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THE DEAD STICK FLYER

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The Newsletter of SWAN HARBOR RC

October 2003

www.SwanHarborRC.com



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The Club Meeting, of Oct 9, will be held 7:00 PM, at the Churchville Rec Center

THE FLY IN THAT NEVER HAPPENED...

This was without a doubt the worst season that I have ever experienced in RC modeling. Not only was our Open House rained out earlier this year, but we were also rained out of our Giant Scale Fly In. Our two major events went 0 for 2, not good. It wouldn't have hurt so much if we hadn't gotten such good coverage from the papers and received such enthusiastic call-ins from the public. Rich Hodges was in the *Sun Paper*, Bill Kalb was in the *Cecil Whig* and *Primetime News*, Hugh Ellis was in the *Record* and the *Aegis* had a paragraph in their calendar of events.

It was so depressing on that Saturday having to tell everyone that the fly in would not come off because of the rain. I tried to reassure everyone by telling them that we fly every good day. So they should come out any day that looks pleasant...don't wait for a special event.

Don't you know, the very next day there was a mini-crowd of 15-20 guests hoping to see some flying. A couple of "hackers", Bob Walker and Achille Silvestri, started doing some demonstrations. This crowd was so enthused, geez, they applauded if you just got the plane off the ground and brought it back...just what we need for our egos. Achille ran through his whole repertoire, a roll, loop, Immelman, split S, 4-second inverted flight and a landing in the corn.

Finally some good flyers, Dan Bowman, Tom Smith, Randy Marlin, Gene Clark and Joe Nixon got into the act and showed them some good stunts. Bob was flying an Ultrasport Plus, Tom was flying his "or what", Randy was flying a 1/4 scale Cub, Gene was flying a Cessna, Achille was flying a Tiger 60 and Joe was flying one of his "hot shots". It wasn't giant scale but it pleased the crowd and gave them a sense of RC modeling. In the meantime, John Kocon was at work describing the requirements for RC modeling and how to get started in the hobby.

Which brings us to the bottom line - while the Giant Scale didn't come off as planned it was not a total loss. Our campaign has resulted in a lot of good will, 5 new members with the promise of more, and it was all attributable to the "Fly In That Never Happened".

GENERAL CLUB NEWS...



Bob Walker and the Ultrasport 40

We gathered at the field for our typical goodies. Good stuff, and then we did business. Jim Snyder, the President, opened the meeting of Sep 11th at 7:00 PM. The minutes are as follows:



Gene Clark with the Cessna

1. Plans were made for the Giant Scale Fly In. Jim needs two inspectors for participating aircraft and someone to man the impound area. Dan Bowman will place the road signs. Bob Walker and Tom Insley will do the cooking. The menu is hamburgers, hotdogs, chips, sodas and water. The grass will be cut the day before.
2. Dan McCoy, our webmaster, has become too busy to man our web page and will no longer be able to service us. Steve Snyder said he could be the webmaster for our Club. It was agreed to spend up to \$40 to procure a domain name and site for our Club. When this is done we should be able to continue our newsletter on the internet without interruption. Once our new site is established we'll be able to transfer over our archived newsletters.
3. Steve showed the new membership cards that he had made up.
4. Discussions for a new lawnmower were initiated. There is an option to buy a new one or consider a qualified used one. Either should be at least a 50 inch cut. Tony Grigaliunas will investigate some local companies for used mowers.
5. The Club was approached by personnel from Aberdeen Proving Ground with the view towards conducting some tests at our field in support of one of their reconnaissance missions. ([See article on Guardian Angel which follows](#)).

These are the minutes of record. Any questions or changes should be directed to Achille Silvestri, ph410-838-6261 or e-mail axsilvestri@earthlink.net.

GUARDIAN ANGEL...

