

Syracuse Thunderbirds Aero Radio Society



Plane Propwash



August 2021

Charter 473

The STARS September meeting will be held Wednesday September 8th, at 7:00- See below

2021 Officers

[Paul Volcko, President](#)
[Phil Knapp, Vice President](#)
[Herb Moore, Treasurer](#)
[Jeff Wolsley, Secretary](#)
[Jeff LaPorte, Safety Officer](#)

Directors:
Michael Graham
Herb Moore, 2014
Phil Morgan *2011-2013

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

The STARS September 2021 meeting will be held at the STARS field, on September 8th, at 7:00, WEATHER PERMITTING so social distancing rules can be followed. If the weather does not cooperate, the meeting will be online, and the Zoom meeting notice will be sent the morning of the meeting.

The Many Are Dependent on The Few

The club membership is depending too much on the efforts of too few.

We have a membership of over 80 people. Five of them are club officers. Two others are on the Board of Directors (one officer is also a Director). Four or five people volunteer consistently to keep the grounds well maintained. Another two or three help out with that on occasion. We have one member who serves as Contest Director for all of our sanctioned events. One other has been taking on the bulk of the event coordination work. A few people have volunteered to cook and a few more have volunteered to do food service over the past year for weekly events and/or at club events. Our big event each year is the Airshow. We had on the order of 15 people volunteering in various capacities during the day to make that happen, two of whom were non-members. We also installed the electrical boxes on the fence line, which had another 12 or so volunteers.

That may sound like a lot of people volunteering. 5 + 2 + 5 + 3 + 1 + 1 + 3 + 12 + 15 The problem is that there is a great deal of overlap between those groups of volunteers. The actual total of people volunteering during a year is around 20. And of that 20 people, 8 or fewer are being leaned on heavily to keep things chugging along throughout the year.

This cannot hold.

It's too much being put on the backs of too few.

Being a member of a club like ours is not exclusively about enjoyment, leisure, and socializing. It's also, necessarily, about volunteerism and some personal sacrifice to keep the grounds in the condition we've come to expect, to make events enjoyable for attendees, and to improve the facilities.

Yes, the people we're leaning on do volunteer to put in that effort and likely enjoy it to some extent. But it does not follow that it is okay for the club to lean so heavily on those few, time and time again, just because they enjoy what they're doing. They most certainly do not enjoy it all of the time. And even in doing something that one enjoys, it can become much less enjoyable if it comes to be expected.

People can and will burn out. Or just get fed up and stop putting in the effort.

With that in mind, as we move to complete the runway project, please make every effort to help out during the coming work weekends. Send me an email, text, or call to sign up. So far 21 people have responded and signed up for some amount of time during the Sept 11-12 and 18-19 weekends. This is a better response rate than I received for the prior survey asking for available 3-day blocks, which is great. Thank you to all who have responded so far and signed up to volunteer! We need more though. Particularly for the Sept 18-19 weekend when we plan to install the geotextile material.

Looking forward beyond the runway project, we have officer elections coming up in November.

Continued-

Nominations are due to Phil Morgan by the October meeting. You may nominate yourself or someone else. All officer positions are elected each year. Nominees must be open members, but nominations can be made by anyone. Speak with Phil Morgan or any other officer if you have questions about what duties and responsibilities are entailed in any given officer position.

Secretary's Report: Jeff Wolsley

The August STARS meeting was held at the STARS field. The meeting was called to order at 7:01 by President Paul Volcko. There were 15 Open members, 1 Associate members, 0 Youth members, and 2 Guests in attendance.

Secretary's Report:

The Secretary's Report was accepted as published in the July Propwash. Motion to accept by Lloyd Darrohn and 2nd by Mike Graham. Carried.

Treasurer's Report: Herb Moore

All the bills are current. The additional port-a-pottie and wash station have been ordered. They will be here in the next day or so. Motion to accept by Mike Graham and 2nd by Bob Simms. Carried.

Correspondence:

No correspondence reported.

Committee Reports:

Field Committee: Paul Volcko

Paul thanks the volunteers that have been keeping the field mowed. They have been doing a great job and it is very much appreciated.

Safety Report: Jeff LaPorte

Jeff suggested that everyone read the TRUST article in the Model Aviation magazine.

Please be vigilant at the Airshow. We are all safety officers. If you see something, say something.

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

AMA Report: Phil Morgan

Phil reported on the new FAA safety and knowledge test. Please get it done sooner than later. It costs nothing and is easy to do. TRUST- The **R**ecreational **U**AS **S**afety **T**est is required by all users of the UAS. Rule 349- Everyone must take it. The test can be done on the telephone. The test is required by the FAA and Law Enforcement. There is no age restriction or exemption. The test is also on the AMA website.

