



Syracuse Thunderbirds Aero Radio Society

Plane Propwash

September 2025

Charter 473

The next STARS meeting is Wednesday October 8th, 7:00 on ZOOM.

2025 Officers:

[Mike Mueller, President](#)
[Tom Polovick, Vice President](#)
[Paul Volcko, Treasurer](#)
[Jeff Wolsley, Secretary](#)
[Phil Lamkay, Safety Officer](#)

Directors:

Michael Graham
Paul Volcko 2019-2023
Dan Williams

Volunteer Staff:

[Jeff Wolsley, Propwash Editor](#)

[Michael Graham, Club Historian](#)

[Paul Volcko, Webmaster](#)

[Herb Moore, Field Committee](#)

[Mike O'Neill, Facebook Admin](#)

Public Relations Director- OPEN

Robert Droner- [YouTube Moderator](#)

The next STARS 2025 meeting will be on ZOOM, on October 8th, at 7:00. The monthly meetings will be held via ZOOM October through April. The STARS regular monthly meetings are at the STARS field May through September 2025.

Fall Is Upon Us

Well, things are truly winding down at S.T.A.R.S. for the year, if you can believe that!! We finished our events with the Ringmaster Fly-a-Thon this past weekend. This year we had 9 different pilots, flying 12 different Ringmasters, and logged 39 official flights. These are all new records for us at STARS. I'm sure that a beautiful sunny day, no wind, RAIN, or even SNOW was to be had. As Mike O'Neill so artfully stated, "We have a squadron full of Ringmasters of all shapes, sizes, and kinds, and a "gaggle" of pilots both young and old, experienced and rookies....all the makings of a record setting day." S.T.A.R.S. is so happy to be able to provide the field, and so thankful to Mike O'Neill for setting up and hosting this event. Already planning for next year!!!!

We have our fall clean up day this coming Saturday, October 11th, and the following weekend, October 18th. We have made incredible progress so far. The red shed is completely scraped and painted, thanks to Mike Aimee for doing all the work. The pavilion and other buildings have been power washed thanks to Tom Polovick. Gary Brown is working on the pavilion replacing siding as we speak. We now have enough donations for the seamless gutters that it will actually be less expensive to put in the seamless gutters than doing it ourselves. And that frees up us to do other work. I believe we can finish almost everything on the 11th. After a discussion with Darrel Eckhard, and Joe Kopec, they are going to lead the efforts to install the drainage tiles in the pilot areas on the 18th, so we are going to plan on that effort for the 18th. We will need some help with that, but expect that to be a well organized effort to complete that task.

We want to have our Christmas party again this year.

This has been a wonderful time winding down, talking about the year, and just enjoying the company of fellow members. I think, as I did for the Family BBQ in the summer, this is important for us to spend time with each other, and our wives/ significant others/etc....., and to be very thankful for all we have been given.

Everyone should have gotten the email about Maynard Beehler's passing. [Maynard's Obituary](#) He was a wonderful example for us, and a great member. Maybe at the Christmas party we can share stories about him, and what he meant to us.....

For those of you who know Tim Smarzo, he is the leader of both the Voltaires, and the CNY Indoor Flying Society. He has had some health issues come up, and has determined that he has to resign as the leader of both organizations. The Voltaires fly at Van Buren park at the upper parking lot at the Conner Rd. Entrance, usually either Tuesday/Wednesday/ Thursday nights. The CNY Indoor Flying Society flies at the Sacred Heart Church on Rt. 11 in Cicero. The gym is open Mondays' 1:00-4, and Thursdays 12:30-3:30PM all year. There are annual dues of \$12 to be paid to CNYISF, and Garret Wikoff is the treasurer. All of our best wishes to Tim, and hope he feels better. And to those who fly in CNYIFS, they will be looking for a leader for those events. If anyone is interested, give a shout out to Tim Smarzo (tsmarzo@gmail.com), or others involved in these events.

Thanks to all that have done so much to make 2025 a great year. We look forward to more next year, and hope to be as fun and successful as this year has been.

GREAT FLYING TO ALL!!! And to all a good night!!!

