



## Syracuse Thunderbirds Aero Radio Society

# Plane Propwash

February 2024

Charter 473

**The next STARS meeting is Wednesday March 13th at 7:00 via ZOOM**

### 2024 Officers

[Mike Mueller, President](#)  
[Phil Morgan, Vice President](#)  
[Bob Rowe, Treasurer](#)  
[Jeff Wolsley, Secretary](#)  
[Jeff LaPorte, Safety Officer](#)

Directors:  
Michael Graham  
Paul Volcko 2019-2023  
Jeff LaPorte

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

**The STARS March 2024 meeting will be on ZOOM, on March 13<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00. Unless otherwise notified, the monthly meetings will be held via ZOOM October through April. The STARS regular monthly meetings will return to the STARS field in May 2024.**

### The Only Constant. In Life. Is Change

**With** the new year in swing, we have announced some changes in the leadership of our club. Chuck LeVine has resigned as President due to some unforeseen personal circumstances. Chuck will be moving to North Carolina to be with his family over the next few months. We wish him all the best as he leaves us after so many years in our club. The club bylaws say that the VP will be assigned to that position, and have accepted as of February 22<sup>nd</sup>. I have asked Phil Morgan to be my Vice President, and he has also accepted. I am looking to the current leadership to assist me with all things S.T.A.R.S., and look forward to serving this year.

There are many things that Chuck wanted to accomplish this year, and I will do my best to continue with his vision for our future. I would like to start a mini-series in Propwash to discuss a bit of who we are, and more importantly a longer-term vision of our future. We need to grow our organization, and while reaching out to high school and other local organizations is very important for us to be part of our local community, we also need to have a focus on those that could actually have the ability to participate in our sport. One of those groups would be 25-40 year-olds that have not only the time for our hobby, but also, as important, the financial resources to be involved.

How do we do that, and where do we go to find them, is something I would like to explore over the course of this year. As we do this, the AMA has suggested looking at alternate avenues to bring in additional revenues to AMA

clubs. They feel strongly that working with 107 entities could be beneficial to clubs. While we looked at this briefly this past fall, I believe the concept might be worthwhile to be considered during the course of this year.

So I would like to take the next few months in the Propwash to discuss some of these issues. Topics will include advantages of AMA membership, understanding Part 107, and what it might mean to have partners in our quest to be financially solvent for the long term. I hope that my posts will be educational and everyone will have an open mind as to my thoughts. As always, I look forward to comments and constructive criticism. My goal is to educate all of us, and to assess if there are other ways to bring in additional revenue to our club.

I look forward to serving S.T.A.R.S. this year. If you have concerns or issues that you would like to bring to my attention, please feel free to do so, either at [president@cnystars.com](mailto:president@cnystars.com), or my home email address at [mmuellerva@yahoo.com](mailto:mmuellerva@yahoo.com). Feel free to call me at 804 873-8928

One more thing- April 13<sup>th</sup> is Spring Clean-up day. There is a lot of work that needs to be done, and we can use all the help we can get. We will need carpenters for the building, cleanup crews, and obviously work done on the runway and field. Please put it on your calendar and help us get ready for the upcoming flying season

Thanks all. We look forward to an exciting flying season in 2024!!!!

Mike. [president@cnystars.com](mailto:president@cnystars.com), [mmuellerva@yahoo.com](mailto:mmuellerva@yahoo.com)  
(804) 873-8928

**Last Notice-** 2024 STARS dues are due. There is a \$30.00 late fee after the March meeting. Dues must be sent to the Treasurer. (Bob Rowe, 211 Sedgwick Drive, Syracuse, NY. 13203) Please include the renewal form at the end of the Propwash with your payment. Please contact Bob to make your intentions known.

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

**Note: There is a new section in the Propwash labeled Important Links For STARS Members.** This section contains links that every STARS member should be aware of.

