



Syracuse Thunderbirds Aero Radio Society

Plane Propwash

September 2026

Charter 473

The next STARS meeting is Wednesday October 14th, 7:00 on GOOGLE MEET.

2026 Officers:

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

Directors:

Michael Graham
Paul Volcko 2019-2023
Dan Williams

Volunteer Staff:

[Jeff Wolsley, Propwash Editor](#)

[Michael Graham, Club Historian](#)

[Paul Volcko, Webmaster](#)

[Mike Mueller, Field Committee](#)

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

[Public Relations Director- OPEN](#)

Robert Droner- [YouTube Moderator](#)

The next STARS 2026 meeting will be on GOOGLE MEET, on October 14th, at 7:00. The STARS regular monthly meetings will be held via GOOGLE MEET, October through April. The STARS regular monthly meetings are held the 2nd Wednesday of each month except December.

2026 Airshow Results

Well folks, it looks like the season is actually winding down. The Airshow is done, as is the control line Ringmaster Fly-a-thon. Mowing is just about done, and the evenings are getting colder and darker by the day. We had an excellent work day putting in drainage pipes around the Geotek. We are expecting that the drainage around the Geotek and the west end of the field will be significantly improved. While there will always be water, we are hoping for quicker drainage. Maybe we can have a drier field before June 1st. We shall certainly see come springtime next year.

Elections are coming up again. A slate of officers will be presented at the October meeting, and we will vote for our 2027 officers at the November meeting. As in the past, if anyone wants to nominate themselves, or anyone else to a position, please do so before or at the October meeting.

I want to spend a little bit of time recognizing one of our previous members, John Everson. John was a World War II veteran, and enjoyed motorcycles, ham radios, and model airplanes. He was 91 when he passed away in July of this year. It has been quite a while since he was active in our club, as his eyes failed him, and I believe only Michael Graham actually remembers him. The club was contacted by his family to look at his planes, and see if we could do anything with them.

What we found many airplanes (over 30) hanging, and hiding out in his barn, many of them for 10+ years. John's wish was for the hobby to continue, and especially to provide as much as possible for young pilots. So we took what planes that were salvageable, cleaned them up, and decided what to do with them.

Some of his planes were already sold and/or given away at our Airshow, with funds already in our treasury.

So far, we have given away two Timber airplanes, as well as a couple of transmitters to young students that received their wings this summer. Currently, there are 18 planes we will either donate to young pilots, or sell and donate the proceeds to the club. We don't have the direction of what we might do with the funds, but they will go towards assisting young student pilots. We want to thank John Everson's sons, Jack and Jerry, and Jeanette, his wife of 60 years for donating all these items to our club. Thank you John!!!!

We have one more workday that needs to be scheduled to work on removing wood and brush from the woods, and getting the field ready for the winter. In the meantime, before it gets too cold, get out to the field and fly until the snow flies, or it gets too cold.

It has been a great year of flying at our club. We have improved and upgraded so much of our field, and will continue to do so. We already have plans for improvements in 2027, with our field continuing to provide the finest flying experience for as many pilots as possible.

Remember that our monthly meeting is back online this month. We are going to a new Google meeting format, so get to the meeting a bit early and make sure you are able to log in.

Thanks to all that have made 2026 so successful. We look forward to 2027, and what might be. Be safe out there!!

Mike Mueller, president
Syracuse Thunderbirds Aero Radio Society
president@cnystars.com, (804) 873-8928
mmuellerv@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 GOOGLE MEET meeting instructions and the link to the most recent Propwash and past issues of the club newsletter.

The Field Improvement/Long Term Planning has been moved to a new section that will appear after the Meeting Minutes. Here you can track the progress of our improvements and any changes to long-term planning for the club.

The September STARS meeting was held at the field. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 by President Mike Mueller. There were 11 Open members, 1 Associate member, 0 Family members, 0 Youth member, and 0 Guest in attendance.

Secretary's Report:

The Secretary's report from the August meeting was accepted by the membership in attendance.

Motion made by to accept Mike Graham and 2nd by Herb Moore. Carried.

Treasurer's Report: Paul Volcko

Paul provided the update. The Airshow was a success again. There was an outlay of funds for the pending drainage project, and field committee expenditures.

School tax bill is due.

