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THE DEAD STICK FLYER

Havre de Grace,
MD

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The Newsletter of SWAN HARBOR RC

September
2009

www.SwanHarborRC.com



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Club Meeting at the Flying Field September 10, 7PM.

We're having another of our famous cookouts. Come early, bring a plane and get some flights in.

And especially don't miss our famous Fall Fly-In on September 19, 10AM.

GENERAL CLUB NEWS...

President, Jim Snyder, convened the meeting 7PM, August 13, 2009. The minutes are as follows:

1. Jim made a very big point of appreciation for how well the field is maintained. We want to especially thank Dan Bowman and Marvin Tedrow for the very large effort they put into it.
2. Remember that our Fall Fly-In is September 19. It's a great day, bring your family and friends.
3. Parks and Recs has requested that we not fly Fri, Aug 18, 6:15-7:00PM and Sat, Sep 5, 6:45-7:00PM. You evening fliers should make a special note of this. We don't want to anger the landlord. Steve Snyder will post it on the bulletin board.
4. The subject of Christmas raffle prizes was raised again. One suggestion was that we raffle off some 40, 50, 60 or 90 size airplanes.
5. Tom Obringer brought a plaque for Jim. See the story below.
6. Ron Lazzeri says our membership stands at 79. Fantastic, we just keep getting better.



Steve and Jim Snyder and the Raffle Prizes from Loch Haven

If you have any questions regarding the minutes or contents of this Newsletter, please direct them to Achille Silvestri, Ph 410-838-6261 or e-mail axsilvestri@verizon.net

THE SWAN HARBOR RC FALL FLY-IN...



Jim Snyder and the Surprise Trophy

This is our second interclub flying event that we sponsor every year. All size planes and helicopters are acceptable. It's going to be September 19 10AM, with a rain date of September 26. Our Spring Open House was very successful. There will be food and facilities available. Be sure to come out, bring your family and friends. Especially bring anyone that is interested in RC or may already have a plane to fly. It's a free fly day. [Click here link for poster.](#)

ONE FOR THE RECORD BOOK...

Jim and Steve Snyder and Tom Obringer always go to the Annual Wings Over Piper Fly-In held at Lock Haven, PA. Were you aware that in the raffles in 2007 Steve won the J3 Piper Cub and in 2008 Jim won the Super Cub? They are both 1/3 scale Balsa USA kits. Now what are the odds. Do these guys have voodoo-magic? But that's not the end of the story. This year Jim and Steve came home early. Tom Obringer who stayed to the bitter end brought home a surprise for Jim. It was a plaque awarded to the flier who made the most realistic reproduction of a Cub. Jim did it with the Cub he had won only last year. Now that's a flying story worth repeating. And, of course, we're very proud of him in presenting such a good image of the Club.

FROM THE PITS...

- Caught one of our new members, John Lewis, flying a Giles G202 powered with an OS 46. Good flying plane. And John is a good flyer too, he's already been very helpful in lending assistance to pilots in need.
- Gary Gunter keeps bringing them out. This day he had an Ultrafly Extra 300. It has 54 inch wing and is all electric powered. Good flier.
- Achille Silvestri brought out his twice rebuilt Bleriot (a 4-Star60 in disguise).
- Tim Getz tuned up the 90 Supertigre engine and gave it a test flight . Flies great.



Gary Gunter and the Ultrafly Extra 300



John Lewis and the Giles G202

SAFETY REPORT....Bob Walker, Safety Officer

One of my all time favorite airplanes has been a Hangar 9 Twist 3D. I don't think it will do any 3D with the .60 size engine I had on it, but was a real reliable plane and was where I had my Airtronics 2.4 GHz radio. About 3 weeks ago, I had been flying it for about 3 days straight, each night charging the batteries. As I was making final approach for a final flight of the evening over the soy beans, the plane stopped responding. I was moving the sticks and nothing was happening. The radio has a fail safe, but the engine did not throttle down, although it had been at about 1/4 throttle. It shallow dove way way out in the soy beans. Stan Wilson trudged through the soybeans with me and he found part of the tail sticking up. The plane was a wreck. We got it back to the bench and the radio was dead. I think Danny Bowman had a battery tester and it was reading 1.2V. To make a long story short, 3 of the four cells shorted out or died. These were JR batteries and probably no more than 3-4 years old. From a safety stand point, I was very lucky the batteries did not decide to expire close to cars or people. But this shows the need to check our batteries all the time. I try to cycle my batteries every now and then, but maybe we all should use chargers that do this routinely. Some people toss their batteries every one or two seasons. Maybe there was no way to avert this crash and why I call this a doomed flight. Our batteries should not be taken for granted and need to be routinely checked as they are often the weak link in our radio systems. Another Doomed Flight....of a helicopter. I am not going to name names since I did not see this in person. Reportedly, a heli pilot was concentrating on flying his chopper one evening. Someone drove up, went over to the pilot, stuck his finger in his back for a surprise....the startled pilot jumped, crashing the helicopter, causing at least \$200 in damage. A pilot, whether flying an airplane or heli or whatever needs to spend 100% of his concentration on flying. That is why doing things like this, taxiing in the pit toward a pilot, etc is just not using common sense. I do not know what eventually happened, but I would be presenting a bill to the person who likes to sneak up on people. One final note.....we still need to get everyone using 2.4 GHz to use a pin and put a card in the slot. We are pretty compliant, but not 100%. We are not doing this for frequency control, but to make sure everyone flying has AMA. This is an absolute requirement at our field and part of our agreement with the county to use the field. We can't ask strangers to take a pin when everyone else is not setting an example. That's it for this month. If you have any safety related issues, let us know.

ABOUT SWAN HARBOR RC...

Swan Harbor RC meets 7PM the second Thursday of the month. In the Fall and Winter we meet at the Churchville Rec Center located on Glenville Road in Churchville. Otherwise we meet at our flying field at Swan Harbor Farm. The public is welcome to the meetings. To fly with us at Swan Harbor flying field take Oakington Road off US 40 (between Aberdeen and Havre de Grace) and follow the signs for Swan Harbor Farm. Be sure to have your 2009 AMA membership because you need it to fly. A [SWAN HARBOR RC 2009 Membership Applications](#) is available on line or additional information can be obtained from Ron Lazzeri, 410-256-4210, ronlazzeri@verizon.net. To learn more about Swan Harbor RC (formerly MAOA); go to www.harfordvista.com/rcnews/ and click onto January 2001

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sep 10, 2009	Swan Harbor RC Club Meet. 7PM at the flying field. Cookout. Come early get some flights in.
Sep 19, 2009	Swan Harbor RC Fall Fly-In, 10AM. Club Flying Field at Swan Harbor Farm. (Rain date Sep 26). POC: Steve Snyder 410-638-2895, E-Mail: ssnyder@comcast.net
Nov 7, 2009	Auction and Swap meet, Shue Middle School, Newark, DE. For info: Dick Stewart PH 302-368-5717 or e-mail balticply@aol.com Open 9AM, auction 11AM. Sponsor: DELAWARE R/C HELI CLUB

Archives:

Past Newsletters

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