

Some NALC Headquarters history



**Judy
Willoughby**

As assistant secretary-treasurer, one of my duties is being in charge of maintaining and operating the NALC Headquarters building, located at 100 Indiana Ave. NW in Washington, DC. I assumed this duty immediately after being installed on Dec. 14, 2014. While I'm the officer in charge, it is really individuals on staff who maintain and operate our building.

We have two super engineers who run our heating and cooling systems and perform electrical and plumbing duties as well as many other functions. Mike Hicok and Bill Jenkins have been a part of the NALC Headquarters for more than 25 years. They know every nook and cranny of this building and take pride in its upkeep. When I toured the B2 (base-

ment) level of our building, where the engineers spend a lot of their time, I learned that the NALC is very fortunate to have these two employees. My first remark to Secretary-Treasurer Nicole Rhine was, "Wow, this looks like an operating room." That is just how clean the facility is in the basement.

In addition, Owen Croggon, our carpenter, maintains with great pride the interior portion of our building and his excellent work can be seen on every floor. Desks, shelves, countertops, valances and many other wood works are his own, and you cannot buy anything better than what he can make. Owen also has longevity with the NALC, with more than 25 years of service.

Along with Owen, Gilberto Castro, our painter, keeps up the interior and his work is spectacular, like the others'. Gilberto began work with us part time, and this year he started full time after longtime painter John Jones retired. We all welcome Gilberto as part of our NALC HQ team.

When entering our building today, you may be greeted by one of three other employees who take pride in ensuring our security is top-notch. James Scarborough (guard/driver), Towan Gallion (guard) and Ramon Turner (guard/porter) are security personnel and do an outstanding job. James is also our NALC driver and is often seen taking employees and/or officers to various meetings around town. He is a professional and certainly knows how to maneuver the streets of DC.

Your Headquarters building is in superb condition, inside and out, thanks to these employees. All are union employees, and they take great pride in being stewards of your building.

Another grand feature of the building is its outer shell, made of unpolished, high-quality Vermont marble. There are only a few other buildings in Washington, DC, with

marble from the same quarry—including the U.S. Supreme Court and the Jefferson Memorial—making the NALC building architecturally significant.

If you've ever been to DC but have not had the opportunity to tour *your* building, we welcome you to do so next time you visit. It is always a pleasure to meet members and their families visiting the building. No appointment is necessary, and tour hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

NALC Headquarters was first dedicated in August 1952. In 1943, then-NALC President William C. Doherty asked the members to accept a dues increase to create a special building fund. At the time, the NALC did not own a building of our own and was renting space at another location.

Below are some of the locations where NALC Headquarters offices was located prior to moving into our current location at 100 Indiana Ave. NW:

- **Through November 1893:** 206 and 208 East 9th St., New York, NY
- **December 1893–May 1894:** Former *Washington Post* building, 10th and D Streets NW, Washington, DC
- **June 1894–November 1895:** 339 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC
- **December 1895–1897:** 706 E St. NW, Washington DC (opposite the Post Office Department)
- **1897–December 1901:** Hutchins Building, corner of 10th and D Sts. NW (no longer there; it's where the J. Edgar Hoover FBI building is located today)
- **January 1902–April 1903:** *Times* Building, corner of 10th and D Sts. NW, Washington, DC (This might be the same as the Hutchins Building, with a change of name.)
- **May 1903–December 1908:** Traders Bank Building, Pennsylvania Ave. and 10th St. NW, Washington, DC (no longer there)
- **January 1909–October 1917:** 945 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC (no longer there—now the Department of Justice building takes up the entire block)
- **November 1917–December 1920:** Kenois Building 11th and G Streets NW, Washington, DC (no longer there; newer buildings at that intersection)
- **January 1921–April 1948:** AFL Building, 901 Massachusetts Ave. NW, Washington, DC (still there, now the headquarters of the United Association)
- **May 1948–August 1952:** 1525 H St. NW, Washington, DC (near Lafayette Park)
- **August 1952–present:** 100 Indiana Ave. NW, Washington, DC

We hope you have an opportunity to come visit your building in the future.

I want to take this opportunity to wish all members, family and friends a most enjoyable, happy and safe holiday season.