

AMA Charter No. 2940

THE DEAD STICK FLYER

Havre de Grace, MD

Volume 14, No. 7

THE NEWSLETTER OF SWAN HARBOR RC

www.SwanHarborRC.com

July 2003



President:	Jim Snyder	410-256-3299
Vice President:	Steve Snyder	410-638-2895
Sect'y / Newsletter:	Achille Silvestri	410-838-6261
Treasurer:	Dan Bowman	410-272-4251
Safety Officer:	Bob Steinger	410-569-7235
Member at Large:	Tom Obringer	410-282-3862
Member at Large:	Tom Smith	410-272-0116

Club Meeting, July 10th, 7:00 pm, Swan Harbor Flying Field. Come early, bring a plane.

GENERAL CLUB NEWS ...

We opened our first meeting of the season out at the field. Of course, it was in a light rain, but we had hot dogs, Mrs. Walker's brownies and the famous Tim Getz fries. Good stuff. Jim Snyder, the President, was on the road again, so Vice President Steve Snyder opened the meeting of June 7th at 7:00 pm. The minutes are as follows:

1. Steve reminded everyone that more hats are on order.
2. Parks and Recs said absolutely we cannot bring stones for our driveway. But we can bring fill dirt if we wish.
3. Gene Clark said that he could borrow a bulldozer and a roller from his company for free. There would be a cost involved in transporting the equipment from Cecil County to the field.
4. The Club voted to allow up to \$500 to borrow the bulldozer and/or the roller and buy fill dirt. Gene is point for this action.
5. Joe Nixon moved, and it was approved, that we spend \$20 for a towing strap for any vehicles that get stuck in the mud.



**Bulldozer ARF
Assembled, Ready to Fly**

We barely got out of there before a huge driving storm and "thunderboomers" came on. But we got the meeting in and had a chance to touch base with everyone.

These are the minutes of record. Any questions or changes should be directed to Achille Silvestri, ph 410-838-6261 or e-mail axsilvestri@earthlink.net.

JUNE IS THE CRUELEST MONTH ...

I don't know what happened or who we offended, but June was one of the worst months of RC flying that I have ever experienced. This was the rainiest period I can remember. We lost our open house. Rain was so bad that Tom Obringer had to make his fuel deliveries in a driving rain in the middle of Mars parking lot. The "ditch witch" we ordered to cut some channels to drain water off the driveway wouldn't work because the



Dan Bowman and the Lanier Stinger

ground was too wet. The bulldozer that Gene Clark got to grade the driveway has been sitting idle for almost a week because, guess why ... the heavy rains. Tell me it will end soon.

SWAN HARBOR RC IN PRINT ...

We got good coverage for the open house that never happened. *The Sun* paper had a great picture of Steve Snyder in the Harford County Section. Also, the *Prime Times*, a Harford County paper that focuses on senior citizens' interests, carried a very nice color picture of Tom Obringer. We got a large number of hits from the *Prime Times*. Good newspaper to place future announcements.

FROM THE PITS ...

Flying this month has been very meager. Still we were able to get a couple of good fly days near the end of the month. We caught up with Dan Bowman and he was flying like his old ferocious self. This day he was flying his Lanier Stinger with the 120-size 2.4 Fox gas engine.

Also, Joe Nixon had a beautiful 60-size "Dave Patrick" ARF Ultimate Bipe. It's a great looking model, powered with a Saito 180 4-stroke. A whole team of "doctors" -- Joe, John Kocon, Tom Smith and Al Bridges -- worked on tuning it up. A couple more touches and she'll be ready to go. Can't wait to see this baby perform.

TOM SMITH AND THE MAGIC HOLD DOWNS ...

