Seating at the Archie League Medal of Safety Awards Banquet is first come first serve. Get a fast pass to pick your seats first by giving to NCF! The first 200 attendees to establish a $10 or greater donation per pay period, OR increase existing automatic deduction donation by at least $5 per pay period get the GOLDEN TICKET to enter the banquet first. Visit the NCF booth to give now!

Attention coffee lovers at CFS: Don’t head to Starbucks for your morning fix without first buying your NATCA Charitable special edition coffee mug. Use the mug at Starbucks here at Bally’s in the Grand Bazaar Shops in front of the hotel for 35 percent discount off your entire order.

Don’t forget to stop by the benefits booth in the exhibit hall for details on great benefits available to NATCA members, and for your stamp card to get you one step closer to $50,000 or a new Ford vehicle!

KEYNOTE: ACTING FAA ADMINISTRATOR ELWELL

Dan Elwell, the Acting Administrator of the FAA, opened the second day of CFS 2018. “We fought long and hard to become the world’s gold standard and that’s not something we are going to step back on. With NATCA by our side, I know we will reach new heights with safety and innovation.”

CHALLENGES TO OPERATING THE NAS: IMPLEMENTING EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES

NATCA National Safety Committee Chair Steve Hansen and MITRE Director of Safety and New Entrants Integration Hassan Shahidi led panelists at CFS 2018 in a discussion of challenges to operating the National Airspace System with a focus on implementing emerging technologies. Panelists:

- NATCA Executive Vice President Trish Gilbert
- Boeing Horizon X Business Development Executive Paul McDuffee
- Aerion Chief Technology Officer and Vice President of Engineering Vincent Capezzuto
- FAA Associate Administrator for Commercial Space Transportation Kelvin Coleman
- Commercial Spaceflight Federation President Eric Stallmer
- ALPA General Manager Lori Garver
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INTEGRATING REMOTELY PILOTED AIRCRAFT INTO THE NAS

NATCA National UAS Representatives Steve Weidner and Jeff Richards led panelists in a discussion about Integrating Remotely Piloted Aircraft into the National Airspace System (NAS). Experts on the panel brought a wide breadth of experience to the discussion. Panelists:

- NATCA Syracuse Tower/TRACON member Sandy Gregoire
- Syracuse Air National Guard 108 ATKS Director of Operations Lt. Col. Aaron “Copper” Brown
- Amazon Prime Air Director of Safety & Regulatory Affairs Sean Cassidy
- Acting Director of NASA Aeronautics Research Institute (NARI) Parimal Kopardekar
- FAA ATO UAS Integration Manager Randy Willis
- ASSURE FAA UAS Center of Excellence (COE) Associate Director for Research & Raspet Flight Research Laboratory Director at Mississippi State University Dallas Brooks

COMMERCIAL SPACE

NATCA was pleased to welcome SpaceX FAA Licensing Manager Kevin Hatton to speak to attendees of #NATCACFS2018 on commercial space. This rapidly expanding industry has placed growing pressure on National Airspace System (NAS) regulators to develop the means and methods to ensure equal airspace access to all participants while preserving current achievements in safety and efficiency.
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KEYNOTE: HONORARY NATCA MEMBER GORDON GRAHAM

In April 2018, NATCA delegates at the Philadelphia Convention voted to grant yesterday afternoon’s keynote speaker, the wildly entertaining and insightful Gordon Graham, honorary NATCA membership. Graham received that honorary membership at CFS. Before he spoke to attendees for the fifth straight year, he was also presented with NATCA’s highest award for a person outside of NATCA – the James Oberstar Sentinel of Safety Award. Graham has become a very good friend to NATCA over the past five years, and a tireless advocate for safety for decades.
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Leadership and culture play crucial roles in the identification, procurement and implementation of new technology into a heavily “tooled” airspace. Most airspace has layers upon layers of everything needed to operate. This ensures redundancy and resiliency, mitigates risk, and prioritizes safety. However, keeping this layered approach unoptimized also presents a costly and inefficient use of these “tools.” That’s where leadership comes in. Identify a great opportunity, articulate the value, include the workforce in the solution, manage the change to the organization, and create the policy/plan to implement. With the leadership that NATCA provides and the culture created, all in a difficult political environment, leaders are able to deploy new tools and technology in an efficient, cost-effective, and safe manner. This is where the risk-based decision making comes in, especially the role it plays with AireonSM and space-based ADS-B.

It’s always hard to say “yes” to a new technology, rather than “no.” It’s status quo vs. taking a risk. However, with Aireon and space-based ADS-B, the proven technology of ADS-B is being exploited in a novel way to provide benefits to the world, accelerating safety adoption within countries that might not have implemented a ground system, thereby lowering the risk and leapfrogging safety critical service into their airspace. The innovation lies in the opportunity to take advantage of existing infrastructure owned and maintained by a commercial entity and leveraging the ability to access funds to create a surveillance service accessible to the world.

