

NATIONAL  
FRATERNAL  
CONGRESS  
OF AMERICA



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 George Richter named Fraternal MVP.*

**OAK BROOK, IL, January 22, 2007** – The National Fraternal Congress of America (NFCA) is proud to recognize George Richter—a member of Greater Beneficial Union of Pittsburgh (GBU), Longwood, Florida—as a Fraternal MVP (Most Valuable Participant) for the week of January 22, 2007. 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 Janice U. Whipple. “As a Fraternal MVP, George Richter embodies the heart of fraternalism through his hard work, dedication and generosity.”

As a successful immigrant to the United States, Richter was drawn to help recent immigrants integrate themselves culturally to better their life and that of their families. His natural leadership ability inspires his fellow volunteers to take up new challenges to improve the organization to serve more clients in an efficient manner.

This past year, Richter has served as president of a volunteer board for the *Greater Reading or Writing Skills Literacy Council, Inc (GROWS)*, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization serving the Central Florida area, providing Second Language instruction and Family Literacy Programs to multi-cultural communities. Their primary target customers are the migrant workers who come to Central Florida and desire to improve their lives and that of their family by learning English. His efforts within this organization have created a renewed vigor. With his leadership, the very active board has organized a tri-county fundraiser for this summer, established their own Web site, and GROWS is now in the process of creating their building fund to acquire land and build their own facility. In 2006, GROWS was recognized by Governor Bush for promoting Literacy to the community by awarding the organization with the “Best Practices” Award. In addition to his work at GROWS, Richter is an active member of his church, serving in several ministries.

Richter has a history of success. Having worked in the international sales and marketing arena for almost 30 years, he has traveled to the many corners of the earth and experienced many things that one can only imagine. These experiences, as well as his MBA in International Business, provide him with the foundation and discipline necessary to be successful. Currently he is the owner of two companies and a fifty-percent partner on a third enterprise providing needed employment in the community. He is a member of the Apopka Chamber of Commerce and actively manages his businesses. All of these businesses demand much of his daily time, but he still is a devoted husband and father. Married for 24 years to his wife, Monica, they have two children, Michael and Cristina, currently attending the University of Central Florida and the Air Force Academy, respectively.

Fraternal MVPs are part of the NFCA’s Fraternalists-in-Action program, which recognizes individuals whose unique stories best represent 21<sup>st</sup> 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](http://www.gbu.org).

### **About the NFCA**

The 121-year-old NFCA unites 75 not-for-profit fraternal benefit societies operating in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Canada. The association represents 10 million fraternalists in 36,000 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 \$324 billion of life insurance-in-force and, in 2005 alone, contributed almost \$400 million to charitable and fraternal programs, and volunteered 93 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, Touching Lives*. For more information, visit the NFCA's Web site at [www.nfcenet.org](http://www.nfcenet.org).

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