

Syracuse Thunderbirds Aero Radio Society



Plane Propwash



November 2024

Charter 473

The next STARS meeting is Wednesday January 8th, 7:00 on ZOOM.

2024 Officers

[Mike Mueller, President](#)

[Tom Polovick, Vice President](#)

[Paul Volcko, Treasurer](#)

[Jeff Wolsley, Secretary](#)

[Phil Lamkay, Safety Officer](#)

Directors:

Michael Graham

Paul Volcko 2019-2023

Dan Williams

Volunteer Staff:

[Jeff Wolsley, Propwash Editor](#)

[Michael Graham, Club Historian](#)

[Paul Volcko, Webmaster](#)

[Ted Anderson, Field Committee](#)

[Mike O'Neill, Facebook Admin](#)

The STARS January 2025 meeting will be on ZOOM, on January 8th, at 7:00. The monthly meetings will be held via ZOOM October through April. The STARS regular monthly meetings are at the STARS field May through September 2024.

Some Reflection... and 2025 Starts

Happy New Year from S.T.A.R.S.

What a year we had in 2024. We all worked and played together with the unifying idea of how to make the opportunity of flying better for all involved. I believe we were very successful this past year.....some bumps and bruises along the way, but the end result is continued growth of our club, both in membership and friendship.

Last year I assumed the president's position after Chuck LeVine resigned due to ill health. My tenure as president started in February, with many issues that we had to deal with from March till the end of the year. We were concerned with finances, and so we tasked our treasurer, Paul Volcko, to look to get a handle on revenue and expenses, especially with food, which we believe had opportunities for better management. We ended up the year so strong, we decided we didn't need to increase dues or food prices for 2025. We had some personnel issues that we had to manage, and towards the end of the year, one of our members brought to the membership a proposal to formalize voting procedures for commercial and non-commercial partnerships. The proposal was defeated, and so we will be guided by the current constitution and by-laws.

We also hosted the Liverpool High School drone class, which was another huge success. We had vendors from across the Syracuse area, and the students got to fly their drones, follow r/c planes, run through some competitive stations, and see some larger drones from the Onondaga County Sheriff's Office. We also had NuAir with their drones, and Doug Hill from the Maker Institute at

LeMoyne College. Our HeliJam, two control line events, and our annual Airshow gave our members and the community numerous opportunities to visit our club.

We had more than 16 new members last year. We lost some members to illness, and moved away, but at the end of the year, we had 43 associated members, 3 family, 1 life member, 40 open members and 12 youth members. That gives us 99 members in the club right now. We will continue this year to look for ways to attract new members, and to grow our visibility in the community. We are not sure how Micron might affect us, but we will keep our eyes and ears open for anything that might affect our club.

The field seemed like it was extraordinarily wet last year, but the field crew did an outstanding job of mowing and keeping our field in great shape. We finally got permission to cut down trees on the west side of the field and had a couple of days of tree cutting which is a great start. We will need more time this year to finish the job. We are also looking at taking down the trees north of the field, but that is secondary to where we are now.

We have some projects we want to attempt this year which includes continuing the tree cutting, and improving our field as needed. We will need to add some very important people to our maintenance crew, needing someone to replace Ted Anderson as maintenance chief, and find someone to manage the mowing schedule and crew. Those will both begin in earnest this month

All in all, with a bit of luck, and great leadership from our 2025 team, we anticipate an excellent year of flying in 2025. I am proud of the team we had in 2024, and with

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2025 STARS dues are due. There is a \$10.00 late fee after the January meeting. Dues must be sent to the Treasurer.
(Paul Volcko, 5237 Kasson, Syracuse, NY. 13215)

some resignations, and “retirements”, that meant we needed to add some “fresh blood” to our leadership ranks, and I believe we accomplished that very successfully. Dan Williams has agreed to join the Board of Directors, Tom Polovick will be serving as Vice President, and Phil Lamkay has accepted the role of Safety Officer. We look forward to all they will bring to the club in their leadership roles. There will be many opportunities for folks to help out in 2025, whether it be in leadership roles, or helping with projects at the field. Hopefully we will have many hands to help when needed.