The test is once in a lifetime. You'll never have to take it again.

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.

If you fly in controlled airspace outside of a FRIA, you need to apply for a LAANC. Use this AMA website for more information-

[Know Before You Fly | Academy of Model Aeronautics \(modelaircraft.org\)](http://www.modelaircraft.org/academy)

Lastly, our flying season is coming to a close soon. The runway should be installed in a couple of weeks and usable very soon after it is complete, just in time for the end of our flying season. Come out and fly!

Paul Volcko

president@amadistrictiistars.org / 315-708-2009

FAADroneZone

Transponders will be required in your aircraft if you fly outside of a FRIA. The STARS field is a FRIA. FRIA stands for **F**AA **R**ecognized **I**dentification **A**rea. Your back yard, the school field, an empty parking lot, IS NOT a FRIA.

AMA insurance coverage is not tied to the test. The individual is responsible for issues from not registering, not the club. Pilot In Command rules shall apply. It will be another 18 months before the transponder requirement goes into effect. Buying an ARF with the module, the pilot must register the model. The [UASidekick](#) app will tell you if you are in a FRIA. The link is here and below in the Links section of the Propwash.

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..

Please visit <https://www.modelaircraft.org/gov-beta> for the latest information regarding the AMA and the FAA.

Another important distinction was made by Phil regarding AMA recognition in Canada. It seems that Canada is no longer going to recognize membership in the AMA. If you are traveling to Canada to fly, you must apply for a Canadian IMAC membership. 40.00 for 30 days and 80.00 for a year membership. The AMA will continue to honor the IMAC membership.

STARS Web Site: Paul Volcko

The address is <http://www.amadistrictiistars.org>

The cameras will be up and running again soon. Please view the field cam at:

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

This is an infrared cam so you can see some activity at night.

Old Business:

Flight School: Bob Rowe

Fixed wing- There were two graduates last week. Looking for new trainees before the end of school.

Please don't miss out on an opportunity- Notice to casual or advanced flyers, if you are interested in improving your ability, learn a new maneuver, or correct a bad habit, the flight school is available to you too.

Heli flight- Paul V.

Not much to report. Paul is asking if anyone is willing to take over the class? Paul has some other commitments that are taking him away from Heli Night.

Continued-

Big Bird Giant Scale: Phil Knapp

Phil was not present to report. It was noted that attendance has been light.

Control Line: Mike O'Neill

Make didn't have anything to report.

Vintage and classic control line, glider, and rubber powered kits on Mike's website under the STORE tab- <https://www.flyboyzblog.com>

Family Picnic:

The consensus was to hold the Family Picnic instead of the Christmas party. So starting in 2022, the 2nd annual Family Picnic will begin a new tradition.

Facebook:

STARS have a Facebook page. There are 118 members currently. [Mike O'Neill](#) is the administrator.

Paul Volcko talked about setting up a business page. Events can be set up here and allow us to do some advertising.

The STARS website- <http://www.amadistrictiistars.org/>

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

New Business:

Heli Jam:

The STARS Heli Jam was well attended. There were 21 total pilots registered. Two pilots were from Rochester. Of the registered pilots, only five flew.

Food sales were very good for this event.

Bylaws Update:

A bylaw update was discussed in response to the fence line electrification project cost overrun. The total overrun was less than 500.00. In the future Article 2D will be updated to show a requirement for two signatures to approve the expenditure.

It was decided that a BOD meeting to approve an overage in excess of 500.00 was not necessary.

The voting protocol was discussed. This was in response to the voting anomaly that occurred when voting on the runway.

The Secretary will record the motion, then read it back to the membership prior to voting. The votes will be recorded after.

Airshow:

The Airshow is on August 14th. The weather looks like it is going to be in our favor. Setup will be 08/13 regardless of the weather.

Airshow activities begin at 10:00. If necessary, the field will be open early Saturday morning to complete any setup that may need to be completed.

At this time, most positions have been filled. Thank you to the volunteers.

Paul is setting up a business page that will allow us to do some advertising there. Spectrum News was contacted to do a local interest story.

Finally, the trainer will be available to fly on the buddy box if there is enough interest to try out flying.

Field Improvements:

Fence Electrification- Just a friendly reminder for operator etiquette- Please remember to close the outlet weather covers when you are done using the outlet.

GEO-TEXTILE RUNWAY-

Paul has solicited a survey asking for the membership to select a 3-day block in which they will be available to work on the runway project. The most popular 3-day block will be the one to go with. Round up will be sprayed on the field about a week prior to the 3-day block to kill off all the vegetation in the runway/work area. Dirt delivery, roller rental will be scheduled to coincide.

