

Syracuse Thunderbirds Aero Radio Society

# *Plane Propwash*

March 2012

Charter 473

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## The General Meeting will be at 7:00 at Walt's on April 11

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### 2012 Officers

Chuck LeVine, President  
Phil Morgan, Vice President  
Bob Rowe, Treasurer  
Jeff Wolsley, Secretary  
Peter Seiffert, Safety Officer

Directors:  
Roy Fields, 2010  
Peter Seiffert, 2007-08  
Scott Erich, 2006

Volunteer Staff:  
Jeff Wolsley, Propwash Editor  
Michael Graham, SYG Administrator  
Chuck LeVine, Webmaster  
Herb Moore, Field Committee

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**The next STARS meeting will be April 11, at 7:00. As a reminder, the meeting is always the second Wednesday of the month. Herb Ziegler will present after the meeting. Herb will do a demonstration on glow/gas motor bearing changes and rebuilding techniques.**

### House Passes Aero-Modeler Bill

#### President's Perspective

Looks like we had a brief but fun beginning to the flying season with many days in March well above 70 degrees. Hopefully this will bode well for the rest of the season.

By the time you read this the driveway project should be done with a new concrete apron in place and the rest re-graded and leveled. In addition we now have WiFi at the club house along with a web cam showing part of the field – the web-cam can be viewed on our web page at <http://www.amadistrictiastars.org/webcam.html> – I would like to thank Dennis Gerber, Dan Williams and Mike Piro for their help with the WiFi setup.

Speaking again of help we are still in need of one volunteer for the Club House Group to be in charge of the bottle and can return. Please let me know if you can help us out with this occasional job.

Up next is the starting of Helicopter Night on April 24<sup>th</sup>, and the PreFlight Workshop night at Walt's on April 26<sup>th</sup>. The Fixed Wing flight school will start on May 10<sup>th</sup> and we still are in need of additional flight instructors and support personnel.

Please remember that club dues are due and please renew your AMA Membership if you have not already done so. Thanks and see you soon at the field.

Chuck

***Please get your dues in.*** The dues can be paid at the monthly STARS Meeting, or sent to the STARS Treasurer. Remember, after January there is a 10.00/month late charge. The current late fee is 30.00.

If you can't make the meeting, send Your Dues to: Bob Rowe, 211 Sedgwick Drive, Syracuse, NY. 13203

## **Secretary's Report:**

The March 2012 STARS regular meeting was called 6:58pm. There were 9 Full members, 5 Associate member, 0 youth member, and 0 guests in attendance.

**Secretary's Report:** The Secretary's Report from the February meeting was submitted. There were corrections noted- The next MoST date is 3/7 and the Pre-Flight Check is April 26<sup>th</sup>. Motion to approve by Mike Graham and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dave Jewell. Carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Bob Rowe

Treasurer's Report from the February meeting was submitted. The results from the Snowfly were added in. Motion to approve by Mike Graham and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bill Orr. Carried.

## **Committee Reports:**

**Field Committee:** Herb Moore

Spring equipment startup is underway. The mole chasers are out. Just like last year, please don't step on the mole chasers. The additional cost for gas was noted.

There will be a spring work party 04/21. The rain date is 04/28

**AMA:** Peter Seiffert, AMA District II, AVP

At the opening of the DII meeting at the WRAM show, Peter was presented with an achievement award from DII VP Eric Williams, Gary Fitch, and Dave Mathewson.



**Photo courtesy of Michael Graham, STARS**

The FAA has pushed the notice of proposed rulemaking off until July, with a deadline of August. It's not certain what impact, if any, the bill passed last month will have on the FAA's ruling regarding the SUAS situation.

Keep an eye out for further information from the AMA regarding this.

Eric also rolled out the new DII website. You will notice that it now is more in line with the AMA website theme.

The MoST has started again. There were two volunteers at last weekend's event. Please volunteer. Again, the presentation is the first Saturday of the month. The next

MoST date is April 7. Please contact Peter to volunteer [pseiffel@twcny.rr.com](mailto:pseiffel@twcny.rr.com).

