



Goleta **DEPOT** **DISPATCH**



Newsletter of the South Coast Railroad Museum

Volume 21, Number 4 — Winter 2001-2002

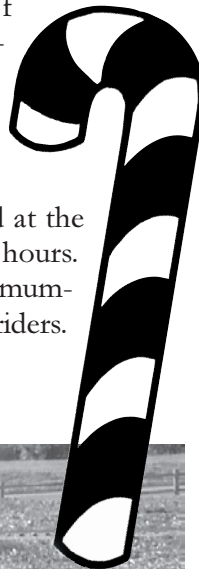
“Candy Cane Train” Starts Nov. 23. Don’t Miss All The Fun!

The *Candy Cane Train* will begin its 9th annual holiday run on Friday, Nov. 23. The popular year-end family event at the railroad museum will be held daily through Dec. 23, except on Mondays and Tuesdays when the museum is closed. Hours are 1 to 4 p.m. each day.

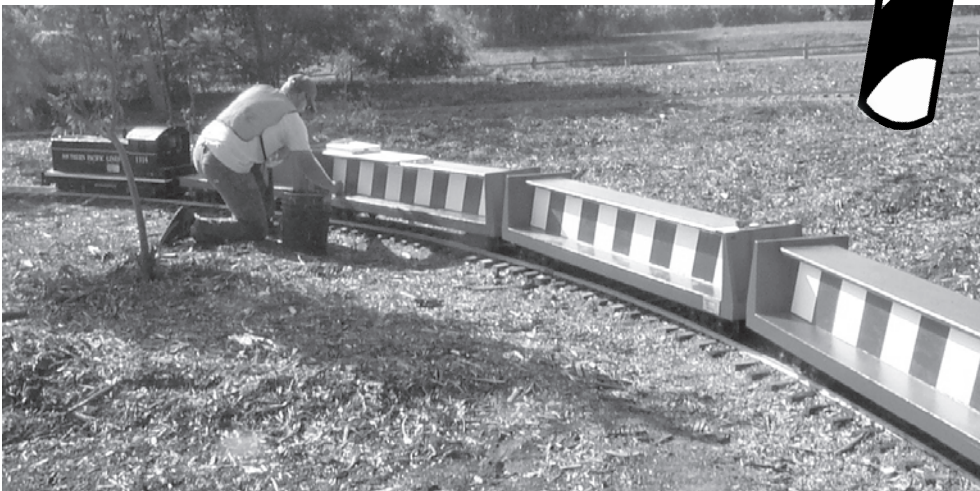
Candy Cane Train tickets are \$3 each (adult or child), which includes a ride on the festively-decorated miniature train,

plus an assortment of holiday treats and favors. Additional rides are 75¢ each. Members receive their usual 25¢ off on all tickets.

Tickets will be sold at the museum during event hours. There is a 34-inch minimum-height requirement for riders.



The distinctive red-and-white Candy Cane Train striping was applied to the Goleta Short Line cars in early November.



Holiday Gifts Solutions Abound At Museum Store

The museum’s Trackside Shop is the place for finding those perfect gifts for rail fans and history buffs on your holiday shopping list. There’s something there for all ages – books, educational toys, train videos, T-shirts, engineer’s caps, whistles and many specialty items. The selection of Thomas The Tank Engine merchandise has never been greater.

Every purchase that you make benefits the museum and, as a member, you receive a 10% discount on all shop purchases (Membership card required). We accept Mastercard and Visa, as well as your personal check.

“Super Saturday VI” Kicks Off On Feb. 2

The 6th Annual “*Super Saturday!*” will be held at the railroad museum on Feb. 2. Event hours are 1 to 4 p.m.

Super Saturday! is the first day of unlimited free miniature-train rides for the general public during 2002. All riders must meet the 34-inch minimum-height requirement.

Super Saturday is made possible by the sponsorship support of local businesses, organizations and members. Sponsors for the 2001 event included **Cox Communications**; **Michael J. Gartzke, CPA**; **Mid-State Bank**; and **Cold Spring Tavern** — many of whom will be returning as *Super Saturday!* supporters. **Channel Communications** has also joined the supporters list for 2002.

Super Saturday! is held each year on the day before the Super Bowl football game. The date of the 2002 event was changed when the Super Bowl was moved back a week, into February.

Each year, hundreds of free rides are given on *Super Saturday* to museum visitors. Last year, 229 free rides were given. We hope there will be plenty of members and other *Depot Dispatch* readers on hand for the 2002 event, as well.

