



Brothers and Sisters,

On the day (March 16) the Administration released its budget proposal - referred to as a skinny budget because it was just a blueprint without figures - we released the following to our membership:

Today, President Trump released his new budget proposal. The Administration proposes shifting the air traffic control function of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to an independent, non-governmental organization. Currently there are not any specifics on the President's proposal. When those are available we will evaluate it carefully. To be clear, NATCA will aggressively oppose any profit-driven model operating the NAS. To maintain the integrity of the safety of the NAS, any change must meet our core principles:

- 1. Protecting the men and women who ensure the safety and efficiency of the NAS in their employment relationship, including their rights and benefits;*
- 2. Ensuring that safety and efficiency remain the top priorities;*
- 3. Providing a stable, predictable funding stream that adequately supports air traffic control services, staffing, hiring and training, long- term modernization, preventative maintenance, and ongoing modernization of the physical infrastructure; and*
- 4. Ensuring continued service to all segments of our nation's diverse aviation community.*

The Administration and Congress will engage in discussions and develop proposals for reform for a variety of reasons. We continue to believe that

NATCA's involvement on this issue is vitally important. Last year, NATCA supported the Aviation Innovation, Reform & Reauthorization (AIRR) Act of 2016 because it contained legislative language that ensured these core principles were met.

NATCA has a positive, collaborative working relationship with the FAA, as well as many in Congress and in the aviation industry. In a speech earlier this month, Administrator Huerta emphasized the results of that relationship in regards to modernization. He said, "discussing alternative approaches when our aviation community is strong and our system is being safely and effectively modernized through our NextGen initiatives represents the right time to be asking critical questions."

We agree with that statement. There is much to be proud of. However, a stable, predictable funding stream for the NAS is needed to ensure modernization efforts continue, hiring/training are a priority, and service continues in all communities and for all users of the system.

It is important that all stakeholders within the NAS collaborate to ensure that the United States remains the world leader in aviation as the Administration and Congress consider air traffic control reform and work to provide long-term FAA reauthorization.

NATCA seeks to continue to be part of the solution while protecting the men and women who safeguard the NAS, both today and in the future.

Yesterday, we participated in a "Listening Session" at the White House complex with many in the aviation industry. The forum was set up so that WH, OMB and DOT staff could hear from airports, manufacturers, airlines, general aviation, pilots and controllers about the US airspace system we all hold dear. We believe there will continue to be significant dialogue about status quo, funding, and reform. We continue to be advocates for the safety of the system, protection of the men and women that safeguard it, reliable funding, access for all users and communities and modernization. We believe this was just one of many forums where the issues will be discussed.

Also of note this week, Secretary Chao will be visiting NavCanada with several congressmen to better understand their system and operation.

Last but certainly not least, we expect a congressional hearing on ATC reform sometime this spring. We will continue to stay engaged on all activity as we deal with the Administration transition, hearings, funding bills (continuing resolution expires April 28), FAA reauthorization (expires Sept. 30), and many anti-labor and anti-Federal employee proposed legislation.

In solidarity,

Paul Rinaldi, NATCA President

Trish Gilbert, NATCA Executive Vice President



*Far and away the best prize that life has to offer
is the chance to work hard at work worth doing.
....**Theodore Roosevelt***



\$9.9 MILLION PAID TO MEMBERS

NATCA HAS YOUR BACK.

DO YOU?

unum OPEN ENROLLMENT
FEBRUARY 1 - MAY 1, 2017
natcadisability.com

You've invested days, weeks and even years to get where you are in your air traffic career. You've insured your car, your home and even your life to protect your family and all of its assets. But what about protecting the very thing that makes your lifestyle possible?

All it takes is one accident, one illness, one trip to the doctor and your golden medical ticket can be taken away. "It won't happen to me" is not a solid plan for your family's financial well-being. Is your savings account large enough to pay all your bills while you work to get your medical back?

