

Syracuse Thunderbirds Aero Radio Society



Plane Propwash



February 2022

Charter 473

The STARS March meeting will be held Wednesday March 9th, at 7:00- See below

2022 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](#)
[Jim Johnson, Field Committee](#)
[Mike O'Neill, Facebook Admin](#)

The STARS March 2022 meeting will be held on-line via ZOOM, on March 9th, at 7:00.

STARS meetings will be held via ZOOM until spring. The Zoom meeting notice will be sent the morning of the meeting.

Recruiting New Members

Spring is on the way, and with it is coming the start to our event calendar. After discussion at the last two meetings, we have our event calendar set for the year. You can see what's coming on our website, as well as on our Facebook page and discussion group. Phil Morgan and I have applied for and received sanctions for the Airshow and Heli Jam events, respectively.

Things are starting off the first weekend of March with our annual Snow Fly event. Then two weekends later the Model Aircraft Forum, which we help put on with other area clubs, is back after a two-year COVID hiatus. Many area clubs are firing up their event season soon too, many starting with swap shops and auctions in the next two months. We'll be holding our rescheduled auction on April 30.

Besides getting out to enjoy the club's facilities and flying our models, the overarching goal for this year is to find effective ways to boost interest in the hobby, get more newcomers and long-break returnees involved and flying at our club, and ultimately increase our membership.

The question was asked at the February meeting, "Why do we need new members?" I believe there are three good reasons. First, the best way to stave off the need for a dues increase is to increase the membership. Every 5 more adult (paid) members means \$375 more dues dollars coming into the club, the rough equivalent of a dues increase of \$5/yr.

Second, the more members we have the larger the pool of talent and resources we have to tap for

projects, events, maintaining the field and equipment, and to possibly serve as club officers. The third item is particularly important, as we need to keep new blood cycling into the leadership of the club to keep it vibrant and addressing not only the needs of established members but the needs of an evolving hobby and culture.

It has been said before, our membership skews heavily toward the (past) retired demographic. While having a robust veteran RC modeling contingent is vital to helping newcomers learn the hobby and to providing stability and leadership to the club, if we do not keep recruiting newer, younger members we will face a crisis as our older members no longer want to or can be the resources they have been in the past. And as our club and many others around the country have learned, it is increasingly difficult to recruit those new, younger members into the hobby and clubs. Some clubs have been quite successful in their recruitment efforts recently, such as the other STARS club down in Cuba, NY. We have to keep working at it so our club doesn't face any number of problems down the road.

The next meeting is March 9th at 7PM via Zoom. The link will be sent in email and is always available on our website (both the home page and the cameras page, up at the top). The link does not change between meetings, so feel free to bookmark it or keep the link around for reuse each month we have a Zoom meeting.

Continued-

2022 STARS dues are due. After the January meeting, there is a \$10.00 per month late fee. Dues can be sent to the Treasurer at any time. (Herb Moore 645 Gilbert Mills Road Fulton, NY. 13069)

Items on the agenda for the March meeting include: continued discussion of the natural gas pipeline project and renting some of our land for staging and storage of their equipment while the project is going on; discussing new information on the pavilion roof replacement project and refreshing the rock on our driveway and parking lot; plans for finishing up seeding and leveling work off the ends of the runway;

establishing a recruitment and outreach committee; and any other topics members wish to bring up.

I hope to see you at one of our upcoming events and at the meeting!

Paul
president@cnystars.com / 315-708-2009

Secretary's Report: Jeff Wolsley

The February STARS meeting was held via Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 7:04 by President Paul Volcko. There were 14 Open members, 6 Associate members, 0 Youth members, and 0 Guests in attendance.

Secretary's Report:

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

Treasurer's Report: Herb Moore

The insurance has been updated. There is one Open member that has not renewed yet.

Remember there is a \$10 dollar per month late fee after the January meeting to Open members for unpaid dues.

Motion to accept by Lloyd Darrohn and 2nd by Mike Graham. Carried.

