

## Seattle Area Solidarity Event & NEB Meeting

On July 13, Seattle area NATCA members attended a solidarity event with members of NATCA's Executive Board (NEB), involving a boat tour of Lake Washington, a large freshwater lake adjacent to Seattle. There were 115 NATCA family members in attendance, including members from Seattle Center (ZSE), Seattle Tacoma ATCT (SEA), Seattle TRACON (S46), Boeing Field ATCT (BFI), Everett Paine Field ATCT (PAE), Region X, Northwest Mountain (NNM) Regional Legislative Representative Jenny Benjamin, and members' families.



**NEB Meeting & Solidarity Event** Lake Washington (Seattle) | July 2022

About the event, NATCA President Rich Santa said, "We thank our Seattlearea brothers and sisters who planned this event and the many NATCA members who participated. We appreciated the opportunity to meet and talk with many of the attendees. The strength of our Union's solidarity is unmatched."

"[It was] a perfect day for a great crowd. It was an honor for the NEB to have the opportunity to be among our NATCA Family," NNM Regional Vice President Alex Navarro III said. "The best way to learn about each other will always be in person. All the gratitude to the local Seattle area leaders that put this together and turned out in such great numbers to spend time with each other."

ZSE FacRep Amy Sizemore agreed. He stated, "We could not have had a more perfect outing,". "The weather was beautiful, the water was calm, and people were bonding. It was amazing."

## NATCA Supported Legislation Passes Unanimously in U.S. House of Representatives

In July, the U.S. House of Representatives unanimously passed H.R. 521, the First Responder Fair Return for Employees on Their Initial Retirement Earned Act ("First **Responder Fair RETIRE** Act"). If passed in the Senate and signed by the president, this bill would ensure that certain federal employees, including air traffic controllers, who suffer a permanent injury or illness on the job, retain access to their enhanced retirement annuity in the same manner as if they



had not been injured. H.R. 521, which was introduced by Reps. Gerry Connolly (D-Va.), Brian Fitzpatrick (R-Pa.), and Jim Langevin (D-R.I.), now moves to the Senate for consideration wherein an identical bill was introduced by Sen. Jon Tester (Mont.) in January 2021. NATCA carefully reviewed this bill when it was introduced and conveyed our support for its passage. NATCA thanks all of the members of Congress and their staffs for moving forward this important bipartisan legislation and strongly encourages its swift passage in the Senate.

## NATCA Members Volunteer at EAA AirVenture in Oshkosh, Wis.

Every year, NATCA is proud to participate at Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) AirVenture in Oshkosh, Wis. Since its inception 60 years ago, the event has grown into the premiere aviation event, with more than 550,000 aviation enthusiasts from over 80 countries attending the weeklong event.

Last month, NATCA members once again volunteered their time to represent the very best of our profession to the general aviation (GA) community, presenting educational programs, pilot briefings, and workshops.

In addition to operating NATCA's booth and programming and delivering presentations on several of AirVenture's main stages, NATCA members also staffed the extremely popular KidVenture area, teaching young aviators about the phonetic alphabet, basic airport facts, and air traffic control concepts.



In live EAA Radio interviews, NATCA members at AirVenture expanded their outreach to an international audience, talking about GA trends and sharing air traffic control knowledge.

Check out our AirVenture 2022 photo album for a glimpse into the education, relationships, and events in which NATCA members participated throughout the week.

Click <u>here</u> to read the full story on natca.org.



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