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THE DEAD STICK FLYER

Havre de Grace,
MD

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The Newsletter of SWAN HARBOR RC

May 2004

www.SwanHarborRC.com



President:	Steve Snyder	410-638-2895
Vice President:	Jim Snyder	410-256-3299
Sect'y / Newsletter:	Achille Silvestri	410-838-6261
Treasurer:	Dan Bowman	410-272-4251
Safety Officer:	Bob Steininger	410-569-7235
Member at Large:	Bob Walker	410-893-1887
Member at Large:	Tom Smith	410-272-0116
Webmaster:	Steve Snyder	steve@SwanHarborRC.com

**Club Meeting May 13th, 7:00PM , Swan Harbor Flying Field
Come Early, Get Some Flights and Good Eats**

GENERAL CLUB NEWS..

President, Steve Snyder, opened the meeting of Apr 8 at 7:00PM at the Churchville Rec Center. The minutes are as follows:

1. Jim Snyder reported that the field trip to the Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center was very successful... a good show and a good time for all who participated.
2. Some field work included scraping the road with a grate and opening up the ditch by the road to drain off some of the water. When the ground dries a little more there are plans to put in an underground pipe to drain water from the lower end of the field and parking area.
3. It is still planned to rent a portable toilet for the summer season.
4. Steve reported that our website has been down for the past two weeks. Accordingly, members on internet did not get their newsletter as expected. I sent out the rough data that we use for the internet as pictures and notepad text to all of the members. Not as nice as reading it on the internet. Steve is hoping to get us online with a new server shortly. Members who get hard copies of the newsletter in the mail received uninterrupted service.
5. We'll resume Club meetings at 7:00PM at the flying field in May. Come early and get some flights in. It is planned to have some good eats. There will be a box for donations, don't be shy.
6. Tom Obringer will be making fuel order deliveries on May 1, 9:00AM at the Mars parking lot in Aberdeen.
7. We had a nice turnout for show and tell. See the next section. 8. Dan Bowman reports we now have 57 members for 2004. Good show.



Tim Getz and the Extra 300

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

SHOW AND TELL...



Achille Silvestri
with the Pretender P-19

We had some nice participation in our show and tell at the April meeting. Tim Getz brought in a very nice looking Sig Extra 300 ARF. It has about a 76 inch wingspan and is powered with a Fox 2.4 engine...mint condition, we'll be looking for it at the field soon.

Steve and Jim Snyder completed their profile P-38. It has a 50 inch wing and is powered with twin OS 25s. This plane should tear across the sky with plenty of vertical. Steve says the plane will serve as trainer so

that they can get used to flying twin engine planes such as their giant B-25 Bomber, which is scheduled to come out later this year.

Achille Silvestri presented yet another perspective on 4 Star 60s. This time he made it to look something akin to the classic P-19 trainer of the 30s. It has a 70 inch wing and is powered with a Super Tigre 90...hopefully, no surprises on flying.

CAPTAIN JOHN KIRK, A WORLD WAR II FLYING ACE, PASSED AWAY...

John Kirk, a member of the Radio Control Modelers of Baltimore (RCMB) just passed away. John was a highly decorated pilot of WWII. I first met John at RCMB's flea market/fun fly in September 2000. What a pleasure it was to talk with him. He was the real McCoy, a flying ace with six kills to his credit, including the first German jet fighter, a Messerschmidt ME262.

He was sent to Duxford, England as part of the 78th Fighter Group of the 8th Air Force. This is where the "Brits" fought the Battle of Britain off a simple grass runway. John flew escort to the B-17 Flying Fortresses which were bombing Germany. He flew 12 missions as a P47 Thunderbolt pilot. He was later assigned a P51D Mustang and flew an additional 60 missions.

John was shot down twice and each time was able to reach safety through the help of the underground resistance. John received many awards for his service, including the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Silver Star, the Purple Heart, and the Air Medal with 17 Oak Leaf Clusters.

John was in modeling all his life. He was very active in RCMB and was admired by all its members. They honored him by naming their site after him, Kirk Field. As an additional tribute they installed a weather vane using the profile and markings of his old P51 Mustang.

