President Santa Attends AFL-CIO Executive Council Meeting

President Rich Santa recently attended a two-day AFL-CIO Executive Council meeting in Washington. The AFL-CIO Executive Council is comprised of the two top officers and 55 vice presidents. These democratically elected officials represent the 12.5 million members of the AFL-CIO and are responsible for guiding the work of the federation. While meeting, the Executive Council showed their solidarity with SAG-AFTRA and Writers Guild members on the picket lines this summer.
NATCA Members Lead International Aviation Outreach & Education at Oshkosh AirVenture

Each summer, NATCA members join the more than 650,000 aviation enthusiasts from around the world at Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) AirVenture in Oshkosh, Wis. (#OSH23). This 61-year-old premiere aviation event features aircraft demonstrations, aviation education presentations, and outreach to a huge international audience for a full week. In July, NATCA members represented aviation safety professions again at Oshkosh, presenting educational programs, pilot briefings, and workshops to the general aviation (GA) community at NATCA’s booth and on EAA’s main stages.

NATCA members also staffed the KidVenture area, an exhibit designed to get youth excited about aviation. NATCA members teach children about the phonetic alphabet, basic airport facts, and air traffic control concepts. On top of the stage, booth, and educational presentations, NATCA members participated in live EAA Radio interviews, expanding outreach across the world about GA trends and sharing air traffic control knowledge.

Check out the events from AirVenture 2023 in NATCA's photo album here.

NATCA's 2023 Oshkosh volunteers included:

Aaron Katz (Phoenix TRACON, P50)
Carlton Wickstrom (Phoenix TRACON, P50)
Corey Soignet (Houston Intercontinental ATCT, IAH)
Ed Szczuka (Engineer/Central Region, ECE)
Eric Avila (Houston Center, ZHU)
Jacob Elmer (Lexington ATCT, LEX)
Jared Gregg (Southern California TRACON, SCT)
Jeff Litwin (Oakland Center, ZOA)
Jesse Strickland (Houston Center, ZHU)
Boston TRACON Hosts Congressman Pappas for Facility Visit

In July, U.S. Representative Chris Pappas (N.H.-1) and his staff visited Boston TRACON (A90). This was the Congressman’s first visit to a Terminal Radar Approach Control Facility (TRACON). In attendance were A90 FacRep Nicholas Marangos and New England Regional Vice President Mick Devine.

The tour started with a short presentation on how the TRACON differs from a center and tower. After the presentation, the congressman was given a tour of

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John Goebel (Northern California TRACON, NCT)
John Murdock (Philadelphia ATCT, PHL)
Joseph Dringo (Chicago TRACON, A90)
Josh Haviland (Seattle TRACON, S46)
Justin Whetstone (Detroit TRACON, D21)
Karoline Gorman (New York Center, ZNY)
Marcus Miller (Houston Center, ZHU)
Matthew Hull (Palm Beach ATCT/TRACON, PBI)
Matt Trimble (Columbia ATCT, CAE)
Nicholas Roth (John Wayne ATCT, SNA)
Paul Behan (Jacksonville Center, ZJX)
Paul Konosky (Peachtree Dekalb ATCT, PDK)
Richard Kennington (Portland ATCT, PDX)
Scott Hughes (Albuquerque Center, ZAB)
Sean Smith (Albuquerque Center, ZAB)
Tara Zeck (Houston D.W. Hooks ATCT, DWH)
Wendy Smith (Albuquerque ATCT, ABQ)
NATCA Deputy Director of Public Affairs Kelly Richardson
the facility, noting that the building is newer than most FAA facilities. Touring the operation, the congressman sat at a radar scope and saw the large TRACON operation in action.

Throughout the tour, Marangos and Devine discussed challenges facing not just A90, but other facilities in New England and the National Airspace System at large. Staffing concerns and infrastructure needs were the major talking points. Pappas reiterated his strong support for NATCA’s legislative efforts.

PHOTO (left to right): Marangos, Pappas, Devine

Learn more about NATCA’s legislative activism, opportunities to get involved, and NATCA’s efforts from your National Legislative Committee here.