I want to again thank everyone for all they did for the club in 2024. There were many who served throughout the

Secretary’s Report: Jeff Wolsley

Note the section in the Propwash labeled Important Links for STARS Members. This section contains links that every STARS member should be aware of including the ZOOM meeting instructions and the link to the most recent Propwash and past issues of the club newsletter.

The November STARS meeting was held online via ZOOM. The meeting was called to order at 7:01 by President Mike Mueller. There were 18 Open members, 2 Associate member, 0 Family members, 0 Youth members, and 0 Guests in attendance.

Secretary’s Report:

The Secretary’s report from the October Propwash was corrected. Ted Anderson is the Field Committee Lead, not Herb Moore as reported. Apologies to Ted and Herb respectively.

The membership in attendance was polled regarding releasing the Propwash on the STARS website instead of in the club mailer format as has been customary for a while now. The membership liked the new release on the website better. Going forward please find the latest Propwash on the STARS club website here- <https://www.cnystars.com/cameras.php> page down to find the newsletter in the right hand column.

The motion to accept the Secretary’s Report was made by Mike Graham, 2nd by Herb Moore. Carried.

Treasurer’s Report: Paul Volcko

Year-end expenditures are coming in- Taxes are due in January. 2025 dues are coming in. The 2025 membership cards are going out. Over all, 2024 has been a good year to the STARS. Maybe dome year end improvement spending to reduce some of the tax liability? TBD.

The port-a potty is going this week so there will be some savings there.

Motion to accept by Bob Rowe and 2nd by Skip Davis. Carried.

Correspondence:

A Thank You! Was sent to Gary Natali thanking his son for the soda donations from Pepsi.

Committee Reports:

Safety Report: Phil Lamkay

Phil reported the AMA can help reimburse the STARS for the AED at the field. He is also looking into Red Cross CPR training.

year, and as we continue to improve our field, we can say we have the finest field, crew, and members in Central New York. Congratulations to all our members who contributed. We all look forward to what is in store for us for 2025.

Safe flying.

Mike Mueller, president
president@cnystars.com, (804) 873-8928
mmuellerva@yahoo.com

AMA Report: Phil Morgan

You can take a virtual tour of the AMA museum by downloading the link from the AMA website.

<https://amamuseumtour.modelaircraft.org/>

Remote ID is still a requirement for those not flying is a designated FRIA.

Phil purchased the Ruko R111 FAA compliant remote ID module. [This is available from several sites including Amazon. Amazon has it for 34.99.] It says it has a 5hr battery life. A 600-meter (~ 6.5 football fields) range. It takes 40min. to charge on a type C USB cable. Will also help locate your aircraft if the signal is lost.

Note the Ruku transmitter and others that are similar to this are stand alone units. They do not require a separate receiver channel to work like the Spectrum remote ID transmitter. Phil noted the Ruku unit is 3x’s less than the Spectrum unit.

Remote ID transmitters are available for around \$80.00 with less expensive ones becoming available all the time now.

Phil previously suggested using the app AirHub® Portal from Airspace Link Inc. It’s available for download on your cell phone. The app site says it’s FAA approved.

See the AMA safety handbook here- [100.pdf \(modelaircraft.org\)](#)

Field Committee: Mike Mueller

The Field Committee is looking for volunteer leaders that can manage the maintenance of the equipment and lead the group to maintain the field. If you have any desire to lead the Field Committee in either of these areas, please let Mike know.

There is a lot of work to be done to remove the trees at the west end of the field. Looking for many volunteers to help with that work. Looking to put a group together for this Saturday. Work starts at 10:00 am. The club will purchase a length of rope to pull out the logs.

Old Business:

STARS Website:

The STARS website has been updated and is running. cnystars.com

STARS Facebook: Mike O’Neill

Nothing to report.

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Real Estate Committee:

No report given.

