

SWANTON PACIFIC RAILROAD SOCIETY

Number 101

Cal Poly

October 2001

ON TRACK

with your Director
Ed Carnegie:

Seems like we just did a newsletter and here it is time to do another one—but as always, we, as a volunteer organization have done so much. There is lots to report on and bring everyone up to date. The last week in August, several of us worked on various projects and/or on one, or all four of the cabooses. Fitz finished cleaning out the second caboose, while I continued to work on the cabinets in the first caboose. Off and on, Marty and I worked on putting the decals on each of the cabooses. They really give them that finishing touch, as well as ending their blankness. Their identity has now been re-established. In between the decal placement, Marty worked on cleaning out the flues of the 1912.

Other volunteers, Randy, and Jim Scott, worked on the brakes and brake lines, as well as replacing the hand brake on the 502. Edski and Bill Engleman also did repair work on the 502 to bring it up to snuff. Dennis, Richard, and Andy continued to do clean up around the track, picked up all old rails and cleaned up an erosion spot down the track. Dick Toulson painted some more on the cabooses, and buried the wires of the PA system so that they won't be exposed for people to trip on. Eric and Molly were putting some mileage on the lawn mower and trailer hauling loads of debris to designated locations for removal off the grounds. And Martha, with some help from Vera, groomed the grounds by fighting the continual "battle-of-the-weeds." We would like to say the weeds are loosing, and from the looks of the gardens, I would agree. Our grounds are really looking great. Everyone that visits always compliments the grounds, so the efforts of everyone that works in the gardens, it is appreciated by all.

The last work weekend in August brought us a special visitor—Vince Cipolla. Us old-timers, so to speak, that know Vince were glad to see him return to Swanton. For our newer members, that may not know Vince—first he was a friend of Al Smith's. Second, he was instrumental in getting Swanton's operational steam locomotive engineer program organized and going, as well as to see that all safety rules and regulations are

followed. Vince said it had been five years since his last visit to Swanton and was amazed at all the positive changes that have occurred. Hopefully he won't wait so long for his next visit.

On Sunday, Aug. 26, work pretty much continued on all of the projects mentioned above. Bill McNab and Pete McFall joined the forces that day to help out on the track, as well as provide water to the trees. Mary Ann finished sealing all the stationary picnic tables. Dennis, Richard and Fitz worked on organizing the parts for 1913 in the roundhouse, and later did the same for the engine parts for the 1500 in the machine shop. Shelving was put up and most of the parts were oiled and organized so that come the winter, work can commence in either of the two buildings.

In September

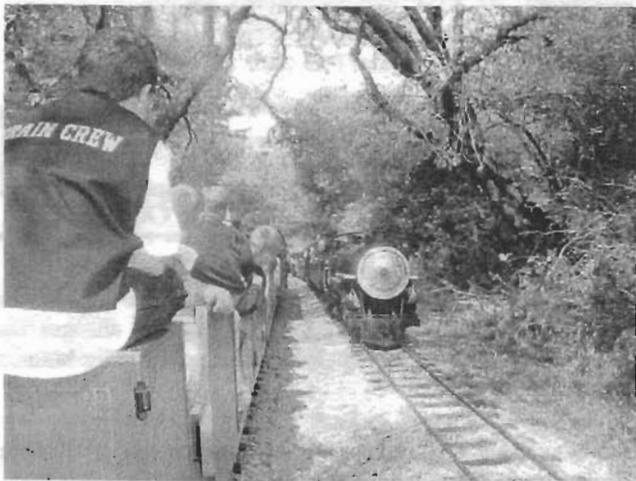
The roundhouse crew, under the leadership of Randy and Marty, cut holes and removed studs from the boilers. Bill Engelman and Geoff gave a hand getting the engines ready for the runs for the next four weekends. Fitz added a hand in the roundhouse to install fans for a ventilating system to keep the moisture under control.