Mike Mueller, president

president@cnystars.com, (804) 873-8928
mmuellerva@yahoo.com

Secretary's Report: Jeff Wolsley

Note the section in the Propwash labeled Important Links for STARS Members. This section contains links that every STARS member should be aware of including the ZOOM meeting instructions and the link to the most recent Propwash and past issues of the club newsletter.

The September STARS meeting was held at the Stars field. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 by President Mike Mueller. This is the last meeting at the STARS field for 2025. There were 13 Open members, 2 Associate member, 0 Family members, 0 Youth members, and 2 Guests in attendance.

Secretary's Report:

The Secretary's report from the August Propwash was accepted as published. The motion to accept the Secretary's Report was made by Herb Moore, 2nd by Mike Graham. Carried.

Treasurer's Report: Paul Volcko

Bills are all current. Paul discussed the treasury details. The Airshow was very profitable due to donated items. All the events in 2025 were money makers for the club.

Paul picked up a copy of Quicken to do the club taxes on.

Motion to accept by Tom Polovick and 2nd by Gary Natali. Carried.

Correspondence: Paul Volcko

A more serious offer of \$ 105,000 was received for the 2nd parcel of land.

No other correspondence was reported.

Committee Reports:

AMA Report: Phil Morgan

No Phil tonight. Comment was made regarding night flying. There is no opposition to this within the club. There is a video to watch before night flying. This is limited to electric flight only.

Eric Williams is running for AMA President. DII will lose a terrific representative but the AMA will gain a great president for the AMA.

Safety Report: Phil Lamkay

CHECK YOUR FAIL-SAFE PROGRAMMING!

Phil has asked to step down from the Safety Officer position due to his family commitments. Thank you for your participation, Phil.

STARS is looking for a volunteer to become the Safety Officer. Please seriously consider volunteering for this important position.

Field Committee: Herb Moore

The field is easy to take care of now. Fall cleanout has started in the hanger. A more formal clean up date will be established for the fall.

The opening in the fence previously approved has been well received.

Two new flight prep tables have been delivered to the field.

Mike Amie has donated some chairs to the club. These were obtained from Walt's Hobby.

Old Business:

STARS Facebook: Mike O'Neill

Nothing to report. There are 371 Facebook members now.

Real Estate Committee:

No report given.

Flight schools:

Fixed Wing Has pretty much wrapped up for the season with one more formal session to go. There were eight (8) students and one (1) has graduated. Another student is ready to graduate, possibly at tomorrow night's session.

There are currently three high school students attending. Instructor coverage for tomorrow's class will be coordinated to make sure there is enough coverage.

Heli/Multi Rotor Runs every Tuesday night thru Sept. 30th.

Special Interest Nights:

Monday Night Jets This event has been the most attended of any of the special interest nights.

Big Bird Night Runs every Wednesday night thru Oct. 1st. Weather has been a factor. Small attendance.

Field Improvements- Long Term Planning:

2025- Most projects will be resumed after the flying season cools down.

Tree Removal- A good job has been done. Need to finish cutting up what has been taken down and pulled out of the woods. Wait until fall for the overgrowth to recede to make the job easier.

Openings in The Fence Line- Discussion continued from the last meeting regarding openings in the fence line. The discussion concluded with the idea not going forward. Keep Al Townsend in the loop on our progress and completion plans.

Add On To Runway- A suggestion was made to add 100ft. to the east end of the runway. For the time being the low spot at the end will be filled.

Runway West End Improvement- Do one or both of the following, 1- Look at bringing in about 50yrd of fill topsoil to raise it. 2- Put in a drainage ditch.

Control Line Drainage- Mike O'Neill asked to fill the depression in the control line circle.

Drainage Improvements- Paul Volcko, Herb Moore, Mike Mueller, Bill Whittaker, and Josh Weaver met to discuss the drainage situation at the field. After the Family BBQ, move some dirt around to control ponding on the field and the control line circle. Other options are being explored.

Activity Sign- Mike Mueller is following up on the activity sign by the driveway entrance to attract spectators/future members. The sign will announce our events to the public and improve our community relations. Mike G. and Dan W. are working on banners for the signage.

Public Relations- We are actively seeking a PR leader that can direct and expand our exposure in the community. The intent is to increase membership and increase revenue through increased awareness. Different venues- Zoey Advertising, John Murphy,

-- Continued--

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.