**Safety Report:** Peter Seiffert

Not really enough flying yet to have any issues. Please look into your electric aircraft safety. There were several arming switches at the WRAM show.

**Flight School:** Bob Rowe

April 24<sup>th</sup> is the first night of Heli flight school. April 26<sup>th</sup> is the Fixed Wing pre-flight check out at Walt's. May 10<sup>th</sup> is the first night of Fixed Wing.

Volunteer pilot instructors are needed for both schools.

**STARS Web Site:** Howard Blair

Please check out the STARS site. Give your feedback to Howard for continued improvements. <http://www.amadistrictiistars.org/>

## **Old Business:**

**Heli Jam:**

The event is on for June 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Club House Upgrade:** Chuck Levine

The GFCI's in and outside the club house need to be replaced. Anyone possessing the electrical skills needed for this task, please step forward.

**STARS Hats:** Bob Rowe

Bob has more hats! The price is \$ 15.00

**Bus Trip to WARM Show:**

The WRAM show was attended by ten STARS members. There were several vendors and demonstrations there.

The static display had many terrific models including turbine jets. There were some historical aircraft there as well.



**Photo courtesy of Michael Graham, STARS**

CNY Model Aircraft Forum: Peter Seiffert

The January 2012 MAF drew over 150 guests. There were 38 registered pilots. This was a good event turnout overall. See you all next year.

### New Business:

#### Long Range Planning:

Repair driveway from road to gate. Chuck LeVine brought this forward for a motion. The concrete apron has started to deteriorate. There is now a hole that passes through into the culvert beneath. It was pointed out that this was for additional drainage. (I now stand corrected-IT IS NOT!.) This project, coupled with restoring the driveway and parking area,

complete with geo-fabric barrier, can be had for \$2k. The treasury can support such a project.

The motion was put forward for vote by Mike Graham and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Peter Seiffert. The motion passed unanimously.

#### New Members:

No new members for the March meeting.

#### Adjournment:

The March regular monthly meeting of the STARS was adjourned at 7:25 pm.

Secretary, Jeff Wolsley

## After The Meeting...

**Brian Morse -Yellow Aircraft A4 Skyhawk.** This is a composite kit with fiberglass fuse, lite ply bulkheads, and formed parts. This model is converted to electric. The fan unit is by Tom Cook but modified by XPS to make it over for electric flight. This 5" fan unit is 20Kw's on 10-16 cells. At 16 cells it is capable of 25lbs thrust. The kit should finish up at around 12.5lbs.

Brian expects to have the jet finished this summer.

References:

Yellow Aircraft

[Yellow Aircraft: Prop Models: A-4 Skyhawk](#)

Xtreme Power Systems

<http://www.xtremepowersystems.net/dynamax.php>

### **Peter Seiffert- Mikado Logo 500SE**

Peter presented the heli kit that he has been working on. Peter says

the kit was an easy build. He has it set up with a scorpion motor. Pete has it all set up and ready to go. He will maiden it tomorrow weather permitting.

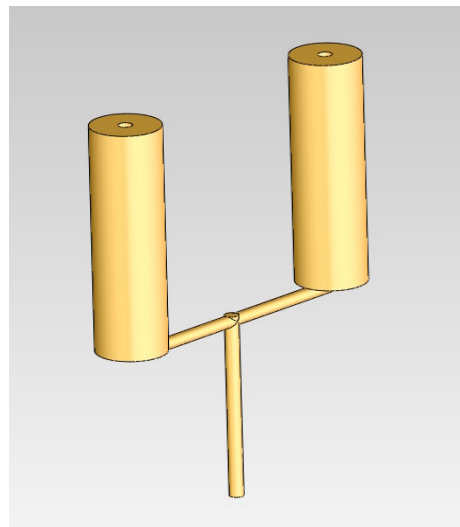
References:

