

Syracuse Thunderbirds Aero Radio Society

Plane Propwash

February 2013

Charter 473

The General Meeting will be March 13th at 7:00 at Walt's

2013 Officers

Chuck LeVine, President
Herb Moore, Vice President
Bob Rowe, Treasurer
Jeff Wolsley, Secretary
Peter Seiffert, Safety Officer

Directors:
Peter Seiffert, 2007-08
Dan Williams
Bill Orr

Volunteer Staff:
Jeff Wolsley, Propwash Editor
Michael Graham, SYG Administrator
Chuck LeVine, Webmaster
Herb Moore, Field Committee

The next STARS meeting will be at Walt's March 13th, at 7:00. As a reminder, the meeting is always the second Wednesday of the month.

President's Perspective:

The Rise of the Drones

It seems as if every day we read of the discussion about UAS (unmanned aircraft systems) and the concern for controlling them by State and Federal authorities. For example, from the AMA web site we see "The list of States considering UAS ('Drone') legislation grows. Texas and Idaho join the growing list of a dozen states considering state laws aimed at legislating the use of unmanned aircraft systems ('Drones'). The number of states either developing or actively pursuing UAS legislation includes California, Florida, Idaho, Maine, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, Texas, and Virginia."

Why should we be concerned you ask, as all we do is fly model aircraft as a hobby not "drones". Well based on ill conceived and misunderstood definitions posed by PR seeking politicians, there may come a time when our models will be defined and controlled by regulations that are not in our best interest and could possibly do irreparable harm our hobby. Doomsday is not here yet, but it does point out the fact that we need to support our national organization (AMA) in its fight to protect our hobby.

Additionally it is incumbent upon all of us to learn the difference between what we do and UAS drones and to

be ready, through phone calls or letter writing, to stand up for our hobby with our various regulators. To better understand the discussion and the technology behind it, please take some time and view this 5 part lecture: [AMA Blog Chris Anderson- The rise of the personal uav.](#)

Web cam status update: the club laptop has been rebuilt and the camera and server should be up and running late Feb. or early March. Now on to our club activities: Our first flying event will be our annual Snow Fly on the 3rd of March. Followed by the Helicopter Flight School on April 23rd, Pre-Flight workshop at Walt's on April 25th and the Fixed Wing Flight School on May 9th. I look forward to seeing you.

Another great start to the year. Our annual auction was held on the 18th with good attendance and spirited bidding. The Model Aircraft Forum was on January 26th and had a good turn out with some interesting presentations. Additionally Phil Morgan is putting together a bus trip on the 23rd of February to the WRAM Show – if you wish to go let Phil know. These are fun things to do during our dreary winter days. Next up will be our Annual Snow Fly on March 3rd.

Chuck

Please get your 2013 dues in. They can be mailed directly to:

Bob Rowe
211 Sedgwick Drive
Syracuse, NY. 13213.

Or pay them at the March meeting. \$10.00/mo. late fees apply after the January meeting.

Secretary's Report: Jeff Wolsley

The February 2013 STARS regular meeting was called to order at 7:01pm. There were 13 Open Members, 3 Associate, 0 guests, and 0 youth members in attendance.

Secretary's Report:

The Secretary's Report from the January 2013 meeting was submitted. Correction reported by Peter Seiffert. Peter was also at the BOD meeting. January News Letter BOD meeting minutes will be corrected. Motion to approve by Mike Graham and 2nd by Peter Seiffert. Carried.

Treasurer's Report: Bob Rowe

There are 33 OPEN/Associate members outstanding as of the meeting. The field share payouts will continue as planned. All bills are current. Motion to approve by Bob Fisk and 2nd by Dave Jewell. Carried.

Committee Reports:

Field Committee: Herb Moore

All is pretty quiet right now. The field is currently snowed under. The driveway entrance is packed in. The snow level is diminishing though. A couple of members were looking at opening up the end.

AMA: Peter Seiffert, AMA District II, AVP

Peter presented information regarding UAV and FPV. He cited an on-line AMA article by Chris Anderson- [Chris Anderson - The Rise of the personal UAV](#). The article presents the fundamentals of what a UAV is- robotic controlled. FPV is still only manual control with just a different viewing perspective. A conversation ensued with many members contributing their thoughts. The takeaway is to be aware of what a UAV is and what we do has nothing in common with it.

