



NATCA Hosts First In-Person Meet & Greet Event for ATC Students at the FAA Academy Since Beginning of Pandemic



NATCA hosted the first in-person meet & greet event for ATC students at the FAA Academy at the Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center in Oklahoma City since the beginning of the pandemic. At the event, the students had the opportunity to meet with NATCA Executive Vice President Andrew LeBovidge; Central Regional Vice President (RVP) Aaron Merrick; Southwest Alternative RVP (ARVP) and the chair of both the of both the National Organizing Committee (NOC) and

the National Benefits Committee John Bratcher; Central ARVP and ZKC FacRep Todd Mariani; National Training Representative Jamaal Haltom (LAS); Co-Chair of NATCA's Union Synergy Committee Maurice Franklin (PCT); NATCA Professional Standards National Committee member Chris Keyes (ZDC); Reloaded Committee representative Saja Cox (OKC); and NOC member Don Smith, who is the NATCA local president for the Oklahoma City Aeronautical Center and Tech Center. The NATCA representatives talked to those in attendance about the different aspects of NATCA.

NCEPT Update: New PPT Released

The National Centralized Employee Requested Reassignment (ERR) Process Team has released the latest Facility Priority Placement Tool (PPT), the latest step in the timeline leading up to the next panel on May 17. Upcoming key dates:

- May 2 – HR resume upload begins
- May 6 – HR resume upload complete
- May 9 – Manager Ranking List published (Opened)
- May 13 – Manager Rankings completed (Closed)
- May 16 – AJG-P21 prepares data for NCEPT board
- May 17 – NCEPT convenes/adjourns



To view the latest PPT, and for more information, please visit <https://www.natca.org/ncept/>.

NATCA Members Work at Sun 'n Fun Aerospace Expo



More than 225,000 aviation enthusiasts attended the six days of events last month at Sun 'n Fun Aerospace Expo in Lakeland, Fla., Florida's largest annual convention of any kind. As the second-largest air show in the world, Sun 'n Fun amplifies the need for participation by NATCA members and other aviation safety

professionals for safety oversight and education.

"Participating in an event like Sun 'n Fun is a tremendous privilege, but it is also a lot of fun," said Safety Management Systems National Representative Micah Maziar (Toledo ATCT, TOL). "The rules are completely different from

typical ATC, and the list of waivers is a page long. When applied as written, the rules allow for the safe movement of a large volume of mostly VFR traffic.”

“We need more people to bid these special events and join us to replace the members that are retiring in the next few years. For these events to be successful in the future, we need to grow the number of experienced controllers now.”

Read the full story [here](#).

2021 Archie League Award Spotlight: Matt Wyrick, Indianapolis Center (ZID)

Matt Wyrick, who is in the sixth year of his FAA career, all at Indianapolis Center (ZID), grew up immersed in aviation. His father, Allan, was a longtime pilot for NetJets. Wyrick said hypoxia came up in some discussions between them. That, along with his training, prepared him to successfully assist the pilot of a Cessna 441 Conquest II who was exhibiting signs of hypoxia while over south-central Ohio en route to Youngstown, Ohio, at 29,000 feet. For his efforts, Wyrick has been named the Great Lakes Region winner of the 2021 Archie League Medal of Safety Award. He will be honored on June 17 in New Orleans.



Wyrick said he was honored and humbled by the award. “I was just there doing my job that day and I had a bunch of good people around me who were a huge part of the outcome. I really think the award is more a reflection of everybody I work with. I don’t have a doubt in my mind that any one of the controllers in my area could have sat there and achieved the same outcome.”

Read more [here](#). | Listen to a podcast with an interview of Wyrick [here](#).

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