Tom Smith is one of our most safety conscious members, and we are lucky for that. One of the safety items that Tom especially likes is the fork-shaped hold downs we use for our planes. They are soldered together copper piping, some "L's" and a "T". To protect the airplane, the copper piping is covered with insulating material. There's a long stretch of these hold downs in the pit area for anyone who wants to use them. The Club maintains them. While they seemed strange in the beginning, they are actually very comfortable to work. And they do add a significant safety edge, especially when you're tuning up your plane.



Tom Smith and the Magic Hold Downs

But Tom, never satisfied, is always finding a way to upgrade them. The insulating material fit poorly over the pipe and, as a result, deteriorated rapidly. In his experiments, Tom found that the best covering for the pipe is the "fun noodles" which people use in swimming pools. The material fits snugly over the piping and, when cut to proper length, makes a very attractive device. The multi-colored hold downs were very refreshing after those dark and gloomy days. Tom plans to write an article on the hold downs for submission to one of the RC modeling magazines.

CALLING ALL DIGITALISTS ...



Joe Nixon, John Kocon and "Dave Patrick"

All you digital camera freaks will be pleased with the article "Capturing Models Digitally" which appears in *Model Aviation*, p. 67, August 2003. Although the article focuses on photographing model airplanes, there is a tremendous amount of material on the background of digital cameras. The material presented is both technical and highly anecdotal. The article is especially useful for novices, like myself, and others who are more advanced. There are a lot of thoughts on the types of cameras to consider, depending on your planned use ... e-mail, printing and enlarging, slide show on your computer, etc. It may prevent you from over buying.

THURSDAY IS GRASS CUTTING DAY ...

The grass cutting program seems to be working very well. We haven't missed a cut yet. There always seems to be someone there when we need him, although Tom Smith does take the brunt of the effort. Let's help him out.

ABOUT SWAN HARBOR RC ...

Swan Harbor RC meets the second Thursday of the month. During the summer, we meet at our flying field at Swan Harbor at 7:00 pm. The public is welcome to the meetings and to fly with us. To meet and fly with us at Swan Harbor, take Oakington Road off of US 40 (between Aberdeen and Havre de Grace) and follow the signs. Membership information can be obtained from Dan Bowman, 410-272-4251, FLYERDCB@aol.com. To learn more about Swan Harbor RC (formerly MAOA), go to <http://www.harfordvista.com/rcnews.asp> and click onto January 2001.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July 10, 2003	Swan Harbor RC Club meeting, Swan Harbor Flying Field, 7:00 pm.
July 11-13, 2003	Warbirds Over Delaware. Lums Pond, DE. Delaware RC Club. CD David Malchione, Ph 410-444-3855.
July 19-20, 2003	Mid-Atlantic Warbirds. Essex Sky Park, Baltimore County, MD. Chesapeake Bay Miniature Aircraft Assn. CD George Hammel, Ph 410-285-4105.
Sept 13, 2003	Swan Harbor RC Giant Scale IMAA Fly-In, Swan Harbor Flying Field, Havre de Grace, MD. CD Steve Snyder Ph 410-638-2895.
Sept 14, 2003	Monster Modelers of Maryland. Sunday Flyers field, Baltimore County, MD, CD Ernie Hancock, Ph 410-477-1448.
Sept 20, 2003	Mid-Atlantic Radio Control swap meet, Radio Control Modelers of Baltimore (RCMB), Parkton, MD, Jerry Stevens, Ph 410-879-4806.

Archives:

Past Newsletters

The Dead Stick Flyer newsletter is a communication of Swan Harbor RC. Every attempt is made to assure the accuracy of the information presented, but the Editor cannot be responsible for errors or omissions. Content copyright ©2011 by Swan Harbor RC. Users may download and/or print some or all of the material on this site solely for their own non-commercial use. Any other copying or redistribution or publication of any downloaded material is strictly prohibited without the express written consent of the copyright owner. Editorial content provided by writers does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Swan Harbor RC which accepts no responsibility for results of advice given by columnists or writers.

Copyright ©2002-2013 Swan Harbor RC. All rights reserved.