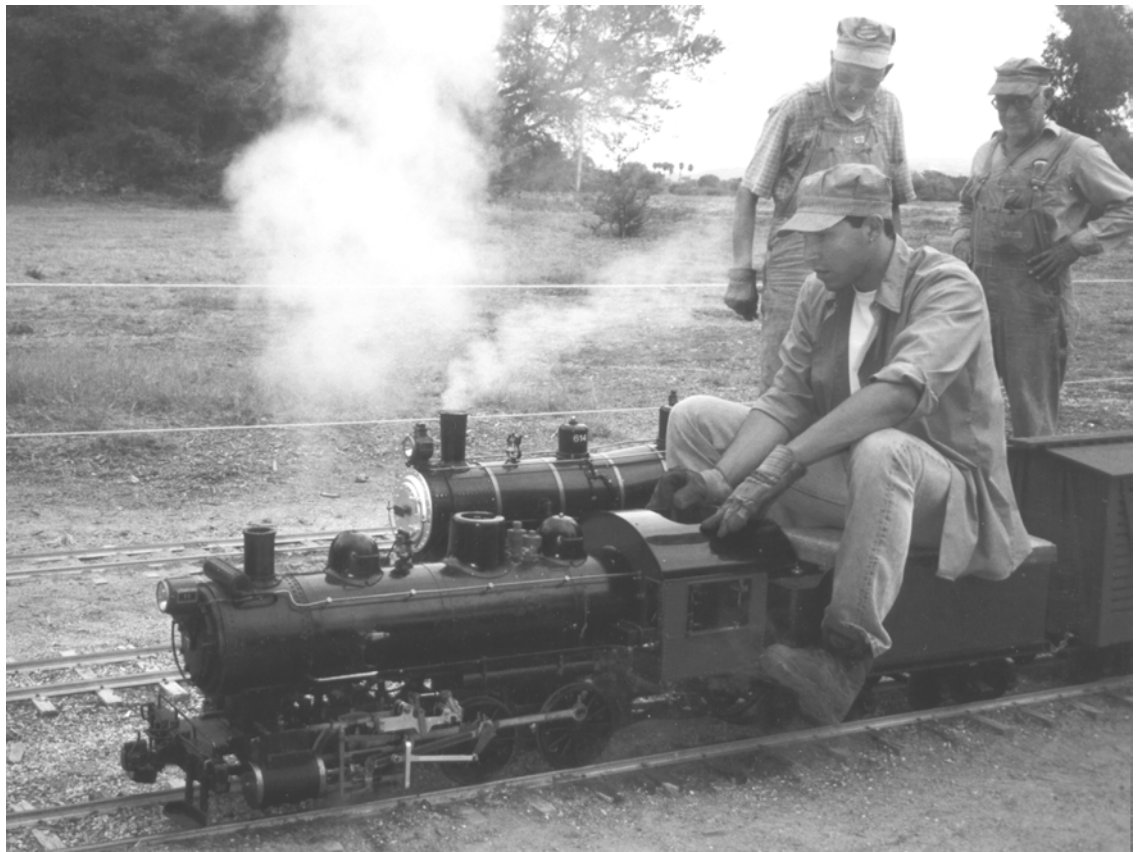
*Steaming Summer* will adopt a circus theme again this year – a tradition started in 1998. One of the trains will be a circus train, including several rare circus cars from the collection of **Ted Cheesman**. Event attendees will be able to ride the circus train, as well as the other trains operating during the event.

The model-railroad exhibit will again feature **Ken and Carolyn Weber’s** “K&C Famous Family Circus,” an HO-  
(continued on page 3, see “Steam”)

### “Depot Day” Sunday, Sept. 23

Sunday, Sept. 23 will mark the 19th annual *Depot Day*, the South Coast Railroad Museum's big fall celebration.

For all of the exciting details on this year’s event, see the special full-page *Depot Day* coverage on page 4.



*Engineer Steve Kramer prepares for another Steaming Summer run, while Gene Allen and Ed Winnewisser look on.*

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U.S. postal station for the day, a role it filled on Aug. 27, 1999 during a similar postal event, when the USPS introduced five stamps commemorating famous American trains including SP's *Daylight*.

Special museum-prepared catcheted envelopes were also sold at the event. Each envelope has one of the new stamps affixed and cancelled using a unique, one-day-only "Goleta Depot Centennial Station" postmark based on the Centennial logo. The envelopes also bear colorful artwork that harmonizes with the stamp or postmark themes.

