

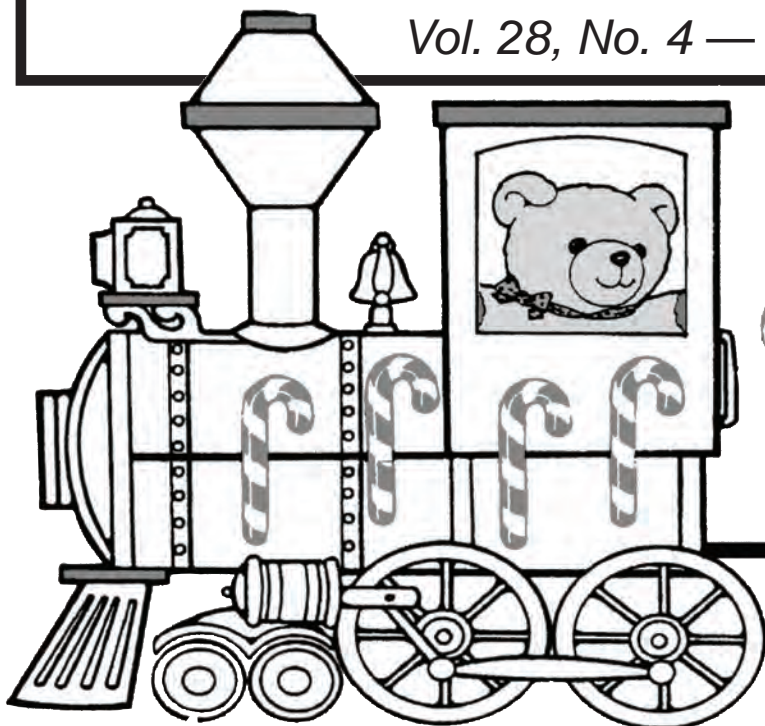


Goleta

DEPOT DISPATCH

Newsletter of the South Coast Railroad Museum

Vol. 28, No. 4 — Winter 2008-2009



Candy Cane Train

SOUTH COAST
RAILROAD
MUSEUM

The South Coast Railroad Museum's much-anticipated year-end event, the *Candy Cane Train*, pulls out of the station the day after Thanksgiving, on Friday, Nov. 28, to begin another holiday-season run. The *Candy Cane Train* continues daily through Dec. 24 (except on Dec. 1-2, 8-9, and 15-16, when the museum will be closed). During Christmas week, the museum will be open two extra days — Monday & Tuesday, Dec. 22-23 — so that the *Candy Cane Train* can make a few additional runs while local schools are out for their holiday breaks. The expanded *Candy Cane Train* schedule also means that train rides are available at the museum on Thursdays.

Holiday Party Set For Dec 11

The annual holiday party will be held Thurs., Dec. 11 in the museum's Visitor Center, starting at 7 p.m. Please join us for a members-only evening of good company, delicious food, and a chance to see two Visitor Center trains in nighttime operation, including the exciting new *Daylight* train.

All members, including our Jr. Engineers, may bring family, or a guest, to this free event. Please also bring a dessert or hors d'oeuvre to share with others. Beverages, cups, napkins, and plates will be provided.

The holiday party is a great way to meet and interact with other members, museum staff, and our volunteers. Hope to see you at this annual year-end get-together.

ORDER NEW "GOLETA DEPOT" BOOK ON DEC. 10

The museum will begin accepting online orders for the new edition of *Goleta Depot: The History Of A Rural Railroad Station* starting Wed., Dec. 10. See the Page 4 story, "ORDER DEPOT BOOK," for all of the details.

Visitors holding the festive *Candy Cane Train* souvenir tickets will receive a ride on the decorated train, with its distinctive red-and-white candy-striped passenger cars, and an assortment of holiday treats and favors, including, of course, a candy cane.

Event hours are 1 to 4 p.m., including weekdays, but please plan to arrive not later than 3:30, in order to enjoy all of the *Candy Cane Train* activities without having to rush. You'll also want to budget time to enjoy the traditional *Toy Trains & Teddy Bears* display in the Waiting Room, which also opens Nov. 28.