Memorial Gift Received

Virginia Gardner has made a gift to the museum in memory of **Lester H. Carmichael**, a former Southern Pacific employee.

**South Coast Railroad Museum
Institute for American Research**

Board of Trustees

David Chapman
Kip Kramer
Noel Langle
John C. Locke
Pat Lorentzen
Perry Lorentzen
Bruce Morden
Ken Pontifex
Robert J. Tench, Ph.D.
Richard D. Thom

Officers — 2001

Noel Langle, President
David Chapman, Vice-President
Kip Kramer, Secretary & Treasurer

Senior Staff

Gary B. Coombs, Ph.D., Director
Phyllis J. Olsen, Asst. Director
Thea H. Cremers, Ph.D., Resource
Development Coordinator

Volunteer News

Coast Starlight Guide Training

Jude Blau has completed all of the training to become a guide in the *Coast Starlight* Interpretive Program. Guides-in-training **Jan Bisol**, **Lora Prater**, **Cecelia Puppo** and **Bob Seward** successfully completed their audition trips on Oct. 23 during which they performed guide services aboard the *Coast Starlight* while being evaluated by Museum Director Gary Coombs and Assistant Director Phyllis Olsen.

Museum Honors Volunteers

On Aug. 11, dozens of museum volunteers, along with family members, were treated to dinner and rides on the train and handcar. The occasion was the annual Volunteer Appreciation Barbecue, held this year over *Steaming Summer* weekend. The event is an opportunity for the museum to acknowledge the dedication and wonderful work of its many volunteers.

Fairview Car Wash Sponsors “March Madness” & Monthly Handcar Rides

Unlimited free rides on the Goleta Short Line miniature train will be available at the museum March 1-29, 2002, as part of the fourth annual *March Madness* event (March 30-31 are not a part of March Madness in 2002 because they are the dates of the museum's *Easter Bunny Express* event and Easter Sunday, when the museum is closed).

March Madness set an audience record in 2000 and again in 2001, when 2,356 free train rides were given. Let's see if we can make it 3,000 in 2002!

For the second year, *March Madness* is being made possible by the generous sponsorship support of our good friends at **Fairview Car Wash**, which is also sponsoring the free handcar rides at the museum, offered on the third Saturday of every month.

Parties, Parties, Parties

The children of Coast Starlight guides and museum trustees **Pat Lorentzen** and **Perry Lorentzen** held a surprise birthday party and anniversary bash for their parents at the museum on Sept. 8.

Also celebrating birthdays at the museum in August, September and October were **Margaux Christie**, **Richard Gonzales**, **Michael Hannigan**, **Sammy Herman**, **Taylor Leon**, **Kelvin Noronha**, **Christian Pelonis**, **Jeffrey Sloan** and **Dylan Taylor**.

Laura McKone held a summer social at the museum for families in her child-care group.

Welcome New Members

We are pleased to welcome new museum members **Cecelia D. Puppo** and **James N. Ryan**.

New Jr. Engineers Club members are **Logan Baird**, **Michael Hannigan**, **Noah Long**, **Jacob Long**, **Giovanni Martinez**, **Myranda Murphy**, **Angelo Pasini**, **Conor Tope** and **Buddy Wickham**.

Henry Bender Shares History & Architecture of Calif. Depots

It was a real treat having **Henry Bender** here on Sept. 10 as part of the museum's Continuing Lecture Series and Goleta Depot Centennial.

Mr. Bender has been working on a book on the railroad depots of California, a subject on which he is a leading authority. He shared the results of his on-going research with an enthusiastic audience of museum members and general public.

Much of his program focused on the standard-plan depots that the Southern Pacific railroad built in California and other western states. The most common of these standard depots was the Combination Depot No. 22, of which about 90 examples were built by the SP from the 1890s until the 1930s in California, Nevada, Arizona, Texas, Oregon and Utah.

Eight examples of the Combination Depot No. 22 design were erected in Santa Barbara County in conjunction with the completion of the Coast Line, circa 1901. These were at Goleta, Naples, Gaviota, Concepcion, Sudden, Surf, Lompoc and Guadalupe.

Goleta Depot is the only surviving example of the Combination Depot No. 22 in Santa Barbara County and one of only a handful to be found anywhere.

Mr. Bender's presentation also covered the earlier standard depot types that Southern Pacific built at Goleta, La Patera, and Ellwood in 1887 when the original branch railroad came to the Goleta area.

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.

