

**NATIONAL
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**JOINING HANDS
TO TOUCH LIVES**

The Association of America's
Fraternal Benefit Societies

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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

NFCA Honors “Fraternalist-in-Action” for Volunteerism *Greater Beneficial Union of Pittsburgh Member Krista Fuchs named Fraternal MVP.*

OAK BROOK, IL, February 25, 2008 – The National Fraternal Congress of America (NFCA) is proud to recognize Krista I. Fuchs—a member of Greater Beneficial Union of Pittsburgh, GBU District #810, Cleveland, Ohio—as a Fraternal MVP (Most Valuable Participant) for the week of February 25, 2008. Fraternal MVPs are “Fraternalists-in-Action” who volunteer their time and energy to strengthen their communities through participation in local lodge activities and other charitable endeavors.

“The NFCA wishes to salute those individuals as true fraternalists,” said NFCA Chair of the Board Katharine E. Rounthwaite. “As a Fraternal MVP, Krista Fuchs embodies the heart of fraternalism through her hard work, dedication and generosity.”

In 1957, Fuchs immigrated to the United States from East Germany. Soon after her relocation, she joined the Greater Beneficial Union and was elected trustee of her district. In 1984, she became the district’s Fraternal Secretary and has held that position ever since. In 1980, Fuchs was contracted as a GBU District Sales Representative and soon became one of GBU’s top sales representatives. She since has received numerous awards for her production in selling GBU life insurance and annuities. Her awards have qualified her for the GBU President’s Club, Sales Leader Club and President’s Millionaire Club. In 1992, Fuchs was presented with the coveted GBU Louis Volz Award—GBU’s

highest award for excellence in fraternal service and leadership by a district officer. She also received GBU's Fraternalist of the Month Award in July 1997.

Fuchs' infectious personality and natural leadership ability has inspired many fellow volunteers to take up new challenges, become more involved in district activities and she's shown others how to serve GBU members more efficiently.

Fuchs takes her German heritage to heart. She is involved and strongly supports her local German clubs; the Donauschwaben Society, the D.A.N.K. Organization, Chapter #30 and the German-American Federation of Cleveland. Fuchs was instrumental in the development of the German weekend school where she taught for many years.

Fuchs loves to help others, be it through monetary donations or donating her time in the collecting of food and clothing, or raising funds for those in need. Fuchs never forgets the sheltered or the sick. She always takes time to brighten their day with a visit, a smile or a bouquet of flowers. It is not surprising that Fuchs was elected "Cleveland German-American Woman of the Year" in 1994.

Fuchs enjoys traveling to California and Florida to visit her two daughters and three grandchildren. In her spare time, Fuchs enjoys the game of tennis for which she has also won many trophies and awards.

Fraternal MVPs are part of the NFCA's Fraternalists-in-Action program, which recognizes individuals whose unique stories best represent 21st Century fraternalism. These fraternalists demonstrate exceptional compassion and vision through their volunteer activities.

About the Greater Beneficial Union of Pittsburgh

The Greater Beneficial Union of Pittsburgh (GBU) was founded on April 13, 1892, by German immigrants that settled in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The purpose of its formation was to provide financial security, fraternalism and social activities to its members.

Today, GBU offers a wide variety of life insurance products, retirement savings programs and fraternal benefits to its members. GBU promotes German cultural activities and events, and

encourages community and patriotic involvement. Charitable, recreational and social activities are developed and offered for the entire family. GBU encourages its members to perform charitable acts for their fellow members and communities. For more information, visit www.gbu.org.

About the NFCA

The 122-year-old NFCA unites 74 not-for-profit fraternal benefit societies operating in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Canada. The association represents 10 million fraternalists in 37,000 local chapters, making it one of America's largest member-volunteer networks. Fraternal benefit societies provide their members with leadership, social, educational, spiritual, patriotic, scholarship, financial and volunteer-service opportunities. Combined, the NFCA's member-societies maintain more than \$329 billion of life insurance-in-force and, in 2006 alone, contributed almost \$410 million to charitable and fraternal programs, and volunteered nearly 95 million hours for community-service projects. These statistics demonstrate the commitment that fraternalists make to those in need and exemplify the true meaning of the NFCA signature phrase: *Joining Hands to Touch Lives*. For more information, visit the NFCA's Web site at www.nfcenet.org.

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