[http://shop.mikado-heli.de/LOGO-500-SE.htm?shop=k\\_mikado\\_e&SessionId=&a=catalog&t=4682&c=4682&p=4682](http://shop.mikado-heli.de/LOGO-500-SE.htm?shop=k_mikado_e&SessionId=&a=catalog&t=4682&c=4682&p=4682)

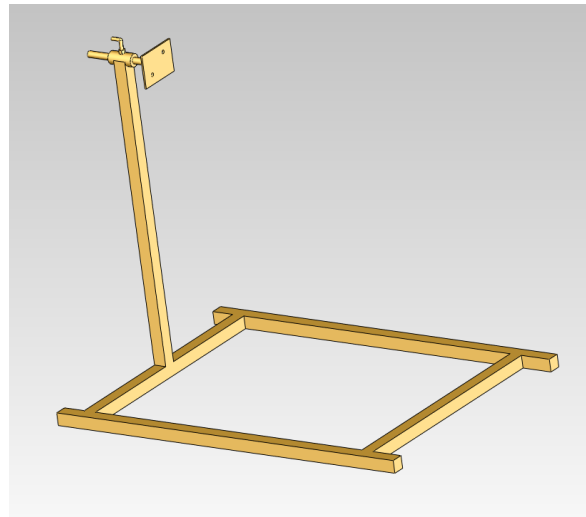
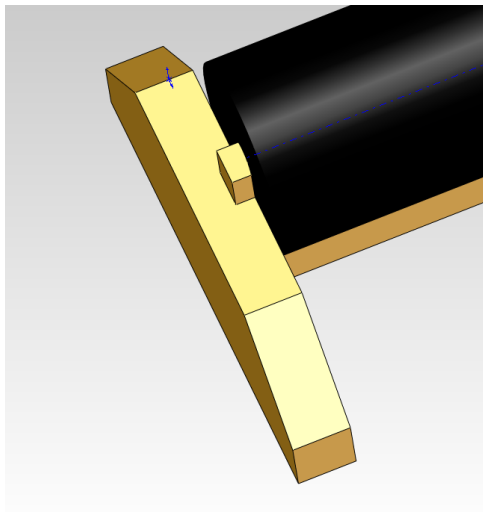
### **Phil Morgan- A Tail of Three Stooges (Plus a Jig And Others)**

Phil presented some of his field and shop stooges that he uses to help hold on to his aircraft when he is getting them ready to fly or working on them in the shop.

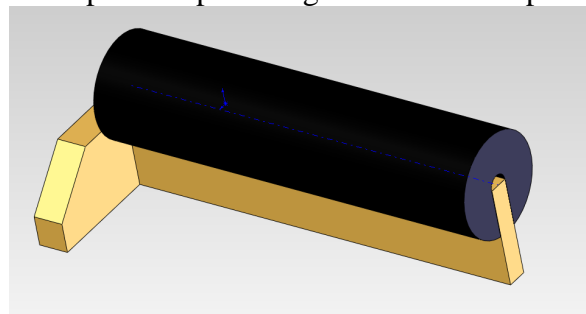
The first stooge- A goal post shaped device that is stuck into the turf to hold the tail of a larger airplane. This plane is too big for the tables. The verticals are covered with Dollar Store swimming noodles. Right now the design requires the aircraft to be lifted over the stooge to clear it. Phil is looking at other designs that will eliminate this.



The second stooge is for holding aircraft fuselages for painting. This consists of a flat frame with a vertical post at one end. The post is about 2ft tall. The post has a tube welded at the top horizontal with the ground. The tube is cross drilled and has a nut welded to it that holds a T bolt. In this tube is a smaller rod with a flat plate welded to it. The flat plate bolts to the firewall. The T bolt can be hand-turn tightened down on the rod to prevent it from rotating. This locks the fuselage in any position for painting.



The third stooge is for supporting the aircraft fuselage. It is very simple. Two pieces of most any wood are attached at right angles, and a piece of plumbing insulation on top.