A lot of work has been done on the track every weekend in Sept.. The crew was headed up by the Randy, Andy team. Mac Gaddis, Dennis Johnson, Bill McNab, Bob Wilkinson, Tony Remenih, Anthony and Tony Pratkanis joined in when present. Over sixty tons of ballast was added to level and align the track. According to Randy, the track wiggles, between milepost 4 and the first culvert have been taken care of. Now all that needs to be accomplished is to go through with a level and do some small adjustments. The track, for the most part, is as smooth as it has been in a long time. There are still a few places where ties need to be replaced, but we will work on that, as time becomes available.

Low continued to work on the archiving of all the incoming and accumulated historical collection.

Sunday, Sept. 9, started out with a board meeting which under Fitz's leadership ran very smoothly, not to mention timely and short! Still, much was accomplished and discussed.

This past weekend, with many hands helping the job of cleaning and getting ready for the Santa Cruz Land Conservancy Picnic was made much easier. Every where you looked Linda E., Fitz, Bill N., Martha, Edski, Geoff, Richard T., Bob W., Molly, Erick, Carol C., Barbara and Alan Seaman, Debbie, and Tony Remenih were doing something.



Trains meet at Cosgrove

The Santa Cruz Land Conservancy Picnic brought in about 700 visitors. Martha and Carol did a land slide shirt sale business. The trains ran flawlessly. We ran two trains of four or five cars with three engines. Two steamers, the 1912 and the 1914, and the diesel 502. This way, on each run, the trains would meet and pass at Cosgrove. When a train arrived at the station, an engine was already turned around and ready to make the next run. This way we had no problems keeping up with the crowds. Also in case you hadn't "heard" Bill Engleman, & Pete McFall installed speakers and setup the PA system to work at College Station. It sounds great!

fun. Come October we will be going back to one official work weekend a month that is always scheduled on the second weekend.



1914 on the Y

New memberships recently received are as follows:

- | | |
|--------------|------------|
| Lee Evans | Santa Cruz |
| Brian Marley | San Jose |
| Tony Remenih | Tahoe City |

On behalf of the entire organization, we welcome each of you into our "train family" and we certainly look forward to seeing you at some of our next events. Many of our members may not recognize you right away so please introduce yourselves so that we can get to better know you and vice versa.

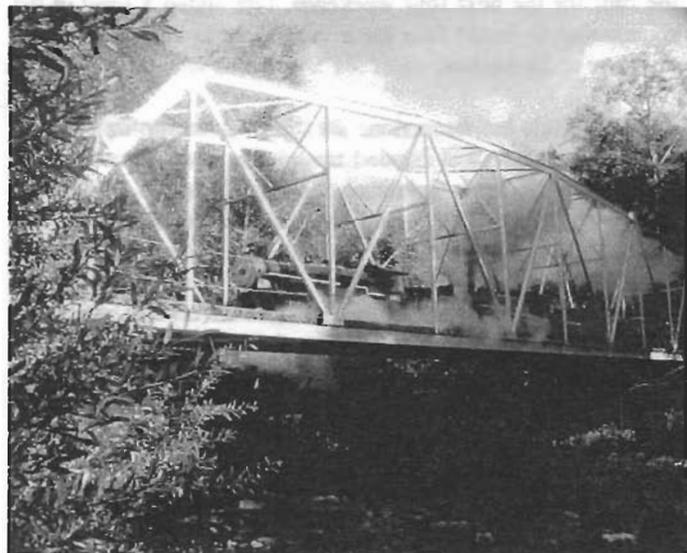
REMINDER:

BEFORE YOU LEAVE THE SWANTON PREMISES, PLEASE, BE SURE TO FILL OUT THE WORK LOG FOR THE HOURS THAT YOU WORKED. THE WORK LOG IS KEPT IN THE MACHINE SHOP NEXT TO THE PHONE and SIGN IT.

This is the best record we have to keep track of your volunteer hours. Please list only the hours that you worked, as we must pay workers compensation for time you list.

