



ITC Meets at National Office, Advancing Support for NATCA Members Nationwide

The Information Technology Committee (ITC) met on April 19-20 — the group's first in-person meeting since the pandemic began. The committee focused on learning about new tools and initiatives related to NATCA technology needs, as well as brainstorming ways it can streamline processes for sharing knowledge and tools to benefit all NATCA members.

Over the last two years, the ITC's workload and size has grown as the Union's technology needs have increased to meet demands related to virtual collaboration and teamwork, while also building MyNATCA, the replacement membership database.

"The members of this committee work around the clock to share their insight on a broad range of tools and systems that help NATCA members accomplish the work of the Union every day," ITC Chair Jason Doss said. "The energy and enthusiasm of the ITC members is exciting, and we're looking forward to rolling out more solutions that will continue to advance our Union's initiatives and representation."

As the ITC works to upgrade the Union's email processes, email lists, and a new grievance tracking system, committee members are working with the membership and committees to ensure the process is seamless. The ITC provides support, guidance, and recommendations to the National Executive Board, other committees, and NATCA members nationwide.

For email, MyNATCA, UnionWare, Microsoft Teams, and other IT-related issues, members can reach out to support@natca.org for assistance and answers.



PHOTO: (Bottom row, left to right) Senior Social Media Representative Meagan Roper, Information Technology Administrator Matt Heer, Kristena Jones (Washington Center, ZDC), Pam Rusk (Engineers Central Region, ECE), Southwest Regional Vice President Nick Daniels; **(middle row, left to right)** Director of Public Affairs and ITC Co-Chair Thom Metzger, Central Regional Vice President Aaron Merrick, David Towell (Cincinnati ATCT, CVG), Deputy Director of Public Affairs Doug Church, Ryan Durbin (Anchorage Center, ZAN); **(top row, left to right)** Joe Allen (Boston Center, ZBW), ITC Chair Jason Doss (Jacksonville Center, ZJX), Information Technology Manager Phil Yanchulis, Matt Fritz (Andrews AFB ATCT, ADW).

Train the Trainer Course & National Training Committee Meeting at National Office



NATCA Academy instructors and National Training Committee (NTC) members gathered at the National Office in Washington on April 19-20 for a meeting and a "Train the Trainer" course. The class was facilitated by National Training

Representative Jamaal Haltom (Las Vegas ATCT, LAS), and NTC member Aaron Katz (Phoenix TRACON, P50). New England RVP Mick Devine and Southern RVP Jim Marinitti also participated in the class to give new and existing instructors tools and techniques to create the most effective

learning experience possible for NATCA members.

“Education is the fundamental building block of our organization,” Devine said. “Educating our instructors to be able to provide knowledge to the next generation is what will keep this Union viable for generations to come.”

The course was developed by The LABOR School at Penn State University and taught by Penn State instructors. The course helps NATCA Academy instructors and NTC members improve their skills as trainers and facilitators.

Attendees discussed adult learning styles, methods of developing and presenting training with impact, classroom management, and communication techniques that can improve learning retention and guarantee successful application beyond the classroom.

Learn more about upcoming classes on the NATCA Academy [web page](#).

Planning, Teamwork, and Professionalism Allow Southern Region NATCA Members to Handle Increased Traffic for Masters Golf Tournament

Earlier this month in Augusta, Ga., the Masters golf tournament brought thousands of people to the area, increasing air traffic way above normal as crowds flocked to Augusta National Golf Club. NATCA-represented air traffic controllers, traffic management coordinators, and staff specialists in the Southern Region worked together to help their neighboring brothers and sisters to handle the increased traffic.

“This Masters was the busiest, in terms of air traffic, in history,” said Masters Special Event FacRep Amy Sayers (Fort Lauderdale ATCT, FLL).

Read more [here](#).



PHOTOS: (Top row of photos, right photo, top row in photo, left to right) Julia Brame (AGS), Joan Vercillo (Contract Ramp controller), Amy Sayers (Special Events FacRep), Megan Carreras (OS Augmenter), Brittany Siroki (OS Augmenter); (bottom row in photo) Hailey Beal (AGS); (bottom row of photos, left photo, left to right) Narciso Torres (BUE Augmenter, Miami ATCT, MIA, FacRep) and Ryan Hughes (BUE Augmenter, Charlotte ATCT, CLT); (bottom row of photos, middle photo) Kathryn Thoma (BUE Augmenter, Birmingham ATCT, BHM); and (bottom row of photos, right photo) Joshua Oney (BUE Augmenter, Pensacola TRACON, P31).