Phil also showed off the fuselage jig that he has used successfully for years. It's not complicated and the results are worth the effort. Perhaps Phil can share some of the construction of it.

Phil showed off some vintage R/C radio equipment including an escapement. An escapement, for those that don't know, is an early form of a servo. The ones that I had were rubber-band powered (Bonner SM). The radio signal would open up the stop and allow the escapement to move the control surface. When the rubber windings were gone, the control surface stopped moving and you transitioned to free flight mode until the engine quit.

Phil is also working on resurrecting a DeBolt Kitten. This is an older design by Hal DeBolt (Buffalo, NY.). Lite Ply is used for many of the parts. Phil plans on flying this at the NEAT fair this fall.

Resources:

Thruway Hardwood and Plywood Corp, East Syracuse. Lite Ply resource. 433-5284

### ***Safety Officer Report: Peter Seiffert***

Peter forwarded me the following on throttle arming for the Spektrum brand radios. This is to further help with electric aircraft safety by preventing accidental throttle stick arming. This information is courtesy of RCGroups.com

Peter writes: I found the information online at [RCGroups.com](http://RCGroups.com). Woody\_99 posted it.

On Mar 30, 2012, at 10:14 AM, Peter Seiffert <[pseiffel@twcny.rr.com](mailto:pseiffel@twcny.rr.com)> wrote:

Hi Ralph;

Thank you for sending the information.

Phil, please check to see if this works in the DX6 as well.

Ralph, is this your work or do we need to credit someone to publish in the Propwash?

Peter

On 3/30/2012 9:45 AM, RAGS wrote:

Per your request...

DX7 Throttle Hold for Airplanes

Setting up in "ACRO type" model mode.

Refer to page 61 in the DX7 manual for menu button functions.

Programmable Mixing:

Set or Mix

Thro → Thro Off

Rate: -100%

Rate: -100%

SW: Mix

Offset: -100

Throttle trim should be set all of the way down.

Test with extreme caution.

Safety is everyone's concern!

Peter Seiffert, Safety Officer

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**WANTED:**

**Herb Moore is looking for another person for field mowing. Please contact Herb if you would like to volunteer for this position. [hmoore@dreamscape.com](mailto:hmoore@dreamscape.com)**

**Calendar of Events for March-April (and beyond) Events:** *Editor's Note- Also watch your e-mail for sudden changes to events like cancellations or re-scheduling due to weather.*

**April 21 STARS Spring Work Party 04/28 rain date.**

**Apr. 21-22 Plattsburgh aero modelers, Inc Mall Show Champlain Center Mall Plattsburgh, N.Y.**

**April 24 STARS Helicopter Flight School Begins**

**April 26 STARS Pre-Flight Check at Walt's**

**June 30 STARS Heli JAM**

**July 28 Mountain R/C Modelers Annual Fly In- Old Forge, NY.**

**Look for updates to indoor flying schedules!**

**Indoor helicopter flying** at Walt's is open again for the 2011-2012 season. Wednesday and Thursday, 5:30 to close.

For any additional information contact Walt's Hobby 453-2291

**Indoor flying at the Oswego YMCA Armory-** No flying at the Armory for 2012

**Flight Schools-** 2012 STARS Flight Schools start on April 24 with the Helicopter Flight School. Pre-Flight fixed wing check is April 26 at Walt's

**MOST Volunteer Schedule-** Please contact Peter Seiffert to volunteer. The MoST program is up and running. Next date is December 3<sup>rd</sup>.

