



# ***The Dead Stick Flyer***

**Newsletter of Swan Harbor RC**

Volume 34, Number 3, March 2023

[www.swanharborrc.com](http://www.swanharborrc.com)



## **Swan Harbor RC 2023 Board of Directors**

**President/Treasurer:** Steve Snyder (443) 243-4323

**Vice President:** Dan Seldomridge (443) 553-6143

**Secretary/Newsletter:** Ron Lazzeri (443) 425-9006

**Safety Officer:** Stanley Dill (410) 642-0030

**Webmaster:** Stephen Slotnick (908) 403-0273

**Members at Large/Directors:**

Bob Bartell (443) 945-5709

Dale Davis (410) 459-0399

## **What's inside the March 2023 issue:**

- **No Meetings Held:** February & March
- **Club Dues:** regular renewals ends March 31st
- **Next club meeting:** April 11<sup>th</sup>, 7:00pm
- **AMA:** 2023 club Charter renewal & FRIA
- **Indoor Flying:** ends March 31<sup>st</sup>
- **Swan Harbor Park:** normal entrance hours
- **For Sale:** Zeb Bertsch
- **Safety Officer Tips:** Stan Dill
- **Tech Tips:** spring maintenance
- **Club Pics:**
- **General Information:**



## **No Meetings Held: February & March**

*As you all know by now there were no club meetings held in February or March. The first meeting of the 2023 year was held in January and covered a lot of topics for the upcoming season. Please refer back to the January newsletter for details of that meeting. Nothing new has come up since that meeting to discuss and all January topics remain current.*

*The most important update to keep in mind is the Canopy Concrete Project will be underway very soon. Steve checked on the status of the project with the vendor who said they are waiting for the overnight freeze temperatures to rise. However, they also want to get ahead of the spring rains so the field doesn't get torn up too much. You will be notified as soon as we get the word the project is starting. We may be forming a small work party to save some of the grass sod for replanting after the project is completed.*

*At the April club meeting we will pick up on the clubs' important topics and events. Please plan to attend and help us plan the new season.*

## **Club Dues: regular renewals ends March 31<sup>st</sup>**

*Time is running out on the annual regular dues rates renewals. The period ends on March 31<sup>st</sup> so please plan to renew your 2023 dues before the deadline. You have many ways to pay your dues so see the section on Membership Policy at the end of this newsletter and on the club's website.*

## **Next club meeting: April 11<sup>th</sup>, 7:00pm**

*The next club meeting will be held at the Havre de Grace Activity Center located at:*

**Location: 351 Lewis Lane, Havre de Grace, MD 21078**

**Date: April 11, 2023**

**Time: Starting at 7:00pm**

**Room: Where the Christmas Party was held**

## **AMA: 2023 club Charter renewal & FRIA**

*According to Steve Snyder, President, he submitted the club's 2023 AMA Charter renewal in February 2023 for the current year. He also submitted the new FRIA application back in November 2022 and received an acknowledgment from the AMA that they sent it to the FAA in December.*

*If you would like to learn more about the proposed FAA - Recognized Identification Areas (FRIAs) topic, please click on this link: [FAA-Recognized Identification Areas \(FRIAs\) | Federal Aviation Administration](#)*

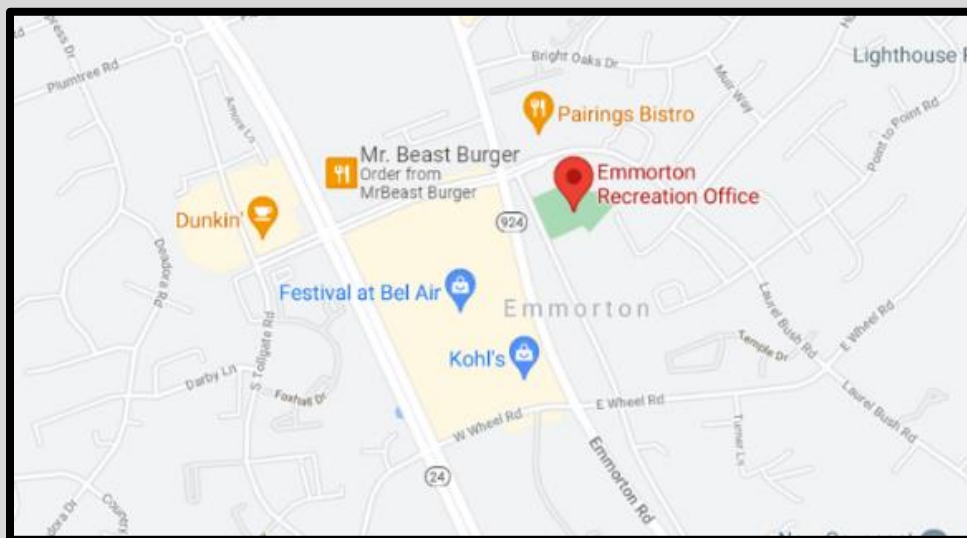
*Also, reference the March issue of Model Aviation and the article on page 8 regarding the AMA as being recognized as the first "Community Based Organization" for the purpose of submitting RC club FRIA requests to the FAA.*

