



Newsletter of the South Coast Railroad Museum

Vol. 33, No. 4 — Winter 2013-2014

“Candy Cane Train” Arrives Nov. 29

The *Candy Cane Train* has long ranked as one of the South Coast Railroad Museum’s most beloved family events. It hasn’t changed much over the years, as the photo below, taken back in 2004, will attest. That’s Engineer **Wally Waldau** at the controls, driving the festively outfitted train, complete with candy-cane striping, a miniature decorated tree, cars filled with passengers, and “Rudolph The Red-Nosed Train-Deer” up front helping to guide the way.

Notice the young rider with his arm outstretched. He is pointing to one of the ornaments that he’s spotted along the train route, another popular pastime for those who take part in this annual South Coast holiday tradition.

The *Candy Cane Train* has been delighting local families, as well as visitors to the area, since 1993. The long-anti-

cipated year-end event will begin another holiday-season tour on Friday, Nov. 29, the day after Thanksgiving.

The event will continue daily until Christmas, except for Dec. 2-4, 9-11, and 16-18, when the museum will be closed. The museum will also be open on Dec. 23-24 — when many local children are at home on holiday break.

With your oversized red and green *Candy Cane Train* souvenir tickets, you will be able to enjoy a number of fun and festive activities, including a ride aboard the decorated train and an assortment of holiday treats and favors, including, of course, a delicious cherry-flavored candy cane.

Event hours are 1 to 4 p.m. on weekends and 2 to 4 on weekdays, but please plan to arrive before 3:30 to allow yourself time to leisurely enjoy all of the

Candy Cane Train activities. (Each day of the event, the last train will leave the station promptly at 3:45) Please allow some time also to enjoy the traditional *Toy Trains & Teddy Bears* display (see page 2 story) in Goleta Depot’s Waiting Room, which also opens Nov. 29.

Candy Cane Train tickets are \$4 each and can be purchased at the museum during event hours. You may also buy your tickets in advance, through the museum’s online store, which will earn you a free second train ride with each ticket purchased (a savings of \$1.50 on each ticket).

Go to: store.goletadepot.org to make your advance-ticket purchase.

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



South Coast Railroad Museum Institute for American Research

Board of Trustees

Ralph Kornahrens
Noel Langle
Bruce Morden

Officers — 2013

Bruce Morden, *President*
Noel Langle, *Secretary & Treasurer*

Staff

Gary B. Coombs, *Ph.D., Director*
Phyllis J. Olsen, *Asst. Director*

Fairview Car Wash Will Sponsor Free Ride Fridays Again In 2014

We are pleased to report that there will be free train rides every Friday for museum visitors in 2014. **Fairview Car Wash** has renewed its sponsorship of what has become the museum's most popular weekly activity. Our good friends at Fairview Car Wash have been supporting free-ride days at the museum since 2001.

Free-Ride Saturday On Nov. 16

The last weekend day of free train rides at the museum this year will be Nov. 16. The afternoon of free rides is made possible by **Fairview Car Wash**. There will also be free handcar rides that day, thanks to the support of **Noel and Peggy Langle**.

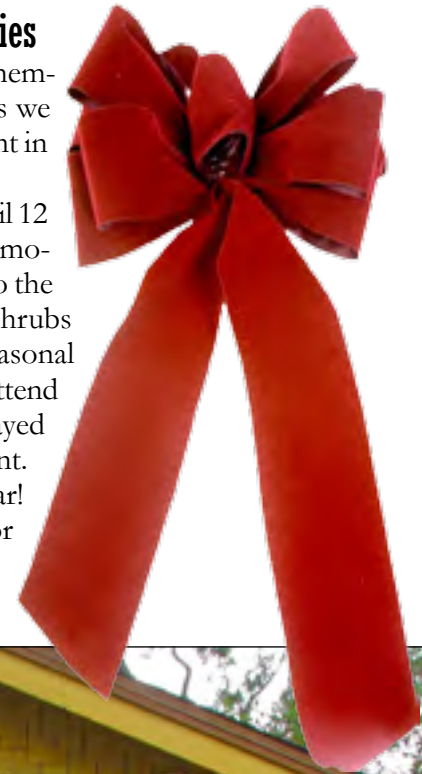
In the interest of passenger safety, all riders must meet the museum's minimum-height requirements: 34 inches for the train and 48 inches for the handcar.

Please Join In Holiday Decorating Activities

You are cordially invited to join fellow museum members, volunteers and staff on Saturday, Nov. 16, as we decorate the grounds and miniature-train equipment in preparation for another busy holiday season.

Our decorating session will run from 10 a.m. until 12 noon, during which we will be decorating the locomotives, applying the distinctive candy-cane striping to the passenger cars, placing ornaments in the trees and shrubs around the train-ride route, and adding other seasonal touches to the property. It's always extra special to attend the *Candy Cane Train* knowing that your family played a part in readying the museum for this annual event.

We hope you'll be able to lend a hand this year! Why not bring along a picnic lunch, then join us for free train and handcar rides starting at 1 p.m.



