

Syracuse Thunderbirds Aero Radio Society



Plane Propwash



April 2022

Charter 473

The STARS May meeting will be held Wednesday May 11th, at 7:00, at the STARS Field

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 May 2022 meeting will be held at STARS Field, on May 11th, at 7:00. Unless otherwise notified, STARS regular monthly meetings will be held at the field until fall.

Busy Spring

April was a very busy month for the club!

Lloyd Darrohn and Jim Johnson have been busy collecting quotes for the roof project. Thank you, guys! Hopefully soon we'll be able to select a contractor and get the pavilion roof replacement scheduled.

Some of our flight school volunteers were on hand in the evening of April 21st to help a couple of students get their planes and transmitters in order, in advance of our flight school nights starting up on May 5th. I'm looking forward to flight school getting started up for the season, and I'm sure many others are too. Students, instructors, and even the heckling spectators!

Thank you to everyone who volunteered on our cleanup day. Attendance was a bit lighter than in the past couple of years, but we got a lot of work done, including rock raking, going through the red shed and disposing of our old backup grill in favor of a new-to-us replacement that Gary Natali donated (thank you!), and clearing out the creek along our property line and through to our neighbor Al's culvert under his dirt road. We also pulled up some staples and stretched a couple of ripples out of the runway, using the new 10" long staples to hold it down. To top it off, Mike Mueller delivered his completed airplane bench, to replace one of the two on either side of the opening in the fence (in front of the pavilion). It looks great! Thank you, Mike!

Stone was delivered on April 27th (it snowed!) and the 28th. Jim Johnson, Bill Whittaker, and Ted Anderson, along with the rest of the morning crew and a few others, made quick work of spreading out all the stone in the parking lot and driveway. It looks amazing on the cameras and even better in person! Thanks for all the hard work and getting it all finished in time for the weekend.

The weekend brought us to our long-delayed auction, this time at the club instead of at Walt's Hobby. We lucked out on the weather (it was a beautiful day) and the turnout

was great. While the success of the auction ultimately depends on all the buyers and sellers, a handful of people stood out in making it all happen. Phil Morgan did great auctioneering, as usual. Herb Moore and Chuck Levine took on the chaotic job of directing transactions, tracking down sellers, collecting commissions, and keeping track of sales sheets. And Phil Knapp, Heinz Lorch, and I tried to keep the items moving through the auction block. It wasn't easy with the pace Phil was setting! Thanks to all of you for putting on a great event!

Most of the club's auction revenue, which we'll be hearing about at our May meeting, was a result of sales of some of the last remaining items from Peter Seiffert's RC modeling estate. Phil Morgan, Michael Graham, and I spent several hours over the week leading up to the auction going through Barb and Peter's basement, bringing items up to the trailer for auction and providing guidance to Barb on what to keep, what to toss, and what to put into an upcoming garage sale. It was tough work and a lot of trips up and down the stairs. But it was also gratifying seeing how much of a dent we made in the room and getting to visit with Barb and hear Michael and Phil retell their stories of Peter as we worked through the items.

The day of the auction, April 30th, was also Peter's birthday. He would have been 80. I sure do miss him. I'm thankful for his friendship and guidance while he was still here, and also for his, Barb's, and their family's generosity to the club since his passing. Many of the improvements at the club recently are a direct result of Peter's legacy.

So, April was a busy one, but May is looking much more relaxed. We have no weekend events scheduled. Just our weekly special interest nights. The weather is warming up, the field is drying out, and the evening sun is lasting longer. Get out to the club and fly!

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

Paul

president@cnystars.com / 315-708-2009

Secretary's Report: Jeff Wolsley

The April STARS meeting was held via Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 7:04 by President Paul Volcko. There were 14 Open members, 4 Associate members, 1 Youth member, and 0 Guests in attendance.

Secretary's Report:

The Secretary's report from the March Propwash was accepted as published. Motion to accept by Mike Graham and 2nd by Bill Chapman Carried.

Treasurer's Report: Herb Moore

Herb has some dues payments to deposit. The port-a-pottie will arrive 04/14. The Spectrum bill is due. In general, the Treasury is in great shape.

Motion to accept by Lloyd Darrohn and 2nd by Mike Graham. Carried.

Correspondence:

National Grin contact Tim Stapleton has been in contact with Paul. Need updated contract returned. NatGrid is still figuring out how to pay CNY Crops.

