



December 2012

**DCRC Club Meeting**  
**Regular club Meeting Fri-**  
**day December, 21 2012 at**  
**the County Council Building**

**100 Maryland Ave Rock-**  
**ville, MD**

**Program: Holiday Party**  
**and gift exchange.**

**Raffle some really great**  
**prizes see back page for**  
**details**

**Important budget discus-**  
**sion and vote**

*NEWSLETTER*

Volume 58, Issue 11



This month we are flying the missing man formation for Frederick Nielsen.

Fred passed this month and he will be missed by all. Fred was 86

DCRC

**PRESIDENT: Jim McDaniel**

V.P. Walt Gallagher  
 County Liaison: Jim McDaniel

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Andy Finizio  
 Jim Fisher  
 Walt Gallagher  
 David Garrison  
 Allan Hoffman  
 Andy Kane  
 Jim McDaniel  
 Jose Sanchez  
 Thomas Pfarr

**TREASURER:**

Doug Harper

**MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY:**

Jose Sanchez  
 20017 Haller Ave  
 Poolesville, MD 20837

**RECORDING SECRETARY:**

Doug Harper

**SHOW TEAM MANAGER:**

Jim McDaniel & Allan Hoffman

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR:**

Andy Kane  
 drcrcpres@gmail.com

**MEETING PROGRAM COORDINATOR:**

Walt Gallagher

**OFFICIAL CLUB PHOTOGRAPHER:**

Thomas Pfarr

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**[www.dc-rc.org](http://www.dc-rc.org)**

*Did you know that any airplane brought in to the model shop will receive 3 free raffle tickets. Bring in your models each month for your free tickets, and to share ideas.*

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**Presidents  
 Corner**

By Jim McDaniel



**So, a Dues Increase! Why?**

It would be simple to say, "because we need one". However that's not the rest of the story as to why.

Why is because DC/RC has been blessed with the overwhelming support of our county government covering the lion share of the field cost and improvements that have been made to date. Although that being said, we the members have done a lot of work and spent a chunk of money making additional improvements to the field outside of the participation the county has provided.

We've had the opportunity to be in existence for a long time and over that time our club members have contributed to the reserves we are fortunate to have at this point.

But? What if we were asked to participate in areas like grass cutting, maintenance etc... or to put it another way, at a level we have not planned for? What if, we lost this field and had to look for another field and no county support was available? And the list of what if's could go on. Some would argue, "You can't plan for what you don't know". I must respectfully disagree! Planning and preparing for the what if's is something every one of us does in our personal life's, just too varying degrees. So we could argue as to how much is enough, but not on the premise that it's a good idea or not. Frankly it is my opinion the mon-

ies we have been fortunate to accumulate are not sufficient to plan for any of the possible worst case scenario, what if's!

I run my business where doing what or how everybody else does it is in my opinion, "what everybody else does". My goal is to be and do better! Sorry but this transcends into my personal and hobby life as well. DC/RC is the best and if not, I'm going to work to the point of making it the best!

You're asking yourself, what does this have to do with a dues increase. Simple! AMA has written many, many articles on the subject of an aging and diminishing population of modelers. Kids today have many more options when it comes to what to get interested in when it comes to a hobby. They also have a shorter attention span and are looking for something that grabs there interest and I would like that to be RC modeling/flying!

Jim Fisher since taking on the task of flight training has been fortunate to be successful so far with generating new attention to this hobby. We as a community need to support this enthusiasm Jim brings to our club. We need to support the outreach initiative, we need to support and supply the flight training department with the material necessary to get the job done. He needs your, (our) help!!!! My crystal ball although a bit fuzzy tell's me that if we as a community, not just DC/RC don't find ways to attract new members, younger members, enthusiastic members, that the ability for this hobby to thrive will be seriously compromised. AMA is faced with the same challenges. Quietly AMA

*(Continued on page 6)*

## November Club Meeting Minutes

BY DOUG HARPER



The meeting, held at the County Office Building, was called to order by President Jim McDaniel at 7:40 PM. Jim asked for the introduction of any new members or guests. Guest Timothy Reuter was present, the president of the DC Area Drone User Group.

Jim acknowledged the great contribution that Nir Schweizer has made to the club over many years. Nir received a round of applause for his efforts.