The envelopes can still be purchased at the museum's Trackage Shop. The complete line of envelopes and postcards can be viewed on the museum's web site ([www.goletadepot.org](http://www.goletadepot.org) – select the "Museum Store" button).

Dan Sanchez, philatelic clerk at the S.B. post office, said that he filled requests from across the nation for about 300-350 cancellations using the Goleta Depot Centennial Station postmark. This is in addition to hundreds of catcheted envelopes sold by the museum!

## **Welcome New Members**

We are pleased to welcome all of our new members. They include **Sally Pierce**, a new Sustaining member, and Active members **Jo Ann Austin, Jim Downing, Doug Barteld, Jan Bisol, Sally Cappon, Juanita Doyle, John Geiger, Donald Gillies, Ilsa Hance, Evelyn Kert, Joan McDonough, Lora Prater** and **Robert Seward**.

New Jr. Engineers Club members include **Benjamin Anderson, Ryan Broumand, Marissa DePola, Connor Dickens, Caleb W. Funk, Grant Ryan Harrison, John D. Hollifield, Kyle Lawson, Harper Owen, Noah Perlmutter, Dylan Taylor, Thomas Vallejo** and **Christoffer Vedkiaer**

## **Missing Something?**

Did you find out in time about the July 30 library program change? Did you remember about the free-ride days in May and June? If not, you probably aren't on the museum's e-mail list.

Those on the list receive "Last-

Minute Reminders" of upcoming events and activities. This list is for members only. It is not made available to anyone else. To add your name, just send an e-mail to [news@goletadepot.org](mailto:news@goletadepot.org), with the words "ADD ME" at the beginning of your message.

## **"Rotary Day"**

Father's Day was also "Rotary Day" at the railroad museum, as the **Rotary Club of Goleta Noontime** sponsored an afternoon of free train and handcar rides for the visiting public on June 17.

In addition to underwriting the event financially, Rotary Club members also helped as event volunteers. Rotarians on duty included **Rob Campbell-Taylor, Mike Gartzke, Ed Graper, Dennis Trammell** and **Walt Stephens**, who staffed the handcar ride, after receiving museum training on operations and safety. **Connie Burns** and **Rollin Gartzke** greeted visitors at the museum entrance.

Free rides on the train hit the 200 mark on the spot, and there were 85 free rides given on the museum handcar.

## **Birthdays, Brthdays**

Celebrating birthdays at the museum in May, June and July were **Zoey Alexander, Jordan Brown, Dario Bucy, Ian Chidester, Kyle Dannenfelzer, Sam Goodman, Rex Hardy, Grant Harrison, Caleb Hill, Spencer Hill, Koss Klobucher, Alessio Morrello, Harper Owen, Jacob Park, Roberto Piotto, Thomas Vallejo, Christoffer Velkiaer** and **Ryan Weideman**.

**Goleta Depot Dispatch:** Newsletter of the South Coast Railroad Museum.

Published quarterly by the Institute for American Research, 300 North Los Carneros Rd., Goleta, CA 93117-1502.

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## **Museum Hosts Postal Event; Catcheted Envelopes Still Available**

For the second time in three years, the museum has hosted a special event in cooperation with the U.S. Postal Service. The May 30 event celebrated the release of two new first-class stamps, one honoring veterans and the other celebrating the genius of the late Charles Schultz, creator of the *Peanuts* comic strip.

Museum member and philatelist **Michael Gartzke** deserves a great deal of credit for his help in organizing the event. A former member of the museum's board of trustees, Gartzke also served as master of ceremonies during an introductory program that included brief historical sketches of Schultz and of the depiction of cartoons on American postage stamps. Museum director **Gary Coombs** spoke about Goleta Depot during times when the country was at war.

Goleta Depot served as an official

## Great Race Results Are In Train Wins Annual Struggle!!!

More than 400 free rides were given to museum visitors on Sat., May 19 during the *Great Goleta Rail Race*, the 20th annual spring fundraiser to benefit Goleta Depot and the railroad museum.

The ride totals of 205 on the train and 204 on the handcar each surpassed the 2000 tallies by wide margins.

The judges declared the train to be the winner for the first time in the Great Race's five-year history. The train logged 59.95 passenger miles, just enough to beat the handcar's 18.85 passenger miles plus a handicap of 38.22 based on the previous three years' results.

Pledge totals for the fundraising portion of the event were over \$11,800.

## Bender Program Rescheduled Morden Shares Santa Maria Valley Railroad History & Operations

Museum trustee and docent **Bruce Morden** stepped in at the last minute to give a July 30 audience an interesting and informative presentation on the 90-year-old Santa Maria Valley Railroad.