Flight schools:

Flight schools have wrapped for 2024 along with the special interest nights.

Mike made sure to thank the leaders and participants of each of the Flight Schools and the Special Interest nights.

Field Improvements- Long Term Planning:

Public Relations- The intent is to increase membership and increase revenue through increased awareness. Different venues- Zoey Advertising, John Murphy, the estate planning guy, gets about a 15-minute radio spot that can advertise our events. TV- WSYR Your Stories segment, On your side, Bridge Street- community interest segments on the afternoon news. Part of the Gold Leader club is to engage in public outreach.

Future Funding- Look at ways of creating revenue streams to help fund the club. Grow our existing revenue generators. As reported in the Treasures report, volunteers for the Finance Committee so far are Mike Mueller, Karl Price, and Mike O'Neill. The committee is currently brainstorming and planning on another meeting.

In a previous meeting, Mike O'Neill mentioned the new Micron Plant starting up in Clay. There will be a flood of tech people and population growth in our area. We should be thinking of ways to promote our club.

CONTINUE FIELD SMOOTHING-

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

AED MACHINE UPGRADE/STORAGE-

For now, the AED is in Phil's car. He is making a heated box for it so it can last over the winter.

Repair clubhouse siding- There are several areas near the ground that need attention.

Flight line table replacement- There are four new tables ready to go in the red shed.

Internet Access- The hot-spot has been in successful service at the field for a few months now. Paul will keep an eye on this. Spectrum service has been discontinued. Paul will donate the service up to 2025. The cost of the hot spot is approximately 10.00/ month which is a significant savings over Spectrum.

Tree Removal- There is strong desire to do something about the tree growth at the west end of the field. The club has met with Al Townsend. Al has given his blessing to allow us to trim the trees. Set a date in November to start trimming.

Food Pricing- The new food pricing is in effect.

Porta-potty- Keeping current vendor. The unit is at the field for another month or so.

New Business:

Officer Elections for 2025:

With no opposition to the slate put forward from the membership, the slate was closed and the Secretary certified the officers by casting one vote to certify.

The STARS Officers for 2025 are:

Mike Mueller- President Tom Polovick- Vice President
Paul Volcko- Treasurer Jeff Wolsley- Secretary
Phil Lamkay- Safety

STARS Board of Directors:

A motion was made to accept Dan Williams to the Board of Directors by Bob Roe and 2nd by Mike Graham. Carried.

STARS Christmas Party:

Phil Morgan and Phil Knapp. Stars will hold the 2024 Christmas Party at RFH's Hide-A-Way. Phil Knapp will get the venue. Please see the attached flyer in the Propwash. The completed flyer form must be returned with payment to Phil Knapp by November 25th. Phil M. needs the head count in time to buy the lady's corsages for the party.

STARS 2025 Events:

The events for 2025 will be scheduled soon. The sanctioned events need to be submitted to the AMA soon.

New Members:

No new members at this meeting.

Club Hat Order:

There are just ten (10) Club hats left. They are 20.00 each. Put your money in the soda bank in the fridge before you take a hat. The white hats are already gone. See Paul V. about custom embroidery on the hat. The embroidery starts at \$8.00.

Adjournment:

The November 2024 regular monthly meeting of the STARS was adjourned at 7:43.

Secretary, Jeff Wolsley

Calendar of Events



NOTICE: EVENT DATES MAY CHANGE OR CANCELLED OUTRIGHT.

Calendar of Events for January and beyond:

Editor's Note- Check with the event sponsor for actual date and time. These dates are accurate at the time the Propwash was published. New events are added all the time.

January 24- STARS Auction at Walt's HobbyTown

March 2- STARS Snow Fly STARS Field

May 17- STARS Control Line Fun Fly STARS Field

July 19- 16th Annual Heli Jam STARS Field

August 30- STARS 46th Annual Model Airshow STARS Field

October 4- Ringmaster Fly-a-Thon STARS Field

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

STARS Flight Schools- Flight schools will be back for the 2025 season. Check here for the start dates.