Motion to accept by George Youst and second by Darrel Eckhard. Carried.

Correspondence: Paul Volcko

No correspondence reported.

Committee Reports:

AMA Report: Phil Morgan

No Phil tonight.

Safety Report: Darrel Eckhard

Be mindful of heat related illnesses.

Be careful and mindful around the field equipment.

Field Committee: Mike Mueller

Mike appreciates all of the work done by the membership at the field.

He commented that there were some unexpected sources of advertising for the Airshow. It showed up on a "What to do in Syracuse this weekend" article that drew out some unexpected spectators. Mike commented that he heard positive feedback from everyone that he spoke to. Every spectator is a potential future STARS member.

The field drainage improvement project is on for 09/19. There's about 900ft. of drain pipe to install. The Ditch Witch will be coordinated for the project.

The Simplicity mower has started leaking oil like a sieve. The head gasket needs to be replaced.

Future show parking for handicapped attendees will be in the stone parking lot.

Maybe look at our food prices in the future. Popcorn and French fry sales went well for the Airshow as did the French fries. It was suggested that the food sales should start earlier. Also stressing upselling the food- "Do you want ___?___ with that?"

The discovery flights went well but someone needs to be dedicated to it.

Old Business:

STARS Facebook: Mike O'Neill

Nothing to report. There are still 390 Facebook members.

Real Estate Committee:

No report given.

Flight schools:

Fixed Wing has ended for the season. Larry Calabrese received his wings after some extended classes. Congratulations Larry! Pictures after the minutes.

Special Interest Nights:

Special interest nights have concluded for the year.

Monday Night Jets – 05/04-09/28/2026

Big Bird Night- 05/06-09/30/2026

New Business:

Ring Master Fly-A-Thon:

The fly-a-thon will be 10/03. Food will be available for the event.

New Members:

Kellan Barnaby - Youth
Hudson Barnaby - Youth
Rick Mniece - Associate

Motion made to accept. Unanimous among the membership in attendance.

Officer Nominations:

Officer nominations are due at the October meeting. The officer slate will be set after the meeting and voted on during the November meeting.

So far, the slate looks like this:

President- Mike Mueller Vice President- Tom Polovick
Treasurer- Paul Volcko Secretary- Jeff Wolsley
Safety Officer- Darrel Eckhard

Dan Williams will continue with the BOD.

Any OPEN member is eligible to run for a position. If you would like to run for one of the officer positions please submit your name to one of the current officers or speak up at the October meeting.

Club Dues:

Club dues are coming due for the 2027 year. Note the payment options now include electronic payment. See the form at the end pf the Propwash.

Adjournment:

The July monthly meeting of the STARS was adjourned at 7:37.

Secretary, Jeff Wolsley

Larry Calabrese Receives His Wings!

Posted 09/30/2026





Field Improvements- Long Term Planning

2026- Pick up where we left off

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.

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 putting 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.

YouTube Channel- The club has started a YouTube channel to promote our activities.

Robert DeNova (Dorner) will be managing the YouTube channel. Contact Dorner if you have any additions you would like to see on the channel.

After the Airshow 2026 Add drain pipe to the field to the south and west of the geotek runway to improve drainage.

Calendar of Events

NOTICE: EVENT DATES MAY CHANGE OR CANCELLED OUTRIGHT.

Calendar of Events for August 2026 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

Oct. 3- STARS Ringmaster Fly-A-Thon

Oct 21- 5:00pm Liverpool High School CTE Academy Open House

[LCSD to Celebrate CTE Academy with Open House | Liverpool Central SD](#)

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

STARS Flight Schools 2026-

Fixed wing- Flight School has ended for the season. Here are the results for 2026 compiled by Mike for Gary Natali:

Number of flight sessions	= 19
Cancelled flight sessions	= 5 (20 May; 11,18,25 Jun; 02 Jul)
Total number of recorded flights	= 334
Total number of students	= 27
Total number of solo'd students	= 2 (AJ Giroux, Kellan Barnaby)
Most number of flights in a single session	= 10 (Twice by Larry Calabrese)
Most flights by single student	= 94 (Tim Stalloch)

Heli/Multi Rotor- Not scheduled

Indoor Flying –

The Indoor flying schedule will be starting up for the season 2026-2027 season in the next few months. Watch this section for updates. If you have firsthand knowledge of these events with the dates and times, please let me know. As always, call ahead to make sure they are flying.