The next MoST date is March 2nd. Peter is looking for two (2) additional volunteers. Peter reported that 90 Boy scouts and parents were treated to a flying demo at the last MoST date. **The next flying demo at the MoST is March 9 and 23, at 7:00pm** (1900). These dates are in addition to the regular Saturday morning dates. Remember the date is the first Saturday of the month. Please volunteer and help promote the hobby and attract new members. Please contact [Peter Seiffert](#) to volunteer.

Safety Report: Peter Seiffert

Peter reminded everyone to remember Valentines Day or safety might be compromised on Friday.

Flight School: Bob Rowe

Flight schools will be starting on schedule for 2013. This is the 24th season. Fixed Wing School needs flight instructors. Both schools are in need of volunteers. Fixed wing school starts May 9th. Heli Flight School starts April 23rd. Please attend the Pre-Flight Workshop. **Special Note- All fixed wing pilots will need their own aircraft this year. The club trainer is no longer available.**

If you have suggestions for the flight schools, please let us know.

STARS Web Site: Chuck LeVine

The web cam is/will be back up and running! Please view the field cam at <http://www.amadistrictiistars.org/http://www.amadistrictiistars.org/scam.html>. This is an infrared cam so you can see some activity at night.

Old Business:

Field Share Repayment:

The field share repayment will continue. The anticipated completion is by the end of the 1st quarter. There are 19 outstanding shares.

Model Aircraft Forum: Peter Seiffert

The forum was again a success despite lower attendance. There were approximately 34 pilots this year. 2014 is a go. The organizers of the MAF would like your input on improvements that you would like to see at the next MAF. Please contact [Peter Seiffert](#) or [Chuck LeVine](#) with any ideas that you might have.

STARS Club Hats and Shirts: Bob Rowe

Bob has more hats! The price is \$ 15.00 Please see/contact Bob if you are interested in a STARS shirt. Bob has a catalog with the shirt styles, with the STARS logo embroidered on it. The price varies from 10.00-40.00 dollars. These are **nice** shirts.

New Business:

WRAM Show: [Westchester Radio AeroModelers, Inc](#)

The WRAM show trip is February 23rd. 12 people have committed to go so far. It's not too late to get your name in, but don't show up on Saturday morning if you haven't checked with Phil. Please let Phil know immediately if you need to cancel. We will meet in the K-Mart parking lot at 0600, between the K-Mart Garden Center and Zebbs. There is a stop for breakfast. Should be back home by 11:00. Please contact [Phil Morgan](#) if you would like to go or need to cancel.

Snow Fly:

The STARS Snow Fly is March 3rd 11:00 to 4:00. Bring the skis, turf tires, pontoons, or floats, depending on the weather.

Heli Jam: Bob Fisk

The STARS Snow Fly is March 3rd 11:00 to 4:00. Bring the skis, turf tires, pontoons, or floats, depending on the weather.

New Members:

Peter Deierlein was voted in as the newest Associate member. Peter flies full scale and r/c fixed wing It's not too early to start planning. Bob has 22 pilots signed up already. Details are still forming.

Adjournment:

The February regular monthly meeting of the STARS was adjourned at 7:28pm.

Secretary, Jeff Wolsley

After the Meeting Show and Tell

No after meeting show and tell.

Safety Officer Report: Peter Seiffert

Make sure that you are aware of your transmitter failsafe functions. A recent incident at the field involved a transmitter being turned off before the receiver. The receiver interpreted this as a LOS (Loss of Signal) and went into failsafe mode. The electric aircraft involved immediately went to high throttle and crashed into the pit fence. Fortunately the only damage was to the aircraft. If you have any questions regarding this function or how to set it up, please contact [Peter Seiffert](#).

PLEASE remember to RANGE CHECK all aircraft before flight- GOOD! Range checking during flight-NOT so good!

Calendar of Events for August-September (and beyond) Events: *Editor's Note- Also watch your e-mail for sudden changes to events like cancellations or re-scheduling due to weather.*

February 16 RCCR Swap Meet, Rochester
February 23 WRAM Show Trip
March 3 STARS Snow Fly
April 13 FLAPS Swap Meet and Auction

Indoor helicopter flying at Walt's is open again for the 2012-2013 season. Wednesday and Thursday, 5:30 to close.

For any additional information contact Walt's Hobby 453-2291

Look for updates to indoor flying schedules!