**Events:** Jim announced that indoor flying is on again this year and will begin Nov 21 and continue through the end of February. There may be one or two days when they have other activities that replace us. This will be announced in the newsletter. The time is 11:45PM to 3:45PM. Also, we may be given a couple of additional dates once Jim is told what they are.

**County Liaison:** No report.

**Field Maintenance:** Allan reported that he is getting the "close the gate" sign repaired from storm damage.

**Vice President:** Walt Gallagher. No report.

**Membership:** Jose Sanchez. No report.

**Training/Community Outreach:** Jim Fisher was given a DVD called Warbirds Over Delaware by Frank Neher for the DCRC library. This DVD features member Allan Hoffman flying there last year.

**Sound and Safety:** No report.

**Raffle:** Jim announced that we have a Night Vapor for tonight's raffle. Dave Garrison pulled the winning ticket which was held by Ira Glickman (again). Ira was roundly chided for winning two months in a row. Clearly we need to change the ticket pulling process.

**Treasure's Report:** Doug wrote five

checks in excess of \$100 this month. He had a copy of the YTD Budget Report for anyone who cares to see it.

**Web Site:** Tom Pfarr. No report.

**Newsletter:** Andy Kane. No report.

**New/Old Business:** Gary Weber made an impassioned plea for DCRC members to be more attentive to visitors to the field.

Jim McDaniel described the budgeting process that the Board goes through and the budget that has been developed by the Board for the 2013 year. It has become apparent that our expenses in this budget will exceed income so the Board has proposed a dues increase.

The proposed increase is to \$125 per year for anyone 19 years of age or older and for a family membership (regardless of number). The youth fee, 19 and under, will go away.

This requires a bylaws change which will require a discussion at tonight's meeting followed by a vote at the December meeting. Jim asked Doug Harper to present a current financial analysis of the Club followed by a description of the programs proposed for next year as presented by Jim Fisher.

Jim Fisher described his experiences as a youngster and his concern about how to attract young people to the modeling hobby. He talked about the STEM night the Club sponsored this year as well as the flight instruction program which trained 59 people this year. He then described how he wants to keep these new programs alive which will require additional funding. In summary, Jim wants to expand the DCRC community outreach to bring in those young people who will become the core of this hobby in the future.

This was followed by a lively discussion of the pros and cons of the dues increase versus the programs proposed. The vote will be next month at the December meeting.

Allan Hoffman made a formal motion

that we raise the dues to \$125 per year for regular members and families, no charge for youth 19 and under, to be voted on at the December meeting.

**Model Shop:** Gary Weber presented his winter activity racing RC cars. He talked about a new indoor track in Gaithersburg, called The Track on Oakmont Ave, which is world class. Gary showed a couple of his electric RC race cars. They have very competitive races there on Saturday and Wednesday evening.

Jay Stargel showed his Horizon Mini-Vapor indoor model which is about half the size of a normal Vapor. It flies well and has lights, all for \$79.99.

Bob Young has been a member of DCRC since July. He started flying ukies in the '60s. He is thrilled to be flying RC now and is flying a Hangar 9 Pulse XT 40 which he graduated to from a Nexstar. He likes the Pulse XT dues to its light wing loading. It is a very scale looking model. He wants to fly "pattern" eventually. By the way, Bob came prepared with a very impressive Powerpoint presentation on his model called "Almost Ready to Fly". Bob thanked Jose Sanchez for all his help. His presentation was very professional and complete.

**Program:** Tonight's program was postponed to a later date due to time limits.

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 PM.

**BOARD MINUTES**  
**NOVEMBER 2012**  
 BY DOUG HARPER



The meeting, held at the home of Walt Gallagher, was called to order by President Jim McDaniel at 7:20 PM. In attendance were Jim McDaniel, Walt Gallagher, Allan Hoffman, Doug Harper, Dave Garrison, and Andy Finizio.

Committee Reports:

Public Relations & County Liaison:  
 Jim McDaniel

Sound & Safety: Walt Gallagher was asked to address the issue of tethering models to the gazebo for engine startup. This is a safety and noise issue and will no longer be acceptable. All engine starting must be done away from the gazebo.

Field Maintenance: Allan Hoffman is repairing the "Last One Out Close The Gate" sign that was damaged by wind. It will be replaced shortly. Also, the County sign at the entrance to the field needs to have a cross brace repaired. Jim McDaniel will alert the County. Allan will recondition one of the work tables to make it more suitable for working on models.

