

Syracuse Thunderbirds Aero Radio Society



Plane Propwash



September 2021

Charter 473

The STARS October meeting will be held Wednesday October 13th, 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 October 2021 meeting will be held on-line via ZOOM, on October 13th, at 7:00. STARS meetings will be held via ZOOM until spring. The Zoom meeting notice will be sent the morning of the meeting.

Wow and Thanks!

The 2021 flying season is winding down, but it has been a very busy month since our September meeting. Our flight school, and other weekly special interest evenings, have wrapped up for the year. We hosted the Ringmaster Fly-a-thon control line event and cooked the rest of our stock of food for all those in attendance. And, of course, due to the hard work of many volunteers, the installation of the new geotextile runway is complete!

Thank you to Bob Rowe, once again, for the donation of the materials for the runway. It was very generous and will be of continuing benefit to the club for years to come.

And thank you to everyone that volunteered to help with the ground preparation and geotextile installation. The crew on Saturday, September 11th made very good time in completing the smoothing effort by early afternoon. This was pretty physical work involving spreading of fill, dragging screed boards loaded up with fill, and raking things out as sections were completed. The next day a smaller contingent gathered to pull stakes, smooth and rake out the edges, and pick up as much fill debris (sticks, dead grass clumps, etc.) as we could from the runway area. The result was pretty amazing. You can read details and see pictures on the project page on our website, at [STARS RUNWAY PROJECT](#).

In the following couple of days, we got some rain and were able to see some low spots. During the week, a small group added additional fill, screeded, and raked the areas to help achieve an even better result.

Then on the next Saturday, September 18, another sizable group of volunteers came together to install the geotextile. Unlike the prior weekend, this work was less physically intense, but it required a sizable group in order to properly handle, stretch, and staple the material down. Once a method was settled upon the crew worked quickly and had it pretty much installed before the lunch break! The next day some inaugural flights took place and since then many members have had the opportunity to use it. As the autumn sun has been allowed to come through, the material has tightened up and most of the wrinkles are now gone. We can expect more tightening to occur through spring next year, due to our relatively late installation and missing our peek sun and heat months.

A question that has kept coming up is how is the runway after it rains. It is doing fine. There are a few spots where water will collect a bit, but it is much better than that region of the field was before the smoothing work and the water spots appear to drain or evaporate off pretty quickly.

And yes, we have had one puncture of the runway resulting from a mishap during a landing. That hole was patched up and appears to be holding so far. The repair process will be a bit of trial and error, and different types of damage may require different kinds of repairs. As we gain knowledge and experience with this, a set of instructions and repair kits will be created for people to use. We'll also have some presentations on repair methods early season.

Continued-

Soon after the installation was complete our camera computer died. Gerry McComber came through with a donated computer on short order and the cameras were back up and running within a few days of their going down. Thank you, Gerry, for the timely donation!

The results of the survey for online meetings vs meetings at Waltø during this Winter were in favor of the online zoom meeting option. So, our October meeting, and all of our Fall/Winter meetings, will be held online via Zoom. The link will be posted on the club website and sent out in email in the days prior to the meetings.

Secretary's Report: Jeff Wolsley

The September STARS meeting was held via Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 7:01 by President Paul Volcko. There were 14 Open members, 5 Associate members, 0 Youth members, and 1 Guests in attendance.

Secretary's Report:

The Secretary's Report was accepted as published in the August Propwash. Motion to accept by Herb Moore and 2nd by Lloyd Darrohn. Carried.

Treasurer's Report: Herb Moore

The school taxes are due. There is some cash going out to pay for runway materials. Motion to accept by Lloyd Darrohn and 2nd by Phil Knapp. Carried.

Correspondence:

Paul reported the National Grid contract for field use will be on the way. It needs to be reviewed by the officers and a legal set of eyes. Some back and forth on the contract is expected before it can be signed.

Committee Reports:

Field Committee: Paul Volcko

Paul thanked the volunteers that have been keeping the field mowed. They have been doing a great job and it is very much appreciated. Special thanks to the core group of volunteers.

Safety Report: Jeff LaPorte

Jeff was not available at meeting time.

