

AMA Charter No. 2940

**THE DEAD STICK FLYER**

Havre de Grace, MD

Volume 23, No.11

**The Newsletter of SWAN HARBOR RC****November 2012**[www.SwanHarborRC.com](http://www.SwanHarborRC.com)

**President:** Scott Jordan  
**Vice President:** Gary Gunter  
**Sect'y / Newsletter:** Achille Silvestri  
**Treasurer:** Steve Snyder  
**Safety Officer:** Dan Bowman  
**Member at Large:** Dale Davis  
**Member at Large:** Jim Snyder  
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**ATTENTION: Club Meeting, Tuesday, November 13, 7PM at the Churchville Rec Center on Glennville Road. Bring in some of your show and tells.**

**GENERAL CLUB NEWS...**

President Scott Jordan opened the meeting of Sep 11, at 7 PM. There were 18 members present.

- We had a great last Club meeting cookout at the field. And there was some flying also.
- It was decided not to host a pattern fly-in.
- We brought to mind that it was time to start planning for elections and our annual Christmas party.
- Everyone was reminded that our Club picnic is September 22 at the field.
- Steve Snyder reported we have 73 members.

President Scott Jordan opened the meeting of Oct 9 at 7PM at the Churchville Rec Center. There were 12 members present.

- Steve Snyder reported we have 73 paid up members.
- It was agreed to spend about \$400 for the Christmas raffle. It will probably be a mix of electrics.
- Steve will get the shrimp and the cold cut platters for the Christmas party, Members are encouraged to bring fruits, salads and desserts.
- Nominations were made for 2013 officers. So far we have:
  - President: Scott Jordan
  - Vice President: Gary Gunter
  - Treasurer: Steve Snyder
  - Sect'Y/Newsletter: Achille Silvestri
  - Safety Officer: Bob Walker
  - Member at large: Dale Davis
  - Member at large: Jim Snyder

Other nominations will be accepted up to election day, the day of our Dec meeting, which is also the day of our Christmas party.

- Bob Walker reminded us that that Radio Control Modelers of Baltimore is getting static about noise levels. While we are not that close to housing, we should be careful not to fly too close to the Swan Harbor farm house.

Any questions about the Newsletter can be directed to Achille Silvestri, Ph 1-410-838-6261 or [axsilvestri@verizon.net](mailto:axsilvestri@verizon.net)

**ATTENTION - ANNUAL SWAN HARBOR CHRISTMAS PARTY**

**Michael Berchini, Bob Walker and Jim Snyder at the fire pit.**

This year's annual Swan Harbor Christmas Party will be on December 8, 2012 from 2:00 to 5:00 PM. at a new and exciting venue:

Havre de Grace Activity Center  
351 Lewis Lane, Havre de Grace, MD

Directions: To get there from Oakington Road, go east on Route 40 towards Havre de Grace.....When you get to the second red light there will be a small shopping center on your right and a Burger King....This is Lewis Lane where you will turn right and drive up over the train track bridge and on the other side of the bridge, you will turn left into the Activity Center.....It is directly across the street from the Havre de Grace Middle School....

[Link on BING Maps](#)

Don't be the only fool to go to the wrong locations. Please pass the word!

### **THE ANNUAL CLUB PICNIC, September 22...**

We had a nice day for the picnic, little breezy but nothing our hotshots couldn't master. It was so nice I caught some members dozing in their chairs.

Bob Walker and Jim Snyder cooked up some good lunchies. Did you get one of those quarter pound hotdogs with the seeded buns, good stuff (thanks to Gary Gunter).

Steve Clark was so impressed with the Club that he joined on the spot.

Michael Berchini, a relative new member, under Gary Gunter's tutelage has become a very advanced pilot. He is already flying an Sbach.

We must have had over 30 planes and one helicopter.

Lloyd Young, our only helicopter pilot did some stunts I've never seen before. Sure he did the usual stuff, upside down, bump up and bump down. But then he few into the corn field upside down. He would lower the 'copter into the corn and tear of some tassels and then pop up again. It wasn't an accident, he did it repeatedly.

We have some pictures of our day. Sorry we didn't have room for all of them.

### **FROM THE PITS...**

Look at all these guys that were flying at the field at other times:

1. Gene Clark and his antique 4star20
2. Dale Davis flying his Pawnee
3. Scott Jordan and the Ultimate Bipe 20.300
4. Robert White and the Magic
5. James Rowe with the MSXR
6. Cecil Davis and the Supersportster
7. Eric Davis and the Addiction X



Gene Clark and the antique 4 Star 20



Ron Lazzeri with the GeeBee



Steve Clark and the Hangar 9, Alpha 40



Jae Jang and the Space Walker



**Eric Davis has the Addiction X**



**Michael Berchini and his mentor Gary Gunter with the SBach**



**Lloyd Young and the magic helicopter**

**Bob Steininger and the Accrowot**



**Gary Gunter and Dale Davis tuning up the Pawnee**

**Robert White and the Magic**



James Rowe and the MSX-R



Cecil Davis and the Supersportster 60

### THE OLD DAYS, October...Bob Walker

Let's go way back this month to before many of you were born. Yes, there was radio control in 1953. Actually, radio control sort of started back in 1937 when there was the first R/C event at the AMA Nationals. In 1953, sales of R/C products were estimated to be about one million dollars. R/C companies were starting up each month to supply hobbyists. It was estimated that the average modeler was spending \$150 a year. That was a pretty good chunk of money as the average salary was in the \$2000 range or less. It took about \$60 to get into the air with the very basics.

R/C was ripe for growth as there were only 3 R/C books in print, one from a Gull Model Airplanes in Baltimore. R/C flyers had to have an FCC license although there was no test for the citizen band. Actually, one had to have an FCC license up through the 70's. I was KAX2006.

There were three frequency bands in use in 1953. 27.255 mc (megacycles...mc was later changed to megahertz....mh); 465 mc and in the 50-54 mc ham band. A FCC examination was required for the ham band.

Who made R/C equipment? Anyone remember Berkeley, Macnabb, Control Master, Babcock, North American, Polk's, American Telasco, Rockwood, Schmidt and Philmore? Actually, Polk's outlasted all of them as they were still in business a few years ago, and still may be around in some form.

Who made R/C airplanes? Berkeley, Guillow, deBolt, Ray Morgan. The average R/C plane had a 4 foot wingspan and used .09-.15 engines. Most were converted free flight airplanes.

Here are some terms used by the modelers in 1953: relay, escapement, beep box, crystal control, gas tube, and reeds.

Major problems were tuning the transmitter to the receiver and weak batteries. No rechargeable ones back then.

A few more companies that you might find familiar are still in existence. These include Guillow mentioned above, Sullivan, Fox, Top-Flite and X-Acto.

### ABOUT SWAN HARBOR RC....

Swan Harbor RC meets 7 PM the second Tuesday 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 2012 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).

Nov 3, 2012	Auction and Swap Meet. Shue Middle School. Richard Stewart, CD. PH 302-368-5171 e-mail <a href="mailto:Balticply@aol.com">Balticply@aol.com</a> \$10 for tables, 9am doors open. Sponsor Delaware RC Club.
Nov 13, 2012	Swan Harbor RC Club Meeting, Churchville Rec Center, 7PM.
Dec 8, 2012	Swan Harbor Christmas Party from 2:00 PM till 5:00 PM at the Havre de Grace Activity Center , 351 Lewis Lane, Havre de Grace, MD

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