



## SWANTON PACIFIC RAILROAD SOCIETY

Number 37

March 1996

### Reminder

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

### On Track

with your Director,  
Ed Carnegie

I am happy to report that Elmer Stone is doing well after a triple bypass. We all wish him well and hope for a rapid recovery. I have been told that within 24 hours after the operation he was talking up a storm and making up for lost time, so we all know he his doing o.k. We are very thankful that this ordeal is now behind him and Francis.

As for an update on other Swanton Pacific projects since our last workday:

- During these past few storms Scott Creek had risen and fallen several times, it even became a swimming hole for a brief moment—something I don't recommend to anybody. However, after the creek finally settled down its diversion had only a small stream going through it after the root ball had been moved. Again, I want to thank Bud McClary for keeping an eye-out for our interests, and we thank Big Creek Lumber for the donation of the timber used at the base of the Scott Creek Bridge.
- Presently, we are in the planning stages to implement the next class for engine operators. John Tomlin and Marty Campbell, under the leadership of Vince Cippola, will be in charge of giving the classes. If you are interested in attending these classes please let them or me know so that we can accommodate you.

- The month of April is almost here and the Sunday after our work day will be Al Smith's Day. That **Sunday, April 14,** has been designated to celebrate Al's birthday, and to celebrate the "opening ceremony" for the first train operating day of the year. It will also be a day to eliminate the stress, or celebrate getting your taxes done! If you know of someone that you would like to have invited to the Al Smith Day Celebration, you can either make a copy of your invitation or give me their name and address and I will be happy to send them an invitation.

- During this entire past month, we have been trying to plant some grass down in the station's meadow area, but the rain hasn't exactly cooperated. Maybe right after the April meeting it will be dry enough to plant. The automatic sprinkler system is fully operational, so we don't have to depend on rain to get the lawn growing.

- This last weekend, Greg Duff was able to erect an additional 20 feet of overhead rail for the crane in the car barn. If we can get enough help this next workday, the last 20 feet could go up. (Greg would be closer to finishing his Senior Project, and thus closer to graduating--let's try to help him along!) A lot of "stuff" will need to be moved in order to get the equipment in place so as to position the beams correctly. At least this task can be done, no matter what the weather is like.

Besides car brakes and track to work on, we can also wire 12 more light stands in the station's meadow area, as the concrete light bases have been poured and set. And as usual there are always some general cleaning, maintenance, and other preparatory work that needs to be done before celebrating Al Smith's Day on Sunday, April 14.

So as you can see, we have a lot of different projects that can be worked on by different individuals, with different work interests, all you need to do is just show up and be ready, willing and able to work. Every little bit that is

done, all adds up, and that way things do get accomplished. Finished projects are always such a pleasure to see and enjoy by all.

Memberships in SPRR are doing fairly well. At least at this time they are higher than last year's records indicate. The more workers (volunteers) we have, the more we can accomplish.

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### Calendar

- March 6 ..... Cal Poly work evening
- March 9 ..... SPRS workday
- April 10 ..... Cal Poly work evening
- April 13 ..... SPRS workday
- April 14 ..... Al Smith Day

Martha Neilsen would like to remind individuals and groups who are planning any activity with the SPRS to contact her as soon as possible with any dates. This way we can plan ahead and have a full crew and the necessary equipment operational. You can contact Martha @ (408) 257-2683.

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### Security

Recently at Swanton, some doors have been left unlocked and windows left open following some weekends of working. We are also noticing that tools are being left out and slowly starting to disappear or become misplaced. This is just a reminder to be aware that at the end of the day you return all of the tools used and to secure the area that you were working in.

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### Grader

Did you know that the SPRS has a road grader? It is sitting next to the car barn and is in need of some repairs and basic maintenance. We would like to find a crew that would like to oversee these repairs and get this grader operational. If you are interested, contact Ed Carnegie at the Saturday workday and he will explain what needs to be done.

### Telephone

The Swanton Pacific Railroad Society now has an operating phone in the machine-shop. The phone number is (408) 423-8204 and is listed under Swanton Pacific Railroad in Davenport. The phone service is set up for "credit card calls only" for out going calls. It accepts all incoming calls, except for collect calls. The SPRS also has their own answering machine for those of you that need to leave a message. Please note this number at your home in case someone needs to contact you during our workdays.

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### On Line

The Swanton Pacific Railroad Society in now on the Internet!! For those of you that like to "Surf the Internet" you can find us @ : <http://www.calpoly.edu:80/~ae/swanton/sprs.html>. Each newsletter will be included, so if you or your friends are on line, check us out. We are finding lists daily regarding trains and railroading, so if you are interested or if you know of some information yourself, keep in contact with us.

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### 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.