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.

YouTube Channel- The club has started a YouTube channel to promote our activities. John McMakin volunteered to be the channel moderator. In addition to John, Robert DeNova (Droner) will be assisting.

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, Karl Price, and Mike O'Neill. The committee is currently brainstorming and planning another meeting.

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

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.

Porta-potty- Keeping current vendor.

New Business:

Special Announcement:

Walt's HobbyTown is closing. The final days of the sale are here. They have advertised they will be open specific dates for all the store fixtures to go. Make an offer!

Fall Clean Up: Mike Mueller

Mike has asked for volunteers to assist in a fall cleanup to occur in the near future. The date is October 11 and October 18. That's right, two days.

Add drainage through the pilot stations.

Paint the red shed

Repair the T111 siding around the shed, garage, and club house.

Add the 12" square blocks around the club house foundation

Put gutters on the club house

East end field drainage improvement., There are already materials for this project.

Need stone, geo-fabric, and topsoil to fill in the low spots.

Reel mower storage needs to be rebuilt. This can be delayed if the reel units are picked up for service over the winter to have them ready for spring. Need to get the price for the rebuild service.

Event Reminder:

Liverpool High School :

09/18- The school will make a field trip to the club. Need some extra volunteers to cover this event. There will be approximately 30 students from Liverpool and possibly some additional students from Cato Meridian. The event may be moved to the 09/25 to allow NuAir to participate. The sheriffs Department can participate on either date.

Control Line Fly-a-thon:

10/04- The control line Ring Master Fly-a-thon. Please consider attending and helping out.

New Members:

Don Mackay- Associate member.

Robert Burns- Associate member.

Ed Nanns- Returning associate member.

Daniel Nanns- Returning family member.

The STARS membership stands at 101.

The membership in attendance unanimously voted for the new members. Welcome to the STARS!

Club Hat Order:

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 September 2025 regular monthly meeting of the STARS was adjourned at 7:23.

Secretary, Jeff Wolsley

Calendar of Events

NOTICE: EVENT DATES MAY CHANGE OR CANCELLED OUTRIGHT.

Calendar of Events for October 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.



October 4- Ringmaster Fly-a-Thon
STARS Field

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

STARS Flight Schools- Flight Schools have ended for the 2025 season. Look for them to return in April 2026.

Fixed wing- Another successful flight school has wrapped up for 2025. Congratulations to all of the pilots that soloed. We look forward to the returning 2026 student pilots who worked hard all this summer.

Heli/Multi Rotor- See you all back at the field in 2026.

Indoor Flying –

The Indoor flying schedule will be starting up again soon. I will start adding locations and dates and time as they become available or confirmed.

CNYIFS 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 (Confirmed for 2025-26 season). No Fly Dates- 09/01, 11/27, 12/08, and 12/25. 2026- 01/01, 04/02, and 05/14. CNYIFS dues are 12.00/yr. Garret Wikoff is the Treasurer.

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 for the 2025-26 indoor season-

Underground R/C Destiny USA. Tuesday evenings/nights 315-715-4508

Camillus Indoor Aviators (CIA) Indoor flying at First Baptist Church located at 1960 State Route 5 in Elbridge 11/18 thru ?, Wednesdays 1:00-4:00. If you plan to attend, call Herb Ziegler 315-857-6266 so Herb can unlock the doors.

Camden- Tuesday nights





(585) 872-4990 -- 15 W Main St. Webster, NY. 14580 -- 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



**Open 10-7 Tuesday thru Sunday.
315-532-6826**

www.mexairrc.com

www.facebook.com/mexairrc

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

The Aviation Historical Society of CNY

412 Dunning Drive Camillus, NY. Open Sundays, noon to 4:00.

[Home](#) | [Aviation Historical Society of Central New York](#)

This museum is dedicated to aviation history in CNY- Amboy Airport in Camillus starting in 1926.

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.

Classified Ads-

FOR SALE: Clear out that hanger now!

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. Please put STARS ADVERTISEMENT in the subject line.

