



CURRENT NEWSLETTER

AMA Charter
No. 2940

THE DEAD STICK FLYER

Havre de
Grace, MD

Home

About Us

Contact Us

How to Join

Coming Events

Newsletter

Archives

Photos

Videos

Directions

Volume 25,
No.6

The Newsletter of SWAN HARBOR RC

www.SwanHarborRC.com

May 2014

Safety First

By

Bob Walker

June 2014

Hopefully, everyone has more flying time than me this season. I have hardly been out with all the wind and rain. Other seasons have started off with endless wind too and one wonders if it will ever end.

More and more of the planes showing up at the field are electric. You may be tired of all my columns on batteries, but they are the source of many of our problems as good as they are. For many people, your LiPo batteries may have been sitting around over the winter. How many people put a storage charge on them and then recharged recently? I don't see many hands. Some people will just go out and fly and others may top off the charge left from last year. Either way, it is a real good idea to keep the first few flights of the season to a reasonable time. If you were getting 8 minute flights last year, maybe you should land after 5-6 minutes until the batteries get back in the swing of things.

Last night at the field, a plane ran out of electrons and crash landed into the "pond" in the adjoining field. The pilot was about to land but stretched the flight too long. The electronics in the plane are supposed to save enough power back to run the radio, but I have seen complete failure many times before. This has happened to me several times too. I have had two crashes over the last two years because the ESC (electronic speed controller) died in each case.

The point of all this is that when the battery or ESC goes, you have no control over the plane. If it crashes in a far off field....no harm done. But, these all

could have crashed in crowd or pit area. Or in the case last night, a pool of water. Always keep this in mind while flying, whether electric, nitro or gas, and is a good reason not to fly over people or cars. And never toward these either.

And here is an experience from Chris Doolittle:

CELL PHONES AND R/C DON'T MIX:

It's a sunny, cool afternoon at Swan Harbor, The club is settling into a long awaited cook out. I am setting up my Alpha 40 for a nice afternoon flight. I have the bird fueled, 8 bands on the wing. I have checked my battery life and servo action. I see that I am good to go. So I apply the glow starter to the plug and the starter to the prop hub. The Alpha promptly fires right up. Its then my phone rings. It's my wife whom I haven't seen in two weeks as she is in training in another state. So I continue getting the plane warmed up while on the phone. I am chatting and chatting away. Even though I was watching what the prop was doing, I was not giving the Alpha the full respect and attention it required. When I hung up with my wife and pulled the Alpha off the forks, many of the club members looked at me very upset and with good reason. Nobody got hurt thankfully but my human error carries with it a great lesson for all: When you are on the flight line prepping your plane, your cell phone should not be with you or at the very least on silent. Have full awareness of your plane and what it is doing. Though fun, The Aircraft are not toys, they can truly hurt you and others if you are not paying attention.

Until next month.....fly safe and have fun....

COOKOUT SEASON IS HERE:

It's that time again Folks! Planes, Helicopters, Burgers and Dogs! Personally I don't think you can get much better than that. The weather was just right on Saturday May 17th, Cool but not cold. A lot of planes were out.

Chris Mounayer brought the Lanier Cap 232 for its Maiden flight as well as his trusty AJ slick.



Chris also brought out his Rambler for a maiden flight. It had enough power to scream even at half throttle!



Mike brought out his PILOT SBACH



Lloyd and Jay showed up with their vast amount of Helicopters.



Stephen Slotnick's new to him 84" Extra 300



Gary 1400mm Corsair



Both Family and Friends had a great time!! You know you're in the right place when it feels like your part of a bigger family at the field.

CANOPIES ARE UP!!

They are finally up! About 10 club members on Sunday May 18th worked diligently to make that happen. Thank you to all who helped out! These canopies are taller than the last ones and in my opinion.

Dates to remember:

June 21st [The Achille Silvestri Memorial Fly-in](#). Food, Flying, Fun and a SWAP MEET!