-- Continued--



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. They have gone back to the side door entrance 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



Advertisements:



(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.

-- Continued--

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: List your equipment here-

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>

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](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCvXvXvXvXvXvXvXvXvXvXvX)

STARS ~~Zoom~~ ONLINE Meetings: MOVING TO Google Meet Platform October 2026

STARS meetings will be held on-line via Google Meet, starting October 2026 to April 2027. Watch for notification prior to the meeting start time.

The link for Google Meet meeting is located in the box at the top of the home page on the STARS web site.

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

Google Meet Meeting link:

<https://meet.google.com/rgv-minf-yxn>

To join from the STARS web page, go to cnystars.com. The meeting link is in the box at the top of the page. Once you click the link, you will immediately go to the Google Meet page. Click on the "Join now" button. You will enter into the meeting. No software appears to need to be installed on your computer for Google Meet to work.

Facebook:

The STARS Facebook page- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/amastars/> There are 390 members currently. [Mike O'Neill](#) is the administrator.

-- Continued--

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](http://ama.gov)

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://modelaircraft.org/files/RemoteIDFAQFeb2023.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. Entry or renewal is \$5.00.

[FAADroneZone Access - Home](http://faadronezone.faa.gov)

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.

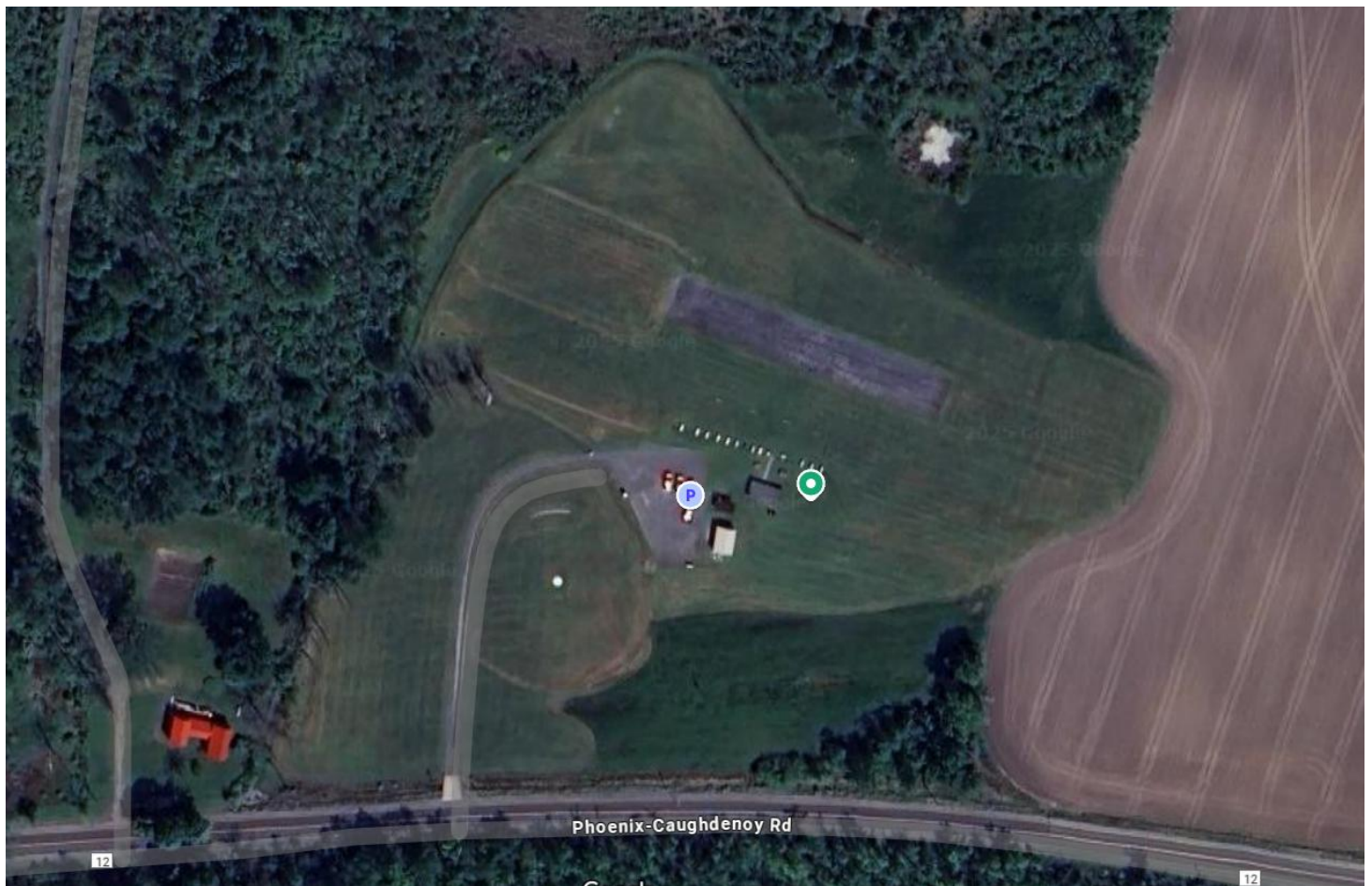
Click on the QR code to download the maiden flight check list for new aircraft.