Flight Schools- 2013 STARS Fixed Wing Flight School starts May 9th. Heli Flight school starts April 23rd. Please plan on attending the pre-flight workshop at Walt's April 25th.

MoST Volunteer Schedule- Please contact Peter Seiffert to volunteer. The MoST program is back. The next session is on March 2nd. Peter needs to additional volunteers. **There are two additional nights of flight demonstration- March 9th and 23rd at 7:00pm (1900).** Please contact [Peter Seiffert](#) if you wish to volunteer.

Please visit the AMA DistrictIII website or the Event Section in the back of Model Aviation for additional information on these and other event

Advertisements:

FOR SALE:




Bridi UFO Pattern Plane. Fiberglass fuse. Epoxy finish. Includes Rhom Air Retracts and air tank with all fittings as well as push-rods. Set up for .60- 2 cycle engine. Qualifies for Vintage R/C Class. Joe Bridi Design circa 1970's. If Interested we can arrange delivery.

Asking \$ 175. Contact [Dan Luchaco](#). 570-888-1856

If you want to list modeling items for sale, R/C services offered, or a really neat R/C web site, this would be a good spot. Free for members. Send your advertisement by e-mail to jwolsley@ix.netcom.com. Please put STARS ADVERTISEMENT in the subject line.

Links-

how to build a rc jet B-1 Bomber # 173 pt 1

hornitpilot 404 videos  [Edit Subscription](#)



URL into your browser line and click go. It's over 2600 videos. Six kits have been sold. Bob is working diligently on the 2nd ready to fly Thud. The original B-1 is for sale on RC Universe. Bob will be starting on the improved B-1 next year. How To Build A B-1 Bomber 10 Minutes At a Time. http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HqTKJU6PlkA&feature=channel_page
This is the link to the web site- <http://www.b1modelproject.com>

Mike Graham posted a really neat video from the 2012 Airshow. Thanks Mike! It takes a little while to load but it's worth the wait. <http://dl.dropbox.com/u/73545639/STARS%20Airshow%202012.wmv>

Howard Blair found an interesting video from YouTube on micro flight

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fuoFA2fKjEo&feature=fvst>

Tom Catalino pointed out this site recently. An excellent site for Lipo battery info-

<http://sites.google.com/site/tjinguuytech/charging-how-tos/balance-connectors>

Peter Seiffert sent along the following web site- www.servodatabase.com/servos/all

Mike Graham has a torque conversion chart-



Arming Switch Information-

AMP'D- Arming The Big Boys, by Greg Covey November 2007

http://www.rcuniverse.com/magazine/article_display.cfm?article_id=950

RunRyder- How To Make A Spark Arrestor for an ESC by Lucien Miller <http://www.helifreak.com/archive/index.php/t-289393.html> look down to the post from gbidwell from 4-24-2011 0601am. That's the exact article that I have from RunRyder.

Note- Many of the newer ESC's have a built in spark arrestor. If you still see and hear the spark, this is a good idea to save the plugs.

The Link for the AMA is:

<http://www.modelaircraft.org/>

The link for the AMA DII Calendar is:

http://www.amadistrictii.org/amajoom/index.php?option=com_events&Itemid=56&task=view_month&month=9&year=2012

The link for the club yahoo users group is:

http://groups.yahoo.com/grjwoup/stars_club_members/ (Don't forget to sign in)

The link for the STARS club home page at DII is

<http://www.amadistrictiistars.org/>

The link for the STARS club web cam is:

<http://www.amadistrictiistars.org/scam.html>

The Propwash News Letter is also available at YAHOO GROUPS. The current news letter and previous years/months are viewable and printable from there.

Please contact Mike Graham tanjmg82@aol.com to join the STARS Yahoo group. Send Mike an email asking to join from your preferred email account. Mike will then reply with an invite to join the group. The invitation contains the links and instructions necessary to join.

