

SWANTON PACIFIC RAILROAD SOCIETY

Number 224

Cal Poly

Sept. Oct. 2013

ON TRACK with your Director

Ed Carnegie:

Cal Poly Day [CPD] was a huge success. We had just about 500 in attendance. The day went by with no problems that we were not ready for, and I want to thank all our volunteers that were in attendance for a job well done. The Swanton Pacific Ranch personnel jumped in along with the CP Logging Team to add to the event's success.

The work weekend before CPD much effort was spent on cleaning and getting everything ready. On that Friday, Pete was instrumental in hosting the Santa Cruz haz-mat inspection, while I disked and cleaned the train field. Bruce, Randy and Marty worked on rolling stock.

Saturday we were joined by over 20 members working all over the railroad from loading scrap metal and hauling away the two inoperative trucks, doing general cleanup behind the round house, chipping and chain sawing at the wye, to working in the Christmas tree field, gardening, fine tuning the lawn's sprinkler system, along with ongoing equipment repair. It was amazing what all was accomplished with our busy worker volunteers.

Sunday we still had over ten volunteers working on: cleaning the station and BBQ area, getting the hole for the lawn irrigation pipes buried, painting a signal, and getting all debris blown off the track.

It is then so rewarding to see it all come together at the event from the Cal Poly BBQ crew, having good music, good food, along with most successful train rides, to having young visitors learn about train handling and then receiving a badge for that accomplishment. It was also an opportunity to share time with long time and/or new friends that are a part or wish to become a part of Cal Poly and the Swanton Pacific Railroad. This CPD we had over 80 Cal Poly alumni present—this is the largest alumni attendance ever. Again, my many thanks to all of you for all the time you have given to make SPRR so successful.

Down Behind the Railway

With your President, air monkey, & car-barnist.

Reynold 'Fitz' FitzPatrick
RGBFitz@aol.com 650.737.9584

My Fellow Swantoons:

Business first: we had our first General Meeting of the year on October 12th with twelve members present. A Special Order of Business – Nomination of Officers was held. As this is an odd numbered year the First and Third vice presidents, as well as the treasurer are elected to office.

The nominations were: First VP – Geoff Tobin, Third VP- Bruce Compiano, and Treasurer-Ed Carnegie.

There were no other nominations. Elections will be held on November 9th, 2013 during our next General Meeting.

No motions were made during the General Meeting; however, the subject of membership was discussed. (Note that we had just barely a quorum in attendance)

We are not alone in needing more active volunteers, as other organizations I am associated with are watching their members grow older and no one coming in to replace them. If you have an idea as to how to recruit new members please let us know.

Well, we are entering the season of parties and celebrations: first is Veterans Day – a day of remembrance of those who gave all for us, then Thanksgiving and Christmas or Yule depending upon your persuasion.

There's a lot of mundane things to be done down behind the railroad, but in the cold season and we only meet once a month until next spring... so here are a couple of things you could design while, hopefully, listening to the rain.

Design an automatic tie replacement machine.

Design an automatic tamper; we will have an industrial sized air compressor by next Spring.

Design 'high-rail' wheel set for the air compressor. (Ingersoll-Rand 47/100)

Design a 'low-boy' railcar.

Build display cabinets for historical items in the Cal Barn.

Aside from the mundane we have the reconstruction of the keystone cars, building new Keystone trucks, replacing or repairing the engine in the rail crane, building a new work car, upgrading the Handi-car, build a test board for the electric brake system, build a 'standard' railcar backboard to which cars should mate with air lines, electrical connections and couplers, refinish the benches in the station, pour aluminum in journal boxes and machine them, restore one flat car to passenger service, and the list goes on.

Enjoy the winter and bring a friend to the railroad. Fitz

IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

DUES-DUES-DUES are now DUE!!!



Our organization is now accepting new memberships, or renewals for the year 2014.

For a mere \$35/year you become a full-fledged Swanton Pacific Volunteer with rights and privileges to an excellent outdoor gym, monthly workdays, gaining great new friends, learning new skills—be they on trains, shop/machine work, gardening, etc. Funds of greater amounts are also graciously accepted!



