

Western Dakotas Agency Manager Retires

Hugh E. Hart, FIC, retired from his position as District Manager of the Western Dakotas Agency in Spearfish, South Dakota, on September 1, 2009.

Hugh first joined National Mutual Benefit as a District Representative in 1979. In 1980, his first full year with NMB, Hugh was named Rookie of the Year. During his 13 years as a District Representative, he qualified for the annual President's Conference 12 times and was named Agent of the Year four times. Hugh also qualified for the Million Dollar Round Table three times and earned the Agent of the Month Award 26 times.

His success continued when he was named District Manager on April 4, 2005. Under his direction, the Western Dakotas Agency won the Agency of the Month Award three times and produced the Agent of the Month six times.

Hugh has been instrumental in supporting NMB members through local branch events and fraternal fundraisers. In 2005, Hugh was awarded the Fraternal Agent of the Year award for his continued dedication to NMB members and the communities he serves.

Vice President of Marketing Paul Stadler shares, "Hugh Hart is a hardworking, loyal individual who has provided financial security to many families through NMB's life insurance programs and financial products. We are sad to see him go, but

know that his retirement is well deserved."

National Mutual Benefit wishes Hugh and his wife, JoAnn, good health, happiness, and enjoyment during their retirement years. ♦



Clockwise from top: 1) Hugh and his wife JoAnn (left) enjoy a moment with Nola Tellinghuisen at the retirement party in his honor. Nola is the wife of the late Alan Tellinghuisen who started NMB's agency in South Dakota and who Hugh worked with for many years. 2) Hugh enjoys one of his many wonderful retirement gifts—new boots. 3) Vice President of Marketing Paul Stadler (left) and manager of the newly formed Great Plains Agency, David Yost (right), came to wish Hugh the best on this momentous occasion. 4) This colorful cake was one of two that Hugh enjoyed during his retirement celebration.

District Manager Named for New Great Plains Agency



We are pleased to announce that David L. Yost has been named the District Manager of the new Great Plains Agency, effective May 1, 2009.

The Great Plains Agency will serve South Dakota and North Dakota. David brings nearly 25 years of life insurance and investment experience to National Mutual Benefit, having started his career as an agent in 1984.

Yost holds his life and health insurance licenses in the states of North Dakota, South Dakota, and Colorado. He also has securities licenses in series 7, 24, 63 and 65.

The Internal Revenue Service has issued him an Enrolled Agent (EA) license which allows him to also offer tax preparation services to his clients.

During his career, David has owned and managed two insurance office locations with as many as six agents working for him. His office manager, Torrie Bennett, has been with him for 20 years. He has been among the top producers for several companies, including MTL, Physicians Mutual, Midland National and Sagacor Life.

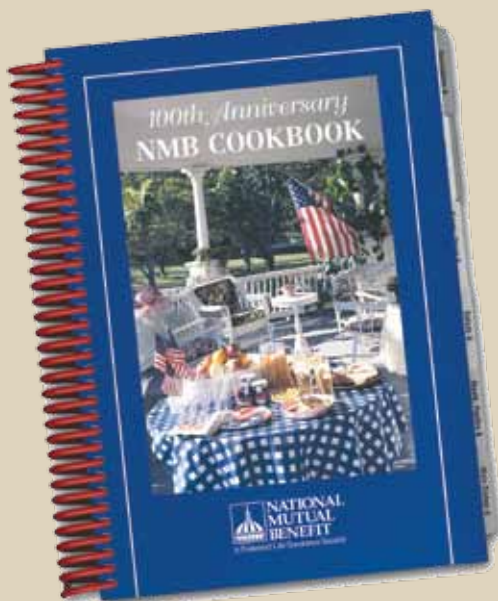
David's passion for people is what brought him to the business. He shares, "I really enjoy helping people, whether they be clients or agents just getting into the business. That's why joining National

Mutual Benefit and the fraternal family is a perfect fit for me." His agency's values can be summed up in four words: *heartland values, professional service*. This aligns perfectly with NMB's mission of *people helping people in time of need*.

Currently, David is President of the Lake Byron Development Association, and serves on the board for both the Lake Byron Watershed District and Dakotaland Federal Credit Union.

David and his wife, Joyce, have lived in Huron, South Dakota, for over 20 years. They have been married for 16 years and have three sons, one still living at home and two adult sons. In his spare time, David enjoys fishing and hunting. ♦

Holiday Sale on National Mutual Benefit's Centennial Cookbook!



The 100th Anniversary NMB Cookbook is currently on sale for \$5.00 (regularly \$7.50) now through January 15, 2010.

The cookbook makes a great gift for family, friends, teachers, or yourself!

Take advantage of this special holiday price! With over 1,400 recipes from generations past and present, you're sure to find many future family favorites in this collection from NMB members.

To purchase a copy of the cookbook, just fill out section 4 on the member information and orders postcard between pages 24 and 25 of this magazine. Then send the card and your payment as the directions indicate. The price includes shipping and handling. Order today and start enjoying the wonderful recipes inside!

A Familiar Face Retires from Home Office



After 50 years of dedicated service to National Mutual Benefit, Helen Sullivan retired on June 12, 2009.

Helen's contributions to National Mutual Benefit far exceed the daily tasks she completed in the Mortgage Loan Department. During her career at the Home Office in Madison, Wisconsin, Helen's warm greeting was a first impression to many office visitors.

Her friendly smile always made people feel welcome as they opened the front door. Those who worked with her appreciated her sweet nature and fun sense of humor.

