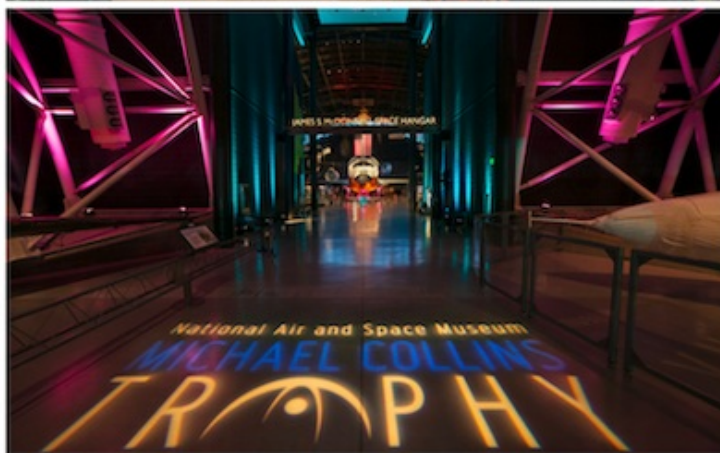




Santa, Shallenberger Join in Celebration of Aviation and Aerospace Excellence at Smithsonian

President Rich Santa and Eastern Regional Vice President Brian Shallenberger recently joined other aviation and aerospace community members at the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum to honor the winners of the museum's 2022 Michael Collins Trophies. The Smithsonian established the trophy in 1985 to recognize extraordinary achievements in aerospace science, technology, and history. NATCA was one of the sponsors of the 2022 Collins Trophy award event.



At this event, the Smithsonian presented the Lifetime Achievement award to Wally Funk for dedicating decades of her life to flight instruction, aviation, and safety. Funk often held the title of "first" and "only" throughout her career as a pilot, instructor, and air safety investigator. The Current Achievement award was presented to the Mars Ingenuity Helicopter Team for their development and deployment of a small robotic helicopter that achieved the first powered flight on another planet.

Pictured: Wally Funk speaking to award ceremony attendees. Photos

More information is available from the Smithsonian [here](#).

C90 Modernizes Training Program, Frees Up Lab Time, in Effort to Increase Staffing



Chicago TRACON (C90) is a level 12 facility located in Elgin, Ill. C90 members work the airspace within 40 nautical miles of Chicago O'Hare ATCT (ORD) which includes Chicago Midway ATCT (MDW) and five, soon to be six, class Deltas. Every air traffic controller at the TRACON works ORD arrivals. The two

separate areas are South Satellite, which works MDW arrivals and departures, and Departure, which works ORD departures and North Satellite. C90 has recently modernized its training program and implemented a new training concept to help increase staffing. "We have designed our program to help build a well-rounded controller from the ground up," FacRep Dean Von Almen said. This plan will require C90 to pick up an influx of controllers on its next few bids. Added Von Almen, "Hopefully, those of you who are interested can tour and see that Chicago TRACON is a great place to work, with good camaraderie and lots of clubs to participate in. The strong relationships that we build together, help us work as a team during those challenging moments in the TRACON." Read more [here](#).

NATCA is proud to feature news about its members' facilities all over the country. If you want to share news for consideration for use in an upcoming NATCA publication, email publicaffairs@natcadc.org.

TEAM Boosts Consistency & Accessibility for Tracking OJTI Records

In a collaborative effort to simplify On the Job Training Instruction (OJTI) for air traffic controllers, NATCA and the FAA are moving toward nationwide implementation of Training Enterprise Application and Management (TEAM). TEAM is a cloud-based software program used to electronically track, document, and retain air traffic training records, including training forms, team meetings and plans. Las Vegas ATCT (LAS) member Adonna Prior serves on the collaborative group working on the launch of TEAM and looks forward to sharing information about TEAM with NATCA members across the country concurrently with the rollout. Read more [here](#).

Professional Standards Committee Releases New Video, Reminds Members of June 1 Award Deadline



Who do you work with that inspires, motivates, and demonstrates professionalism? Nominate your peer for the National Professionalism Award, presented by the Professional Standards Committee at Communicating For Safety (Sept. 12-14, Bally's Las Vegas). A winner will be selected from each service area.

