NATCA in Washington Starts Monday; Live Stream Available on Website

NATCA in Washington will be held Monday and Tuesday (March 28-29) at the Marriott Marquis in Washington, D.C. Members can watch live starting at 8:30 a.m. EDT on Monday, March 28 and at 8 a.m. EDT on Tuesday, March 29 at natca.org/stream. All NiW news and information is located at natca.org/niw. That page, along with the live stream, are accessible only by members with their MyNATCA login credentials. Additionally, members who want to watch the live stream must confirm that they are not on duty (including break or official time), not on federal property, and not using federal government equipment. Coverage of the event, complete with video on demand, will also be located on this webpage after NiW. View the event agenda here.

NATCA Academy Concludes Successful RT-1 and SAT Courses

The NATCA Academy recently hosted concurrent Representative Training 1 (RT-1) and Safety Advocacy Training (SAT) courses in Las Vegas with over 50 members in attendance. President Rich Santa and Executive Vice President Andrew LeBovidge spoke to both training classes. About the training, Santa said, “It is very important for members to take part in these Academy offerings. It was a great privilege to see our members participating in these vital training courses.”
in NATCA's in-person training courses again.”

“The several parallel safety programs existing at all levels in the Air Traffic Organization can be complicated,” said SAT course instructor Nathan Vinson. “Safety Advocacy Training provides the foundational knowledge necessary for NATCA representatives to effectively influence the safety processes at their facilities through collaboration. It was great to re-engage with NATCA leaders again, in this setting, after a two year-long hiatus. Hopefully the participants can take what they’ve learned back to their facilities and continue the education among their members and management counterparts.”

To attend future classes hosted by the NATCA Academy, please visit the NATCA Academy page here.

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**NATCA Mourns Passing of Legendary Alaska Congressman Don Young**

NATCA, and especially its Alaskan Region legislative activists, are mourning the passing last week of Alaska Congressman Don Young, the longest-serving Republican member in the history of the U.S. House of Representatives and a former chair of the Transportation & Infrastructure Committee. “We valued our close relationship with Congressman Young,” President Rich Santa said. “He was a longtime supporter of NATCA and our members. He had great respect for the men and women we represent who keep the National Airspace System (NAS) safe and efficient, particularly in Alaska.” National Legislative Committee Alaskan Region Representative Rob Kindred agreed. “Congressman Young has always been a champion for all things NATCA,” he said. “Over the years, he has always stood up and supported issues that were important to NATCA, and he has always been an advocate for aviation safety in Alaska and across the NAS.” Read more.

Pictured from left to right: Kindred, Congressman Young, Alternate Alaskan Region Rep Aaron Novak (Anchorage TRACON, A11), and retired controller Richard Fagg.

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**A11 Member Meets with Alaskan Senator Murkowski**

Anchorage TRACON (A11) Vice President and National Legislative Committee Alternate Alaskan Region Rep Aaron Novak recently
attended an event with Alaska Senator Lisa Murkowski. “NATCA has established a relationship with Senator Murkowski over the years,” said Novak. “During this event, we continued to grow and build our relationship with the senator and her staff. I was able to have numerous one-on-one discussions in an informal environment. The senator said it was great to have NATCA in attendance and thanked us for our support. In turn, I was able to thank her for her support on the infrastructure bill. She said her only ask of NATCA was to continue to ‘keep us safe.’”

New Jersey Congressman Van Drew Meets with ACY Vice President

Earlier this month, Atlantic City ATCT (ACY) Vice President and Legislative Rep Mark Vattilana attended an event for New Jersey Congressman Jeff Van Drew. “I had an opportunity to personally thank him for his continued support of NATCA as well as his work on the House Aviation Subcommittee,” said Vattilana. “We also discussed the challenges that air traffic control facilities have faced the past two years dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic and keeping our workforce as well as the National Airspace System safe. I invited the congressman to tour the tower and approach facilities at Atlantic City again, and he said he would be honored.”

In this photo from the event (right to left) are Congressman Van Drew, Vattilana, and Ohio Congressman Jim Jordan.

Election Support Committee Update

Election Support Committee (ESC) Co-Chair Elijah McDonald is assisting the National Training Committee with remaking the NATCA Academy Secretary/Treasurer Training (STT)
ASI Committee Update

The Air Safety Investigations (ASI) Committee met for its first quarterly meeting of 2022. The committee received a briefing from Director of Labor Relations Nicole Vitale on the National Transportation Safety Board’s (NTSB) pre-launch discussions and recorded interviews. All bargaining unit employees should know that if they are ever interviewed during an NTSB investigation, recording of NTSB interviews is voluntary. For more information, visit the ASI committee page here or email asi@natca.net.

NATCA Members Inspire the Next Generation of Female Aviators

Women in Aviation International (WIA) held one of its largest annual gatherings during the 33rd Annual International Women in Aviation Conference at Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center in Nashville, Tenn., March 17-19. More than 4,500 attendees, from more than 16 countries, were in attendance. Cleveland Center (ZOB) members Jennifer Malloy and Mandy Jankulovich, and
Manassas ATCT (HEF) member Natelie Chappell represented our Union at the conference, staffing the NATCA booth, and answering questions from conference attendees about aviation safety professions. Read more here.

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**Labor Spotlight: International Union of Painters and Allied Trades (IUPAT)**

NATCA continues to highlight our union sisters and brothers in AFL-CIO affiliated unions. Today we thank and recognize our siblings of the International Union of Painters and Allied Trades (IUPAT), who are celebrating the union’s 135th anniversary this month.

The IUPAT represents professionals in the United States and Canada who work in the finishing trades – industrial & commercial painting, drywall finishing, glazing & glass work, sign & display and floor covering installation, and many more careers in the construction industry and public sector. They perform essential work in the transportation sector by painting bridges, parking, traffic and air strip lines, trucks, automobile and railroad cars, ships, and aircraft. In January, the IUPAT joined the Transportation Trades Department, AFL-CIO (TTD), America’s largest coalition of transportation labor unions. NATCA also is a part of the TTD.

Learn more about the history of IUPAT here.