

## Syracuse Thunderbirds Aero Radio Society



# Plane Propwash



March 2022

Charter 473

**The STARS April meeting will be held Wednesday April 13<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00- See below**

### 2022 Officers

[Paul Volcko, President](#)  
[Phil Knapp, Vice President](#)  
[Herb Moore, Treasurer](#)  
[Jeff Wolsley, Secretary](#)  
[Jeff LaPorte, Safety Officer](#)

Directors:  
Michael Graham  
Herb Moore, 2014  
Phil Morgan \*2011-2013

Volunteer Staff:  
[Jeff Wolsley, Propwash Editor](#)  
[Michael Graham, SYG Administrator/Club Historian](#)  
[Paul Volcko, Webmaster](#)  
[Jim Johnson, Field Committee](#)  
[Mike O'Neill, Facebook Admin](#)

**The STARS April 2022 meeting will be held on-line via ZOOM, on April 13<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00. STARS meetings will be held via ZOOM until spring. The Zoom meeting notice will be sent the morning of the meeting.**

### Recruiting New Members

Despite a late-March setback, with a dump of lake effect snow over much of the area (and the club), Spring will be here!

We have a busy April coming up.

First up, Saturday, April 2nd a group of area clubs will be representing the hobby at the Maker Faire in the SRC Arena on the OCC campus. If you have a nice stick build model you'd like to show off, or an ARF with translucent covering, or something in the process of being built that you think might make a good display piece to grab the attention of the makers and builders that will be attending this event, please get in touch with Herb Zeigler ([HERBZ1957@YAHOO.COM](mailto:HERBZ1957@YAHOO.COM)). If you'd like to come down to help out in the booth with fielding questions from attendees and help get people interested in the RC flying hobby, please also get in touch with Herb.

We have our Spring Cleanup Day scheduled for Saturday, April 16th at 10AM. Bring rakes and gloves. We will be doing the normal cleanup duties, but we also have a bit of maintenance on the new runway fabric to do. More on that below.

Then at the end of the month, we have our rescheduled Auction happening on April 30 at the club. Setup and preview starts at 9:00 AM and runs to 10:30 AM, at which time the auction will begin. Afterward, we'll have lunch and people can stick around for a fun fly to wrap up the day!

And of course, our weekly special interest events will be kicking into gear this month. Heli and multi-rotor

Tuesdays kick off on April 19. Giant Scale Wednesdays start on April 20. And the Flight School pre-flight workshop is on April 21st with training to start on May 5th.

Now, about the runway. It appears to have held up well over the winter. There was some frost heave that pushed staples up but overall things look to have remained level and should roll out well once the area dries up some more. Things are very wet out at the field and under the runway. So, please **do not walk on the runway** for the time being. You can use it, but place your model on the edge and taxi around to your take-off position. If you are using grass for your flights, look to make sure there aren't foot holes in your path. It is suggested to stick to lighter models until things dry up some more.

Over the winter the staples did pull up somewhat and the fabric loosened. While the staples have been pushed down there a couple of large ripples that formed. We'll need to pull up the edge staples around these locations to re-tension and staple. If things are dry enough on our spring cleanup day we will do this then. Otherwise, we'll have to schedule a work crew to do this at a later date. The two larger ripples may go away on their own as the material heats up and shrinks, but we can help things along and get a tighter surface in the end if we re-tension things by hand. Longer staples and some stakes have been purchased, which we'll be adding to the perimeter. The combination of these should help better secure the material to the soft ground we have at the club.

Discussion with National Grid continues with regard to finalizing the contract for the easements for their

-Continued -

gas pipeline project. Hopefully, this will get wrapped up in April. The pipeline project is slated to start in late June or early July.

That's it for now. I'll see you at the field!

Paul

[president@cnystars.com](mailto:president@cnystars.com) / 315-708-2009

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## **Secretary's Report: Jeff Wolsley**

**The March STARS meeting was held via Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 7:04 by President Paul Volcko. There were 14 Open members, 3 Associate members, 0 Youth members, and 0 Guests in attendance.**

### **Secretary's Report:**

A correction to the Secretary's Report in the February Propwash was noted. The dates for Heli-Multi Rotor are April 19<sup>th</sup>-Oct.4<sup>th</sup>. Motion to accept by Mike Graham and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Phil Morgan. Carried.