When Helen began her career at National Mutual Benefit she helped to convert the organization's records to its very first computer system. She spent her entire

career in the Mortgage Loan Department, and in 1988 was named office manager of that department.

"Helen is a very bright lady, dedicated to National Mutual Benefit, and always very dependable," states former NMB President James Opie. "She served everyone well and took pride in putting her initials in their payment books," he adds. President Opie worked with Helen when he held the positions of Mortgage Loan Officer and Corporate Secretary for over 17 years before being elected president.

Helen also contributes as a volunteer with NMB Branch 400, holding the position of treasurer. For many years she also served as chairperson for the NMB-sponsored citywide Flag Day observance held on the steps of the Wisconsin State Capitol building. Even in retirement, Helen will continue to be an active volunteer on

the Branch Board. Volunteering is a hobby she truly enjoys.

National Mutual Benefit thanks Helen for her many years of dedicated service to its members and wishes her the best in her retirement years. ♦



President George Yanna presents Helen with a special cake in honor of her retirement. During her last week at the Home Office, a social was held to celebrate Helen's many years of service.

Janesville Woman Named Fraternalist in Action



Carol Trescher of Janesville, Wisconsin, was recognized as a Most Valuable Participant (MVP) by the National Fraternal Congress

of America (NFC) the week of August 3, 2009. The Fraternalists-in-Action program was formed to recognize fraternalists for their kindness and generosity. These individuals embody the true spirit of fraternalism through their volunteer efforts and commitment to their communities. The Fraternalists-in-Action program has recognized over 300 dedicated volunteers since its inception in 2006.

We are proud to join with the NFC to

honor Carol who has served as an officer of National Mutual Benefit Branch 2 for over 25 years. Currently, Carol holds the position of branch president. "The reason I've remained involved with the branch for so many years," Carol states, "is the great feeling I get from volunteering and seeing something the branch organized or was involved in come to fruition."

Throughout her tenure with the branch Carol has worked on many community projects. However, the work the branch has done at the Carver-Roehl county park in Janesville is among her most rewarding and memorable volunteer experiences. This 53-acre park is Rock County's second oldest and one of its most scenic. It has evolved from a neglected place, to a nice,

clean park that families can enjoy. For many years the branch has helped with park upkeep, organizing many clean-up days.

Another of Carol's favorite projects is working with the Just-Say-No Club in Janesville for an extended period of time. The branch has helped organize skate-athons, bonfires, and bowling tournaments over the years to help the club raise money for student educational resources. "It has been very rewarding working with a great group of kids, and you get an incredible feeling of accomplishment," she explains about working with area youth.

Carol and her husband, Norbert, have two daughters, five grandchildren and one great-grandson. ♦

Ruth Doyen Named South Dakota Fraternalist of the Year

Long-time member of National Mutual Benefit, Ruth Doyen of Spearfish, South Dakota, has been named 2008 South Dakota Fraternalist of the Year by the South Dakota Fraternal Congress, a state trade association for fraternal benefit societies. SDFC recognizes fraternal members who exemplify the meaning of fraternalism and give back to their community.

Ruth is a true volunteer. She is involved in every activity her branch takes part in. Branch members say they can always count on Ruth to follow through on the many things she volunteers to do.

Ruth Doyen has been an active member of her local NMB branch since becoming a member of National Mutual Benefit over 25 years ago. She served as president of Northern Black Hills Branch 73 from January 1992 through December 1994. She has held every other officer position including vice president, secretary, and treasurer during her tenure.

NMB Branch 73 held several fundraisers in 2008 and disbursed over \$26,000 to

four families in need of financial support due to illness or adversity. The branch also raised \$1,600 from their annual poker run fundraiser, a benefit to raise money to purchase items for Spearfish area seniors in need.

Other activities that Ruth was involved in during 2008 include an Angel Tree project, purchasing and donating presents to families at Christmas, shopping for personal care items for seniors, a family hay ride event, turkey game night, a summer picnic, presentations of American flags for Flag Day, a scholarship program for high school seniors, and an Easter egg hunt.

On JOIN HANDS DAY 2008, Ruth and Branch 73 Vice President Nancy McGinnis volunteered with the “Paint the Town” project, painting a house for an elderly woman in their community.

“Ruth is one of the most dependable people you will ever meet,” states Hugh Hart, recently retired District Manager of the Western Dakotas Agency. “She is a committed volunteer and has probably



Ruth receives the South Dakota Fraternalist of the Year award from Hugh Hart, her boss and friend of many years.

helped organize every activity that Branch 73 has held for its members and the general public.”

Hart recognized Ruth with her award in front of fellow NMB members at a recent event in Spearfish on August 23, 2009. “Ruth put in over 250 volunteer hours on behalf of NMB in 2008 alone,” he emphatically shared.

Ruth never complains and is always looking for ways to help others in her community. She is willing to partner with any person, group, or organization, and has the biggest heart you will find in the state of South Dakota.

Fellow branch board member Leone Geppert says, “Ruth and I share a common philosophy—it is one of taking responsibility and an active part in making our community, state, nation, and world the best possible place it can be for our families. Ruth has a firm grasp on how one person can make a difference in the world—it is through volunteerism and involvement in community activities. Ruth also knows that when one person is joined by another, and then another, the effect and benefit to our community multiplies accordingly.” ♦



Ruth Doyen, left, and Branch 73 Vice President Nancy McGinnis stop for a quick break during their 2008 JOIN HANDS DAY event, “Paint the Town.”