Paul visited the RAMS field and they shared some of their installation tips and tricks. One item was a tool to drive the staples in. Paul suggested making our own staple driver or possibly borrowing theirs. Staples will need to be re-driven a couple of times at the runway ends until the geo-textile fabric stops shrinking.

Taxiways were discussed leading up to the runway. There should be enough extra material to add this feature. The details will be worked out while the project is underway.

Flying will be permitted outside of the 3-day block.

INTERNET ACCESS-

The internet is coming to the field. The wire is on the pole out front.

It is 878.88 for the first year. 104.99/month (1259.88/yr.) for the 2nd year.

That works out to 15.75/member for the internet. The initial coverage will be without a dues increase for the first year.. After the first year, this will be re-evaluated.

CLUBHOUSE ROOF-

During the meeting, the condition of the clubhouse roof was brought up. It is indeed looking a little rough. This will be included in the 2022 field improvement section.

STARS Website:

Paul is looking in to changing the STARS website domain. The new site will be CNY STARS.com. This is to avoid confusion with the STRS club in Olean, NY. The transition over to the new site will not be immediate.

New Members:

New, old member, Bob Fisk was voted in. Motion by Phil Morgan and 2nd by Bob Rowe. Carried. Welcome back, Bob!

Guest Columnist:

Anyone, club member or other, is welcome to submit an article for the Propwash. The article must be about the hobby or something that impacts the hobby.

The Propwash Editor and/or STARS BOD reserves the right to edit the article content or refuse to include the article.

Club Hat Order:

Bob Rowe mentioned that anyone interested in a new STARS Club Hat can pick one up at Papa's Sports (315-455-7272), 1926 Park Street (at Park and Hiawatha). Bob says they have the STARS club logo in their inventory. They have many different styles of hats. Just ask for the STARS logo on it.

Adjournment:

The August 2021 regular monthly meeting of the STARS was adjourned at 7:36.

Secretary, Jeff Wolsley

S.T.A.R.S.

Flight Training Program



2021



When?

Every Thursday evening from 5:30 PM to Sunset
May 06, 2021 through September 09, 2021

Where?

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

Who?

Anyone wanting to learn to fly powered R/C model airplanes!! You do **not** have to be a Club member and all lessons are free. Each student must furnish his/her own plane and radio equipment and also must hold a current membership in the Academy of Model Aeronautics aircraft association in order to fly. For those not yet finished building/assembling their trainer aircraft, the Club has a Club Trainer available that may be flown on a Buddy Box.

PreFlight Workshop

Held at STARS Flying Field in Phoenix, NY

Thursday April 22, 2021 at 7 PM

Interested?

Contact:

SENIOR FLIGHT INSTRUCTOR: Bob Rowe (315/474-8428)

Syracuse Thunderbirds Aero Radio Society

Phoenix, NY

Charter 473



S.T.A.R.S. 2021 Helicopter & Multirotor Night

All skill levels welcome, but must be an AMA member to fly and provide your own outdoor capable Heli or Multirotor. Build help and flight instruction available.

**Tuesday evenings - April 13 to October 05
5PM until Dusk**

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

Calendar of Events

NOTICE EVENT DATES MAY CHANGE OR CANCELLED OUTRIGHT.

Calendar of Events for September and beyond:

Editor's Note- All dates are subject to cancellation or postponement due to the COVID-19 response. Please check with the event sponsor for actual date and time. These dates are accurate at the time the Propwash was published.

FPV Racing- Sept 11.
Neat Fair- Sept. 16-19

MVF Imac Sept. 17-19
MVF Fall Jet Hangout Sept. 24-26

Click here→ [AMA DII Additional events](#)

STARS Flight Schools-

Fixed wing flight school began May 6th and runs every Thursday night, weather permitting, through September 9th.

Heli-Night began April 13th and runs every Tuesday night, weather permitting, through October 5th.

As always, it's never too late to join a flight school already in progress.

Big Bird- Began April 21st and runs every Wednesday night , weather permitting, through September 15th.

Indoor Flying -

Keep an eye out here for the 2021-2022 indoor flying schedule. It's unclear how the COVID virus or vaccination situation will affect the schedules so these can be revised at any time or unfortunately cancelled outright. Look for updates in this section in the fall.

[Camillus Indoor Aviators \(CIA\)](#) Indoor flying at First Baptist Church located at 1960 State Route 5 in Elbridge **NEED TO CONFIRM** dates and times. Active dates still shown for 2021.(2.4GHz only)

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

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

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



Pictures from The Field *Thanks to Mike Graham for the pictures from 08/12 Flight School Night.*





Awesome scale bird!!