**The February STARS meeting was held on ZOOM. The meeting was called to order at 7:01 by President Chuck LeVine. There were 15 Open members, 1 Associate member, 0 Family members, 0 Youth members, and 0 Guest in attendance.**

### **Secretary s Report:**

The Secretary s report from the January Propwash was accepted as published. Motion to accept by Bob Rowe and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Herb Moore. Carried.

### **Treasurer s Report:** Bob Rowe

Dues are coming in. Bob reviewed the finances for 2023. He confirmed that we operated at a net loss for the year.

Bob provided a comprehensive review of the club insurance coverage. The insurance has been upgraded at minimal expense. There is no financial gain going with a higher deductible.

Motion to accept by Phil Morgan and second by Michael Graham. Carried.

Looking into electronic membership cards for future distribution citing cost of postage stamps, card stock, and lamination.

Looking into future payments for membership renewals. Replace payment by check with electronic payment methods. This sparked a lot of discussion. The membership will be asked what they prefer.

### **Correspondence:**

Chuck L. reported the club charter has been received. The AMA DII network server is going to be shut down so the STARS website on there is going to be closed. The STARS website has already been migrated over so this is not new to us.

### **Committee Reports:**

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

Jeff reported that the club continues to operate safely. The season is just getting going so there isn t much to report yet.

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

The US Senate has made a proposed change to the FAA re-authorization. There is a proposed altitude change. A CBO can self-authorize a FRIA. There is a recreational approval for schools. Sanctioned events would be self-approved. The proposed changes now go to the house for approval.

Phil received his remote ID transponder. On Spectrum, the unit connects to a spare receiver channel. Jim Johnson has a transponder app for Android. Phil has iPhone.

The aircraft ID cards are in the clubhouse. They are .50/ea. Please put the money in the box.

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

No Jim tonight. Lloyd D. noted the runway staples are pulling up. The new, long staples have pulled 3 to 4 inches. These will be addressed as needed and at the spring cleanup.

### **Old Business:**

### **STARS Website:**

Paul reported that he will be updating/revamping the website. He s looking at a new main page and camera page. The other pages will come over.

### **STARS Facebook:** Mike O Neill

Nothing to report.

### **Real Estate Committee:**

No report given.

### **Flight schools:**

Fixed Wing- Bod Rowe. Starts April 18 with Pre-Flight Workshop. Regular night from May 2 thru September 12. See flyer attached below.

No report given for any of the special interest groups.

Heli Night- Bob Fisk

Jet Night- Gary Natali

Big Bird- Mike Amie and Mike Mueller

Control Line- Mike O Neill

Mike Graham has new flyers for Heli Night and Big Bird night.

### **Events Planning:**

#### **STARS Family Picnic**

Bob Rowe started discussion regarding the Family Picnic. It was suggested that maybe this event gets combined with the Airshow?

The financial impact of past picnics was discussed.

Issues regarding combining this with the Airshow- fewer people are staying after the event for the pilot dinner leading to the cancellation of that part of the Airshow.

A lot of the club families enjoy the family picnic event by itself.

Chuck will put out a survey to the club membership to get a consensus. The survey results will be submitted at the next meeting.

#### **Model Aircraft Forum**

The Syracuse Science Academy venue is not available. Liverpool High School is not available for 2024, but is available for 2025. Still looking at other venues but time is quickly running out to find another location.

### **Field Improvements- Long Term Planning:**

#### **CONTINUE FIELD SMOOTHING**

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

#### **AED MACHINE UPGRADE/STORAGE**

Phil Morgan requested a heated storage box for the AED so it can be kept at the field year-round. Nothing too elaborate. A 6 x 14 x 14 box with a 100watt lightbulb should be sufficient.

Repair clubhouse siding. There are several areas near the ground that need attention.

In a previous meeting, Mike O Neill mentioned the new Micron Plant starting up in Clay. There will be a flood of tech people and population growth in our area. We should be thinking of ways to promote our club.