A REALLY COOL WEBSITE- Thanks to former STARS member Rick Colvin for pointing this out at the June 2009 meeting-

For those of you who ever wanted to learn how to make a fiberglass plug and molds, this is the guy to check out. Even if the plane in the project doesn't interest you, the education from the process may. Bob Moore (B1 Bob) takes you through each process step by step, including the "Bob-o-neered" parts. He shows you how to make professional looking parts in his garage workshop. This includes carbon fiber composite parts as well as the use of light weight foam to produce so really impressive light weight but very strong parts. He shows all- the good and the bad, so you get to learn right along with him. He's showing plug and mold modification in the most recent videos. He recently launched BAM R/C products. If the YouTube hyperlink doesn't work, copy the following

URL into your browser line and click go. It's over 2600 videos. Six kits have been sold. Bob is working diligently on the 2nd ready to fly Thud. The original B-1 is for sale on RC Universe. Bob will be starting on the improved B-1 next year. How To Build A B-1 Bomber 10 Minutes At a Time. http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HqTKJU6PlkA&feature=channel_page

This is the link to the web site-

<http://www.b1modelproject.com>



STARS Field Satellite photo



S.T.A.R.S.

Annual 2013 Snow Fly



When?

Sunday, 3 March 2013

11 AM to 4 PM

Where?

S.T.A.R.S. Field in Phoenix, NY

(See map on back)

❄ **Admission: *NONE*** ❄

Open Flying - fly when you are warm enough!

Heated, enclosed pavilion.

Power available for charging batteries.

Food & Beverages to be served all day.

Come and fly all day! ❄

For more information, contact:

Chuck Levine, President: 403-8208



Sponsored by the Syracuse Thunderbirds Aero Radio Society, Inc.

FLAPS *presents:*

Eleventh Annual

RC Swap Meet & Auction

Saturday, April 13, 2013

at the

(Easy Access!)

Magee Fire House

(Plenty of Parking!)

Route 318, at intersection of Route 414, Seneca Falls

Swap Meet - 10:00am

Auction - 12:00 noon

Doors open 9:30 am

\$5.00 Admission (*ladies & children free*)

No Auction Fees

Tables provided no charge

Food and Refreshments available

50/50 Drawing

Drawings for door prizes

Tickets on sale for other great Prizes



Directions:

From the Thruway Exit 41 (Waterloo):

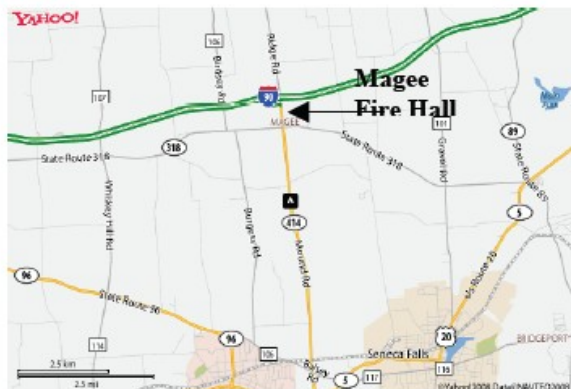
Turn right on Route 414 and south to Route 318, turn left, Magee Fire House is immediately on left.

From the South:

Take Route 5&20 to intersection of Route 414, between Seneca Falls & Waterloo. Go North on 414 toward Thruway Exit 41, turn right on Route 318, Magee Fire House is immediately on left.

Check Our Auction Site:

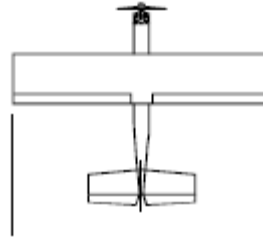
*Easy Access! - Great Deals!
More Space - Lots of Parking*



Sponsored by the Finger Lakes Air Pirates Inc.

Visit us at: www.flapsrc.com

STARS Field Rules



1. General:

- A. License: All pilots, students, and flying guests *must* have a current membership in a nationally recognized model aircraft association in order to fly. Those pilots participating in the Park Pilot Membership Program must fly models that weigh two pounds or less and be incapable of reaching speeds greater than 60 mph. They must be electric or rubber powered, or of any similar *quiet* means of propulsion.
- B. Spectators: Only those people essential to flight operations will be permitted in the pit area; all others will remain on the spectator side of the fence. Impound: All pilots, students, and flying guests must place their transmitter(s) in the impound area immediately upon arriving at the field.
- C. Vehicles: Vehicles will not be permitted *on* the flying field.
- D. Crash Debris: Pilots must retrieve all pieces of their aircraft after a crash. Particularly, attention must be made to obtaining all pieces of aircraft that land in the neighboring fields under cultivation.
- E. Trash: All members will take home their own trash.
- F. Alcoholic Beverages: Members will not consume alcoholic beverages prior to, nor during, participation in any *modeling* operations.
- G. Smoking: Smoking will not be permitted in the pit area or on the flight line.
- H. Mowing: Flying on the field will not be permitted if the field is being mowed or maintained.

