



THE DEPOT TELEGRAPH

July 2016

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www.kingsburgdepot.org

Dear Friends of the Kingsburg Depot,

Thanks for your membership! You are the reason the Depot is now restored, furnished, and educating kids about the history of our incredible San Joaquin Valley. The story of the Valley is one of immigrant dreams, rail transportation, irrigation, and innovative agriculture. The Railroad played a large role in opening the Valley to settlement, bringing people of many ethnic backgrounds into the area, and carrying agricultural products to market. Your membership matters - the size of our membership is one of the first things potential donors check when deciding to support our educational programs. Your membership is a gauge of community support, and it makes all the difference. Please encourage your family and friends to become members. Membership forms are available on the Depot website at www.kingsburgdepot.org or by calling 559-341-1978.

DEPOT GRAND OPENING, SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 24

The Depot grand opening event is just 11 weeks away! Many things are now happening to make the Depot grand opening a memorable event. Following a theme of "Americana", a full schedule of events will be included in the August edition. Here's a preview of the two musical groups performing at the grand opening:



At 2pm the **Valley Oak Band** takes the stage to perform their delightful bluegrass style of music. This group hails from our nearby Sierra Nevada foothills. The Band is a talented pairing of family and friends, Jack and Kent Kinney with Charlotte Allen. They play often around the Fresno/Clovis area and are a very popular group. Come out and see the next generation of bluegrass musicians in action!



At 6pm, after the conclusion of the grand opening ceremony, the **After Dinner Mints** take the stage. Don't miss it! The musicians in this group are some of the finest in California, and the band has gained quite a following playing at venues around the Valley. Most members are music educators in schools and colleges in the Fresno/Clovis area. They include: Mike Dana – Guitar, Dale Engstrom – Trumpet, Brian Hamada –

Drums, John Laufenburger – Bass, Les Nunes – Trombone, Mark Ribera – Saxophone, and Craig VonBerg – Keyboards. Renowned throughout the Valley for their eclectic style, their repertoire includes jazzy favorites from the Swing Era, novelty songs from the 1940s, the pre-rock jump blues of Louis Prima, fiery Latin dance tunes, soulful Ray Charles covers, odd songs about food, and a few numbers from the 1960s! Add in some odd costume choices and slightly inappropriate props, and voila: the **After Dinner Mints!**

CENTRAL VALLEY HOME SCHOOL GRADUATION

The Central Valley Home School held their 2016 graduation ceremony in the Depot Freight House. Besides this year's honored graduates, about 75 family and friends attended. Friends of the Historic Kingsburg Depot was happy to support the Central Valley Home School by hosting this event, as it is in keeping with our support of all Valley schools – education is our focus.



APARTMENT RESTORATION

Restoration of the second-story 5-room Depot apartment continues with participation by our dedicated volunteers. 1920's light fixtures were recently cleaned up and made ready for re-installation. The 1920's kitchen stove is ready to install, and the 1920's refrigerator will soon be taken to Paso Robles for a complete overhaul. The apartment was home to Station Agents and their families for more than 90 years.

CALIFORNIA STREET RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT

Reconstruction of California Street has begun in front of the Depot. This is a major City project that will add much to the beauty of the Depot area. Events at the Depot will be limited during the street project to avoid interference with the construction going on outside.

RE-ENACTORS NEEDED – Thirty re-enactors will be needed to cover 10 roles at the Depot in the fall of 2016. This will allow staggered scheduling of re-enactors so participation will not create a burden on anyone. It's a lot of fun to dress up and play a role, and it's satisfying to see the kids learning through the process. Some roles take as little as 10 minutes to play. If you are interested in serving as a re-enactor, please contact Shirley Esau, sjesau@comcast.net or 559-859-4441.

CALENDAR

July 11, Monday	No board meeting in July
August 8, Monday	August board meeting 5:30pm in the Freight House
September 24, Saturday	KINGSBURG DEPOT GRAND OPENING

CONTACT

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