**-- Continued--**

Chuck LeVine mentioned flight line table replacement. Some of the tables are shot. Need a way to transfer the tail holders from the old tables to the new. Maybe look at a redesign because the tail holders prevent the tables from folding properly/fully.

Update the memorial plaque. Gary Brown submitted additional names to be attached to the plaque. Who knew the plaque would fill up so fast. An extension will be created to handle the overflow.

#### **New Business:**

#### **New Members:**

No new members for the meeting to vote on.

#### **Club Hat Order:**

Club hats are available. They are 20.00 each. Put your money in the soda bank in the fridge before you take a hat. The white hats are already gone. See Paul V. about custom embroidery on the hat. The embroidery starts at \$8.00.

#### **Adjournment:**

The February 2024 regular monthly meeting of the STARS was adjourned at 7:54.

***Secretary, Jeff Wolsley***

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## **STARS Special Board of Directors Meeting**

A special STARS BOD meeting was called 02/24/2024 to discuss the resignation of STARS club President Chuck LeVine. The meeting was called to order at 10:03.

#### **Members in Attendance:**

Chuck LeVine-	President
Mike Mueller-	Vice President
Paul Volcko-	Director
Mike Graham-	Director
Jeff LaPorte-	Director
Bob Rowe-	Treasurer
Jeff Wolsley-	Secretary
Phil Morgan-	Past Director

**Chuck LeVine** contacted the club officers and BOD members earlier in the week regarding his desire to resign his position in the club and club membership, effective immediately.

Bob Rowe reviewed the STARS Bylaws with Ken Kadish, legal counsel, regarding this matter. The Bylaws state the Vice President assumes the position of STARS President in this circumstance. In this case, Mike Mueller becomes the President. This Vice President position is then appointed by the President. Mike has asked Phil Morgan to assume the Vice President position.

Mike expressed his concern to the BOD in his ability to lead the STARS due to his lack of experience. He specifically chose Phil Morgan for Vice President, because of his history with the STARS, as someone who could help guide Mike in his new position.

Chuck was graciously thanked for his role in the STARS and years of service and membership. Chuck has decided to donate his club share back to the STARS.

There is an open official duty that was previously scheduled with our bank. The change in officers due to the fall election requires signing bank documents that allow account access, etc. The meeting will still go on but with different STARS Officers attending.

In addition to this officer change, Bob Rowe will be stepping down as STARS Treasurer. Bob noted that he agreed to stay on in the Treasures role as long as Chuck was President. With Chuck resigning, Bob decided to step down. This will become official by the April 10<sup>th</sup> STARS club meeting. Paul Volcko will assume the Treasurer's position at that time. Bob noted that there are four (4) Open members and nine (9) associate members who have not paid that need to be followed up.

Phil Morgan will contact the AMA to update the STARS Officer list.

Paul Volcko will put together a write up of these events for immediate release to the membership ahead of the Propwash release.

The current BOD membership will stay the same. Depending on the officer changes in the fall of 2024, the BOD membership will update then.

The BOD meeting concluded at 10:32.

Respectfully Submitted-  
Club Secretary, Jeff Wolsley

## Calendar of Events

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

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

*Editor's Note- Check with the event sponsor for actual date and time. These dates are accurate at the time the Propwash was published. New events are added all the time.*

March 3- STARS Snow Fly

Model Aircraft Forum- **Cancelled**

April 13- STARS Field Spring Clean Up 9:00

April 18- STARS Flight School Pre-Flight Workshop

May 2- Fixed wing Flight School. First Night.