As a NATCA member, you have access to one of the greatest benefits our Union has to offer – long-term disability insurance from UNUM. You cannot get this insurance as an air traffic controller in the outside world; this was specifically negotiated for the benefit of NATCA members.

With several payment options to choose from, all for about the cost of a soda a day or less, UNUM disability insurance gives you the financial peace of mind that your family will be taken care of while you focus on regaining your health.

[Learn more](#) about UNUM long-term disability insurance.

OPEN ENROLLMENT: Now – May 1, 2017



EAA's AirVenture 2017 in Oshkosh is just around the corner! This year's event is July 24- 30. NATCA will begin to set up the booth on July 22nd. There are multiple openings to assist NATCA with this year's event.

Below is a detailed description of what is expected for this event:

- * All bargaining unit volunteers are on their own time via annual leave, RDOs, etc...
- * NATCA will provide lodging (shared house) and pay

expenses for food. Due to the large number of volunteers, and the fact bed space is limited, no accommodations are available for any friends or family members of volunteers.

- * Members are responsible for their transportation to and from the event.

- * A minimum of three (3) days working at the event are requested if at all possible

- * If volunteers are available for five (5) days that will help with the overlap but we understand that five days may be too much to ask for during prime-time leave. The dates listed above are more than just working in the NATCA booth. NATCA is looking for volunteers that would also assist in the following public venues:



KIDVENTURE

Located at Pioneer Airport, KidVenture encourages children and teens to explore several areas of aviation, including flying, air traffic control simulation and building aircraft, through hands-on activities, speakers, simulators and demonstrations.

INNOVATIONS

NATCA will assist the FAA with a NextGen display that explains to visitors the behind the scenes benefits of NextGen.

CAREER BOOTH

NATCA will have a presence in the Aviation Career tent, and our volunteers will be on hand to explain to visitors the career of air traffic control, and how to become an air traffic controller.

- * Briefings and presentations - NATCA provides briefings and presentations several times throughout the event. These briefings are on subjects such as Pilot-Controller Communications, Aviation Weather, Emergencies and other aviation subjects. Volunteers may be requested to assist or even lead these presentations.

If you are interested in volunteering for this event and have questions, please contact Kelly Richardson via email at krichardson@natcadc.org.

Volunteers shall complete the Volunteer Information Form via the Google DOC link [here](#).

The deadline for volunteering for this very enjoyable event is **March 31, 2017** at 11:59 p.m. EDT.



NATCA Communicating For Safety 2017

NATCA was proud to once again bring aviation professionals together to communicate about safety. The three days were filled with inspirational keynote speakers, insightful panels, relevant breakout sessions, and an exhibition hall that is the envy of any conference planner.

The conference ended with an emotional Archie League Medal of Safety Award banquet. The banquet displayed the exceptional work of air traffic controllers. To read the Daily Dispatch from each day of the conference, click below. To read about the air traffic saves recognized this year, please also click below where indicated.

[Day 1 Issue - March 20, 2017](#)

[Day 2 Issue - March 21, 2017](#)

[Day 3 Issue - March 22, 2017](#)

[Our book about this year's winners and their flight assist stories](#)

[Photo Album](#)



NATCA In Washington 2017 Registration Is Open

NATCA in Washington 2017 is open! Our Union is continually faced with new legislative challenges and this year is no exception. NATCA in Washington provides us with a tremendous opportunity to spend time on the Hill, educating our elected officials on the vital work that we do.

NATCA in Washington 2017 promises to be our best NATCA in Washington ever! We are continuing to improve this event each year. Regardless if you are a veteran attendee or a first-timer, we are confident that you will come away impressed. We hope you are able to attend and make our collective voice heard on Capitol Hill.

We know that getting leave is always a challenge. We understand these challenges. However, if you are planning to attend but are still trying to work out leave, we encourage you to register. It is much easier to drop a room from our room block than it is to try and pick one up at the last minute.