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?



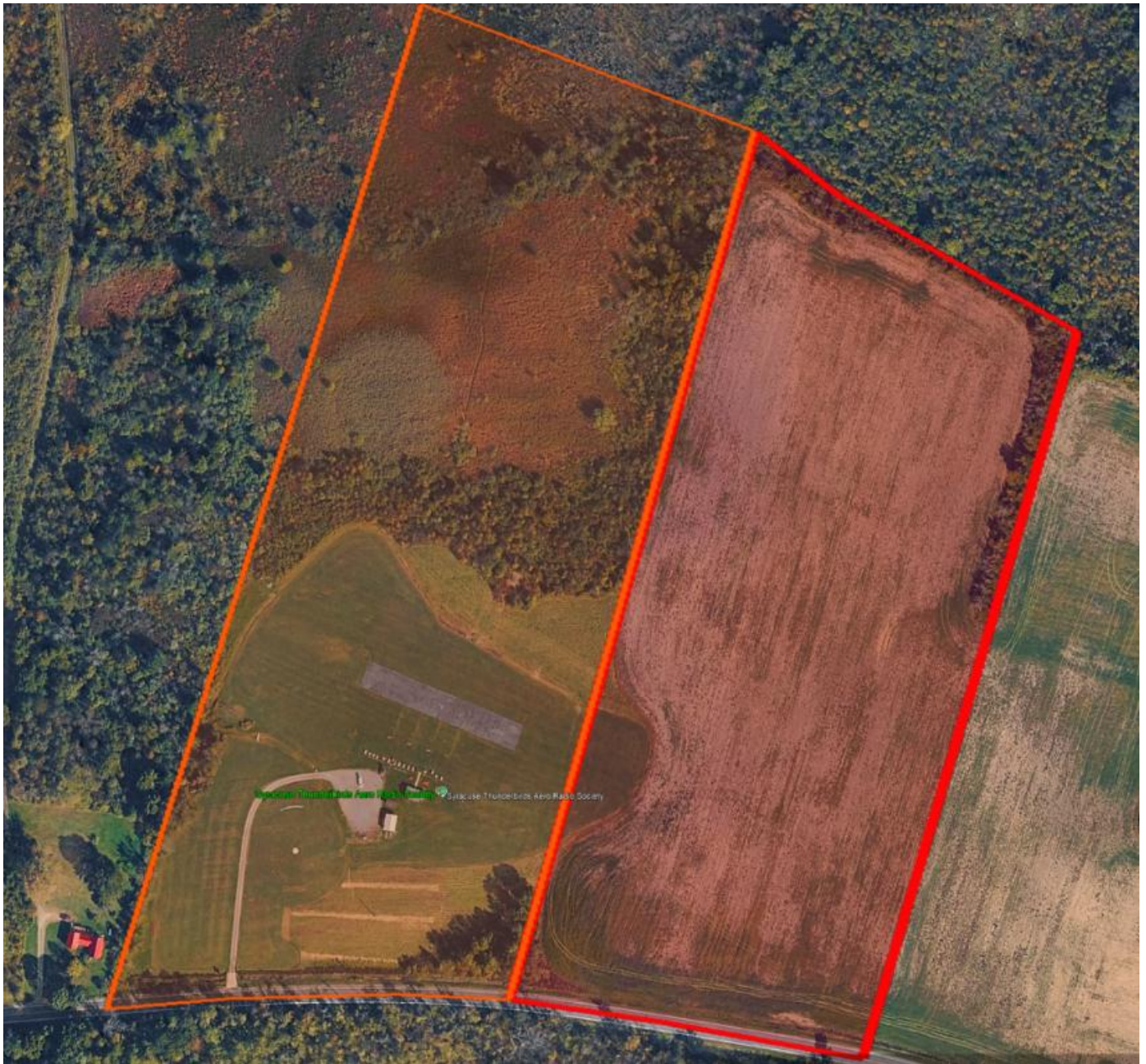
**The latest satellite photo
STARS FAA APPROVED FRIA AREA.**



