May 27, 1993

Dear fellow train enthusiast:

This is a reminder that the SPRS will be having a general meeting at Swanton Ranch on JUNE 19 & 20, 1992. Please note that this is a two day event and that the date has changed to the third weekend instead of the second. 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 ride the train at Roaring Camp, Sunday. 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 Sat are:
- Continue installing light poles
- Start to grade from Little Creek to Scott Creek
- Laying track across little creek and beyond
- Track maintenance
- Rolling stock maintenance
- Sorting, organizing, & inventorizing all extra parts

A lot has happened at Swanton during these past few months. The north loop is continuing to expand. The track has been welded onto the bridge that crosses over Little Creek. A railing on the bridge, is being built using redwood from the trees at Swanton. These were milled a few months back on the saw mill located on the ranch. A cattle guard is being placed at the fence line as the track heads out towards Scott Creek. This should be finished at our June meeting. Light poles are starting to sprout up along the roadways. These poles were built by students at Cal Poly and are now being placed around the train compound. A total of 20 light poles have been built. So far 6 poles have been placed. Each month a section of trench is dug, conduit installed and concrete bases poured. So by mid summer we should have all of the lights installed and working.

Most of the excess parts, for the rolling stock and tracks, have now been sorted and moved into the metal building. 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. The track at Swanton is continually being worked on. 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.

There are currently two 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. All of the trucks for these cars have been rebuilt. The parlor car will have a three axle setup, instead of the usual two axle. This will be the only car with this setup.

During our May meeting we were fortunate enough to have donated to us another set of three axle trucks, some triple valves and one of the original McDermott freight cars. We believe that this is the only one in existence today. This car was originally planned as part of a freight train, for the Panama-Pacific-International Exposition bearing advertising, promotional messages of many household products.
Unfortunately the fair management didn't agree, and refused McDermott permission to operate the freight train. The cars were returned to the McDermott estate where they fell into a state of disrepair. This freight car is currently being stored at the Swanton Railroad until plans for restoration can begin.

Sunday will be an exciting day. We plan to meet at the boardwalk in Santa Cruz and ride the "Big Trees" train up to "Roaring Camp" located at Felton, where we will ride a narrow gauge train up into the mountains pulled by a Shay locomotive. We will then return back to Santa Cruz, on the train. Al Smith has arranged for us to receive a group rate on these trains. The Big Trees train will be $11.95 round trip and the Roaring Camp ride will be $9.95 round trip. We plan on leaving the boardwalk, in Santa Cruz at 12 noon, arriving at Roaring Camp at 1:15. We will then take the 1:30 train ride and return back at 2:45. This gives us just enough time to get back on the train to Santa Cruz which arrives at the boardwalk around 4:00 p.m. To receive this group rate we need at least 25 people and will also we need to know how many tickets to buy. As soon as possible, please call Jim @ (805) 756-2432 so we can purchase your tickets ahead of time.

Dues for the upcoming year are now being collected. ($25.00 for regular members and $15.00 for students). Yes, it's been a year since we last collected. Time flies by when you are having fun doesn't it? Please make checks payable to Swanton-Pacific Railroad Society (SPRS) and mail to: Swanton-Pacific Railroad Society c/o Ag. Engineering Department Cal Poly State University San Luis Obispo, CA 93407 or bring to the June meeting. These dues help cover mailing costs and this year will go towards everyone's own name tag.

For those members who are in the San Luis Obispo area, we will also meet Wednesday night, June 16, 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.

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, June 19, at 9:00 a.m. at the round house. And Sunday, June 20, at 11:30 A.M. at the Big Trees train, Santa Cruz boardwalk.

Yes, I want to support the Swanton Pacific Railroad Society. Please enter my membership at the level indicated below:

Name ____________________________ (_____) Home Telephone
Address __________________________ (_____) Business Telephone

I wish to join as
☐ Gandy Dancer Mem. ($25 per year)
☐ Attendant Member ($100 per year)
☐ Inspector Member ($500 per year)
☐ Conductor Member ($1,000)
☐ Station Master Mem. ($5,000)
☐ Engineer's Club ($10,000)

Your gift may be deductible for income tax purposes.

Enclosed is my gift of $__________ Signature __________ Date __________