Candy Cane Train tickets, at \$3.50 each, will be sold at the museum during event hours. Additional rides may be purchased for \$1.50 each. Museum members receive their usual 25¢ off on every ticket purchased.

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

South Coast Railroad Museum Institute for American Research

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Welcome New Members

The Santa Barbara Elks Lodge No. 613 has become an Associate Life member of the museum. Marlene and Warren Miller have become Life members.

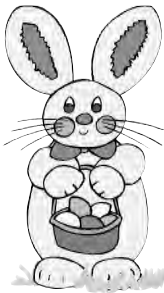
Joining the museum as new Sustaining members are Brett and Rhonda Kohler, Glory Anna South, and Damion Young. New Active members include The Holland Family; Angela, Charlie, and Max Kelly; and James Marchiando.

New members of the Junior Engineers Club are Ryan Kohler and Gavin Nunez.

A cheery welcome to all of our new and upgrading members.

17TH ANNUAL

Easter Bunny Express



Coming Saturday,
April 11, 2009

Is It On Your Calendar Yet?
Well, Get Hopping!

Daylight Train Is Running!

The second phase of the train display in the Visitor Center reached a successful conclusion on Oct. 22, when the train made its first successful trip along the new route, about 100-feet in length, around the room perimeter. It's been running for our visitors ever since.

The bulk of the work on the project was done by Ed Leska and John Green. John drew up the detailed plans for the new track and welded together all of the pieces that formed the decking that supports the track and train above the heads of Center visitors. Others who volunteered their time to make the Daylight train display a reality were Tony Ramirez, Bruce Morden, Noel Langle, and Marc Bradley.

This large-scale operating model of "The World's Most Beautiful Train," was also made possible by the donations of members and friends, many of whom donated cars and locomotives to the project and have been acknowledged in previous newsletter issues. More recently, donations have also been given by Allen Models, Inc.; Betty

(NEXT COLUMN)

Railroad Tradition Renewed With Depot Tree Display

The Goleta Depot tree will be lighted every night in December, creating a delightful Victorian scene that travelers along Los Carneros Road can enjoy as they travel past the museum grounds. We've trimmed back the trees and bushes between the street and building, so that it should be much easier to spot the tree and take in the lights this holiday season.

The decorated tree that occupies the historical landmark's second-floor window bay each year has special Yuletide significance. It preserves the custom, practiced over the years by countless rail-station agent families across America, of placing their Christmas tree so that its meaning could be shared with those 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.



Three diesel units power the Daylight train for another trip around the room perimeter. S.P. freight train can be seen in foreground, above. See full-color versions of this and other project images in the museum's online galleries: <http://rrmuseum.smugmug.com>

Bazzi; Theresa Caccese; Craig, Mae and Brandon Droese; Friedlander & Associates Insurance Services; Mike and Brenda Gartzke; Tom Harders; Terry and Jane Honikman; Harry and Elaine Iddings; Ruth Johnson; and Bill and Arlene Radasky.

* Join * Help * Serve *

There is a pressing need for more volunteers in all visitor-service areas at the museum, including volunteers to operate the miniature-train ride, clerks for the museum store, and "station agents," who share the historical landmark and model train exhibit with our guests.

The basic volunteer commitment is one afternoon (three hours) each month. Both weekend and weekday openings are available.

More Coast Starlight guides are also needed. Upon completion of training, guides are expected to complete an average of two train trips per month. For those wishing to participate as guides during 2009, the next training cycle begins in January. Please sign up now.

For more information, please contact the museum office (805-964-3540) any weekday afternoon.

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

Bradley Joins Museum Board

B. Marc Bradley is the most recent addition to the Board of Trustees. He was elected for a two-year term.

Marc Bradley became active as a museum volunteer in 2006, when he completed his training as a guide in the Trails & Rails program, in which the natural history, local sights, things-to-do, and the history of the region are shared with passengers aboard Amtrak's *Coast Starlight* trains. Today, Marc also volunteers regularly as a depot "agent," where he interacts with museum visitors about the history and architecture of the landmark building, as well as hosting the model-railroad exhibit. He also steps behind the counter in the Tracksides Shop from time to time, filling in when needed as a clerk and Visitor Center greeter.