This represents a true private-public partnership that can only succeed if the end user is brought in early, to define the need and refine the solution. Aireon has taken the necessary steps to work with partners like NAV Canada, EASA, and the FAA to implement best practices for air traffic surveillance and understand the capabilities and standards for operation.

The future of aviation is not about maintenance or “status quo”; it’s about managed risk taking, while still making safety a top priority. The demand for airspace is far outpacing capacity, and NATCA sees that as a vital issue when it comes to policy. They stand by the need for innovation and new technology to support our ever-growing need for an airspace that can accommodate larger aircraft, more aircraft, and more routes. Let’s not forget drones, spaceports for commercial space use, urban air taxis, supersonic jets, artificial intelligence, and the use of upper airspace. The future is not in a few years, the future is now, and the airspace has to be ready to accommodate. Innovation is not going to slow down due to capacity constraints.

Many people call space-based ADS-B ground-breaking, transformative, or disruptive, but it’s really just a 23-year-old technology with defined standards dating back to the end of the 90s, deployed on a low-earth-orbit satellite. Here we are in 2018, months away from going operational with our space-based ADS-B air traffic surveillance service, and we are ready to provide worldwide aircraft surveillance equivalent to en route radar. What’s not to like? Seeing aircraft where none could be seen before, using a tried and true technology. It’s just ADS-B providing real-time position information of every ADS-B equipped aircraft in the world.

With the last of eight launches scheduled for December 2018, Aireon will have a fully operational system in the beginning of 2019. This will allow ANSPs to perform ATS surveillance with our service. This will empower air traffic controllers to ensure a target level of safety that scales with increasing air traffic. Aireon’s space-based ADS-B addresses surveillance gaps and improves surveillance service availability, ensuring predictable service provisions. By making the whole world of ADS-B 1090MHz equipped aircraft visible, regardless of location, air traffic controllers can perform their jobs more effectively. ADS-B equipped aircraft around the world will be seen with an eight second or less update interval. An incredible milestone, but again, using a technology with standards defined back before the turn of the century. This is a legacy technology, but a new medium of providing it. So, I guess yes, we are a “new technology” as I referenced earlier, fine. But the one difference is that our technology will also help additional new technology, potentially being able to track drones, supersonic jets, high altitude balloons, and rockets.

I want to end this piece with an update. We are coming to a close this year but have a positive direction with the ANSP you are all so closely associated with and a leader in the world, the FAA. In September 2018, the FAA made a strategic decision to move forward with the implementation and deployment of space-based ADS-B. The strategic decision includes a phased approach for the implementation of space-based ADS-B initially in Miami Oceanic airspace, where space-based ADS-B will be integrated with ERAM. In parallel, the FAA will focus on building ATOP capabilities for the use of space-based ADS-B. The long-term strategy will be to validate the use of space-based ADS-B as a contingency technology in the National Airspace System (NAS).

This is an extremely positive step, much of which is attributed to the support Aireon has received from NATCA leadership and members. Please feel free to stop by our booth in the exhibition hall to see real-time space-based ADS-B data.
2018 AWARDS LUNCHEON

NATCA’s annual awards luncheon at Communicating For Safety was held on Tuesday, Oct. 23. Several aviation safety professionals from around the National Airspace System (NAS) were honored, including the following:

Recurrent Training Recognition: Elisa Muise
NATCA National Training Rep Tom Adcock recognized Elisa Muise (Boston Center) for her work on web-based Recurrent Training from 2012 through June 2018. She began her work as a Subject Matter Expert (SME) and worked the last three years of the project as the NATCA lead for web-based Recurrent Training.

“Elisa did an amazing job of working as a project SME,” Adcock said. “Once Elisa took over the development effort, she kept web-based Recurrent Training development on target by ensuring that the topics selected were delivered so that they were most relevant to the controller working in the field. She has been an integral part of the team and she will be missed!”

SkyOne Retirement Recognition: Eileen Rivera
NATCA congratulates SkyOne President/CEO Eileen Rivera on her retirement. On Tuesday, NATCA thanked her for many years of work helping NATCA members secure their finances, families, and futures with SkyOne services. Happy retirement, Eileen!

AOPA Air Safety Foundation Awards
The Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) Air Safety Institute has worked closely with NATCA in developing important safety education for thousands of general aviation pilots and controllers through safety videos, online courses, seminars at AOPA events, and more. Ten years ago AOPA created the AOPA Air Safety Institute Flight Assist Commendation Award to recognize controllers for their exceptional service, situational awareness, and teamwork in helping GA pilots in dire circumstances land safely. At CFS on Tuesday, AOPA Education Director Paul Deres honored 13 NATCA members for their outstanding efforts. Congratulations to NATCA members Brian Roth (Chicago TRACON), Jimmy Pepper (Terre Haute ATCT), Joshua McPhee (Spokane ATCT), Victor Sahijram (Charleston, S.C., ATCT), Dan McNeil, Eric Abernethy, and Vijay Kanhai (Central Florida TRACON), Evan Munro (Miami Center), Chris Williams (Nashville ATCT), and Tim Martin, Ruben Lopez, Karen Hagstrom, and Chris Watton (Daytona Beach ATCT).

