



Goleta **DEPOT** **DISPATCH**



Newsletter of the South Coast Railroad Museum

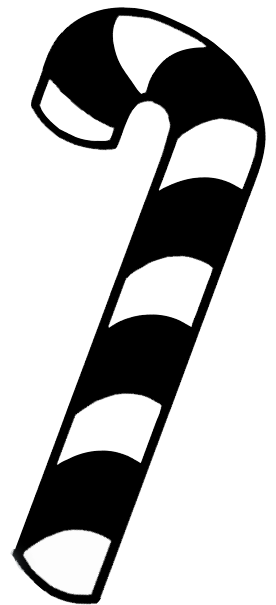
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“Candy Cane Train” Begins Friday, Nov. 29!

The *Candy Cane Train* will begin its 10th annual holiday run on Friday, Nov. 29. The popular year-end family event at the railroad museum will be held daily through Sunday, Dec. 22, 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, 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.



Many youngsters attend the event in holiday garb, like “Rein-Dears” Emma and Rachel Tracy of Santa Barbara.

Fairview Car Wash & Cox Communications Will Sponsor Free-Ride Weekdays in 2003

Rides on the Goleta Short Line miniature train will be free to all museum visitors every Wednesday in 2003 until Thanksgiving. This newest addition to the museum’s growing calendar of free-ride days is being made possible by the generosity of **Fairview Car Wash**, which is also continuing its sponsorship of monthly free handcar rides at the museum through the end of 2003.

Cox Communications has graciously agreed to continue its sponsorship of *First Fridays Free* at the museum through March 2004. The museum has been averaging more than 100 free rides each day since this program was started in April.

Museum Shop Ready To Fill Your Holiday Shopping Needs

The museum’s Trackside Shop is the perfect place to find the right gifts for those rail fans and history buffs on your holiday shopping list. For the youngsters, there’s a fresh supply of Thomas books and characters. The variety of videos, CDs and T-shirts – for young and old – has never been greater. Check out the new *Southern Pacific In Los Angeles*, along with many other railroad and local history titles.

Every purchase helps the museum be better and stronger 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.

South Coast Railroad Museum Institute for American Research

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Volunteer News

Coast Starlight Program

The Coast Starlight Interpretive Program has joined "Trails & Rails," a nationwide program of the National Park Service. The specific sponsor within NPS is the Anza Historic Trail, which follows much of the Coast Starlight route between Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo.

On Nov. 12-13 and Nov. 16-17, all continuing guides, along with Museum Director Gary Coombs and Assistant Director Phyllis Olsen, went through the Trails & Rails training program.

One of the notable changes is that guides will now be expected to assist the train crew in the event of an onboard emergency.

This Issue Sponsored By
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Welcome New Members

We are pleased to welcome new museum members **Paul Straede** (Sustaining) and **Matt and Brynda McPeters**.

New Jr. Engineers Club members are **Griffin Chen, Joey Kauffman, Evan Knight, Nicholas Slaughter, Eric Weissbarth** and **Dane Atwell Westwick**.

The museum now has 373 members — a new record. This is 15% more members than one year ago.

Personal Treasures From Members & Friends 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."

Each year, this label introduces the museum's year-end display, which can be found in Goleta Depot's Waiting Room from Fri., Nov. 29 'til the New Year.

This much-anticipated and fanciful exhibition features toy locomotives, antique trains, and stuffed animals — all borrowed from the homes of the museum's Junior Engineers, volunteers, other members, trustees, and staff.

Hope you will make a visit to see *Toy Trains & Teddy Bears!* a part of your holiday activities this year.

Parties, Parties, Parties

Recently celebrating birthdays with parties on the grounds were **Christopher Hartman, Brandon Herbdian, Nikolas Hernandez, Cooper Jasiorowski, Joey Kauffman, Madeleine Lazarovits, Ryan Ostendorf, Alex Poirier** and **Tys Nean Zeyl**.

Sponsor Needed For "March Madness" Event

The museum is looking for a business or other sponsor for March Madness 2003. For more information, contact Director Gary Coombs at 964-3540 (or gcoombs@goletadepot.org).