2. Transmitters:

- A. Frequency Control (*For non 2.4 GHz transmitters only*): All members, students, and guests *must make use of the field frequency control system*. Each pilot will obtain the correct frequency flag (or pin) from the impound board and attach it to his/her transmitter before attempting to fly.
- B. Range Checks: Each pilot will conduct a successful radio equipment ground range check before flying a new or repaired aircraft and prior to each flying session.

3. Engines:

- A. All internal combustion engines run at the field will have a silencer (except for small displacements of .09 cubic inches or less).
- B. When running an engine in the pits, keep neighboring personnel behind the prop arc.

4. Flying:

- A. Boundaries: Flying over the pit area or the spectator side of the fence is prohibited, unless beyond the control of the pilot(s).
- B. Taxing: Taxing is prohibited in the pit area!
- C. Flying:
 - (1). Pilots will initiate their first turn after takeoff away from the pit and spectator areas.
 - (2). Engines will not be started before 9 AM Monday through Saturday and 11 AM on Sunday, unless approved by the Event Director.
 - (3). No more than three aircraft will be permitted in the air at one time.
 - (4). All flying will be conducted from the designated flight boxes.
 - (5). Hand launching of aircraft is prohibited from the pits.
 - (6). Flight operations will cease during electrical storms.

5. Guests:

- A. All guests must have a current membership in a nationally recognized model aircraft association in order to fly.
- B. Guests may fly at the field only with the approval of a member in good standing and only as long as a sponsoring member *remains at the field*. Guests will not fly unattended.
- C. A local guest will be allowed to fly at the field on three (3) separate occasions and then will be asked to join the Club.
- D. An out-of-town guest may make arrangements with the Club to fly at the field while visiting the area. The Club Officers and the Safety Officer will handle each out-of-town visitor on a case-by-case basis.
- E. *All guests are required to extend every courtesy to current members sharing the same flying frequency*. But when there is a conflict over who shall fly, the Club member will have the first option to fly. Both the guest and the members should use common sense while sharing the flight line or using the same radio frequencies.

6. RC Aircraft Utilizing “First Person View” Systems (AMA Document 550):

A. GENERAL:

- (1) FPV flying of radio control model aircraft by AMA members is allowed only for noncommercial purposes as a hobby/recreational and/or competition activity.
- (2) All FPV flights must be conducted in accordance with AMA’s current National Model Aircraft Safety Code and any additional rules specific to the flying site/location.

B. OPERATIONS – REQUIREMENTS - LIMITATIONS:

- (1) AMA FPV novice pilots must use a buddy-box system with an FPV spotter while learning to fly FPV.
- (2) All FPV flights require an AMA FPV pilot to have an AMA FPV spotter next to him/ her maintaining VLOS with the FPV aircraft throughout its flight.
- (3) The FPV pilot must brief the FPV spotter on the FPV spotter’s duties, communications and hand-over control procedures before FPV flight.
- (4) The AMA FPV spotter must communicate with the FPV pilot to ensure the FPV aircraft remains within VLOS, warning the FPV pilot of approaching aircraft, and when avoidance techniques are necessary.
- (5) The FPV spotter may at any time during an FPV flight acquire the transmitter from the FPV pilot and assume VLOS control of the aircraft.
- (6) If the FPV pilot experiences a problem due to a loss of video link, orientation, or is unable to safely fly, he/she must abandon FPV mode and fly VLOS or pass the RC transmitter to the FPV spotter to assume VLOS control of the aircraft.
- (7) Before initial FPV flight and after any flight system changes or repairs, FPV model aircraft must be test flown by conventional VLOS to determine that flight systems are working properly.
- (8) FPV model aircraft must use frequencies approved by the FCC for both the RC system and the wireless video system. Pilots must meet applicable FCC licensing requirements if they choose to operate the RC flight control system or the wireless video system on Amateur Band frequencies.