May 4- [Maker Faire NYS Fairgrounds](#)

May 18- STARS 2<sup>nd</sup> Control Line Fun Fly (*sanctioned event*)

June 7- (tentative) Liverpool High School field trip

June 15- STARS Family BBQ

July 20- STARS Heli Jam (*sanctioned event*)

August 31- STARS Air Show (*sanctioned event*)

October 5- STARS Ringmaster Fly-a-thon

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

### **STARS Flight Schools- Flight School is back for 2024!**

**Fixed wing-** Pre-flight workshop April 18<sup>th</sup>, 5pm to 7. Fixed Wing Flight School starts May 2 and runs to Sept. 12, 5pm to sunset. See the attached flyer below.

**Heli/Multi Rotor-** Still meeting informally when the weather permits. See you back in 2024.

### **Indoor Flying**

The Indoor flying schedule will be updated here as soon as I get updates.

**Indoor flying at Sacred Heart Church Cicero was forwarded to me by Tim Smarzo of the Voltaires.**

**Mondays 1:30 to 4:00 and Thursdays 12:30 to 3:30 (as of 11/29/23).**

The church has become more security conscience. All doors are locked except the main door. The gym lighting switch has changed. The new key is in the same place as always, the cabinet in the kitchen, attached to a piece of aluminum bar. Unlock (If locked) pull up the plate, and flip the switch. All doors have alarms except the Gym door. This means that once a member comes in the front door we can use the gym door to haul gear in and out. We need, as always, to make sure the lights are off and doors are closed all the way before the last person leaves.

**The following needs confirmation-**

[Underground R/C Destiny USA](#). Tuesday evenings/nights 315-715-4508

**Manlius Pebble Hill-** So far is listed as no flying this winter (as of 11/29/23).

[Camillus Indoor Aviators \(CIA\)](#) Indoor flying at First Baptist Church located at 1960 State Route 5 in Elbridge 11/18 thru ?, on Friday evenings. If enough interest is generated, flying possibly permitted on Saturdays as well.

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

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

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



## Advertisements:

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### 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](http://www.facebook.com/mexairrc)

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

## Classified Ads-

### FOR SALE:

### WANTED:

1987 AMA window membership sticker. Please contact Jeff Wolsley if you have one that you would be willing to donate. [jwolsley@verizon.net](mailto:jwolsley@verizon.net)

Warren Wagner's SIG Kwik-Built Chipmunk partially completed aircraft. If you have it and would like to re-home it, please let me know.

[jwolsley@verizon.net](mailto:jwolsley@verizon.net)

*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.*

# **Important Links For STARS Members-**

## **STARS Website:**

The STARS website- [cnystars.com](http://cnystars.com) or <http://www.amadistrictiistars.org/>

## **STARS Webcam:**

The STARS webcam- <https://www.cnystars.com/cameras.php>

## **STARS ZOOM Meetings:**

STARS meetings will be held on-line via ZOOM October to April or in case of bad weather. Watch for notification prior to the meeting start time.

The ZOOM meeting credentials are on the STARS web page, and are sent out with the fall/winter/spring Propwash email.

ZOOM Meeting link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88488515371?pwd=c2ZiRWhkMklrbGZ5WENDaE12SIB5Zz09>

To join from the STARS web page, go to [cnystars.com](http://cnystars.com). Then click on the club events tab. On the club events page, in the lower right under Club Meetings, click the red text that says **online via ZOOM**. This will take you to the ZOOM meeting. Click on the Launch Meeting button. You will enter into the meeting, or you may see a dialog box that says, Please wait for the host to start the meeting .

If you don't already have ZOOM installed on your computer for the first time, below the Launch Meeting button, it says- Don't have Zoom client installed? Download Now . Click on the Download Now text and follow the prompts to set up ZOOM on your computer.

## **Facebook:**

The STARS Facebook page- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/amastars/> There are 289 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.

## **Attention New Members:**

Please take the TRUST test if you haven't already. This is a 100% pass test.

TRUST- The Recreational UAS Safety Test

The test can be found here-

<https://trust.pilotinstitute.com> or here-

<https://trust.modelaircraft.org/>

Note there are scam websites also, so use the above links.

