NEC Sworn In; Convention Postponed

The year of 2020 was supposed to be filled with monumental activities prescribed by the AMFA Constitution as it was a National Convention and National Officer Election year. The unexpected COVID-19 pandemic, however, altered our schedule for the year.

The AMFA Constitution calls for a National Convention to convene on the first Monday in May of the convention year. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and in an abundance of caution for the health and safety of our union members, the National Executive Council (NEC) issued an Emergency Order in March 2020 to postpone the National Convention until September. Unfortunately, the Convention was subsequently postponed again to January 2021, and then again indefinitely until we can safely convene the delegation in person to conduct the prescribed National Convention business — hopefully, in May 2021.

Even with the postponement of the National Convention, AMFA Delegates presented their respective Local’s nominees for National Officers and the election was conducted in accordance with the procedures and timeline defined in the AMFA Constitution. We would like personally thank all the candidates in the National Officer Election.

On the first Monday in October 2020, the newly elected officers met in Denver to be sworn in as officers of the Fifteenth AMFA NEC. As part of this NEC meeting, we reviewed the accomplishments of the previous four years (2016-2020) and set goals for the next four years (2020-2024).

We are honored to be serving as your AMFA NEC and representing our craft and class of the Aircraft Maintenance Technician and Related positions through 2024.

NEC Resolves to Hold Convention When Safe; Will Poll Delegates to Gauge Participation

Like many organizations, AMFA found itself in the difficult position of having to postpone its 2020 Convention due to COVID. While AMFA was able to hold its National Officer Election, the NEC felt it best to postpone other articles of business until delegates can meet in-person to debate and discuss such important matters.

“With respect to the Bylaws and Constitution by which we operate, AMFA is best suited when members can join together and have their voices heard through debate and collaboration. We just don’t think that a virtual meeting is the proper platform for that to happen,” said National Secretary/Treasurer Jay Johnson.

With a tentative Convention date set for May 2021 in Las Vegas, the NEC will issue periodic surveys to delegates to gauge participation commitment. This pause will hopefully provide adequate opportunity for participants to get vaccinated, if they so choose.

“It is the job of the NEC to ensure that we are acting in the best interest of our membership,” explains Johnson. “We believe that committing to holding our meeting in-person is necessary to maintain the integrity and mission of our democratic Association but that cannot happen until it is safe for our members to do so.”
AMFA has a mobile device app for its members. Available for both Android and Apple tablets and phones, the app is a quick link to the latest news and information from your Union. With built in GrievTrac access, the app also gives our contract representatives private access to file grievances on behalf of our members.

In addition to being a great tool to get Association news, the AMFA app is a quick and easy way for members to access their AMFA Number. The AMFA app is only available for download from the AMFA National Website; it is not found on iTunes.

Download your copy today at: http://apps.unionactive.com/clients/amfa/amfa.html

If you encounter problems registering with the site or downloading the app, contact the AMFA National Office for assistance.
AMFA National is pleased to announce that we are accepting applications for two AMFA Scholarships for 2021. Scholarships will be $2500, payable to each recipient’s institution of higher learning. Those interested in obtaining the scholarship must follow the process listed below to be considered:

Qualifications:
• Applicant must be enrolled as a student in an A&P school or university attempting to obtain their A&P license
• Applicant must be a U.S. citizen
• Applicant must demonstrate a passion for the craft as demonstrated in a 500-word essay described in the application.

Application Process:
• Applications are found on the AMFA National Website on the education page.
• Completed applications must be submitted to AMFA National via email to finance@amfanatl.org or fax to 303-362-7736, including:
  1. Application Form
  2. 500-word essay explaining “what the Dirty Dozen means to you”
  3. Applicant must send transcripts proving current enrollment and grades
• Applications are due no later than February 28, 2021

Selection Process:
The Selection Committee, comprised of National Officers, will review applications and make recommendations for final approval by the National Executive Council (NEC). Once a recipient is chosen and notified, the scholarship will be awarded and paid directly to their institute of higher learning.

Questions, contact the National Secretary/Treasurer at Jay.Johnson@amfanatl.org or 720-744-6632.
Dues Objector Notification

Federal law requires that the Aircraft Mechanics Fraternal Association (AMFA) notify all AMFA-represented employees annually of its dues objector procedures. These procedures require that you notify AMFA between February 1 and March 15, 2021, if you intend to be a dues objector for that year.

Dues objector notices received either before or after these dates will not be accepted and you will not have dues objector status for that year. Dues objectors are required to pay only the portion of dues that is germane to collective bargaining, including but not limited to grievance adjustment and contract administration. The non-germane percentage of dues is set annually by June 1 and is based on an independent CPA’s verification of germane/non-germane expenses for the prior year. A compilation of 2019 expenses was conducted and the fees paid by dues objectors in 2020 were 89.86% of full membership dues.

If a dues objector disagrees with the calculation of the percentage of the reduction, our policy allows for an appeal before an independent arbitrator. Costs of the arbitrator are paid by the Association. Objectors bear the costs of presenting their appeal.

It is important that if you elect to become a dues objector you will no longer be entitled to the rights and privileges of membership, including but not limited to: the right to hold a National or Local office, vote in National or Local elections, attend union meetings, participate in contract negotiations, or vote on a contract ratification. We suggest you consider these restrictions before deciding whether or not you wish to become a dues objector.

To receive more information on filing for dues objector status, please call the AMFA National Office at (303) 752-2632 or write to AMFA National, 7853 E. Arapahoe Court, Suite 1100, Centennial, CO, 80112.