Below is the registration link and several other items that should answer some of the basic questions you may have.

Dates and Registration Link

NATCA in Washington will be May 22-24, 2017 (Monday - Wednesday). To register online, please go [here](#):

Registration Deadline

The deadline for [registration](#) is April 10, 2017. Participants will be selected based on the Congressional districts in which they reside. It is ideal to have as many Congressional districts represented as possible.

Again, if you wish to attend but are unsure if your leave will be approved, go ahead and register anyway. Attendance confirmation will be sent out on or about April 14, 2017. This should give you plenty of time to take advantage of advanced-purchase airfare. **DO NOT** purchase airline tickets until you have received confirmation from your regional NLC member that you will be attending AND approval from your local e-board.

NATCA in Washington Website

Visit niw.natca.net for detailed information on NATCA in Washington. We are continually updating this website so be sure to check back from time to time.

Transportation

Transportation to and from Washington D.C. will be at your local's expense. Transportation expenses will NOT be reimbursed from the NATCA in Washington budget. Therefore, please check with your FacRep first before registering. Any other incidental travel costs (i.e. cabs, tolls, etc) will also be at your local's expense.

Single Room / Roommate Requests

Single rooms are on a first-come, first-served basis. If you are booked in a single room, you will be responsible for half of room charges per night (half the cost is approximately \$177 per night). If you do not indicate your choice of room (single or double) it will be assumed you want a roommate and one will be assigned to you. If you request a double room, but do not specify a roommate, your roommate will be assigned by your regional NLC member. We always attempt to room members from the same region together (unless specifically requested otherwise), but if there is an odd number of attendees, you may be required to room with someone from another region.

Please make sure you have coordinated with the roommate you've requested PRIOR to registering. This will avoid confusion in the rooming process

FYI - All rooms at the hotel are non-smoking

[Register](#) Today!

NATCA in Washington is our Union's premier legislative event. Nobody can explain our jobs and our issues to Congress better than us. This is an excellent opportunity to get involved and make a difference. We look forward to seeing everyone in DC. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact your [NLC member](#).



Retirement and Benefit Education Seminars

In an effort to help NATCA members prepare for retirement, NATCA expanded its member benefits program several years ago to hold NATCA-sponsored Retirement and Benefit Education seminars for NATCA members in locations across the country and to answer individual questions concerning retirement/benefits from NATCA members.

These seminars will review all of the benefits - including TSP and the options associated with it - walk members through the retirement paperwork and provide timelines members can expect as they retire.

In addition to the regular retirement seminars, NATCA provides early career seminars (C.O.R.E.) and four webinars (EDGE) for members who cannot attend a seminar in their area. The C.O.R.E. seminars have two segments, one that is geared towards members early in their career (15 years or less of service) and how those members can prepare for retirement from day one, and one that covers the information in the regular seminar. The EDGE webinars cover several topics covered in both the regular and C.O.R.E. seminars.

New in the 2016 Collective Bargaining Agreement (The Slate Book), Article 41 provides for excused absence to be granted to those within seven years of retirement eligibility. At the local level, requests for excused absence to attend these briefings shall be submitted to the Agency by the Union no later than forty-five (45) days prior to the date of the briefing. Such requests shall be approved/disapproved no later than twenty-eight (28) days prior to the date of the briefing. Employee names submitted less than forty-five (45) days in advance shall be approved/disapproved in the order they were received.

