



Paul Rinaldi & Trish Gilbert

TEAM UPDATE

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

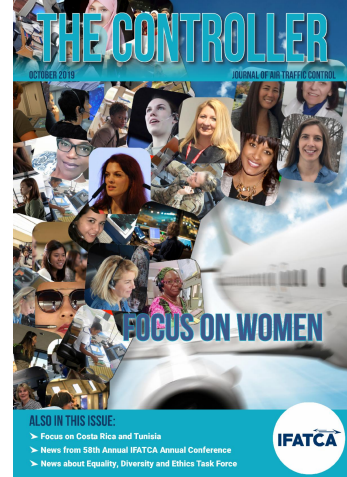


Today, is the International Day of the Air Traffic Controller. Historically, this day marks the founding and constituting of the International Federation of Air Traffic Controllers' Associations (IFATCA) on Oct. 20, 1961. However, in recent years, this day has taken on broader importance. It now is the day every year, when we honor the air traffic control profession and air safety professionals around the world for everything they do to maintain a safe and efficient global airspace system.

NATCA is a proud member of IFATCA and our Union is represented on a variety of leadership and technical panels for the group. You can learn more about IFATCA [at its website](#), and read the latest issue of IFATCA's [The Controller](#) magazine, which has a 24-page special section -- called "Women & Equality" -- highlighting female controllers from 19 nations from every IFATCA region. While we celebrate IFATCA's founding, like many people around the world, today, we want to more broadly celebrate the incredible dedication and passion of our

members to the air traffic control profession.

On the International Day of the Air Traffic Controller for 2019, it's natural to think about the state of our profession in the U.S. and abroad. In our country, we began 2019 with the 35-day government shutdown. At the same time, controllers in America and elsewhere in the world are facing staffing shortages, while managing increasing traffic from passenger, freight, and general aviation, as well as from commercial space launches and unmanned aerial vehicles. Our profession also is integrating rapidly developing new technologies. Even with these challenges, we love our profession. We take great pride in our constant devotion to safety. We continually strive to be great at what we do.



Safety is the most important thing that we do in the National Airspace System. That's why NATCA is encouraging our members to commit to the idea that "Every Day is a Training Day." This is not just a slogan. It is a pledge that we all can make. We can really own it and bring the idea into our facilities. On this International Day of the Air Traffic Controller, let's talk about training. Celebrate it. Stress the importance of it. Encourage it. It's positive and uplifting, and everyone wins when we vow to make excellence the norm, not the deviation.

As retired Major League Baseball player Ron Kittle told us during our panel discussion on training at NATCA's recent Communicating For Safety (CFS), "You've got to want to make yourself be better. You gotta be your own hero. That may sound foolish, but I know one thing: When I want to do something, I don't want anyone to be better than me."

It's our profession, and it's what we love. On this International Day of the Controller, let's all commit to be the best aviation safety professionals we can be.

Happy International Day of the Controller. Thank you for everything you do to make yourselves and your profession better. Every day.

In solidarity,

Paul and Trish

Congratulations to ZDC: 100% Membership!

NATCA just achieved a never before accomplished organizing goal: Washington Center (ZDC), a large regional facility, has reached 100% union membership status! This is an astounding achievement



CONGRATULATIONS TO WASHINGTON CENTER



379 MEMBERS | 100% NATCA



for labor union organizing and solidarity. All 379 NATCA-represented air traffic controllers and other aviation safety professionals who work there have chosen to be dues-paying NATCA members.

ZDC is the first regional center and largest facility in the National Airspace System (NAS) to have all of its NATCA-represented employees become members of the Union.

"We are proud to represent each of our

members who – through NATCA – have a strong voice to improve both their workplaces and their aviation safety professions," said NATCA President Paul Rinaldi. "But what Washington Center has accomplished is truly remarkable and groundbreaking and has raised the bar for what is possible when we are unified in solidarity. The men and women of ZDC have earned a special place in the 32-year history of NATCA, and we are so excited for them and for our entire Union!"

Washington Center is a regional radar facility that is responsible for the safety of 140,000 square miles of airspace above most of Virginia and North Carolina, and parts of New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia. It is one of 21 such facilities in the NAS, of which 20 are in the continental United States. ZDC is also the third-busiest center, handling more than 2.5 million aircraft each year.

NATCA Eastern Regional Vice President Rich Santa, himself a veteran air traffic controller at ZDC, said, "I am proud of the membership at Washington Center. I am honored to be the Eastern Regional Vice President for this monumental occasion. Our commitment to teamwork and solidarity has resulted in the first 100 percent regional center facility in NATCA's history. The 379 members at ZDC have embraced the importance of our collective spirit, setting a new benchmark for our great Union. Thank you to the members of ZDC."

NATCA ZDC Facility Representative Brian Shallenberger said, "We are thrilled at Washington Center that we achieved 100 percent NATCA membership. This proves that our collective voice is stronger than any one single member. Any challenge ahead will be met with the wall of our collective spirit and strength, and that is truly amazing. We look forward to the future of our local and will continue to spread the word that being a NATCA member is the right and only choice."