Depot Night

Guest speaker **Arthur Lloyd** painted an optimistic picture of Amtrak's future during his presentation at Depot Night on Nov. 9. Lloyd expressed confidence that Amtrak's new president, **David Gunn**, is the right person to lead the organization at this critical point in its history.

Arthur Lloyd's 20-year career with Amtrak included a long stint as director of public affairs, sales and government affairs for the western U.S. He is a member of the Joint Powers Board that operates CalTrain, the Bay Area Peninsula commuter rail service. He also serves on the Citizens Advisory Committee to the California High-Speed Rail Authority.

Lloyd traced the ups and downs of the passenger railroad industry from World War I to the present, emphasizing that tough times, like those facing Amtrak today, are nothing new. He predicted an especially strong future for passenger rail in California, due to supplemental state support and the high public demand for rail services in the state's busy urban corridors.

Lloyd urged all interested persons to write their representatives to show their support for passenger rail's future.

Goleta Mayor Margaret Connell was on hand to address the museum group and present a proclamation recognizing the centennial of Goleta Depot. The program also included a slide presentation on the depot's history and a salute to the museum's volunteers of yesterday and today.



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Capital Project Advances

The museum is pleased to acknowledge those who have made financial contributions to our capital project.

Total support from local foundations has reached \$43,400. This includes **Santa Barbara Foundation** (\$25,000), **Alice Tweed Tuohy Foundation** (\$5,000), **Mid-State Bank Foundation** (\$5,000), **Wood-Claeyssens Foundation** (\$4,000), **La Vista Foundation for the Blind & Physically Handicapped** (\$3,000), **Schulte Family Foundation** (\$1,000) and **PARC Foundation** (\$400).

An additional \$15,800 has been received from members, businesses and other friends. These include **Joseph and Margaret E. Bazzi**, **Elsie Boeseke**, **Reid and Robin Cederlof**, **David C. Chapman**, **Helen Coffey**, **Larry Crandell**, **Thea Cremers**, **Fairview Car Wash**, **The De Venne Family**, **Ron and Derry Godar**, **Edwin C. Grat**, **Hal Lewis**, **Joseph H. Handlon**, **RoseAnn Hill**, **Mary Hopson**, **Morse and Opal Jeffers**, **Josiah F. Jenkins**, **Ellen G. Keeter**, **Kip and Stella Kramer**, **Noel and Peggy Langle**, **John Locke**, **Perry and Pat Lorentzen**, **Dolores Messori**, **Bruce Morden**, **Isabel Friend Newman**, **David and Susan Nivin Family**, **Paradise Machining Corp.**, **Doris Phinney**, **Ken Pontifex**, **Louise Prottengeier, Dr. and Mrs. William Radasky**, **Mary H. Sonne**, **Thomas and Beulah Strout**, **Steve and Thelma Sullivan**, **Bob and Mary Tench**, **George Thorpe**, **Hilda Volkman**, **Jon and Beth Wordsworth** and **ZBE, Inc.**

An extra \$19,000 in in-kind contributions of materials and labor brings the fundraising total (\$78,000) to 60% of the \$129,000 goal.

Goleta National Bank Adopts Passenger Car

Goleta National Bank is the new sponsor for Goleta Short Line Car No. 3. Plaques acknowledging the bank's help are being prepared for display on the car.

The museum is still looking for a sponsor for Car No. 4 and Engine No. 2655. For more information about car sponsorship, please contact Museum Director Gary Coombs (805-964-3540).

"Super Saturday VII" Kick-Off Is Jan. 25

Jan. 25, 2003 will mark the 7th annual "*Super Saturday!*" at the railroad museum — an afternoon of free miniature-train rides at the railroad museum. Event hours will be 1 to 4 p.m. 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 2002 event included **American Pension Co**, **Stephen A. Bailey, D.D.S.**, **Bank of America**, **Camino Real Café**, **Channel Communica-**

tions, **Cold Spring Tavern**, **Michael Gartzke, C.P.A.**, **Gold's Gym**, **Murphy Electric**, **The Pontifex Family**, **Ramada Limited**, **RP Printing & Graphics**, **Santa Barbara Hobbies**, **State Farm Insurance**, **Craig Schmidt Printing** and **The Tench Family**—many of whom will be returning as *Super Saturday!* sponsors for 2003.

