



Goleta

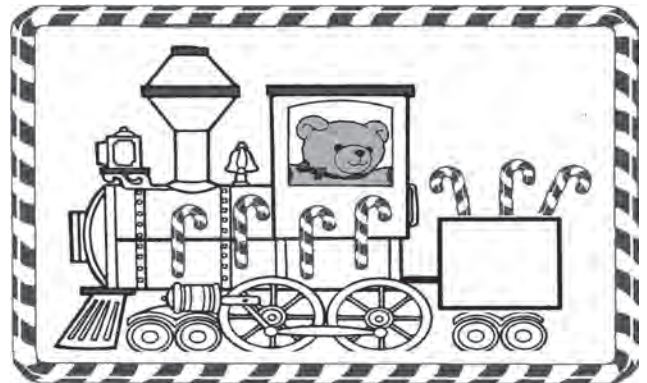
DEPOT DISPATCH



Newsletter of the South Coast Railroad Museum

Vol. 27, No. 4 — Winter 2007-2008

Candy Cane Train Arrives



One of the museum's most popular annual events opens Friday, Nov. 23, the day after Thanksgiving, when the *Candy Cane Train* begins its traditional four-week holiday-season run. The event continues daily through Dec. 23 (except Nov. 26-27, Dec. 3-4, and Dec. 10-11, when the museum will be closed). During the week before Christmas, the museum will be open two additional days — Monday & Tuesday, Dec. 17-18 — to allow the *Candy Cane Train* to run a couple of extra days while some of the area schools are closed for their holiday breaks.

Ticket bearers receive a ride on the decorated train, featuring the event's hallmark red-and-white striped passenger cars, and an assortment of holiday treats and favors — including the oversized souvenir tickets and, of course, a candy cane!

Hours are 1 to 4 p.m. each day, but event-goers are always urged to plan on arriving at the museum not later than 3:30, in order to enjoy all of the *Candy Cane Train* activities at an unhurried pace. You'll want to include enough time to enjoy the traditional *Toy Trains & Teddy Bears* display in the Waiting Room, which also opens on Nov. 24.

Candy Cane Train tickets, at \$3.50 each, will be sold at the museum during event hours. Additional rides may be purchased for \$1 each. Museum members receive their usual 25¢ off on every ticket purchased.

For our guests' safety, the 34-inch minimum-height requirement applies to all *Candy Cane Train* passengers.



Museum Store Packed For Holiday Gifting

You won't believe all of the great new items that have been added to the shelves in the museum store over the past few weeks in anticipation of another busy holiday season. See the Page 4 story for a list of some of the new toys, books and clothing items now in stock.

Sierra and Nicholas Hofstatter of Santa Barbara were captured in this snapshot during the 1998 Candy Cane Train. Today, the sister and brother are 13 and 11 and attend local schools.

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Foundation Grant Helps Miniature Railroad Grow

The museum has received a grant from the **Santa Barbara Foundation**. The \$3,200 award has been used to purchase two additional passenger cars for the Goleta Short Line miniature-train ride. The new cars will allow us to better meet the demand for train rides, especially during busy museum events. It will also make it easier to perform maintenance on any of the six passenger cars without affecting regular train service.

A proud Noel Langle poses with the handcar shed, a handsome new home for the rail car that he recently completed.



Welcome New Members

The newest museum members include **Diane Gary, Brenna Silverberg,** and **Courtney Silverberg** (all Active members).

The latest additions to the Junior Engineers Club are **Jack Bunch** and **James Makler**. Welcome to all of you!

Tree Renews Railroad Tradition

The Goleta Depot tree will be lighted every night in December, creating an enchanting Victorian scene that you and your family and friends may enjoy as you travel past the museum grounds on Los Carneros Road.

The decorated tree, which each year occupies the historical landmark's second-floor window bay, has special significance for the Yuletide. It preserves the custom, practiced over the years by countless rail-station agent families across America, of positioning their Christmas tree so its message of hope and wonder could be shared with passengers and crews on passing trains. The museum's tree is also decorated with small white "Remembrance Stars," each a memorial to a museum friend who has passed away.

This Issue Sponsored By
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Wish List

The museum needs the following tools for maintenance work around the buildings and grounds: 6-foot aluminum A-frame ladder (\$55); pick-maddock (\$28); digging (spud) bar (\$22); lopper (\$40); and wrecking bar (\$30). GSL maintenance chief **Ed Leska** has requested a complete railroad maintenance toolkit (\$150; toolbox; cordless drill, bits, wrenches, screwdrivers, pliers, hammer, level & track gauges, other small tools.)

If you would like to donate any of these items, or the purchase price, please contact the museum office (805/964-3540).