Ladies and Gentlemen, ARTS IIE Has Left the Building

On Sept. 22, the radar function of the Mansfield ATCT (MFD) and Akron Canton ATCT (CAK) were consolidated into the Cleveland ATCT (CLE). This cutover, realignment, and reshaping of the National Airspace System (NAS) was particularly significant: as part of the consolidation, the last two Automated Radar Terminal System (ARTS) IIE systems were removed from the NAS.

The full and complete replacement of the oldest automation platform in the NAS is a huge accomplishment. On June 28, 2011, the majority of all TRACONS in the NAS were powered by ARTS IIE -- 91 in total. Eight years and 3 months later, all 91 ARTS IIE systems are in the past, and the terminal NAS, for the first time is on one automation platform.



“The terminal NAS is NextGen compliant and fully digital. Live and in living color!” Sec. 804 and Article 76 Lead Scott Robillard said. “Special thanks to the CLE NATCA Project Lead Josh Arner, who took over for Phil Bobel when Bobel transferred to Cleveland Center (ZOB) late in the project.”

“This is the fourth consolidation I have been a part of,” said RSW Facrep and TAMR SME Ross Costa, “The first was Cape TRACON (K90) into Boston TRACON (A90), then Erie approach (ERI) into Buffalo ATCT (BUF), then Grand Rapids (GRR), Lansing (LAN), Muskegon (MKG), Flint. (FNT) and Saginaw (MBS) TRACON Operations to Kalamazoo (AZO), and now MFD and CAK into CLE. Each has been different, but all have been hard. The NATCA members and reps involved have persevered and showed what is possible.”

Congratulations to CLE, MFD, and CAK on this momentous accomplishment.

NATCA Policy Change: Cellular Service National Level Reimbursement Policy

The NATCA National Executive Board (NEB) discussed supporting labor-friendly wireless carriers and voted unanimously that effective Nov. 1, 2019, NATCA will provide reimbursement from the national level only for preferred wireless service providers. This policy applies only to members eligible to receive reimbursement from the national level. It does not affect local reimbursement.

It was decided that a wireless service provider whose employees are

represented nationally by an AFL-CIO union could be considered a NATCA-preferred wireless service provider. Currently, AT&T is the only major U.S. wireless carrier with a union-represented workforce. Nearly 150,000 of AT&T's employees -- about half of the people that AT&T employs -- are union-represented, primarily by the Communications Workers of America and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

If you have questions about this new policy, email natcanationaloffice@natcadc.org.

New Member Benefit: Interline Travel: Dynamic Travel and Cruises

Interline Travel by Dynamic Travel and Cruises has been a leader in the industry for over 35 years, and now NATCA has partnered with them to offer concierge level service to NATCA members' reservation inquiries and requests. Dynamic Travel has an exclusive website for NATCA members

at natca.interlinetravel.com, where you can register for an account as an eligible NATCA member. When you register, you will be asked for your name and NATCA membership number. Don't know your member number? Visit portal.natca.net.



NATCA members are also invited to come join the private Travel NATCA Facebook group to ask travel questions, get information and ideas, and connect with other NATCA members taking advantage of our newest benefit. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/TravelNATCA/>

NCF Board of Directors and Events Committee Solicitations

NATCA CHARITABLE IS SEEKING

VOLUNTEERS

FOR THE

**BOARD OF
DIRECTORS**

DEADLINE:
OCT. 22, 2019

&

**EVENTS
COMMITTEE**

DEADLINE:
NOV. 1, 2019

Submit resumes to
natcacharitable@natca.net



The NATCA Charitable Foundation (NCF) is electing members to serve on its Board of Directors. The elections will take place on Nov. 7, 2019, and a three-year term will begin on Jan. 1, 2020. There is no restriction to the number of terms served. A Director must be a NATCA member in good standing, as defined in Article III of NATCA's National Constitution. This includes active, associate, and retired members. [Read more.](#)

The NATCA Charitable Foundation (NCF) is seeking passionate, creative, and committed volunteers to be part of the NCF Events Committee. These volunteer positions are open to all NATCA members, friends, and family over the age of 21. Event Committee members should be highly motivated to see tasks through from beginning to end with little oversight. Members should prepare to start planning for each event at least six months in advance. Also, it is expected that members of this committee maintain a high level of communication with the Events Committee Chair, NCF President, and other members of the committee. [Read more.](#)

Deadlines are quickly approaching. If you have questions about either position, please email natcacharitable@natca.net.

Supporting UAW-GM

NATCA members have been proud to stand with the nearly 50,000 United Automobile, Aerospace and Agricultural Implement Workers of America (UAW) members that were on strike at General Motors (GM), fighting for fair wages, workers' fair share of profits, a path to permanent employment for temporary workers, affordable health care, and job security. #StandWithUs #UAW

The strike began Sept. 15, and galvanized the country with calls for GM to settle the strike so hardworking employees who have sacrificed to make GM the success it is today could go back to work.

Our #NATCAfamily has been supporting striking UAW members, joining them on the picket lines, providing pizza, and delivering other supplies that helped keep them going as they kept up their fight for fair treatment.

Pictured below, NATCA Central Alternate Regional Vice President Todd Mariani, Kansas City ATCT (MCI) FacRep Clarence Cadenhead, MCI VP Lisa Cunningham, and members at Cleveland Center (ZOB) joined UAW members on strike.

