

*Swanton-Pacific
Railroad Society*

March 1, 1993

Dear fellow train enthusiast:

This is a reminder that the SPRS will be having a general meeting at Swanton Ranch on March 13 & 14, 1992. Please note that this is a two day event. The red house is available if you have a desire to stay over Saturday night. An area is also available for tents and campers (sorry no hook ups). The basic plan is to work at Swanton Saturday, have a general business meeting and dinner Saturday night and then meet at the Billy Jones Railroad in Los Gatos, Sunday. **Please call (805) 756-2432, if you plan to stay at the red house or be there for dinner Saturday night.** If you do plan on staying for dinner, we ask that you bring a salad and/or a dessert for eight people.

Some areas that we plan to work on this Sat are:

- Continue plans for the second bridge across Scott Creek
- Start to grade from Little Creek to Scott Creek
- Laying track across little creek and beyond
- Track maintenance
- Rolling stock maintenance
- Sorting, organizing, & inventorying all extra parts
- Milling 4x6's from the saw mill

A lot has happened during the year at Swanton. **The north loop has** been started. The bridge over Little Creek has been placed and track has begun to be welded into place. A larger rail car was pulled over near Scott Creek, and grading has been started between the two creeks. Most of the excess train parts have now been sorted and moved into the metal building. This gives us more clean room in the machine shop and the roundhouse. Both, the roundhouse and machine shop are being cleaned and organized which makes it easier to work and also to keep track of tools and equipment. A Roll-a-way tool box was located and has been placed in the machine shop for all of the tools. Look around your belongings to see if you have any extra tools you can donate to it.

The track at Swanton is in fairly good shape. (until the rains came). At each meeting Elmer and the crew have been busy maintaining and improving the track. Some of the rolling stock is starting to be maintained with more to be done. During the February meeting the portable saw mill was put into operation **and** three large redwood logs were cut into 4x6's for the ties of the north loop. One car has been completely rebuilt at Cal Poly and is now back at Swanton in full operation. There are currently two more new cars under construction at Cal Poly. One is a crane car being built by a student class, and the other is a parlor car, being built by members, which will hold a barbecue pit.

Swanton Pacific Railroad Society is now more than a year old with over 65 paid members. Now might be a good time to reflect back on our past year. Has the Society met your expectations? Are we proceeding in the direction you would like to see? Do we need officers or a board of directors? Have you enjoyed this past year? What about dues? These are concerns that might want to be addressed at the meeting Sat. evening. If you have any comments or ideas about the Swanton Railroad, this is an important meeting you should attend. After the meeting, movies about this railroad will be shown. Swanton T-shirts and caps will be available also.

Sunday will be an exciting day. We will meet at the Billy Jones Railroad, in Los Gatos, at 9:00 am where we will get a first-hand tour of their operation. As some of you might know their train is of the same one-third scale as the operation at Swanton, and a lot of their parts and rolling stock came from the McDermott Estate where the Swanton Railroad originated from. The only significant difference is that they are gaged at 18" instead of our original McDermott 19" gage. So if you like what you see at Swanton I guarantee you will enjoy the Billy Jones Railroad.

This letter is being sent out to all of our friends and members, dues paid or not. If you have not paid your dues and want to support the Swanton Railroad please complete the enclosed membership form. Naturally we would like everyone to become active participants as well. As a reminder, we meet the second Saturday of the month at Swanton and also the second Wednesday evening prior to that weekend, at Cal Poly. Anyone who is interested may join. This will be the only letter sent to non members this year. Dues for the current members who have paid last year will be discussed at the March evening meeting.

\$50, check # 1289, mailed 3/10/93

For those members who are in the San Luis Obispo area, we will also meet Wednesday night, March 10 at 6:00 p.m. in Shop 7. Come and help work on our next project. If you can't make the Wednesday meeting and need a ride Saturday morning, give Jim a call @ (805) 756-2432.

Don't forget to bring your lunch and any snacks that you might want. The club will plan on providing something for the meal Saturday night. This looks like it will be a fun weekend for all that attend. We hope to see you Saturday, March 13, at 9:00 a.m. at the round house.