The picnic tables were back in place and freshly painted:



We had the cooling fan running to keep the flyers parked on the benches – cooled:



Pictures from the Airshow- Use the link below to see many more pictures
<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/5niycwox5dqnrh9/AAA3dOgdpUacl0LRR9itd-Kca?dl=0>











S.T.A.R.S.

Jacket Order Form



The STARS Club jacket is a blue, three season, satin finished, quilt lined jacket with the Club logo on the back and your name embroidered on the front over the left breast.

The prices: \$88.40 for S, M, L, XL; \$90.40 for 2XL; \$92.40 for 3XL

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Name desired on jacket: _____

Send form to: Phil Morgan
9172 Beach Road
Brewerton, NY 13029

Checks payable to: Phil Morgan (Not the STARS)

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.

Advertisements:



Store Hours:

Monday/Friday: 9:00am-9:00pm -- Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday: 9:00am-6:00pm -- Saturday: 10:00am-5:00pm -- Sunday: 11:00am-5:00pm

Phone Number:

(315) 453-2291

waltshobby.com



Open 10-7 Tuesday thru Sunday.

315-532-6826

www.mexairrc.com

www.facebook.com/mexairrc

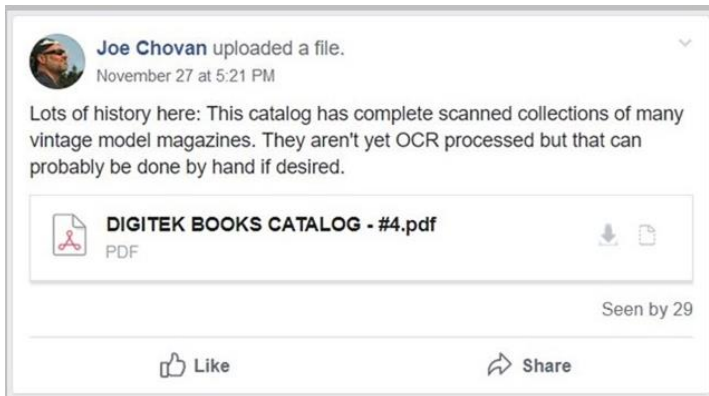
**Winner of AMA 2015 Hobby Shop Award
for signing up new AMA members.**

FOR SALE:

Please visit the Southern Tier RC Swap Shop. Dan Luchaco has included me in his mailing list. The current edition is sent along with the Propwash in the monthly email. All contact information is included with the ads.

Michael Graham Forwarded this- Digital Magazine Copies for Sale

DIGITEK BOOKS CATALOG - #4. pdf



So, I downloaded the pdf and it is attached.

Roland Friestad evidently owns the Digitek Book company and has a nifty way of doing business:

ORDERS ARE BURNED TO A FLASH MEMORY DRIVE THAT PLUGS INTO A USB PORT AND ACTS JUST LIKE ANOTHER DISK DRIVE - ALLOW UP TO 10 DAYS TO PROCESS YOUR ORDER.

ORDERS ARE SENT VIA FIRST CLASS MAIL - POSTAGE IS PAID FOR DELIVERY WORLD WIDE AT NO ADDITIONAL COST.

IF THE TOTAL COST OF YOUR ITEMS IS LESS THAN THE MINIMUM ORDER OF \$25.00, AN ADDITIONAL CHARGE WILL BE ADDED TO TO YOUR ORDER TO MAKE THE MINIMUM ORDER AMOUNT OF \$25.00

