



## Syracuse Thunderbirds Aero Radio Society

# Plane Propwash

May 2024

Charter 473

**The next STARS meeting is Wednesday June 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 via ZOOM**

### 2024 Officers

[Mike Mueller, President](#)  
[Phil Morgan, Vice President](#)  
[Paul Volcko, 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 June 2024 meeting will be at the STARS field, on June 12<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 through September 2024.**

### Many Thanks and Upcoming Events

Upcoming Family BBQ this weekend. We are all looking forward to spending time together. Remember, we are a social club with an interest in building, flying, "crashing", fixing/repairing model aircraft, whether it be helicopters, planes, or other vehicles that leave the ground..... This event gives us all an opportunity to spend time with members and their families that we don't have many opportunities to do so during the year. So come out and celebrate our hobby, and all of us that participate in the fun of what we do. Thank you Karl Price, Paul Volko, Mike Mueller, and Mike Aimee who chipped in to pay for the food so the club will not have to pay for any of the food expenses. If you are so inclined, bring a dessert to pass. STARS gets financial donations from individuals throughout the year. Most are not large donations. They can be an extra \$5 donation to the drink can in the refrigerator, donating coffee, donuts, adhesives, and a lot of other things. STARS appreciates all that have provided just a little extra to help with maintaining the excellent field we offer ourselves and our visitors.

We must also remember that all the work that is done is accomplished by volunteers throughout the year. There is a significant amount of work done in the winter that is behind the scenes, and then there is all the field work and improvements done throughout the flying season. The officers and Board are so appreciative of the work done. The field looks great these days....after the monsoon season we have experienced this spring. Thanks for all that work diligently done to keep our field in such exceptional condition. We also welcome back Jim Johnson as the leader of the Field Committee.

We want to thank Phil Morgan for donating 2 additional benches for our visitors. We also want to thank Mike O'Neil for hooking us up with The Local Show, which is a weekend show on WSYR that highlights local organizations and

businesses. The show aired June 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>. The officers are working to promote both the Helijam (July 20<sup>th</sup>), and our Airshow this year (August 31). Please do the same in your neighborhood, with friends, and businesses. We need everyone to promote our club to make these events a success.

The Control Line Fun Fly was a success in spite of extremely wet weather, and a delay of a day. We had folks from all over the state. Some couldn't make it because of previous plans, but planes were flying just about all day long. Mike O'Neil and the folks flying that day want to thank all who gave up a Sunday of flying to support our control line enthusiasts.

We have mentioned additions to by-laws that have been in the works for much of this year. We are very close to getting them ready, and expect to present them to the club before the July meeting. We will offer the additions before the meeting, and provide significant time for questions and debate at our July 10<sup>th</sup> meeting. If you have something to say, make sure you are there.

Reminder that we still have blue club hats for sale. Each one is \$20. Let's get them out of the club house and onto flying heads.

Just a reminder that the club functions best when we have as many members participate in the organization, whether that be in clean up days, monthly meetings, flying events, etc. Please be as involved as you can in how the organization operates. Come to our meetings on Wednesday nights at the club. Come fly with us during the week. And help when you can. It makes us all better!!!

Welcome Jason Treasure and Thurston Haller as new members. Give them a warm welcome when you see them at the club.

Thanks again all that make S.T.A.R.S a success. Fly safe!!!

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

## ***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 May STARS meeting was held at the STARS field. The meeting was called to order at 7:04 by President Mike Mueller. There were 9 Open members, 1 Associate member, 0 Family members, 0 Youth members, and 0 Guests in attendance.**

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

The Secretary's report from the April Propwash was accepted as published without issue. No motion or vote because there were not enough open members present for a quorum.

### **Treasurer's Report: Paul Volcko**

The finances were reported. More depth on the bills and finances, long term finances, were discussed. The bills are current and the Treasury is in good shape at this time. The report was accepted without issue. No motion or vote because there were not enough open members present for a quorum.

### **Correspondence:**

No correspondence reported.

### **Committee Reports:**

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

No Jeff tonight.

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

The FRIA approvals have just about been completed.

The FAA Reauthorization is on hold. It must be acted on by Friday 05/10 or it will have to wait until after the elections.

As part of the reauthorization, there is a push to have FRIA requests prioritized. FRIAs must be renewed every four (4) years. When flying for educational purposes, Rule 107 is not needed to fly. Utilize the internet to replace remote ID requirements (AMA required) Assign a temporary bubble ¼ mile around for duration of the event. The FAA bill has been loaded with pork polluting the intent.

#### **Field Committee:**

Jim Johnson has resigned from the STARS due to a family tragedy. His position will not be filled at this time in the hope that Jim can see his way back in the near future.

