Virtual conference for deaf and hard-of-hearing members to be held

NALC Director of Safety and Health Manual, L. Pelagie, and Director of Retired Members Dan Tol have announced a virtual conference for deaf and hard-of-hearing members to be held Sunday, Aug. 8, at 2 p.m. Eastern.

This conference is designed to provide a forum for deaf and hard-of-hearing members to address issues important to them and to learn from each other. The conference will feature a variety of speakers and discussions on topics relevant to deaf and hard-of-hearing members.

Registration

The conference will open on July 31 and will close the day of the conference, Aug. 8. To register, go to nalc.org and click on the Members Only portal in the upper right-hand corner. Once logged in to the Members Only portal, click on “Conferences/Meetings Registration,” which will be a list of upcoming events. From there, select “The Dead and Hard of Hearing Conference” and submit your registration information.

Branch and state presidents also can register their members by logging on to the Members Only portal and then clicking the “Meetings Registration” button, which will display a list of upcoming meetings. From there, presidents can register members by entering their last names in the “Search box” and selecting the correct members from the drop-down box. A member card also can be accessed from the “Registry” tab by checking the box under theialelelenta icon corresponding to the member.

Training materials

Training materials and other pertinent information will be provided in the form of PDFs. Access to these PDFs also will be available to registrants on their Members Only page. The documents can be printed, copied or saved.

Accessing meeting information and joining the meeting

When a registered member wants to access training materials or join the conference, he or she can go to nalc.org and log in to the Members Only portal. Just below the search box, a list of materials that the member will possess the “Dead and Hard of Hearing Conference” button. For each meeting, there will be three buttons:

- The “Documents” button, which will give the member access to the training materials.
- The “Meeting” button, which will give the member access to a list of topics if any. and the “Join” button. The “Join” button will appear 30 minutes prior to the start time on the day of the meeting.

For the meeting scheduled for Aug. 8, you will be logged on to the Members Only portal 30 minutes prior to the start of the meeting. The website will tell you to visit the home page and re-enter to access the “Join” button.

Accessing meeting information:

Those who identify as deaf or hard of hearing can self-identify by going to the NALC website at nalc.org, clicking on the Members Only portal in the upper right-hand corner, and logging in. From there, you can simply check the box to indicate you wish to be identified as deaf or hard of hearing. Doing so will tell NALC who you are and which branch you belong to, for the purpose of providing services and help when needed.

NALC Health Benefit Plan Seminar update

Despite our efforts to host in-person events, as a health benefit plan, our primary concern must be to ensure all necessary steps are taken to protect the health and wellness of our members. So, we are excited to announce: The NALC Health Benefit Plan is going virtual for the 35th National Health Benefit Plan Seminar.

Save the date for Oct. 5-8.

Although the details have not been finalized, the staff at the Plan is diligently working on preparations for this virtual event to include a variety of presentations, instructional modules, webinars and much more.

There will be a few new opportunities available to all health benefit representatives and other branch officers entitled in the Plan. Registration information and event details will be announced as soon as they become available.

Although this will be a new experience for everyone, we are confident that this is not an event you will want to miss. Mark your calendars today.

NALC March Branch Challenge for MDA now underway

With the COVID-19 pandemic making it difficult for branches to hold MDA fundraisers in support of such causes as summer camps and medical research, NALC Assistant to the President for Community Services Christine Villa Davidson issued a branch Deliver the Cure challenge for July. She asked branches to create a virtual fundraising page to support NALC’s 2021 campaign for MDA, and called on every letter carrier to give at least $5 to the cause, either personally or at their branch’s donation page.

It’s easy to create a fundraising page by going to mdadonorscope.com/event/nalc and clicking “create a page.” Donation buttons are backed with all fundraisers listed on the page.

Here are other efforts after the 2020 MDA campaign:

- MDAB Virtual Walk—Aug. 7
- mdadonorscope.com/event/nalc and clicking “create a page.”
- MDAB Golf bags on sale for $10 each
- mdadonorscope.com/participant/TEAMNALC/MDAB
- MDAB poker chips on sale for $2 each
- mdadonorscope.com/participant/TEAMNALC/MDAB
- MDAB “I look forward to seeing the different ways, including online donor campaigns, that our branches decide to keep missions running despite the MDA challenges to leaders of branch offi
cers’ efforts,” Villa Davidson said.

Checks and DSOs received in July can count toward the NALC Branch Challenge for MDA. In denoun
tions using the NALC Donation Allocation Form, NALC members can donate to MDA, 161 N. Clark St., Suite 355, Chicago, IL 60601.

Also, please send a copy of the allocation form and checks to Headquarters for your records.

NALC Donor Drive

A reminder for NALC branches for 2021: NALC Headquarters is matching every contribution from the branch’s involvement in the NALC Donor Drive. Please mail proof of branch donations (copy of branch check and food bank receipt) and information on the food bank to: Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive, 1/2 NALC, 120 Indiana Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20001.