### **Treasurer's Report: Herb Moore**

Everything is paid except the propane bill. The tank was just filled. The treasury remains in good shape.

The port-a-pottie will return in April.

Motion to accept by Lloyd Darrohn and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jeff LaPorte. Carried.

### **Correspondence:**

The AMA charter has been received and will be posted in the club house shortly.

The National Grid contract has been updated with our exceptions and will be sent out. Two items to note from us (STARS)- 10ft. easement on the main property and 10-15ft. easement on the 2<sup>nd</sup> parcel along the roadway. Grant temporary easement on 2<sup>nd</sup> parcel for storage location. Approximately 60ft. on 2<sup>nd</sup> parcel, National Grid will establish their own access point to the storage area. The project is expected to last from June to October 2022.

Paul has been in touch with Fred at Crops America and they are aware of the project. They will avoid the easement areas on a temporary and permanent basis.

Ken K. has prepared the taxes. They may have been filed at the time of the meeting. We paid approximately 25.00 to NYS.

Leader club renewal has been submitted. We are waiting on the acknowledgement.

AMA has access to Red Cross training for CPR and may be offering a discount.

A ZOOM class action settlement has been reached. Paul V. is participating to see if there is any reimbursement. This does not directly affect STARS, only Paul, as he pays for the service himself.

### **Committee Reports:**

#### **Field Committee: Jim Johnson**

Staples were pushed in on the new runway, but by the next day, they had worked loose again. The area under the runway and the areas immediately around the runway are really soupy.

It is recommended that pilots stay off of the new runway until it has a chance to dry out. This is to avoid creating issues with the runway bed. A notice will be put out to convey this message.

New, longer staples are being looked into. There 10in staples available. There are also 12 and 14in spikes with barbs available that may do a better job. Paul will order the staples in

anticipation of supplementing the existing staples with longer, tougher staples.

The club house roof project is kicking off. Lloyd is getting estimates for labor and materials.

Metal roof- ~2700.00 for labor and materials. It can be done by Labor Day if the club moves on the project now.

We are responsible for removing the platform and the cupola.

Conventional roof- materials are 1700.00. (Does not include a military discount) We have to provide the labor to remove the platform and cupola, strip and install.

### **Safety Report: Jeff LaPorte**

The AMA has a newly released safety program.

Jeff has been in touch with Eric Williams to discuss recruitment issues. Eric provided some AMA brochures and promotional items that we can hand out that are designed to attract new members.

Jeff works at OCM BOCES and is using his contacts there to distribute STARS literature to attract new members.

The complete AMA safety handbook is available here- <http://www.modelaircraft.org/files/100.pdf>

### **AMA Report: Phil Morgan**

Phil suggested doing a phase inspection on your aircraft before flying. He brought this up after witnessing three crashes at the beginning of the winter fly. Thoroughly inspect the airframe and the controls to make sure that everything is solid and in good working order. Review the Big Bird safety rules in the Propwash even though you may not be flying a big bird.

Take a picture of your AMA card, your TRUST certificate, your STARS membership card, and your FAA card. You can use this at any flying event to establish your credentials in case you forget them.

Phil suggested an Airshow contest like the Lobster Roll ribbon cutting contest from the NEAT Fair. Pilots compete to cut a 1300ft VCR tape ribbon that is towed around the sky. The person that cuts out the longest piece of ribbon gets a prize.

### **STARS Web Site: Paul Volcko**

The address is: [Syracuse Thunderbirds Aero Radio Society \(cnystars.com\)](http://www.cnystars.com)

The cameras are up and running.

### **Old Business:**

#### **Flight School: Bob Rowe**

Bob was not available for the meeting. Flight schools will resume in spring 2022.

**Pre-School workshop** will be held on April 21<sup>st</sup> at the STARS field. Typically this starts at 5:00 but be early if you can. Connor Gray from ESM High School stopped by during the SnoFly event and is interested in joining the flight school. Paul provided him with email with dates and course materials.

*-Continued-*

**Fixed Wing Fight School** will start May 5<sup>th</sup> thru Sept. 15.

**Heli-Night** will start April 19<sup>th</sup> through Oct. 4.

### Big Bird Giant Scale: Phil Knapp

Big bird night is back for 2022. It starts April 20<sup>th</sup> thru Sept. 7.

