



# THE DEPOT TELEGRAPH

November 2016

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[www.kingsburgdepot.org](http://www.kingsburgdepot.org)



Winter weather is just around the corner, nights are growing cooler, and planning for the holidays is underway at the Historic Kingsburg Depot. Along with lighting outside and decorations throughout the building, a big Christmas tree will light up the Waiting Room. There will be school and private tours of the Depot, private parties in the Freight House throughout the season, and several public events including showings of the movie Polar Express. The Depot is also open during normal business hours 8am-Noon on Wednesdays.

These public holiday festivities begin Thanksgiving week:

**Friday, November 25<sup>th</sup>:  
Julgranfest**

5pm-9pm, Depot open for tours before and after tree lighting ceremony on Draper Street.

**Saturday, November 26<sup>th</sup>:**

4pm, Polar Express movie showing in the Freight House. Free tickets available at Depot office Wednesdays 8am-Noon. Must have ticket to enter. Event sponsored by Kingsburg Insurance.

7pm, Polar Express movie showing in the Freight House. Free tickets available at Depot office Wednesdays 8am-Noon. Must have ticket to enter. Event sponsored by Kingsburg Insurance.

**Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>:  
Santa Lucia Day**

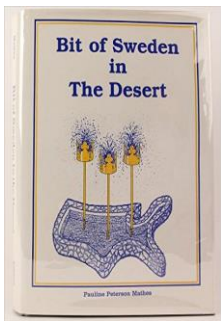
10am, (Santa Lucia Day) - Model train layouts operating in the Waiting Room, Loading Area, and Freight House.

6:30pm, New Horizons Band performing on the Patio after Santa Lucia Parade. Coffee, hot chocolate, cookies.

**RE-ENACTORS NEEDED**

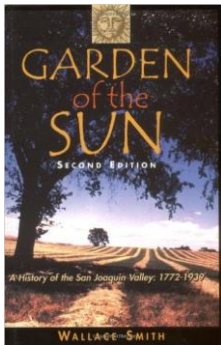
We need you! Yes, you! There are currently 13 costumed reenactors participating on a rotating basis in school and other tour programs at the Depot, but more are needed. Reenactors play historic roles, and some roles take only 10 minutes to play. During school tours up to 9 reenactors are active throughout the Depot. During private tours 3 or 4 reenactors may be active. Scheduling is flexible, and costumes are available. Those participating say it's a lot of fun to dress up and play a role, and very satisfying to see kids and adults learning about San Joaquin Valley history through the process. If interested, call Shirley at 559-859-4441 or email [sjesau@gmail.com](mailto:sjesau@gmail.com).

## **BIT OF SWEDEN IN THE DESERT**



Friends of the Historic Kingsburg Depot recently applied for and received legal permission to reproduce and distribute Chapter 2 of the book **Bit of Sweden in the Desert** by author Pauline Peterson Mathes. Chapter 2 entitled “The Railroad’s Influence” is a concise history of the railroad’s construction and operation in the Kingsburg area. The text will be included in curriculum materials used by students participating in the Leon S. Peters Education Center program. This book is available from several online sources including Amazon.

## **GARDEN OF THE SUN**



While we’re on the subject of great books - **Garden of the Sun - A History off the San Joaquin Valley, 1772-1939** by author Wallace Smith should be of interest to every Valley resident, and makes great winter reading. You will never look at the Valley the same way after reading this book! The first edition was published in 1939. This second edition was edited and revised by William B. Secrest Jr. and published in 2004. Wallace Smith grew up in Kingsburg and became a celebrated professor of history at California State University Fresno. His book is widely acknowledged to be the definitive history of the San Joaquin Valley. It is available at the CSUF bookstore and online sources.

## **CALENDAR**

November 14, Monday    November board meeting 5:30pm, Freight House.

November 25, Friday    Depot open 5pm-9pm, Julgranfest.

November 26, Saturday    Depot open 4pm and 7pm, Polar Express movie, Freight House.

December 3, Saturday    Depot open 10am, Santa Lucia Day model trains.

December 12, Monday    December board meeting 5:30pm, Freight House.

January 9, Monday    Annual meeting, 5:30pm, Freight House.

## **CONTACT**

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