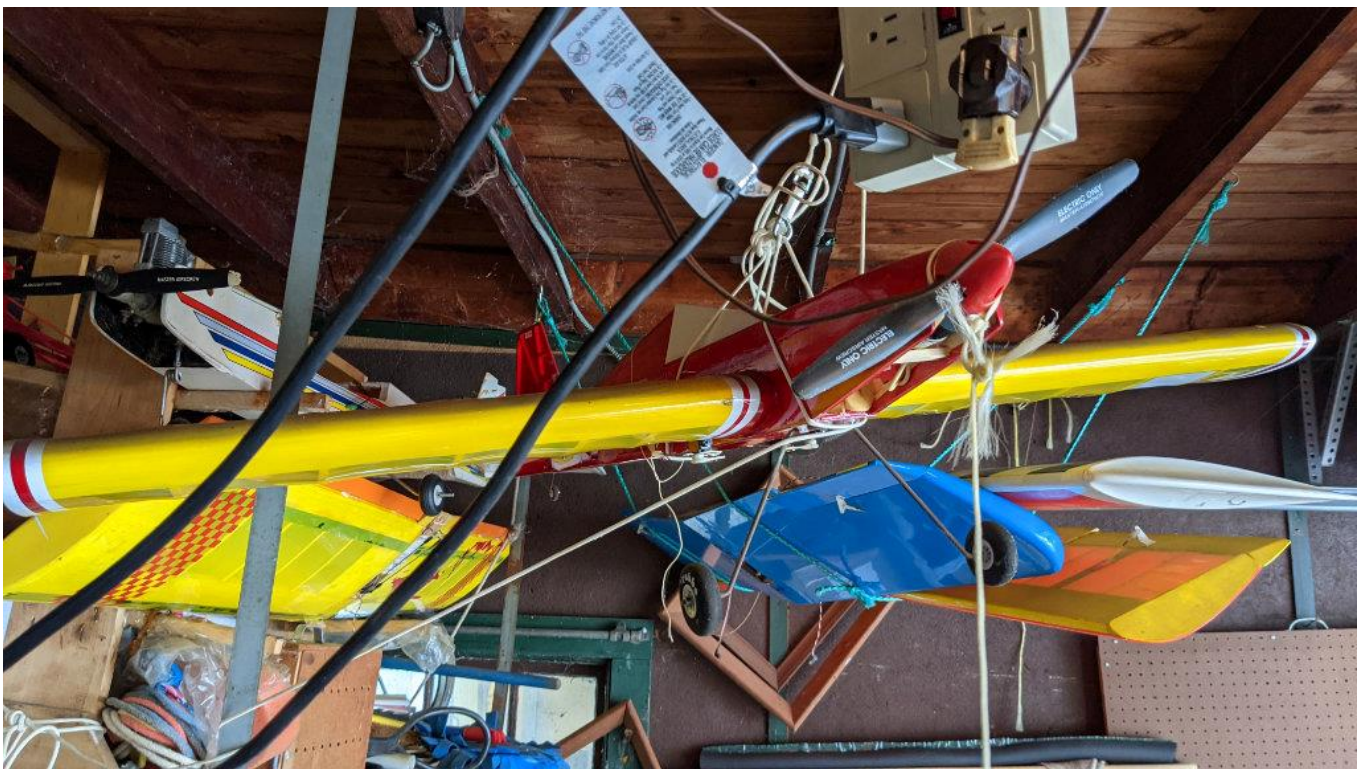
NOTE --- FOR ORDERS TOTALING LESS THAN \$25 YOU MAY AS WELL ADD ADDITIONAL ITEMS SINCE YOU WILL BE PAYING THE \$25 MINIMUM EITHER WAY.

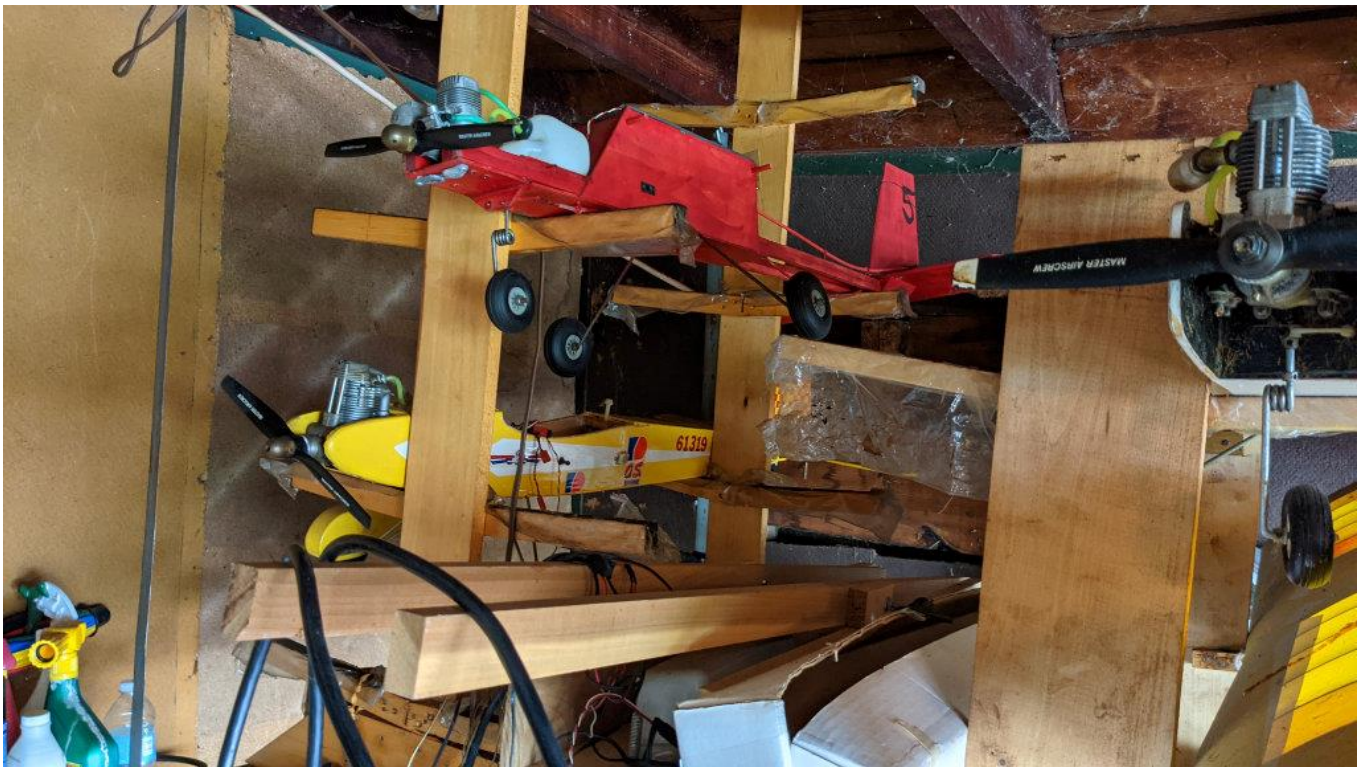
The Bob Elkovitch collection is for sale.