### Control Line: Mike O'Neill

Mike didn't have anything to report.

Vintage and classic control line, glider, and rubber powered kits on Mike's website under the STORE tab-

<https://www.flyboyzblog.com>

### Facebook:

STARS have a Facebook page. There are 222 members currently. [Mike O'Neill](#) is the administrator.

Paul Volcko talked about setting up a business page. Events can be set up here and allow us to do some advertising.

The STARS website- <http://www.amadistrictiistars.org/>

The STARS Facebook page-

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/amastars/>

### New Business:

#### Membership Recruitment

Paul started out with some membership statistics- STARS have approximately doubled membership in the last couple of years. He is investigating partnering with some of the schools and other venues that could possibly attract new members. Everyone needs to look out for opportunities to promote the hobby and STARS membership.

Mike Gosson noted the program he is involved with is having trouble attracting students. The student program is sponsored by the AMA/EAA. They have been building a Kadet. It has nearly gotten to the ready to covering stage.

Things to look at, Syracuse University, Rocket Challenge, Civil Air Patrol, etc.

### Model Aircraft Forum:

The MAF will be held March 19<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 to 3:00 at the Syracuse Academy of Science. Setup will be 03/18 starting at 6pm.

Presentations will be Tyler Dobbs via Zoom meeting. The discussion will be aircraft ID information. Here will also be discussion on the PAC (Political Action Committee) relationship to the AMA.

Tom Polovick will have a new jet model to show off. There will be a demo on proper soldering technique and Phil Artise will do a demo on low-cost building.

### Maker Fair:

The STARS will participate in the Maker Fair to be held at the OCC SRC Arena. The fair will be April 2<sup>nd</sup> from 10 to 4. You can go to the website to pre-purchase your tickets.

### STARS Auction:

The STARS auction has been rescheduled to April 30<sup>th</sup>. It will take place at the STARS field. May 1<sup>st</sup> is the rain date.

Setup will begin at 9:00 and items can be previewed. The auction will start at 10:30 and run until 12:00. There is a 10% buyer premium.

Coffee and doughnuts will be served in the morning and lunch will be served at the conclusion of the auction.

### STARS Meetings:

STARS meetings will continue through the 2021-2022 winter months in an on-line format. The final survey tally was 18 to 10 in favor of online ZOOM meetings. There is no change in the traditional STARS meeting date or time. The ZOOM meetings will be held every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month until spring. The ZOOM meeting notice and credentials to join the meeting are sent out prior to the meeting time. Meeting access is also on the STARS website.

### Field Improvements:

Fence Electrification- Just a friendly reminder for operator etiquette- Please remember to close the outlet weather covers when you are done using the outlet.

#### GEO-TEXTILE RUNWAY-

Go here to see the runway construction-

[STARS Runway Progress Log](#)

Continue grading around the runway. Fill low spots created by the spring thaw. Patch the grass and re-seed as necessary.

Now that the runway has been completed, some of the flyers are experimenting with the flight line position. This has some of the flyers a little riled up. Please work together on a compromise until this gets worked out. If someone has a problem with the positions then please be respectful and back up to the official pilot pads.

#### INTERNET ACCESS-

First year is 878.88/mo. 2<sup>nd</sup> year is 104.99/month (1259.88/yr.).

That works out to 15.75/member for the internet. The initial coverage will be without a dues increase for the first year. After the first year, this will be re-evaluated.

#### CLUBHOUSE ROOF-

See the Field Committee report. Lloyd Darrohn is getting an estimate for a steel roof to replace the clubhouse roof. It was decided at the August 2021 meeting the roof needs to be replaced.

#### STONE THE DRIVEWAY AND PARKING AREA-

Re-stone the driveway and parking area. Paul is getting three quotes for materials.

#### CONTINUE FIELD SMOOTHING-

Continue to improve the field. Fill the low spots and grade off areas that attract standing water.

### STARS Website:

Paul is looking in to changing the STARS website domain. The new site will be CNY STARS.com. This is to avoid confusion with the STARS club in Olean, NY. The transition over to the new site will not be immediate.