## **Indoor Flying: ends March 31<sup>st</sup>**

*Indoor Flying ends on Friday, March 31<sup>st</sup>. Everyone that participated in this season's flying at the Emmorton Rec Center had a good time and enjoyed no wind, warm temps, and great comradery. So, if you can, please take advantage of the last couple weeks while it lasts. Hope to see you there!*

*Indoor flying for 2022 – 2023 is in full swing for all members at the Emmorton Gym facility in Bel Air, MD. Indoor flying is scheduled as follows and an email reminder will be sent out weekly, including closed sessions:*

- **Date:** Indoor Flying continues on consecutive Fridays through March 31, 2023
- **Time:** Noon to 2:00pm
- **Location:** The Emmorton Recreation Center.
  - **2213 Old Emmorton Rd, Bel Air, MD 21015**
  - **[www.emmortonrec.com](http://www.emmortonrec.com)**



## **Swan Harbor Park: normal entrance hours**

*Now that Daylight Savings Time is in effect, the main entrance gate to the Swan Harbor Park will now resume regular hours. However, it is very important that we all be extra vigilant about locking up our entrance gate to the SHRC field and our shed doors when leaving for the day.*

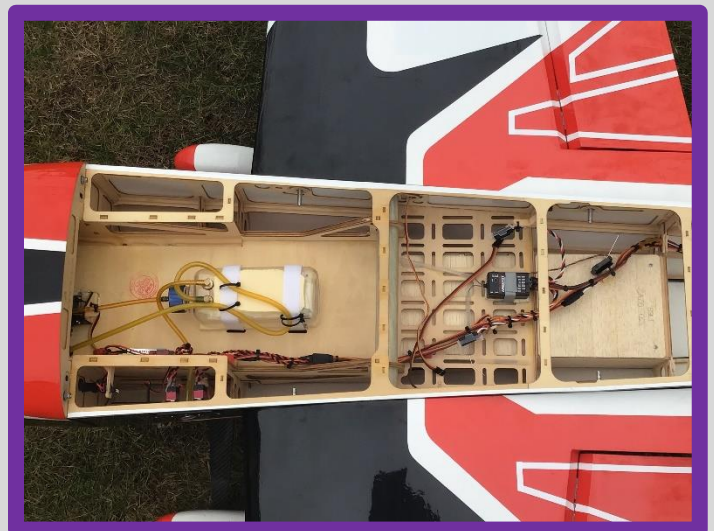
**Rule of thumb:** Last person out makes sure everything is locked!

## For Sale: Zeb Bertsch

Contact Zeb @ [443-417-4394](tel:443-417-4394)

### Hangar 9 Christen Eagle:

- OS GT22 engine
- Hitec Servos
- Tru-Turn Spinner
- Xoar Prop
- Spektrum LiFe receiver and ignition Batteries
- Miracle dual power switch
- Fuel dot
- Larger wheels for grass
- All brand new, engine never started
- Over \$1400 invested asking \$1100.



