



SWANTON PACIFIC RAILROAD SOCIETY

Number 35

January 1996

Reminder

Our workdays for January are Wednesday evening, **January 10th.** at Cal Poly, starting @ 6:00 P. M. and at the Swanton Ranch, Saturday morning, **January 13th.** beginning @ 9:00A. M.

On Track

with your Director,
Ed Carnegie

Happy New Year to all of you. As we begin a new year we also have a new slate of officers now which you will find out about later in this newsletter. However, before we welcomed in the New Year of '96, December, 1995 was a busy month that resulted in a lot of progress. Marty Campbell, Bill Engleman, Wally Mark, and Ed Carnegie put the 502's transfer box together and then back into the diesel engine. We are happy to report that after putting it together several time, all parts (even those found in the trash barrel) finally went back in, there were no leftovers to worry about. The diesel engine now runs much quieter and smoother. It should run very well for a long time. December's workday was very productive, having perfect weather certainly helped in allowing all of us to get things completed. Elmer's track crew replaced track over Scott Creek, and by the end of the day the 502, with its new transfer box made its first trip over the bridge very successfully. The days just before New Year's Eve the roof over the car

barn addition was finished except for two panels, and the track crew cleaned the track and made it all ready for the December 31 late night run. With an almost fullmoon, we could see and enjoy it all!

Martha, Francis and Wendy put on a fabulous feast for the entire engine crew. We had so much to eat that it was hard to function for a while, but we all seemed to manage in due time. The New Year's Eve's run was a great success. The moon was bright, the air was crisp, but the hospitality made it nice and warm. We hosted over a hundred "party goers" that evening. Thanks to the McCrarys, Ken supplied the hot mulled apple cider, that went over with a bang; Bud supplied a truck load of fire wood to keep us all warm around the bonfire. At one point, I thought Bud wanted to burn the entire wood pile all at once, but he didn't, he instead made sure all of us stayed warm around his constantly fueled and well maintained big bon fire. A few other benefactors supplied donuts for all. We thank everyone for helping in various ways to make the evening memorable for everybody. Celebrating New Year's Eve at Swanton is always very special and filled with fond memories.

Some of the projects coming up this weekend for the first Saturday workday in 1996 are as follows:

- finish the car barn and then start laying in the track and switches to the barn

- install a drain culvert at the wye in order to drain the excess water that has been building up--we want to do this before we loose part of the wye
- start building the handrails for Scott Bridge
- make plans for an oil and paint storage building
- formalize the yearly calendar for workdays and other train events at Swanton

As usual there are *always* projects to be done, but these are just a few of the immediate ones listed and needing tending to for this weekend. We hope you will be able to make it this Saturday to Swanton as we look forward to seeing you there. If any of you would like to stay over Saturday night, the "redhouse" is reserved and we could finish some of the projects on Sunday.

Behind the Throttle

with your President,
Bill McNab

Thank you for your vote of confidence in the recent election. Congratulations to the first Vice President, Andy McLean and to Marty Campbell, second vice president. Also to Director Ed Carnegie, and to Secretary Jim Matheny.

We will push to carry forward from the 1994-95 officers Dave Stupi, Randy Jones, and company. The first things coming up are membership dues and a new roster for all members.

We will be holding planning meetings over the next month or two. Any concerns, ideas, scheduling, etc. please contact one of us or the various work groups within the organization. All ideas will be considered and group participation is what makes this railroad functional.

A couple of thoughts at this time:

1. Increase active membership by 15 to 20 members to make the work around the RR easier with more manpower. (Ed Carnegie views it as, more manpower---more projects).

2. Plan on an outing for some area of interest to the group (not necessarily on a work day) such as the RR Museum at Sacramento taking the train from the bay area there.; Niles Canyon RR at Sunol, Billy Jones at Los Gatos, Big Creek Lumber mill, Swanton Road fish Hatchery, complete tour of the ranch and ranch plans by the Cal Poly Administration, etc. Other possible suggestions are welcome.

3. Plan and hopefully build a much needed clean/modern bathroom facility to accommodate our guests on large railroad runs and BBQ's. I need some help on this to get the Directors attention as he doesn't see the outhouses we use now, as objectionable. Check with your significant other as to their thoughts. (I have already heard from mine)

A good, happy, healthy New Year to all.

Out of Steam ?

January... The month when we all make our New Years resolutions and start off the year with fresh ideas. It is also the month when dues for the Swanton Pacific Railroad are due. You will find enclosed with this newsletter, a membership form. We hope that you can fill it out and bring it along with your dues to our next workday. If you are unable to attend we ask that you mail it to our address at Cal Poly. These dues will enable you to continue receiving this newsletter and staying informed about the activities of the railroad. Hopefully we will be able to send out a completed roster to every member with our March newsletter. If you want to be included please send in your dues soon. We don't want you to run out of steam and be left out on the siding.

**Swanton Pacific Railroad Society
Executive Board**

- Director: Ed Carnegie
- President: Bill McNab
- First Vice President: Andrew McLean
- Second Vice President: Marty Campbell
- Secretary/ Editor: Jim Matheny
- Treasurer: Ed Carnegie
- Engine & Rolling Stock: Randy Jones
- Facilities & Grounds: Bob Nichols
- History: Lou Haughney
- Safety Engineer: Andy McLean
- Track: Elmer Stone
- Operations: Vince Cipolla
- Social & Publicity: Martha Neilsen

Membership'

Annual dues to the society is \$25.00 per person. Dues are collected during the first of each year. Any correspondence to this newsletter or change of address and/or phone number should be sent to:

Swanton Pacific Railroad Society
Agricultural Engineering Department
Cal Poly State University
San Luis Obispo, CA 93405

(805) 756-2378
(805) 756-2626 FAX

Workdays are held at the Swanton Pacific Ranch near Davenport, CA., the second Saturday of the month and the Wednesday evening, prior to that Saturday at the Agricultural Engineering Department, Cal Poly State University. Anyone and everyone is welcome at these workdays.

Cut here