

# The American Privilege

In September, I had the opportunity to visit our nation's capitol, Washington, D.C., where I attended the annual meeting of the National Fraternal Congress of America (NFCA). The NFCA is a trade association representing 73 fraternal benefit societies including National Mutual Benefit. This meeting is held to discuss and address the issues within our industry.

While in Washington, I also had the opportunity to visit the offices of several senators and members of Congress. I was there specifically to talk to them about the meaningful work that fraternal benefit societies like National Mutual Benefit do to help people in communities across the nation. At first I was a little awestruck by just the fact that I had this opportunity, but soon realized that the staff members were genuinely interested in what I had to say. After all, I am a constituent and they are there to listen and consider my opinions.

Reflecting on my experiences during this trip, I couldn't help but remind myself how lucky we are to be citizens of the United States of America. Sure we all have our differences, and those differences are brought to a greater light during a Presidential election year. But being free to have and discuss our differences is just one reason this is the greatest country in the world.



Fraternally,

George F. Yanna  
President

## National Mutual Benefit—A Financially Strong Organization

Because of recent changes in the financial markets around the world, I wanted to let you know that National Mutual Benefit continues to be a financially strong and secure fraternal benefit society. Our organization has always followed a conservative investment policy with the best interests of our members in mind.

Regarding our investments, we purchase only investment grade and government bonds. The mortgages that we hold are strictly and individually underwritten and are of the highest quality—none are subprime and all are administered internally. We do own a small portfolio of equities, but they are professionally managed and have performed well through the years.

The bottom line is, despite all of the turmoil in the financial markets lately, our capital base and financial strength remain very solid. National Mutual Benefit has always been conservatively managed in order to provide our members with the security they deserve, particularly in difficult economic times such as these. If you, or anyone, has any concerns whatsoever, please feel free to call me or Vice President of Operations/Secretary Steven Reindl, at our Home Office (608-833-1936/800-779-1936).

Thank you for your continued confidence.

George F. Yanna, President

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**ADDRESS CHANGE NOTICE:** With the new postal regulations that went into effect on May 14, 2007, it is very important that NMB keeps its member address records up-to-date. There are two convenient ways for you to inform us when you have an address change. You can either fill out the address change section on the "Member Information and Orders" postage-paid card found in every issue of *The Benefit News* or go to our Web site at [www.nmblife.org](http://www.nmblife.org). Click on Member Access under Secure Logins and choose Address Change Form.

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