C. RANGE – ALTITUDE – WEIGHT – SPEED:

- (1) One of the requirements in Federal Law (Public Law 112-95 Sec 336 (c) (2) February 14, 2012) for model aircraft to be excluded from FAA regulations is that model aircraft be flown within VLOS of the operator.
- (2) Model aircraft flown using FPV must remain at or below 400 feet AGL when within 3 miles of an airport as specified in the AMA Safety Code.
- (3) Model aircraft flown FPV are limited to a weight (including fuel, batteries, and onboard FPV equipment) of 15 lbs. and a speed of 70 mph.

STARS

Field Protocol

Dedicated to responsible
RC fun with safety by
choice, not chance.

1. General:

- A. Civil and courteous behavior is required at the field at all times.
- B. Safety is paramount and everyone's business. Use common sense in all matters.
- C. It is strongly recommended that you do not fly alone.
- D. Learn where the First Aid station is located and inform the Field Committee if material has been issued from it.
- E. When opening or closing combination locks, *always* set the wheels to 0000.
- F. Last member out must close and lock the refrigerators, pavilion, and main gate.
- G. Cell phones are not to be used on the flight line or in the pavilion near the transmitters.

2. Engine Courtesy:

- A. Long term tuning and initial break-in should be conducted away from the pits and spectators (usually at the engine break-in stand).
- B. Do not direct prop wash at other modelers, their aircraft, equipment, or bystanders behind the pit fence. Kindly inform those bystanders near the fence that you intend to start an engine before you do so.

2. Flying Courtesy:

- A. Any person wishing to enter an active flying field or runway to cross same or to retrieve an aircraft, must loudly announce their intention to all fliers on the flight line.
- B. A "landing" aircraft has the right of way over an aircraft "taking-off".
- C. A "dead stick" aircraft has the right of way over all others.
- D. All take-off and landing attempts must be announced to other pilots on the flight line. Take-offs are normally announced by saying "taking off", and landings are announced by saying "landing" or coming in". Dead stick landings are announced clearly to all pilots in the pits and on the flight line by saying "dead stick".
- E. A pilot having difficulty in controlling his/her aircraft must announce to all in the pits and on the flight line that he/she is experiencing radio or mechanical problems. Pilots on the ground preparing to fly will turn off their transmitters and wait for the problem to be resolved before continuing to fly. Fliers in the air will stay clear of the aircraft in distress and will land, if possible, as long as it does not contribute to the crisis. All personnel near the pit area must be alerted to the situation.
- F. If a crash occurs on the field or in the pits, all flying will stop until the accident has been investigated and the debris has been cleared from the field.
- G. Normal flight duration is 10 minutes. Obviously, flight time may be extended if there are no other pilots waiting to fly or waiting for a particular radio channel.
- H. When you have finished flying, please return your transmitter to the impound.

3. Good Earth Policy:

- A. Place recyclables in the appropriate container in the pavilion.
- B. Turn off all pavilion lights when departing the field for the night.
- C. The field does not have a trash removal service. If you carry anything to the field, carry it back out.
- D. If a pilot or guest brings a pet to the field, he/she will be responsible for supervising the animal's conduct while at the field. Please observe all appropriate Field Rules.
- E. If you smoke, please place all cigarette butts in the butt cans in the field.
- F. Do not throw cans or bottles or any other trash in the outhouse pits.
- G. DO NOT DRINK THE WELL WATER. Well water is to be used for washing only.

4. Replacement Courtesy:

- A. Where an individual's plane or property is damaged by the actions of another individual, it will be the responsibility of the two parties to resolve the situation in an appropriate manner.

S.T.A.R.S.

Flight Training Program

2013



When?

**Every Thursday evening from 5:30 PM to Sunset
May 09, 2013 through September 12, 2013**

Where?

**At the S.T.A.R.S. field in Phoenix, New York
649 County Route 12, Pennellville, NY 13132
N43.23696, W76.24550**

Who?

Anyone wanting to learn to fly powered R/C model airplanes!! You do not have to be a Club member and all lessons are free. Each student must furnish his/her own plane and radio equipment and also must hold a current membership in the Academy of Model Aeronautics aircraft association in order to fly.

PreFlight Workshop

**Held at Walt's Hobby
Thursday April 25, 2013 at 7 PM**

Interested?