## **Safety Officer Tips: Stan Dill**

- **Entering the Flying Field:**

*Stan would like to remind members to stop and look for low flying aircraft before you cross the runway while driving into the main field. This is not only for your safety but it will help prevent an incident if a plane is on final for landing and is too low.*

- **Now let's talk about props and batteries:**

*Not long ago we used to reach over a running prop on glow fuel engines to remove the glow plug starter and to adjust the engine's high end needle valves. Just think about how many people have put their hands in the way of a running prop. Speaking from experience, I personally have taken one of our club members to the hospital from this kind of accident. However, with electric motors, the chance of getting a hand in the prop is minimal providing you use caution by keeping the throttle at ZERO and setting up a throttle kill switch. This is a good thing. Please be mindful of the best practices for running gas engines and electric motors and plan to be safe!*

*Also, when you get a new battery of any type, but especially a LIPO battery, put a date on it so you know how old it eventually gets. Follow the manufacturer's directions to charge it and any break in steps. As a safety check for older LIPO batteries, charge them up to 100% and then check their capacity on a battery checker. After the battery is at full charge, run the motor for about 2-3 minutes and then recheck the % of charge on the battery checker. See if it holds a good charge voltage or does it drop like a rock. That will tell you a lot about the battery's remaining useful life.*

*Any questions, call me, Stan.*

## **Tech Tips: spring maintenance**

*Early spring months are a good time to get your RC Aircraft ready for the new flying season. Here are some general tips you can add to your Checklist.*

### **General Inspection:**

*Perform a thorough inspection of your aircraft. Look it over. Turn it upside down. Look inside. Take the cowl off. Look for issues. You get the idea. Here are some useful check list items:*

- *Loose covering or holes in the covering that can tear further while flying.*
- *Loose screws on engines, servos, wheels, etc.*
- *Broken internal parts, formers, supports, engine mounts, etc.*

- *Do any parts need to be re-glued or re-attached securely with Loctite*
- *Loose canopy or cowling*
- *Receiver and antenna is secure and operational*
- *Loose battery/compartment*
- *Transmitter working, range check, batteries holding full charge*
- *Need to re-bind transmitter with receiver*
- *Loose or worn control surface hinges and control rods*
- *Frayed battery or servo wires from vibration*
- *Damaged or cracked propellers, out of balance*
- *Do you have all your needed tools in your flight box*
- *Did mice or spiders make nests in your plane – could hamper operation*
- *Gas engine carburetors gummed up or dirty from lack of use*
- *Glow engines gummed up from glow fuel/castor oil sediment*
- *Glow starter battery operational*
- *Gas engine starter and battery working properly*
- *Dirty covering: clean it up – it will fly and look better*
- *Puffed or questionable LIPO batteries – replace them*
- *AMA & FAA membership up to date*
- *Need help from an experienced member to get going*
- *Need TFR restriction information at field*
- *Attend monthly meetings for up to date club events and activities*

**Batteries:** *Check and assess your batteries where possible. Are the batteries accepting a full charge? How old are they? Batteries usually start to fail at the 3-4 year mark. For LIPO's, are they swollen or puffed? It could be a sign of a failure looming even though they still work. Replace any batteries you determine are subject to failure and do yourself a favor and avoid a problem in the air.*

**Battery chargers:** *Are you charging your batteries at the correct charge rate? Check the charger's owner's manual, website, or with someone in the Club you're confident can help validate your process. Look in the club's website under "Tech Corner" for additional charging information.*

**Loose Parts:** *Check for loose bolts, screws, covering and other essential gear. Use a small amount of Loctite to keep bolts from coming loose from vibration. Repair any torn or loose covering as it will only get bigger and eventually cause a problem you do not want.*

**Servos:** *Check your servos. Turn the TX & RX on and move the sticks on the transmitter in all directions (with the engine off, please!). Listen and look for servos that bind or slip during their travel. It may be a sign of worn gears and the servo may need replacing.*

**Propellers:** *Check your Props. Are they nicked, cracked or out of balance? This can cause extra vibration and wear out the engine bearings and shake the airframe causing unwanted issues. Clean the Props, balance the props or replace them.*

**Transmitters:** *Check your transmitter. Is it "Binding" correctly with the on-board receiver of the aircraft? Follow the manufacturer's procedures for this step. Actually, this is a good practice to be followed routinely during the flying season as well.*

**Trim Settings:** Check the trim settings and any other settings to fix any quirky flying tendencies, that you may recall from your last flights with that plane. Be sure to check them again after flying the aircraft at the field.

**Aircraft Balance:** Check your aircraft's balance. Was it flying tail heavy or is it nose heavy? Things can change so it is a good idea to check the aircraft's balance to be sure it is flying as best it can. It can be difficult or frustrating to fly an aircraft that is out of balance and could also be a challenge to land easily.