ACADEMY OF MODEL AERONAUTICS

FAA-RECOGNIZED IDENTIFICATION AREA

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



STARS Borders.



LIVERPOOL
CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Preparing our Students for Tomorrow...Today



**LIVERPOOL HIGH SCHOOL
CTE ACADEMY AT WETZEL ROAD**

RIBBON CUTTING CELEBRATION



Please join the Liverpool Central School District in celebrating the opening of the new Liverpool High School CTE Academy at Wetzel Road.



**WEDNESDAY,
OCTOBER 21, 2026**
3:30 PM – 5:30 PM
(Rain or Shine)



**4246 WETZEL RD
LIVERPOOL, NY 13090**

Join us for remarks from district, school, and community leaders, followed by a ribbon cutting and tours of the new CTE Academy. Students will showcase their programs and learning through demonstrations throughout the building.



RSVP BY OCTOBER 9

Meghan Piper, School Information Officer
MPiper@liverpool.k12.ny.us



STARS 2026 Airshow Pictures: *Posted pictures here courtesy of Mike Graham*

Some Drop Box images courtesy of Scooter Youst and Paul Volcko. Drop Box posts are in rough chronological order.

Drop Box link here: [STARS 2026 Airshow - Dropbox](#)















JMG





All 203 photos will also be posted on the STARS FB account.

Work Party Pictures posted 19 Sept. 2026, *Courtesy of Michael Graham*

Drop Box pictures here: [STARS Field Work Party 19sep26 - Dropbox](#)













I will also post these on our FB page. Thanks.

Michael

Michael Graham posted the following field report 07Sep26



Here's Gary Brown with his *Spitfire* on 07sep26:

