



# The American Freedom Train

Presented by: Barry Howard & Colleagues

**Tuesday & Wednesday, Consecutive Dates**  
**October 31 & November 1, 2017**

**1:00 pm - 3:30 pm**

**Grace Gathering**  
**400 Puente Drive, Santa Barbara**

For twenty-one months, from April 1, 1975 to December 31, 1976, the red, white, and blue American Freedom Train crossed and re-crossed the forty-eight contiguous states bringing the US Bicentennial celebration to millions of Americans at cities large and small, including Santa Barbara in the last few days of 1975. More than forty-five million visitors greeted the train during its epic journey, with more than seven million experiencing the on-board, artifact-rich, multi-media presentation.

It is fair to say that the huge steam-powered locomotive, the ten-car immersive exhibition, and the variety of dynamic community programs at each of the host sites was the catalyst for a resurgence of patriotism at a time when the national psyche was deeply divided.

It is our intention to share with our VISTAS audience the amazing story of the AFT, from conception to realization and operation. Our presentation over two successive sessions will unfold through words and images narrated by Ross Rowland of Sackets Harbor, NY, the visionary Founder of the American Freedom Train Foundation; Barry Howard, Project Designer; and Stephen Bush, who joined the on-board Train crew in Santa Barbara, serving in a number of capacities including Assistant Curator.

The program will conclude with a Q&A panel discussion moderated by Todd Schannuth, the Train's visual archivist.



**Deadline for registration: October 24<sup>th</sup>**

**Enrollment Form: Freedom Train - Oct 31 & Nov 1, 2017**

**VISTAS Members \$25 - Nonmembers \$37.50**

Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Check# \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail registration form to:

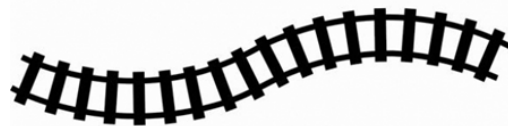
VISTAS Lifelong Learning, Inc., P.O. Box 23228, Santa Barbara, CA 93121-3228

**Or you may go to our website and pay by secure credit card through PayPal**

<http://www.vistaslifelonglearning.org/upcoming.html>

Please check here if you would like to volunteer to help with refreshments \_\_\_\_\_

**Biography:** *Barry Howard*, President & Creative Director of Barry Howard Limited, was born, raised, and educated in Brooklyn NY, receiving a B.A. in Design from Brooklyn College. After a stint in the scenic design department of the Columbia Broadcasting System and a decade of commercial exhibition design work in the NY area, he formed one of the world's first creative offices devoted entirely to the planning and design of Cultural Attractions. Over the ensuing fifty years, he applied his diverse combination of creative skills and an unbridled passion for cultural and social history to myriad museum design commissions in this country and abroad. Among his most notable projects, in addition to the American Freedom Train, are the California State Railroad Museum in Sacramento, California; the Powerhouse Museum in Sydney, Australia; the National Automobile Museum in Reno, Nevada; Steamtown National Historic Site in Scranton, Pennsylvania; the Mississippi River Museum in Memphis, Tennessee; the Journey Museum in Rapid City, South Dakota; the Indian Arts Museum in Grand Teton National Park; and Visitor/Interpretive Centers at Hoover Dam, Mount St. Helens, and Niagara Falls, New York. Switching coasts from east to west in 1985, he lived in Malibu and Marina Del Rey for twenty-seven years.



## VISTAS Calendar

Seminar/Event	Inclusive Dates	Time	Venue
Annual Picnic	Sunday, September 10	12:30 pm	Tuckers Grove
Documentary Film Club	3rd Thurs Monthly	2:00 pm	Maravilla Theater
Nonfiction Book Club	2nd Thurs Monthly	1:30 pm	Vista del Monte-Sierra Madre
The British Raj	Mon, Sept 18, 25, Oct 2 & 9	9:30 am	Grace Gathering
Art Presentations	Thurs, Sept 21, 28, & Oct 5	9:30 am	Valle Verde - Social Room
The Changing Arctic	Tues, Oct 17 & 24	9:30 am	Goleta Library
Mental Illness	Wed, Oct 18 & 25	9:30 am	Valle Verde - Social Room
Freedom Train	Tues, Oct 31 & Wed, Nov 1	1:00 pm	Grace Gathering
Socialism in the US	Tues, Nov 7, 14, 21	9:30 am	Grace Gathering
Wine in Culture	Mon, Nov 13, 20, 27	9:30 am	Valle Verde - Social Room
Climate Change Denial	Wed, Nov 29 & Dec 6	9:30 am	Museum of Natural History
Hamilton	Mon, Dec 4, 11, 18	9:30 am	TBA - Limited to 10