

# Notice of Election

**I**N SEPTEMBER 2006, NATIONAL MUTUAL BENEFIT will be conducting the election of the Board of Directors under the provisions of its Bylaws. Four directors will be elected to serve four-year terms that begin on January 1, 2007. Along with the President, these individuals preside as the Board of Directors of NMB and accept the responsibility and duties of guiding the Society as it conducts its business and plans for the future.

All benefit members age 16 and older will have the opportunity to vote for and elect the outside directors via a mail ballot. This democratic process gives all of our eligible benefit members a chance to take part in the election.

Procedures for the entire election process will be followed in accordance with the current Bylaws of National Mutual Benefit and will be subject to all qualifications and rules stated therein. The current Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of the Society were published in the Winter 2005 issue of *The Benefit News*, which was mailed to all member households. You may also receive a copy by contacting the Secretary of National Mutual Benefit, David R. Fiess, at the Home Office in Madison, Wisconsin.

Ballots for the election will be mailed in September, and we hope all of our eligible benefit members take part in this important process and vote.



## Meet Your Directors

The Board of Directors of National Mutual Benefit consists of five individuals; one who is President/CEO of the Society, and four of whom serve as outside directors. Those persons who currently give their time and expertise as members of National Mutual Benefit's Board are:

### George F. Yanna

George F. Yanna became President/CEO and a member of National Mutual Benefit's Board of Directors in August 1999. He has been employed by NMB since January of 1978 and has served the Society in many different managerial and functional areas during this time.



Prior to his appointment as President, Yanna held the dual titles of Corporate Secretary and Assistant Treasurer.

Mr. Yanna holds a bachelor of science degree in business administration from Cardinal Stritch University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and an associate degree in accounting from Madison Area Technical College. He has also received the prestigious Fellow, Life Management Institute (FLMI) designation with distinction from the Life Office Management Association, as well as other designations.

He has been active in various trade organizations, having been president of the Wisconsin Insurance Association and on the Wisconsin Fraternal Congress board of directors. On the national level, Yanna is involved with the National Fraternal Congress of America (NFCA). In this trade organization that represents America's fraternal benefit societies, he served on both the Credentials and Resolutions Committees and is currently going through the officer chairs of the President's Section.

His civic and community involvement include volunteering with Habitat for Humanity building projects, the Meals for Madison

program, and JOIN HANDS DAY events. He is also very active in coaching youth basketball and softball in his community.

Mr. Yanna and his wife, Carol, have a daughter and live in Verona, Wisconsin.

### Thomas R. Johnson

Thomas R. Johnson, CPA, was elected to National Mutual Benefit's Board of Directors in May 1993. He has provided compliance and consulting services to several insurance companies during his career. He has expertise in auditing, accounting, and financial reporting; strategic and business planning; mergers and acquisitions; and tax compliance and planning.



Mr. Johnson received his bachelor of business administration degree from the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater in 1971. He is a managing director and partner in the Madison, Wisconsin, office of RSM McGladrey, Inc. and McGladrey & Pullen, LLP, the fifth largest certified public accounting and consulting organization in the country. Johnson is a member of both the Wisconsin and American Institutes of Certified Public Accountants.

His civic and community involvement include active membership in the Downtown Madison Rotary Club. He is a member of the board and treasurer of the Norman Basset Foundation, Ronald McDonald House of Madison, and the Business and Education Partnership, an organization of business and education leaders that provides economic education opportunities for youth. He has also served on the Dane County United Way Campaign Cabinet. He is a member of NMB's Madison, Wisconsin, Branch 400.

Mr. Johnson and his wife, Karen, have three grown daughters and reside in Fitchburg, Wisconsin.

### **Nancy Nelson Heykes**

Nancy Nelson Heykes was elected to National Mutual Benefit's Board of Directors in February 1998. She earned a bachelor of arts degree in journalism from UW-Madison; graduated from UW-Madison Law School, J.D.; and received her masters in business administration, executive program, from UW-Milwaukee. Since March 2004, she has been executive director of the Fox Cities Rotary Multicultural Center in Appleton, Wisconsin. For the six years prior, she had been a fund-raising and planning consultant with the Meyer Heykes Nonprofit Partnership.