Flight Instruction/Awards: Jim Fisher. No report.

Events: Andy Finizio reported that indoor flying will start on Nov 21 at the Soccerplex from 11:45AM to 3:45PM and will occur every Wednesday through the end of February. There may be some holidays where we can't fly but hopefully we will have other days to replace them. This will be reported later.

Treasurer: Doug Harper reported that he wrote five checks over \$100 in the last month. He presented a YTD Budget report to the Board for their consideration.

Membership: Jose Sanchez. No report.

Newsletter: Andy Kane. No report.

Web Master: Tom Pfarr. No report.

Old Business: Jim McDaniel asked Doug Harper to prepare an overview of the DCRC budget for the past few years in anticipation of the dues increase presentation Friday. Jim will complete the presentation for the dues proposal.

New Business: Walt Gallagher announced that he has conducted an audit of the DCRC books and everything is in fine shape.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

**Proposal to change the DCRC Club By- Laws**

Submitted to the DCRC Board of directors by Andy Kane  
 October 24, 2012

I would propose that the DCRC Club By-Laws be changed to better reflect the current expenses of the club as well as planning for future improvements and possible expenses.

***The current By-Laws read:***

ARTICLE V

**Dues and Fees**

Section 1 - Annual membership dues of the Club shall be \$78.00 for members and \$12.00 for junior members; no family unit shall pay more than \$90.00 for a full year membership. Membership dues are payable prior to December 31 of each year for the ensuing year. Memberships granted after October 1 will be valid for the remainder of that year and all of the following year. A new member is defined as a person who was not a member in the prior calendar year.

***Proposed new By-Law Article 5, Section 1:***

Section 1 - Annual membership dues of the Club shall be \$125.00 for members and \$0.00 for junior members; no family unit shall pay more than \$125.00 for a full year membership. Membership dues are payable prior to December 31 of each year for the ensuing year. Applications received after October 1 will be valid for the remainder of that year and all of the following year. A new member is defined as a person who was not a member in the prior calendar year.

***Current Procedure for amending Constitution or By-Laws:***

ARTICLE X

**Amendments**

This Constitution and the By-Laws may be amended only at a regular meeting of the Club at which a quorum exists, and which follows by a period of at least thirty days a regular meeting at which the proposed amendment to the Constitution or the By-Laws has been presented to the membership by a representative of the Board. In addition, copies of any proposed amendment shall have been provided to the membership prior to the meeting at which the vote is taken. The proposed amendment must receive the favorable vote of two-thirds of the members present in order to be accepted. Any proposed amendment to this Constitution or to the By-Laws shall be delivered in writing to the Board of Directors. The Board shall deliberate on the provisions of the amendment and give its recommendations at the regular Club meeting at which the amendment is presented.  
 Quorum definition:

Eighteen percent of the membership shall constitute a quorum at the annual and regular meeting

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**The Logic and Feasibility for the proposed dues increase and By-Law change.**

**By Andy Kane**

The additional expenses required to support these programs have prompted a motion by Andy Kane to review the current by-laws and make a recommendation to the new Board.

All budgeted line items remain close to unchanged except the most active programs listed below:

The DCRC Training Program:

This has provided over 35 new members this year and most likely will provide even more. Most of these new members will continue to participate in our club in upcoming years. In addition to the new members our club is providing an educational service to the County and its residents. We hope to showcase this activity in upcoming publications both locally and nationally. This recognition is instrumental in providing a basis for continued support by Montgomery County Parks and its support of public use of Parks Program. This support is what keeps our field a wonderful place to fly.

Public Relations Initiatives and community outreach:

Our programs for the upcoming year are to include STEM nights, Rockville Science Days, BSA Aviation Merit Badge program. The materials and equipment needed to support these programs were presented at the September board meeting. These programs will help to boost community awareness of model aviation in our area. We also want them to help to the County's effort and investment in

Radio Control Modeling within the County. In this time of unsure waters and the FAA's push to regulate airspace, community outreach programs and involvement in providing safe and educational programs to County residents will help to prove, yet once again, that the DCRC Club and its members are true community liaisons and ambassadors for the safe operation of R/C Modeling not only in our county but throughout the country.

