

## 2016 convention



**Nicole  
Rhine**

**A**s you know, the 70th biennial convention of the NALC will be held this August in Los Angeles.

What you may not know is that ever since our founding meeting held in Milwaukee in August of 1889, NALC members have met in national convention to set the policy and direction of the national union. The first national convention was held in Boston in 1890 and, at the time, NALC held annual national conventions. It wasn't until 1903 that the convention went to a biennial format.

It was in 1946 that the NALC went to even-numbered years for the biennial convention. The 1946 convention was held in Detroit and was three years after the 1943 conven-

tion held in Denver. As you may have already guessed, the NALC skipped one year during World War II.

If it will be your first national convention this summer, welcome! As a first-time delegate, you will be amazed by the size of the delegation at the convention. But most importantly, as a delegate, you'll participate in the democratic process of making the decisions for the future of this wonderful union. It's a serious responsibility, and I hope you take pride in being elected as a delegate.

While this will be my fourth convention as a resident national officer—and 10th overall—it will be my first as your secretary-treasurer. I can attest that lots of folks at Headquarters and at Branch 24 in Los Angeles, the convention's host branch, have been working very hard for many months now to put together the convention.

**I want to remind all delegates of a few important items** concerning the national convention:

**Registration**—The registration procedure at the national convention will be different this year from past conventions. As was reported in the Convention Call sent to all branches and state associations last fall, all delegates to the national convention will be required to register individually. All delegates will also be required to show a photo ID when they register.

Registration of delegates will be held in the South Lobby of the Los Angeles Convention Center on Saturday, Aug. 13, from noon to 5 p.m.; Sunday, Aug. 14, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Monday, Aug. 15, from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. Please note that Sunday's registration will begin an hour earlier than was reported in the Convention Call.

As has been the practice in the past, once the registra-

tion area closes on Monday, delegates may still register at the NALC Headquarters office located in the Los Angeles Convention Center.

**Delegates**—As reported previously, June 15 is the deadline for registering delegates to the national convention. Delegates are reminded that the credential cards sent to branch secretaries must be signed by both the branch president and branch secretary before being presented at registration. Delegate-at-large credential cards must also be signed by the state president and state secretary before being presented at registration.

Branch secretaries (or another branch officer, if the secretary is not attending the convention) should also bring their delegate eligibility lists and any correspondence related to delegate registration with them to the convention.

Alternate delegates who replace registered delegates need to bring to the convention their letters of authorization to be presented at registration. Under the *NALC Constitution*, before an alternate delegate is registered as a replacement for a regular delegate, written evidence must be presented stating that the duly elected delegate is unable to attend the convention.

Article 4, Section 3 of the *NALC Constitution* reads in part:

An alternate delegate before being admitted to the National Convention shall present either his/her certificate of election or written evidence from the Secretary of his/her Branch, or from the delegate for whom he/she is elected alternate, that the elected delegate is unable to attend the meeting of the National Association.

**Convention sessions**—Business sessions of the national convention are scheduled at the Los Angeles Convention Center from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Thursday and then 8 a.m. to noon on Friday. Please note that the times for Friday's business session is a change from past conventions.

**Proposed amendments**—As reported previously, all amendments to the *NALC Constitution* to be submitted for consideration at the national convention must be received by my office by June 15—which is 60 days in advance of the convention, as prescribed by the *NALC Constitution*. Any proposed amendments will appear in next month's *Postal Record* for the membership to review.

**Proposed resolutions**—As reported previously, resolutions to be considered by delegates at the national convention must be received by my office by June 15 in order to be printed in the *Resolutions and Amendments* book provided to delegates at the convention. Resolutions received after June 15 may still be considered at the convention.