Correspondence:

The contact from National Grid has been received. A title search is being conducted for any right of way or easements on the property. The project scale has been cut back. They have invited Paul and any other STARS members to meet at the field to discuss the project. Paul will coordinate a meeting.

The club charter has been submitted..

Committee Reports:

Field Committee: Jim Johnson

Jim Johnson has agreed to honcho the field committee. Thanks, Jim.

One of the first items to be addressed as soon as the snow is gone is to push down the staples at each end of the geotextile runway fabric.

Safety Report: Jeff LaPorte

Nothing new to report at this time.

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

AMA Report: Phil Morgan

The grant proposal has been submitted. The Airshow sanction has been submitted and approved. The HeliJam sanction has been filled out.

For Canadians that wish to fly here, it costs \$36.00 for AMA and both the TRUST and FAA tests must be completed to fly here. Conversely, it is \$40.00 for 3 months or 90.00 per year, to join the Canadian equivalent of the AMA (MAC) to fly there.

This is a list of club members that are certified Contest Directors- Paul Volcko
Phil Morgan

Mike Gosson

One more CD is needed. It requires an AMA test and \$ 25.00. You get a discount on your annual AMA renewal if you CD an event each year.

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 will resume in spring 2022.

Pre-School workshop will be held on April 21st at the STARS field. Typically this starts at 5:00 but be early if you can.

Fixed Wing Flight School will start 5th thru Sept. 15.

Heli-Night will start May 10th through Oct. 4.

Big Bird Giant Scale: Phil Knapp

Big bird night is back for 2022. It starts May 18th thru Sept. 7.

Control Line: Mike O'Neill

Mike 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 222 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:

Membership Renewal

STARS 2022 dues will need to be mailed to the STARS Treasurer. Collection will begin during the fall of 2021. Dues were due by the 2022 January meeting.

The membership renewal form will be sent out again. The form is also included in the Propwash. Please use this when renewing your membership. Include it with your dues when sending them in to Herb Moore.

Continued-

There is a \$10.00 per month late fee imposed on Open members for dues sent after the January meeting date. If you are having an issue, please let Herb know so that the late fee can be avoided.

Mail your dues to: Herb Moore
645 Gilbert Mills Road
Fulton, NY. 13069

Membership Recruitment

Paul started out with some membership statistics- STARS have approximately doubled membership in the last couple of years. He is investigating partnering with some of the schools and other venues that could possibly attract new members. Everyone needs to look out for opportunities to promote the hobby and STARS membership.

Mike Gosson noted the program he is involved with is having trouble attracting students. The student program is sponsored by the AMA/EAA. They have been building a Kadet. It has nearly gotten to the ready to covering stage.

Things to look at, Syracuse University, Rocket Challenge, Civil Air Patrol, etc.

Model Aircraft Forum:

The MAF will be held March 19th, 9:00 to 3:00 at the Syracuse Academy of Science. Setup will be 03/18 starting at 6pm.

Presentations will be Tyler Dobbs via Zoom meeting. The discussion will be aircraft ID information. Here will also be discussion on the PAC (Political Action Committee) relationship to the AMA.

STARS Auction:

The STARS auction has been rescheduled to April 30th. It will take place at the STARS field. May 1st is the rain date.

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 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.

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 runway construction-

[STARS Runway Progress Log](#)

Continue grading around the runway. Fill low spots created by the spring thaw. Patch the grass and re-seed as necessary.

Now that the runway has been completed, some of the flyers are experimenting with the flight line position. This has some of the flyers a little riled up. Please work together on a compromise until this gets worked out. If someone has a problem with the positions then please be respectful and back up to the official pilot pads.

INTERNET ACCESS-

First year is 878.88/mo. 2nd year is 104.99/month (1259.88/yr.).

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-

Lloyd Darrohn is getting an estimate for a steel roof to replace the clubhouse roof. It was decided at the August 2021 meeting the roof needs to be replaced.

STONE THE DRIVEWAY AND PARKING AREA-

Re-stone the driveway and parking area.