Stephen (Drew) Wilkerson of the Weapons Analysis Branch at Aberdeen Proving Ground has a project, Guardian Angel, which hopes to develop a system of hardware and software to integrate the reconnaissance data collected by Unmanned Ground Vehicles with Unmanned Air Vehicles. They have a flying site at APG but would like to consider other fields in the area to do some test work. They have already conducted some tests at the Harford County Radio Control Modelers Sandy Hook site, but the proximity of our field to their base of operations would be very efficient in their use of time and resources. It has been requested that they be allowed to test at our field. This would happen perhaps 1-2 times a month, on a week day. They would probably require about one hour each outing, most of which would be used in setting up their equipment. They would use frequencies 58 and 60, although these could be changed if they became inconvenient. This is by no means a cooperative project. We simply plan to make time and facilities available to them to conduct their work.



Randy Marlin with the 1/4 Scale Cub

It is important to coordinate this project since their field at APG is about 3.5 miles from us. The safe distance between flying clubs, recommended by AMA, is 5 miles although there should not be any interference at 3.5 miles. In the event they were to test at their field on any given day, they would leave a note in the impound box that APG would be using channels 58 and/or 60. Guardian Angel is an important project and seems like a good cause for the Club to support.

THURSDAY IS GRASS CUTTING DAY..

Still the best team effort of the year. The field has never looked better and the hotdogs always puffed up.



Tom Smith with "or what"

PARKTON FLEA MARKET...

Hurricane Isabel even tried to destroy Radio Control Modelers of Baltimore's flea market. Don't you know, the night before it actually felled a tree right across the pavilion where we were to hold the flea market. But those RCMB boys are resourceful. They set up the whole operation in the parking lot. Actually it was better in many ways because you had room to display fully assembled airplanes. John Kocon, Jerry Dickerson and Achille Silvestri, of our Club, were there peddling their wares. A fun day out.

SALE ITEMS...

Zenoah G-38, excellent condition. Engine, radial mount, spring starter, throttle kit and muffler, original cost \$375. Special to you \$275. M. Peacock, Ph 410-833-3122, mpeacock@erols.com

Warbirds clear out: WWI Royal Air Force SE5a, biplane, 58 inch wing, (never flown) \$125; Bell Airacobra P-39, Topflite, 63 inch wing, \$125; Focke Wulf D109, Topflite, 63 inch wing, (never flown) \$150. All planes are from kits. Add your engine and radio. A. Silvestri, Ph 410-838- 6261, axsilvestri@earthlink.net

ABOUT SWAN HARBOR RC...

Swan Harbor RC meets the second Thursday of the month. Off season we meet at Churchville Rec Center, Glenville Road, Churchville. The public is welcome to the meetings. To fly with us at Swan Harbor take Oakington Road off US 40 (between Aberdeen and Havre de Grace) and follow the signs for Swan Harbor Farm. Membership information can be obtained from Dan Bowman, 410-272-4251, FLYERDCB@aol.com. To learn more about Swan Harbor RC (formerly MAOA); go to www.harfordvista.com/rcnews.asp and click onto January 2001

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Oct. 4, 2003	12th Annual Open House. Sponsor Prince Georges Radio Control Club, CD Charles Gettier Ph 410-974-4785.
Oct. 9, 2003	Swan Harbor RC Club Meet. 7:00PM. Churchville Rec Center, Glenville Road, Churchville, MD
Oct. 11, 2003	York Area RC Club Flea Market. Dover Fire Hall, Dover, PA. Sponsor York Area RC Club. Steve Arnold, Ph 717-669-3094.

Oct. 11, 2003	Plane and Heli Fun Fly, Buck RC Field (next to Musser's market. Flying, raffles, games, food. Pilot registration 9:00 AM, \$5.
Nov. 1, 2003	Auction and Swap Meet. Shue Middle School, Newark, DE. Sponsor Delaware RC Club Inc. Dick Stewart Ph 302-368-2911. E-mail balticply@aol.com

Archives:

Past Newsletters

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