John was an affable person. One of the things he took pride in telling me was that he was the real "Captain Kirk". That pretender on Star-Trek wasn't even around when he made his mark.

All those black and white photos of WWII don't seem so unreal or far away when you have a



Captain John Kirk

chance to talk to someone like John. What a pleasure it was to have met him.



**The Carolinas Aviation Museum
Charlotte, NC**

THE CAROLINAS AVIATION MUSEUM....

Proving that we will spare no expense in bringing you the highest quality Newsletter, we traveled to North Carolina to get you this story. Actually, we were going to Disney World and stopped near the Charlotte/Douglas International Airport in Charlotte, NC. We noticed in our brochures that the Carolinas Aviation Museum was located on an older portion of the air field.

We had to investigate. The organization was founded in 1992 as the Carolinas Historic Aviation Commission (CHAC). They are a non-profit

organization and supported solely by membership dues, fund raisers, the gift shop and other donations.

Their members work on the restoration of a variety of airplanes. The day we visited we saw a couple of them working on a DC-3. They had sheets of aluminum and were cutting some sections with tin snips to repair a missing panel. These fellows weren't a lot different than the guys you see at the Smithsonian except, maybe, they were a much smaller group and had fewer resources to draw on. They didn't look a lot different than our members except they are restoring and exhibiting while we are building and crashing. Some of them had, earlier, been active in RC modeling. There was a real sense of comradery and pride in the planes they had restored.

They have on display a variety of aircraft including a rare Douglas "Skystreak", a T-33 jet trainer, an F-84 Thunderjet and a great number of unusual and one of a kind planes.

Additionally, they have a large number of engines which they have restored and other aircraft memorabilia. CHAC has a website at www.chacweb.com.

FUEL FOR 2004...

Tom Obringer will be delivering the fuel orders May 1, at the Mars parking lot in Aberdeen at 9:00AM

TIME TO RENEW....

If you didn't submit your 2004 membership application by March 31 you're late and are required to sign up as a new member.

Also, be sure to get your 2004 AMA membership. You absolutely need it to fly starting Jan 1.

ABOUT SWAN HARBOR RC...



Swan Harbor RC meets the second Thursday of the month. Off season we meet at Churchville Rec. Center, Glenville Road, Churchville. The public is welcome to the meetings. To fly with us at Swan Harbor take Oakington Road off US 40 (between Aberdeen and Havre de Grace) and follow the signs for Swan Harbor Farm. 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 www.harfordvista.com/rcnews.asp and click onto January 2001

**Jim and Steve Snyder
and the Profile P-38**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 8, 2004	IMAA Giant Scale Fly-In, PGRC
May 13, 2004	Swan Harbor RC Club Meeting, 7:00PM. Swan Harbor Field
May 22, 04	FMAC Flea Market. Frederick Model Aircraft Club. 4-H Center, Brasford Road, Frederick, MD. POC Steve Biron, Ph 301-371-5922 or Bob Pitt, Ph 301-846-0738.
May 23, 04 (new date)	Swan Harbor RC Family Fun Day. Starts when you get there
Jun 5, 2004	Swan Harbor RC Skyfest Open House, Swan Harbor Flying Field, Havre de Grace, MD. Flying starts at 9:30AM. Rain date Jun 12.
Jun 4,5,6, 2004	"T.O.C. of Maryland"-04 IMAC Contest. Southwest Area Park, Balto. Co. Sponsored by SWAP Modelers. www.tocofmaryland.com
Aug 27,28,29, 2004	Bealeton Fly In at Bealeton VA. See. www.bealetonflyin.com for more details. Sponsored by DC/RC http://www.dc-rc.org
Sept 11, 2004	Swan Harbor Giant Scale Fly-In, Swan Harbor Flying Field, Havre de Grace, MD. Registration at 9:00AM, Flying at 9:30AM.
Sept 19, 2004	Warbirds Scale Rally, PGRC

Archives:

Past Newsletters

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