### New Members:

Two new members were signed at the SnoFly-

Paul Mathis from Oneida Lake Flyers- Associate

Art Kaiser, President Oneida Lake Flyers- Associate

Both were carried unanimously by the membership in attendance.

### Guest Columnist:

Anyone, club member or other, is welcome to submit an article for the Propwash. The article must be about the hobby or something that impacts the hobby.

The Propwash Editor and/or STARS BOD reserves the right to edit the article content or refuse to include the article.

**-Continued-**

## Club Hat Order:

Bob Rowe mentioned that anyone interested in a new STARS Club Hat can pick one up at Papa's Sports (315-455-7272), 1926 Park Street (at Park and Hiawatha). Bob says they have the STARS club logo in their inventory. They have many different styles of hats. Just ask for the STARS logo on it.

## Adjournment:

The March 2022 regular monthly meeting of the STARS was adjourned at 7:47.

**Secretary, Jeff Wolsley**

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## Calendar of Events

***NOTICE: EVENT DATES MAY CHANGE OR CANCELLED OUTRIGHT.***

### **Calendar of Events for April and beyond:**

*Editor's Note- All dates are subject to cancellation or postponement due to the COVID-19 response. Please check with the event sponsor for actual date and time. These dates are accurate at the time the Propwash was published.*

April 2- STARS Makers Event SRC arena  
@ OCC

April 16- STARS Spring Cleaning  
Rain date April 23

April 19- Heli Night starts

April 20- Big Bird Night starts

April 21- STARS Pre-Flight School  
workshop

April 30- STARS Auction- at STARS Field.  
May 1 rain date

May 5- Fixed Wing School starts

June 18- STARS Family Bar-B-Q

July 9- Heli-Jam

July 30- Arcs Pattern Contest

Aug. 13- STARS Airshow

Sept. 10- STARS FPV racing

Sept. 15-18- Neat Fair

Oct. 1- Ringmaster Fly-a-thon

For additional events, click here → [AMA DII Event Listing](#)

## **STARS Flight Schools-**

**Fixed wing Pre-School April 21**

School starts May 5<sup>th</sup>.- Sept. 15.

**Heli-Night Starts April 19<sup>th</sup>.**

**Big Bird- May 18. -Sept. 7**

## **Indoor Flying -**

**Keep an eye out here for the 2021-2022 indoor flying schedule. It will be winding down in the next few weeks. It's unclear how the COVID virus or vaccination situation will affect the schedules so these can be revised at any time or unfortunately cancelled outright.**

**Manlius Pebble Hill has indoor flying Sundays 2-4. This was announced in the February meeting.**

**[Camillus Indoor Aviators \(CIA\)](#) Indoor flying at First Baptist Church located at 1960 State Route 5 in Elbridge **NEED TO CONFIRM** dates and times. Active dates still shown for 2021.(2.4GHz only)**

**[CNY Indoor Flying Society](#) No group contact available.**

**[Walt's Hobbytown-](#) NO INDOOR FLYING THIS SEASON**

**[MexAir R/C](#) NO INDOOR FLYING THIS SEASON**



**These are pictures from the Maker Fair.** *Courtesy of Michael Graham.*



**Many more pictures can be found here-**

[https://www.dropbox.com/sh/l14js1hm66bv9zr/AABn\\_U7IKRH5hgtWvMAO\\_LoKa?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/sh/l14js1hm66bv9zr/AABn_U7IKRH5hgtWvMAO_LoKa?dl=0)



# S.T.A.R.S.

<http://www.cnvstars.com>

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/amastars>

## Auction 2022



### When?

April 30<sup>th</sup>

Rain date May 1<sup>st</sup>

Times to be announced

### Where?

STARS Field

### No Admission Fee!!

Only Modeling Aircraft and Related Items will be Auctioned

10 % Commission will be charged on all Sales

Sellers will not be permitted to bid on their own Equipment

*A Minimum acceptable bid will be required on each item up for Bid*

5:00 PM to 6:00 PM — Setup and Preview



Auctioneer: Phil Morgan

*For more information, contact:*

**Phil Morgan: 315/457-3674**



## Advertisements:



### Store Hours:

Monday/Friday: 9:00am-9:00pm -- Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday: 9:00am-6:00pm -- Saturday: 10:00am-5:00pm -- Sunday: 11:00am-5:00pm