Upcoming proposed additions to the Annual Membership cost and the 2013 DCRC operating Budget:

Flight Training Program*	4308.00
Public relations Initiatives**	1870.00
Awards	300.00
Administration cost	300.00
All other	
Total annual proposed budget Increase	6778.00

We currently have 174 members \$38.95 per member to fund the additional programs.

\* As outlined by Jim Fisher the current Training program coordinator the upcoming cost for the 2013 program shows administrative costs, consumables, like props, fuel batteries as well as upgrades like switches with lights Expanded sale volt meters and extra batteries and chargers and 3 new aircraft for this season.

\*\* Community Initiatives include fully funding the Stem Night with aircraft and technology support projects. Rockville Science days

with static display and possible air show. Boy Scouts of America (BSA) Aviation Merit Badge support. IPP certificates thru the AMA for 8 additional instructor pilots.

Other options would be to reduce or eliminate the programs listed above and keep the current dues structure.

Respectfully submitted to the DCRC Board for consideration by

Andy Kane ~

*(Continued from page 4)*

of the Club. Absentee ballots shall be included in the quorum count for the meeting.

Current Membership 174 18% = 32 members

Andy Kane  
DCRC Board member.

(Continued from page 2)

looks at clubs including DC/RC to see what are they doing to promote and attract new members, what are clubs doing to keep the interest in the existing memberships. All of this is done by outreach, events, flight instruction and it doesn't hurt to have an awesome flying facility.

I appreciate the consensus of the membership that the Board of Directors of the DC/RC Club have always acted with the memberships best interest at hand and not participated in any wasteful spending but, unfortunately what we are seeing is a decline in membership even before the talk of a dues increase, lack of enthusiasm for young, newer members to come into this hobby and like any other business would do, we need to initiate or put plans in motion to stimulate growth.

I'm not going to do like some have done by telling you to vote one way or another because honestly, that's you're individual right and I don't feel you should be swayed because someone else's personal opinion is bent on the issue such as, just because! I always love that one.

So here is what I am going to ask you to do.

Look at this club membership, look at it's leadership, look at what a beautiful flying site we have and the improvements we have been able to make, look at the fact that we are vying for the attention of prospective new members, look at the fact that while we are somewhat fiscally sound, (some may argue to excess), I suggest it's a fraction of what's needed if you consider a change in scenery were to happen. Then consider that DC/RC

has always been well managed and well respected in the modeling community and will, I hope, continue to be a "Gold Leader Club" in the pursuit of this hobby.

Unfortunately, that takes money! Not because we're rich, not because we're in Montgomery County but because DC/RC is a forward thinking organization that is taking this issue of declining membership and interest in this hobby and trying to do something about it rather than just sit back and watch it evaporate. I know there will be those of you who say, "dues increase is a sure way of decreasing membership". I'm sorry you feel this way. This proposed dues increase is not to fund any glorious projects or to fund ridiculous grandeur for any member, it's to fund our hobby and to try and bring new membership so we can hopefully have more folks getting to the business of just having fun enjoying model aircraft flying. DC/RC's budget is mostly about giving back to its members! Seriously, look at the budget, meeting room expense, newsletter and related membership costs, raffle, events including indoor Flying etc..., all giving back to members, members who participate in any of the activities of the club.

If you agree or disagree with the additional \$3.92 per month dues increase, simply vote accordingly. No need to argue, really! This Board of Directors simply looked in-depth at the realities of our fiscal situation and came to the unanimous conclusion that albeit painful an increase in income was needed. As a member you are entitled to your opinion as to the direction your board has sought but at the end of the day it is the Boards responsibility

## Calendar of Events 2012

### November

4 Daylight savings ends

### December

Please submit any events u you may want to see on the DCRC 2013 event calendar to the newsletter editor

dcrcreditor@aol.com

to manage the financial affairs of this great club and to do it in an "as all inclusive" way as possible.

This club has been around for a long, long time (almost 60 years) and will be around for a long time to come. This clubs mission, hidden agenda if you will, has always been to try to be the best within its means and be consummate custodians of this hobby. At the end of the day to have fun enjoying this HOBBY we all share an interest in.