The scheduled speaker, **Henry Bender**, an authority on the depots of California, was unable to make the trip from San Jose due to a family illness.

Bender's planned program, *Goleta's Depots and the Evolution of Southern Pacific's Standard-Design Depots*, has been resched-

uled to Monday, Sept. 10. The lecture and slide presentation will pay particular attention to Goleta Depot, an example of Southern Pacific's widespread standard two-story combination depot No. 22 design, and to the three earlier, 19th century Goleta Valley depots.

All programs are held at Goleta Library, 500 N. Fairview Ave, at 7 p.m. They are sponsored by the museum, as part of its Continuing Lecture Series and the Goleta Depot Centennial celebration.

## Youth Groups Tour Museum

School and youth groups visiting the museum for tours and train rides over the May-August period include **Adams School, Channel Islands YMCA, Cleveland School, El Rancho School, Hope School YMCA Day Camp, The Learning Academy (San Fernando), Lompoc Home Schoolers, McKinley School, Montecito Union School, Peabody/Roosevelt Summer School, Rainbow School, and YMCA Kindercamp.**

## Volunteer News

The Coast Starlight Interpretive Program has gained 12 new guides-in-training. They are **Jo Ann Austin, Doug Barteld, Jan Bisol, Sally Cappon, Juanita Doyle, John Geiger, Donald Gillies, Ilsa Hance, Evelyn Kert, Joan McDonough, Lora Prater and Robert Seward.**

## Depot Night is Nov. 9!

Is it on your calendar?

## Jr. Engineers Club Party

The Junior Engineers Club Party held Thursday, July 26 drew the biggest crowd in the event's 10-year history. About 75 persons attended the party, including club members, family and friends. There was cake, punch and snacks for everyone. A party-record 112 free miniature-train rides were given during the afternoon's festivities.

## Steam, cont'd from page 1

scale three-ring circus that first appeared here in 1999. The circus features a big top, an operating 20-car circus train, and a lot more.

The \$3 admission charge (\$2.75 for members) applies to everyone, including those who elect not to ride, while infants and any others who are unable to ride the train will be admitted without charge. For late arrivals, the admission price drops to \$2 after 3 p.m. Advance tickets, at 50¢ off (75¢ off with membership card) are now available in the museum's Trackside Shop.

As of late July, when this issue of the *Depot Dispatch* went to press, the list of scheduled visiting operating equipment included: **Gene Allen's** 4-4-0 American — a 500-lb. coal-burning replica of an engine built in 1888 by the Cook Locomotive and Machine Co. of Patterson, N.J.; an 0-6-0 switch-engine owned by **Ed Winnewisser** of Atascadero; and an Allen Models 2-6-0 mogul owned by **Dan O'Brien** of Westminster.

The program will also include continuous free showings of railroad films, with an emphasis on steam power, including tutorials on how to operate and maintain a steam locomotive — shown in the museum's Gandy Dancer Theater.

Tri-tip sandwiches, "Depot Dogs," beverages, and other lunch and snack items will be available during the event.

Don't miss this once-a-year chance to see and ride the Goleta Short Line under a full head of steam!

*Journeyman painter Fernando Reynoso restores the color to one of the 20-year-old replica Goleta Depot signboards. Fernando's skilled efforts have given a bright, fresh look to the depot exterior, caboose, and station equipment.*



# DEPOT DAY Special Report

The 19th Annual Depot Day will be held Sunday, Sept. 23. Event hours are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Depot Day is held each fall to commemorate and celebrate the preservation of Goleta Depot. This year's event, held during Goleta



Depot's 100th anniversary, promises to be a special addition to the Goleta Depot Centennial Celebration.

Depot Day, which is made possible by members and friends, is also the museum's main annual community fundraiser.

## Donations Requested

A donation of \$1 per person will be requested upon entering the museum grounds on Depot Day.

## Rides, Rides, Rides

There will be miniature train and handcar rides, of course, and Bob Mahan will be there to give rides on



his Ventura County Railway inspection speeder. All rides are \$1 each during Depot Day.

## Silent Auction

There are always lots of great buys on items for yourself or gifts for friends and family at the Depot Day silent auction.

This year, the tables will be jammed with more than 200 items going up for bid, including luxury hotel stays, golf, admission to Southern California amusement parks, tickets to regional performing arts productions, winery tours, Amtrak adventure travel, and a lot more.

Always represented among the auction items are fine restaurants, includ-

ing the five-star Citronelle, Four Seasons Biltmore, and Fess Parker's Doubletree Resort.

The silent auction is a very important revenue source for the museum. Please help the organization and yourself by stopping by the tables and placing bids on some of these fabulous items.