Marc and his wife, **Lori Roper**, are both accomplished photographers. Over the past two years, Lori and Marc have each taken a number of photos at museum events, many of which can be viewed online in the museum's "Smug-Mug" image galleries. The address is (<http://rrmuseum.smugmug.com>).

Marc especially enjoys railroad photography. His lens has captured trains of all kinds throughout the U.S. and other countries. Some of his photos have been published in *Trains Illustrated* and *CTC Board* magazines. Another of Marc's railroad images was published in the Fall

2006 issue of the *Depot Dispatch*.

Recently, Marc prepared a display of HO-scale rolling stock in the Waiting Room, which can still be viewed during museum hours through Nov. 26. The display features locomotives and cars from Marc's extensive model-railroad collection, along with a model of the historic DeWitt Clinton that he gave to Lori as a gift years ago.

Marc welcomed the news of the museum's plans to add more track and a Daylight passenger train to the large-scale display in the Visitor Center. He donated one of the locomotives for the train, himself, and recruited several family members and friends to match his generosity with rolling-stock donations of their own. Half of the entire 10-car train was a result of Marc's efforts.

Bradley was born in Santa Maria and raised in Lompoc. Now retired, Marc was a Palm Springs and Santa Barbara broadcaster and an elections official in San Diego County.

He is a former board member with Goleta Valley Beautiful and is also a past-president of the Rancho Santee & Penasquitos Lions Clubs, both in San Diego County.

Marc takes pride in having served his country as a United States Marine.



Depot Day Report

The 26th annual *Depot Day*, held Sept. 28, owes much of its success to a long list of volunteers, who helped on the day, itself, and in the days before and after the event.

Barbecue cooks, servers and sales staff included **Sarah Frost, Joan Hanna, John Hutchinson, Ralph Kornahrens, Ken Pontifex, Ed Togami, Roger Wells, Claudia Worthen, and Damion Young.**

The silent auction tables were the responsibility of **Kari Adams, Charlene Doty, Diana and Nicholas Mina, and Edie Wells**, while **John Starr** shepherded the auction sales and receipts.

Volunteer crew members on the Goleta Short Line trains included **Devon Blunden, Ron Bruns, Jean-Guy Dube, Seth Olitzky, Wally Waldau and Paul Williams. Noel Langle and Bruce Morden** kept the handcar running for our *Depot Day* guests.

Admissions-table staffing was the domain of **Carla Cabanatuan, Susan Strobel, and Leilani Strobel. Arlene Radasky** shared the former station agent's 2nd-floor living quarters, while **Neil Baker and Bern Verbit** did the same in the model-railroad exhibit.

Station-agent duties, including sales of ride tickets, were covered by **Ed Leska and Bruce Morden. Judy Blue and Thea Cremers** took turns as clerk in the Tracksides Shop. The *Operation Lifesaver* booth was staffed by **Michael Littlejohn and Bill Moore.**

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 **Sarah Beal and Emilia Melody Dellemonico.**

A long list of other friends, businesses, and organizations generously donated or loaned equipment, supplies, and auction items to the 2008 *Depot Day* event.

Super Saturday Goes Long On Jan. 31

The museum will celebrate its first free-ride weekend day of 2009 on Jan. 31, when the 13th annual "*Super Saturday!*" will be held. Hours for the event, which is always set for the day before the Super Bowl football game, will be 1 to 4 p.m.

Those attending will be treated to unlimited free rides (The museum's 34-inch minimum-height safety requirement will be in effect) and will each receive one of the unique football-shaped *Super Saturday!* tickets as a memento of the event.

Super Saturday! would not be possible without the generosity of a long list of sponsoring businesses, organizations and members. The 2008 sponsors, many of whom will be helping again in 2009, were

Bartlett Tree Experts; Circle of Friends Children's Center; Dal Pozzo Tire Corp., Goleta; Friedlander & Associates Insurance Services; Michael J. Gartzke, CPA; Grace Baptist Church; Joan Hanna; Robert B. Locke, Esq.; Mission Wealth Management; Montessori Center School; Bruce and Andrea Morden; Dick and Wendy Shelton; and Peter Tiersma.