Important Links For STARS Members-

STARS Website:

The STARS website- cnystars.com

STARS Webcam:

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

-- Continued--

STARS Propwash Newsletter:

The STARS Propwash- <https://www.cnystars.com/newsletter-archive.php>

STARS YouTube Channel:

The STARS Propwash- [Syracuse Thunderbirds Aero Radio Society - YouTube](#)

STARS ZOOM Meetings:

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

The link for the ZOOM meeting is located at the top of the cameras page on the STARS web site.

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. 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 341 members currently. [Mike O'Neill](#) is the administrator.

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.

Academy of Model Aeronautics:

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

-- Continued--

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. Entry or renewal is \$5.00.

[FAADroneZone Access - Home](#)

Don't let your FAA registration number lapse. If you do, it will cost the full amount to re-register and you will receive a new registration number. Your aircraft label must be updated with the new FAA number. Look for the renewal email from the FAA. [Check your status- FAADroneZone Access - Login After logging in, a text box appears in the upper left with all of your information including your registration expiration date.]

Do not let your FAA Part 107 license expire. If you do, you will have to retake the exam and pay all of the licensing fees.

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.

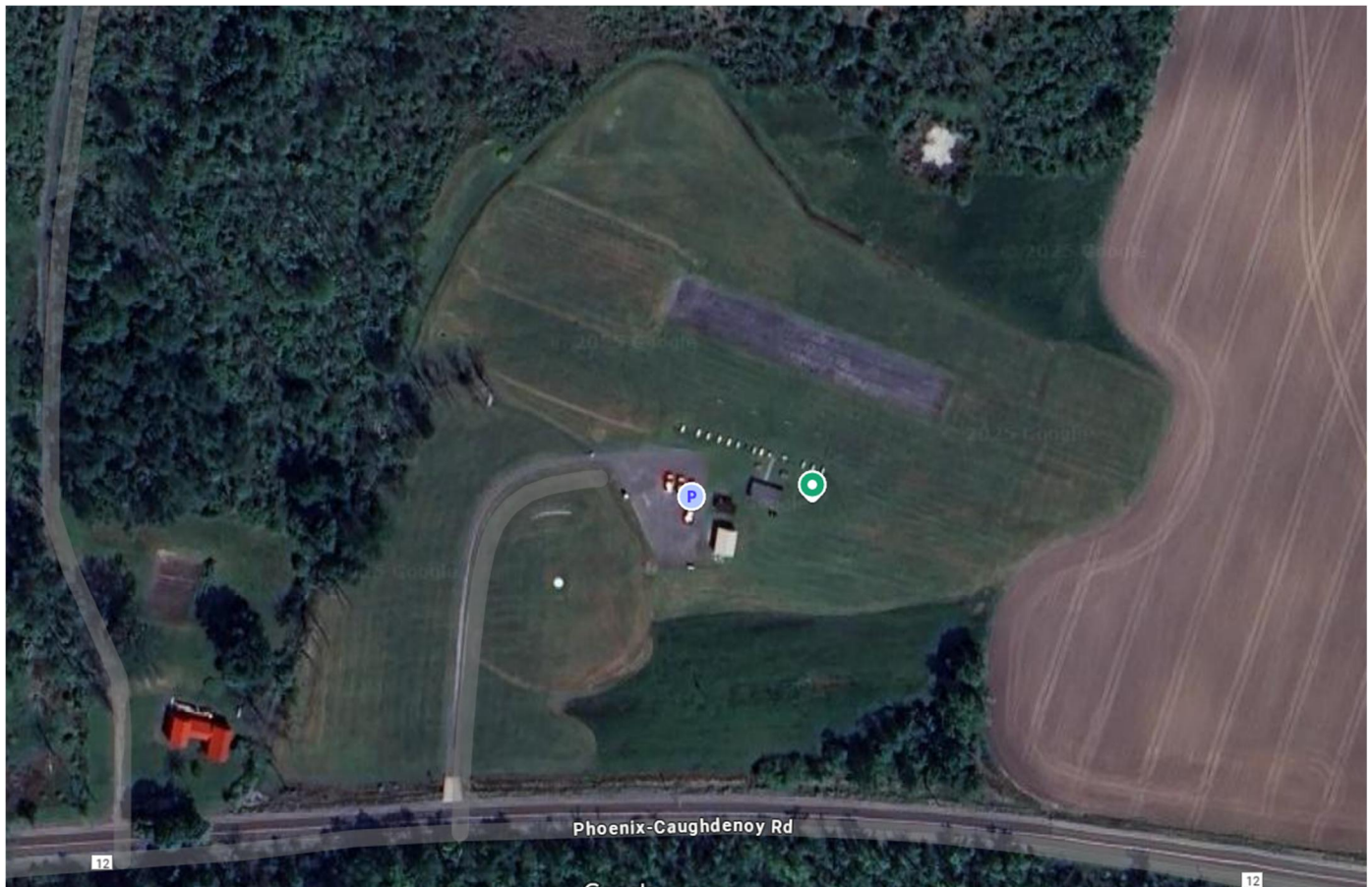
Click on the QR code to download the maiden flight check list for new aircraft.



