

# Schu's News

By Dave Schumann

“Tis The Season”

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## Storing Your RV

The following items are useful when you will be storing your RV for any extended period of time, not just for the winter.

- For motor homes, fill up the gas tank. This will prevent moisture buildup in the tank. Also make sure all your fluid levels under the hood are full.
- Drain and flush all holding tanks; fresh water, gray water, black water and hot water tanks.
- Drain all water lines, using compressed air or at least the low-point drain lines. Note: If storing for the winter, follow the *winterizing* steps above
- Close the LP gas tank valve(s). If your LP tanks don't already have a cover, consider purchasing at least a vinyl LP tank cover.
- Disconnect shore electric power to the RV.
- Remove all batteries from the RV and store in a place where they won't freeze. Batteries that have been frozen will never again hold a proper charge, and will more than likely have to be replaced.
- Visually check your RV for anything that might need to be repaired. Make sure you also check the roof. (Check sealer for cracks and voids.)
- Defrost and clean the refrigerator and freezer. Place open boxes of baking soda or crumpled newspapers in the compartments to eliminate odors during storage.
- Remove all perishable items from the interior. Include in this any items that are susceptible to freezing, if storing during the winter months.
- Cover all external outlets, such as furnace outlet, to prevent *critters* from entering.
- Thoroughly wash the interior and the exterior of your RV. You might also consider shampooing the carpets inside and waxing the outside.
- Close all windows; leave the roof vent(s) open *ever so slightly* for air circulation during storage.
- Cover the tires to prevent weather-checking. Now may be the time to evaluate your tires ,even if they look good but are 5-6 years old they still may not be safe.
- Lubricate all window, vent and door gaskets and seals (i.e. 303 Protectant with UV inhibitors.)
- Cover the roof air conditioner
- **Covering an Airstream trailer with a tarp is not advisable; the moisture build up under the tarp and the tarps movement can affect the clearcoat finish on your trailer.**