

*Cal Poly  
Swanton-Pacific  
Railroad Society*

August 24, 1994

This is a reminder that the SPRS will be having it's monthly work day at Swanton Ranch on **Saturday, September 10, 1994**. For those members who are in the San Luis Obispo area, we will also meet **Wednesday, September 7**, at 6:00 p. m. in Lab #7 at Cal Poly.

Since the last newsletter in June, a lot of activities have taken place at the Swanton Pacific Railroad. At the July workday some maintenance on the rolling stock was completed. One of the passenger cars was serviced and had it's air brakes brought up to working order. It is the goal to have all of the rolling stocks air brakes operating. That means that the engines also have to be checked out. The 1912 engine's air system was worked on along with it's suspension. During this weekend a crew went down to Los Gatos and brought back a load of miscellaneous parts that belong to the railroad. Meanwhile a neighbor of the railroad had 300 gallons of diesel fuel and the fuel tank that he wanted to donate to the SPRS, so a group of workers went and picked this up. It will be set up near the roundhouse, along with our existing fuel tank to provide fuel to the engines. The next step will be to build some concrete catch basins around these tanks. Before the day was over the front pilot trucks of engine #1914 were removed and brought down to Cal Poly to have the wheels turned down to a correct size. Besides our workday, the SPRS was also host to the Santa Cruz Railroad Historical Society gathering, which was held during July.

During the August workday major work was completed down by the wye. About 300 feet of track was repaired. First the track was removed, then a drainage ditch was widened, the track bed was regraded and the track replaced. Hopefully this section will now withstand any major rains which have been so much trouble in the past. The air brakes on engine #1912 and the suspension of engine # 1914 was continued to be worked on. Like every month, general maintenance was done which included cutting and spraying weeds. August was also a busy month for other weekend activities. The Golden Spikes Retirees of San Jose had a gathering and that same weekend Elmer & Francis Stone had their anniversary party. The Cal Poly Crops Department met one weekend for their retreat.

While all of this was taking place at Swanton another rail car was being constructed at Cal Poly. It is a VIP passenger car with mahogany seats and it's own custom made cabinet. This will be the only car with three axle trucks. It is about completed and should be delivered at our September meeting. We hope everyone can attend this weekend to view it's maiden trip down the tracks. Now that this car is almost completed it will provide working space for the maintenance of engine #1913 which is at Cal Poly. We will keep you informed on it's progress.

Some of you have been asking about future dates.

Oct. 2	Land Trust Day
Oct. 8	SPRS workday
Oct. 16	2472 Annual Picnic
Nov. 12	SPRS workday
Dec. 10	SPRS workday
Dec. 31	Annual New Years Celebration

As these dates approach we will give you more information.

We also wanted to mention that it was noticed that the train that travels between Santa Cruz and Roaring Camp is pulled by a diesel locomotive called the "Al Smith" in memory of the support that Al provided to the Roaring Camp Railroad. Check it out when you are in the area.

We hope you are having a good summer and plan to see you on Sept. 10.