

## Syracuse Thunderbirds Aero Radio Society



# Plane Propwash



October 2021

Charter 473

**The STARS October meeting will be held Wednesday November 10<sup>th</sup>, 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 November 2021 meeting will be held on-line via ZOOM, on November 10<sup>th</sup>, 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 Many Thanks, Again!

Thank you to all who helped at and participated in our four events this year: our season opener Members BBQ event, the HeliJam, our Model Airshow, and capping off with the Ringmaster Fly-a-thon. We ended up canceling our FPV racing event, but be looking for that to return in 2022!

Thank you to the field crew and all those who helped maintain the grounds throughout the year. From plowing in the winter, to raking up stones and branches in the spring, to building replacement model benches, to keeping the creek and culverts flowing, to performing maintenance on the equipment, to mowing and weed trimming through the spring, summer, and fall.

Thank you to everyone who volunteered for the sizable crews that came out to help on our two big projects of the year: installing the fence line outlets and installing the geotextile runway. We needed a lot of help to do the runway installation, in particular, and a couple dozen members (and even a couple non-members!) came through to make it happen!

Thank you for being responsible and courteous to your fellow club members as we navigated another year of COVID-19.

Thank you to everyone who attended and participated in meetings, reached out with feedback, and contributed ideas on things to do to improve the club and how to go about making those ideas happen. And thank you to our officers and directors who worked another year to keep the club straight with AMA, kept the club's finances in order, kept the membership informed, safe, and engaged, and set the course for

the direction of things throughout this very successful year.

Thank you, everyone, for another great season of flying at STARS!

And while I am handing out thank you's, I need to extend a specific one to Warren Wager. As was disclosed at the October meeting, Warren has made another sizable donation to the club as his way of paying it forward. This is after his first donation to the club, covering the cost of the new shed in 2018. Warren, for myself and on behalf of the club: Thank you. Your camaraderie at and membership in the club, and your generosity in donating to the club, have been greatly appreciated!

Our next meeting will be November 10th at 7PM online via ZOOM (link will be sent out in the days prior to the meeting and will be available on the club website). At that meeting we'll hold our officer elections, discuss any end-of-season issues, and start discussing what we'll be looking to do next year. If you have ideas, bring them up!

Membership renewals are coming due in January. The renewal form will be sent out in an email to the current membership. Early renewal is encouraged. Open member renewals must be turned in before the end of January 2022. Associates can renew at any time during the coming year, however the earlier the better.

Paul Volcko  
[president@amadistrictiistars.org](mailto:president@amadistrictiistars.org) / 315-708-2009

## **Secretary's Report: Jeff Wolsley**

The October STARS meeting was held via Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 by President Paul Volcko. There were 12 Open members, 5 Associate members, 0 Youth members, and 1 Guests in attendance.

### **Secretary's Report:**

The Secretary's Report in the September Propwash was corrected for the following issues: There are 214 Facebook members now. New members were not updated. Failed to update the meeting month at the end of the Secretary's minutes. Motion to accept by Mike Graham and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Herb Moore. Carried.

### **Treasurer's Report: Herb Moore**

A large cash donation was made to the STARS by Warren Wagner. The membership in attendance thanked Warren and Rose for their tremendous generosity. Herb reported the general treasury is in good shape. All the Airshow money is in now. The final accounting shows the Airshow turned a pretty good profit for the STARS. Many members have started send in their dues. The port-a-pottie will be picked up at the end of October. The runway project has concluded and came in under budget. Motion to accept by Mike Graham and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Warren Wagner. Carried.

### **Correspondence:**

Paul reported the National Grid contract for field use has not arrived yet for review.

### **Committee Reports:**

#### **Field Committee: Paul Volcko**

The well pump will be pulled the first week of November. There will be approximately two more mowings and the season will conclude for 2021.

The new runway apron will be allowed to settle over the winter. Any settling and seeding needs will be addressed in the spring.

An insulated box with a heat source will be installed in the club house to house the AED. This will allow the device to stay at the field year-round and protect it from cold weather.

#### **Safety Report: Jeff LaPorte**

Jeff said that he is not currently aware of any issues.

Please continue to use the flight stations even with the new runway installed. Installation of the runway has not changed any rules at the field.

Winter is coming so stay warm when flying. Dress appropriately for the weather and protect your hands. Remember to shut off the heater and the coffee maker in the clubhouse before leaving.

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

#### **AMA Report: Phil Morgan**

Phil reported on the AMA Field Improvement Grant. Eric Williams said the previous grant for the AED does not impact the field grant that Phil is currently applying for. The grant will be expanded to cover the fence line electrification project. The AMA made a rule change that allows clubs to apply yearly for grants. This includes looking forward or back one year.