Super Saturday! is held each year on the day before the Super Bowl football game. During this year's event, 309 free train rides were given to museum visitors. Please plan to join us on Jan. 25 and help make Super Saturday VII another record breaker!

New Boarding Station Sees First Service On Free Days

Although the permanent benches and open shelter have yet to be constructed, the new Goleta Short Line boarding station has been used on a limited basis during the free-ride Fridays in October and November. On these days, passengers have been allowed to board or detrain at the new station, if they wish to do so. The first to use the new station were **Melissa Marino** and **Sarah Starks**, on Oct. 4.

The new station construction has been funded in part by a grant from the **PARC Foundation**. The boarding station is adjacent to the new pathway

gracing the west side of the grounds that hundreds of visitors have already enjoyed. Both of these features, together with the new multi-purpose building, also under construction, comprise the museum's capital project.



Grooves to hold the miniature-train track are cut in the station-platform concrete by Harry Vanderhoofven, with assistance from Tom Brown (left), father of Junior Engineers Jordan and Matt Brown.

Depot Day Report

Good weather and a delightful, appreciative crowd helped to make the 20th annual *Depot Day* – held on Sept. 29 – a success.

Special thanks are extended to all of those who volunteered their time to ensure that the event ran smoothly.

Musical entertainment was provided by the **Monte Vista Elementary School chorus**, under the direction of **Radu Azdril**. *Depot Day* regulars, these energetic youngsters always add something warm and special to the event.

Parking services were provided by the **Dos Pueblos High School Jr. ROTC**, under **Master Sergeant Steven D. Potts**. The group also helped with event setup and other activities.

Trustee **John Locke** was responsible for much of the planning for the *Depot Day* barbecue. Cooks, servers and food sellers on the day included **Jude Blau, Carla Cabanatuan, David Chapman, Derry Godar, John Hutchinson, Joan Leipnik, Olivia Leonard, Hannah Savage, Judy Savage, Leah Savage, Kay Woolsey** and **Dondra**.

The silent auction tables were the domain of **Kari Adams, Charlene Doty, Peggy Langle, Carol Matthew, Samantha Matthew, and Diana Mina**. Auction sales and receipts were handled by **John Starr** and **Margaret Pryde**.

Volunteers who kept the Goleta Short Line running were **Gene Allen, Ron Bruns, Ted Cheesman, Jean-Guy Dube** and **Lavonne Sanchez**. Rides on his inspection speeder were given by **Bob Mahan**, while **Noel Langle** kept the handcar moving.

Pat Lorentzen, Louise Prottengeier and **Dick Shelton** welcomed the day's guests at the ad-

The auction tables were busy throughout the day.



Rides were popular with young and old alike on Depot Day.

missions table.

Barbara Cornish and **Bruce Morden** shared the depot's second floor – the former station agent's living quarters – with visitors.

Operation Lifesaver, the organization dedicated to fostering safety around trains and railroad tracks, was ably represented by **Tony Czuleger** and **Pineapple Leong**.

Edee Brown helped out in the Trackside Shop. Agent responsibilities, including ride-ticket sales, were handled by **Ed Leska** and **Bruce Morden**. The model railroad exhibit was shared by **Kip Kramer** and **Perry Lorentzen**.

Many of above volunteers also joined staff members in the unheralded chores of setup and cleanup.

Pastor **Paul Hoefler** at **Christ Lutheran Church** approved our use of their field for overflow parking. A long list of other businesses, organizations and others donated or loaned equipment, supplies and auction items for *Depot Day*.