*Please visit the AMA District III website or the Event Section in the back of Model Aviation for additional information on these and other events.*

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**Advertisements:**

**FOR SALE:**

Blade SR helicopter with 3 batteries for \$250.00. Contact Brian Maestri 315-391-3675 [p.maestri@gmail.com](mailto:p.maestri@gmail.com)

*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@ix.netcom.com](mailto:jwolsley@ix.netcom.com). Please put STARS ADVERTISEMENT in the subject line.*

how to build a rc jet B-1 Bomber # 173 pt 1

hornitpilot 404 videos 



This is the link to the web site- <http://www.b1modelproject.com/>

Tom Catalino pointed out this site recently. An excellent site for Lipo battery info-

<http://sites.google.com/site/tjinguitech/charging-how-tos/balance-connectors>

Peter Seiffert sent along the following web site- [www.servodatabase.com/servos/all](http://www.servodatabase.com/servos/all)

Mike Graham has a torque conversion chart-



Servo Torque  
Conversion Chart.pdf

### Arming Switch Information-

AMP'D- Arming The Big Boys, by Greg Covey November 2007

[http://www.rcuniverse.com/magazine/article\\_display.cfm?article\\_id=950](http://www.rcuniverse.com/magazine/article_display.cfm?article_id=950)

RunRyder- How To Make A Spark Arrestor for an ESC by Lucien Miller <http://www.helifreak.com/archive/index.php/t-289393.html>  
look down to the post from gbidwell from 4-24-2011 0601am. That's the exact article that I have from RunRyder.

Note- Many of the newer ESC's have a built in spark arrestor. If you still see and hear the spark, this is a good idea to save the plugs.

**The Link for the AMA is:**

<http://www.modelaircraft.org/>

**The link for the AMA DII Calendar is:**

[http://www.amadistrictii.org/amajoom/index.php?option=com\\_events&Itemid=56&task=view\\_month&month=3&year=2012](http://www.amadistrictii.org/amajoom/index.php?option=com_events&Itemid=56&task=view_month&month=3&year=2012)

**The link for the club yahoo users group is:**

[http://groups.yahoo.com/group/stars\\_club\\_members/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/stars_club_members/) (Don't forget to sign in)

**The link for the STARS club home page at DII is**

<http://www.amadistrictiistars.org/>

The Propwash News Letter is also available at YAHOO GROUPS. The current news letter and previous years/months are viewable and printable from there.

Please contact Mike Graham [tanjmg82@aol.com](mailto:tanjmg82@aol.com) to join the STARS Yahoo group. Send Mike an email asking to join from your preferred email account. Mike will then reply with an invite to join the group. The invitation contains the links and instructions necessary to join.

### Links-

**A REALLY COOL WEBSITE- Thanks to Rick Colvin for pointing this out at the June 2009 meeting-** For those of you who ever wanted to learn how to make a fiberglass plug and molds, this is the guy to check out. Even if the plane in the project doesn't interest you, the education from the process may. Bob Moore (B1 Bob) takes you through each process step by step. If the YouTube hyperlink doesn't work, copy the following URL into your browser line and click go. It's up to almost 2000 videos now. Bob is completing 10 kits for his successfully flown and now proven F-105 on spec to help fund the B-1 project. Five kits have been sold now including one ready to fly. The original B-1 is for sale on RC Universe. Bob will be starting on the improved B-1 shortly. How To Build A B-1 Bomber 10 Minutes At a Time [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HqTKJU6PlkA&feature=channel\\_page](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HqTKJU6PlkA&feature=channel_page)



**STARS Field Satellite photo**

# **S.T.A.R.S.**

## ***Flight Training Program***



# **2012**



### **When?**

Every Thursday evening from 5:30 PM to Sunset  
May 10, 2012 through September 13, 2012

### **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.

### **PreFlight Workshop**

Held at Walt's Hobby  
Thursday April 26, 2012 at 7 PM

### **Interested?**

Contact:

SENIOR FLIGHT INSTRUCTOR: Bob Rowe (474-8428)





*Syracuse Thunderbirds Aero Radio Society*  
Phoenix, NY  
Charter 473

# 2012 Helicopter Flight School

*All skill levels welcome but must be a current AMA  
Member and provide your own outdoor Helicopter*

**Tuesday evenings – April 24 to October 9  
5:00 pm until dusk**

# CNY Heli Jam



Hosted by: S.T.A.R.S.  
and Syracuse Heli Group



## PILOT REGISTRATION FORM

R/C Helicopter Fun Fly

June 30, 2012 10AM –Until ?