Fixed wing- Fixed Wing Flight School will be back in 2025. Chief Flight Instructor Gary Natali.

Heli/Multi Rotor- See you in 2025.

Indoor Flying –

The Indoor flying schedule will be starting soon.

Indoor flying at Sacred Heart Church Cicero was forwarded to me by Tim Smarzo of the Voltaires. Mondays 1:30 to 4:00 and Thursdays 12:30 to 3:30 (Need confirmation for 2024-25 season).

The church has become more security conscience. All doors are locked except the main door. The gym lighting switch has changed. The new key is in the same place as always, the cabinet in the kitchen, attached to a piece of aluminum bar. Unlock (If locked) pull up the plate, and flip the switch. All doors have alarms except the Gym door. This means that once a member comes in the front door we can use the gym door to haul gear in and out. We need, as always, to make sure the lights are off and doors are closed all the way before the last person leaves.

The following needs confirmation for the 2024-25 indoor season-

Underground R/C Destiny USA. Tuesday evenings/nights 315-715-4508

Manlius Pebble Hill- So far is listed as no flying this winter (as of 11/29/23).

Camillus Indoor Aviators (CIA) Indoor flying at First Baptist Church located at 1960 State Route 5 in Elbridge 11/18 thru ?, on Friday evenings. If enough interest is generated, flying possibly permitted on Saturdays as well.

CNY Indoor Flying Society No group contact available.

Walt's Hobbytown- NO INDOOR FLYING THIS SEASON

MexAir R/C NO INDOOR FLYING THIS SEASON



Advertisements:

Classified Ads-

FOR SALE: Clear out that hanger now- The STARS auction is coming January 24th. If it doesn't sell there, sell it here!



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.



(585) 872-4990 -- 15 W Main St. Webster, NY. 14580 -- Performance-hobbies.com

HOURS

MONDAY..... 11 - 6 pm
TUESDAY..... 11 - 7 pm
WEDNESDAY..... 11 - 6 pm
THURSDAY..... 11 - 7 pm
FRIDAY..... 11 - 6 pm
SATURDAY..... 11 - 6 pm
SUNDAY..... 11 - 4 pm

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.

WANTED:

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.

Important Links For STARS Members-

STARS Website:

The STARS website- cnystars.com

STARS Webcam:

The STARS webcam- <https://www.cnystars.com/cameras.php>

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STARS Propwash Newsletter:

The STARS Propwash- <https://www.cnystars.com/newsletter-archive.php>

STARS ZOOM Meetings:

STARS meetings will be held on-line via ZOOM, from October to April, or in case of bad weather. Watch for notification prior to the meeting start time.

The link for the ZOOM meeting is located at the top of the cameras page on the STARS web site.

The ZOOM meeting credentials are on the STARS web page, and are sent out with the fall/winter/spring Propwash email.

ZOOM Meeting link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88488515371?pwd=c2ZiRWhkMklrbGZ5WENDaE12S1B5Zz09>

To join from the STARS web page, go to cnystars.com. Then click on the club events tab. On the club events page, in the lower right under Club Meetings, click the red text that says **online via ZOOM**. This will take you to the ZOOM meeting. Click on the Launch Meeting button. You will enter into the meeting, or you may see a dialog box that says, "Please wait for the host to start the meeting".

If you don't already have ZOOM installed on your computer for the first time, below the Launch Meeting button, it says- "Don't have Zoom client installed? Download Now". Click on the "Download Now" text and follow the prompts to set up ZOOM on your computer.

Facebook:

The STARS Facebook page- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/amastars/> There are 324 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.

Attention New Members:

Please take the TRUST test if you haven't already. This is a 100% pass test.

TRUST- The Recreational UAS Safety Test

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.

Start by registering on the site. Your name is required and so is a password. These will be asked for/created before entering the site to take the test.

The test is a pass/pass. It is given in four parts. Each of the four sections begins with a lesson immediately followed by questions. The number of lessons and questions differ in each section. There are a couple of questions that are poorly worded so it's likely to get these wrong. Not to worry though, you get to correct it until you get it right! You will score 100% in each section, guaranteed.