If you have new items, collectibles, or valuable services to donate to the auction, please call Assistant Director Phyllis Olsen in the museum office (964-3540).

## Special Guests

Southern California representatives of Operation Lifesaver, Adam and Vikki Martinez, will be at Depot Day to hand out fun souvenirs and talk to visitors about pedestrian and vehicle safety around trains and railroads.

## Musical Entertainment

Back by popular demand will be the energetic youth singing group, SHOWSTOPPERS, and the Monte Vista Elementary School Choir, both under the direction of Radu Azdril.

## Barbecue Features Choice Of Tri-Tip Beef or Chicken

The delicious Depot Day barbecue will include your choice of entree – chicken breast or sliced tri-tip – plus green salad, toasted french bread, and ranch beans.

Tickets are \$7 (\$5 for children under 12) on the day, but they can also be purchased in advance, which earns you \$1 off the regular price. Advance tickets are available in the museum's Trackside Shop, (purchases of three or more tickets can be made by credit card), or from museum trustees and staff.

Please buy your BBQ tickets before Depot Day. In addition to saving \$1 on every ticket, you'll be helping event planners to estimate the number of meals to prepare.

## Train Films

Films on a variety of railroad topics will be shown throughout the day in the museum's Gandy Dancer Theater.

## Other Refreshments

There will also be hot dogs, soft drinks, and other refreshments served throughout the day by our volunteers.

## Circus Display

Depot Day will also be your last chance to see Ken and Carolyn Weber's HO-scale "K&C Famous Family Circus" in the model railroad exhibit room.





# Goleta DEPOT DISPATCH

Volume 21, Number 3 (Page 5 "Extra")

## **CENTENNIAL SPECIAL**

*Sixth of a Series Celebrating  
Goleta Depot's 100th Anniversary*

### **A LOOK BACK: 100 YEARS AGO**

In 1901, with the Coast Line up and running at last, Goleta became a link in the chain of stations and rails that connected California's principal cities of San Francisco and Los Angeles. The new depot at Goleta grew rapidly in local importance, becoming the social and economic hub of its community.

The building cost \$6,500, according to a report in the *Santa Barbara Morning Press*, which described the new Goleta Depot as an "ornate station building" ... [with] a home [upstairs] for the agent and ... other improvements of a substantial nature."

Two other 100-year-old accounts of the new depot:

"The gospel has been brought to Goleta. We have a real missionary in our midst, and he preaches everyday to the people in his own church, the gospel car Emanuel, which is side-tracked at the railroad depot." (*Morning Press*, July 11, 1901)

"The bad condition of the new road to the depot and the crossing on Hollister Avenue of San Jose Creek was discussed with result that the supervisors are urgently requested to build a bridge across this system." (*Morning Press* report of the Sept. 11, 1901 meeting of the Farmer's Club in Goleta)

### **A LOOK BACK: 20 YEARS AGO**

For the Goleta Depot Project, the middle months of 1981 were ones in which the focus was largely on fundraising, an emphasis that would continue for more than a year.

It had been decided early in the planning process that the depot should not be moved until enough money was in hand to pay for the entire first phase of the project. This

included – in addition to the moving costs – site work, building stabilization and protection from the elements, installation of utilities, and restoration of the depot exterior.

The total cost of this work had been estimated at \$89,000. Soon it was apparent that this sum would not be obtained in time to complete a move prior to the on-coming winter of 1981-82. So, when the \$50,000 figure was reached in August 1981, and sufficient cash was available to pay for the relocation itself, the decision was made to commit to the earliest possible move date. A grant of \$5,000 from the Atlantic Richfield Foundation put the project over the top.

At the end of August 1981, a lease agreement was signed between the County of Santa Barbara and Goleta Beautiful, providing the organization with a parcel of about 1.6 acres to accommodate the depot building. There would be no charge for the land use, which could be renewed in 10-year increments. Earlier that month, the County Planning Dept. had issued an address, 300 North Los Carneros Road, for the depot's new home.

The final two major obstacles to the relocation were removed in the month of September. On the 3rd, the Goleta Water District board approved the issuance of a permit allowing the sharing of water with Stow House, an arrangement to which the Goleta Valley Historical Society had agreed back in February. Then, on Sept. 10, the Kellogg Heirs Association and the Southern Pacific Transportation Co. both signed an agreement transferring to Goleta Beautiful any rights that either may have then had to the depot structure. In exchange, Goleta Beautiful agreed to relocate the building within a 90-day period.

The stage at last was set for the most dramatic step in the depot preservation plan.