To contact us:

Phone: 805-964-3540;
FAX: 805-964-3549
E-mail: museum@goletadepot.org
Web-site: www.goletadepot.org

Personal Treasures Make Holiday Display Unique

“Toy Trains and Teddy Bears! What better symbols are there of the Holidays, Past and Present. In that spirit, these cherished keepsakes are shared anew this Joyous Season — as their gift to you — by members of our Museum Family, young and old.”

So reads the label that introduces the museum’s annual holiday display, the always-delightful year-end exhibition that opens Friday, Nov. 23, in conjunction with the *Candy Cane Train*. It can be viewed in the depot’s waiting room through Jan. 6 during museum hours.

The display features toy locomotives and trains, plus a menagerie of stuffed animals, which have been borrowed from the homes of our Junior Engineers, museum volunteers, other members, trustees, and staff, as well as from the museum’s own collections.

“Steaming Summer” Was Big Hit in August

The 15th annual *Steaming Summer*, held over the weekend of Aug. 11-12, drew the largest crowd in the history of the popular museum event.

Cars from **Ted Cheesman’s** circus-train collection were used to make up a special circus train that event attendees could ride. Especially popular were the cars with the water-squirting elephants and the bubble-blowing bear. In the model-railroad exhibit, **Ken and Carolyn Weber’s** HO-scale “K&C Famous Family Circus” completed the circus theme. The exhibit was shared by **Kip Kramer, Perry Lorentzen, Bruce Morden** and **Hilda Volkman**.

Providing steam locomotion for the Goleta Short Line trains were the guest engines provided by owners **Gene Allen, Ed Winnewisser** and **Dan O’Brien**. Assisting in the train operations were volunteer conductors and engineers **Ken Becker, Ted Cheesman, Jean-Guy Dube, Steve Kramer** and **Lavonne Sanchez**. **Noel Langle** staffed the handcar ride.

Volunteer clerk **Peggy Langle** was kept busy in the Trackside Shop. The

cooking and food-service duties were shared by **Connie Allen, Jan Bisol, David Chapman, Pat Edgerton, Jim Felland, Kip Kramer, Olivia Leonard, Todd Littlehale, Mila Marlow, Diana Mina** and **Lora Prater**.

Welcoming duties at the admissions table were covered by **Jim Felland, Peggy Langle, Pat Lorentzen, Bruce Morden, Margaret Pryde, Dick Shelton** and **Wendy Shelton**.

Assisting museum staff with setup and cleanup were **David Chapman, Todd Littlehale, Noel Langle, Peggy Langle, Bruce Morden** and **Michael Morden**. Bruce and Michael also stayed over Friday and Saturday nights, watching over the *Steaming Summer* equipment.

Extra special thanks are owed to those whose names appear two or more times above. These dedicated volunteers worked extra shifts to ensure that our visitors would not be disappointed.

Steaming Summer was also made possible by the financial support of sponsor **Toyota of Santa Barbara** and of the **Goleta Lions Club**, which provided funds to keep the food booth supplied.

Depot Night Postponed

Depot Night, originally scheduled for Nov. 9, has been postponed until 2002. When a new date has been set, it will be announced here and on the museum web site. Those who made reservations for the Nov. 9 event will also receive a personal notification.

The decision to reschedule the event was based on the tragic events of Sept. 11 and their aftermath.

Museum's Christmas Tree Is Part Of A Railroad Tradition

If you walk or drive along Los Carneros Road during the holiday season, you can enjoy the decorated tree displayed in Goleta Depot’s upstairs window bay. The lights go on in the late afternoon, but the effect is especially eye-catching with the fall of darkness, when the lights glow like a beacon in the night.

For two decades now — ever since the depot was moved to Lake Los Carneros County Park — the tree has been

placed in the landmark building’s second-floor bay. This has special meaning for the Yuletide season. It preserves a venerable railroad custom, practiced down through the years by countless station-agent families across America, of positioning their Christmas tree in a prominent spot, where its message of hope and wonder could be shared with crews and passengers on passing trains.

The depot tree will also be ornamented with white “Remembrance Stars,” in memory of those special friends who are no longer with us. This is the fourth year that these simple paper decorations have graced the tree.

Holiday Party Goes Forward As Planned

The museum’s annual holiday party will be held on the evening of Thurs., Dec. 13. The event will be at the Goleta Library, 500 N. Fairview Ave. The festivities begin at 7 p.m.

All members, along with their families or guests, are invited to attend. Please bring a dessert or hors d’oeuvres to share with others. Beverages, cups, napkins, and plates will be supplied by the museum.

The holiday party is a good way to meet other members, museum staff and volunteers. We hope to see you at this annual get-together. The party has been held at Goleta Library since 1993.

