THE FLORIST FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

Credit Union Update

For All Florists, Staff & Families

APRIL 2014

VOLUNTEERS

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Board of Directors

Doug Liedtke, Chair

Mike Gardner, Vice Chair

Jack Cross, Secretary

Dwight Fortson, Director

Lou Anne Causey, Director

Mark Erickson, Director

Tom Williams, Director

Supervisory Committee

Lynn Karnes, Supervisory Chair

Tom Lancaster, Member

Jay Neeley, Member

Inside this issue:

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the President of the Board

Good afternoon, fellow credit union members and florists.

My name is Doug Liedtke, I'm President of the Board, of *your* credit union. I am with J & E Wholesale in Amarillo, TX. Like many of you, I have grown up in the floral industry, as my parents started our business in 1972. I'm sure you understand that our industry is very *family* oriented. At the Florist Federal Credit Union, we are very family oriented too.

The membership of our credit union is comprised of florist, shop employees, and immediate family members of florist. We like to say "our Family of Florist helping other Florist". <u>I encourage you to share the services of your credit union with your family and employees. The best gift to an employee is their own Credit Union membership.</u>

You know, I started out as a bucket washer, and graduated to delivery driver in no time. My parents encouraged (required) that I open a savings account at the credit union with my first paycheck. The company withheld $10 each week from my pay and deposited it for me. That was a great lesson I have shared with my children and grandchildren now.

The credit union has come to the rescue many time in my life, and I have enjoyed many of the services offered by the credit union through the years. I hope you will share your credit union too. Call Kenn , Angie, or Rene to get your families off to a great start. With continued growth, our credit union will continue to be a financial asset to each of our families.

Doug and Kathy

All our best,
Doug Liedtke

NCUA Exam 2014

The National Credit Union Administration examines every credit union in the United States every 12 months. The 6 NCUA regions have changed, and our examiner is now from region 5, out of Colorado. Although the exams can be disruptive, we had a very supportive and understanding examiner this year.

We received very good marks throughout our operations. We are continuing the success created by our past managers and board of directors. Hats off to all of our volunteers. They give both their talents and time. As volunteers, their payback is shown in the stellar performance of your Credit Union. We thank them for their dedication and hard work.

Member State Florist Conventions 2014

Connecticut State
www.connecticutflorist.com
March 8-9
Mystic Marriott
Groton CT

Florida State
Www.floridastatefloristsassociation.com/
June 6-9
Bonaventure Resort & Spa
Weston Florida

North Carolina State
http://www.ncflorist.org
August 15-17
Embassy Suites
Greensboro,

Arkansas Florists
http://arflorists.org/
August 14-17
Hot Springs Convention Center
Hot Springs, AR

Oklahoma State
http://www.osfa.org
July
OSU Alumni Center
Stillwater OK

Texas State (100 Anniversary)
http://www.tsfa.org
July 18-20
The Renaissance Hotel
Austin TX

West Texas New Mexico
Facebook
August 1-3
Overton Hotel
Lubbock TX

New Mexico and Regional
Facebook
September 6-7
Hilton Santa Fe Historic Plaza
Santa Fe, NM

WE HAVE MONEY TO LEND!

"Finding oneself , or self actualization, Is only the beginning"

- INVENTORY LOANS
- DELIVERY VANS
- COMMERCIAL RE REFI
- VISA (NO FEE, GREAT RATES)*

You will be surprised at how easy it is to get set up for ANY AND ALL loans for most any purpose. Many of our approvals are based on relationship. Credit issues? We look beyond the credit scores.

(visa: 5 day grace, no annual fee, application at www.thefloristfcu.org)

Call is today to get started at 575-622-0560 or email us at info@thefloristfcu.org

New Car Financing
2.9% 100% financing 60 months (OAC)

WHICH IS BETTER?

0% - 60 MOS FINANCING

OR

TAKING THE REBATE

The Truth behind Zero % vs the Rebate

It sounds tempting. You go into the dealer, and they offer you 0% over 60 months. What a deal.