It was reported that the field is wet. Planning on getting some dirt to continue top dressing the field. Bob Simms made a donation to the dirt fund.

The Control line event will require some mowing. Right now looking at two circles to be open. The event is expected to be bigger this year.

### **Old Business:**

#### **Control Line Event:**

The event is May 18<sup>th</sup>. There are some flyers that will be staying over at the field. It looks like the flyer list will be bigger this year. The decision was made to have food for sale available at the event.

### **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:**

Phil Morgan's flight logs will be distributed to the students attending flight school. Phil will take care of reproducing the logs and getting them to the students. The student is responsible for filling out the log, the flight instructor will review and initial.

Fixed Wing- Bod Rowe is stepping down as the Sr. Fight Instructor after nearly 30 years. Thanks for your service, Bob! Phil Morgan has been promoted to this position. Congratulations, Phil! Regular Thursday nights from May 2 thru September 12. See flyer attached below. There are three students enrolled this season. There is a new Valient on order and another has been donated by Moe. Thanks, Moe!

Flight school is not just for beginners either. If you have ever been interested in picking up some advanced maneuvers such as 3D, the instructors can help you with that. Okay flying west to east, but not east to west? Maybe you have trouble with landing on the runway, or avoiding the runway? The instructors can help with that too.

Heli Night- Has been getting a good turnout.

Jet Night- Great turn out at this event.

Big Bird- Mike Amie and Mike Mueller

Control Line- Mike O'Neill

### **By-Law Amendment:**

Paul is putting the finishing touches on proposed by-law changes. The changes will be ready by the next meeting.

### **Liverpool High School Field Trip:**

The proposed field trip for June 7<sup>th</sup> is postponed until fall. The school announced new policy regarding field trip rules.

### **Public Relations:**

The intent is to increase membership and increase revenue through increased awareness. Different venues- Zoey Advertising, John Murphy, the estate planning guy, gets about a 15-minute radio spot that can advertise our events. TV- WSYR Your Stories segment, On your side, Bridge Street- community interest segments on the afternoon news. Part of the Gold Leader club is to engage in public outreach.

### **Events Planning:**

#### **STARS Family Picnic**

The event is on for June 15<sup>th</sup>. There were some personal donations made to make sure the event didn't put any financial burden on the club.

**-- Continued--**

## Events Planning:

### **STARS Family Picnic**

The event is on for June 15<sup>th</sup>. There were some personal donations made to make sure the event didn't put any financial burden on the club.

Thank you to Mike Mueller, Karl Price, Paul Volcko, and Mike Aimee.

## Field Improvements- Long Term Planning:

**Future Funding-** Look at ways of creating revenue streams to help fund the club. Grow our existing revenue generators. As reported in the Treasures report, volunteers for the Finance Committee so far are Mike Mueller, Jim Johnson, Karl Price, and Mike O'Neill. The committee is currently brainstorming and planning on another meeting.

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.

### **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.

**Flight line table replacement-** There are four new tables ready to go in the red shed..

**Internet Access-** Paul has experimented with a hot spot since the last meeting. If using Wi-Fi, it is noticeable slower than Spectrum. The camera updates are running slower.. Paul will keep an eye on this. Paul will donate the service up to 2025. We will look to discontinue Spectrum. The cost of the hot spot is approximately 10.00/ month which is a significant savings over Spectrum.

Mike Mueller made a motion to discontinue Spectrum, but could not advance it due to attendance. The motion will be restated at the June meeting.

**Food Pricing-** Value vs cost. The BOD has met and looked at raising food prices. Currently the cost is not being covered. Some of those reasons have been discussed and will be addressed by tightening up control of sales. There is approximately a 20% increase across all food items. There was a lot of opposition to raising the cost of water so the price will remain at 1.00.

**Taxi way-** There is a lot of opposition to this and has been expressed in previous meetings. Jim Johnson has a way of doing this without expending any money or adding any kind of possible impediment. Both of these issues have been points of contention in the past. He has experimented with and demonstrated that a simple change in the mowing method can create a "taxi way".

**Port -a-potty-** Keeping current vendor. The unit will be delivered later this week.

## New Business:

### New Members:

Jason Treasure- Associate member.

Without objection. Formal vote at the June meeting.

Steve Dwyer- Associate member.

Motion by Bob Rowe to accept and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Herb Moore. Carried.

### 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 May 2024 regular monthly meeting of the STARS was adjourned at 7:48.

***Secretary, Jeff Wolsley***

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## 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.*

June 7- (**Cancelled**) 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](#)

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

Fixed wing- Fixed Wing Flight School starts Thursday May 2 and runs to Sept. 12, 5pm to sunset. See the attached flyer below.