Jeff relayed an issue to Paul to report at the meeting- If you are a spotter for a flyer, don't get chatty with them as the banter can be distracting for both parties. This is especially true if you are spotting for someone who you are not familiar with.

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.

Nominations for club officers are due at our October meeting. The candidate slate will be published soon after the October meeting and the election will be held at the November meeting.

Thank you everyone for a great 2021 flying season and for all the work this year on our club improvement projects. If you get the chance, get out to fly and enjoy the facilities while the weather allows.

See you at the field!

Paul Volcko

president@amadistrictiistars.org / 315-708-2009

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.

Phil also reported on the AMA Field Improvement Grant. The grant is available to the STARS for the geotextile runway project. Phil needs some more details on the runway for the application to be completed. The grant can cover up to 25% of the project. Phil will handle the application. The deadline to submit is January 7th.

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

Bob was not available for the meeting.

Fixed wing- Fixed wing concludes tomorrow. There were two graduates for 2021.

Note- Fixed wing does not have to be only for new students. If you are an experienced pilot, but want to undo a bad habit, lean a new maneuver, correct an issue with a new model, or take your skills up a notch, you are welcome at the flight school. Don't be shy, you're among friends. Ask for some instruction. This is more applicable now than ever with the new runway is available. If you keep missing the runway on approach, over shooting or under shooting, this could be your moment to brush up on a few skills. Not only does this benefit you, but could also encourage a new student to remain with the club after receiving their wings, if they see regular pilots asking for help.

Heli flight- Paul V.

Paul said the heli school was kind of a bust for 2021.

Big Bird Giant Scale: Phil Knapp

The attendance has been light but the evenings have been enjoyable.

Control Line: Mike O'Neill

Make didn't have anything to report.

Continued-

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:

Elections:

Elections will be held during the November meeting. The slate of officers must be in by the end of the October meeting. Any OPEN, and only an OPEN, club member is eligible to hold an office. The Safety Officer position can be held by either an OPEN or ASSOCIATE member.

A current officer may, or may not, choose to continue in their position. Officer positions are open to more than one candidate. Nominations are due at the opening of the meeting. The slate of officer candidates will be established by close of the meeting for publication in the Propwash.

STARS Meetings:

STARS meetings will continue through the 2021-2022 winter months in an on-line format. The meetings will be held via ZOOM. There is no change in the traditional STARS meeting date or time. The ZOOM meetings will be held every 2nd Wednesday of the month until spring. The ZOOM meeting notice and credentials to join the meeting are sent out prior to the meeting time. Meeting access is also on the STARS website.

Tradition holds that no meeting will be held in December. No STARS Christmas Party will be held in 2021. The party was held in years past and served as a replacement for what would have been a STARS December meeting.

After the November meeting, the next regularly scheduled STARS meeting will be January 12th.

Take a moment to thank Walt's Hobby Town for allowing us to hold our winter meetings at their store, for several years. They had to make special arrangements to keep the store open late on Wednesday nights for us. Thank them for their dedication to our hobby and their continuous support to the STARS.

STARS 2022 Dues:

STARS 2022 dues will need to be mailed to the STARS Treasurer. Collection will begin during the fall of 2021. Dues will be due by the 2022 January meeting. After the January meeting, a \$10.00 late fee will be imposed. An additional \$10.00 late fee will accrue for each month late thereafter. The end of the month for late fee accrual is the date of the monthly meeting.

Mail your dues to:

Herb Moore
645 Gilbert Mills Road
Fulton, NY. 13069

STARS Airshow:

The STARS 2021 Airshow went on without a hitch. The weather cooperated. Great flying, great food, everyone had a good time. The Airshow was profitable for the club.

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-

Go here to see the progress-

[STARS Runway Progress Log](#)

The overall response to do the site work before Labor Day. After Labor Day was more favorable.

Dirt delivery on 09/10. Expecting about 17 people on Saturday. FPV racing for 09/11 is cancelled. All dependent on the weather.

Expecting textile install on the 18th and 19th. Phil Morgan providing the staple installer tools.