The following pictures are of items from Bob's collection. These represent about 1/3 of what he has. Images of just fuselages have wings as well. There are also many transmitters, tools, supplies, etc. Jim would prefer someone to make a deal for the whole collection but is open to piecing it out too. If you are interested in any of these, please contact James Elkovitch at jtmax2000@yahoo.com

Continued-













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.

Links-

[UASidekick ó 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.

[SCHEDULE - National Aeromodelling Championships \(modelaircraft.org\)](#)

Schedule of events for the 2021 AMA NATS June 16- August 29.

This Mike O'Neill's website to check out- <http://www.flyboyzblog.com/>

This site has articles pertaining to both full scale and model aircraft. Check it out.

Howard Blair found an interesting video from YouTube on micro flight

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fuoFA2fKjEo&feature=fvst>

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

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

Peter Seiffert sent along the following web site- www.servodatabase.com/servos/all

Mike Graham has a torque conversion chart-



Servo Torque
Conversion Chart.pdf

Arming Switch Information-

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

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.

Looking to compare servos?-

[Servo Database - RC Servo Specs and Reviews](#)

The link for the AMA DII Calendar is:

<http://www.amadistrictii.org>

The link for the STARS club home page at DII is

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

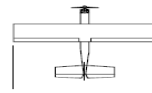
The link for the STARS club web cam is:

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



STARS Field Satellite photo

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



1. General:

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

2. Transmitters:

- A. Frequency Control: **2.5 GHz technology is prevalent in the hobby. In general, transmitter impound and channel flagging is no longer necessary. Pilots using a non-2.04 GHz transmitter system or FPV video transmitter should make all efforts to determine if others present are also using one and self-manage frequency separation prior to powering up their transmitter. Event Managers and Contest Directors may establish a transmitter impound or channel frequency control policy for their event, if deemed necessary.**
- B. Range Checks: Each pilot will conduct a successful radio equipment ground range check, **including any FPV equipment**, before flying a new or repaired aircraft and prior to each flying session.

3. Engines:

- A. All internal combustion engines run at the field will have a silencer (except for small displacements of .09 cubic inches or less).
- B. When running an engine in the pits, keep neighboring personnel behind the prop arc. **Restrain fuel powered airplanes with stakes, starting stand, or helper prior to starting the engine(s).**
- C. **Electric motors and fuel engines are not to be run in spectator/pavilion areas or anywhere behind pit area fencing or designated test stand/hover areas, unless propellers/blades are removed. Model electronics (receivers, servos, etc.) can be powered up in spectator areas as long as electric motors are disconnected or propeller/blades are removed.**
- D. **Remove or secure all necklaces, straps, loose clothing, hoodie ties, etc. prior to starting a fuel engine powered model. Long hair should be tied back or secured so it cannot get caught in a spinning propeller or rotor.**

4. Flying:

- A. Boundaries: Flying over the pit area or the spectator side of the fence is prohibited, unless beyond the control of the pilot(s).
- B. Taxing: Taxing is prohibited in the pit area!
- C. Flying:
 - (1). Pilots will initiate their first turn after takeoff away from the pit and spectator areas.
 - (2). Engines will not be started before 9 AM Monday through Saturday and 11 AM on Sunday (electrics may start at 10 AM), unless approved by the Event Director.
 - (3). No more than three aircraft will be permitted in the air at one time.
 - (4). All flying will be conducted from the designated flight boxes.

