News



Technology advances NALC launches members-only portal

ast month, NALC quietly made a small addition to the upper right-hand corner of its website: It added a white button with red lettering that says, "MEMBERS ONLY." This modest gateway is a portal to big changes in how NALC will share information exclusively with NALC members. The members-only portal allows an individual member, and only that member, to review his or her membership information. And in the near future, that user will see a whole lot more.

"Since we launched the NALC website in the 1990s, our goal has been to give all members the information they need online, in the most convenient form possible," NALC President Fredric Rolando said. "We will never stop looking at new and improved ways to do that."

After you click on the button on the home page at nalc.org, you will be asked to log in by creating an account. Enter some basic information and then you will be asked to create a password and security questions to help you regain access if you forget your password.

Once you have created your account, you will see your member information, including your name, address, branch number and much more. From here, you can see your contributions to the Letter Carrier Political Fund and your enrollment in the Health Benefit Plan. (If you need to make changes to your membership information, you can do so by calling the NALC Membership Department at 202-393-4695.)

From there, you will be able to open and read the 2016 NALC Shop Steward's Guide to Preserving the Right of Letter Carriers to be Treated with Dignity and Respect, a booklet never before available online.

"Sometimes there is information that we want to keep solely in the hands of our members," Rolando said, "and this portal gives us a way to try to limit it to our members as much as we can."

Also, having an online location dedicated to individual members will allow NALC to enable access to unique information for those users. If you're an arbitration advocate, for example, Headquarters can grant you access to a program to help you research arbitration decisions. If you attended the national convention in Los Angeles this summer, Headquarters has already granted you access to see and download some of the PowerPoint presentations from the workshops held at that convention.

This is only the start. Development has begun on tools for members of the Veterans Group, LCPF contributors, branch presidents and many others.

"As we've seen, technology allows us to communicate in new and exciting ways," Rolando said. "I think members will be excited when they see what we have in store for them." PR



Five-star rating for NALC App

national convention this past summer, the NALC Member App for iPhone and Android smartphones has become a hit with members.

More than 15,000 letter carriers have installed the app on their phones as of mid-October, and hundreds more are putting it on their phones every day.

Reviews on the Apple App Store and Google Play Store have been overwhelmingly positive, with average ratings of 5 stars and 4.9 stars, respectively:

- Keith Hooks exclaimed in August: "Outstanding job! This is a much-needed resource for all members to use. Another addition to the arsenal."
- Elisabeth raved in August:
 "Great! Informative! Interactive!
 Finally, an NALC app for the
 membership! Thank you."
- **Kara Philmore** singled out what she liked about it in October: "The calendar! It's awesome! **\"**"
- And George Kell summed it up in August: "Know your rights! A great resource to have to ensure your rights or the rights of your brothers and sisters are not being violated."

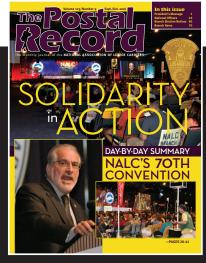
The app was developed at NALC Headquarters with the needs of all members in mind. It contains links to workplace resources, including the National Agreement, the *JCAM*, the MRS, CCA resources and more. It also

includes legislative tools, such as a bill tracker, an individualized list of your congressional representatives and information on the Letter Carrier Political Fund. And one of the most useful features for all letter carriers: an interactive non-scheduled days calendar.

Once you give the app your home ZIP code, it will give you the correct legislative information, including identifying your members of Congress. You also can sign up for notifications based on your interests.

"We know that every member is unique and how you interact with the union is just as unique," President Rolando said. "Some members are involved in enforcing the contract. Some are involved in the legislative or political processes. Some participate in the food drive. Whatever your interests, this app is made for you."

The app is free and available in the Apple App Store for iPhones or Google Play for Android phones. For more information about the app and an easy how-to guide on installation, go to nalc.org/app. PR



Correction:

In the Sept./Oct. issue of *The Postal Record*, one of the resolutions passed at the national convention was not included in the list of passed resolutions and amendments that appeared on page 41. The legislative resolution came from the floor and called on NALC to make preserving door delivery a priority campaign.