Appendix K - Delegate meeting presentation



# Agenda

# > Welcome: Don Krall

# Overview: Craig Van Dyke Where We've Been Where We Are Today Why Proposing Merger Next Steps

# ≻Q&A

Don Krall Board of Directors Craig Van Dyke Dan Shinnick



# Why We Exist









# Where We've Been

**1854:** Began as a Czechoslovak Benevolent Society (CSPS)

1897: Broke away from CSPS and Started Zapadni Ceska Bratraska Jednota (ZCBJ)

**1899:** First Czech Fraternal to allow women and children

1922: Allowed non-Czechs and Slovaks, through marriage

**1922:** Allowed first English-speaking lodges

Late 1920's: Merged with CSDPJ; this increase in size helped to save the lodges

**1971:** Changed name to Western Fraternal Life

# Adapted and Evolved to Fulfill the Promise to Our Members



# Where We Are Today

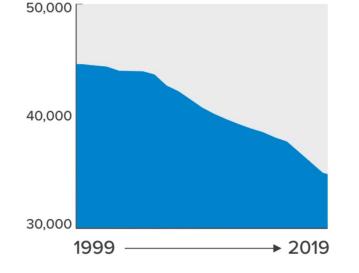
# While Financially Sound... The 2% Problem





### WFLA Membership Loss

# Where We Are Today



WFLA's Net Gain/Loss	
2015	\$1,175,752
2016	\$106,164
2017	\$340,662
2018	-\$409,787
2019	-\$402,376

# National Convention: Number of Delegates National Convention: Number of Delegates National Convention: Number of Delegates



# Where We Are Today

The world is changing – small size makes it hard to compete

We HAVE to change to

be competitive

relevant



# fulfill our promise to our <u>Members</u>

- New/Improved distribution
- New product differentiation
- ➢Increase marketing
- Investment in technology



# **Options Considered**

## **OPTION**

# Status Quo

### Increase investment

- Technology
- Marketing
- Product Differentiation
- Distribution Channels

## Shared Services

### > Merger

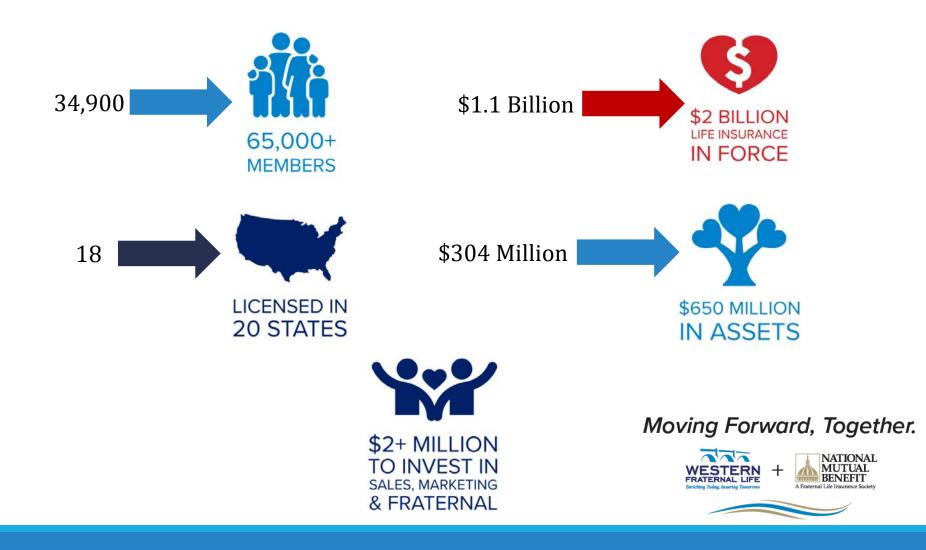
### **CONCLUSION**

- ✓ Not sustainable over the long-term
  - Downward trend continuing
- ✓ Not fiscally possible
  - Need too much too quickly
  - Profits not enough to cover

- ✓ No suitable, long-term partners
- ✓ Best option
  - Similar values
  - Complimentary strengths



# **Proposed Merger with National Mutual Benefit** - Stronger Together



# **Shared Values**





# Propose Merger with National Mutual Benefit - Protect Our Fraternal Mission

- > Expanding our fraternal programs
- Supporting Czech and Slovak Culture
- Keep current lodges and branches
- Continue regular member meetings







# **Fraternal Advisory Board**

### <u>Membership</u>:

- 7 WFL Members aligned with Districts
- 7 NMB members selected by the NMB Board

## <u>Regular Meetings</u>:

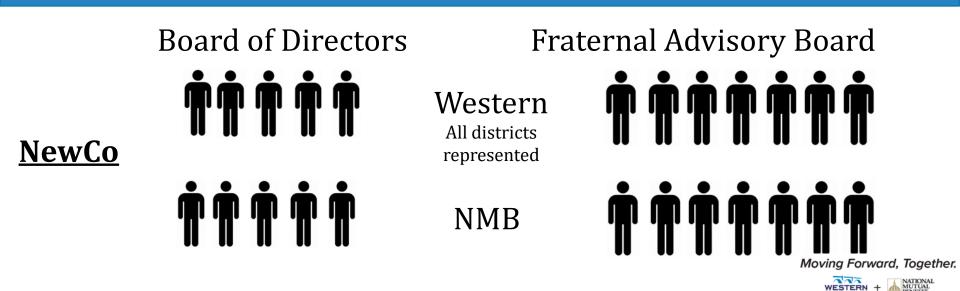
- Advisory Board to provide advice and assistance to lodges and fraternal activities
- Regular meetings with fraternal home office staff to provide input
- Provide Recommendations: to the Board on fraternal & member matters
- > **<u>Annual Meetings</u>**: with Board to provide input
- <u>Annual Report to Board</u>: regarding fraternal, chapter & member matters



# **Fraternal Advisory Board**

# Board of Directors <u>Current</u>

# Pre-Convention Committee



# **Consolidating to Madison, WI Office**

> NMB implemented an advanced policy administration system

WI is a fraternal friendly state; multiple fraternals domiciled there, vs Western only fraternal in Iowa

≻40% of members reside in Wisconsin



# Why Proposing Merger with NMB

- > Help more people
- > Do more good
- Money to invest in growth

# **Most importantly**

# Position us to fulfill our promise to our members and their beneficiaries



### **KEY DATES FOR DELEGATES**







WFLA delegates will vote to pass the merger between WFLA & NMB. Additional details on voting will be sent



Paper Voting



Phone Voting

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**Online Voting** 



### Your vote matters!

The consolidation will only be approved if we achieve a 2/3 "YES" vote from the voting WFLA delegates. Your "YES" vote will help shape the future of the organization and ensure our long-term success.



# **If No Vote: Future Options**

### **OPTION**

### > Status Quo

### Increase investment

- Technology
- Marketing
- Product Differentiation
- Distribution Channels

### Shared Services

### **CONCLUSION**

- ✓ Not sustainable over the long-term
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- ✓ Not fiscally possible
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✓ No suitable, long-term partners

### Best option

- Similar values
- Complimentary strengths





"Let us make an effort to conscientiously and industriously correct these old ideas and we must find means to do that, not only for those who are members now, but who will become members later."

 $\sim$  Jan Rosicky, Western Fraternal Life, Founder  $\sim 1920's$ 

