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THE DEAD STICK FLYER

Havre de Grace,
MD

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The Newsletter of SWAN HARBOR RC

April 2011

www.SwanHarborRC.com



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**Club Meeting at the Churchville Rec Center, Thursday, April 14, 7PM.
Bring something for show and tell.**

GENERAL CLUB NEWS...

The March meeting was called to order by Vice President Scott Jordan at 7:03 pm at Churchville Rec Center.

1. There were 13 members present.
2. Treasurer Steve Snyder reported we have a total 51 members. After March 31, members not renewed will have to pay the initiation fee to be reinstated.



March Meeting

Old Business

1. Gary Gunter reports the fielding very wet and covered with goose droppings.
2. Danny Bowman will work on the tractors if someone will deliver to his house.
3. There was discussion on giving away the large tractor as the maintenance issues continue to grow.

New Business

1. Dale Davis will have the County bring in a Gradall to dig out grass around the tent and replace with crush and run. He will have the parking lot fixed and put up 40 ft of fence to replace the rope and flags.

2. Dale is having two 4 x 8 ft signs made that will welcome visitors to Swan Harbor RC.
3. Members voted to put down fertilizer with preemerge. Steve Snyder will pick up.
4. Many members will attend the annual Lebanon flea market in two days. A few members are signed up with tables.

The meeting adjourned and most members met again at the local Wendy's

If you have any questions regarding the minutes or contents of this Newsletter, please direct them to Bob Walker.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL...

The deadline to renew your membership for 2011 has expired. Anyone rejoining the club for 2011 will have to pay the initiation fee.

April 2011 The Old Days... Bob Walker

What was happening in our hobby during March 1949? Not much if you were looking for radio control. This was less than 4 years after WWII. Many had money to spend and hobbies to look for. In the model magazines, aviation schools were major advertisers urging vets to use the GI Bill. Embry Riddle University and Spartan, both still in existence, were advertising for students in engineering, aircraft maintenance, piloting etc.

Not many of our hobby companies were around over 60 years ago. Some are still recognizable. Guillow still makes kits as does Dumas. American Hobby Center faded away a few years ago I think. They had pages of advertising back then.

But there was not much in the way of RC. You probably could have found early systems in electronic magazines, but not in the major modeling magazines. There was a company called Radio Control Headquarters out of NJ. They had a receiver with tube and relay, escapement, transmitter, key (for rudder control) and antenna for \$37. They also sold manuals if you wanted to build everything on your own.

The flying was pretty much U-Control, free flight and rubber power. There were loads of engine manufacturers....all made in USA. Engine companies included: Buzz....sold by American Hobby Center; Mohawk, O.K. (Herkimer), K&B, Arden Engines, McCoy, Forster, Ohlsson & Rice and Drone. The engines ranged in price from \$4-\$20. There were also many CO2 engines and Jetex.

There were loads of fuel manufactures to fuel these engines. The brands included: Thimble-Drome, Sky Ranger, Spitfire Fuels, Sportco, and Drone. A can of fuel...usually a pint, was less than a buck.

Kit makers were endless, but some were: Berkley, Cleveland, Megow, Jasco, Monogram, Sterling, Ehling, Scientific, Guillow, Andrews, deBolt and Comet.

Harley Davidson advertised in the model magazines too. The new Harley Davidson 125 was being advertised for \$325 and getting over 90 miles per gallon!

I am sure a few in the club remember some of these names, but next month we will go back to

more recent times.

Again, how about emailing Steve or me some photos of you and your planes from back in the old days....more than 10 years ago.

SAFETY REPORT....Bob Walker, Safety Officer

Spring is here, but the weather is not cooperating. In the next month, we should see people going back to the field and starting another season. After months of non flying, it is easy to go back to bad habits. Think things through the first few times. Check out your airplane before heading to the field. Cycle the batteries a few times. If you can not remember how old they are, it will be cheaper to buy a new pack.....you know I am right and what will happen if you don't.

Make sure the servo trays are still glued in. Check the control rods, keepers, clevises, etc. If anything is held in with rubber bands, they may have broken over the winter.

Check which radio goes with what plane. The good thing about Spektrum radios is they are the only ones with Model Match. Remember how to rebind the transmitter and receiver if you are on 2.4 GHz. Not a bad idea to take the manual to the field.

If you are using glow fuel, was the can open over the winter? If so, it is filled with water. Gas is cheap....compared to glow fuel, so if your gas mixture is old, fill the can with fresh oil and gasoline.

People seem to forget about propeller safety if they have not been flying for a while. Stay out of the plane of a spinning propeller and do not reach through to the needle valve. Think, before you plug in the battery pack to your electric. Cuts from electrics can be just as bad, or worse than from a glow engine.

And in case you make a mistake, the grounds crew really does not like blood all over the field. A simple first aid kit with band aids is only two bucks. The one in the attached photo is \$2 at Walgreens. At two bucks, you can afford one for each car and the flight box. Just think; a first aid kit for a little more than half a gallon of gas.

Until next month.....

ABOUT SWAN HARBOR RC....



**A simple first aid kit can cost only \$2.
Pretty handy for a cut at the field**

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 a current AMA membership card because you need it to fly. A [SWAN HARBOR RC 2011 Membership Applications](#) is available on line or additional information can be obtained from Steve Snyder, 410-638-2895, Steve@SwanharborRC.com.

April 14, 2011	Swan Harbor RC Club Meet. 7PM Churchville Rec Center.
June 4, 2011	Club Spring Fly-In. Rain date June 11.

Archives:

[Past Newsletters](#)

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