

*Cal Poly  
Swanton-Pacific  
Railroad Society*

March 18, 1994

Enclosed is an invitation, inviting you to a dedication in memory of Al Smith that will be held on **Saturday April 9, 1994**. We truly hope that you can attend this event. Please RSVP with this card as soon as possible so that we can make the appropriate plans for this event.

The Swanton-Pacific Railroad Society will be putting on the barbecue. Per your selection as noted on your RSVP, tri-tip or chicken, will be provided along with beans, salad, bread, soft drinks, plus necessary eating utensils. We are not setting a specific charge for the meal but are asking you to consider making an appropriate donation that you feel comfortable with. If you would like to help with meal preparations, we could use your help that Sat. morning.

Now to bring you up to date on some of the progress made at Swanton. As mentioned previously, the SPRS is being overseen by the Cal Poly Foundation. They have stated that we will be able to run the Society ourselves as we want to. Pretty soon a board of directors will be chosen and they in turn will lead the decision making of the operation. A budget has been proposed and if approved the Society will be in good operation. Everything is scheduled to be finalized in early April, so we hope to have some good news at the April meeting. During our last meeting in March the signboard was installed. It was set in place by utilizing the newly constructed crane that was recently brought up from Cal Poly. After being installed, it was painted and the lever arms to the round house were hooked up. It even works! A bench and some landscaping still needs to be installed along with the bronze memorial plaque in memory of Al Smith, which will be permanently affixed to the signboard base. A metal gate, that was constructed at Cal Poly, was also installed on the north loop at the first cattle guard. It still has to be painted. A short meeting was held at the train station during lunch. After some discussion it was decided to paint the round house red with white trim. The paint will be supplied by a member of the SPRS. A short discussion followed of what to do with the interior of the round house and of the machine shop, with no action being taken. The lights that run along the road down between the metal building and the caboose were also hooked up, so they are now working. Electrical power was recently hooked up at the caboose which means that the rest of the light poles can now be installed. Elmer and his track crew continued to repair the track. This time, instead of a little brush to remove they had to remove a few trees that fell across the track. At least we will have some fire wood for the barbecue. The track is ready for our April meeting. Another major accomplishment this past weekend, thanks to Ray Lee was getting the toilet in the machine shop to work!! After fixing it, he even cleaned it, along with the sink. Great job, Ray! Now we can use the toilet without taking a bucket of water with us each time.

As we said, there will be a lot happening these next few months. So it will be important that you try to attend the monthly meetings to stay informed. We will try to keep you updated with a short newsletter.

We look forward to seeing you on, Saturday, April 9.