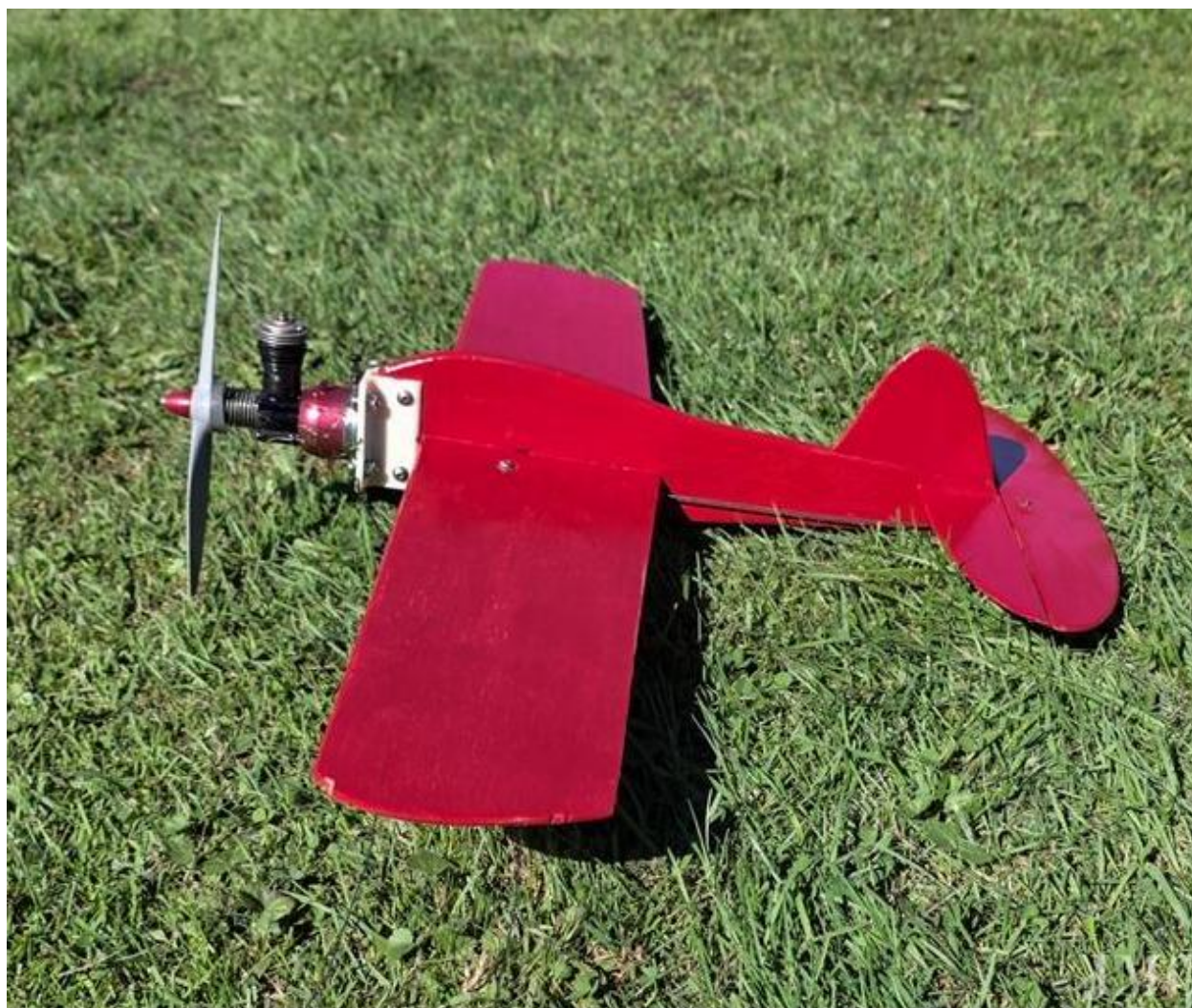
Here's the condition of the new French drain work on 24sep26:

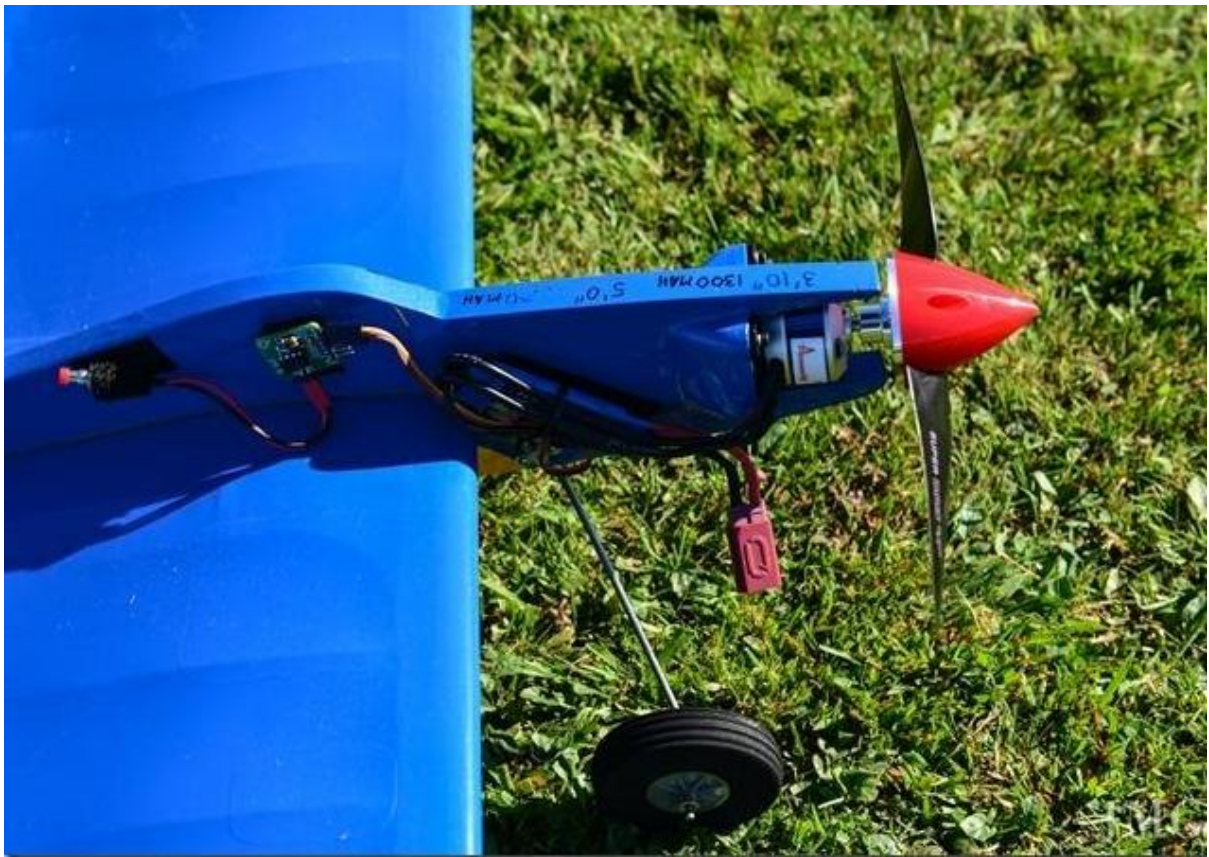




2026 Ringmaster Fly-A-Thon Photos *Courtesy of Mike Graham*

Photos posted to Drop Box here- [STARS 2026 Ringmaster Fly-A-Thon - Dropbox](#)













JMIG



Here's Mr. President and his magnificent Gilmore *Red Lion*



He also had this *P-40*:



Gary Brown was flying his *FW-190* also on Saturday, 03Oct26:



The Field Crew did a great job mowing/sweeping before the Ringmaster Fly-A-Thon event. Here's some of their gear:



Kellan Barnaby came out to maiden his T-28 with Gary Natali:







IMAA Big Bird Safety Checklist

Balance

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

Is the model balanced laterally (side to side)?

Alignment

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

Are there any twists in the wing?

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

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

Control Surfaces

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

Are the control horns secured to the model?

Control Linkages

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

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

Engine / Motor Mount Security and Operation

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

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

Does the throttle work without binding?

Does the throttle trim tab shut down the engine?

Has the propeller been balanced and checked for damage?

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

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

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

Radio Equipment

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

Are all the electrical connectors secure?

Is the receiver antenna fully extended and in good condition?

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

Are all servos securely fastened to the rails or trays?

Are servo arms firmly attached with screw in place?

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Does aircraft taxi in a straight line?

General

Is the covering tight with no visible signs of damage?

Are the retaining bolts in place and secure?

Are any hatches, cowls, and canopies secure?

Are all components structurally sound?

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

Range Checking the radio

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

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

Important: make sure the transmitter aerial is down fully.

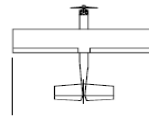
Ask someone to help and walk away from the model until signs of loss of control is apparent. If electric powered ensure that the range is not worse with the motor running.

Before EVERY flight:

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

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

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



1. General:

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

2. Transmitters:

- A. Frequency Control: *2.4 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.