E-Mail List Grows

Some members who have requested that their names be added to the museum’s e-mail list have not been getting their e-mails. This has been happening because we have been unable to read some of the e-mail addresses that members have written on their membership application & renewal forms.

If you aren’t receiving those handy “Last-Minute Reminders” of upcoming events and activities and would like to be on the list, please send an e-mail to news@goletadepot.org, with the words “add me” at the beginning of your message. And, please be sure to print your e-mail address clearly on any membership forms that you submit.

Depot Day Triumphant In Spite Of Low Attendance

Proceeds from the *Depot Day* silent auction easily surpassed last year's record total. The auction's success is especially noteworthy because the crowd was one of the smallest in the event's 19-year history, a result, at least in part, to the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on America that occurred only days before the Sept. 23 museum event.

A patriotic theme ran throughout much of the event. Goleta Depot's eaves were festooned with American flags and the musical selections offered by **Showstoppers** and the **Monte Vista Elementary School chorus** included *God Bless America*, *It's A Grand Old Flag*, and other favorites. These wonderful young performers, under the direction of **Radu Azdril**, always add a bright touch to the day, but this year their tribute was especially moving.

Depot Day was made possible by these and scores of other volunteers, from both the museum and supporting community organizations, including representatives from the **Dos Pueblos High School Interact Club** and the **DPHS Junior ROTC** (26 cadets led by **Capt. Daniel Freitas** and **Master Sergeant Steven D. Potts**), who helped with event setup and parking. Local organizations and businesses and many others donated equipment, supplies and auction items to help make Depot Day a success.

Trustee **John Locke** was responsible for much of the planning for the

Early morning flag-raising on Depot Day had special significance. This was the first day after Sept. 11 that flags across the nation were returned to full staff. This flag was a Goleta Depot Centennial gift from Congresswoman Lois Capps. It had flown over the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C. Dos Pueblos HS Jr. ROTC cadets raised the colors..



Depot Day barbecue. Joining John as food preparers and servers were **Barbara Cornish, Rick Cornish, Jim Felland, Dondra Lankin, Olivia Leonard**, Trustee **Ken Pontifex** and **Judy, Hannah** and **Leah Savage**.

The silent auction tables were staffed by **Kari Adams, Connie Allen, Carol** and **Scott Matthew, Jo McNally**, while **John Starr** and **Margaret Pryde** handled the auction receipts and sales. A record number of items were donated to the auction by businesses, members and museum friends.

Volunteering on the Goleta Short Line were **Gene Allen, Bob Burtness**, Trustee **David Chapman, Jean-Guy**

Dube and **Sean VanderJagt**. Throughout the day, rides on the standard-gauge track in front of the depot were alternated between the handcar, operated by Trustee **Noel Langle**, and **Bob Mahan's** Ventura County Railway inspection car.

Jude Blau, trustee **Kip Kramer, Stella Kramer** took care of the admissions table – greeting arrivals, distributing flyers, and collecting donations. **RoseAnn Hill** and **Hilda Volkman** shared the depot agent's former second-floor living quarters with visitors.

Adam and **Vicki Martinez** were on hand again this year, representing **Operation Lifesaver**, the organization dedicated to fostering safety around trains and railroad tracks.

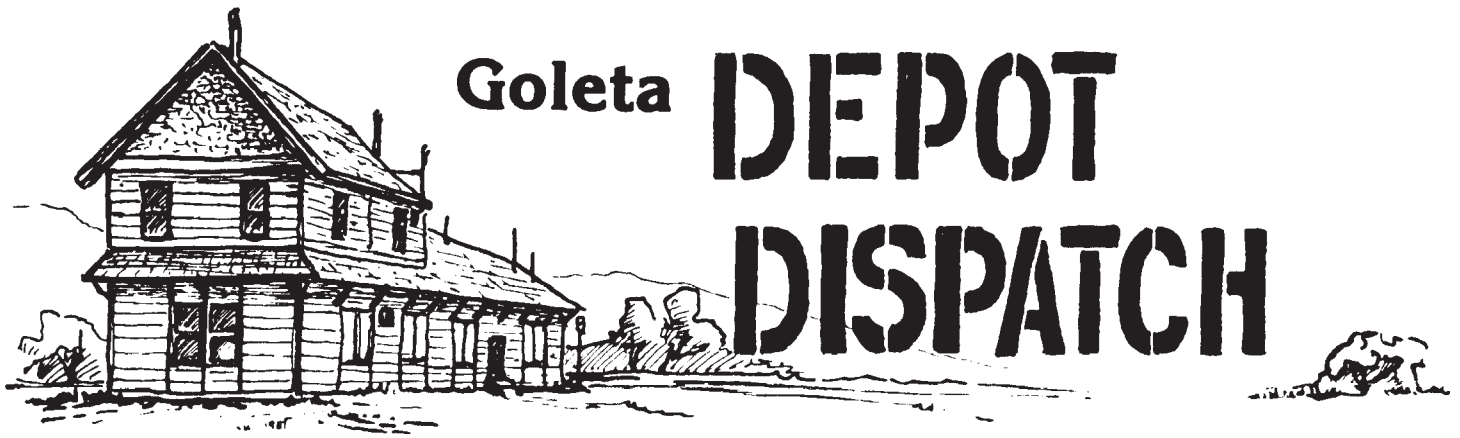
Trustees **Pat Lorentzen** and **Bruce Morden** shared agent duties, while **Edee Brown** and **Judy Blue** helped in the Trackage Shop. The model railroad exhibit was shared by Trustees **Kip Kramer** and **Perry Lorentzen**.

