Fullerton, Calif., FCT Joins NATCA Family

NATCA is excited to welcome Fullerton, Calif., Federal Contract Tower (FCT) to the NATCA family. The airport has origins that can be traced back to as early as 1913, with the establishment of a permanent facility in the mid-1920s. FUL member Johnny McCracken, a decades-long member of NATCA and former vice president at Los Angeles ATCT (LAX), said he understands the importance of unions. “We at Fullerton are extremely pleased to announce we are now represented by NATCA,” he said. “The Southern California basin is some of the most congested airspace in the country and Fullerton is the only general aviation airport in Orange County. We are exceedingly proud of the work we do ensuring the safety of the flying public. This exciting new era is based on NATCA's longstanding representation of so many of our fellow FCTs across this great country.” FUL is the sixth NATCA-represented FCT in the Western Pacific Region, joining Chandler, Ariz. (CHD), Hawthorne, Calif. (HHR), Mesa, Ariz. (IWA), Molokai, Hawaii (MKK), and Riverside, Calif. (RAL). Click here to view the full list of NATCA-represented FCTs.

NEB Meets in Cleveland

The National Executive Board (NEB) gathered in Cleveland on Sept. 30 for a one-day meeting, the latest in a series of one-day meetings every three weeks as the new NEB continues to hit the ground running in addressing many important issues. Among the topics addressed at the meeting were assigning duties to individual NEB members serving on committees and workgroups. We will report on the full meeting minutes, upon their release, in an upcoming update.

Lancaster, Shallenberger, Devine at National Office
for NEB In-Person Work on Key Issues

Alaskan Regional Vice President (RVP) Clint Lancaster, Eastern RVP Brian Shallenberger, and New England RVP Mick Devine worked in the National Office Sept. 27-28 as part of the National Executive Board’s new process of having 2-3 RVPs in Washington, D.C., each week. The RVPs work with President Rich Santa, Executive Vice President Andrew LeBovidge, and some members of the staff in addressing many key issues. They also are available to handle any issues that arise unexpectedly, helping the NEB to begin to tackle them. Last week, Lancaster, Shallenberger, and Devine worked on both the vaccination incentive MOU disseminated on Sept. 27, and a new solicitation process for vetting workgroup subject matter experts.

(Pictured from left to right: Brian Shallenberger, Mick Devine, and Clint Lancaster.)

Nevada Congresswoman Visits Las Vegas Tower

Nevada Congresswoman Susie Lee recently visited Las Vegas ATCT (LAS) to say how proud she was of the essential employees who make up the National Airspace System. “LAS was one of the first facilities to close in response to a COVID-19 case in March of 2020,” said Las Vegas TRACON (L30) FacRep Tony Borgert. “Nevada Congresswoman Susie Lee’s staff was in constant contact with us and the members of LAS during those stressful early weeks of the pandemic.” Borgert continued, “The teams at Las Vegas TRACON (L30) and Las Vegas ATCT (LAS) were proud to give the tour and answer questions. Moving into a new state of the art facility just five years ago and implementing Metroplex this year, it’s a great opportunity to show a little of what NextGen looks like in Las Vegas.”

Member Attends Roundtable Discussion with Kansas Congresswoman

Kansas City ATCT (MCI) Vice President Kristen
McTee recently met with Kansas Congresswoman Sharice Davids during a labor roundtable. “She gave an update on the bipartisan transportation & infrastructure bill (Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act),” said McTee. “She then gave me time to speak about NextGen, so I told the attendees that most important to aviation safety professionals is stable, predictable funding, and that shutdowns and funding insecurities only delay NextGen advancements further. At the conclusion of the event, I thanked Congresswoman Davids for her continued support of NATCA.”

Jamie Green Takes Over as New NLC New England Region Representative

Jamie Green (Providence ATCT, PVD) and Andre Jean (Boston TRACON, A90) have switched roles on the National Legislative Committee (NLC). Green is the new New England Region (NNE) representative, taking over from Jean, who now assumes the position of alternate NNE rep. Green had served as alternate rep since last year in addition to working with the NLC as the Rhode Island state coordinator. “I started my journey in NATCA apprehensive of what I could contribute to such a great established leadership team,” said Green. “Over the years I have been blessed with great role models and teachers to help prepare me for this position. I have big shoes to fill following Andre and am so grateful for his mentorship. Just to be a part of this team has been so wonderful, but to lead them is an amazing opportunity.”

Read more.

NATCA 101 Webinar Oct. 15

NATCA 101 is an interactive learning course used to introduce our new members to the organization and structure of NATCA as well as educate and inspire those looking to get more involved. This class provides a foundation with information about NATCA that will help
members understand the organization that is working on their behalf every day. Having the basic knowledge and background of our Union and then building on it with personal involvement are the first steps toward a stronger local, a more powerful national Union, and a better future for your family.

Click here to sign up.

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**NATCA Members Join in ‘Girls in Aviation Day' Programs**

NATCA members joined Women in Aviation International in events planned for girls across the country with the goal of inspiring more young women to pursue aviation fields. NATCA Runway Safety Rep Bridget Singratanakul (Dallas/Fort Worth ATCT, DFW) attended the Girls in Aviation Day event on Sept. 25 at Dallas Executive Airport with her daughters. Speaking at the event was local aviator Wally Funk, a member of NASA’s Mercury 13 group of women who trained for NASA space flight in 1961 who last summer became the oldest person to go to space. Singratanakul and her daughters met Funk at the event (pictured lower right).

“Girls in Aviation Day was a success!” Singratanakul said. “Someone planted the aviation seed in all of us at some point in time. That’s why it is so important to expose the next generation to aviation at a young age. Dream big little ones!”

*(Pictured lower left, from left to right: Dallas Fort Worth Center [ZFW] member David Herrera’s children Deshon and Jaila, Herrera, Amber Stalcup [ZFW], Singratanakul and daughters Dakota and Cecilia.)*

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**Jeff Woods Joins Safety and Technology Dept. as En Route Technology Representative**
NATCA is pleased to announce Jeff Woods as the new En Route Technology Representative in the National Office Safety and Technology Department. Woods recently retired from a 20-year career as an air traffic controller. He worked at Beaumont ATCT (BPT) for two years, followed by six years at Houston Center (ZHU), and the last 12 at Houston TRACON (I90). He brings an abundance of specialized experience and knowledge to his new role as a result of, among other things, having served as NATCA’s representative to the Program Management Office and on NATCA’s National Safety and Tech Leadership Council. NATCA looks forward to having him on the Safety and Technology team.

Click here to read more about Woods.

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