Download and save your certificate. I had to download mine twice before it downloaded. **DO NOT** leave the download webpage until your certificate has been successfully downloaded and saved. You get to do the test again from scratch if you miss this step.

Print out the certificate and keep it in your wallet or your flight box. There's a registration/authentication number on the certificate that you might want to add to your aircraft ID label..

Academy of Model Aeronautics:

[Academy of Model Aeronautics \(modelaircraft.org\)](http://www.modelaircraft.org)

The AMA Government relations blog- [AMA IN ACTION](#)

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

This is a link to some FAQ from the AMA regarding remote ID-[Remote-ID-FAQ-Feb2023.pdf \(modelaircraft.org\)](#)

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Federal Aviation Administration (FAA):

This is to set up or renew your FAA registration. Renewal is every three (3) years. You will or already have received your renewal email. The email is from uas.faadronezone@faa.gov. Entry or renewal is \$5.00.

[FAADroneZone Access - Home](#)

Phone Apps:

[UASidekick – 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.

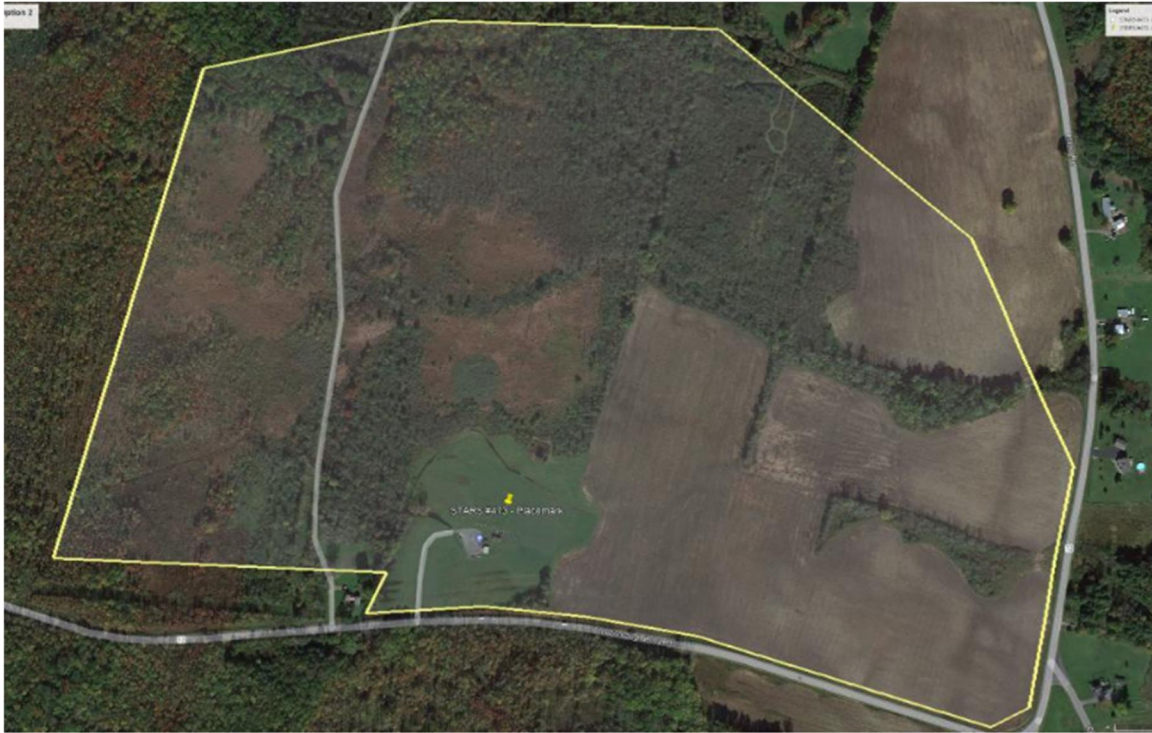
[B4UFLY](#)- Download this app to your cell phone. FAA uses this to alert pilots to possible stoppage in your flying area.