Holiday Party Returns To Museum

The museum's holiday party will be held on Tues., Dec. 11. For the first time in 15 years, the party will again be held at the museum. All museum members, along with their families or guest, are cordially invited to attend this free event, which will begin at 7 p.m. Please bring a dessert or hors d'oeuvres to share with others. The beverages, cups, napkins, and plates will be supplied by the museum.

The holiday party is a great way to meet other members, museum staff and volunteers. If you haven't been to the museum lately, it will also be an opportunity to see the suspended train (see page 3 story) and a lot more of what has been going on in the Visitor Center, where the party will be held. We hope to see you at this annual get-together.

The party was held at Goleta Library from 1993 to 2006. Previously, the venue was the second-floor apartment area of Goleta Depot.

**Easter
Bunny
Express**



Coming
March 22

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

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Depot Day Report

The 25th annual *Depot Day*, held Sept. 30 was a resounding success, thanks in large part to the many volunteers who helped on the day and in the days leading up to the event.

Barbecue cooks, servers and sales staff included **Cayce Baierski, Susan and Lani Bucifal, Don and Kathy Chalfant, James Chavis, Bryan Thomas, John Hutchinson, and Allie and Jerry Pressman.**

The silent auction tables were skillfully managed by **Kari Adams, Charlene Doty, Diana and Nicholas Mina, and Edie Wells,** while **John Starr** handled the auction sales and receipts.

The Goleta Short Line trains were operated by **Ron Bruns, Jean-Guy Dube, Bruce Morden, Jason Poole, Ed Togami, Walter Waldau and Paul Williams.** Inspection-car rides were given by **Bob Mahan,** while **Noel Langle** and **Bruce Morden** kept the handcar running smoothly.

Admissions-table staffing was the responsibility of **Carla Cabanatuan, Margaret Connell, Joan Hanna, and Claudia Worthen.** **Rose Ann Hill** shared the former station agent's 2nd-floor living quarters with our guests.

Station-agent duties, including ride-ticket sales were covered by **Ed Leska** and **Judy Blue.** Judy also took a shift as shop clerk. The model railroad exhibit was operated by **Gene Allen.**

Many of these same volunteers also teamed up with the museum staff in running errands, as well as setup and cleanup activities, which spanned several days. Also assisting in these various support activities were **Kip Kramer, Nancy Johnke, George and Cindy Roberts, Michelle and Luke Thomas, and Ben Torres.**

A long list of other friends, businesses and organizations donated or loaned equipment, supplies and auction items to help make *Depot Day* a very successful family event and museum fundraiser.

Visitor Center Train Is New Museum Favorite

As promised in the last newsletter issue, there is now an operating model train suspended from the ceiling in the Visitor Center. The G-gauge train was ready in time for Depot Day, thanks to the efforts of **Bob Mahan** and **John Green,** who fashioned the see-thru wire-mesh base that supports the railroad track and train, and **Ed Leska,** who was responsible for much of the installation. Also lending an assist to the project were **Gene Allen, Gary Coombs, Noel Langle,** and **Bruce Morden.**

We've been having a lot of fun lately trying out different trains on the elevated layout, including the 4-6-2 Pacific-powered U.P. freight train that **William Simpson** donated to the museum and the 20-year-old



John Green welds together sections of the suspended railroad's supporting structure.

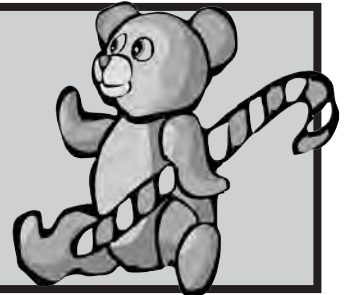
LGB train that used to travel around the walls in the original "Trackside Shop." As this issue goes to press, the featured train is a Southern Pacific freight, complete with S.P. boxcars and reefer, pulled by a GP-9 diesel, all on loan from **B. Marc Bradley.**

The suspended railway is proving to be a popular addition to the Visitor Center and a valuable new attraction for the museum.

Holiday Display Shares Keepsakes



On your next museum visit, don't forget to visit Goleta Depot's Waiting Room and see the year-end display, "*Toy Trains and Teddy Bears!*," which, like the *Candy Cane Cane*, opens the day after Thanksgiving.



Ron Bruns Joins Museum Board

Ronald E. (Ron) Bruns has been elected to the Board of Trustees for a two-year term. The son of a Burlington Northern engineer, Bruns was born in Lincoln, Nebraska. He moved to California in 1957 and took up residence in the Santa Barbara-Goleta area in 1968.