Redhouse Reservations:

The Ranch Director has been working with the Railroad to ensure that we have some space available at the Redhouse for our workdays. However, I do need to know at least one week in advance whether room reservations are needed or not. That way I can better coordinate with Wally Mark to make sure that things move smoothly. If you do not call in to reserve a room you may not have a place to stay.



Double header over bridge

For the next two weekends--the last in Sept. and first in October we will provide train rides for Cal Poly Day and Lonestar. So if you have any time, drop on by to share in the

CALENDAR of EVENTS

Year 2001

Mary Ann Carnegie

Upcoming events: MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Oct.

- 6 Lonestar Company Picnic (we provide train rides)
- 13/14 work weekend (& after this week we will return to one scheduled work weekend per month)
- 28 Halloween Run ?????

Nov.

- 10 - 12 work weekend--also Veteran's Day Weekend so we gain an extra day to work and have fun here at Swanton. Great chance to button things up before the rainy season starts.

As Fall sets in, we too, fall back to one scheduled work weekend a month. Course if any of you want to come on other weekends you are always more than welcomed to do so. Just be sure to let Ed know that you will be on the premises. With the one scheduled work weekend and with shorter days--maybe we will be better able to once again organize our Saturday night "get togethers" for everyone to eat and socialize together. Sooooooooooooo, if you will be attending the next run day--October 6, and/or the three day weekend on Nov. 10-12, and will be staying Sat. night for dinner, **PLEASE** call in your reservation so that better food planning can occur.

RECYCLE THOSE CD's

This is just a reminder for all of you that get those AOL or other CD's in the mail and don't use them or know what to do with them. Well, we have a need for them, so just keep stacking them up and bring them on down to Swanton. We are collecting as many as we can to use for New Year's Eve decorations.



Visitors to Swanton

Down Behind the Railway

With your president, air monkey, and carbanist;
Reynold 'Fotz' FitzPatrick
 RGBFitz@aol.com

Voice: 650 737-9584

Fax: 650 737-9583

From our President

My Fellow Swantoons.

I'll refrain from sharing pages of thoughts and emotion following the horror of September 11th and limit myself to these thoughts.

If we are terrorized into cowering inaction by those who can only kill and destroy what they dislike or cannot understand -- then they win.

How at odds with terrorists are we; building, preserving, protecting, sharing our knowledge and skill. 'Nuf said.

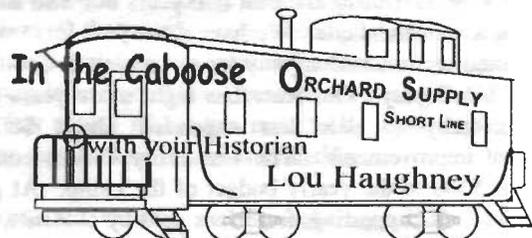
We have nominations for officers coming up next workday, Saturday, October 13th, and elections the following month, Saturday, November 10th.

Only three more workdays, or work weekends for some hardy souls, left this year as we are back to one workday a month. If the weather is nice there is always track work to be done - much the same as housework. If it is not so nice, or you don't need to be a part of the Swanton Exercise & Fitness Club, we have air line fittings to be installed. (Our own Randy Jones has found a fancy quick connector for the air lines twixt cars so we don't have to get into the dirt when making up the glad-hands.)

And then there are the angle cocks that need to be brought out from under the seats in the passenger cars (Can you imagine yourself saying, "Pardon me ma'am, while I reach under you to turn this valve"?), building of trucks, the sorting of hardware, and the cleaning of everything.

I've three pages of things to be done and folks to show you how if you don't know. Come join us and make something, preserve something, teach and learn.

Fitz



THE CAL BARN, PART 2

The following is an excerpt from the material on the UC Berkeley's Summer School of Surveying that was described in

last month's article. These notes were taken by Bob Parkinson from the archives of the Bancroft Library. An interesting comparison arises between the comments of the Engineering Department's head about the potential academic uses of the land and the present status of what is now the Swanton Pacific Ranch. If Professor Derleth's recommendations had been accepted, then this property might now be under UCB's administration rather than under Cal Poly's administration. The essential point is that, as Professor Derleth foresaw, the property is now used for academic purposes, thanks to Al Smith's foresight.