CONTINUE FIELD SMOOTHING-

Continue to improve the field. Fill the low spots and grade off areas that attract standing water.

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:

No new members at the January meeting. Bill Chapman has upgraded his membership status to Open. Congratulations Bill.

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 February 2022 regular monthly meeting of the STARS was adjourned at 7:54.

Secretary, Jeff Wolsley

STARS Board of Directors Meeting

02/17/2022

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

The STARS BOD meeting was called to order at 7:02 by President Paul Volcko. The main topic of discussion was in regard to the National Grid contract.

The BOD was given a copy of the contract for review prior to the meeting. Ken Kadish also reviewed the contract to provide his legal insight. Ken's observations were valid. They will help to protect the STARS position in this.

The project is slated to last from June through October 2022. There were several areas of the contract that were discussed such as interruption to access of the field, correcting any settling to the field later on, exclusion of the 2nd culvert that provides access to the adjacent field, etc. There was mention of access to power but NatGrid must remain separate from STARS power. The notes regarding cleanup must include any fuel leaks that may occur. STARS will make it clear in the contract that there is no lighting or security, direct or indirect, that will be provided by us.

The restricted area established by NatGrid for storage/staging during the length of the project must be accessible by the STARS should an aircraft need to be retrieved. The name and contact information shall be provided to gain access.

Crops America must be notified that there is going to be a restriction that will run the length of County Rt.12. This will impact their contract. They will be notified shortly. NatGrid needs to stake off the area so that Crops can see what the restricted area is.

NatGrid offered access to the natural gas that will be flowing in front of our property. However, it has been determined the monthly cost of the natural gas service is not worth it over what we currently spend on propane for the field.

The required changes and clarifications to the contract will be sent to NatGrid for contract revision. The revised contract will be returned to Paul and will be sent to the STARS BOD for further review.

The STARS BOD meeting was adjourned at 7:57.

Calendar of Events

NOTICE: EVENT DATES MAY CHANGE OR CANCELLED OUTRIGHT.

Calendar of Events for February 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.

March 5- **RESCHEDULED STARS SnoFly**

March 19- **Model Aircraft Forum**

April 2- **STARS Makers Event SRC arena
@ OCC**

April 16- **STARS Spring Cleaning**
Rain date April 23

April 21- **STARS Pre-Flight School**
workshop

April 30- **STARS Auction-** at STARS Field.
May 1 rain date

May 5- **Fixed Wing School** starts

May 10- **Heli Night** starts

May 18- **Big Bird Night** starts

June 18- **STARS Family Bar-B-Q**

July 9- **Heli-Jam**

July 30- **Arcs Pattern Contest**

Aug. 13- **STARS Airshow**

Sept. 10- **STARS FPV racing**

Sept. 15-18- **Neat Fair**

Oct. 1- **Ringmaster Fly-a-thon**

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

STARS Flight Schools-

Fixed wing Pre-School April 21

School starts May 5th.- Sept. 15.

Heli-Night Starts May 10.

Big Bird- May 18. -Sept. 7

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.

Manlius Pebble Hill has indoor flying Sundays 2-4. This was announced in the February meeting.

[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.

<http://www.cnystars.com>

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/amastars>

Annual 2022 Snow Fly



When?

Rescheduled- Saturday March 5th

11 AM to 4 PM

Where?

S.T.A.R.S. Field in Phoenix, NY

(See map on back)

❄ **Admission: *NONE*** ❄

Open Flying - fly when you are **warm enough!**

Heated, enclosed pavilion.

Power available for charging batteries.

Lunch will be served.

Come and fly all day! ❄

For more information, contact:

Paul Volcko, President: 315/708-2009





Aero Radio Club of Syracuse
Syracuse Thunderbirds Aero Radio Society
Central New York Indoor Flying Society
Camillus Indoor Aviators
Voltaires of Central New York



Jointly Present the 24th Annual

MODEL AIRCRAFT FORUM

and Electric Fly-In

[Swap Shop, too!]