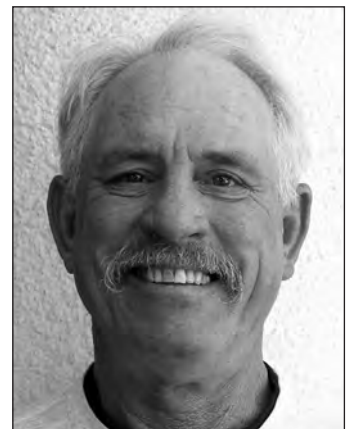
He worked for the Santa Barbara County Fire Dept. for 31-1/2 years, retiring in 2001 with the rank of Battalion Chief. Ron served two stints at Fire Station 14, next door to the railroad museum, in the early 1980s and again in the late 1990s. During his first years at Station 14, Ron witnessed the moving of Goleta Depot to Lake Los Carneros Park, the building's restoration/rehabilitation and rebirth, and the early years of the railroad museum.

He has a son and daughter and three grandchildren. Ron

and his wife, Sue, divide their time between a home in Goleta and the family ranch in the Lake Hughes area of L.A. County.

Ron has been a museum member and volunteer for many years, serving regularly as a Goleta Short Line engineer-conductor. He is also a trustee on the Santa Barbara County Retirement Board and a volunteer with the Sedgewick Reserve in Santa Ynez.

Ron Bruns



Fashion Show A Sell-Out

The **Woman's Service Club of Goleta (WSCG)** gave us a very special gift on Sat., Nov. 10 by hosting a fashion-show luncheon to benefit the railroad museum. Tickets for all 120 seats had been reserved weeks before the event, thanks to the careful planning and hard work of event organizer, WSCG member, and museum-board president **Joan Hanna**.

The luncheon, held at the **Goleta Community Center**, featured fashions by **Coldwater Creek**, music by **Al Reese**, and a video presentation on museum programs and Goleta Depot history.

Fashion models included **Judy Blue, Jan Brubaker, Joanne Cohen, Nanci Elliott, Debbie Kendrick, Rae Lambert, Eileen Pando, and Pat Weeks**. Museum volunteers **Ron Bruns** and **Robert Burtness** served, respectively, as "Engineer" and "Conductor."



New Display Shares Palmdale Depot Model



Goleta Depot's Waiting Room now has another new exhibit for visitors to enjoy. Entitled "Goleta Depot Had Many Sisters," the display, which is housed in a handsome case built by **Eugene Allen**, focuses on the 90+ Southern Pacific depots that were based on the same standard building plan known as the Combination Depot No. 22 design.

These two-story, wood-frame

country and town depots were built from about 1894 until the 1930s in six western states – California, Nevada, Arizona, Texas, Oregon, and Utah. Eight of these architectural look-alikes were in Santa Barbara County. Except for Goleta Depot, all of these Santa Barbara County depots were razed by the railroad, most before 1980.

The exhibit features a detailed scale model of the Palmdale, Calif. depot crafted by **Orlyn Glover**. Built in 1895, the Palmdale stationhouse was one of the first Combination Depot No. 22s erected by the S.P.

Corporate sponsors for the event were **Investec Real Estate Companies; Kruger Bensen Ziemer Architects; L-3 Communications; Price, Postel & Parma; Santa Barbara Airbus; Santa Barbara Business College; and Wachovia**.

Joining Joan Hanna on the event committee were WSCG members **Lucille Aubrey, Judy Blue, Ilse Bourbeau, Joanne Cohen, Gwen Coxon, Judy Klinge, Shirley Lentz, Elaine McNamara, Sandy Mitchell, Eileen Pando, Beverly Pelton, Betty Watt, and Pat Weeks**.

Door prizes and gifts were donated by **Robin Cederlof, Chocolate Gallery, CompUSA, Nanci Elliott (Mary Kay consultant), Ensemble Theatre Company, McDonald's, Elaine McNamara ("Dazzling Animals"), Shear Artistry Salon and Spa (Susie Carrera), Spencer's Limousine & Tours, Starbuck's, Tile Encounters, and Trader Joe's**.

Services were donated by **Arndt Construction (Vinny Arndt), Cesna Piano Services, Carpeteria, Coldwater Creek, Grace Baptist Church, Al Reese, and Vons (Fairview Center)**.

Models stage a practice run minutes before luncheon guests begin to arrive.



Al Reese

Store Picking Up Steam For The Holidays

Among a long list of new items that have been added recently to the museum store are adult Daylight and Southern Pacific caps and tees; Thomas fruit snacks and Thomas berry bubble bath; and a variety of diecast and wooden Thomas-series characters and accessories, including a roundhouse set, assorted bridges, and track.

The store is sure to have the perfect gifts for those train fans on your holiday shopping list. All of your purchases benefit the museum, too! Major credit cards accepted. Be sure to bring your membership card to receive your 10% discount of all merchandise.