**Spark/Glow Plugs:** Check your spark plugs or glow plugs depending on whether it is a gasser or glow fuel burner. They can become fouled if your engine's HS & LS settings are off. If questionable, you may want to check your engine's settings when at the field next. There are various visual indications of a spark plug's performance based on the carburetor's settings, but generally a medium light tan color on the plug's electrode is a good indication of good HS & LS settings. Replace the plugs if they look fouled or are heavily coated with carbon.

**Fuel:** Check your fuel. Using fresh fuel is always a good practice. It will allow the engine to run at its best performance assuming it is properly tuned.

**Oil Mix:** As always use a good oil for gas/oil mix 2 stroke engines. Check the oil mix ratios in your fuel. Engines do not run well on a lean oil mix and can overheat.

**Check any manufacturer's recommendations** you're not sure about to verify your equipment is operating the best it can.

**Clean It Up:** Give the aircraft a good cleaning. A lot of times we just give it a swift cleaning just to get it in the car to go home from the field. Make it look good as well.

**Retire It or Spruce It Up:** Do you have a plane sitting in the corner that you are deciding whether to retire it or not? Well, now is a good time to spruce it up. Maybe some new covering or a new engine can put life back into one of your old favorites.

## **Club PICS:**



*Flagler Rams RC Airfield, Florida. Steve Snyder flew at this field while on vacation in February with his wife.*



