

ENGINEER'S TWO CENTS (Happy New Year

heard.

I hope by now everyone has had their fill of Holiday Cheer and is settling down for a 'Long Winter's Nap'! Well, maybe not. The days will already be getting longer, so cabin fever will be diminishing and there are always things to do during the cold winter months. If you are a train fan that only has space for a Train around the Christmas tree, getting the trains ready for storage is always a good idea. I suggest the wheels of the rolling stock should get a small drop of light lubricating oil (3-in-one will work) on each wheel, where the axle meets the wheel or/and where the axel seats into a truck frame or the truck side frame, is good preventive maintenance. If rolling stock has a center rail power pickup roller, also a small drop in those bearing points is useful.

Locomotives should receive the same sort of attention, but don't forget to put some smoke oil into the smoke units and give the oil time to absorb into the wicks inside so the oil won't drip back out while wrapping the piece in some paper product, like old newspaper. Paper tends to absorb any moisture that exists in your storage area, but keep in mind, placing trains in un-heated places is not a great idea. Most attics and crawlspaces are too susceptible to temperature and humidity extremes to be ideal for storing train items, especially engines and controllers. Anything that has electronics, such as the newer TMCC, DCS and Legacy equipped products, should be stored in climate controlled space.

Regarding club news, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Jessie and John Pieplow for their help in putting together a great Christmas party for the club on December 10th. The facility at the Salt Pond Country Club was an ideal location and provided a wonderful setting for 40 members and guests. The food was great, including specialties brought in by everyone attending. The clubhouse even had decorations for the season, supplemented by Jessie and John in a very tasteful way, enhancing the warmth and charm of the space.



John Hodges

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

If you would like to join one of the standing committees, contact the chairperson:

House Committee -

Dave Lawrence



O-gauge - and Train Show - Bill Ziegler



HO - gauge - Tom Bradley



N - gauge - Bob Hodges



S - gauge -John Hodges



G-gauge - Nelson Davison



Fundraising - Bill Mixon