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 August 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 STARS 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

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. **CANCELLED!**

Neat Fair- Sept. 16-19

MVF Imac Sept. 17-19

MVF Fall Jet Hangout Sept. 24-26

Sky Rovers Swap Meet and Auction Oct. 23rd

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

STARS Flight Schools-

Fixed wing flight school closed September 9th. There were two graduating students in the 2021 class. Congratulations!

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

Unfortunately, it's too late to join a flight school for 2021. Flight school will be back starting April 2022.

Big Bird- The formal big bird night has concluded for 2021. It will return in 2022.

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





October 23, 2021

Sky Rovers

Swap Meet and Auction

Please Read

Please bring a face covering when you attend the auction. As of right now, there is no requirement for face covering, but if the rules change, we WILL BE OBLIGATED TO ENFORCE THE RULE.

**Phelps Community Center
8 Banta Street
Phelps, NY 14532**

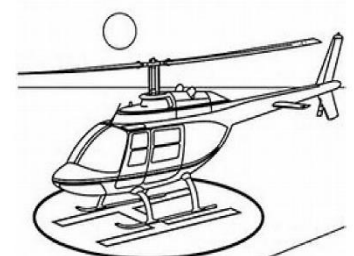
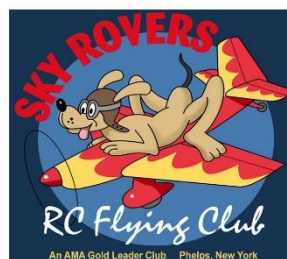
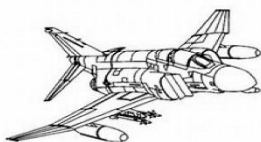
Admission is \$5. Ladies and kids 12 and under get in FREE!

Doors open at 9 AM and the auction starts at 11:30 AM. There are no commissions or by back fees. Tables on a first come basis.

An excellent refreshment concession located on site.

There will be raffles and 50/50 drawings throughout the day.

Visit Us – www.skyrovers.org



Pictures from The Field *Thanks to Mike Graham for the pictures from 09/08 Heli Flight School Night.*
It was an awesome evening with an awesome sky!!



Bob Simms was there to join us!!



Phil Morgan brought his newly fabricated staple insertion tools:



They will be used to insert the thousands of staples to hold down the Geotextile fabric on the new runway.

Here is Jeffrey reading his repaired aircraft with Bob landing on the 'dead' prep area:



Phil and Toby made it to the field, too!!





The parking lot was filling with trailers!!



Gary Brown's biplane in the setting sun:



From Thursday 09/09

Here are a few pictures of the runway prep work and survey markings taken before flight school started:







Neil Ringler came for another evening of training with his nitro powered *Kadet*:



No more Flight School evenings for this 32nd year!!

Flying 09/19 *Pictures and comments courtesy of Mike Graham*
The weather was perfect for flying Sunday afternoon and evening!!