Saturday, March 19, 2022

9 AM to 3 PM

at

Syracuse Academy of Science Charter School

1001 Park Avenue, Syracuse, New York, 4 blocks from Hiawatha Exit off 690 East

AMA Sanctioned! AMA membership required to fly!

ELECTRIC and RUBBER FLYING HELD in 80' x 80' x 24' INDOOR GYM

AIRCRAFT STATIC DISPLAY - *FPV Flying in Gym*

Swap Shop (no commission)

STARS/ARCS FLIGHT SCHOOLS signups - RC FLIGHT SIMULATORS

Informational Sessions conducted through out day

Face masks are optional.



Refreshments available

**Admission - \$5.00
Children 12 and under - free**

For more information, contact:

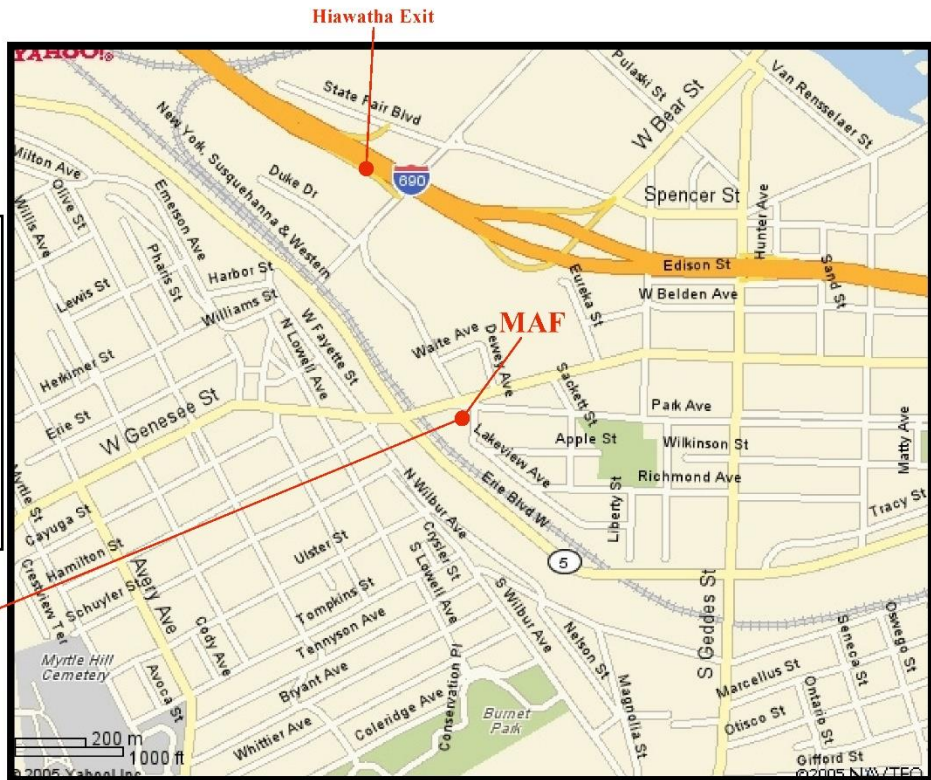
**Phil Artese at 315/382-5841 or Herb Ziegler at 315/857-6266
nyflyer56@aol.com and herbz1957@yahoo.com**



The location of the Syracuse Academy of Science is just off West Genesee Street. It's diagonally across from the Harrison Bakery.

Parking is off street and immediately outside the gymnasium on the school grounds.

76° 10' 51"W , 43° 03' 12"N



Plenty of room for flying your indoor models here!! Tables will be setup on the stage for working on models and charging them.

If you have models to display or a booth to set up, the room below the flying area can accommodate all your needs.
Concession stand will be open during the day for hot sandwiches and cold drinks.





S.T.A.R.S.

<http://www.cnvstars.com>

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/amastars>

Auction 2022



When?

April 30th

Rain date May 1st

Times to be announced

Where?

STARS Field

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



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.