Heli/Multi Rotor- Meet Tuesday nights, April 30th to October 1<sup>st</sup>.

## Indoor Flying –

The Indoor flying schedule is winding down.

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:

## Classified Ads-



(585) 872-4990 ~ 15 W Main St. Webster, NY. 14580 ~ [Performance-hobbies.com](http://Performance-hobbies.com)

### HOURS

MONDAY..... 11 - 6 pm  
TUESDAY..... 11 - 7 pm  
WEDNESDAY..... 11 - 6 pm  
THURSDAY..... 11 - 7 pm  
FRIDAY..... 11 - 6 pm  
SATURDAY..... 11 - 6 pm  
SUNDAY..... 11 - 4 pm



### *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)

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**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:**

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.

## **WANTED:**

*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.*

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## **Important Links For STARS Members-**

### **STARS Website:**

The STARS website- [cnystars.com](http://cnystars.com)

### **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=c2ZiRWhkMkIrbGZ5WENDaE12SlB5Zz09>

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.

**-- Continued--**

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..

## **Academy of Model Aeronautics:**

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

The AMA Government relations blog- [AMA IN ACTION](#)

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 \(modelaircraft.org\)](#)

## **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.

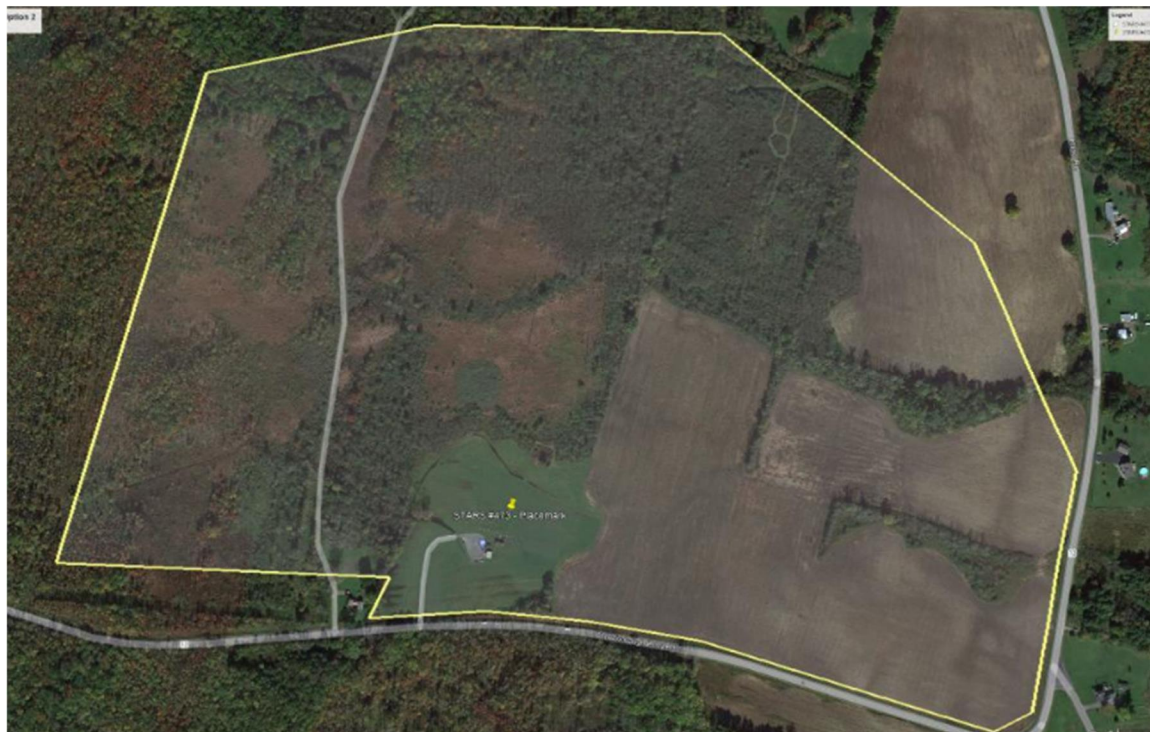
B4UFLY- Download this app to your cell phone. FAA uses this to alert pilots to possible stoppage in your flying area.

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



**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.**







Charter 473

# S.T.A.R.S.

<http://www.cnystars.com>

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

## 4th Annual BBQ

*STARS Members  
and Families only*

**Saturday, June 15, 2024**

***Rain Date: Sunday, June 16, 2024***

**10 AM to 4:30 PM**



Food and beverages available to all during day  
Catered BBQ lunch available around 1 PM!!  
(but bring a dessert to share!!)



