Scholarships deadline approaches

In honor of NALC’s president from 1941 to 1962, the William C. Doherty Scholarship Fund will again award five $4,000 scholarships to children of members in good standing.

The John T. Donelon Scholarship Fund will award one scholarship in honor of Donelon, longtime NALC assistant to three national presidents between 1941 and 1976.

Applicants must be high school seniors and must meet all of the following eligibility criteria to be considered:

1. Applicant must be the son, daughter, or legally adopted child of a letter carrier NALC member in good standing—active, retired or deceased. Stepchildren and grandchildren are eligible if they live with the letter carrier in a regular parent-child relationship.
2. Applicant’s parent must be a member in good standing of NALC for at least one year prior to making application.
3. Applicant must be a high school senior when making application and must submit the application form signed by the NALC member and an officer of the member’s NALC branch. The form must be returned to NALC Headquarters by Dec. 31.

The form, containing more information, was published in recent editions of The Postal Record, and it is also available for download at nalc.org.

2016 Penalty Overtime Exclusion period

As referenced in Article II, Sections 4 and 5 of the National Agreement between NALC and USPS, the December period during which penalty overtime regulations are not applicable consists of four consecutive service weeks. This year, the December Penalty Overtime Exclusion period begins Pay Period 25-16, Week 2 (Dec. 3) and ends Pay Period 01-17, Week 1 (Dec. 30).

Collective-bargaining update

In the December issue of The Postal Record, NALC President Fredric Rolando provided an update on the collective-bargaining process between the union and the U.S. Postal Service.

“We are continuing to engage the Postal Service in negotiations for a new contract,” he wrote in his President’s Message. “We continue to have productive discussions in many areas of our National Agreement, including increased CCA pay and benefits, step advancements for former transitional employees, and the issue of financially rewarding all letter carriers for their contributions to the operational success of the Postal Service.

“We are continuing these discussions because the path to a new agreement remains open. As long as that path remains open and we continue to make progress, we will continue to pursue it. However, we are fully prepared to pursue our goals through interest arbitration if progress toward a good contract stalls or if the path to an acceptable agreement closes.”

NALC and the USPS announced on May 20 that the bargaining period would be extended beyond the midnight expiration of the 2011-2016 National Agreement. As bargaining continues during this extended period of negotiations, the terms and conditions of that contract remain in effect. Any change in the status of contract negotiations will be posted at nalc.org and sent via push notification through the NALC Member App for smartphones.

Register now for 2017 Food Drive

Early registration for the 2017 Letter Carriers’ “Stamp Out Hunger” Food Drive has begun. Branch presidents can access the registration form posted to the Members Only portal at nalc.org.

The 25th annual food drive will be held on its traditional second Saturday in May—Saturday, May 13, 2017. Those who register now will secure their orders for Food Drive reminder postcards.

“If you haven’t yet created your Members Only portal account, go to nalc.org and click on the box in the upper right-hand corner of the screen labeled “Members Only,” then enter the simple information required to create your account access.

“If you have any trouble creating your account, call the NALC Membership Department at 1-844-282-5265.

Once you’re in the portal, select the “Branch Presidents” button and then select the “2017 Letter Carrier Food Drive” button.

Complete all of the information fields, including how many residential deliveries are in your branch’s delivery area. Note that this becomes your order for postcards.

Also, be sure to confirm whether you have a sponsor for bags and, if so, identify the sponsor(s).

When you are finished, select “Complete registration.”

You must complete all fields for your registration to be confirmed. You will receive a confirmation notification once you are confirmed.

2017 Branch Officers Training—update

The two sessions of NALC’s Branch Officers Training scheduled for 2017 are now full.

Branch Officers Training sessions consist of three and a half days of educational seminars tailored to assist branch presidents, vice presidents, treasurers, recording secretaries, financial secretaries and trustees in the performance of their duties.

One session of Branch Officers Training will take place Jan. 10-13 in Phoenix. The other session will take place March 6-9 in St. Louis.

A complete overview of what the training covers was included in Secretary-Treasurer Nicole Rhine’s November Postal Record article.