Raytheon Controller of the Year Award: Aaron Rose
At Tuesday’s Awards Luncheon at #NATCACFS2018, Aaron Rose of Northern California TRACON (NCT) was awarded Raytheon’s Controller of the Year award for 2018. Rose took over as the NATCA Lead Rep on the Terminal Automation Modernization and Replacement (TAMR) Project in July 2016. He has continuously worked in a collaborative fashion with all stakeholders to ensure the continued success with the aggressive implementation of the TAMR/STARS Waterfall. Rose’s commitment to excellence, along with the entire TAMR team, is most deserving of this award.

Steve Hansen Safety Advocate Award: Bridget Singratanakul
Named for the Chairman of the NATCA National Safety Committee, the Steve Hansen Safety Advocate Award is presented to a NATCA member who has made extraordinary achievements and has worked tirelessly on NATCA’s behalf to be a leader in furthering the cause of aviation safety. While each winner has contributed their skills, dedication, and work ethic in different ways, with varying areas of expertise, there is one thing that ties them all together: they are all passionate about safety and aviation.
NATCA President Paul Rinaldi presented the Steve Hansen Safety Advocate Award on Tuesday. This award was first given in 2011 to NATCA Safety Committee Chair Steve Hansen, and is presented each year to a NATCA member who has made extraordinary achievements and worked tirelessly on NATCA's behalf to be a leader in furthering aviation safety.

The award was presented to NATCA Runway Safety Rep Bridget Singratanakul (Gee) for her exceptional work in representing the Union in collaborative efforts with the FAA and aviation stakeholders to address the need to improve safety on the runways, taxiways, and surface areas of the NAS.

**NATCA National Professionalism Award: Ray ‘Murl’ Peters, Deborah Anderson, and Theresa Boykin**

The goal of NATCA’s Professional Standards program is to maintain and promote professionalism across all of NATCA’s bargaining units. NATCA members achieve this through a commitment to safety and through upholding the public’s trust. They work to inspire, to motivate, to provide personal examples of our professionalism to others, and to maintain the highest standard of excellence. They know their actions represent all of their fellow professionals, and we work to bring honor and respect to all that they do. The NATCA National Professional Standards Committee (PSC) created the NATCA National Professionalism Award as a means to recognize the actions of those who continually strive to achieve these goals.

Congratulations to this year’s winners, Ray ‘Murl’ Peters (GEG), Deborah Anderson (ZID), and Theresa Boykin (ILG) now at N90.

**Helping Hearts: Pensacola ATCT and Pensacola TRACON**

In 2014, NATCA introduced the Helping Hearts Award to recognize facilities with the highest percentage of people trained to administer Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and to use an Automated External Defibrillator (AED). At CFS on Tuesday, the NATCA OSHA Committee honored Pensacola ATCT (PNS) and Pensacola TRACON (P31) for having 65 percent of employees trained in 2017. Sudden cardiac arrest (SCA) continues to be the leading cause of death in the United States, claiming nearly 350,000 lives each year, but the use of AEDs with onsite CPR helps boost the survival rate of SCA victims to 50-75 percent. Great job, PNS & P31!

**Team Excellence Award**

The NATCA Team Excellence Award was created to recognize NATCA teams, workgroups, or committees that exemplify the true collective spirit of working together to achieve greatness.

One of the 2018 Team Excellence awards was presented to No-Experience Direct Hire Initial Screen (NDIS) Team members Jim Dyckman (N90), Daniel Foster (D10), Marc Schneider (ZID), Maurice Franklin (PCT), and Leah Montes (SCT). The NDIS workgroup developed a collaborative approach for the FAA and NATCA to address the challenges of placing employees with no prior ATC experience into level 10 and above terminal RADAR facilities.

A second 2018 Team Excellence award was presented to 3120.4 Rewrite Team members Jimmy Lake (HCF), Andreas Sanchez (DFW), and Trevor Thompson (ZJX). The workgroup was established to collaboratively address reviewing, revising, and making recommendations for changes to the national training order (3120.4).
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NCF LIVE AUCTION

Monday evening’s NATCA Charitable Foundation (NCF) live auction was a huge success, raising $6,695. The highlight of the night was a framed original piece of art inspired by a photograph of NATCA charter and founding member and President Emeritus Barry Krasner, who passed away in July. The words “He Made a Difference” are on the bottom of the image. The artwork raised $3,100 of the evening’s total; $1,100 of it was bid by a member from New York TRACON (N90) – Krasner’s home facility – and the other $2,100 was contributed by several other bidders combined to ensure the item went to N90.

Other items included a Mike Tyson-signed boxing glove, a Star Wars-themed piece of art, a framed and signed photo of Golden State Warriors star Steph Curry, and a Shaquille O’Neal-autographed basketball shoe. NATCA Manager of Outreach and National Events Kelly Richardson emceed the auction, with assist from Recurrent Training Rep and National Legislative Committee member Richard Kennington (Portland, Ore., ATCT).

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