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.

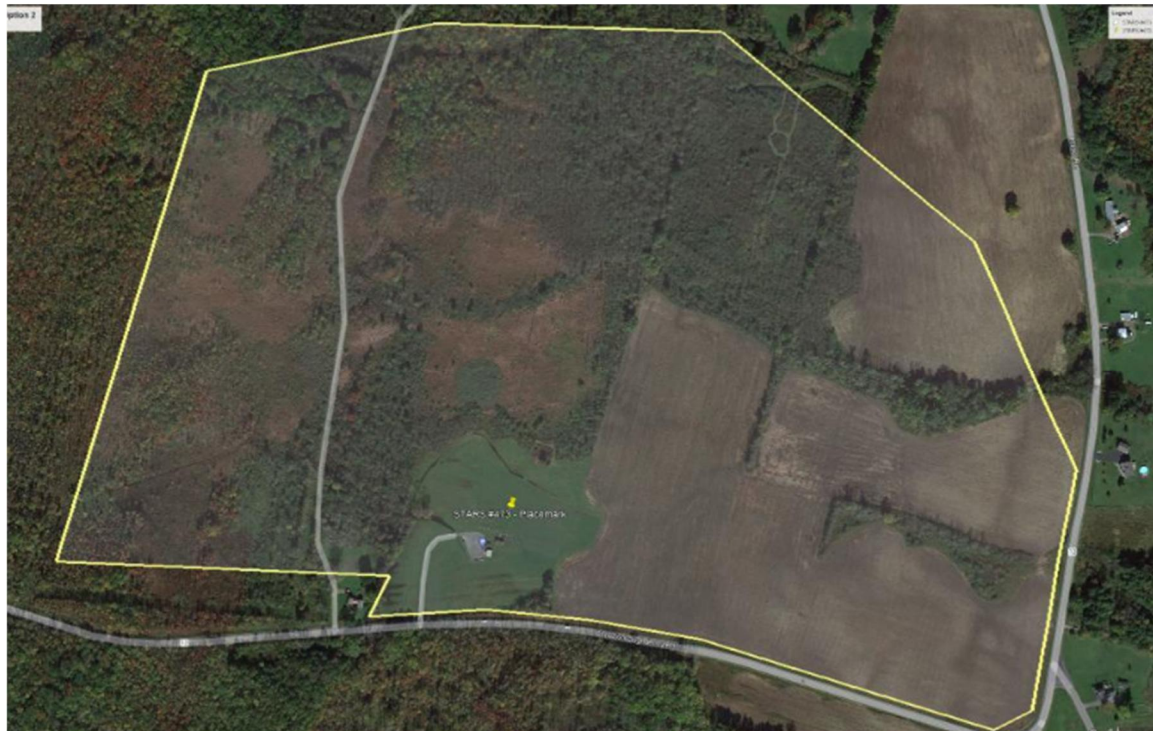


When's the last time you checked the balance of your aircraft?



The latest satellite photo

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.

From Michael Graham- 2nd Shift Reports from October 5th



**Picture taken by Gary Brown. STARS President Mike Mueller
Mike's P51-**





John McMakin and his Acuity



Gary Brown and his new Spitfire



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.

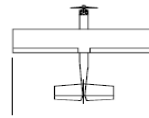
Ask someone to help and walk away from the model until signs of loss of control is apparent. If electric powered ensure that the range is not worse with the motor running.