Start by registering on the site. Your name is required and so is a password. These will be asked for/created before entering the site to take the test.

The test is a pass/pass. It is given in four parts. Each of the four sections begins with a lesson immediately followed by questions. The number of lessons and questions differ in each section. There are a couple of questions that are poorly worded so it's likely to get these wrong. Not to worry though, you get to correct it until you get it right! You will score 100% in each section, guaranteed.

Download and save your certificate. I had to download mine twice before it downloaded. DO NOT leave the download webpage until your certificate has been successfully downloaded and saved. You get to do the test again from scratch if you miss this step.

Print out the certificate and keep it in your wallet or your flight box. There's a registration/authentication number on the certificate that you might want to add to your aircraft ID label..

-- Continued--



## **Academy of Model Aeronautics:**

[Academy of Model Aeronautics \(modelaircraft.org\)](http://www.modelaircraft.org)

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

This is a link to some FAQ from the AMA regarding remote ID- [Remote-ID-FAQ-Feb2023.pdf \(modelaircraft.org\)](http://www.modelaircraft.org/files/Remote-ID-FAQ-Feb2023.pdf)

## **Federal Aviation Administration (FAA):**

This is to set up or renew your FAA registration. Renewal is every three (3) years. You will or already have received your renewal email. The email is from [uas.faadronezone@faa.gov](mailto:uas.faadronezone@faa.gov). Entry or renewal is \$5.00.

[FAADroneZone Access - Home](#)

## **Phone Apps:**

[UASidekick](#) [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.

[B4UFLY](#)- Download this app to your cell phone. FAA uses this to alert pilots to possible stoppage in your flying area.

[Air Control](#)- Download this app to your phone. This is to set up your flight if you are flying outside of a FRIA.

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.



**The latest satellite photo with the new runway! Just need the control line circle improvements. Thanks Gary Natali**

## STARS FAA APPROVED FRIA AREA.



ACADEMY OF MODEL AERONAUTICS

# FAA-RECOGNIZED IDENTIFICATION AREA

A FRIA IS A DEFINED GEOGRAPHIC AREA WHERE DRONES CAN BE FLOWN WITHOUT REMOTE ID EQUIPMENT.

**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.**







# S.T.A.R.S.

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

[www.facebook.com/cnystars](http://www.facebook.com/cnystars)

## Annual 2024 Snow Fly



**When?**

**Sunday, 03 March 2024**

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.**

**Lunch will be served.**

**Come and fly all day! \***



STARS events



***For more information, contact:***

***Chuck LeVine, President: 315/751-2660***

**Sponsored by the Syracuse Thunderbirds Aero Radio Society, Inc.**

# S.T.A.R.S.

## *Flight Training Program*

# 2024



### **When?**

Every Thursday evening from 5:30 PM to Sunset  
May 02, 2024 through September 12, 2024

### **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. For those not yet finished building/assembling their trainer aircraft, the Club has a Club Trainer available that may be flown on a Buddy Box.

## **PreFlight Workshop**

**Held at STARS Flying Field in Phoenix, NY**

**Thursday April 18, 2024 at 5-7 PM**

### **Interested?**

Contact:



FB Workshop SENIOR FLIGHT INSTRUCTOR: Bob Rowe (315/440-1519) FB Flightschool

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



# S.T.A.R.S.

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

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



## 2024



## *Helicopter and Multirotor Night*



STARS Events

### **When?**

Every Tuesday evening from 5 PM to Sunset  
April 30, 2024 through October 01, 2024



FB Heli Nights

### **Where?**

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

All skill levels welcome, but must be an AMA Member to fly and must  
provide your own outdoor capable helicopter or multirotor aircraft.  
Build help and flight instruction available.

