



The Dead Stick Flyer

Newsletter of Swan Harbor RC

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www.SwanHarborRC.com

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Member at Large: Stephen Slotnick (908) 403-0273

January 10th Meeting

New Business:

Field Maintenance:

- **Tractor & Zero-Turn Mower Annual Service:**
 - Zero-Turn's deck needs to be rebuilt including new belts and pulleys, cost \$200.
 - Both mowers' regular annual service: plugs, filters, oil, belts, blades, cost \$150.
 - Gary will pick them up and service them when the weather breaks.
- **Fertilizer & Crab Grass Preventer:**
 - An application will be applied end of February or early March
 - Approximate cost \$600-700.
- **Other than the above we are ready to fly in 2017**

From the President's Corner:

- **Reflections on our Club:**
 - Another year is here! We made it through 2016 with no accidents or injuries which says we must be doing something right.
 - Our field is in the best shape it's ever been. All we have to do is wait for the weather to break and head out to the field for what we seem to enjoy the most, flying and comradery.
 - The Newsletter is spectacular and I love the new format. Hats off to Ron.
 - Our Christmas party was a success. The inclement weather prevented some of the members from attending but the food and raffle prizes were great and everyone had a great time.
 - **A Special Note:** Dale wrote a very nice letter to Mr. Barry Glassman, Harford County Executive, thanking him for the efforts of several of the Havre De Grace Recreation Center employees. They went above and beyond their regular call of duty and opened the facility so we could have our Christmas Party on time that day even though all Harford County facilities were closed due to the inclement weather.
 - If anyone would like to read the full letter, you can request a copy.
- **Safety & Soundness – Drones, Please fly inside our field's "Airspace Perimeter"**
 - **Premise:** One thing that bothers me are Drones flying over the Farm House. We are guests of Harford County on the property we use and I would have to assume it is a fragile relationship at best. We have absolutely no rights to the land we are on and I never want to see that relationship encumbered in any way.
 - **Issue:** The reason why I am writing this is because I have seen a bunch of videos on YouTube with video taken starting from our field and it goes down to the Farm House. All it would take would be some complaints to end up at the Parks & Recreation Administration and we would be gone. The county makes far more money from weddings at the Farm than they do from us. Thankfully, we are self-sufficient and do not cost them anything.
 - **Action:** I am asking everyone with a Drone or camera on a plane to not fly past the pond at the end of our field. Please protect what we have worked so hard to build!
- **Club Dues – Member Renewals Due by January 31, 2017:**
 - A reminder to all returning members that the annual Club Dues renewals are due by January 31, 2017. Please contact Steve Snyder or refer to the Club's website for more information.

Tech Corner:

Nord Lock Washers by Bob Bartell

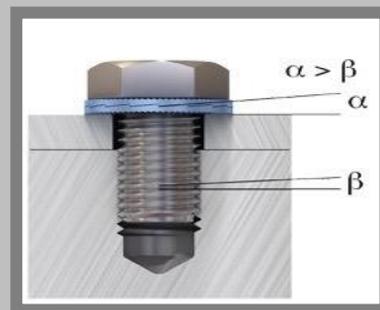
LOOSE BOLTS?

I have a DLE35RA gas engine that just won't keep it's muffler on. No matter what I've tried, the bolts always loosen up. Someone at the field said, "I wonder if Nord-Lock makes small washers".

(Thanks Herman!) I had never heard of Nord-Lock washers so I investigated them and, yes, they do make them as small as metric M3. Nord-lock is a 2 piece locking washer.

Ref: Copied the following from the marketing material

- **Nord-lock washers are recognized for their ability to safely secure bolted joints exposed to severe vibration and dynamic loads.**
- **Nord-Lock secures bolted joints with tension instead of friction. The system is comprised of a pair of washers that has cams on one side and radial teeth on the opposite side.**
- **Since the cam angle ' α ' is greater than the thread pitch ' β ' a wedge effect is created by the cams, preventing the bolt from rotating loose."**
- **It's important to buy them according to the exact bolt size in order for them to work properly.**



- **Also, they must be installed against metal, not wood and without using a regular washer.**
- **Since installing them, I have not had a problem**

Sources:

MDMetric.com

**Maryland Metrics in Owings Mills
(\$25 minimum order)**

Grainger.com

Fastenal.com

Microfasteners (DynaLock)

- **What are Members Working On?**

- **Building a new aircraft, assembling an ARF, working on an old reliable**
 - We'd love to hear what you are working on. Send us some information and a couple pics of your project and we'll post it in the monthly Newsletter.
 - Send your emails to: ronlazzeri@verizon.net.

- **Off-Season Aircraft Maintenance**

Winter months are a good time to get your RC Aircraft ready for the new flying season. Here are some general tips you can add to your Checklist.....

