



Disaster Response Update: Recap of Hurricane Ida

From Disaster Response Committee (DRC)

Chair Tom Flanary: The last few weeks have been incredibly busy for the DRC. The Committee has been intimately involved with Hurricane Ida since it made landfall in the Houma, La., area. Numerous members in and around Houma and LaPlace, La., lost their homes or had major damage.

[Read more.](#)



PMO Union Rep Jeff Woods to Retire



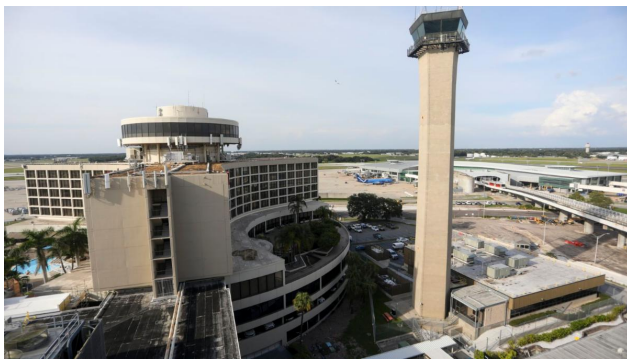
Jeff Woods, who for the past decade has helped strengthen NATCA's collaborative relationship with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) in safety and technology through engagement in a team effort, is retiring Sept. 25 after a 30-year federal career. Woods, who spent the past 20 years as a controller at three

different Texas facilities, served for the last several years as the Union's representative to the Program Management Office and on NATCA's National Safety and Tech Leadership Council. "I've been able to work with a bunch of great people," he said. "Communication has been the key; listening and understanding everyone's perspective, and then being able to pull those conversations together is critical. That, to me, is one of the strongest things about this position, and I've enjoyed being able to do that."

[Read more.](#)

TPA Gets Help to Expedite Tower Replacement

NATCA has joined with Florida Congresswoman Kathy Castor in pushing to expedite the replacement of Tampa ATCT (TPA), which is in deteriorating condition after nearly a half century of service. Rep. Castor issued a press release last month highlighting a letter she sent to Steve Dickson, administrator of the Federal



Aviation Administration, and Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg in which she says the tower could be replaced with funds from the infrastructure bill Congress is currently considering. TPA FacRep Jen McCoy was quoted in the press release, which led to an interview with the Tampa Bay Times in which she detailed the problems with the current tower that are causing distractions for the controllers. "I'm not going to sit here and tell you that the AC going out is a direct safety hazard," McCoy told the newspaper. "We're going to make sure that the flying public is safe. But what it does is, it just adds this distraction. We don't have room for error in our job. The fewer distractions, the better."

[Read more.](#)

IAD Members Help Make Evacuations Possible



Over the past month, Washington Dulles International Airport has been getting an increase of 30-50 operations per day, receiving evacuees from Afghanistan. As an international airport, Dulles is well-positioned to handle these types of missions. It has all the homeland security resources established, plenty of runways to accommodate an increase in operations, and lots of ramp space to park airlift planes as they unload passengers and prepare for their next flights.

[Read more.](#)

Colorado Springs Members Participate in Labor Day Lift Off

Every Labor Day, roughly 70 hot air balloons float effortlessly over the beautiful Colorado Springs landscape during the Labor Day Lift Off.

Colorado Springs ATCT (COS) members also work seamlessly to advise all arriving and departing aircraft about the hot air balloons, the general direction they are located, and

how far away they are from the airport. "For the aircraft remaining in the traffic pattern we switch them to the parallel runway to keep them further away in case any of the balloons drift towards the airfield," said COS member Kerim Feyzullah. "We always keep constant communication with aircraft on the hot air balloons, making sure the aircraft keep them in sight."



[Read more.](#)

CLT Gives President's Award to Chris Riddle



The Charlotte ATCT (CLT) NATCA President's Award is given to a member who goes above and beyond what is done during "duty time" and is always for the betterment of CLT and NATCA. This member exemplifies a person who is respected by their peers and is always willing to go the extra step in ensuring the best possible outcome for all NATCA members.

Congratulations to CLT member Chris Riddle. Said CLT FacRep Anthony Schifano, "Riddle has done outstanding work over the years and has continued to be dedicated to a cause bigger than himself, leaving NATCA and CLT better than he found it."

Union Members Feature: Utility Workers of America

NATCA continues to highlight our union sisters and brothers who are also essential contributors across our nation's workforce, and also AFL-CIO affiliated unions. Today we highlight and thank our siblings of the Utility Workers Union of America (UWUA).



UWUA represents over 50,000 members working in electric, gas, water, nuclear, call center, renewable energy, and related professional and technical fields. Check out their website for an interesting read about the history of unionization of utility workers in America, beginning in the 1930s.

[Read more.](#)

NATCA Office Staff Spotlight: Tom Adcock

Director of Safety and Technology Tom Adcock is originally from Nashville,



Tenn., and most of his family still lives in that area. He has also lived in Atlanta but as an air traffic controller, spent most of his ATC career (33 years) at Miami Center (ZMA) where he served as the local training representative and vice president. "When I became the Article 114 representative for training, I moved to Washington, D.C., and have lived here for the last eight years."

Adcock says his favorite moment while working at NATCA has been "working with new Article 114 reps and helping them prepare to represent the membership. I love seeing them come into their new role, developing as reps, and advocating in that new role on behalf of our members."

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