

AMA Charter No. 2940

THE DEAD STICK FLYER

Havre de Grace, MD

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THE NEWSLETTER OF SWAN HARBOR RC

www.SwanHarborRC.com

December 2002



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Member at Large:	Tom Obringer	410-272-0116
Member at Large:	Tom Smith	

Club Meeting/Christmas Party: Dec. 15th, 12:00 pm, at the Churchville Rec Center. Bring your election ballot and a covered dish.

ABOUT THIS MONTH'S NEWSLETTER ...

Notice our new header. The Club is now officially known as Swan Harbor RC. This should make our name a little more user friendly. As usual, the newsletter is posted on the Internet. But in addition, this month all members will receive a hard copy in the mail. This is so we can forward everyone an election ballot for 2003 officers and an application for 2003 membership.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT ...

We're having a Christmas party and elections for 2003 officers at our next meeting, December 15. Let's do our business and then take a chance to socialize a little bit. This is a good time to catch up with some people we don't see as much as we would like during the year. Bring your ballot and a covered dish, we'll take care of the rest.



Jim Snyder and Patty Wagstaff

Also, we have implemented a new fee schedule. Read the minutes for details.

AND FROM THE EDITOR ...

I know it seems kind of awkward that we should be considering a commercial contractor to do our grass cutting. After all, we have gotten by many years with our own guys doing the cutting. But time becomes very precious, and it's not always easy to get someone to cut the grass just when you want it. Moreover, it seems that the burden fell, unequally, to the same small group of people. Having a commercial cutter is not an unusual concept. When I did my survey of Maryland RC clubs a few years ago, I found that many clubs use commercial contractors, e.g., DCRC, SWAP Club, the Parkton club and others. In fact, I was talking the other day with Jack Stites, a member of our Club, who's also a member of the Parkton club and one of its former presidents. He said they get their field cut and vacuumed regularly ... \$100 a shot. He said that most of their financial intake goes into the maintenance of their field. After all, if you don't have a good field, what's the point. In fact, Parkton just put in an auxiliary 25x125-foot hardtop runway. That was big bucks. That's how important a good flying field is to them. In any event, commercial cutting is the people's choice. Let's give it a shot.

GENERAL CLUB NEWS ...

Jim Snyder, the President, opened the meeting of November 14 at 7:00 pm at the Churchville Rec Center. The minutes are as follows:

1. Considerable discussion reviewed the need for the changes in fee schedule and its possible impact on Club membership. The main purpose was to collect additional funds to have a private contractor cut the grass on a regular basis. In the middle of the discussion it was determined that, according to the constitution, the Club at large had no



Tom Smith "Or What"

authority to change the fees. That power resides exclusively with the Board of Directors. Accordingly, the membership recommended that the Board of Directors implement the following revisions to the fee schedule: (1) increase the dues to \$45 per annum for members, (2) new members pay a one-time \$25 initiation fee, (3) dues after September 1 are reduced by one-half, and (4) members under 18 years of age pay dues of \$1. The Board will meet to take up this recommendation.

2. The membership approved the change of the Club name to Swan Harbor RC.

3. Some members seem resistant to attaching a frequency flag to their transmitter. The procedure is recommended by AMA and is common usage with all clubs in this area. It's the choice of the membership, we should all comply.

4. Dan McCoy, our webmaster, graciously declined our gift certificate for his Internet support of our Club. Dan says he's happy to do it and it's his way of supporting RC modeling in Harford County. Thanks, Dan.

5. Nominations were accepted for officers for 2003. The candidates are:

President:	Jim Snyder
Vice-President:	Steve Snyder
Sect'y Newsletter:	Achille Silvestri
Treasurer:	Dan Bowman
Safety Officer:	Bob Steinger
Member at Large:	Tom Obringer
Member at Large:	Tom Smith

Write-in candidates will be accepted.

6. A general mailing will be made to all Club members so that we can forward them an election ballot and a membership application for 2003.

7. Jim introduced Rich Schweiger, who plans to join in 2003. Welcome aboard, Rich.

DIRECTORS MEETING - BOTTOM LINE FEE SCHEDULE ...

Following the general meeting, a quorum of the Board of Directors (Jim Snyder, Achille Silvestri, Tom Obringer and Tom Smith) met to take up the fee schedule recommended by the membership. The Board, sensitive to the impact of a higher fee on the membership, elected to implement the following schedule:

1. The annual dues will be \$35.
2. There will be a one-time \$25 initiation fee.
3. After September 1, the annual dues are reduced by half.
4. Members under 18 years of age will pay \$1.



John Kocon with the Ugly Stick

SHOW AND TELL ...

Jim Snyder brought in an ARF that he had just put together for a friend, Mike Miller of the Sunday Flyers. It's a good example of the improved quality of ARFs and, also, their escalating prices. Jim showed a Great Planes Patty Wagstaff Extra 300. It has a 78-inch wingspan, covered by Monokote and will be powered by an OS BGX1. I hate to say this because I'm a builder, but the quality of this plane is outstanding. The going price is \$399, although you can usually do a

little better on a sale.

FROM THE PITS ...

I caught Tom Smith flying a "Walt Mocha" plane built from a kit. It's titled "Or What". It has a 60-inch wing and is powered with a Supertigre 46. It's one of Dick Wolf's specials. Tom estimates that there are probably about 10 of Dick's planes still flying. And who do I run into next? ... John Kocon flying a Hobby Lobby ARF Ugly Stick with an OS FS 40. Where did the plane come from? Of course, it's also one of Dick's fleet. Dick really contributed a lot to RC modeling. It's something to know that almost any week some of his planes are still in the air. That's quite a legacy and a tribute to a good guy.



Tom Insley and the Aircobra P-39

Tom Insley was flying a good looking Aircobra P-39. It's a World Models ARF and flies great with an OS 70 4-cycle. Need more warbirds. Good show, Tom!

CONDOLENCES ...

The Club extends its most sincere sympathies to Dan Bowman and his family at the passing of his father, Denwood Bowman.

AMA MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL ...

Don't forget, your AMA membership for 2003 is due. You can't fly without one.

ABOUT SWAN HARBOR RC ...

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Dec 15, 2002	Club Meeting/Christmas Party, 12:00 pm, Churchville Rec Center. Bring your ballot and a covered dish.
Feb 8, 2003	Westminster Aero Modelers Flea Market, Westminster VFW Hall, Poole Road, Westminster, MD. Ed Bradley 410-635-6436, ENCB3@Bellatlantic.net .
Jun 7, 2003	Swan Harbor RC Skyfest Open House, Swan Harbor Flying Field, Havre de Grace, MD.
Sep 13, 2003	Swan Harbor RC Giant Scale IMAA Fly In, Swan Harbor Flying Field, Havre de Grace, MD.

Archives:

Past Newsletters

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