The grant is available to the STARS for the geotextile runway project. The AMA will grant 25% of the project up to a maximum of \$3,000. Phil has the runway and fence project details to complete the application. Phil will handle the application. The deadline to submit is January 7<sup>th</sup>.

#### **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.

Flight schools have concluded for 2021. See you in the spring of 2022..

#### **Big Bird Giant Scale: Phil Knapp**

Big bird has concluded for 2021.

#### **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>

#### **Facebook:**

STARS have a Facebook page. There are 214 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:**

The slate of officer candidates is set. Elections will be held during the November meeting.

Paul Volcko- President

Jeff Wolsley- Secretary

Phil Knapp- Vice President

Jeff LaPorte- Safety Officer

Herb Moore- Treasure

#### **Model Aircraft Forum:**

Paul has spoken to Herb Ziegler. The MAF committee is forming and a meeting will be held shortly.

### **STARS Meetings:**

STARS meetings will continue through the 2021-2022 winter months in an on-line format. The final survey tally was 18 to 10 in favor of online ZOOM meetings. There is no change in the traditional STARS meeting date or time. The ZOOM meetings will be held every 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 12<sup>th</sup>.

Take a moment to thank Walt's Hobby Town for allowing us to hold our winter meetings at their store, for several years.

**Continued-**

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

### 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 runway project has concluded. The level of preparation and execution was done with great precision. 1<sup>st</sup>- A large thank you to Bob Rowe for his donation to inspire the runway project. 2<sup>nd</sup>- Paul and all the volunteers deserve a big thanks for their effort. This was truly a professional operation from start to finish.

INTERNET ACCESS-

The internet is at the field.

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

From the September meeting:

Stephen Dupra- Associate  
Josh Dupra- Youth  
Allen Merrill- Family  
Karl Price- Associate  
Kevin Lim- Associate

From the October meeting:

Colby Kennedy- Associate

All new members were voted on and carried unanimously by the membership in attendance for the September and October ZOOM meetings.

### 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 Papaø 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 October 2021 regular monthly meeting of the STARS was adjourned at 7:42.

***Secretary, Jeff Wolsley***



Picture courtesy oof Shutterstock.com

## **STARS Board of Directors Meeting**

A STARS Board of Directors meeting was held October 20<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00, on ZOOM.

Members in attendance-

Paul Volcko	Jeff Wolsley
Mike Graham	Jeff LaPorte
Phil Morgan	Phil Knapp
Herb Moore	

Meeting was called to order at 7:12.

The first topic of discussion was to possibly create a new membership level. The BOD discussed the possibility of creating a lifetime membership level and the criteria needed to meet that status.

Some of the criteria discussed were selling a lifetime membership level. Special achievement, or credit earned.

Ultimately the idea was dropped.

The second topic was the possibility of volunteer credit towards membership. This could be a way to incentivize volunteers at the club. Credits earned could be traded for a discounted membership renewal. The club has struggled the last couple of years getting enough volunteers to tackle projects that were identified in the long-range improvement discussions and proposals. The problem seems to have gone away recently. Should the issue arise again, the BOD will look at this topic again.

The third topic of discussion was the clubhouse roof. A leak near the fan was discussed and the overall condition of the roof. The roof is decidedly in need of replacement. Lloyd Darrohn has made a temporary repair to get through the winter. This will be one of the field improvement projects to get priority in 2022. In addition, the roof top platform and ladder will be removed. More discussion on this topic will be held in general meetings.

The last topic of discussion was the replacement of the Simplicity tractor. The frequency of repairs has been steadily increasing in frequency and complexity. It does not need to be replaced now, but sometime in the next couple of years it will need to be replaced. Start thinking about it now.

The BOD meeting was adjourned at 7:55.

## Calendar of Events

**NOTICE: EVENT DATES MAY CHANGE OR CANCELLED OUTRIGHT.**

### **Calendar of Events for October 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.*

**STARS Auction-** Jan 21 at Walt's Hobby Town.

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

### **STARS Flight Schools-**

**Fixed wing** has concluded for 2021. We look forward to the new students in 2022!

**Heli-Night** has concluded for 2021. We look forward to new students in 2022!

**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**







# S.T.A.R.S.

## Auction 2022



### When?

**Friday, 21 January 2022**

**5 PM to 9 PM**

**Bidding starts at 6:00 PM**

### Where?

**Walt's HobbyTown**

### No Admission Fee!!

**Only Modeling Aircraft and Related Items will be Auctioned**

**10 % Commission will be charged on all Sales**

**Sellers will not be permitted to bid on their own Equipment**

***A Minimum acceptable bid will be required on each item up for Bid***

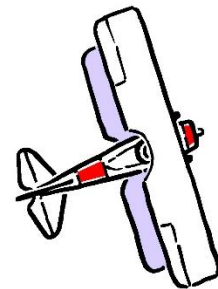
**5:00 PM to 6:00 PM — Setup and Preview**