S.T.A.R.S. Field 649 County Route 12, Pennellville, NY 13132

Pilot Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

AMA #: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Pre Registration Fee \$10.00 due by 6/9/12 (This is to reserve a shirt)

Registration at field: \$15.00

Official T Shirt : \_\_\_ LG, \_\_\_ XL, \_\_\_ XXL, \_\_\_ 3XL (One per pilot)

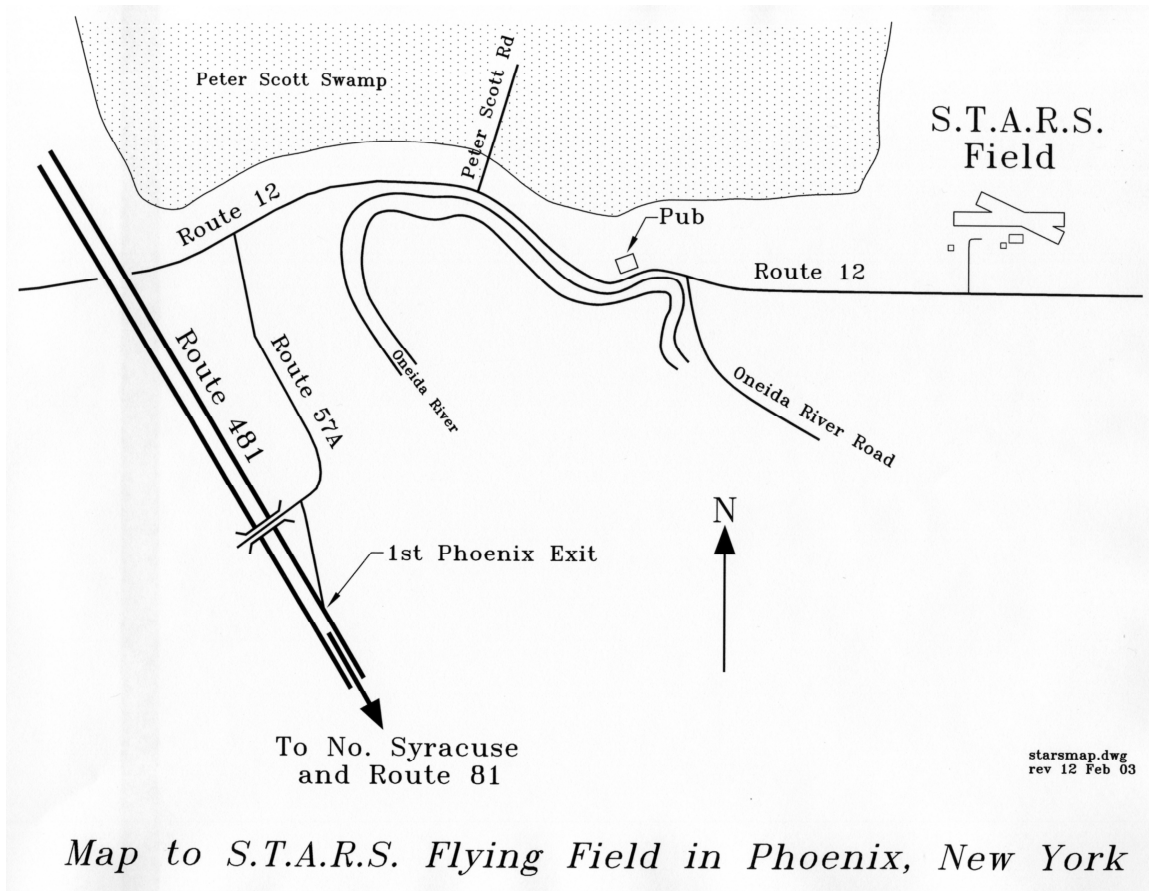
Total: \_\_\_\_\_ Make check or money order payable to S.T.A.R.S.. *Please don't send cash! Please print this form and mail check or money order to:*

S.T.A.R.S.  
c/o Chuck LeVine  
785 Fyler Rd. Lot 50  
Kirkville, NY 13082

Will you need an overnight camping space? We have space for a few, **NO HOOKUPS** . Let us know.