NATCA Participates in Meeting of The Global ATC Alliance

The Global Air Traffic Controllers Alliance, “The Alliance” for short, recently held a meeting in London. The Alliance is a coalition of labor unions representing aviation safety professionals from Australia, Canada, New Zealand, Spain, the United Kingdom, and the United States to speak with a collective voice on a range of subjects that have a common effect on the profession and the professionals they represent. President Rich Santa and former NATCA president and current Alliance Vice President Paul Rinaldi represented NATCA at this meeting.

Members of The Alliance met with Simon Hocquard, Director General of CANSO, to discuss a wide range of topics on how the two organizations can work together moving forward. CANSO — the Civil Air Navigation Services Organization — is a representative body of air navigation service providers (ANSPs) that together support more than 85 percent of the world’s air traffic. One of the main focuses of this conversation was making sure the workforce has a voice and is included in discussions about future directions CANSO plans to take. During the meeting, participants also reviewed and rewrote parts of their constitution, planned for World ATM, updated their website, and discussed outreach efforts.

About The Alliance, Santa stated, “We continue to make sure that NATCA has a seat at every table where issues vital to our profession are being discussed. This meeting with The Alliance was important because it is giving labor a greater voice in CANSO initiatives. By growing partnerships and alliances with organizations that provide air traffic control services, with air traffic industry partners, and other stakeholders, we’re ensuring NATCA members and the professions we represent are heard.”



PHOTO: (Left to right) NATCA President Rich Santa, Vice Chair Prospect ATCOs' Branch (UK) and Alliance Secretary Mike Reed, former NATCA president and current Alliance Vice President Paul Rinaldi, President of Civil Air Australia and Alliance Secretary/Treasurer Tom McRobert, Chair of Prospect ATCOs Branch (UK) and Alliance President Paul Winstanley.

Staff Spotlight: Labor Relations Staff Attorney Jon Cakmakci

We have an amazing National Office staff that our membership can be very proud of. Labor Relations Staff Attorney Jon Cakmakci joined NATCA's Labor Relations Department on Sept. 7, 2021. A graduate of Western Michigan University and Wayne State University Law School, Cakmakci was an attorney at a labor law firm in Detroit for several years before relocating to the Washington, D.C., area to join NATCA.

“Empowering employees to ensure they are treated fairly by their employers is the reason I became a labor lawyer,” Jon said. “My dad is a labor negotiator for United Food and Commercial Workers International Union (UFCW) Local 951 in Michigan, so we are a big union family.”



Thank you for all you do for NATCA and our members, Jon!

Read more [here](#).

NATCA Academy Continues Instruction in Three Different Courses

Among the several NATCA Academy classes held this month were three of the latest installments in a long series of established courses: Legislative Activism Training (LAT), Secretary-Treasurer Training (STT), and Representative Training 1. Combined, the three courses drew 70 members. “It’s very inspiring to see so many of NATCA’s future leaders come out and take time away from their homes and families to learn more about their roles and duties,” said Washington Center (ZDC) member and STT instructor Chris Keyes. Said Memphis Center (ZME) member and LAT instructor Jason Arnold, “It was a pleasure to teach such a motivated group of future legislative activists. The group was very participative and engaging. The class was very diverse, and if these activists choose to get and stay legislatively active, the future of our Union is in good hands.”

Read more [here](#). | Visit the NATCA Academy [web page](#) for upcoming trainings.



PHOTO: Legislative Activism Training



PHOTO: Secretary-Treasurer Training



PHOTO: Representative Training 1

Support LGBTQ+ Community with NCF Pride Month T-Shirt



NATCA and the NATCA Charitable Foundation (NCF) have teamed up to raise awareness and funds to support the LGBTQ+ community in anticipation and celebration of Pride Month in June. Show your support with the purchase of a Pride T-shirt for \$28. Order on or before May 14, which will ensure the delivery of shirts by June 1. All proceeds, along with a \$2,000 additional NCF donation, will benefit LGBTQ+ charities.

Please click [here](#) for more information and to order.

Visit our Website



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