[Air Control](#)- Download this app to your phone. This is to set up your flight if you are flying outside of a FRIA.



The latest satellite photo with the new runway! Just need the control line circle improvements. Thanks Gary Natali

STARS FAA APPROVED FRIA AREA.



ACADEMY OF MODEL AERONAUTICS

FAA-RECOGNIZED IDENTIFICATION AREA

A FRIA IS A DEFINED GEOGRAPHIC AREA WHERE DRONES CAN BE FLOWN WITHOUT REMOTE ID EQUIPMENT.

Remember: A repaired aircraft should be treated just like a new aircraft. It needs a full ground check before flying. Don't forget to inspect the areas that were not repaired. They may have hidden damage. Fly it like it's the first time in the air and will need a full functional check before flying it in front of spectators or in competition.





S.T.A.R.S.

www.cnystars.com

www.facebook.com/cnystars

Auction 2025



When?

Friday, January 24, 2025

5 PM to 9 PM

Bidding starts at 6:00 PM



STARS Calendar



FB Auction event

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

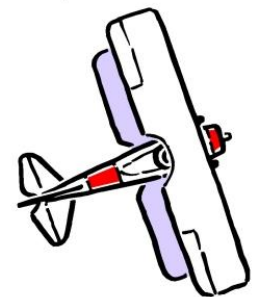
A Minimum acceptable bid will be required on each item up for Bid

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



For more information, contact:

Phil Morgan: 315/457-3674





S.T.A.R.S.

www.cnvstars.com

www.facebook.com/cnvstars

Annual 2025 Snow Fly



When?

Sunday, 02 March 2025

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:

Mike Mueller, President, at 804/873-8928



STARS Calendar



Sponsored by the Syracuse Thunderbirds Aero Radio Society, Inc.

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.

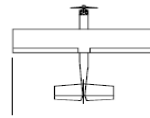
Ask someone to help and walk away from the model until signs of loss of control is apparent. If electric powered ensure that the range is not worse with the motor running.

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: *2.4 GHz technology is prevalent in the hobby. In general, transmitter impound and channel flagging is no longer necessary. Pilots using a non-2.4 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.*

STARS Club Rules- End 06jan21



Photo courtesy Mike Graham archives

The STARS pavilion goes up c.1977. Mike identified the person on the ladder as Lon Sauter. Not sure who the others are.

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.