Paul sent the contact STARS/CNY Crops to CNY Crops today.

AMA has access to Red Cross training for CPR and may be offering a discount. There is a 100.00 flat service fee and 75.00/person for CPR and AED training.

Committee Reports:

Field Committee: Jim Johnson

Soft field condition were noted. The current damage can be addressed by rolling. The general consensus was to leave the field as is for now and see how it develops.

A couple of cuts were noticed in the runway. These will be repaired as soon as it's okay to go out on the runway.

Jim suggested posting a map of the runway in the club house. Flyers can put a push pin in the map to mark the location of any damage that is noticed. The field crew can then note the pin location(s) and make necessary repairs.

The roller frame is in need of some repairs. Preparations are underway.

The field cleanup is Saturday. The creek needs to be mucked out from the road back. Heavy duty rakes will be needed.

The Farmall tractor has been sold. The proceeds have already been given to the Treasurer.

Safety Report: Jeff LaPorte

Jeff didn't have anything new to report. He noted that the number of flyers have increased as the weather has been getting better. Jeff wants everyone at the field to use their common sense and refrain from doing anything stupid. [Maybe if you're going to do something stupid, please wait until Jeff is present to witness it so he has something to report on]

The AMA has a newly released safety program.

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

AMA Report: Phil Morgan

Phil did not give a report.

Recap- 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://SyracuseThunderbirdsAeroRadioSociety.com)

The cameras are up and running.

Old Business:

Flight School: Bob Rowe

Bob was not available for the meeting. Flight schools have started!

Pre-School workshop will be held on April 21st at the STARS field. Typically this starts at 5:00 but be early if you can.

Fixed Wing Flight School will start May 5th thru Sept. 15.

Heli-Night will start April 19th through Oct. 4.

Big Bird Giant Scale: Phil Knapp

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

Control Line: Mike O'Neill

See NEW BUSINESS

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

Recap from the last meeting- 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 was well attended and an overall financial success. The number of flyers in the gym was down from previous years.

-Continued-

Maker Fair:

The Maker fair was a STARS/ARCS/Voltairs/CIA operation. Mike O'Neill participated as well, but on his own. There were approximately 70 exhibitors and 1200 attendees. Mike reported that he personally had several people around his display that were interested in learning about control line flying. All reported a lot of interest in the displays in general. The Maker Fair will be back again in 2023.

STARS Auction:

The STARS auction has been rescheduled to April 30th. It will take place at the STARS field. May 1st 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 be at the STARS Field starting in May and will continue there until fall. Last year, meeting nights that were rained out were held via ZOOM. The meeting notice was sent out prior to the meeting start time with the credentials to join the on-line meeting.

Field Improvements:

The club house roof project is kicking off. Members are getting quotes on roofing.

Metal roof- Lloyd D. ~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.

Jim Johnson got metal roof pricing for the materials alone. ~ 1700.00-1800.00 for just materials at Lowes, STARS provides the labor.

Conventional roof- materials are ~ 850.00. (Does not include a military discount) This is for a standard three-tab shingle. 50year architectural shingles are expected to be more. We have to provide the labor to remove the platform and cupola, strip and install.

A general vote was conducted to determine the direction of the project. Because funding was not discussed here, all members in attendance voted.

2 members voted to do the project ourselves. 16 members voted to have the material and labor provided.

Next was a vote for the type of roof. All members voted here as well.

7 members voted for a shingle roof. 5 members voted for the metal roof.

The net result is a conventional shingle roof, contractor provides materials and labor to install, with warranty. STARS is responsible to remove the ladder, platform, and cupola.

A motion was made by Pail Volcko, and 2nd by Jeff LaPorte, to approve 3000.00 for the new clubhouse roof. The amount covers a contractor installed conventional shingle roof. The overage on the estimate is to cover any unforeseen issues with the roof sheathing. This vote was limited to the OPEN members attending the ZOOM meeting.

14- YES 0-NO. Carried.

The next project is the driveway stone. Four suppliers have been contacted. Crusher run is the preferred material. The four

suppliers can deliver the stone. Dirty Harry is getting the stone from one of the other suppliers contacted and cannot spread the stone drop out for us. The other suppliers will drag the drop out for us to make final spreading easier. All the quotes are within a few hundred dollars of each other. Coverage will be 2in thick which works out to about 100 ton. Bill Whittaker will spread out.