### Phone Number:

(315) 453-2291

[waltshobby.com](http://waltshobby.com)



**Open 10-7 Tuesday thru Sunday.**

**315-532-6826**

[www.mexairrc.com](http://www.mexairrc.com)

[www.facebook.com/mexairrc](https://www.facebook.com/mexairrc)

**Winner of AMA 2015 Hobby Shop Award  
for signing up new AMA members.**

## FOR SALE:

Please visit the Southern Tier RC Swap Shop. Dan Luchaco has included me in his mailing list. The current edition is sent along with the Propwash in the monthly email. All contact information is included with the ads.

### *Dave Seiffert Collection-*

From STARS President Paul Volcko

Hello STARS,

Peter Seiffert's brother, David, is going to donate his RC modeling collection to the benefit of the club. He lives up NW of Watertown so it's a bit of a drive. He's sent along information on what he has, including a number of pictures of models. I've attached this in a .zip file to this email.

If you are interested in anything please get in touch with me so I can collect a list of what should be transported in the first round. Email is preferred for this so it's easier to keep track of what people are interested in.

Whatever remains we will be picking up and holding onto until the auction in January.

Thanks,

Paul / [president@amadistrictiistars.org](mailto:president@amadistrictiistars.org) / 315-708-2009

### *Electric Cub-*



### *Goldberg 4-60*



*Lazy Bee*



*RCM Trainer*



*Spook-E*



*SR X250*

There is also an extensive assortment of building materials, tools, engines, and electric gear including motors, speed controls, and chargers.

The entire list and additional pictures are included as an attachment with the newsletter email.





*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@verizon.net](mailto:jwolsley@verizon.net). Please put STARS ADVERTISEMENT in the subject line.*

**Links-**

[UASidekick ó The Ultimate UAS Pilot Assistant](#)

This is an app for your phone that gives weather conditions, club locations, FRIA locations, and event schedules for UAS pilots. This is for recreational pilots as well as commercial drone pilots.

This Mike O'Neill's website to check out- <http://www.flyboyzblog.com/>

This site has articles pertaining to both full scale and model aircraft. Check it out.

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. An excellent site for Lipo battery info-  
<http://sites.google.com/site/tjnguytech/charging-how-tos/balance-connectors>

**Peter Seiffert sent along the following web site- [www.servodatabase.com/servos/all](http://www.servodatabase.com/servos/all)**

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.

**Looking to compare servos?-**

[Servo Database - RC Servo Specs and Reviews](#)

**The link for the STARS club home page is**

<https://www.cnystars.com>

**The link for the STARS club web cam is:**

<https://www.cnystars.com/cameras.php>



STARS Field Satellite photo

**Can't wait for the latest sat photo with the new runway!**

# IMAA Big Bird Safety Checklist

## Balance

Is the longitudinal center of gravity (fore and aft) within the range shown on the plans?

Is the model balanced laterally (side to side)?

## Alignment

Are all the flying surfaces at the proper angle relative to each other?

Are there any twists in the wing?

Do the wings and removable tailplane seat properly on the fuselage every time?

Is the engine set at the proper thrust angle as shown on the plans?

## Control Surfaces

Are all control surfaces securely attached? (i.e., hinges glued, pinned). Pull on each one to test.

Are the control horns secured to the model?

## Control Linkages

Have all the linkages been checked to be sure they are secure?

Are the clevises closed? (Keepers or fuel tubing should be fitted to ensure they stay closed)

## Engine / Motor Mount Security and Operation

Are all engine mount screws tight, including mount to bulkhead if applicable?

Are the propeller bolts and/or spinner tight? If a single nut, is there a safety nut as well?

Does the throttle work without binding?

Does the throttle trim tab shut down the engine?

Has the propeller been balanced and checked for damage?

Are the propeller tips painted a contrasting color? (while not essential it makes the propeller much easier to see)

Has the engine been thoroughly test run? (engine idle and throttle up properly)

Is the fuel tank installed correctly? (i.e., carburetor at the same height as fuel tank, fuel tank clunk in proper position and moving freely, fuel lines in good condition and connected to the engine correctly)

## Radio Equipment

Are the receiver and the battery securely mounted and padded with foam to protect from vibration and shock?

