



## A VIEW FROM THE CAB

### The Year in Review

I thought it would be fun to go back and review 2023 and see what our club has managed over the last calendar year, so here goes.

We started out in January with not a bad financial picture, but still looking at a negative balance from 2022. Our Fundraising team plotted out the year with several new schemes. Our layout build team worked on two small layout projects.

In February, we attended the Preston Fire Co., train show for the first time, taking our S gauge modular layout and the local scenes depicted were a big hit. We then set-up the large O Gauge modular layout at the Seaford Toy and Train Show later that month.

March found us busy with the running of our first Quarter Auction at the Millsboro Fire Co. hall, which was a big success, and we sold two new layouts from the club. In April we nearly completed improvements to the S gauge display in the club house, and held another great Train Show at the Roxana Fire Co., at which we sold two HO layouts.

In May we held another fun Yard Sale event at the club, and in June we visited The Harrington Historical Society Railroad Kids Day, taking the S gauge layout again. We also had an SUV donated which we were able to sell very quickly. In July we had a new very large HO display donated, and the team started replacing track and getting two trains running. They continued through the next two months with complete scenery details to ready it for sale. We also completed our physical inventory for insurance purposes.

In August we set up our S gauge portable layout in the Millsboro Public Library for a 3 week stay, and we received the first of many cash donations in the memory of passed member Tom Mahler. We also welcomed new member Terry Wildemuth, who very quickly volunteered to take over as our new Station Agent.

We took the S gauge Layout up to the Milford Veterans home for a 4 week stay starting in early September, and also hosted another Yard Sale. We also started several weeks of packing up Tom Mahler's extensive train collection. Preparations were under way for another Roxana Train Show, which would be our Last show there after 10 years. Skip Lee took over primary Director duties for our train shows. So in October we finished the packing of over 160 boxes of trains and accessories.

In November we moved 5 layouts to Georgetown Public Library for the Holiday display there, and we sent the large HO modular layout to the Ocean City Convention Center for their Holiday Train Display that Skip Lee helps to run.

In December we entered the Holiday Parade at Selbyville and at Rehoboth Beach, and enjoyed a warm gathering at the Mixon's home, while several of our members volunteered to help Skip Lee at the Ocean City Convention Center Open House program, and another group ran the Georgetown Library display dates for 4 weeks.

As we closed the year, we were aware that we had ended 2023 with a surplus financially, setting us up for a great 2024.

*John Hodges*

# DSRC Holiday Party 2023

All members who attended the Holiday Party had a great time at the Mixon's