Mrs. Heykes has over 25 years of fraternal experience. She joined Aid Association for Lutherans (AAL; now Thrivent Financial for Lutherans), the largest fraternal benefit society in the United States, in 1977 and served in various legal and management capacities during her 21 years with the society. On the national level, Heykes has been active with the National Fraternal Congress of America (NFCA), serving on law committee task forces, as president of the law section in 1993-94, and as a workshop presenter on Total Quality. She was president of the Association of Fraternal Benefit Counsel in 1994-95. On the local level, she has served in AAL branch officer roles and as assistant treasurer of the Oconto County Thrivent Chapter, and continues to be active in the Thrivent Care in Congregations group at her church. She is a member of National Mutual Benefit's Northwoods Branch 925.

Heykes is an active member of the Rotary Club of Appleton and serves on the boards of Goodwill Industries of North Central Wisconsin, Wartburg Theological Seminary, Fox Cities Online, and the Association of Fundraising Professionals-Northeast Wisconsin. She provides pro bono legal incorporation and tax exemption work for various Fox Valley nonprofit organizations. She has served on the United Way Allocations Committee and the boards of Alzheimer's Association of Northeastern Wisconsin, Crossways Camping Ministries, Visiting Nurse Association, Volunteer Center of East Central Wisconsin, Fox Valley Pastoral Counseling Center, Appleton Equal Opportunities Commission, and Outagamie County Commission on Aging.

She holds professional memberships in the State Bar of Wisconsin and the Association of Fundraising Professionals, and she achieved the designation of Certified Fund Raising Executive (CFRE). She has been an adjunct instructor for Lakeland College, Sheboygan, and Silver Lake College's MBA program at the College of the Menominee Nation.

Mrs. Heykes and her husband, Paul, have two children and reside in Krakow, Wisconsin.

### **John Rashke**

John Rashke, J.D., was elected to National Mutual Benefit's Board of Directors in January 1999. He graduated from Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois, with a bachelor of arts degree in chemistry and received his Juris Doctor degree, with distinction, from the Uni-



versity of Iowa School of Law. He has a strong legal background in nonprofit organizations, estate and retirement planning, mutual funds, and taxation of service organizations.

Rashke has been with the firm of DeWitt Ross & Stevens, S.C., in Madison, Wisconsin, since 1982, practicing law in the areas of mutual funds, estate planning, qualified and nonqualified retirement plans, cafeteria and fringe benefit plans, as well as other forms of compensation planning, employment and shareholder contracts, health law, and mergers and acquisitions. He is a former member of the Executive Committee which governs the firm.

From 1979 to 1982, Mr. Rashke was in private practice specializing in nonprofit organizations, professional corporations, employee benefits, and tax and business transactions. From 1968 to 1979, he was with the firm of Murphy, Stolper, Brewster & Desmond, S.C. (currently Murphy & Desmond, S.C.).

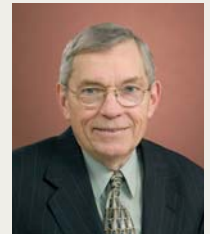
Rashke is involved with trail activities for the Ice Age Park and Trail Foundation. He has served on the board of Madison Marathon, Inc., whose proceeds benefited the South Madison Health and Family Clinic, and is currently on the Board of the University of Wisconsin Surgical Science Foundation. He is a member of NMB's Madison Branch 400 and a founder and life member of *Fishing Has No Boundaries*, which holds fishing events for the disabled.

He is a member of the American Bar Association, serving on the Professional Service Organizations Committee of the Section of Taxation; the State Bar of Wisconsin; and the Dane County Bar Association; and has served on the Interprofessional Relations Committee for both organizations.

Mr. Rashke and his wife, Mary Lou, have two children and reside in the Town of Middleton, Wisconsin.

### **Donald W. Lohrentz**

Donald W. Lohrentz was appointed to National Mutual Benefit's Board of Directors on January 1, 2004, to complete the remaining three-year term of retired Director Dr. Darold A. Treffert. He earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from Valparaiso University and a master's degree in business administration from Northwestern University.



In 1998, he retired as vice president and treasurer of Nicor Gas Company, where he had worked in various capacities for 31 years, primarily in finance and corporate governance. Lohrentz is a past director and chairman of the board of Concordia Mutual Life Association (CML), which merged with NMB in 2001.

Lohrentz devotes much of his time and talents to several organizations. He is currently an elder at Bethany Lutheran Church in Naperville and a member of the investment committee of Wheat Ridge Ministries. He is active in the Lutheran Camp Association; director and treasurer of Educating Voices, Inc., a drug education program; and vice chairman of the Lutheran Child and Family Services of Illinois Foundation.

Mr. Lohrentz and his wife, Joyce, have four children and seven grandchildren and reside in Naperville, Illinois. ♦