Are all the electrical connectors secure?

Is the receiver antenna fully extended and in good condition?

Are the batteries charged and in good condition (check under load with a voltmeter if unsure)?

Are all servos securely fastened to the rails or trays?

Are servo arms firmly attached with screw in place?

Are all push rods firmly secured in servo arms (again keepers or fuel tubing should be fitted)?

Are the control throws in the correct direction with proper amount of deflection (as per plan)?

Rudder & tail wheel: Left stick should move the rear of the rudder and tail wheel to the left.

Nose wheel: Left stick should move the front of the nose wheel to the left

Aileron: left stick should move left aileron up and right down.

Elevator: Pulling back on the stick should move the back of the elevator up.

Canard: Pulling back on the stick (elevator) should make the front of the canard move up

Throttle: With trim set fully forward, pushing the stick forward should open throttle fully. With trim set fully backward, pulling the stick back should fully close the throttle.

Has a full range check been performed? (see below)

**Undercarriage (where fitted)** Is the undercarriage firmly attached to airframe and the wheels securely retained?

Does aircraft taxi in a straight line?

## General

Is the covering tight with no visible signs of damage?

Are the retaining bolts in place and secure?

Are any hatches, cowls, and canopies secure?

Are all components structurally sound?

Is your name and contact details marked on the model somewhere easily visible? (in case it's lost)

## Range Checking the radio

Verify frequency is available and mark it as yours if necessary.

Turn on transmitter check the correct model is selected (if applicable) and then turn on the receiver.

Important: make sure the transmitter aerial is down fully.

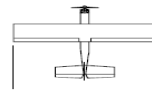
Ask someone to help and walk away from the model until signs of loss of control is apparent. If electric powered ensure that the range is not worse with the motor running.

## Before EVERY flight:

Check the receiver battery pack to ensure enough charge for the flight intended.

Check for damage and the control throw direction of all surfaces.

# S.T.A.R.S. 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.
- 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 **or from the mowed areas that might cause damage to mowing or farming equipment.**
- 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: **2.5 GHz technology is prevalent in the hobby. In general, transmitter impound and channel flagging is no longer necessary. Pilots using a non-2.04 GHz transmitter system or FPV video transmitter should make all efforts to determine if others present are also using one and self-manage frequency separation prior to powering up their transmitter. Event Managers and Contest Directors may establish a transmitter impound or channel frequency control policy for their event, if deemed necessary.**
- B. Range Checks: Each pilot will conduct a successful radio equipment ground range check, **including any FPV equipment**, 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. **Restrain fuel powered airplanes with stakes, starting stand, or helper prior to starting the engine(s).**
- C. **Electric motors and fuel engines are not to be run in spectator/pavilion areas or anywhere behind pit area fencing or designated test stand/hover areas, unless propellers/blades are removed. Model electronics (receivers, servos, etc.) can be powered up in spectator areas as long as electric motors are disconnected or propeller/blades are removed.**
- D. **Remove or secure all necklaces, straps, loose clothing, hoodie ties, etc. prior to starting a fuel engine powered model. Long hair should be tied back or secured so it cannot get caught in a spinning propeller or rotor.**

## 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 (electrics may start at 10 AM), 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 undergoing training with an experienced AMA FPV pilot should use a buddy-box system if practicing at a low altitude (below 100 feet) or practice at a safer, higher, altitude when no buddy-box system is an option.
- (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 55 lbs. and a speed of 100 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. **Limited use of cell phones and mobile devices on the flight line to photography/videography or integrated use with model systems. Talk, text, and browse from the pits or spectator areas.**

### 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.

### 3. 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.

### 4. 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 **dispose of trash in the outhouse/port-a-potty pit.**
- G. **DO NOT DRINK THE WELL WATER.** Well water is to be used for washing only.

### 5. Replacement Courtesy:

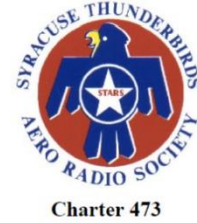
- A. Where an individual's plane or property is damaged by the actions of another individual, it will be the responsibility of the two parties to resolve the situation in an appropriate manner.