S.T.A.R.S.  
c/o Chuck LeVine  
785 Fyler Rd. Lot 50  
Kirkville, NY 13082

N43.23696, W76.24550



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

### **Hotels Nearby:**

(These are located approx 2 miles south of the field at Rte 31 and Rte 481)

Fairfield Inn

3979 State Route 31, Liverpool, NY

315-622-2576

Hampton Inn Syracuse Clay

3948 State Route 31, Liverpool, NY

[Website](#) | 315-622-3443

**MOUNTAIN R/C MODELERS**  
**OF OLD FORGE, NEW YORK**  
*AMA Charter 3688*



Presents the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual

*Fly-In and Fun-Fly!!*

Saturday July 28, 2012 9am-4pm

**Air Show at 1pm**

At the airfield, the end of North Street (Turn by Subway and the Pied Piper)  
1000' grass facility.  
AMA membership  
required to fly.

**All Are Welcome!**  
**Food and Soda are Available!**

**Come enjoy the central**  
**Scenic Adirondack Mountains!**

**Area Motels:**

|                         |              |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| Water's Edge Inn        | 315-369-2484 |
| Pine Knoll Motel        | 315-369-6740 |
| Best Western Sunset Inn | 315-369-6836 |

**Camping Available at:**

|                              |              |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| Old Forge Camping Resort     | 315-369-6011 |
| Nick's Lake State Campground | 315-369-3314 |

**Also See:**

oldforgeny.com for more information on facilities,  
or, call the Visitors Information Center at  
315-369-6983

**Contest Director:** Walt Throne 315-559-8826



NYS Thruway I-90 Exit 31 Utica Rt 12 North, Rt 28 North 1 hour to Old Forge. 2 Hours from Syracuse; 2 1/2 hours Albany!  
Rt 28 from I-87 Northway (Warrensburg): Rt. 28 from Rt 12 Lowville/Watertown



Est. 1965

# Syracuse Thunderbirds Aero Radio Society

Online at: <http://www.amadistrictiistars.org>



Charter 473

## Membership Application Form

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership:       Open (\$220.00 share+dues)       Extra Family member (\$30.00)  
                           Associate (\$75.00)                               Youth (< AMA age 19 - \$5.00)  
                           Park Pilot - Associate (\$75.00)       Park Pilot - Youth (< AMA age 19 - \$5.00)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

AMA: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_

RC Channels Used: \_\_\_\_\_

STARS Member(s) Contacted: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Interests (Sport, Scale, Pattern, Fun Fly, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Other Club Affiliations: \_\_\_\_\_

Desired Name on Nametag: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address (for newsletter and notices): \_\_\_\_\_

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 04/10/09

# STARS CLUB 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.

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. Impound: All pilots, students, and flying guests must place their transmitter(s) in the impound area immediately upon arriving at the field.

D. Vehicles: Vehicles will not be permitted *on* the flying field.

E. 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.

F. Trash: All members will take home their own trash.

G. Alcoholic Beverages: Members will not consume alcoholic beverages prior to, nor during, participation in any *modeling* operations.

H. Smoking: Smoking will not be permitted in the pit area or on the flight line.

I. Mowing: Flying on the field will not be permitted if the field is being mowed or maintained.

J. PPMP: 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.

## **2. Transmitters:**

A. Frequency Control (*For non 2.4 GHz transmitters only*): All members, students, and guests *must make use of the field frequency control system*. Each pilot will obtain the correct frequency flag (or pin) from the impound board and attach it to his/her transmitter before attempting to fly.

B. Range Checks: Each pilot will conduct a successful radio equipment ground range check 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.

## **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, 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.

**Plane Propwash**

Syracuse Thunderbirds Aero Radio Society  
Monthly News Letter  
March 2012