Dave Seiffert Collection-

From STARS President Paul Volcko

Hello STARS,

Peter Seiffert's brother, David, is going to donate his RC modeling collection to the benefit of the club. He lives up NW of Watertown so it's a bit of a drive. He's sent along information on what he has, including a number of pictures of models. I've attached this in a .zip file to this email.

If you are interested in anything please get in touch with me so I can collect a list of what should be transported in the first round. Email is preferred for this so it's easier to keep track of what people are interested in.

Whatever remains we will be picking up and holding onto until the auction in January.

Thanks,

Paul / president@amadistrictiistars.org / 315-708-2009

Electric Cub-



Goldberg 4-60



Lazy Bee



RCM Trainer



Spook-E



SR X250



There is also an extensive assortment of building materials, tools, engines, and electric gear including motors, speed controls, and chargers.

The entire list and additional pictures are included as an attachment with the newsletter email.

This is a new and extensive collect that has become available:

From Paul Volcko-

I am the President of the Ithaca Radio Control Society. One of our former members, Elson Shields, has decided to retire from the hobby. In addition, he used RC planes in his agricultural research for Cornell University. The result being a very large collection of large planes, many 1/3 scale with some ARFs and related supplies to include electronics, props, building supplies and over 100 standard and 1/4 scale servos and calls it an amazing amount of crap. He has decided to make the entire collection available to the RC community free of costs. Our club could never absorb the collection so I am inviting nearby clubs to join in the redistribution of this vast collection.

He describes the collection as a RC Store for large planes. The collection is in a Cornell warehouse and has not been sorted through. He wants those interested to bring shopping bags and fill up. I would suggest wearing old clothes and expect to do an American Pickers style of rummaging.

Attached is a picture of the Planes available. We are talking mostly big 1/3 scale planes with some smaller ones included. Elson's private collection is also included. There are some exotic gas motors that are not included in the free stuff but are available on a make offer basis, which I am sure can be obtained at a great price. Everything else is FREE.

Also attached is a map showing where the collection is stored on the Cornell Campus. Doors will open Sat Mar 12 @ 10am. Sorry for the short notice but I also got short notice.

Please pass this message to your club members.

Ron Harris
Pres. IRCS

I've attached the files from this email.

As you'll see these are large models (1/4 and 1/3 scale), assorted motors and servos for that scale plane, etc. This is a great opportunity to pick up some ready to fly, giant scale models for the cost of gas to get there and back.