## **STARS POLICY REGARDING PHOTOGRAPHY**

- STARS is a membership organization organized under the laws of the State of New York.
- The STARS flying field, located in Phoenix, New York, is owned by STARS, and as such, is privately owned property.
- The purpose of this policy is to limit and restrict the reproduction of images, in any form, of the STARS property and the activities which occur thereon.
- While the STARS property is privately owned, members, guests, and the general public are welcome at the field during published field hours of operation. Members, guests, and the public must adhere to all rules imposed by STARS regarding entry upon and/or the use of STARS property, including the STARS policy on photography.
- The reproduction of images of the STARS field or the activities thereon, in any form, is a privilege and not a right.
- Except as provided below, the reproduction of images of the STARS field or activities thereon in any form, including, but not limited to film and digital still photography, and video photography in either film or digital form, is strictly forbidden.
- Violation of this policy will result in immediate expulsion of the violator from the STARS premises, and may subject the violator to criminal and/or civil sanctions and penalties.
- Members in good standing of STARS shall be exempt from the above requirements so long as any images or video produced of the STARS premises or the activities thereon are for personal and non-commercial use.
- Guests and the general public may be permitted to photograph or video the STARS property and activities thereon, but only for personal and non-commercial use, and only with the prior written consent of the Club's executive board.



# Syracuse Thunderbirds Aero Radio Society



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

## Membership Renewal 2022

Return renewals to our Treasurer, Herb Moore, via mail to: 645 Gilbert Mills Road, Fulton, NY, 13069.  
Please fill in your name, mark your membership type, and include your payment made out to: S.T.A.R.S.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

	Type	Description	Cost
<input type="checkbox"/>	Youth	Full use of club facilities, age 19 or under, 20 <sup>th</sup> birthday on or after July 1, 2021. No voting rights.	\$0
<input type="checkbox"/>	Park Pilot	Operates under the model restrictions of a Park Pilot AMA membership (electrics, <2lbs, <60mph), no voting rights.	\$75
<input type="checkbox"/>	Associate	Full use of club facilities, no voting rights.	\$75
<input type="checkbox"/>	Open	Full use of club facilities, holds ownership share with voting rights, late renewal penalties of \$10 per month after January.	\$60
<input type="checkbox"/>	Extra Family	Full use of club facilities, someone in household has an open membership already, no voting rights.	\$30

All memberships require that you maintain an active AMA membership. STARS membership card will be withheld until your AMA membership is current. All members are encouraged to renew their memberships at the beginning of the year, but only Open memberships have a late renewal penalty. Open member late renewal penalties can be waived at Treasurer's discretion, please contact Herb in January if you need an extension. If you wish to change your membership type, such as upgrading from Associate to Open, please contact Herb or another club officer.

Please provide your updated contact information below.

