



# Goleta DEPOT DISPATCH



Newsletter of the South Coast Railroad Museum  
Volume 24, Number 2 — Summer 2004

## Visitor Center Nears Completion

### \$28,000 Needed To Finish The Job

Great progress has been made on the Visitor Center since the above-ground construction began on May 1. The wall framing was finished during that initial weekend, thanks to a strong volunteer turnout, and steady progress has been made since that time.

**Donations are needed now** to complete the work so that the Visitor Center can open and begin serving museum guests. Only \$28,000 remains to finish the \$130,000 project.

Donations of any size are welcome and always appreciated. All donations are acknowledged publicly both in the  
(continued on page 4)



## Steaming Summer Is Here!

The weekend of July 24-25 marks the 18th annual *Steaming Summer*, the South Coast Railroad Museum's only two-day event. The event centerpiece are the miniature steam locomotives that make a once-a-year visit to the museum. Beautiful to behold, whether on display or under a full head of steam, these powerful little engines will pull  
(continued on page 4)

## South Coast Railroad Museum Institute for American Research

### Board of Trustees

David Chapman  
Kip Kramer  
Noel Langle  
John C. Locke  
Bruce Morden  
Ken Pontifex  
Richard B. Shelton

### Officers — 2004

Bruce Morden, *President*  
Richard B. Shelton, *Vice President*  
Noel Langle, *Secretary-Treasurer*

### Senior Staff

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

## Museum Lends A Helping Hand

The railroad museum participated in the 3rd annual Optimist Adventure Camp, held this year on Wed., March 31. The program, held during the spring elementary-school break, focuses on children of working parents, mostly from the **Boys and Girls Clubs** of Goleta and Santa Barbara Westside. Participating youngsters were treated to free handcar rides, sponsored by **Chuck Eckert**, and rides on the miniature train, compliments of **Fairview Car Wash**.

The event is organized by the **Breakfast Optimist Club of Goleta**.

## Jr. Engineers Club Party!!

The annual Junior Engineers Club Party will be held Thursday, Aug. 12 from 2 to 4 p.m. There will be delicious refreshments and free miniature-train rides for all in attendance. To make your reservations, please call the museum office (964-3540). Each Junior Engineer may bring two guests (parent, sibling, relative or friend) without charge. There is a charge of \$3 for any additional guests).

## "Track It Down At Your Library"

That's the theme of the 2004 Summer Reading Program of the Santa Barbara Libraries, and the railroad museum will be playing an expanded role this year.

The museum is co-sponsoring a special train-theme children's program at Goleta Library on Thurs., July 22. The event, which begins at 10:30 a.m., will include a screening of the ever-popular "Big Trains, Little Trains" video, a choo-choo craft activity led by Goleta children's librarian and museum volunteer **Judy Savage**, and a train show-and-tell. The event is free and open to the public. If you'd like to participate in the show-and-tell, please bring a favorite train car with a label bearing your name.

**American Pension Co.** is again sponsoring the museum's participation in the Summer Reading Program. All children who complete the program by reading a minimum of 15 books receive two free miniature-train rides at the museum, compliments of American Pension Co., as a reward for their reading achievement.

American Pension's **Clas Lensander** and his family, including wife **Theresa** and sons **Bjorn** and **Nicholas**, have been valued supporters of the museum for many years.

## Wish List

A \$200 donation is needed to purchase a new barbecue, which will be used during *Depot Day* and other museum events. The BBQ units that we have borrowed in the past are no longer in usable condition.

We are also looking for someone to **rebuild the Honda 5-hp engine** that was recently removed from Locomotive No. 1316.

## Tiger Color Donates Software

The museum has received a copy of *ColorImpact 2*, the premiere color-scheme software program for PC computers, from **TigerColor.com**. The donation was made possible by the generosity of TigerColor's **Trond Grøntoft**.

## Bermant Co. & Elks Lodge Sponsors Free-Ride Days

**Bermant Development Co.** and **Santa Barbara Elks Lodge No. 613** each are sponsoring free-ride days during the second half of 2004.

