

# Veterans Group

For more information, go to [nalc.org/veterans](http://nalc.org/veterans).



North Florida Branch 53 participates in the Veterans Day parade in Jacksonville.

## Additional NALC Veterans Group members

**B**elow are the new Veterans Group members who joined after the November issue of *The Postal Record*, with the full list of Veterans Group members, went to press. Unfortunately,

- Thomas Scarpelli Jr. of Camarillo, CA Br. 4114
- Michelle Grimes of Central CA Br. 231
- Joseph Witt of Garden Grove, CA Br. 1100
- Brian James of Centennial, CO Br. 5996
- Jordan Hickombottom of Denver, CO Br. 47
- Carlos Oviedo of Central FL Br. 1091
- Robert Stevens III of Clearwater, FL Br. 2008
- Shenita Rhone-Rolle of South FL Br. 1071
- Vanessa Kowalski of Spacecoast FL Br. 2689

some of the applications did not arrive in time for that issue and their names are being run here.

To join, go to [nalc.org/veterans](http://nalc.org/veterans), fill out and print the membership form,

- Patricia McNamara of W. Palm Beach, FL Br. 1690
- Howard Ward of Chicago, IL Br. 11
- David Bohler of Peoria, IL Branch 31 Br. 31
- Austin Hall of Southern IL Merged Br. 1197
- Justin Jones of Louisville, KY Br. 14
- David McHugh of Southeast MA Mgd. Br. 18
- Colin Cordima of NH Mgd. Br. 44
- James Petersen of Bozeman, MT Br. 1028
- Chester Isaacs III of Buffalo/Western NY Br. 3

and then mail the completed application to: NALC Veterans Group, National Association of Letter Carriers, 1101 Northchase Parkway SE, Suite 3, Marietta, GA 30067.

- Emily Simpson of Rochester, NY Br. 210
- Vernon Tiplados of Burlington, NC Br. 2262
- Miles Scott of Cleveland, OH Br. 40
- Lavelle Burrage of Cleveland, OH Br. 40
- James Fetters of Dayton, OH Br. 182
- Christopher Cotto of San Juan, PR Br. 869
- Ventura Bonilla of Houston, TX Br. 283
- Leonard Garvin Jr. of Seattle, WA Br. 79
- Dan Dickerson of Wenatchee, WA Br. 1350

## Veteran profile: Byron Shelton

**B**yron Shelton has been a letter carrier for 26 years and an officer with Central Florida Branch 1091 for 18 years—the past four as president.

Before his postal career, Shelton served six years in the Navy, helping planes land and take off from military ships and performing other ship duties.

“I’m a proud veteran,” he said.

While in the military, Shelton met his wife, whom he has been married to for 34 years. As a military member, he was required to travel a lot, so when the Sheltons had their first daughter, they decided it was time to

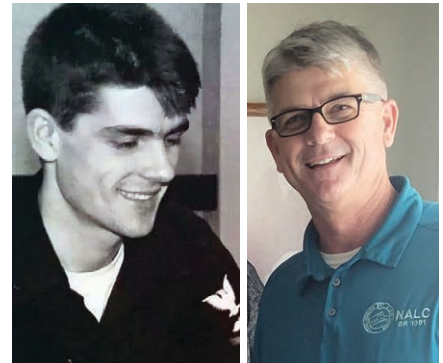
leave the Navy.

After being discharged, Shelton lived on a small farm in southern Indiana, opening a landscaping and irrigation business, which he ran for about two years. Then they moved to Florida, and Shelton looked for a new job.

A friend who was also a veteran and worked for the Postal Service told him that a lot of veterans choose to become letter carriers. USPS offered a good retirement plan and health benefits, which Shelton valued after starting his family.

Shelton was able to draw many similarities between his military and postal careers. They both require attention to detail and the ability to follow instructions. Service and dedication also are needed in both careers.

“You’re providing a service whether you’re representing carriers or representing your country,” Shelton said. “Most important is your integrity and your [sense of] responsibility.”

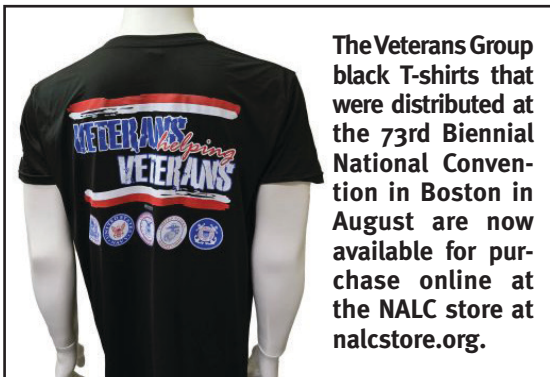


Shelton when he was in the Navy (l) and now.

In the Navy, Shelton gained the type of experience that he said helped him in his past and current leadership positions. He was in charge of 17 people on his ship, making sure they did everything to keep the ship running properly.

Shelton enjoys being branch president, saying, “It is so rewarding... The support of my co-workers is incredible.”

“There’s probably nothing that I would want to change, you know, the experiences and the relationships that I’ve made within the military or typically among the veterans,” he said. “And I think that correlates to the letter carriers and definitely within the NALC with the brothers and sisters.”



The Veterans Group black T-shirts that were distributed at the 73rd Biennial National Convention in Boston in August are now available for purchase online at [nalcstore.org](http://nalcstore.org).