22ND ANNUAL

Easter Bunny Express



**Coming Saturday,
April 19, 2014**

Mark Your Calendar Today!

Holiday Display Is Sure To Delight

Don't miss the "Toy Trains and Teddy Bears!" display when you come to the museum during the holidays. This annual Waiting Room treat includes stuffed animals, toy trains and models – borrowed from the collections of the museum, members, volunteers, and staff.

The holiday exhibition schedule coincides with the *Candy Cane Train*: opening on Nov. 29 and continuing through Dec. 24 for all days that the museum is open.

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

Be Sure To Score On Super Saturday On Feb. 1!



The first day of February will also be the first weekend day of free miniature-train rides at the museum for 2014. That will be the day we hold the 19th annual “*Super Saturday!*” event. The free rides will start at 1 p.m., running continuously until 3:45. Two trains will run simultaneously on two separate tracks, giving passengers plenty of opportunities to change trains midway at the Westside Station.

Adults and children may ride as much as they like on *Super Saturday!* (Our usual 34-inch minimum-height safety requirement will apply.). All riders will receive the event’s jumbo-sized football-shaped tickets as a souvenir.

Super Saturday! is made possible by a long list of generous sponsoring businesses, organizations, and members. Many of these sponsors return year-after-year to support this popular event. Here’s a look back at this year’s contributors: * **Grace Baptist Church** * **Michael J. Gartzke, CPA** * **Claudia Worthen** * **Noel & Peggy Langle** * **Bruce & Andrea Morden** * **Dick & Wendy Shelton** * **Peter Tiersma & Thea Cremers** * **Robert B. Locke, Esq.** * **Joan Hanna** * **John Hutchinson Family** * **Ralph & Vicki Kornahrens** * **Dal Pozzo Tire Corp., Goleta** * **Roger & Edie Wells** *

Museum Upholds A RR Tradition

When you come to the museum during the holidays, or drive by at night, be sure to watch for the decorated tree in the second-floor window bay.

With the Goleta Depot tree, we continue a custom that was long practiced by many station-agent families across the U.S., of prominently placing a Christmas tree where it could be shared with passengers and crews on passing trains.

The depot tree’s decorations include small, white “Remembrance Stars,” each placed in memory of a departed museum friend.

Volunteers Make Museum’s August & September Events Happen

Goleta Railroad Days and *Depot Day* are two museum events that owe their existence largely to the hard work of many dedicated volunteers. This has always been so with *Depot Day*. This year’s Sept. 29 event was no exception.

The *Depot Day* admissions table was staffed by **Ed Leska, Stuart McDaniel, Nancy Revlin, and Edie Wells**. The food booth was organized by **Judy Connors**, whose helpers included **Angelica Garcia, Aidan Haggerty and Claudia Worthen**.

It took seven engineers and conductors, working in two shifts, plus mid-day relief, to keep two trains running. These included **Bruce Morden, Rick Reeves, Noel Langle, Ryan Bates, Roger Wells, Kim Nguyen, and Luis Nava**. Bruce and Noel also took turns giving rides on the handcar.

Bob Mahan ran his Fairmont inspection car throughout the day, sharing the mainline in 30-minute shifts with the handcar ride. **Andrew Garcia** and **Alex Garcia** operated the switches for the miniature trains, as well as for the handcar and speeder.

The upstairs agent’s apartment was shared during the early shift by **Arlene Radasky**, while **Angelica Garcia** stepped away from her food-booth duties to keep these four rooms open to visitors during the second shift.

Returning for another year to staff the silent auction tables were **Kari Adams, Diana Mina, and Pam Holt**. Other auction staffers, posted in Goleta Depot’s Freight Office, included **Samantha Baldwin** and, from **Rabobank’s** Calle Real branch, **Vanessa Gonzales** and **Collin Leslie**.

Also staffing throughout the day were **Raphaella Banholzer**, in the Trackside Shop, and **Bern Verbit**, as depot agent.

Many of these volunteers also helped in running errands, as well as with event setup and cleanup activities, which covered a number of days. Also helping with event setup and cleanup were **Ben Adams, Harold Adams, and Ralph Kornahrens**.

A long list of friends, businesses,

and organizations generously donated or loaned equipment, supplies, and dozens of auction items. Advertising support was provided by **Venoco, Inc.**, and **ParentClick.com**.

The Aug. 17-18 *Goleta Railroad Days* event was simpler this year, focusing primarily on the “Unclaimed Freight & Baggage Sale,” with plenty of rides in close support. Plenty of volunteers, too, were needed to make it all happen. They included **Lucille Aubrey, Ryan Bates, Henry Bender, Judy Blue, Ilse Bourbeau, Ron Bruns, Sue Bruns, Joanne Cohen, Judy Connors, Gwen Coxon, Thea Cremers, Mary Lou Eckert, Butch Eckert, Barbara Eggemeyer;**

Also, **Jim Felland, Kathy Hal-loran, Joan Hanna, Marilyn Hocker, Nancy Johnke, Bill Klope, Ralph Kornahrens, Noel Langle, Ione Lari-nan, Bob Lyon, Elaine McNamara;**