A motion was made by Lloyd Darrohn and 2nd by Herb Moore to approve the stone for the driveway and parking area not to exceed 3,000.00.

13- YES 0-NO 1- ABSTENTION

CONTROL LINE CIRCLE

A pad was requested for the control line pilots to be in the middle of the existing circle. The pad would be circular and approximately 10ft in diameter. A removable pole would be at the center of the circle to aid older pilots to maintain their balance as they spin around. The stone fill could be reappropriated from the driveway project. The concrete from the slab circle would be extra and mixed on site with a rented mixer.

A motion was made by Mike Muller and 2nd by Herb Moore to appropriate 1,000.00, not to exceed, for the project.

12- YES 0-NO 2- ABSTENTION

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.

INTERNET ACCESS-

First year is 878.88/mo. 2nd 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.

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:

New youth member Connor Gray was introduced. He was in attendance in the ZOOM meeting. Connor will be participating in Fixed Wing flight school this spring. The membership in attendance welcomed Connor and voted unanimously to accept him into the STARS with Youth Membership Status. Congratulations, Connor!

Guest Columnist:

Anyone, club member or other, is welcome to submit an article for the Propwash.

-Continued-

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 April 2022 regular monthly meeting of the STARS was adjourned at 8:32.

Secretary, Jeff Wolsley

Calendar of Events

NOTICE: EVENT DATES MAY CHANGE OR CANCELLED OUTRIGHT.

Calendar of Events for May 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.

May 5- Fixed Wing School starts

June 25- **NEW DATE** 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 5th - September 15.

Heli-Night Starts April 19th - October 4th.

Big Bird- May 18th -September 7th.

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 Hobbtown- NO INDOOR FLYING THIS SEASON

MexAir R/C NO INDOOR FLYING THIS SEASON





Charter 473

S.T.A.R.S.

<http://www.cnvstars.com>

www.facebook.com/cnvstars/

2nd Annual BBQ

*STARS Members
and Families only*

Saturday, June 25, 2022

Rain Date: Sunday, June 26, 2022

10 AM to 4:30 PM



**Food and beverages available to all during day
Catered BBQ lunch available around 1 PM!!**



Bring your canopies and setup at the field for a day of family fun!!

Bring your tables and chairs!!

Bring yard games and water pistols for the kids!!

Bring wood for a bonfire!!

Bring your own refreshment coolers (but no drinking while flying)!!

Have your family members fly our Club Trainer (on a buddy-box, of course)!!

In fact, just bring the whole family and have a picnic!!

If you bring it, fly it!!

For more information, contact Paul Volcko, President, at 315-708-2009

Photos and comments courtesy of Mike Graham

The STARS had a great first evening of fixed wing flight school.

Jeffrey La Porte showed up with his new wagon for carrying all his 'stuff':



It even had a cradle for his birds!!

Bill Bender was back to flying after a 6-7 year hiatus. He had an 4-cell EFlite 25 powered *Alpha* that flew great.

Here he is trying to fish out the wandering ESC connector:



While Bill prepares for his first flight of the evening, Phil Lamkay (in background) had his first flight on his new *Valiant*:



Connor Gray and his Mom (not shown) joined the program to fly his powered glider:



Eventually, his Mom was hand launching his glider!!

In case you haven't seen the new aircraft field bench built by Mike Mueller, here is a shot of it taken at the auction:



STARS 2022 Auction Saturday April 30. Photos courtesy of Mike Graham. More photos here: <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/npokm15ezh9kyyz/AACAk2V7iabPcxr8xOVYO2Wa?dl=0>











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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.

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. 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/tjinguytech/charging-how-tos/balance-connectors>

Peter Seiffert sent along the following web site- 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?-

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!

Remember: A repaired aircraft should be treated just like a new aircraft. It needs a full ground check before flying. Don't forget to inspect the areas that were not repaired. They may have hidden damage. Fly it like it's the first time in the air and will need a full functional check before flying it in front of spectators or in competition.

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.



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:

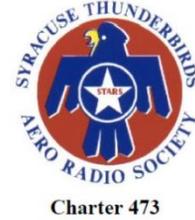
- A. Where an individual's plane or property is damaged by the actions of another individual, it will be the responsibility of the two parties to resolve the situation in an appropriate manner.