**Auctioneer: Phil Morgan**

***For more information, contact:***

**Phil Morgan: 315/457-3674**





Est. 1965

# Syracuse Thunderbirds Aero Radio Society

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



Charter 473

## Membership Renewal 2022

Return renewals to our Treasurer, Herb Moore, via mail to: 645 Gilbert Mills Road, Fulton, NY, 13069. Please fill in your name, mark your membership type, and include your payment made out to: S.T.A.R.S.

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

	Type	Description	Cost
<input type="checkbox"/>	Youth	Full use of club facilities, age 19 or under, 20 <sup>th</sup> birthday on or after July 1, 2021. No voting rights.	\$0
<input type="checkbox"/>	Park Pilot	Operates under the model restrictions of a Park Pilot AMA membership (electrics, <2lbs, <60mph), no voting rights.	\$75
<input type="checkbox"/>	Associate	Full use of club facilities, no voting rights.	\$75
<input type="checkbox"/>	Open	Full use of club facilities, holds ownership share with voting rights, late renewal penalties of \$10 per month after January.	\$60
<input type="checkbox"/>	Extra Family	Full use of club facilities, someone in household has an open membership already, no voting rights.	\$30

All memberships require that you maintain an active AMA membership. STARS membership card will be withheld until your AMA membership is current. All members are encouraged to renew their memberships at the beginning of the year, but only Open memberships have a late renewal penalty. Open member late renewal penalties can be waived at Treasurer's discretion, please contact Herb in January if you need an extension. If you wish to change your membership type, such as upgrading from Associate to Open, please contact Herb or another club officer.

Please provide your updated contact information below.

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_



**Pictures from The Field** Thanks to Mike Graham for the pictures from 10/14



Karl Price with his *Breitling MXS*.



Tom and his #1313 P-130 on a test bed again.





Tom with Herb's Aero-Scout.



Here's Phil and Robert showing what they had out that evening!!





One of our newest members, Karl Price, brought an older aircraft with a SuperTigre 2000 nitro engine to run and checkout:



Karl also took time to read the transmitter manual!!



And Gary Brown showed up with his biplanes:



Cool shot with what looks like engine exhaust, eh??



Wednesday 10/20: Whoa, the evening went downhill from the time I arrived Wednesday until we all went home in the rain. What started out as a nice sunny late afternoon turned wickedly overcast and spitting rain



Karl Price showed up with his new *Ultra Stick* Plug 'n Play machine – his first new all electric bird. We took a few pictures before he flew it for the first time:







**After checking out throws, directions and conducting a range check, Karl got it airborne as the winds were increasing.**

**After trimming, he practiced approaches and landed after 5 minutes in the air. He had 84% capacity after landing. He said he would need to fly it harder!!**

**Bob Simms got a flight in with his EDF before it started to rain.**

**Then Karl tried to squeeze in a flight between rain squalls but decided to land when our glasses were water covered and the winds were really gusting....**

**Karl also realized why I have bigger wheels and don't use the wheel pants!! His *US PNP* would barely taxi in the thick wet grass...**

**Evidently, we were in the area that was to receive 7% chance of rain...**



# 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](http://waltshobby.com)



**Open 10-7 Tuesday thru Sunday.**

**315-532-6826**

[www.mexairrc.com](http://www.mexairrc.com)

[www.facebook.com/mexairrc](https://www.facebook.com/mexairrc)

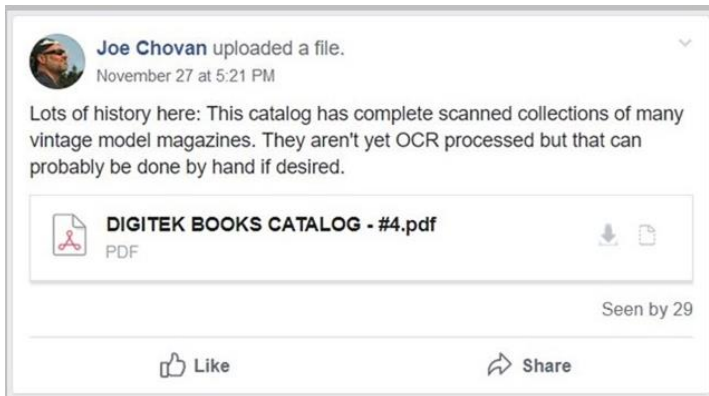
**Winner of AMA 2015 Hobby Shop Award  
for signing up new AMA members.**

## 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](mailto: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.

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/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- 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.

