The NALC Veterans Group is more than 10,000 members strong. When it was launched in 2015, the group’s primary goal was to provide meaningful recognition for these members’ and their military service, and to express the union’s sincere gratitude.

To join the group, you must be an NALC member in good standing—active or retired—who also is a military veteran. Members of the NALC Auxiliary also are eligible to join.

Once you’ve joined the group, you’ll be sent a gold Veterans Group lapel pin, along with a letter of thanks from NALC President Fredric Rolando on behalf of the union. Our intent is to provide a tangible expression of sincere thanks for your continued service, as well as to provide a meaningful forum for NALC’s military veterans.

Over the last two years, The Postal Record has occasionally carried articles from NALC’s Retirement, Workers’ Compensation, Contract Administration, Legislative/Political and Community Services departments that have focused on veterans’ rights and benefits. There also have been special stories about individual veterans that highlight their personal military history or their current work in their communities. You can also find information and news about veterans at nalc.org/veterans.

The NALC Veterans Group has its own space and a great camaraderie, all of which was on display at our 2016 national convention in Los Angeles, when group members in attendance wore newly minted Veterans Group T-shirts. It was an amazing sight to see thousands of specially outfitted members literally wearing their pride—shoulders back and chins up.

Now, group members can buy these special union-made T-shirts from NALC’s Supply Department—plus new hats and patches that have been made available for the first time. The T-shirts display side-by-side silhouettes, one of a letter carrier and the other of a service member, that capture the unique distinction group members have of having served America in two separate roles. The hat (available in black or camouflage) and the patch carry the group’s logo.

Only NALC Veterans Group members are able to buy these items, and it’s easy to do. Simply visit nalc.org, click on the “Members Only” button in the upper right-hand corner, and sign in. If you’re a current group member, an icon labeled “Veterans Group” will appear on your home page. Click on it to access a fillable order form for a T-shirt ($15 each), patch ($2 each) and hat ($15 each). All prices include shipping. You can order all the items you’d like and your invoice will calculate your total cost automatically. Next, click “Print Invoice” and mail your payment along with the invoice to NALC Veterans Group Order, c/o National Association of Letter Carriers, 100 Indiana Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20001-2144. Alternatively, you can order by phone and pay with a credit card by calling the NALC Supply Department at 202-662-2873.

If you are a veteran and wish to join the group, you can request that a sign-up card be sent to you by calling 202-662-2489. Branch presidents can access a list of their branch members who are signed up for the group by accessing the “Members Only” portal at nalc.org—click on the “Veterans Group” tab.

The NALC Veterans Group continues to grow and evolve. Some of that is happening organically, driven by those in the group. They share their ideas, concerns and personal stories, and those, in turn, help drive our organizational plans. The group flourishes when you sign up and grows as your show your pride. And now, it’s easy to do both of those things. Carry on!