



Aircraft Mechanics Fraternal Association Local 14

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Local 14 Representatives Attend Joint Advisory Council Meeting in Denver



The final Joint Advisory Council (JAC) Meeting for 2011 was held at AMFA National Headquarters in Denver on November 8th. Article XIII of the AMFA Constitution requires that a meeting of the Joint Advisory Council be held once every quarter. The purpose of this meeting is for representatives of each of AMFA's four Locals to assemble under one roof to discuss issues of mutual interest and to provide direction to the National Executive Council (NEC) in pursuing the objectives and goals of the Association.

The JAC Meeting is structured similarly to a regular membership meeting at the Local level—pledge to the flag, roll call of officers and observers, reading of previous meeting minutes, Treasurer's report, unfinished business, and new business. However, the JAC is much longer in duration than a Local meeting—approximately five to eight hours instead of one or two.

The November JAC Meeting began with the annual review of AMFA's insurance policy. Michael Moschetti, of Insurance Services of Colorado, gave an hour-long presentation about the details of our policy and what it covers. Local 14 representatives were surprised to discover that most of what we do locally is covered under the AMFA National policy. Having learned this, we will save money on next year's budget.

The insurance review was followed by an in-depth report on the Aircraft Engineers International (AEI) Congress (AEI is a global organization of aircraft engineers and technicians, of which AMFA is an affiliate), given by Local 14 ASA Airline Representative, Tim Cullen. This year's congress lasted five days and was attended by delegates from forty-three countries. Tim served as AMFA's official delegate. Many of the issues discussed at the AEI Congress would be familiar to any American aircraft technician—whistle-blower protection programs, ratios of licensed to non-licensed technicians, abuse of the MEL program, strikes, duty limits and human factors.



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After a break for lunch, the new business portion of the JAC Meeting began. This portion of the meeting predominantly dealt with issues affecting technicians at Southwest Airlines—the Southwest Airlines / Air Tran seniority integration tentative agreement, the endangerment of the SWA ASAP program by Southwest management, SWA grievance settlement awards, SWA accident investigation Go Team training and the commencement of the SWA contract negotiation process.

Of more interest to Alaska Airlines technicians, the ASA tentative agreement and the changes/benefits that it would bring to our members were reviewed. This was followed by an update on the AMFA organizing campaign at Horizon Airlines and a short discussion on preparations for next year's AMFA National Convention—AMFA constitutional amendment proposals are being accepted until January 8th, and convention delegate training will be held in the spring in Denver.

To conclude the meeting, a vote was taken to determine the location of the next JAC, which will be held on February 7th. The location: Austin, Texas.



If any member has specific questions regarding the November JAC Meeting, he/she may feel free to ask one of our attending officers/representatives: AMFA National Director, Louie Key; AMFA-ASA ASAP ERC Alternate, Brad Fornelius; Local 14 President, Jim Rea; Local 14 Secretary, Tom Thurber; Local 14 Safety and Standards Chair, John Pollom; Local 14 ASA ALR, Tim Cullen, or Local 14 ASA ACC Jason Munson.