

## SWANTON PACIFIC RAILROAD SOCIETY

Number 115

Cal Poly

December 2002

### ON TRACK with your Director

Ed Carnegie:

November has been a very good month for us at SPRR. The driveway & the road leading to the Stone crossing have been oiled and rocked. It was done about 7 years ago & this new topping should last as long. We had a nice rain of about 2" & on Saturday it cleared. We had sun all day long which was wonderful for our Family Day. The next day it was cloudy with a few sprinkles, but not enough to drive us inside.

For the Family Fun Day Run, Marty & crew started firing the 1914 a little after 8 a.m. Our members that wanted the experience to fire & tend the engine were given that opportunity. By noon the train was set up for our use. A little after 9 a.m. a busload of middle school children from Salinas arrived for an educational visit to see some conservation projects & be treated to a train ride. Anthony, Tony & I showed them around the round house & gave them an introduction to SPRR. Before lunch Wally Mark showed them a weir on little creek & gave them an overview of the ranch & its functions. Following lunch, we showed them our live crib walls & how they develop, as we have one over four years old & another, at the washout, that is two years old. We explained how they were built & how they have performed.

In the afternoon we offered numerous train rides to all our members where they could ride in the cab as engineer or fireman, or put on their hats as conductor, brakeman, even Director. A good time was had by all. After the cars & engines were put away at darkish thirty, everyone gathered up at the Redhouse, to enjoy a delicious, & very festive atmosphere, Thanksgiving dinner. Many thanks go

to the chefs—Martha, Carol, Martie Way, & Mary Ann. After partaking in this meal & then your own Thanksgiving meals with family & friends at the end of the month—I would certainly invite all of you to come back to Swanton in Dec. for the work weekend & upcoming New Year's Eve run to work off the extra calories! We guarantee a good workout at the Swanton Gym.

After all the festivities of Sat., it was a little difficult to get going on Sun., but we did. We had a large dedicated track crew that was able to level & tamp about 400 feet of track. They were also able to dig a hole under the track just before Cosgrove & install a culvert to drain the area that has been causing us problems the last couple of years. With Monday being a holiday for some, track work continued for those that stayed. It is nice that more members are taking on special projects & volunteering their time other than on scheduled SPRR weekends. The result is, that much progress is also being made on the 1500 & 1913. FYI if you happen to come down—BEWARE of the electric fence down in the meadow area. It was necessary to install because of the incurring pig invasion & damage—IT IS WIRED & HOT—ask Andy.

Since this will be the last newsletter for the year 2002 I would like to take this opportunity to wish each of you & your families a very joyous holiday season. I would also like to remind you of the annual gala New Year's Eve Run, where you will be able to ride the last train in 2002 & take the first for 2003. This is always a family fun-filled event & I hope you will be able to participate. Just be sure to dress warm & hopefully "stay dry" for the night.



Pig invasion in the meadow area



Middle School students under instruction by Anthony, Tony Pratkanis and Ed

### Observation Car

From our members

Operation / Training

Congratulations to Aaron Theisen for successfully completing the Swanton Pacific Safety course.

If you need materials for the course, see Tony or Anthony Pratkanis

Please Vote  
Mail ballots or bring them with you to the  
December work day

### Facilities & Grounds

We all need to help with our garbage. Please do not put heavy or sharp items in the garbage cans. Someone must be able to pick up and transport the bags. All heavy items should be placed in the garbage trailer.

**REMINDER:** BEFORE LEAVING SWANTON'S PREMISES, **PLEASE**, BE SURE TO FILL OUT & **SIGN** THE WORK LOG FOR HOURS YOU WORKED. THE WORK LOG IS IN THE MACHINE SHOP NEXT TO THE PHONE.

### Redhouse Reservations:

I 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.

**NEW SOCIETY SUPPORTERS** received over the last month were as follows:

Clinton Barr  
Al Schwoerer

Paso Robles  
Redwood City

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



1500 parts being cleaned and painted



Dennis receiving instruction on firing by Marty



A hole dug under the track to remove drain water



Matt and Aaron receiving instructions on firing



Dennis, .5 Aaron, Matt & Geoff placing culvert under track



Eric, Matt & Pete taking a turn at operating the engine



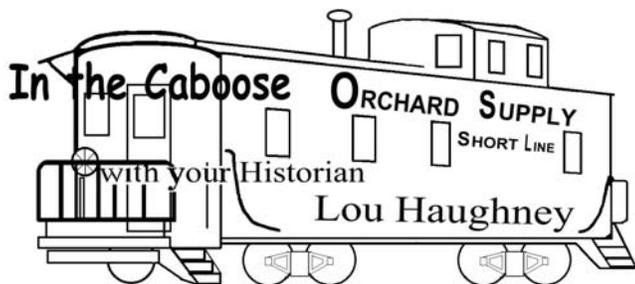
Thanksgiving Dinner at the Redhouse

**UPCOMING EVENTS/PUBLICITY****Mary Ann Carnegie**

Dec. 14/15 Work weekend  
 Dec. 31 New Year's Eve RUN\*\*\*\*  
 Jan. 11/12 First Work weekend of 2003

Tuesday night will be our annual New's Year Eve Potluck & gala celebration. Festivities will start around 7PM. We will all gather in the Cal Barn to indulge in a fantastic potluck dinner—we always have a nice variety of dishes & different tastes. We ask that those of you who will be attending to bring a dish of your choice. Following the dinner, the last train rides for 2002 will be offered. Then live from the Swanton bonfire pit comes a personal & timely countdown to the minute ringing in 2003 & offering the first train ride of the New Year.

Hope you & your family will be able to participate in this very family oriented event. Remember though, that even though it is New Year's Eve & celebrate we will—NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES are allowed on the University Campus.



"Information for Visitors to the Panama Pacific  
 International Exposition  
 San Francisco  
 1915"

A booklet with the above title has been presented to us by Doug Richter. . It was issued as "An Analysis of the Plan and Scope of the Exposition" on January 1, 1914, fourteen months

before the opening of the Exposition. Its size is 8 by 5-1/2 inches, and the covers are lithographed in color. The twenty-four pages contain drawings and brief descriptions of the planned buildings, attractions, and facilities to be available. For example, the short paragraph on Transportation reads:

"Traversing the grounds and permitting access to any section will be motor omnibuses and a double track miniature railway, both of which will establish a ten-cent fare; and a transportation novelty, the electric jinriksha, will be available for visitors. Push chairs and tricycle chairs also will be provided."

The motor omnibuses were the open passenger trailers pulled by the Fadgl tractors. Those were allowed to go throughout the grounds whereas the Overfair Railway was restricted to the northern perimeter.

The sections on "Lunches and Other Meals" and on "Menus" illustrate the cost of living at that time. A crab salad was \$0.25; filet of sole, \$0.20; roast beef, \$0.35; pies, \$0.10; coffee, \$0.05; and Rainier beer, \$0.10.

The booklet was distributed, apparently freely, "with compliments of John Rapp & Son, bottlers of RAINIER BEER, 1500 Bryant Street, San Francisco." The mailing address on the front cover suggests that this copy has been in Doug Richter's family since it was mailed in early 1914, for one cent postage.

\*\*\*\*\*