Before EVERY flight:

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

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

S.T.A.R.S. Field Rules



1. General:

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

2. Transmitters:

- A. Frequency Control: *2.4 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.

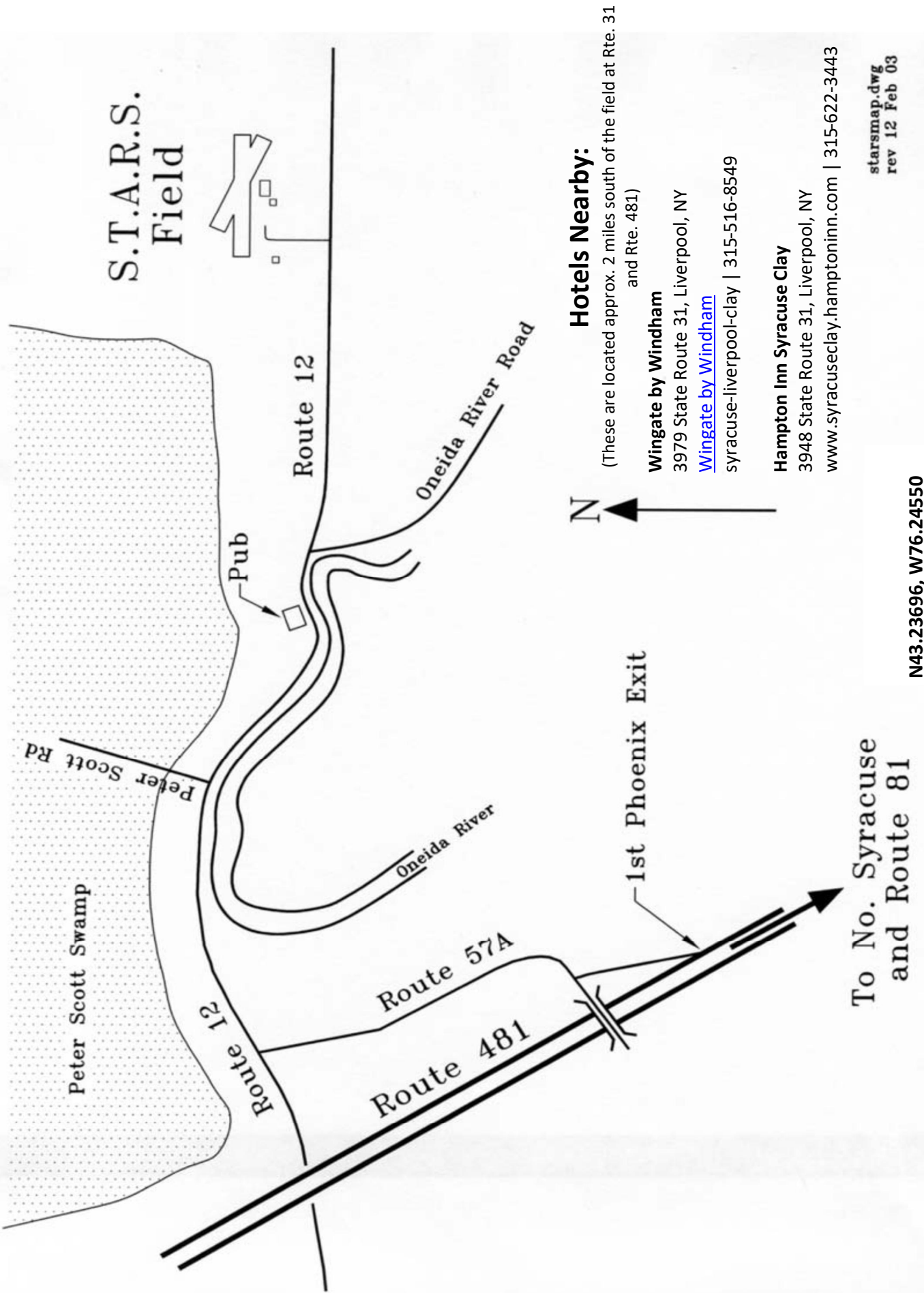
5. Replacement Courtesy:

- 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