The Bermant company is underwriting two free Saturdays, on Aug. 21 and Nov. 13. "Elks Day" is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 18. Museum visitors may ride as often they like over the 1:15-3:45 period during which the rides will be offered. For safety, all train riders must meet the 34-inch minimum-height requirement.

The August and September free days fall on third Saturdays, during which free handcar rides are also offered at the museum, thanks to the sponsorship support of **Fairview Car Wash**. Handcar riders must be at least 48 inches tall.

## Welcome New Members

**Mike Cicileo (Cicileo Landscapes, Inc.)** is a new Milepost 100 member. **Scott Kornahrens**, **Dennis and Carolyn Naiman** and **Parkie Parker** are also new members.

New Junior Engineers Club members include **Loie Bonnet**, **Lance Brown**, **Scott Brown**, **Hac Brummett**, **Bobby Carroll**, **Martin Croshaw**, **Noah Harris**, **Zachary Harris**, **Thomas Huang**, **Timothy Huang**, **Nicolas Johanson**, **Dylan Thomas Kuske**, **Santiago Liera**, **Jacob Long**, **Noah Long**, **Ethan Parrish**, **Kendall Ruth** and **Theodore C. Schaefer**.

Welcome to all of our new members!

**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](mailto:museum@goletadepot.org)

Web-site: [www.goletadepot.org](http://www.goletadepot.org)

## Goleta Lions Latest Car Sponsor

The **Goleta Lions Club** has adopted the fourth and final passenger car of the Goleta Short Line miniature railroad. Car No. 3 has been fitted with two brass-finish plaques bearing the acknowledgment, "Sponsored by Goleta Lions."

The museum is still looking for a sponsor for locomotive No. 2655 ("The Gray Engine"). The cost is \$200 for one year. If you are interested, please contact Museum Director Gary Coombs (gcoombs@goletadepot.org or by phone, 805-964-3540).

## New Engine For Locomotive 1316

Thanks to the generosity of **Ted Cheesman** and **Lavonne Sanchez** and of the **Lensander Family**, there is a brand new 5.5-hp engine inside Locomotive No. 1316. The 16-year-old loco has been struggling of late but, with the new power plant in place, No. 1316 is now "purring like a kitten," reports Museum Director Gary Coombs.

## Museum Leads Amtrak Youth Excursion

On May 20, Museum Director **Gary Coombs** and Asst. Director **Phyllis Olsen** led a group of 25 children, parents and school staff from **Judy Sims'** kindergarten class at **Monte Vista Elementary School** on a morning Goleta-to-Ventura roundtrip rail excursion. The group was able to take advantage of the special fares available through the **Kids 'N Trains** program cosponsored by **Amtrak** and **CalTrans**.



# Depot Day Is Coming

## Sunday, Sept. 26

## Volunteer News

The museum has four new prospective guides-in-training for the Coast Starlight Interpretive Program. They are **Wendy Hawksworth**, **Nancy Mouat**, **Vaughn ("Parkie") Parker**, and **Rita Shaw**.

On June 8, the museum offered a Trails & Rails orientation and emergency-training class for volunteers in the Coast Starlight program. National Trails and Rails Coordinator **Jim Miculka** was one of the presenters, along with Museum Director **Gary Coombs** and **David Smith**, Interpretive Specialist with Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail. The safety and emergency training was handled by **Dave Albert**, Manager of Emergency Preparedness in Amtrak's Police & Security Dept. and **Arthur Candenquist**, Mr. Albert's counterpart for the Eastern United States.

Attending the training were the museum's guide prospects; guides **Jim**



*Amtrak's Dave Albert spoke about emergency preparedness.*

**Felland**, **Ed Leska**, and **Pat and Perry Lorentzen**; and guide-in-training **Thea Cremers**.

In other volunteer news, the museum will miss the services of Goleta Short Line engineers **Glenn Anderson**

and **Rick Marten**. Both are moving from the area. **Samantha Matthew** is training to help in replacing them. Volunteers learning to be conductors include **Scott Kornahrens**, **Sean Ryan** and **Manuel Velarde**.

(“Steaming Summer”, cont’d. from page 1) tons of cars and passengers before the last ember burns out during a typical event weekend.