**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 Mike Mueller, President, at 804-873-8928**

# 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.cnystars.com](http://www.cnystars.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**





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# 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*



### When?

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



STARS Events



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

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



## 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

# 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, cowlings, 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.

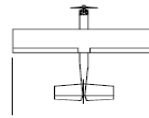
Ask someone to help and walk away from the model until signs of loss of control are apparent. If electric powered ensure that the range is not worse with the motor running.

## 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: *2.4 GHz technology is prevalent in the hobby. In general, transmitter impound and channel flagging is no longer necessary. Pilots using a non-2.4 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:

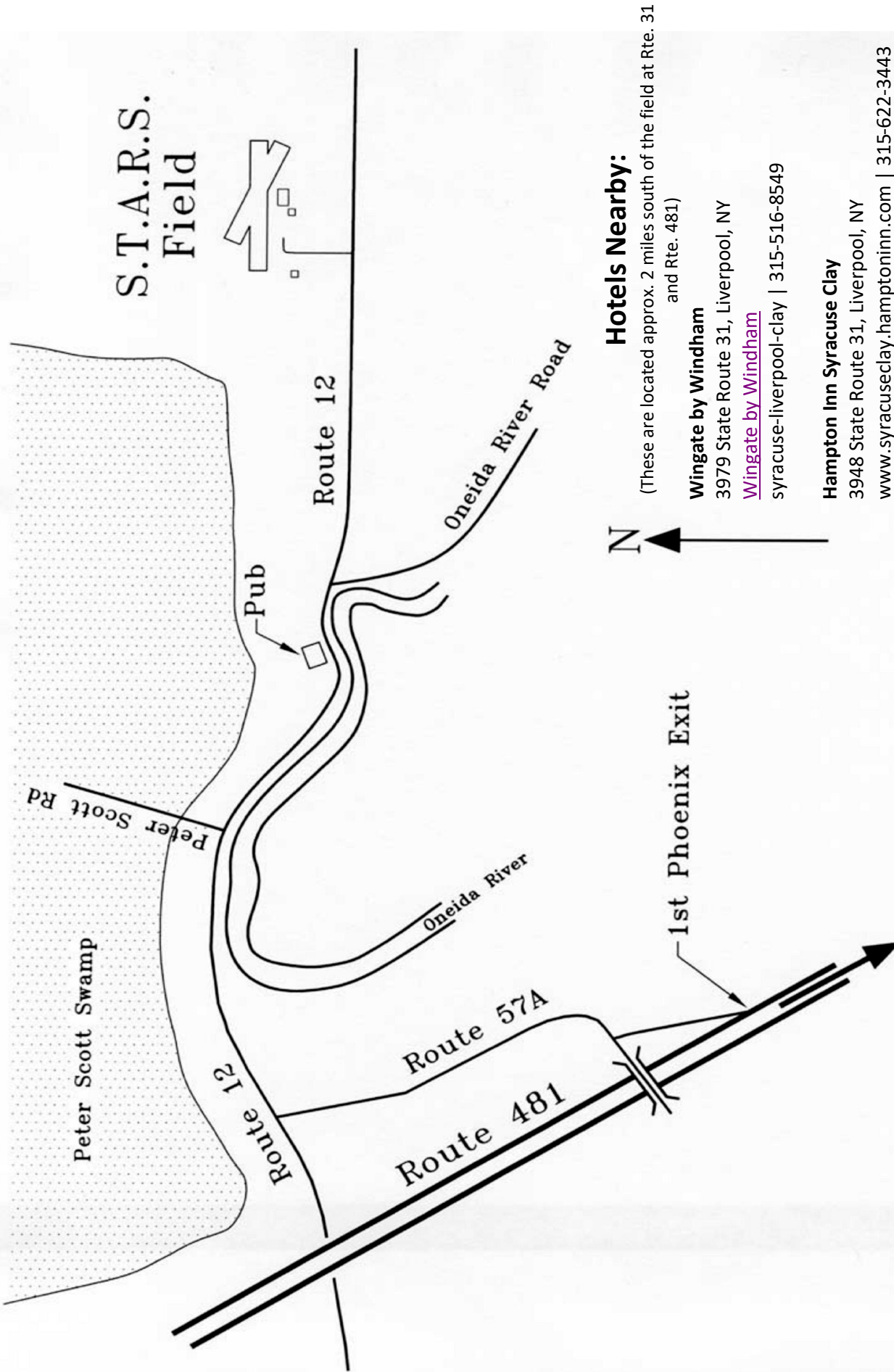
- A. Where an individual's plane or property is damaged by the actions of another individual, it will be the responsibility of the two parties to resolve the situation in an appropriate manner.



## **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



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