NOT SO FAST!

Take the rebate. You will be money ahead even if the rebate is as low as $2500 and you finance your vehicle with us. See the results at the right!

PURCHASE PRICE: $25,000
ESTIMATED REBATE $2500
60 month financing

	0% financing	2.9% financing
Amount:	$25,000.00	$22,500.00
Pmts:	$416.67	$403.30
Total:	$25,000.00	$24,198.00
Net savings:	$802	

You win with Credit Union financing

ANNUAL MEETING 2014

The annual meeting of the Florist Federal Credit Union will be held in Lubbock Texas at the

Overton Hotel,

2322 Mac Davis Lane

Lubbock TX 79401

The meeting will be held during the 2014 WTNM Convention, Saturday, August 2nd. Come and vote for directors, listen to the state of your Credit Union, and win cash prizes. We are looking forward to seeing you all there.

YOUR DEBIT AND CREDIT CARDS ARE SAFE

There is a lot of concern regarding the cyber break-ins at major retail stores nationwide. And for good reason. 100's of millions of debit and credit cards appear to have been compromised. We are seeing the negative affects of the theft. So far, just in replacement cards alone, the cost is risen to over $40 millions dollars industry wide. Your credit union has built in safety features to assure that you are safe. But the front line of defense still rest with you. Please check your bills and invoices closely. If you notice anything out of the ordinary, please contact us immediately. Keep this number handy: 575-622-0560. Our built in fraud notification may see unusual activity and close your card. If that happens, it's for your protection. We will call to confirm the purchase, but if you notice your card doesn't work, it may be due to the fraud protection program. You will not be liable for any fraudulent transaction. And, we appreciate your patients as we work to keep you safe.

"the next step is to find yourself in others"

SPROUT ACCOUNT UPDATE

Our Sprout accounts have been quite a success. Part of the reason is that you don't need to be a family member of a member to open an account. These accounts are non-voting accounts so they are open to anyone under 17 years of age or less. The minimum savings amount of $5.00 to open the account is contributed by the Credit Union. The intent is to help your younger "future" members become familiar with the banking process, to help them understand the differences between banks and Credit Unions, and to begin a life time of savings. Statistic show that those who begin saving at a young age tend to continue that practice throughout their lives. Call Rene at 575-622-0560 to get started.

THE FLORIST FCU

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We are on the web
thefloristfcu.org

A two way street

"The easy part of forgiveness is to forgive. The harder part is to ask for forgiveness."

Credit Union Mission

The Florist Federal Credit Union was built by florist to service florists throughout the United States, and to enhance the economic and financial well-being of its members.

Who we serve: The Credit Union serves eight Charter members and one National Member; West Texas New Mexico, Mexico and Regional, Connecticut, North Carolina, Florida, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Texas State, and those Associations that belong to the National Alliance of Florists Associations. Included in this field of members are all retail and wholesale florists, their staff and families. **We look forward to including all State Associations into our membership**

OUR STORY IS ABOUT FAMILIES

We are a credit union dedicated to improving the lives of those we serve. It's not just about approving or denying a loan application. It's about giving good financial advice for almost anything important to you and your families. It's about watching a newly married couple purchase their first home (our mortgage loan process), or their daughter's first car, or their baby's first step. It's about your child or grandchild's first savings account (our Sprout account for kids), or their first checking account, their first credit card (VISA program, which comes with a lot of advice on how to use it), about a family's need to recover from a hit by a major life's negative event, or how to prepare / repair credit for more favorable terms here or elsewhere. It really is about a lot of firsts. It's about providing safety for you, our member, so that your funds are safe, by operating a secure and safe financial institution. This is what you should expect from a financial partner. We are not just a bank or another credit union; we are your Credit Union, here for you in so many ways. The boards from both West Texas and Texas State Florist Associations set the tone for success. We are here to follow up and continue the success that they established.

So ask yourself, who should your financial partner be?