NATCA is pleased to announce the schedule of Retirement/Benefit Education Seminars for 2017:

DATE	Location	Time (Local)	Seminar Type
3/29	Bridgeton, MO	0900-1500	CORE Retirement
3/30	Kansas City, MO	1500-2100	Regular Retirement
3/31	Kansas City, MO	0900-1500	CORE Retirement
4/4	Mather, CA	1500-2100	Regular Retirement
4/5	Mather, CA	0900-1500	CORE Retirement
4/4	Louisville, TN	1500-2100	Regular Retirement
4/5	Louisville, TN	0900-1500	CORE Retirement
4/25	Avoca, PA	1500-2100	Regular Retirement
4/26	Avoca, PA	0900-1500	CORE Retirement
4/27	Philadelphia, PA	1500-2100	Regular Retirement
4/28	Philadelphia, PA	0900-1500	CORE Retirement
5/2	Fayetteville, NC	1500-2100	Regular Retirement
5/3	Fayetteville, NC	0900-1500	CORE Retirement
5/9	Portland, OR	1500-2100	Regular Retirement
5/10	Portland, OR	0900-1500	CORE Retirement
5/16	Bridgeport, WV	1500-2100	Regular Retirement
5/17	Bridgeport, WV	0900-1500	CORE Retirement
6/1	Central Time Zone	1000-1700	EDGE Seminar
6/7	Tampa, FL	1500-2100	Regular Retirement
6/8	Tampa, FL	0900-1500	CORE Retirement
6/13	Aurora, IL	1500-2100	Regular Retirement
6/14	Aurora, IL	0900-1500	CORE Retirement
6/20	Dallas/Ft. Worth area	1500-2100	Regular Retirement
6/21	Dallas/Ft. Worth area	0900-1500	CORE Retirement
8/1	Louisville, KY	1500-2100	Regular Retirement
8/2	Louisville, KY	0900-1500	CORE Retirement
8/3	Indianapolis, IN	1500-2100	Regular Retirement
8/4	Indianapolis, IN	0900-1500	CORE Retirement

8/23	Pacific Time Zone	1000-1700	EDGE Seminar
9/12	Lafayette, LA	1500-2100	Regular Retirement
9/13	Lafayette, LA	0900-1500	CORE Retirement
9/19	Peachtree City, GA	1500-2100	Regular Retirement
9/20	Peachtree City, GA	0900-1500	CORE Retirement
9/20	San Diego, CA	1500-2100	Regular Retirement
9/21	San Diego, CA	0900-1500	CORE Retirement
9/26	Albuquerque, NM	1500-2100	Regular Retirement
9/27	Albuquerque, NM	0900-1500	CORE Retirement
10/10	Nashua, NH	1500-2100	Regular Retirement
10/11	Nashua, NH	0900-1500	CORE Retirement
10/12	Burlington, VT	1500-2100	Regular Retirement
10/13	Burlington, VT	0900-1500	CORE Retirement
10/17	Salt Lake City, UT	1500-2100	Regular Retirement
10/18	Salt Lake City, UT	0900-1500	CORE Retirement
10/24	Northern VA area	1500-2100	Regular Retirement
10/25	Northern VA area	0900-1500	CORE Retirement
11/1	Las Vegas, NV	1500-2100	Regular Retirement
11/2	Las Vegas, NV	0900-1500	CORE Retirement
11/8	Farmington, MN	1500-2100	Regular Retirement
11/9	Farmington, MN	0900-1500	CORE Retirement
11/15	Charlotte, NC	1500-2100	Regular Retirement
11/16	Charlotte, NC	0900-1500	CORE Retirement
12/6	Eastern Time Zone	1000-1700	EDGE Seminar

You may contact benefits@natca.net if you have any questions or comments about this benefit or any other benefit that NATCA provides to its members. Please visit www.NATCABenefits.com for more information regarding this benefit and other benefits offered to NATCA members.



Legislative T-Shirt Design Contest

The NLC is pleased to announce the opening of our Legislative T-shirt Design contest for 2017. The [attached flier](#) is Hatch Act compliant and can be distributed and posted in the facility. This is your opportunity to have your design on NATCA's legislative T-shirts for the whole year!

If you have any questions, or to submit a design, please email NLC Chair, [Steve Weidner](#). Rules are on the [flier](#). All submissions must be received by **April 1st** to be considered.