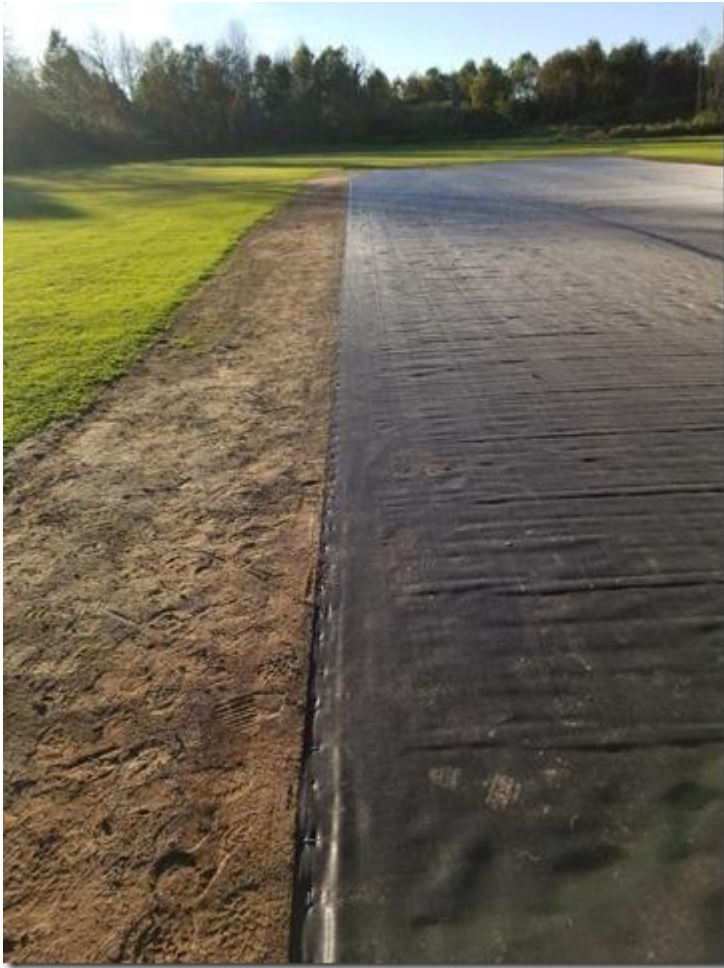


Mike O'Neill arrived and flew his control-line aircraft. Check out the landing sequence that I caught with my cell phone camera:





I took this shot on the southern edge of the Geotextile fabric the guys laid down Saturday as I waited for my batteries to go the storage voltage:



Look how straight the edge!!

Awesome, eh??

This evening is much better than the one this time last year. Here is the weather history at the field:

TEMPERATURE HISTORY		9/19
	High	Low
Forecast	73°	49°
Average	68°	49°
Last Year	58°	36°

Wednesday 09/29

So, again I walked the field - and found that the Geotextile fabric was even tighter than two days ago:



There were three Mike's at the field: Mike Mueller, Mike Amie and myself.

Here is Mike Mueller prepping his big P-51:





Mike Amie was his pilot for two successful flights:



The sun came out and the wind went down for both of Mike's P-51 flights. Then it darkened up again and the wind returned.

How about that??

Saturday 10/02

The sky was clouding up but the wind was dying at 3:30 PM:



Jeffrey La Porte was leaving but he reported that Mike Mueller had punched the first hole in the Geotextile fabric with a hard landing with his big P-51!!



Full run up tests (120,000 rpm) were conducted on the fabric:



The fabric was warm but there was no immediate effect:



So, Tom used the new runway:





And he practiced shooting the slot with lights energized:



Bob Simms had his A-10:



And he made use of the new runway the other way:



Friday 10/08

The corn was still changing color:



The sky was great, as seen above.

The grass was saturated with water even though the drainage ditches were down and it hadn't rained for days..

The Geotextile fabric was even tighter than the previous time I had been at the field:





Bob Simms was using the fabric runway for his *A10* and his *Avanti* EDF:





Here's Gary with a close flyby:



Sunday 10/10

Paul was out at the field to supervise the loading of the big roller onto a big tilt bed trailer:



It will delivered back to the Camillus Airport this week....

Here is the south edge of the fabric runway:



Grass is growing in the previous 3-foot width strip adjacent to the fabric!!

Did someone plant grass there??

Only the Shadow knows, eh??



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

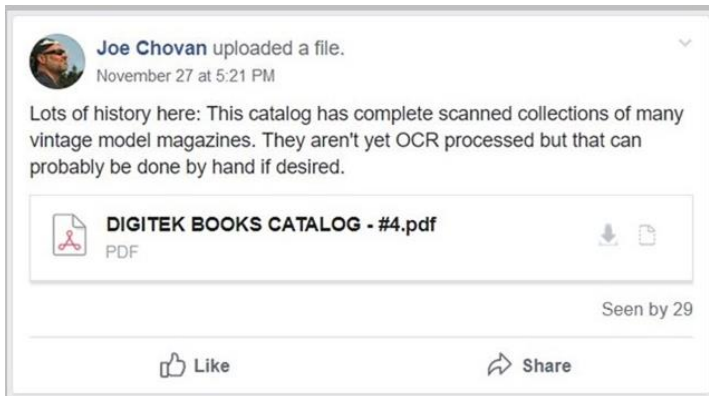
**Winner of AMA 2015 Hobby Shop Award
for signing up new AMA members.**

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.

