NALC Director of Membership
Wayne Nicely retired in June following 38 years of service at the union’s Vincent R. Sombrotto Building in Washington, DC.

Nicely’s mother had worked for NALC for many years in the union’s Membership Department. A few months after her death in 1975, he took what eventually became a 13-year stint in the NALC’s Supply Department. Then, when an opportunity to work in Membership opened in the spring of 1988, Nicely jumped at the chance to work in the same department that his mother had.

In 2006, then-NALC President Bill Young promoted Nicely to director of the department.

“Getting to know the members and national officers, and talking to them” are among Nicely’s fondest memories of working at Headquarters, he said. “I met a lot of good people and made some really good friends.”

NALC President Fredric Rolando promoted Joseph Barbour to take over as Membership director following Nicely’s retirement.

Barbour began working for the U.S. Letter Carriers Mutual Benefit Association in March 1993, starting as a filing clerk before moving up through several positions within that organization. In March 2005, he took a position in the NALC Membership Department.

Barbour had been working in Membership for more than three years when he was promoted to process payroll in the NALC Finance Department, a position he held until his promotion to Membership director in June.

“I wish Wayne the best of luck as he starts this new chapter in his life,” President Rolando said, “and I look forward to working with Joseph for many more years to come.”

In other personnel news, Rolando has appointed Brian Renfroe of Hattiesburg, MS Branch 938 as special assistant to the president. Since 2011, Renfroe had worked in the contract administration unit at NALC Headquarters in Washington. Before that, he served as president of Branch 938 and of the Mississippi State Association. (See the June 2013 Postal Record.)

President Rolando also has appointed Jim Yates of Long Island Merged, NY Branch 6000 and Patty Joseph of Fall River, MA Branch 51 as national field administrative assistants. Yates and Joseph work closely with Director of City Delivery Lew Drass on city delivery and contract administration issues. Both veteran letter carriers already had become familiar faces at NALC Headquarters after tackling some special projects in Washington.

Yates has been a carrier since 1994 and has served Branch 6000 as a steward, trustee, safety officer and health benefits/mutual benefits representative. He also has served as an arbitration advocate and a Step B representative.

A 27-year letter carrier, Joseph has served Branch 51 as a steward, vice president and executive vice president, and has worked as an arbitration advocate and a Step B representative. She also has participated on a number of route inspection agreement task forces.