



# Goleta DEPOT DISPATCH

Newsletter of the South Coast Railroad Museum

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## Goleta Railroad Days, July 25-26

*Goleta Railroad Days* will be held over the weekend of July 25-26. We are proud to announce that this year's event has been chosen by Amtrak as a community venue for its nationwide "Train Days" celebration. Admission to this year's event is free and open to the public.

New to *Railroad Days* this year will be a special kickoff activity – a Saturday morning roundtrip "Amtrak Sampler" rail trip from Goleta to Carpinteria, running from about 9:15 to 10:30. (see story on page 2, column 2 for more information) Activities at the museum will begin both Saturday and Sunday at 11 a.m. and continue to 4 p.m.

Railroad Days will also feature rides on three other rail vehicles: miniature

*Handcar ride is always an event favorite.*



train, handcar and speeder. Two miniature trains, pulled by museum locomotives *No. 1316* and *No. 2655*, will operate continuously on two separate routes — the 1/3-mile-long "Centennial Loop" and the 1/6-mile "Westside Figure-8." There will be rides on the museum handcar, too, with the pump-car sharing the mainline track with **Bob Mahan** and his Fairmont inspection car.

Ride as much as you like on all four rides for only \$4. For the safety of our event guests, the museum's usual minimum-height requirements will be in effect: 34 inches for the train ride and speeder; 48 inches for the handcar.

There will also be lots of model trains in operation during *Railroad Days*, thanks to the participation of the **South Coast Society of Model Engineers**. An "Unclaimed Freight & Baggage Sale" will feature lots of railroad books, memorabilia, and model-railroad equipment and supplies.

Also returning to *Railroad Days* will be the popular "scavenger hunt," which first appeared during the 2011 event. There will be prizes for everyone who suc-



cessfully collects a sticker from all of the event venues included in the hunt.

The "Club Car" will be offering hot sandwiches, snacks, and non-alcoholic beverages at reasonable prices throughout the event.

Join us for *Goleta Railroad Days* over the July 25-26 weekend. It should be a lot of fun for one and all.

*Model trains mean hands-on opportunities.*



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## Race Was Great In Many Ways

The *Great Goleta Rail Race* held May 16 was an unqualified success. The museum gave 338 free rides on the day, including 178 on the train and 160 on the handcar. Nearly \$14,000 was raised for museum programs – an event record.

In the race competition, the miniature-train was the clear winner this year. The train logged 56.7 rider-miles, nearly tripling the handcar total of 19.2 rider-miles.

The souvenir tickets that were introduced especially for the *Great Race* were a big hit. The same can be said for the public portion of the competition, with prizes for those visitors who logged the most rides on the two conveyances.

The prize winners were brothers **Carlos and Liam Rodriguez** from Ventura. Eight-year-old Carlos was the top handcar rider, with 27 rides to his credit. Too young for the handcar, three-year-old Liam made a winning seven trips on miniature train. For their achievements, each boy has received a free pass good for unlimited train rides during June, July and August. A museum membership has also been awarded to the Rodriguez family.

Because of the popularity of the special tickets and prizes, we will be doing the same for *Rotary Day* on Sunday, June 21, when there will again be free train and handcar rides.

## Ventura County Fair Daytrip Among New Museum Rail Adventures

The museum calendar is again overflowing with rail adventures, including both one-day vintage-rail excursions and economical trips aboard Amtrak's *Pacific Surfliner* trains.

There are still some seats available for the Sat., June 20 daytrip to San Luis Obispo aboard the historic rail car, *Pacific Trail*. Seats on the companion car, *Overland Trail*, are sold out. Tickets are \$69 for adults, \$49 for children, and may be purchased through the museum's online store, where more information is also available. Scan the QR code on the right into your smart phone or go to [goletadepot.org/ride](http://goletadepot.org/ride)

The museum's next vintage-rail daytrip will be Sept. 19. It will feature a "Vintage Rail Sampler" package where passengers will be able to ride in two historic rail cars, both *Overland Trail* and *Pacific Trail*.

The museum is organizing a rail trip to the **Ventura County Fair** for Wed., Aug. 5. Tickets are \$25 (only \$19.50 for ages 2-17) and this includes admission to the Fair! Put [goletadepot.org/ride](http://goletadepot.org/ride) in your browser for details or to make your ticket purchase.

The museum is hosting an "Amtrak Sampler" morning roundtrip from Goleta to Carpinteria on Sat., July 25, as part of the *Goleta Railroad Days* celebration that weekend. This special excursion is designed especially for families with young children or anyone interested getting a low-cost taste of rail travel aboard modern Amtrak equipment. The cost is only \$12 (\$9.50 for ages 2-17). Visit



the online store for details and tickets.

The museum's April 18 trip to Pismo Beach/Grover Beach was very well received, so we are organizing another trip to the same destination for Sat., Aug. 29. We've even lowered the prices a bit: only \$39.50 for adults, \$29.50 for ages 2-17.

We want everyone to be able to take part in the museum's rail trips, so we've set the fares for all the *Pacific Surfliner* trips lower than Amtrak charges the public for the same trip.

Each of the *Surfliner* trips also will have aboard two guides from the museum's *Trails & Rails* program, who will talk with group members and other passengers about the train, wildlife, local history, and points-of-interest along the route of travel.



## COMING EVENTS

Vintage-rail excursion, June 20  
*Rotary Day* free rides, June 21  
*Amtrak Sampler* rail trip, July 25  
*Goleta Railroad Days*, July 25-26  
*Ventura County Fair* by rail, Aug. 5.  
Pismo/Grover Beach trip, Aug 29  
Vintage-rail excursion, Sept. 19  
*Depot Day*, Sept. 27  
*Candy Cane Train*, Nov. 27-Dec. 30

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