- (5). Hand launching of aircraft is prohibited from the pits.
- (6). Flight operations will cease during electrical storms.

5. Guests:

- A. All guests must have a current membership in a nationally recognized model aircraft association in order to fly.
- B. Guests may fly at the field only with the approval of a member in good standing and only as long as a sponsoring member *remains at the field*. Guests will not fly unattended.
- C. A local guest will be allowed to fly at the field on three (3) separate occasions and then will be asked to join the Club.
- D. An out-of-town guest may make arrangements with the Club to fly at the field while visiting the area. The Club Officers and the Safety Officer will handle each out-of-town visitor on a case-by-case basis.
- E. *All guests are required to extend every courtesy to current members sharing the same flying frequency.* But when there is a conflict over who shall fly, the Club member will have the first option to fly. Both the guest and the members should use common sense while sharing the flight line or using the same radio frequencies.

6. RC Aircraft Utilizing “First Person View” Systems (AMA Document 550):

A. GENERAL:

- (1). FPV flying of radio control model aircraft by AMA members is allowed only for noncommercial purposes as a hobby/recreational and/or competition activity.
- (2). All FPV flights must be conducted in accordance with AMA’s current National Model Aircraft Safety Code and any additional rules specific to the flying site/location.

B. OPERATIONS – REQUIREMENTS - LIMITATIONS:

- (1). AMA FPV novice pilots undergoing training with an experienced AMA FPV pilot should use a buddy-box system if practicing at a low altitude (below 100 feet) or practice at a safer, higher, altitude when no buddy-box system is an option.
- (2). All FPV flights require an AMA FPV pilot to have an AMA FPV spotter next to him/her maintaining VLOS with the FPV aircraft throughout its flight.
- (3). The FPV pilot must brief the FPV spotter on the FPV spotter’s duties, communications and hand-over control procedures before FPV flight.
- (4). The AMA FPV spotter must communicate with the FPV pilot to ensure the FPV aircraft remains within VLOS, warning the FPV pilot of approaching aircraft, and when avoidance techniques are necessary.
- (5). The FPV spotter may at any time during an FPV flight acquire the transmitter from the FPV pilot and assume VLOS control of the aircraft.
- (6). If the FPV pilot experiences a problem due to a loss of video link, orientation, or is unable to safely fly, he/she must abandon FPV mode and fly VLOS or pass the RC transmitter to the FPV spotter to assume VLOS control of the aircraft.
- (7). Before initial FPV flight and after any flight system changes or repairs, FPV model aircraft must be test flown by conventional VLOS to determine that flight systems are working properly.
- (8). FPV model aircraft must use frequencies approved by the FCC for both the RC system and the wireless video system. Pilots must meet applicable FCC licensing requirements if they choose to operate the RC flight control system or the wireless video system on Amateur Band frequencies.

C. RANGE – ALTITUDE – WEIGHT – SPEED:

- (1). One of the requirements in Federal Law (Public Law 112-95 Sec 336 (c) (2) February 14, 2012) for model aircraft to be excluded from FAA regulations is that model aircraft be flown within VLOS of the operator.
- (2). Model aircraft flown using FPV must remain at or below 400 feet AGL when within 3 miles of an airport as specified in the AMA Safety Code.
- (3). Model aircraft flown FPV are limited to a weight (including fuel, batteries, and onboard FPV equipment) of 55 lbs. and a speed of 100 mph.

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.