ANNUAL AND BIENNIAL REPORTS OF THE UCB COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING, 1906 -1930, from the Bancroft Library (CU 39 box 8 S: 1 (storage off campus))

1906-1908 Letter dated June 5, 1908 from professor of Engineering to the President of the University.

p.2 mentions the Summer School of Surveying (SSS) at Santa Cruz (SC).

p.3. "During the past year we have spent nearly \$1000 in improvements at our SSS. These improvements have been mainly of such a character that the school may be moved without serious loss of money. The time has come when it is imperative to consider a permanent site so that definite permanent improvements may be made yearly to increase the efficiency of instruction. We need a site purchased outright or leased for a long term of years. I have treated this subject in great detail in my report of the SSS for 1907."

pp. 10-11 Other Civil Engineering Department (CE) Funds mentions payment of fees by students at SSS, and expenses of running camp.

1908-1910 Letter dated June 14, 1910

p.4 Construction at our SSS, in connection with the Water Works, the filtration and storage tanks have been so arranged that studies may be made of a sanitary character, particularly by students of sanitary engineering, at the close their junior year.

pp.9-10 "V SSS. During the past two years our SSS has been housed at a permanent site. We have a ten year lease with the Shore Line Investment Company for properties in Scott Creek Canyon, SC County. Our lease has eight more years to run. The University to date has expended about \$8000 in permanent improvements. The University should contribute each year \$500 to the yearly budget of the camp. At present the camp is self-supporting, from fees paid by students, except where, from necessity, we shunt moneys from the home CE department budget. But this I consider improper. The University should buy the property before we have placed upon it too much improved property. The property cannot be bought too soon. It should be bought now. I mean not merely the fifty acres for which we have an absolute lease, but also its

adjoining ranch of some two thousand acres upon which we have the rights to make surveys. Also we should buy the property belonging to the Staub heirs, on Little Creek, on which property we have placed our water works, intakes from Little Creek, and from adjoining springs.

Charles Derleth Jr., Professor of Engineering, to President Benjamin Ide Wheeler.

1910-1912 Derleth to Wheeler, dated June 30, 1912

p.1. "Our buildings have been improved and enlarged at Berkeley and at SSS."

p. 2. "Our surveying equipment is entirely housed in two rooms, first floor main CE building. Other apparatus never used at Berkeley is now permanently at Swanton, SC County, thus avoiding heavy yearly freight shipments. This change has been made possible because of the first class buildings erected at the summer camp headquarters during the past two years. The annual reports of the Director of the SSS have described these improvements in detail. Five buildings, a water works with filtration plant, and other developments have been contracted at the junction of Little and Scott Creeks near the ocean coast, twenty miles north from SC. The value to us of these properties in place exceeds \$8000.

"Aside from the new summer camp location..."

p. 5 "All engineering students register for Surveying Civil Engineering a, b, c, d in their freshman year...Our department upon request has offered double sections in surveying to January entrants.

"We have often wondered why students in Agriculture do not take our freshman surveying, and particularly our summer surveying school field experience. It is so clear that these courses would be of great benefit to students of agricultural engineering that further argument is unnecessary."

We now have at least a value of \$10,000 in buildings, equipment and going concern at our summer school of surveying near Swanton. The lease expires in 1919. In the next seven years we expect to spend more money in camp construction, also we shall have established a permanent triangulation system. We urge therefore that the Regents consider immediately either an extension of the lease, or better, the purchase of the property. The ranch could be sublet upon conditions that the lessee act as our caretaker and allow us the privilege of trespass during the months of May-June-July of each year. It is our hope to make possible at this camp a geodetic school which shall work in co-operation with the Astronomy department by giving field instruction to graduate students interested in Astronomy, Geodesy, and Geophysics."