ROTC cadets kept the switch aligned for the handcar and speeder

Museum Tree Is Part Of A Railroad Tradition

If you are traveling along Los Carneros Road during the holiday season, be sure to look for the decorated tree centered in Goleta Depot's upstairs window bay. The tree lights go on in the late afternoon, but the impact is greatest after twilight. For the first time this year, there is a new way to view and enjoy the tree lights during the daytime – from the new pathway that extends all the way around the front side of Goleta Depot.

For two decades now – ever since the depot was moved to Lake Los Carneros County Park – a 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 putting their Christmas tree in a highly visible spot, where its message of hope and wonder could be shared with crews and riders on passing trains.

The depot tree will also be ornamented with white "Remembrance Stars," in memory of the museum's departed friends – a custom now in its fifth year.



Goleta DEPOT DISPATCH

Volume 22, Number 4 (Page 5 "Extra")

CENTENNIAL SPECIAL

*Eighth and Last in a Series Celebrating
Goleta Depot's 100th Anniversary*



A LOOK BACK: 20 YEARS AGO

The middle months of 1982 were a busy time as project fundraising continued nonstop and Goleta Depot's rehabilitation entered its final phase.

On July 7, the **County Landmarks Committee** approved landmark status for Goleta Depot, an action confirmed by the **Board of Supervisors** on Aug. 2.

The water line to the depot was completed Aug. 9, the last of the utilities to go in. Back-filling and final grading around the depot were donated by **South Coast Contractors** and **Santa Barbara County Parks Dept. Ernest Thomsen** and **Ralph Moore** were responsible for hanging most of the building's doors.

A dramatic transformation of the depot exterior started on Aug. 28, when members of the **painters' union** and **local painting contractors** began the application of fresh coats of colonial yellow, with white and brown accents, to the building. A new asphalt-shingle roof was one of the last building features to be installed.

Early steps toward the creation of a museum took place in 1982 when Goleta Depot received its first donations of artifacts. Among the early contributors were **Gary Coombs**, **Roger Levenson**, and **Sabra Stevens**. **Gene Allen**, who served as the new museum's volunteer curator, announced in May that he had found two glass display cases that would eventually be used for several years to share many of these objects with the visiting public.

In August, the **Fairview Merchant's Association** sponsored an auction to benefit the depot project. Meanwhile, **Nancy Ried** and **Mary Lou Williamson** were busy planning a "Surprise Trip," a fundraising event shrouded in mystery for practically everyone except the energetic twosome. In June, it was announced that the **Raytheon Company** had donated \$2,000 to the campaign.

The long-awaited "Depot Friends Photo" was taken by photographer **Paul Heuston**, who captured the image

of about 135 project movers, shakers and supporters who posed before a picture-perfect depot on the afternoon of Oct. 9. The historic photo was published twice in the **Santa Barbara News-Press** when the negative was inadvertently reversed in the initial printing.

More than 500 persons attended the formal dedication of Goleta Depot on Oct. 10. The program included an invocation by **Rev. David Lunde**, pastor of Christ Lutheran Church. The **Dos Pueblos High School Marching 100 Band** performed and the Ladies of Stow House League served refreshments. Among those in attendance were **Congressman Robert J. Lagomarsino**, **Santa Barbara Mayor Sheila Lodge**, and members of the County Board of Supervisors. Speakers included **Goleta Beautiful president Peter Chapman**, **Goleta Valley Historical Society president Charles Kimbell**, and **Depot Committee representative Raymond Baird**, and many others.

A history of Goleta Depot written by project chairman **Gary Coombs** was unveiled at a Nov. 28 reception and signing party held at the **Holiday Inn**. Sales of the book proved to be a major campaign fundraiser.

A clear sign that the depot project was indeed winding down came in December with the publication of the last monthly issue of the **Depot Dispatch**. The newsletter would henceforth appear on a more relaxed quarterly schedule, "so long as enough people are interested in receiving the Depot news."

Regular weekly tours of the historical landmark, coordinated by **Phyllis Olsen**, were begun on Dec. 5. By Christmas, the first three nonprofit tenants had all moved into the building: the **Goleta Valley Chamber of Commerce**, **Institute for American Research** and **Santa Barbara Audubon Society**. Goleta Depot was open for business once again!