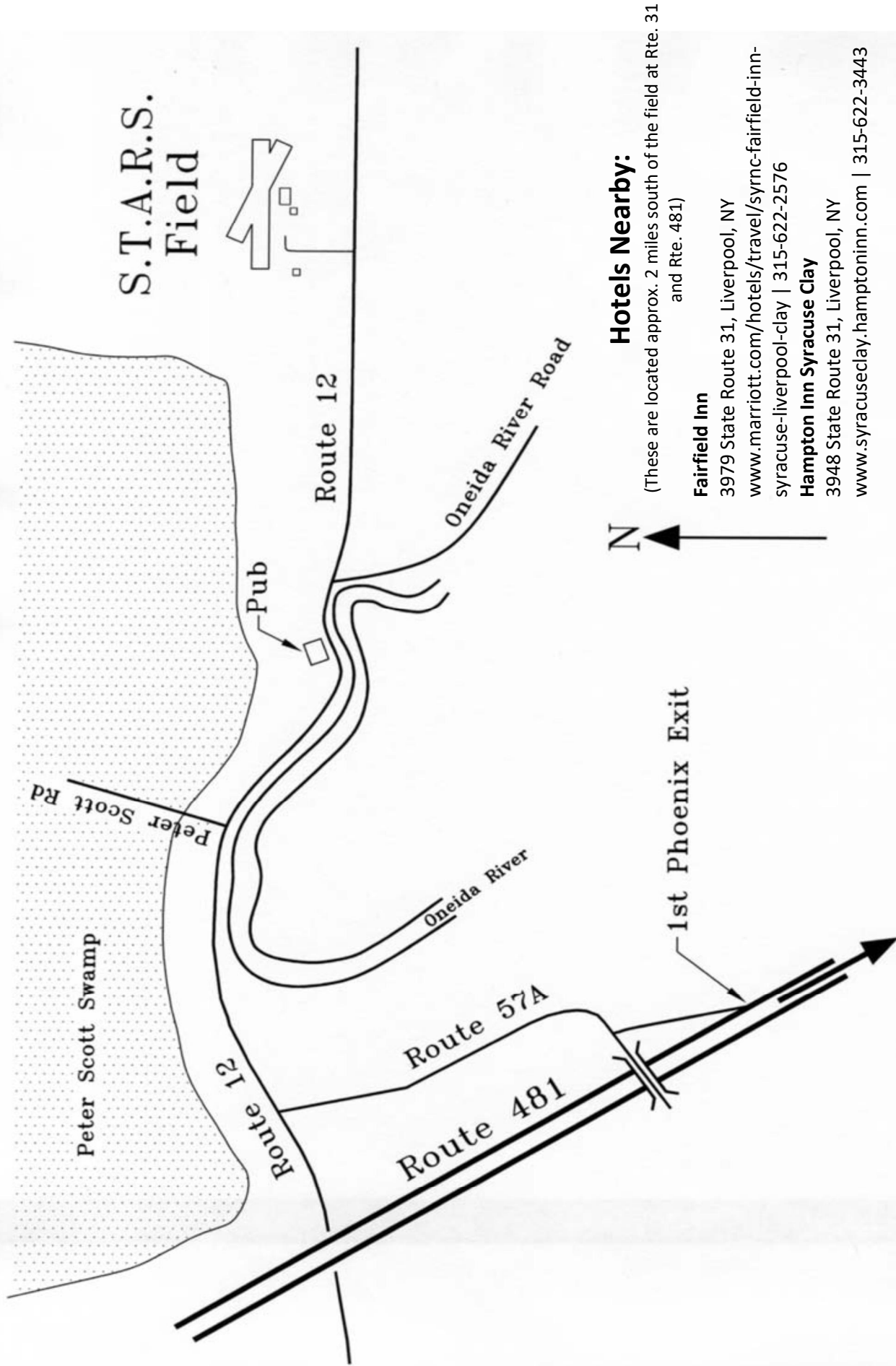
5. Replacement Courtesy:

- 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 of 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



S.T.A.R.S.
Field

Route 12

Oneida River Road

Pub

Oneida River

Route 57A

Route 481



1st Phoenix Exit

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

www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/syrnc-fairfield-inn-syracuse-liverpool-clay | 315-622-2576

Hampton Inn Syracuse Clay

3948 State Route 31, Liverpool, NY

www.syracuseclay.hamptoninn.com | 315-622-3443

To No. Syracuse
and Route 81

N43.23696, W76.24550

starsmap.dwg
rev 12 Feb 03

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



Est. 1965

Syracuse Thunderbirds Aero Radio Society

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



Charter 473

Membership Application Form

Date: _____

Membership: Open (\$160 share+\$60 dues) Extra Family member (\$30.00)
 Associate (\$75.00) Youth (< AMA age 19 - \$0.00)
 Park Pilot - Associate (\$75.00) Park Pilot - Youth (< AMA age 19 - \$0.00)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone (for roster): _____

AMA: _____ DOB: _____

STARS Member(s) Contacted: _____

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

Email Address (for newsletter and notices): _____

Emergency Contact Name: _____ Phone: _____

You must be a current member of the Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) in order to join the STARS. Please show your AMA card to the Officer given this application or include a photocopy of the application for the license.

"I have read and agree to abide by the STARS Field Safety Rules." (on back)

Submit this form to a Club Officer

Rev 16aug17