### **Interested?**

**Come out and join us for fun, food and good flying!!**

**For more information, contact Paul Voleko at 315/708-2009**





Charter 473

# S.T.A.R.S.

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

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



## 2024 *Big Bird Night*



STARS Events

### When?

Every Wednesday evening from 5 PM to Sunset  
May 01, 2024 through October 02, 2024



FB BB Night

### Where?

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

All skill levels welcome, but must be an AMA Member to fly.  
Open to any type of big scale or sport aircraft!!

### Interested?

Come out and join us for fun, food and good flying!!

For more information, contact Mike Mueller at 804/873-8928



Charter 473

# S.T.A.R.S.

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

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



## 2024



## Jet Night



STARS Events

### When?

Every Monday evening from 5 PM to Sunset  
April 29, 2024 through September 30, 2024



FB Jet Night

### Where?

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

All skill levels welcome, but must be an AMA Member to fly.  
Open to any type of EDF or turbine aircraft!!

### Interested?

Come out and join us for fun, food and good flying!!

For more information, contact Gary Natali at 315/657-5695





Charter 473

AMA Sanctioned

# S.T.A.R.S.

<http://www.cnvstars.com>

[www.facebook.com/cnvstars/](http://www.facebook.com/cnvstars/)

## 2nd Control Line Fun Fly

*Two flight circles  
and In-Stunt Pattern Tracing*

**Saturday, May 18, 2024**

***Rain Date: Sunday, May 19, 2024***

**10 AM to 4:00 PM**



New takeoff runway and  
pilot's concrete center pad!!

*Show off and fly your winter builds!  
Fun Fly Events through out the day!  
New Pilot flying!*



**Bring your canopies and setup at the field for a day of control-line fun!!**

**Bring your tables and chairs!!**

**Power available for charging batteries**

**Ample room for parking!!**

**No parking fee, landing fee or pre-registration!!**

**Food and beverages available to all during day**



STARS events



FB CL event

**Event Director, Mike O'Neill, at 315-720-9111**

**Contest Director, Paul Voleko, at 315-708-2009**

**STARS 2024 Snow Fly Pictures.** *All pictures courtesy of Mike Graham.*

Mike has posted his collection on DropBox-

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/1bgobqlrwi36utdkk6yog/h?rlkey=w5lv2z9tsbu9h32bwk9u1h5m2&dl=0>

These will also be posted to the STARS Face Book page.















# 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 is 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.

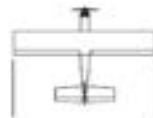
Ask someone to help and walk away from the model until signs of loss of control are apparent. If electric powered ensure that the range is not worse with the motor running.

## 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.

STARS Club Rules- End 06jan21



Photo courtesy Mike Graham archives

The STARS pavilion goes up c.1977.  
Mike identified the person on the ladder as Lon Sauter. Not sure who the others are.