Anyone may nominate a member in good standing for the award, with no limit on the number of nominations received from a single facility, region, or service area.

Deadline to apply: June 1. Apply [here](#).

Additionally, the Professional Standards Committee has released a new video promoting the work of its reps around the country and the sheer volume of reports and valuable information that has been brought forward in the first decade of the program. Watch the video [here](#).

ORL & F11 Members Meet with Florida Congressman Darren Soto

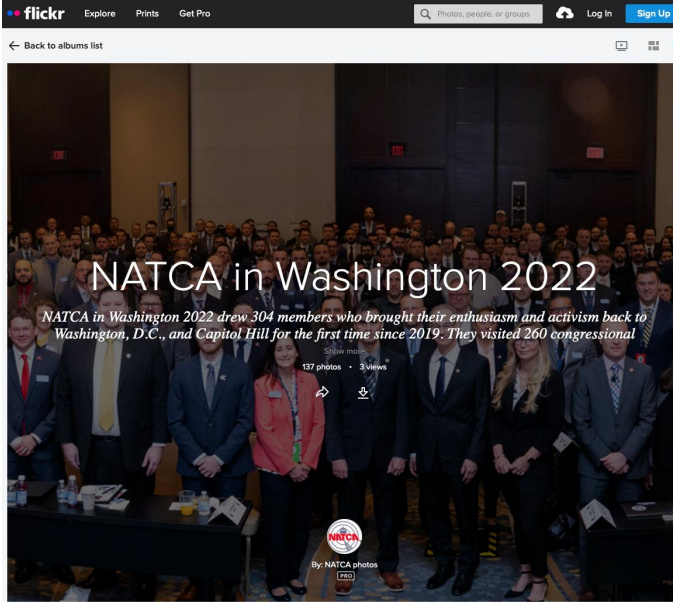
Orlando Executive ATCT (ORL) FacRep Jeff Little and Central Florida TRACON (F11) Legislative Rep Ken Scheele and his wife, Holly, attended an event with Florida Congressman Darren Soto. “We arrived early and were able to talk to the congressman for about 10 minutes,” said Ken Scheele.

“Congressman Soto discussed a few topics with us, ranging from transportation upgrades going on in the Central Florida area and issues facing 5G deployment. Also during the event, Colorado Congressman Joe Neguse gave a speech and also spent a few minutes talking to us.”



Check Out the NATCA in Washington Photo Album

Our #NATCAinWashington activists devoted time and energy last week to build congressional relationships, educate other members about NATCA's legislative efforts, and advance legislation important to NATCA. We thank them for their efforts and dedication! Check out the #NATCAinWashington



2022 [photo album](#), including photos from our members' meetings with members of Congress.

Read more in the NiW Today 2022 book on the NiW web page: natca.org/niw.

Santa Leads NATCA Team Working with STEM Students Using ATC Simulators



NATCA continues its commitment to STEM (Science, Technology, Education, Math) education and sparking students' interest in the ATC profession when it provided an ATC simulator lab at two Philadelphia-area schools: the STEM Academy at Showalter and Chester High School in Chester, Pa. — both near Philadelphia. President Rich Santa, former president Paul Rinaldi, Eastern Regional Vice President Brian Shallenberger, National Training Rep Jamaal Haltom, Reading ATCT (RDG) member LaKecia Shuron, and Atlanta Center (ZTL) member Christian Karns led the Union's participation in the events. They were joined by members from Philadelphia ATCT (PHL) and Wilmington, Del. ATCT (ILG), and representatives from UFA, Inc. (a NATCA corporate member) running the simulator equipment UFA provided. During each event, the group worked with more than 200 students in grades 10-12.

“I love doing these events,” Santa said. “The students are very interested and eager to learn. They asked about our professions, and many of them are considering STEM fields as their careers after high school. The team we had also did a fantastic job working with the students and teaching them about the National Airspace System.”

Read more [here](#).

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