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# THE DEAD STICK FLYER

Havre de Grace,  
MD

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The Newsletter of SWAN HARBOR RC

May 2010

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



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**Club Meeting at the Flying field, Thursday, May 13, 7PM.**

**Come early and get some flights in.**

**We start our summer cookouts with hotdogs, hamburgers and French fries in our new cooker (and new oil).**

## GENERAL CLUB NEWS...

President Jim Snyder opened the meeting April 8, 2010, 7PM at the Churchville Rec Center.

1. This is the last meeting at the Churchville Rec Center for the season. Meetings will resume May 13 at the flying field at 7PM.
2. The Port-a-Pot is in...what a relief.
3. We're still looking to have the field rolled and the road resurfaced by the end of April. Dale Davis, very generously, contributed \$200 towards the crushed rock for resurfacing of the road. Good guy, Dale. Thanks.
4. It was approved to purchase a new frier for our cookouts at the field.
5. Plan for a work party in May to build a retainer for mulch at the other shelter. We'll also add mulch to both overhangs.
6. It was agreed to adopt the following policy for short time members of the Club: This was considered in light of new BRAC personnel which may come into the area, but can also be applied to other short term members. If an individual will be here for less than a year, then we will wave the initiation fee and charge them only the \$50 annual dues. However, if he chooses to stay longer, then he will have to sign up as a regular member, paying annual dues and initiation fee.
7. Steve Snyder reported that we already have 72 members. Outstanding.



**Dan Bowman and the Extra 260**

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](mailto:axsilvestri@verizon.net)

## FROM THE PITS...

- Wonder why that field looks so good all the time?...it's the team of Dan Bowman and Marvin Tedrow who keep it cut regularly.
- Gene Clark went to the Massey Air Museum, Inc. for their chili fly-in...the chili went faster than the planes. They had plenty of planes including an ultralite, gyrocopter, Smith mini-biplane and a Piper Cub. Great day out.
- Caught Bob Burke flying a SAAB Draken. It's an electric ducted fan from Easy Tiger Models. Really fast and spins on a dime.
- Dan Bowman was flying an Extra 260. Powerful flyer with an NDL 28 cc gas engine.
- Scott Jordan is practicing with his new fleet of helicopters. Saw him flying his Raptor 50 SE. Looks to me like he's doing pretty well.



**Marvin Tedrow of the  
Bowman-Tedrow Lawn Maintenance  
and Screen Door Servicing Co.**



**Gene Clark at the Mass**



**Bob Burke and the SAAB Draken**



**Scott Jordan's Raptor 50 SE**

### **SAFETY REPORT....Bob Walker, Safety Officer**

For the airplanes and radios that have not made it to the field since last year, there are a few simple things you may want to check so that you can be flying....not tinkering or picking up pieces.

1. I have written about batteries a number of times. This is probably the root cause of a number of crashes. Make sure you charge those sleepy batteries for at least 24 hours. If you have a cyclor, this the time to use it. Many batteries charge up to 4.8 or 6.0, but mysteriously lose capacity after months of inactivity. If you can't remember how old the batteries are, you probably want to replace them. New battery packs are much cheaper than new airplanes, engines, etc.
2. Has your airplane been hanging nose down in the garage or basement.....dining room maybe? Check out that fuel tank then. The rubber/plastic stopper has had that little bit of old fuel soak it for months. The stopper often becomes hard and leaks. Replace the stopper or tank. Otherwise, you may be wondering why the engine runs bad.
3. While on the subject of fuel tank, check out that fuel line. How many times do you get to the field and find the line has a cut, has loosened up, etc.
4. Things somehow change when they sit a while. The gremlins get in over the winter and loosen up parts. Make sure the keepers are on your linkages. Tug at the servos and all the control surfaces to make sure nothing has come loose. Glue joints seem to loosen too, after sitting a long time.
5. If you have put a larger battery pack or installed larger, more powerful servos over the winter,

it is a good idea to check the balance.

6. How is your fuel? Fuel is hydroscopic, meaning it absorbs water. If you put your fuel can or bottle away over the winter and air could get to it, you have water in the fuel. Anything other than a tightly sealed container will have lost most of the nitro content too. It is probably better to pitch a few ounces of last years fuel and start with fresh. Again, tightly sealed fuel, that is filled to the top should have no adverse problems and last for several seasons.....but I said tightly sealed.
7. Before taking off, check all your control surfaces. Make sure the transmitter is set to the plane you are trying to fly. No fun flying with reversed ailerons.
8. One last thing....wear that eye protection. There are a lot of propellers, rotors, etc going round and round at the field. This is a good excuse to buy a cool looking pair of new safety sunglasses.

## **A PRODUCT REPORT...by Leo Behr**

Just recently I ordered two rolls of covering from Hobby King. The covering is 25in. wide and 5 meters long and cost \$12.95 per roll. Monokote on the other hand is 23 ½ in. wide and 2 meters long and about the same price. Shipping from Hong Kong was around \$19.00 and for some reason they gave me a discount of \$2.50 so the total bill was around \$42 .00. A comparable amount of Monokote would be about \$65.00. It took about two weeks after placing the order for the covering to arrive. I couldn't wait to give this new stuff a try. At first I was apprehensive but much to my surprise this covering worked great. It went on very easy, went around corners, adhered well and found very little bubbles when it went over solid areas. My iron was set at 350 degrees and went to 370 to shrink the covering with no wrinkles. It is far superior to Monokote. If anyone is interested, log onto [www.hobbyking.com](http://www.hobbyking.com)

## **R/C TAILGATE SALE AND AUCTION...**

This seemed like a little different type of tailgate so we gave it more coverage. The Cloud Kings R/C Club is sponsoring an R/C tailgate sale and auction at their West Field, 160 Cream Rd., Oxford, PA 19393. The activity will be on May 22, 2010, 9:00 'til noon. Call ahead to reserve your free space (610-732-4100). Food and beverages are free. Sell or trade anything you want. If the items are auctioned off no commission will be charged to the seller or buyer. Sounds good..

## **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 2010 Membership Applications](#) is available on line or additional information can be obtained from Steve Snyder, 410-638-2895, [Steve@SwanharborRC.com](mailto:Steve@SwanharborRC.com). To learn more about Swan Harbor RC (formerly MAOA); go to [www.harfordvista.com/rcnews/](http://www.harfordvista.com/rcnews/) and click onto January 2001

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 1, 2010	Radio Control Modelers of Baltimore is having an Open House and FREE Club Swap Meet at the Kirk Flying Field. Call Don Hands for details @ 410-592-3488.
May 13, 2010	Swan Harbor RC Club Meet at the flying field, 7PM. Come early and get some flights in. We start our summer cookouts. You don't want o miss that.
May 8-15, 2010	Come to the Joe Nall 2010. Triple Tree Aerodrome, Woodruff, SC <a href="http://www.joenall.com">www.joenall.com</a>
May 22, 2010	R/C tailgate Sale and Auction sponsored by Cloud Kings R/C Club. 160 Cream Rd., Oxford , PA 19363. See Newsletter for details.
June 5, 2010	Club Spring Fly-In. Rain date June 12.
Nov 4, 21010	Our normal 2nd Thursday Club meet is moved to a week ahead because Nov 11 is a holiday.
Dec 11, 2010	Club Christmas Party, 12-4, Rec Center. Put it on your calendar.

Archives:

Past Newsletters

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