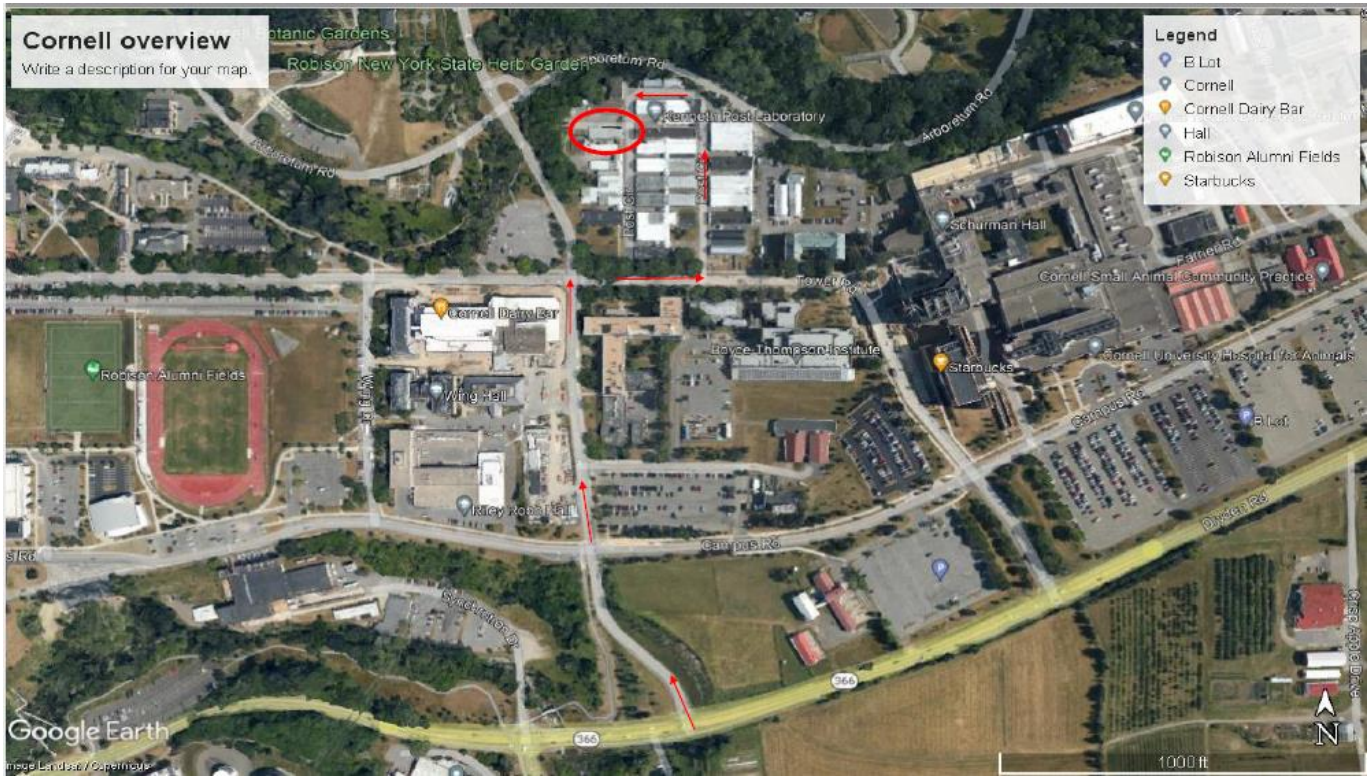
-Paul

Continued next pages:

Cornell Aerobiology



Others talk the talk, we fly the flock





This looks like it's a first come, first serve event!

*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.

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/tjinguotech/charging-how-tos/balance-connectors>

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

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 gidwell from 4-24-2011 0601am. That's the exact article that I have from RunRyder.

Note- Many of the newer ESCs 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 STARS club home page is

<https://www.cnystars.com>

The link for the STARS club web cam is:

<https://www.cnystars.com/cameras.php>



STARS Field Satellite photo

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

IMAA Big Bird Safety Checklist

Balance

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

Is the model balanced laterally (side to side)?

Alignment

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

Are there any twists in the wing?

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

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

Control Surfaces

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

Are the control horns secured to the model?

Control Linkages

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

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

Engine / Motor Mount Security and Operation

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

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

Does the throttle work without binding?

Does the throttle trim tab shut down the engine?

Has the propeller been balanced and checked for damage?

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

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

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

Radio Equipment

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

Are all the electrical connectors secure?

Is the receiver antenna fully extended and in good condition?

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

Are all servos securely fastened to the rails or trays?

Are servo arms firmly attached with screw in place?

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Does aircraft taxi in a straight line?

General

Is the covering tight with no visible signs of damage?

Are the retaining bolts in place and secure?

Are any hatches, cowls, and canopies secure?

Are all components structurally sound?

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

Range Checking the radio

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

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

Important: make sure the transmitter aerial is down fully.

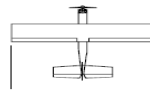
Ask someone to help and walk away from the model until signs of loss of control is apparent. If electric powered ensure that the range is not worse with the motor running.

Before EVERY flight:

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

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

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



1. General:

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

2. Transmitters:

- A. Frequency Control: **2.5 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:

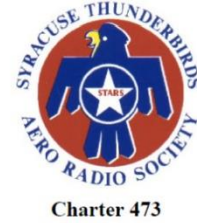
- A. Where an individual's plane or property is damaged by the actions of another individual, it will be the responsibility of the two parties to resolve the situation in an appropriate manner.

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.



Syracuse Thunderbirds Aero Radio Society



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

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 th 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.