Contact:

SENIOR FLIGHT INSTRUCTOR: Bob Rowe (474-8428)



Syracuse Thunderbirds Aero Radio Society

Phoenix, NY

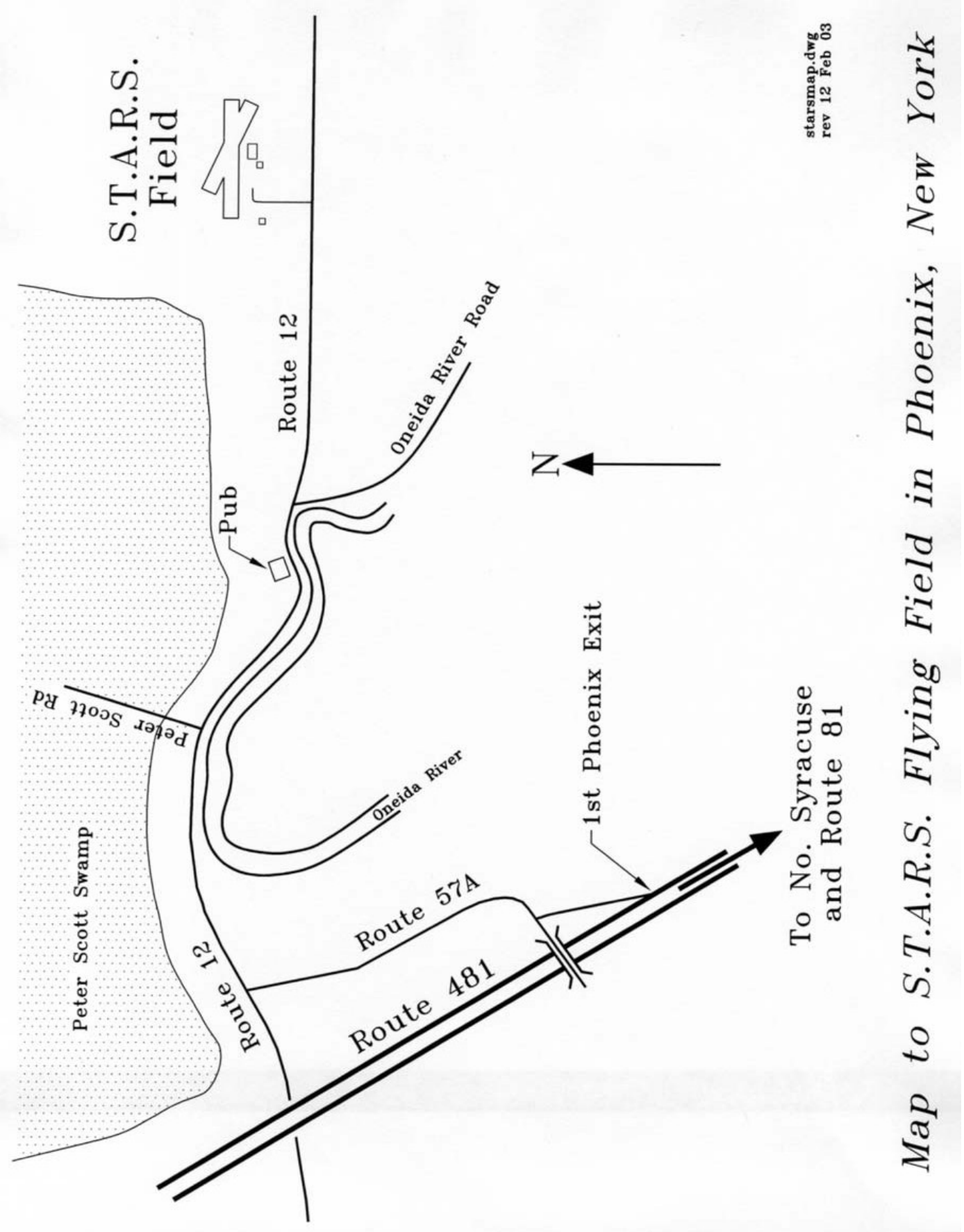
Charter 473

2013 Helicopter Flight School

All skill levels welcome but must be a current AMA Member and provide your own outdoor Helicopter

**Tuesday evenings – April 23 to October 29
5:00 pm until dusk**

Map to the STARS



starsmap.dwg
rev 12 Feb 03

Map to S.T.A.R.S. Flying Field in Phoenix, New York

To No. Syracuse
and Route 81

Plane Propwash

Syracuse Thunderbirds Aero Radio Society
Monthly News Letter
February 2013