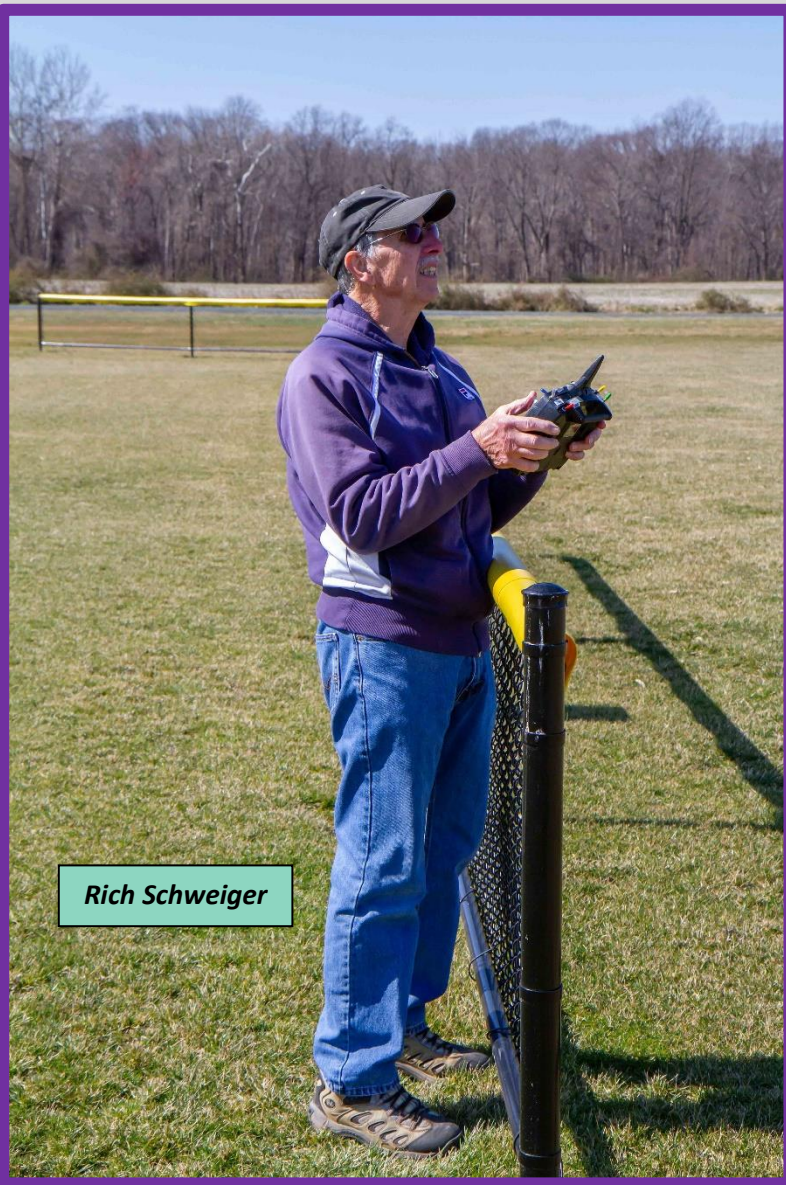




**Dan Seldomridge, VP/2023**







*Rich Schweiger*



**PILOT'S  
3  
STATION**



*Stan Dill, Safety Officer/2023*







**Bob "100's Out Here" Walker**













*Ron Lazzeri, Secretary/Newsletter/2023*





## **Tyler Perry's RC**

**Check out the following YouTube videos of Tyler Perry's RC. The accomplishments of Tyler Perry's RC hobby has been published all over the RC community in Model Airplane News, Flying Giants, Jimmy Fallon, etc.**

**Tyler Perry is an American actor, filmmaker, playwright, and entrepreneur. He is the creator and performer of the Madea character, a tough elderly woman.**

**Below are just a couple of the many YouTube videos depicting Tyler's RC hangar, planes, and excellent flying skills. You can also find a video of his estate with a built-in runway.**

**Who says money can't buy happiness?**



## General Information:

### Membership Dues Policy

To pay your club dues for the season, either as a renewing member or a new member, please forward them to Steve Snyder, Treasurer. As you all know we depend on our dues to fund projects and general maintenance for our club.

#### Existing Annual Membership Renewals:


- Annual renewal membership: \$80.00
- Renewal period: 1/1/YR thru 3/31/YEAR
- Payment is due by: 3/31/YEAR

#### New Membership Dues:

- Full year new membership: \$130.00
- Joining period: 1/1/YR thru 12/31/YEAR (\*)
  - Includes \$80.00 annual membership & \$50.00 first year initiation fee

(\*) Note: New members joining the club on 9/1/YR or after in that same year are considered paid in full for the remainder of the year and the immediately following year. The reason for this exception is that the current flying season is about 75% over and we want to give new members an incentive to join our club.


**You can pay your dues with PayPal:** If you decide to pay your dues with PayPal go to the club's website: [swanharborrc.com](http://swanharborrc.com) and click on the top menu item How to Join. This section will explain everything you'll need to know regarding how to join as a new member or pay your dues as a renewing member. In this section you will see the PayPal payment options as pictured below. Please take note that the PayPal payment includes a service fee added to the payment total as seen below.



**Member Renewal**  
\$83.50

[Buy Now](#)


Yearly Dues for Members, due by March 31st. After this date, you must join as new member (\$80+\$3.50 Service Fee)



**New Member**  
\$135.25

[Buy Now](#)


New member fee - dues (\$80) plus initiation fee (\$50). After September 1st, Fee includes the next year. (\$130+\$5.25 Service Fee)



**Junior Renewal**  
\$42.00

[Buy Now](#)

½ dues under age 18 years of age, due by March 31st after date must join as new member. (\$40+\$2.00 Service Fee)



**Junior New Member**  
\$80.75

[Buy Now](#)

½ dues and ½ initiation fee for ages under 18, After September 1st, fee includes the next year. (\$77.50+\$3.25 Service Fee)

**What members are working on:** Building a new aircraft, assembling an ARF, working on an old reliable, or want to sell something? We would love to hear about what you are working on. Send us some information and a couple of pics of your project and we will post it in the next monthly newsletter. Send your emails to: [ronlazzeri@verizon.net](mailto:ronlazzeri@verizon.net).

**Newsletter:** To receive the Swan Harbor RC Newsletter by email, please send a request to: [sslotnick@mac.com](mailto:sslotnick@mac.com).

**Photos:** Anyone who would like to have new photos appear in the slideshow or the photo gallery is encouraged to send their photos to Stephen Slotnick at [sslotnick@mac.com](mailto:sslotnick@mac.com) and he will add them as soon as he can.

**Interest in Joining the Club:** Please see the instructions on the Swan Harbor RC website [www.swanharborrc.com](http://www.swanharborrc.com) under the heading "How to Join." Additional membership information or questions can be obtained from Steve Snyder at (443) 243-4324 or email: [snyder800@gmail.com](mailto:snyder800@gmail.com).

**Harford County's No Smoking Policy on County Property:**  
We follow all county rules and regulations and ask for your cooperation.

Thank You!