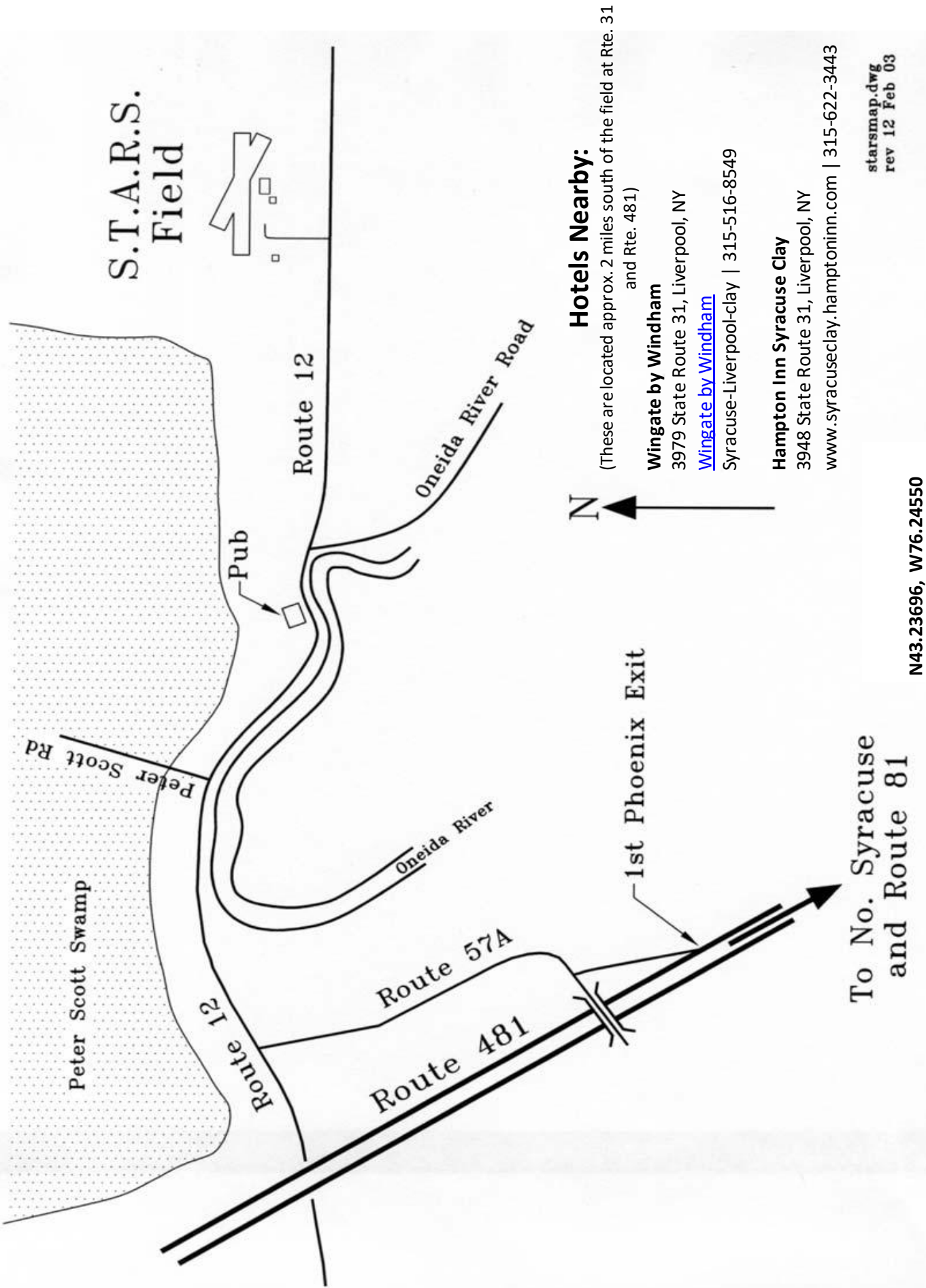
5. Replacement Courtesy:

- 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

Electronic Renewal and Payment Options

You may renew your membership via the club's PayPal account.

PayPal transactions through this account incur transaction fees so you must send additional money compared to paying by check or with cash (in-person).

PayPal Renewal Costs

Membership Type	Cash/Check Price	PayPal Price
Park Pilot	\$75	\$77
Associate	\$75	\$77
Open	\$60	\$62
Extra Family	\$30	\$31

Using the PayPal app or website, you can send money to **@cnystars** or you may use the QR code below.



Use the "PayPal Price" column prices when filling in the amount to send to the club's account.

Please include "2026 Renewal - YOUR NAME" in the optional note field you can fill in before sending the payment. I may or may not be able to recognize the payee info that is attached to the incoming transaction, so this note field is important for me to be able to associate your payment with your roster entry. I will contact you when I process your payment and mark your roster entry as paid up. Check your junk mail folder. If you do not get contacted within 3 days of payment, please reach out to me to make sure things were processed.

Review your roster entry. If your contact info has changed please send email to treasurer@cnystars.com with your updated information.