Make your check out to Swanton Pacific Railroad; mail to

Ed Carnegie;

BRAE Dept. Cal Poly

San Luis Obispo, CA 93407

Dec.14 -15 Cut your own Christmas Tree

Come cut your own Christmas Tree 10AM-3PM; ride the train down to the Christmas tree field, cut your tree; bring it back to the station trees are \$25 or more; train ride included

In The Roundhouse

Randy Jones

In mid-August the 502's air brake compressor began acting up, so Geoff and Pete pulled it out for maintenance. We freed up and lubed the stuck intake valves and it runs fine again. Sounds simple, but there is almost no room at all to work in the back hood of this unit!

About this time we overhauled and repainted the 1913's main air brake bell cranks, shaft, and the mounting fulcrums. Bill and Molly Engleman visited in late Aug. Bill did radio work while Molly

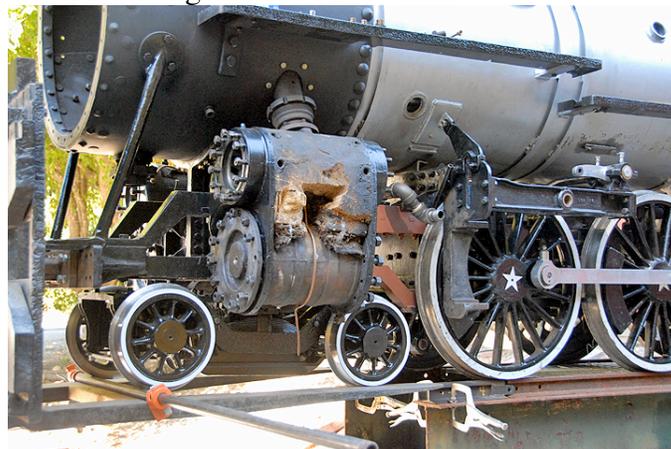
cleaned and painted part of the 1913's frame and cylinder block. They worked together to remove the broken mounting bolts for the stack.



Bill and Molly Engelman working on 1913

Marty spent the Sept. work days upgrading part of the Marketeer (electric truck) wiring. Brendon Hilton got this little rig for us, and since we bought batteries and did some overhaul, it has proven to be a great asset moving material, tools, and picnic supplies around the grounds.

The Cal Poly Day Run went well, with the 1914, 502, and cars working well. Also that weekend, Brendon arrived from So. Cal with the 1913's reconditioned engine (pilot) truck wheels. We had determined the tires would benefit from renewal, having been new at Calistoga. Brendon took them home, built up the flanges by welding, and turned them to the original MacDermott profile. They turned out very nice indeed. We assembled the truck that weekend and placed it under the loco, one more thing crossed off the list!



Pilot of 1913 in place

Other 1913 work includes air reservoir mounts, various mounting brackets in the cab, and turret valve seat facing.

We took a major step in the Machine Shop reorganization during the Oct. work-days, moving work tables and supplies in order to place a 2-1/2" thick steel plate as the base for the Hitachi turret lathe, and then getting the lathe itself moved. This will allow us to continue the shop remodel for better use and production in the future.



Moving lathe in Machine Shop

Lately we have helped out some with the irrigation pump shed that Fitz and Pete are building to house the pump and electrical service and controls. It is taking shape very nicely.



Fitz and Pete constructing irrigation pump house

breaker on hosting the most Cal Poly Alumni—a little over 80 came and each College, and almost every department, was represented. It is always a pleasure to showcase the Swanton property, and what we think is the “crown jewel” of Cal Poly, to so many guests—many long time attendees, but many here for the first time. Nothing but complements on the day’s event were heard and that is all due to each of you and the vast amount of volunteer time you all contribute—so THANK YOU, THANK YOU.

October had a slate of officers presented to the membership—November will see the election process carried out.



Don’t worry no national news media coverage or campaigning required. Just come to the Sat. workday [Nov. 09] and cast your ballot at the noon-time meeting to have input in selecting officers for your SPRR organization for next year..

We also welcome anyone that may wish to prepare a Saturday night dinner for the volunteers that stay over. Just let us know if you are planning on staying. Sharing in the meal’s expenses is done by collecting \$5 from those that partake in the meal.

All for now; hope to see you at either workdays in Nov. and/or Dec.. Don’t forget the upcoming New Year’s Eve event that is fast approaching. And as ALWAYS---Remember to encourage new volunteers and/or your friends to come on over to enjoy and partake in all the fun we all share in getting together at Swanton.