- **General Inspection:**

- *Perform a thorough inspection of your aircraft. Look it over. Turn it upside down. Look inside. Take the cowl off. Look for issues. You get the idea.*

- **Batteries & Chargers:**

- *Check and test your batteries where possible. Are the batteries accepting a full charge? How old are they? Batteries usually start to fail at the 3-4 year mark. For LIPO's, are they swollen or puffed? It could be a sign of a failure looming even though they still work. Replace any batteries you determine are subject to failure and do yourself a favor and avoid a problem in the air.*
- *Check your battery chargers. Are you charging your batteries at the correct charge rates? Check the charger's owner's manual, website, or with someone in the Club you're confident can help validate your process.*

- **Loose Parts:**

- *Check for loose bolts, screws, covering and other essential gear. Use a small amount of Lock Tite to keep bolts from coming loose from vibration. Repair any torn or loose covering as it will only get bigger and eventually cause a problem you do not want.*

- **Servos:**

- *Check the servos. Turn the TX & RX on and move the sticks on the transmitter in all directions (with the engine off, please!). Listen and look for servos that bind or slip during their travel. It may be a sign of worn gears and the servo may need replacing.*

- **Propellers:**

- *Check the Props. Are they nicked, cracked or out of balance? This can cause extra vibration and wear out the engine bearings and shake the airframe causing unwanted issues. Clean the Props, balance the props or replace them.*

- **Transmitters:**

- *Check your transmitter. Is it "Binding" correctly with the on-board receiver of the aircraft? Follow the manufacturer's procedures for this step. Actually, this is a good practice to be followed routinely during the flying season as well.*
- *Check the trim settings and any other settings to fix any quirky flying tendencies you may recall from your last flights with that plane. Be sure to check them again after flying the aircraft at the field.*

- **Aircraft Balance:**

- *Check the aircraft's balance. Was it flying tail heavy or nose heavy? Things can change so it is a good idea to check the aircraft's balance to be sure it is flying as best it can. It can be difficult or frustrating to fly an aircraft that is out of balance and could also be a challenge to land easily.*

- **Plugs:**

- *Check the spark plugs or glow plugs depending on whether it is a gasser or glow fuel burner. They can become fouled if your engine's HS & LS settings are off. If questionable, you may want to check your engine's settings when at the field next. There are various visual indications of a spark plug's performance based on the carburetor's settings, but generally a medium light tan color on the plug's electrode is a good indication of good HS & LS settings. Replace the plugs if they look fouled or are heavily coated with carbon.*

- **Fuel:**

- *Check your fuel. Using fresh fuel is always a good practice. It will allow the engine to run at its best performance assuming it is properly tuned.*
- *As always use a good oil for gas/oil mix 2 stroke engines. Check the oil mix ratios in your fuel. Engines do not run well on a lean oil mix and can overheat. Check the manufacturer's recommendations.*

- **Clean It Up:**

- *Give the aircraft a good cleaning. A lot of times we just give it a swift cleaning just to get it in the car to go home from the field. Make it look good as well.*

- **Retire It or Spruce It Up?**

- *Do you have a plane sitting in the corner that you are deciding whether to retire it or not? Well, now is a good time to spruce it up. Maybe some new covering or a new engine can put life back into one of your old favorites. Only you can decide but I'll bet you'll love it at the field!*

- **Need Help Flying? Are you new or returning to the RC Hobby?**

- **Come to our monthly club meetings – meet some of our "RC Pilots"**
- **Get a computer based "RC Flight Simulator"**
- **Line up some assistance for the 2017 flying season**
- **Start with the right aircraft to be successful**
- **Best advice....Don't be afraid to ask for help!!**

Member PICs:

- **Pictures submitted by Bob Walker from 2016**



Chris Doolittle

Bob Walker

Marvin Tedrow





Paul Cook
Steve Snyder
Gary Gunter
Tom Insley



Upcoming Events and General Information:

Newsletter:

To receive the Swan Harbor RC Newsletter by email, please send a request to: sslotnick@mac.com.

Photos:

Anyone who would like to have new photos appear in the slideshow, the photo gallery, or Newsletter is encouraged to send their photos to Stephen Slotnick at sslotnick@mac.com and he will add them as soon as he can.

Next Club Meeting:

The next club meeting will be held at Wendy's on Tuesday, February 14, 2017 at 7:00pm. Wendy's is located at 987 Beards Hill Rd, Aberdeen, MD 21001

Interest in Joining the Club:

Please see the instructions on the Swan Harbor RC website www.SwanHarborRC.com under the heading "How to Join." Additional membership information or questions can be obtained from Steve Snyder at (443) 243-4324 or email: snyder800@gmail.com.

WRAM RC Show:

The Academy of Modelers (AMA) in cooperation with the Westchester Radio Aero Modelers (WRAM) announced it will continue its long-standing tradition of hosting their annual East Coast Hobby Trade Show. The WRAM Show will be held on February 24-26, 2017 at the Meadowlands Exposition Center in Secaucus, NJ.

Central Penn Aeromodelers Association RC Flea Market:

The annual Flea Market will be held on Saturday, March 11, 2017. Advance General Admission Tickets will be available again this year. See their website for more details at www.cpa.us. The address of the Lebanon Valley Expo Center is 2120 Cornwall Road, Lebanon, PA 17042