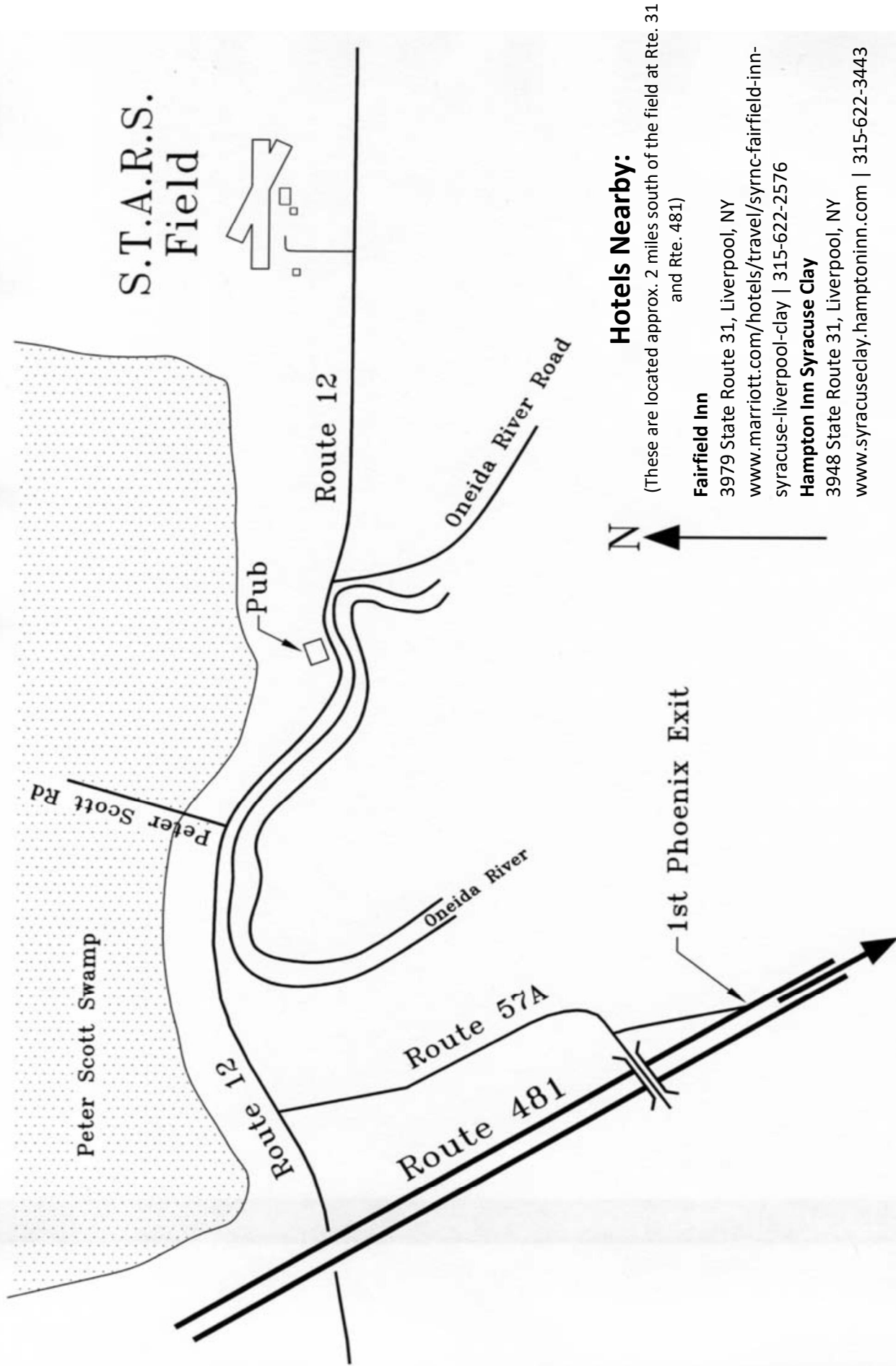
Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Emergency Contact Name: _____ Phone: _____

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