This year’s equipment roster includes a wide assortment of locomotives, including **Gene Allen’s** 2-8-0 Consolidation and his 4-4-0 American. **Ed Winnewisser** will be making the trip down from Atascadero again with his 0-6-0 switch-engine and **Dan O’Brien** will bring his Allen Models 2-6-0 mogul up from Westminster. Making his first *Steaming Summer* appearance will be **Ron Wilkerson**, who plans to add a 10-Wheeler to the show.

**Ted Cheesman** and his circus-train cars will be in attendance as well. The elephant car (complete with water-squirting elephants) and the musical calliope car with bubble-blowing bear have become two of *Steaming Summer’s* most fanciful diversions.

The circus theme will carry over into the model-railroad exhibit, where **Ken and Carolyn Weber’s** “K&C Famous Family Circus” will fill a vacant lot near the Santa Barbara roundhouse. The HO-scale three-ring circus, including a big top and operating 20-car circus train, has been amusing *Steaming Summer* crowds since 1999.

Daily admission to *Steaming Summer* is only \$4 (\$3.75 for members), which includes unlimited train and handcar rides (Riders must meet minimum-

height requirements: 34” for the train; 48” for the handcar.).

Hours both Saturday and Sunday are 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.).

The admission charge applies to everyone, including those who choose not to ride. Infants and any others who are unable to ride the train will be admitted at no charge. For late arrivals, the admission price drops to \$3 after 3 p.m. Advance tickets, at 50¢ off (75¢ off with membership card) are now

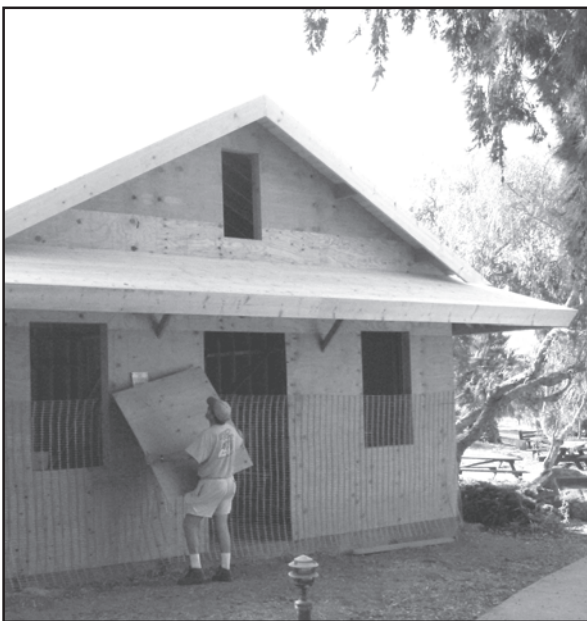
available in the museum’s Trackside Shop.

The program will also include continuous free showings of railroad films, with an emphasis on steam locomotion, including tutorials on how to operate and maintain a steam engine — all 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 opportunity to ride on a steam-powered Goleta Short Line train!

*Steaming Summer* would not be possible without the generous sponsorship support of **Toyota of Santa Barbara**.



(“Visitor Center”, cont’d. from page 1) *Depot Dispatch* and on the museum web site. Gifts of \$1,000 or more will be acknowledged on a plaque to be displayed permanently in the Visitor Center. If you would care to make a contribution, or add to a previous gift, please use the donation card included with this mailing.

Special mention should be made of those who have given so much of their valuable time to help make the Visitor Center a reality. Topping the list is **Tom Brown**, whose contracting skills and devotion have kept the project on track and moving forward. Trustee **Noel Langle** has given long hours to the

project every weekend (as well as a few weekdays), since the work began. **David Chapman**, another board member, has been crucial to the project in a number of ways, including bringing electric power and communications lines to the new building.

Other project volunteers have included **Erich Brown**, **Karl Burrelsman**, **James Gonzales**, **Joe Kleeburg**, and Trustees **Kip Kramer** and **Bruce Morden**.

Visit the museum web site ([www.goletadepot.org/CapProj0.htm](http://www.goletadepot.org/CapProj0.htm)) to see photos of the work effort, floor and site plans, and listings of project donors and volunteers.