NEW SOCIETY SUPPORTERS

April	David Jacobon	San Rafael, CA
July	Robert O’Farrell	Salinas, CA
Aug.	Michelle Carroi	San Jose, CA
	Brock Horten	Aptos. CA
	Dennis Pisita	Walnut Creek, CA
Sept.	Brian Hubbard	San Jose, CA
	Kris Heil	Aptos, CA
	Oct.	Antonia Perez
	Lloyd Yoshida	Sunnyvale, CA
	Mary Yoshida	Sunnyvale, CA
	Ken Katen	San Francisco, CA
	Autumn Looijen	Los altos. Ca

On behalf of the entire organization, we welcome you into our "train family" & we certainly look forward to seeing you at some of our next events. Many of our supporters may not recognize you right away, so please introduce yourselves so that we can get to better know you & vice versa.

UPCOMING EVENTS/PUBLICITY

Mary Ann Carnegie

- Nov. 09/10 work weekend
 - Nov. 11 Veterans Day-Honor /remember a VET
 - Nov. 28 HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!**
 - Dec.14/15 work weekend—
 - Christmas Tree Sales/train ride
 - Dec. 30 get ready for New Year’s Eve Run
 - Dec. 31 annual New Year’s Eve Run/Potluck
- [please notice we are back to one work weekend/month]*

Cal Poly Day was a full house where we hosted a maximum crowd. The event was most successful and blessed with great weather. It was also a record

Swanton Pacific Railroad Society Nametags are available from Bob Wilkinson, wilkie@pacbell.net Please contact him for new or replacements cards.



Pat and Mary Ann registering attendees

THE YEAR 1915

Submitted by Pete McFall

From the San Francisco Memories WEB page

A few tidbits about what was happening in 1915

President: Woodrow Wilson
 Vice President: Thomas Marshall
 Albert Einstein developed The Theory of Relativity.
 The British Lusitania was sunk.
 25,000 people marched in suffrage parade in New York City.
 The first telephone connection is made between the US and Japan.

Births

Frank Sinatra (December 12th)
 Don Budge (June 13th)
 Kitty Carlisle (September 3rd)
 David Rockefeller (June 12th)
 Anthony Quinn (April 21st)

The Boston Red Sox win the World Series.
 Movies of the time: Birth of a Nation and Carmen (Academy Awards were not awarded until 1927)
 Average annual income: \$1,267
 Average price of a new car: \$390
 Average price of a new house: \$3,395
 Price of gold per ounce: \$20.67
1915 FOOD AND LODGING COSTS
 How affordable was it to come to San Francisco for the fair?

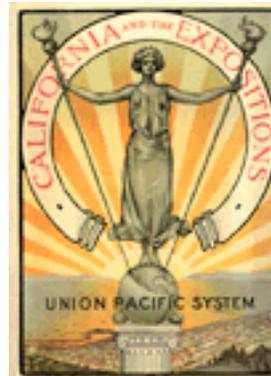
Visitors and Accommodations

San Francisco has over 2,000 hotels and apartment houses and quite as many are in the trans-bay cities Oakland, Berkeley, and Alameda. The current reasonable rates will not be increased during the

Exposition, is the pledge of the hotel association, which will be fulfilled. Rooms occupied by one person, \$1.00 a day up. Rooms with bath, \$1.50 up. Lower rates may prevail farther out in the residence section and across the bay, especially by the week. Arrangements can be made in advance by writing to "Bureau of Conventions and Societies, Panama-Pacific International Exposition, San Francisco." State exactly the accommodations desired, when you plan to arrive, how long you expect to remain, what you will pay, and other information wished for. It is proposed to put foresighted visitors in direct communication with the people where they are to stay. In San Francisco generally, meals are quite 20 per cent less than in New York, of same quality; ordinarily, \$1.00 a day is ample. Strangers, particularly women unaccompanied, on arriving at the Union Ferry Building, will be met by a member of the reception committee, cared for and directed fully to destination. Any woman of any country reaching San Francisco alone at any hour is absolutely certain of protection. This welfare work organization includes representatives of every nationality and religion and is thoroughly dependable.

Cost of a Week in San Francisco

Rooms occupied by one person may be obtained in San Francisco by the day from \$1.00 up. Counting \$7.00 per week for room, \$7.00 for meals and \$6.00 for such incidentals as admissions to the Exposition and street car fare, a week's visit in San Francisco would cost \$20. Visitors who make a more protracted stay may economize by engaging quarters by the week or month.



Information provided from the Union Pacific guidebook to California and the expositions.