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

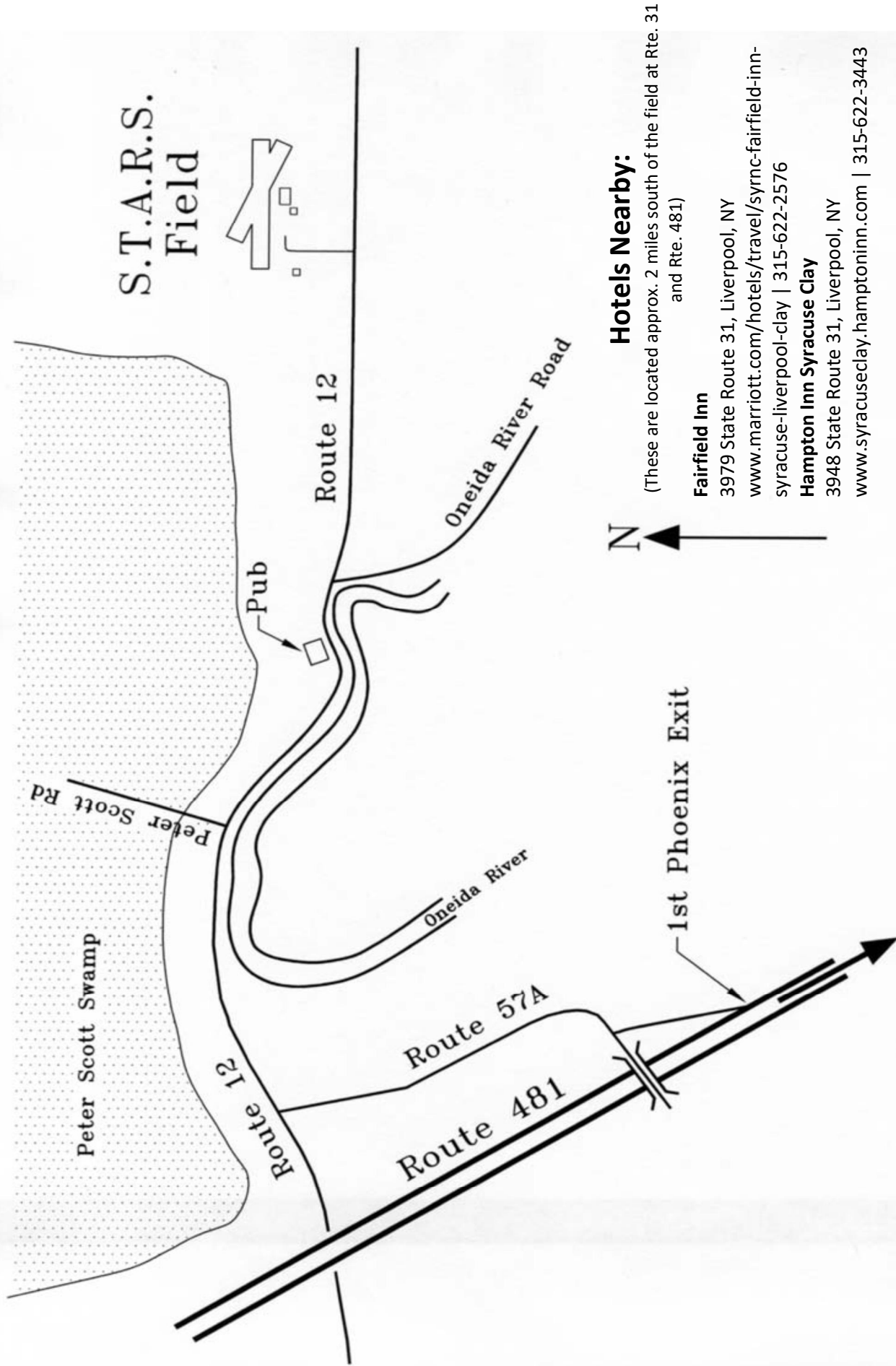
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

# Map to the STARS



S.T.A.R.S.  
Field

Route 12

Oneida River Road

Pub

Oneida River

Route 57A

Route 481

N

1st Phoenix Exit

## Hotels Nearby:

(These are located approx. 2 miles south of the field at Rte. 31 and Rte. 481)

### Fairfield Inn

3979 State Route 31, Liverpool, NY

[www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/syrnc-fairfield-inn-syracuse-liverpool-clay](http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/syrnc-fairfield-inn-syracuse-liverpool-clay) | 315-622-2576

### Hampton Inn Syracuse Clay

3948 State Route 31, Liverpool, NY

[www.syracuseclay.hamptoninn.com](http://www.syracuseclay.hamptoninn.com) | 315-622-3443

To No. Syracuse  
and Route 81

N43.23696, W76.24550

starsmap.dwg  
rev 12 Feb 03

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





Est. 1965

# Syracuse Thunderbirds Aero Radio Society

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



Charter 473

## Membership Application Form

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership:       Open (\$160 share+\$60 dues)       Extra Family member (\$30.00)  
                          Associate (\$75.00)                               Youth (< AMA age 19 - \$0.00)  
                          Park Pilot - Associate (\$75.00)       Park Pilot - Youth (< AMA age 19 - \$0.00)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
                         \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (for roster): \_\_\_\_\_

AMA: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_

STARS Member(s) Contacted: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Interests (Sport, Scale, Pattern, Fun Fly, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_  
                         \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address (for newsletter and notices): \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**You must be a current member of the Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) in order to join the STARS. Please show your AMA card to the Officer given this application or include a photocopy of the application for the license.**

*"I have read and agree to abide by the STARS Field Safety Rules." (on back)*

\_\_\_\_\_

Submit this form to a Club Officer

Rev 16aug17