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:

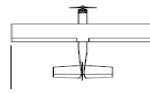
<http://www.amadistrictiistars.org/cameras.php>



STARS Field Satellite photo

Can't wait for the latest sat photo with the new runway!

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.

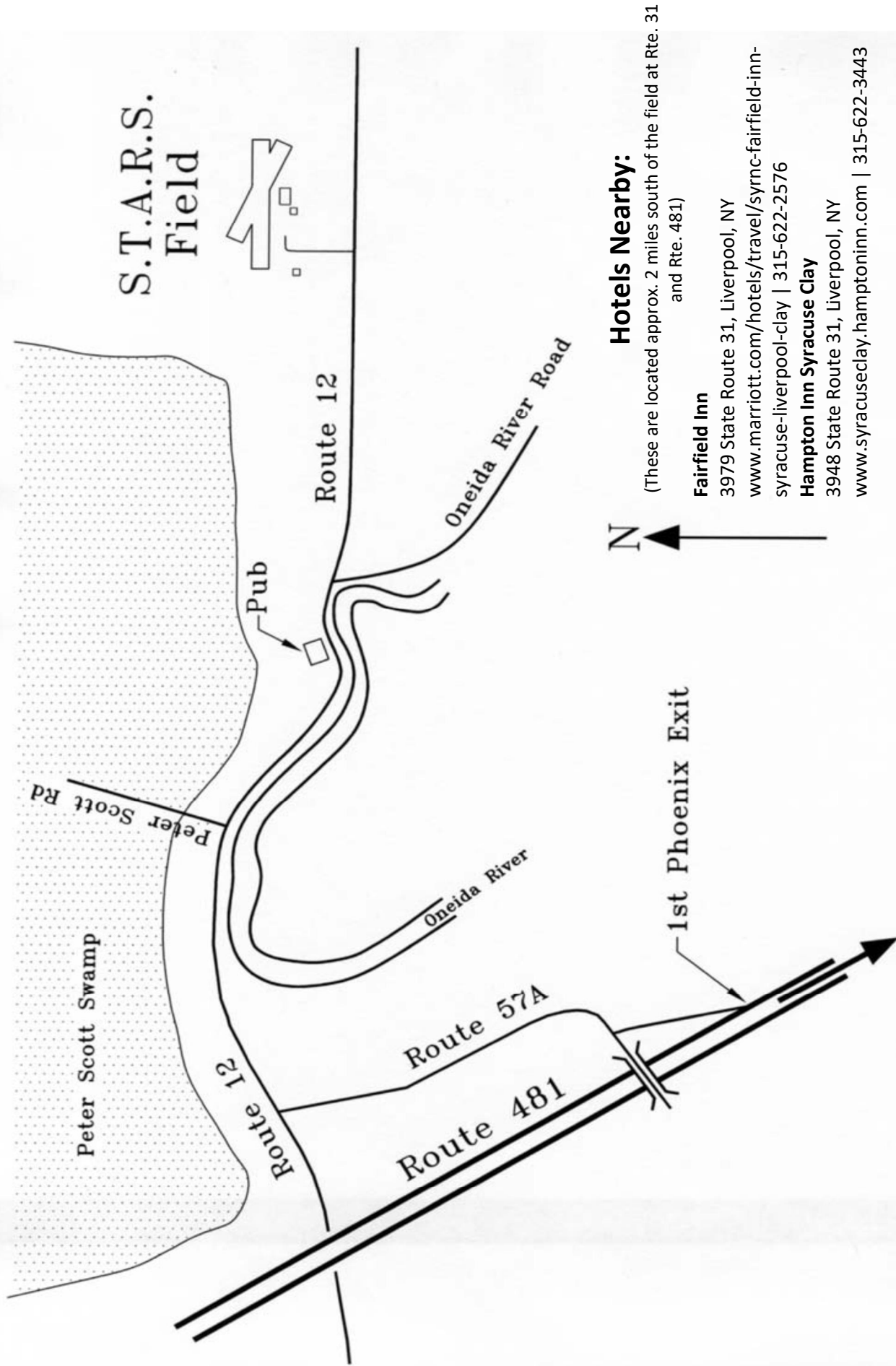
5. Replacement Courtesy:

- 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

N

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