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 th 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.

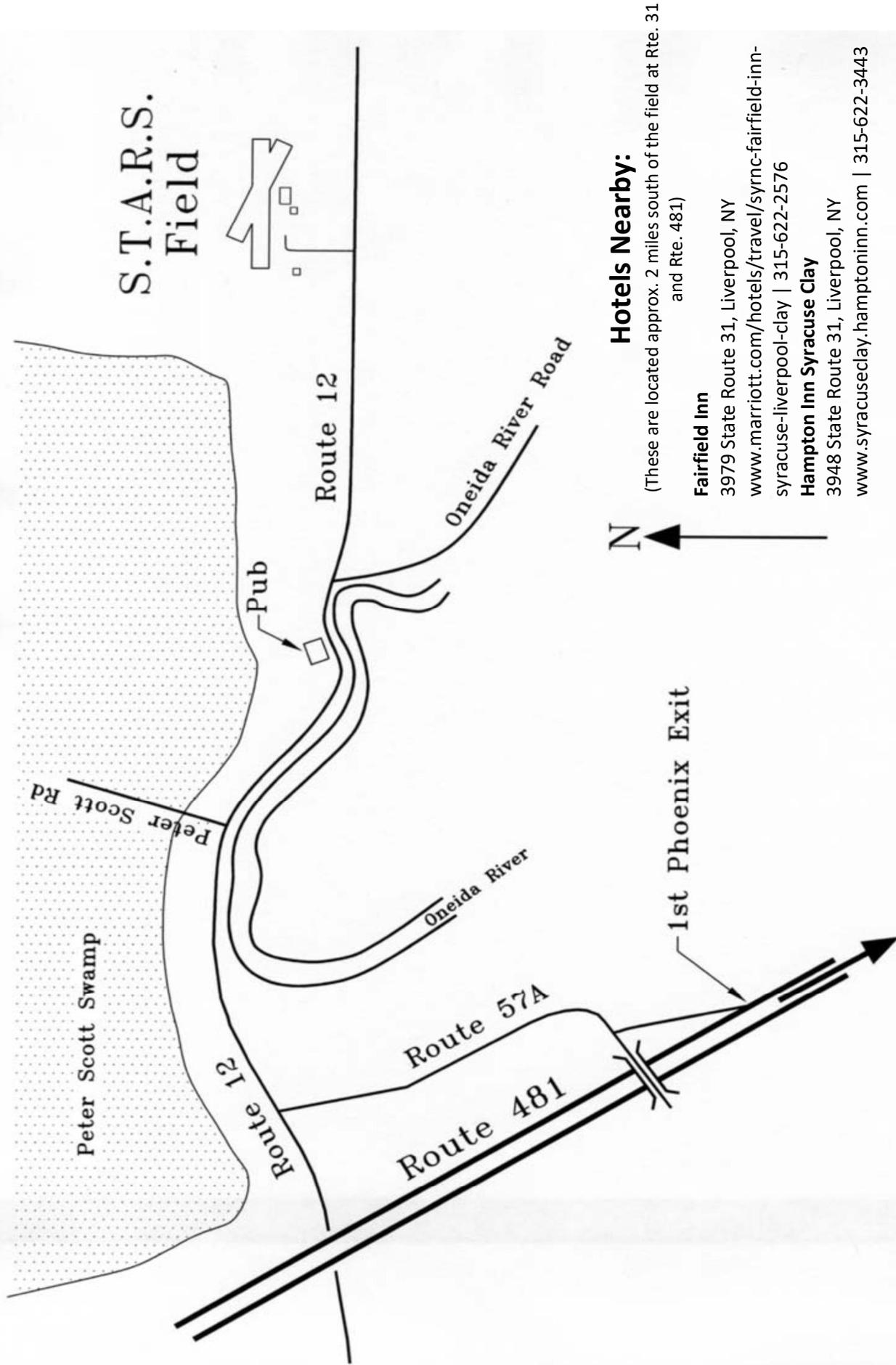
Address: _____

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

To No. Syracuse
and Route 81

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 | 315-622-2576

Hampton Inn Syracuse Clay

3948 State Route 31, Liverpool, NY
www.syracuseclay.hamptoninn.com | 315-622-3443

N43.23696, W76.24550

starsmap.dwg
rev 12 Feb 03

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