And, **Bruce Morden, Doug Okun, Eileen Pando, Dorine Paullin, Beverly Pelton; Ken Pierskalla, Elizabeth Ruhge, Patty Schock, Dick Shelton, Ann Skowbo, Thersa Thornsberry, Kenzie Togami, Edwin Togami, Betty Watt, Edie Wells, Roger Wells, Claudia Worthen and John Wright.**

A special *Railroad Days* thank you is extended to the **Woman’s Service Club Of Goleta** for their assistance in supplying volunteers, to the **Santa Barbara Humane Society**, for helping to keep all of those volunteers protected from the sun’s harmful rays, to **Venoco, Inc.** and **ParentClick.com** for their promotional support, and to the **Bank of Montecito** and **The Towbes Group** for sponsoring free train rides throughout the event.

Remember The Museum!

Please include the South Coast Railroad Museum and Goleta Depot among your end-of-year gift recipients. Financial support from generous members and friends represents nearly one half of the money that the museum needs to keep going for another year. Your help is critical!

Please give what you can. Thank you.

“Sweetheart Special” Day Trip Is The Perfect Gift For Your Valentine

This year’s reprise of the *Sweetheart Special*, a museum fundraiser dating back to the 1980s, was so popular that we’ve decided to expand the event for 2014.

This time, we will be running the Valentines-themed trip on two consecutive weekend days, Feb. 15 and 16. You’ll also have your choice of two cars: *Silver Splendor*, which served as the 2013 *Sweetheart Special* conveyance, and *Acoma*, the original 1937 stream-



lined *Santa Fe Super Chief* club-lounge.

Sweetheart Special passengers will also receive a delicious gourmet boxed lunch, spectacular views along our magnificent coastline, souvenir tickets, sweet treats to mark the occasion, and more.

All *Sweetheart Special* proceeds benefit the museum.

For more information, please refer to the **Reservations & Information** sidebar at right.

Dec. 28 Rail Trip Will Feature Far Western Tavern Lunch

Looking for a quick & easy holiday getaway? Look no further than the *Central Coast Flyer* daytrip excursion on Sat., Dec. 28.

Boxed lunches from the landmark **Far Western Tavern** will be featured on this special trip. Reminiscent of the half-century during which the Far Western called Guadalupe its home, the lunches will be delivered fresh for our passengers by tavern staff when the train makes its stop at the Guadalupe Amtrak station.

There are four tasty luncheon selections from which to choose, all based on the Far Western Tavern’s unique blend of contemporary California ranch cuisine, inspired by the local Santa Maria-style barbecue tradition.

You’ll also have your choice of riding in either the Vista Dome car, *Silver Splendor*, or the 1949 club-lounge, *Overland Trail*.

Rail fare for the Dec. 28 trip starts at only \$79 (\$89 for *Silver Splendor*). The Far Western Tavern lunch is an additional \$14.50, plus sales tax. Passengers may elect, instead, to bring their own food along on the trip.

For more, see the **Reservations & Information** sidebar at the top-right.



Overland Trail is the flagship of the Central Coast Flyer fleet of vintage railcars.



Acoma was part of the original 1937 streamlined Super Chief trainset



Views from Silver Splendor’s dome are unmatched.

Reservations & Information

Go online to goletadepot.org/ccf now to make reservations for any of the museum’s vintage-rail excursions. You will also receive an online-purchase discount there. The online store accepts Mastercard, Visa, Discover, PayPal, and checks by mail. Detailed information about each trip and railcar will also be found online.

Or, if you’d prefer a personal touch, call Terry, our reservation specialist, at 805/680-0397 (9 a.m. to 7 p.m., please).

Boarding Information: Passengers for all Central Coast Flyer vintage-rail excursions may board in either Santa Barbara or Goleta. All trips depart the South Coast at about 10:30 a.m., arriving in San Luis Obispo for a brief stopover at about 1 p.m. Return trips arrive back in Santa Barbara & Goleta at about 4:30 p.m.

‘Tis The Season For Holiday Shopping At The Museum

The museum’s *Trackside Shop* is just the place to find the perfect gifts for some of those on your holiday shopping list. We have new “Holiday 2013” gifts from Lionel, including the Lionel Engineer Bear, the Lionel Lines conductor door greeter, Lionel hats, ornaments, and more.

The Rocky Mountain Bump-and-Go Locomotive is now available in both large and small sizes. There are also new Ande Rooney signs – embossed, diecut and in traditional porcelain.

The store has a wide variety of shirts, mugs, pins, patches, and magnets – representing all of your favorite railroads – plus books, posters, games, videos, and a lot more.

Please consider making a donation of a selection of our many used books, videos, and magazines for your favorite care center, nursing home, or children’s pre-school group.

Members with valid membership card receive a 10% discount on all purchases. All sales proceeds go to support the museum.

Store hours are 11 to 4 p.m. on weekends, 1 to 4 on Thursday & Friday. We accept Visa and Mastercard.

Call us at 805/964-3540.

Happy Holidays
Phyllis Olsen

**FAR WESTERN
T*AV*E*R*N**