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AMA Charter  
No. 2940

**THE DEAD STICK FLYER**

Havre de  
Grace, MD

Volume 27,  
No.1

The Newsletter of SWAN HARBOR RC  
[www.SwanHarborRC.com](http://www.SwanHarborRC.com)

January  
2016

70 members currently  
Meeting took place at Wendy's:  
987 Beards Hill Rd, Aberdeen, MD 21001  
Phone: (443) 327-6706

## Club Meeting 1/12/16

1. Our annual Christmas party was held at the Havre De Grace Rec Center on Dec 12, 2015. After some confusion on the space we ended up in the Gym which I personally liked better because of the room. If I had known that beforehand, we could have flown foamys in the Gym. We are going to see if we can get the Gym for next year but I know they are funny about food and any shoes other than rubber soles in the Gym. We had lots of good food and drink. There were more prizes this year due to some smaller foamy airplanes. A Carbon Cub, and several Micro Foamys were amongst the prizes. Ramon De Jesus donated a Radian

Glider that Tom Smith won. I believe the Snyder's won everything else. Just kidding. Pictures from the party will follow the article

**\*\*\* This is a reminder to everyone to pay their club dues by the end of February 2016 to Steve Snyder.\*\*\***

2. The elections were held at the Christmas Party and the results are:

***President: Gary Gunter***

***Vice President: Chris Mounyer***

***Treasurer: Steve Snyder***

***Secretary: Victor and Max Moxey***

***Safety Officer: Bob Walker***

***Members at Large: Dale Davis, Herman Reicher, and Stephen Slotnick.***

***Congratulations to all of the officers for 2016.***

3. The FAA has instituted a registration of all Unmanned Aerial Systems. (UAS) is what you will see. This includes everything that flies and is radio controlled and that weighs more than half a pound up to 55 lb. Not just Drones (aka Multirotor aircraft). This is a very different time in which we live now days and they (the government) are looking at possible threats from unmanned aircraft. There have been media reports of people flying "drones" around airports, sporting events, in cities etc. that has caught the attention of the government and they have decided to do something about it. (because they have figured out all the other problems in the world). There will always be idiots who will fly outside the rules that we fly under (AMA) that will ruin it for everyone. It's the same as gun control laws. It only puts the burden on the law abiding people who go through the registration process, criminals don't bother because they intend to break the law anyway. While my personal opinion is this is a knee jerk reaction from our government, none the less we as a club must comply. The FAA has an on line site to register for \$5.00 for three years. I have registered and they ask for your name address and email. That's it, and you are sent a registration number that must be displayed anywhere on your aircraft that does not require a tool to remove something to view it. I did not see any regulation on size of the labeling. A brother P Touch labeler will be my choice. You get one number for your account and it is the same for all your aircraft. The silly thing is your AMA number, your name and address is supposed to be displayed on your aircraft so why wouldn't that be enough for the FAA? Currently AMA is asking everyone to hold registering until February 10<sup>th</sup>, with the thinking they are going to change the mind of the FAA and make Hobby Aircraft exempt. I wish them all the luck, but what I see of our government they usually get what **THEY** want. While all this gets under my skin it is a tiny price to pay in the scheme of things. This is not an inexpensive hobby. In the end if the AMA cannot get the FAA to recognize the RC Hobby exempt, we as a club will require all members to register their aircraft. AMA hits us every year for \$75. But at least we get something (I think)

in the way of liability insurance and a lobby for our hobby. My whole point of this rant is if we have to comply to insure the continuation of our club then we will do so. I do not want to bring any attention to us. AMA is already required, and if FAA is required so be it. These numbers will be checked this year.

The link to the UAS registration page is : <https://www.faa.gov/uas/registration/>

## ***Which brings me to my next point.***

4. During this Drone issue with the FAA, the FAA has closed down all clubs within a thirty nautical mile radius of DC. Talk about knee jerk! These guys who belong to these clubs have just had the rug pulled out from under them. When the FAA decides to, they will all have to file for recognition with the FAA, which will include members of the FAA coming to each field and evaluating it, the type of flying done, and the membership. This will be done one at a time and could take a while for them to be rechartered by the FAA. The Presidents of these clubs have reached out to surrounding clubs with the hopes of being able to guest fly. I have gotten an email from one of the presidents listing our club as a host club during this time of shut down. I HAVE NOT OFFERED OUR FIELD FOR ANYTHING TO THESE OTHER CLUBS. I would not do that without consulting our membership first. This will be brought up to our members to vote on if it is even considered to guest host these other flyers. Any concerns will be addressed before anything would be considered. I understand their plight but we should be formally asked before assuming they can fly with us.
5. I have been contacted by a Gentleman from APG, Bill Mullis who has informed me that our name has come up in meetings of the APG Garrison who is responsible for the security of the range and the airspace around APG. Bill has been a former member had called out of courtesy as a heads up that someone from the Garrison may be contacting us about our club and what we do. I'll deal with it when it comes.
6. The new year is here and I hope it will be a great one for us even with all the nonsense that is going on. I still look forward to every weekend flying and having fun with the guys. It keeps my sanity.
7. It is with deep sorrow that Jim Snyder lost his wife to Alzheimers two weeks ago. Sympathy goes out from our club to the Snyder family during their time of need.

