Volunteers Honored

On Oct. 18, the Board of Trustees hosted a volunteer-appreciation party at the museum. Attendees were treated to handcar and train rides, special VIP visits to the Waiting Room, Freight Office, Model-Railroad Exhibit, and Visitor Center, and a meal of barbecued tri-tip, hot dogs, delicious salads and desserts, and a lot more. Trustees **Claudia Worthen and John Hutchinson** organized the event.

ORDER DEPOT BOOK

You may reserve copies of the free full-color digital-book version of the new history of Goleta Depot starting at 8 a.m. on the morning of Wednesday, Dec. 10.

Each digital copy will be unique, with a special page bearing the book's number and personalized with the name of its owner. The book numbers will be assigned in sequence, with the earliest numbers assigned first.

To receive a low-numbered book, visit the museum's website and click on the red-colored "Order Depot Book" button at or shortly after the 8 a.m. Dec. 10 start time. Books may be reserved anytime after Dec. 10 as well.

When ordering, be sure to have your email address handy; it will be used to notify you when the book is ready. If you do not have a computer or email address, you may add your name to the reservation list by visiting the museum and signing up through the Information Station in the Visitor Center. A staff member or volunteer will be available there

to assist you.

You may reserve a free digital copy for yourself, as well as additional free copies for others, including as gifts for family members or friends.

You may also use the online ordering system to be notified when the printed version of the book is available.

Goleta Depot: The History Of A Rural Railroad Station was published in 1982. The new editions will pick up where the original left off, chronicling the reopening of the landmark building at Lake Los Carneros County Park as the new home for the Goleta Valley Chamber of Commerce, the Santa Barbara Audubon Society, the Institute for American Research, and a fledgling railroad museum. The expanded book will bring the depot story up to date, by adding the full museum period to the chronology. The book will also include a lot of new information and photographs from the period covered in the first book.



Trackside Shop Ready For Holiday Gift-Givers

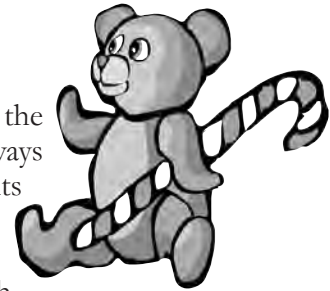
There have never been so many exciting, fun, and practical merchandise selections in the museum store as there are waiting now for our holiday-season shoppers. These include 2009 calendars; a new selection of children's Tees; some great train-theme puzzles and games; stunning railroad-art posters; adult long-sleeve denim shirts; and S.P.-logo jackets.

Just in are several new-release DVDs from Pentrex, including one featuring all of today's many *San Francisco Bay Area Rails* and another on a historic 2008 LA-to-San Diego run of Santa Fe 4-8-4 steam locomotive No. 3751, containing lots of eye-popping aerial footage.

The Tracksider Shop is sure to have the perfect gifts for those young and old train enthusiasts and history buffs on your holiday shopping list. Free parking, too!

All of your purchases benefit the museum and we accept both major credit cards. Be sure to bring your valid membership card to receive your 10% discount of all merchandise.

For the best in convenient holiday shopping, remember to: *Go Tracksider!*



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Holiday Display Shares Personal Keepsakes

Each year, as is our custom, we prepare at the museum in the Waiting Room display case a fanciful holiday exhibition, always titled "Toy Trains and Teddy Bears!" in which the museum, its members, volunteers, and staff share keepsake stuffed animals, and toy and model trains — all on loan from our various personal collections — with our visiting guests and with one another. We hope that you, too, will have the chance to enjoy this holiday-season gift from us to you. It begins Nov. 28, continuing through New Year's Eve.

Large Group Enjoys China Rail Program

International railway traveler **Rich Thom** mixed live commentary with both video footage and still images, to share highlights of a journey aboard the trains of China's Qinghai-Tibet Railway taken recently by Thom and his wife, **Linda**. The standing-room-only crowd of 75, including members as well as many from the general public, was the largest ever in the long history of the railroad museum's Continuing Lecture Series. The free, museum-sponsored program was held Nov. 10 at Goleta Public Library.