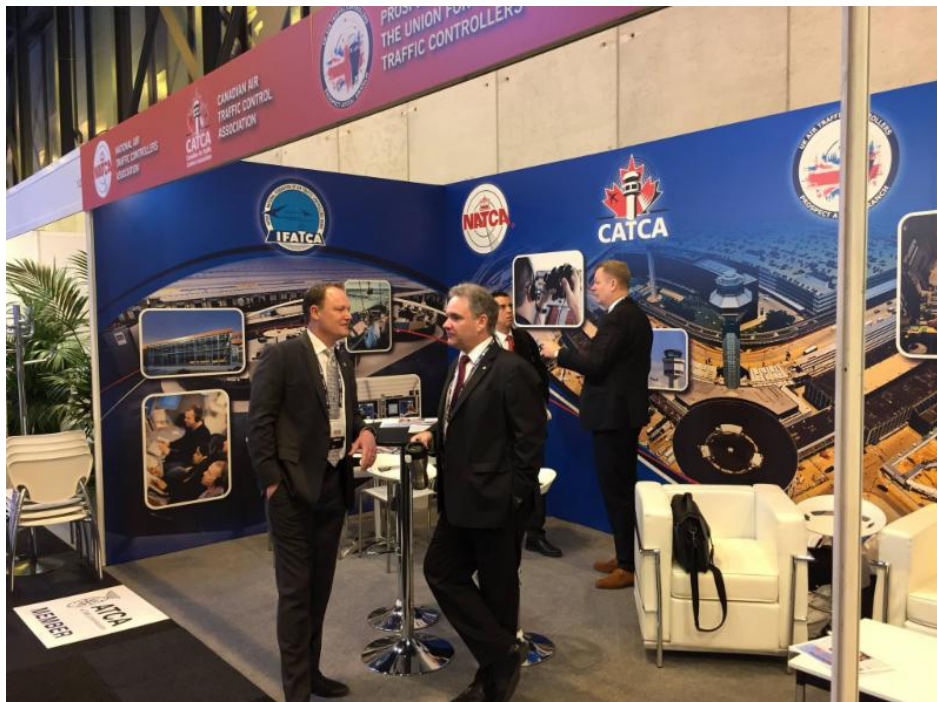


NATCA Academy Schedule 2017

Representative Training I (formerly BRT)	April 10-14	Las Vegas
Training Review Board	April 24-26	Las Vegas
Secretary/Treasurer	April 11-12	Las Vegas
Federal Contract Tower Rep.	June 13-14	DC - NATCA HQ

Basic Legislative Activism Training	Sept. 11-12	Las Vegas
Training Review Board	Sept. 12-14	Las Vegas
Secretary/Treasurer	Sept. 13-14	Las Vegas
Representative Training I (formerly BRT)	Sept. 25-29	Las Vegas
Basic Legislative Activism Training	Nov. 28-29	Las Vegas
Representative Training I (formerly BRT)	Dec. 4-8	Las Vegas

The week of March 6, Paul attended the [World ATM Congress](#) in Madrid. There NATCA discussed the importance of employers collaborating with the frontline workforce on modernization of any system. NATCA also shared exhibitor space with [CATCA](#), [Prospect ATCOs Branch](#) (UK) and [IFATCA](#).





That same week Trish traveled to London to attend the [International Transport Workers' Federation](#) (ITF) Civil Aviation conference. She serves as the Vice Chair of the Air Traffic Services committee and gave a briefing on Remote Tower Technology.

The following week [Transportation Trades Department](#) (TTD) and [AFL-CIO](#) meetings took place in San Antonio. While there Trish enjoyed time with the SAT membership at a local BBQ restaurant.



We then joined more than a thousand NATCA members and other aviation industry partners at the [CFS 2017](#) conference. Thanks to all that worked incredibly hard to make it a successful event!!



[NATCA continues NATCA30 celebrations!](#)



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Sent by tgilbert@natcadc.org