### **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:**

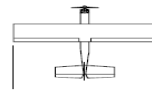
<http://www.amadistrictiistars.org/cameras.php>





STARS Field Satellite photo

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



## 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:

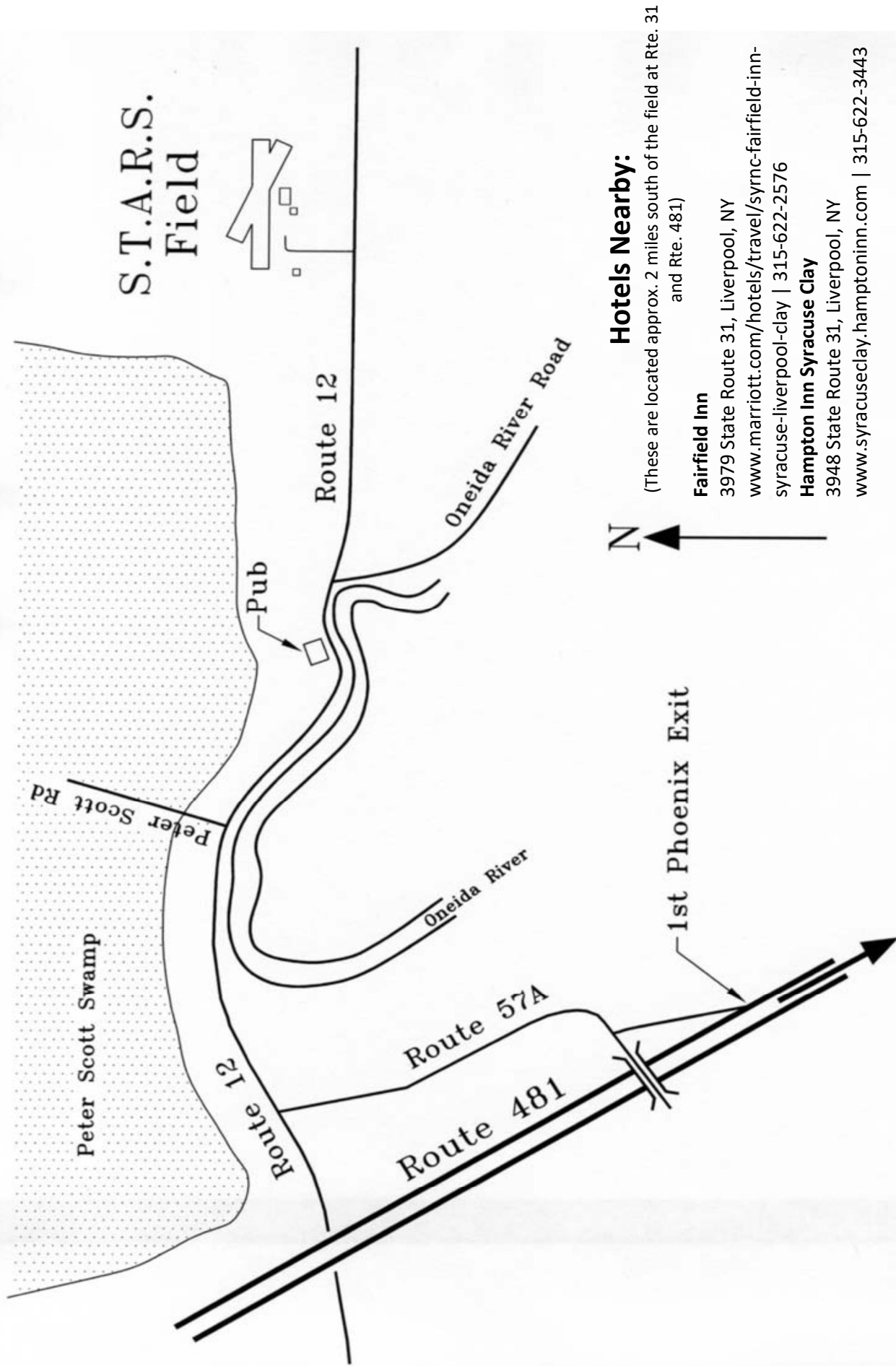
- A. Where an individual's plane or property is damaged by the actions of another individual, it will be the responsibility of the two parties to resolve the situation in an appropriate manner.



## **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



## 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](http://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](http://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*