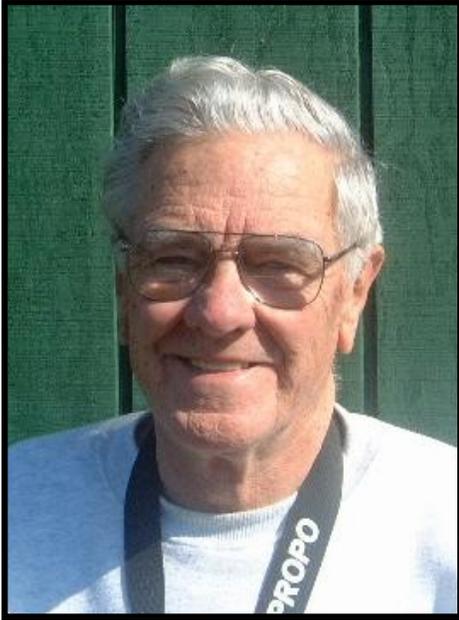
Frankly how awesome would it be that someday you read in the AMA magazine that other clubs emulated DC/RC's model of outreach, facility management, flight training etc... and AMA membership and interest in this hobby is up, 10, 20, 30 % or more?

Friends, this is what leaders do!

Respectfully,

Jim McDaniel

DC/RC President



**FREDERICK W. NIELSEN**  
(Age 86)

Fred Nielsen, of Lansdowne, VA, beloved husband of 62 years of Jean Sanborn Nielsen, passed away November 21, 2012 after a three year struggle with renal failure. Mr. Nielsen, who entered the Army Air Force at age 17 to serve in World War II lived in Potomac, MD for fifty-three years. He was an architectural engineer with the D.C. government G.S.A. until retiring in 1980.

He was the loving father of Linda Merritt (Michael) of Scottsdale, Az., Nancy Sitler (Edward) of Manassas, Va. and Donna Nielsen, now Sr. Mary Faith, O.P., of Buffalo, N.Y. He is also survived by three grandchildren, Michael Merritt, and Leigh and Owen Sitler, as well as by many friends who will miss him. Mr. Nielsen was predeceased by his siblings Claude D. Nielsen, Jr. and Shirley N. Jones.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Fred's memory may be made to the Dominican Monastery of Our Lady of

Some additional photos from Open house At Montgomery County Airpark by Andy Kane



Bill Brandenburg Kodiak Turboprop



Carbon Cub



Chuck Swim and Cessna 412



Carbon Cub Available for rides



It is with great sadness and heavy heart we inform you that one of DC/RC's long-time members has passed away. Fred Nielsen was a genuine "club" member supporting this club in every way a member could. Fred was one of the club founding fathers, President, board member for ever, architect, engineer and builder of numerous projects at a variety of fields over many, many years. Our current field was designed, laid out, and ultimately construction was supervised by Fred. Fred was a master builder of model aircraft and even into his elder years, a pretty good stick. I will miss his calm, quiet yet methodical personality but also reflect on my nearly lifetime of memories of him. A memorial service is planned in his honor on December 12 @ 11:00am at the Mary of Mercy Church in Potomac, MD. If you can, please join other fellow club members as we reflect on our life with Fred. Sincerely,  
Jim McDaniel  
DCRC President

District of Columbia  
Radio Control Club

First Class Mail

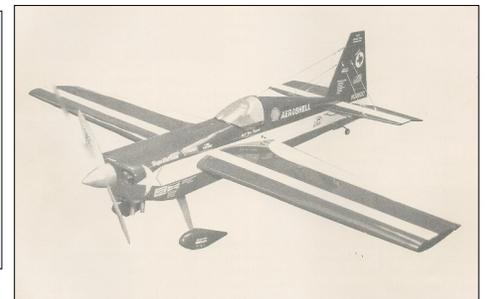
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**One of the oldest and  
largest RC clubs in the US.  
And now an AMA Gold  
Leader Club**

[www.dc-rc.org](http://www.dc-rc.org)

**December 2012**

We have a great raffle set up for the December 21<sup>st</sup> Club meeting!  
Three prizes, valued at well over \$1,000.00!



**Carbon-Z Scimitar BNF by E-flite**

**UMX Carbon Cub SS BNF with AS3X Technology by E-flite**

**Texas Hurricane ARF with RC Showcase 26cc Gas Engine**

Aircraft donated by Jay Stargel, Engine donated by the David Drazin estate.