# 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.

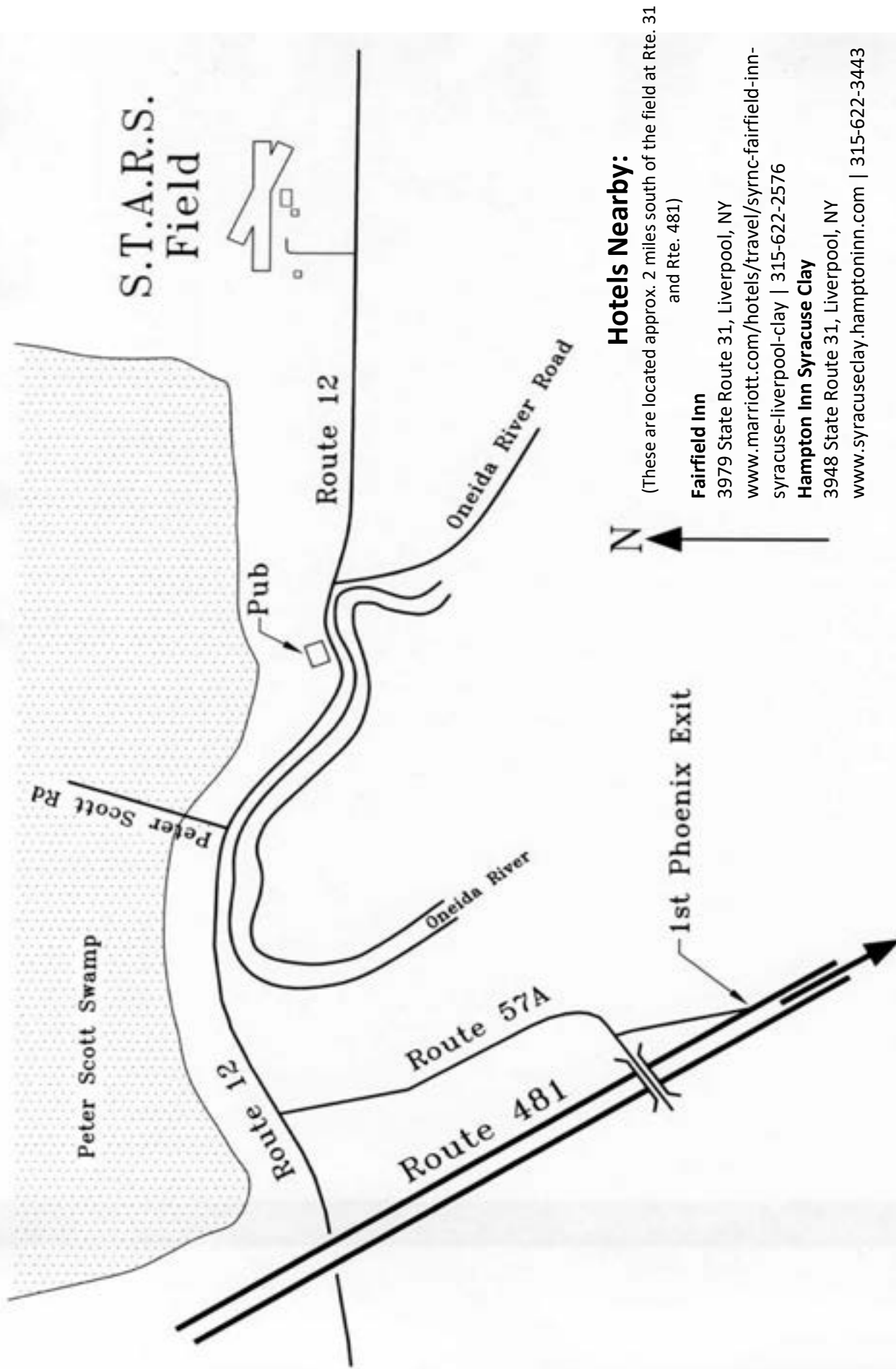
### 5. Replacement Courtesy:

- 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 on 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.

# Map to the STARS



To No. Syracuse  
and Route 81

N43.23696, W76.24550

starmap.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



# Syracuse Thunderbirds Aero Radio Society

<https://www.cnystars.com>



## Membership Renewal 2024

Return renewals to our Treasurer, Bob Rowe, via mail to: 211 Sedgwick Drive, Syracuse, NY, 13203.  
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, 2024. Limited voting rights.	\$0
<input type="checkbox"/>	Park Pilot	Operates under the model restrictions of a Park Pilot AMA membership (electrics, <2lbs, <60mph). Limited voting rights.	\$75
<input type="checkbox"/>	Associate	Full use of club facilities. Limited voting rights.	\$75
<input type="checkbox"/>	Open	Full use of club facilities. Holds ownership share with full 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 or Associate membership already. Limited voting rights.	\$30

All flying conducted under AMA rules and guidelines. Active AMA membership or allowed exemption required to fly. 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 Bob in January, or before, if you need an extension. If you wish to change your membership type, such as upgrading from Associate to Open, please contact Bob or another club officer.

Please provide your updated contact information below.

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

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

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

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