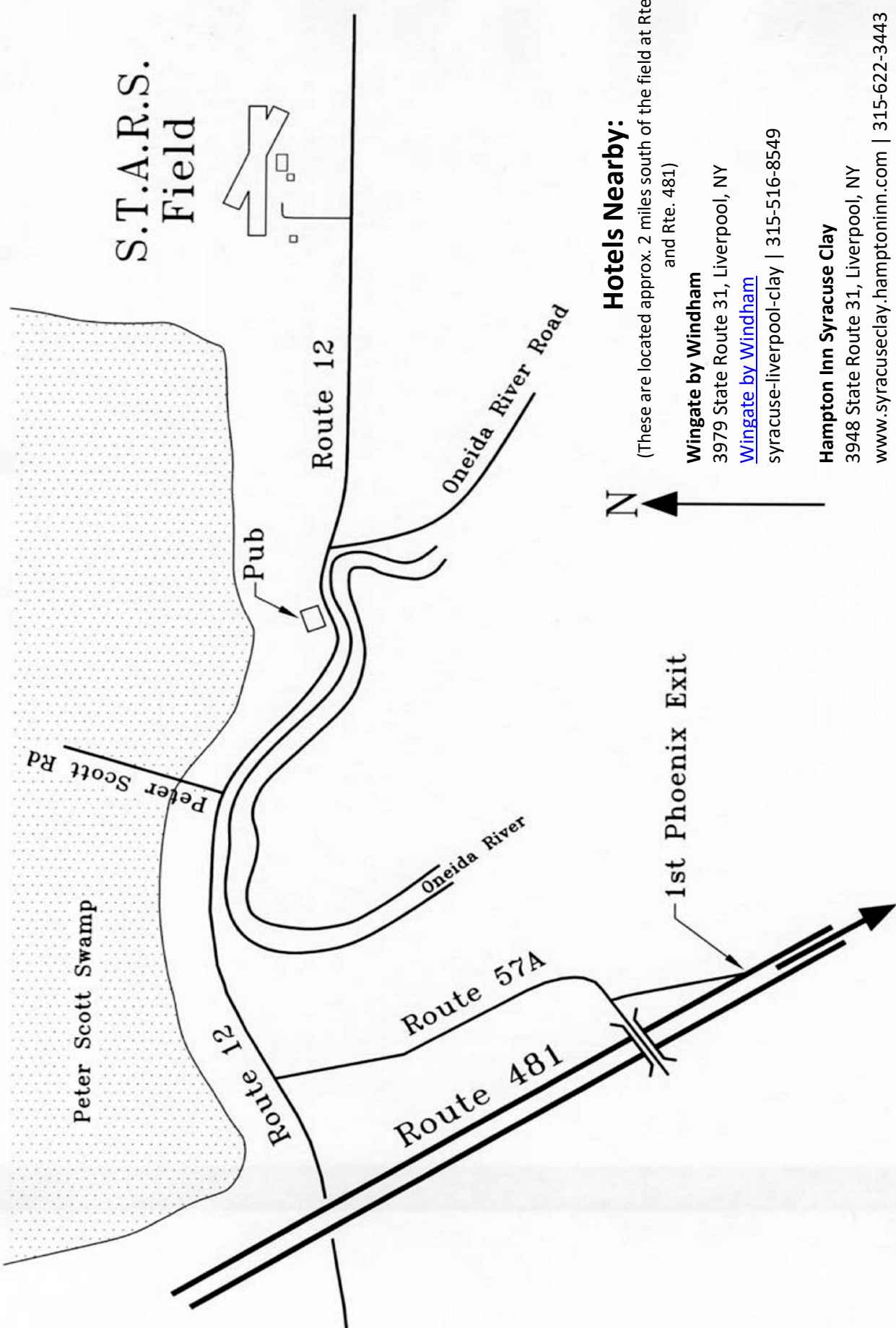
5. Replacement Courtesy:

- 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 on 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

Peter Scott Rd

Peter Scott Swamp

Route 12

Oneida River

Route 57A

Route 481

1st Phoenix Exit

N

Hotels Nearby:

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

Wingate by Windham

3979 State Route 31, Liverpool, NY

[Wingate by Windham](#)

syracuse-liverpool-clay | 315-516-8549

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



Syracuse Thunderbirds Aero Radio Society



<https://www.cnystars.com>

Membership Renewal 2025

Return renewals to our Treasurer, Paul Volcko, via mail to: 5237 Kasson Road, Syracuse, NY, 13215. Please fill in your name, mark your membership type, and include your payment made out to: S.T.A.R.S. Electronic payment options available, contact Paul for information.

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, 2025. Limited voting rights. | \$0 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Park Pilot | Operates under the model restrictions of a Park Pilot AMA membership (electrics, < 2lbs, < 60mph). Limited voting rights. | \$75 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Associate | Full use of club facilities. Limited voting rights. | \$75 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Open | Full use of club facilities. Purchased share certificate with full 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 or Associate membership already. Limited voting rights. | \$30 |

All flying conducted under AMA rules and guidelines. Active AMA membership or allowed exemption required to fly. All members are encouraged to renew their memberships at the beginning of the year, but only Open memberships are required to renew by the end of January. Open member late renewal penalties can be waived at Treasurer's discretion, if you need an extension please contact in January or before. If you wish to change your membership, such as upgrading from Associate to Open, please contact Paul or another club officer.

Please provide your updated contact information below.

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Emergency Contact Name: _____ Phone: _____