Michael Gartzke organized and manned a table selling special envelopes and postcards from the postal events held at the museum in 1999 and 2001.

Pastor **Paul Hoefer** at **Christ Lutheran Church** approved our use of their field for overflow parking, while the **Goleta Valley Historical Society** loaned tables and chairs for the event.



Eager bidders lined the tables, competing for a wealth of auction items.



Goleta DEPOT DISPATCH

Volume 21, Number 4 (Page 5 "Extra")

CENTENNIAL SPECIAL

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

A LOOK BACK: 20 YEARS AGO

According to its Sept. 10, 1981 agreement with Southern Pacific and the Kellogg Heirs Association, Goleta Beautiful had until mid-December to remove the historic depot from its trackside site. With enough money in the bank to pay for the move and begin restoration and rehabilitation, the commitment was made to set a relocation date. Initially, the Depot Committee hoped to complete the move by mid- to late October, before any heavy rains could begin to adversely affect the project.

Prior to the move, a number of things had to be taken care of at the new site at 300 North Los Carneros Road. A professional site survey was contributed by **Hugh Simpson**. Soils testing, donated by **Pacific Materials Laboratory**, revealed the presence of expansive soils. These would require modifications to the foundation design. The changes were made by Depot Committee member and project architect **Raymond Baird**, who donated hundreds of hours of Goleta Depot work. At its Sept. 21 meeting, the County Board of Supervisors approved Baird's plans for the depot relocation and rebuilding.

The site grading was performed on Sept. 29 and 30 – a donation from **South Coast Contractors, Inc.** The project also received from **Goleta Ready Mix, SP Milling Co., McNall Building Materials** and **Granite Construction** a combined donation of about 32 yards of concrete for the foundation footings. **Phyllis Olsen** was instrumental in securing these gifts of materials. The *Depot Dispatch* issue of Sept. 11 (Vol 1, No. 8) reported that 10 yards of concrete were still needed to complete this portion of the work.

Rains and scheduling conflicts caused the original October move date to be pushed back to Nov. 4. More problems added another two-week delay.

The company hired to perform the move, AA Jet Housemovers of Norwalk, arrived in Goleta and set to work on Nov. 9. Using a chain saw, the movers cut the building in two that first day. One of the sections was much larger than the other: 60 feet in length and weighing about 70 tons. It contained the entire second story, the waiting room, office, baggage room, and even a portion of the freight warehouse. The other section consisted of the remaining 32 feet of the freight house.

By the end of the week, both pieces of the depot had been lifted onto the wheel-and-axle assemblies that would carry them to Lake Los Carneros County Park.

The trenches for the footings at the park site were not completed until Nov. 11. The work was a donation from **G and M Construction**. On the 12th, the footings were poured. **Tony Hernandez** contributed the labor and, to mark the occasion, members of his crew carved their initials in the wet concrete. The work was completed only a few hours before a heavy rain began to fall.

On Nov. 16 and 17, an olive tree on Kellogg Avenue and a grand oak on Los Carneros Road were trimmed. Some of their branches had been blocking the route of travel planned for the two depot pieces.

With the week of Nov. 16 came many last-minute jobs. No one had remembered to pick up the building permit! The specimen oak on Los Carneros Road needed some more, 11th-hour trimming. After a visit to the new site, AA Jet Foreman Harry Steuk reported that some additional grading would be necessary to allow his crews to reach the awaiting foundation area safely with their precious cargo.

But, when Nov. 18 arrived, everything seemed in order. It was time for Goleta Depot to see its new home!