



Member Memo

July 2001

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President's Message

At the April board meeting, the Board of Directors approved a bylaw change that would allow us to expand our field of membership to Montmorency County. This action will benefit both the people of Montmorency County and also provide us a new avenue for growth. At the end of May, we picked up 39 new Select Employee Groups to service and signed up 91 new members. We have established a temporary office at the Atlanta Senior Citizen's hall and hold office hours on Fridays and Mondays. We rented a building in Atlanta and plan to move in it around mid-July. At that time, we will be open six days a week operating as a full service branch. We foresee great things happening in this business venture, and we welcome the fine people of Montmorency County to our family of credit union members.

Our credit union continues to grow. By the end of June, our assets will be over 91 million dollars. I predict that our assets will reach the 100 million dollar range by the end of this year. Membership in the credit union will be over

20,000 members by the end of June. These are two amazing statistics. It tells me that we must be doing something right to see this kind of growth. We are the best, and I will do my best to ensure that your needs are met with integrity and commitment.



Please take the time to read the rest of this newsletter. It is filled with important information that may be of interest to you and quite possibly make your life easier.

Respectfully yours,

Jay D. Anders, President/CEO

"Totally FREE" Checking

Don't be fooled by the recent blitz of bank offerings for "Totally Free Checking." These accounts typically (*though not always*) come with strings attached in the form of numerous mysterious expensive fees.

Here, at your credit union, we have always offered free, no-fee checking, which means no per check charge, no minimum

balance requirement, and no monthly fee. Also, three free boxes of checks are offered each year. And finally, our MasterMoney Debit Card certainly enhances this service, by offering you the convenience you need and deserve.

Don't be fooled by the hype, use your credit union.

Please Use The New 989 Area Code

Recently the area code for northeastern Michigan changed from 517 to 989. If you make frequent calls to any of our offices, please make the correction in your telephone book. We do not want to miss a single call from our membership.

Remodeling That Gives You More For Your Money

If you are a homeowner with remodeling on your mind, it is a good idea to first ask yourself this basic question: Will you be selling your home and moving on in a few years, or are you planning to enjoy your retirement year there? If you are staying, you don't need to concern yourself too much with getting a good return on your investment. However, if you will be moving on at some point, you should consider remodeling areas that provide the best return on investment. Those important investment areas, to no surprise, are kitchens and baths. The kitchen, for instance, is the room potential homeowners want to see most—it can often make or break a sale. Therefore, improving yours now could pay dividends when it is time to sell your home. Experts say a relatively minor remodeling job is best, rather than a major rip-out and rebuilding project. It is also best to keep the work neutral with just the right touches of elegance and function, so you appeal to a wide variety of potential home buyers. So, how do you finance your remodeling projects? One option is our Home Equity Line of Credit. You will enjoy this loan with competitive rates and affordable terms.

Did someone say new kitchen? Call today for current rates and get started on the project you have always dreamed about, 989-356-3577 ext. 235.



Congratulations On Your Retirement Sandy Ritchie

Sandy Ritchie has retired after 18 years of dedicated service to the credit union movement. She was employed with Shoreline Community Credit Union since May 1983 and continued on working with Alpena Alcona Area Credit Union after the merger took place in 1987.



Sandy is retiring from the position of Lincoln Branch Manager. She has also held positions of Ossineke Branch Manager and Loan Officer. In addition, she played an important part in the construction of the new Lincoln office and establishing the Tiger Branch Office in Alcona Community Schools.

During retirement, Sandy plans to spend time with family and friends and enjoy her many hobbies she has neglected.

Thank you Sandy for your years of dedication and hard work. You

*"Creating new experiences helps us to be adventurous in the present, instead of tenants of the past."
Georgene Collins*

A Wealth of Information From A Reliable Source—At No Cost or Obligation!

When you are pondering your financial situation, you should know that you don't have to go it alone. You can meet with Ross Reed, the Members Financial Services Representative serving members of Alpena Alcona Area Credit Union. Ross is an experienced professional with backing and support from hundreds of experts in insurance and financial management. He can provide the guidance and information you need—at no cost or obligation—and will take the time to get to know you and provide personal attention. Ross will work with you to review your strategies, answer your questions, and create financial projections. Simply call 989-356-3577.

Securities sold through CUNA Brokerage Service, Inc., member NASD/SIPC, 5910 Mineral Point Road, Madison, WI 53705. Insurance sold through licensed CUNA Mutual Life Insurance Company Representative, and in New York, licensed insurance representative of other companies. Similar products may be purchased from an agent or company of your choice. Not federally insured, may lose value, not underwritten or guaranteed by the credit union.

Meet our New Lincoln Branch Manager and Assistant Manager

Lorna Deller has recently been named as the new Lincoln Branch Manager and will assume her new position on July 2, 2001.

Lorna has been a member of our staff since June 1992. She has held the positions of Teller, Loan Officer, and Assistant Branch Manager.

CONGRATULATIONS AND GOOD
LUCK!

Vicky Hansen has been selected as the new Assistant Branch Manager of our Lincoln Office and will assume her position on July 9, 2001.

Vicky has been a member of our staff since September 1989. She began working with the credit union as a teller and was promoted to the position of Membership Services in 1991.



BEST OF LUCK AT YOUR
NEW POSITION!

Savings Rates

Effective as if June 18, 2001
(rates are subject to change)

	Annual Percentage Rate	Annual Percentage Yield
Regular Share	3.25%	3.29%
Preferred Shares	3.40%	3.44%
Christmas Club	3.25%	3.29%
Vacation Club	3.25%	3.29%
Insured Money Market	3.90%	3.97%
Traditional IRA	4.75%	4.84%
Roth IRA	4.75%	4.84%
Education IRA	4.75%	4.84%

Dividends on the Regular shares, Preferred shares, IRA shares, Vacation Club, and Christmas Club are computed using the daily balance method and paid quarterly. Interest on the Insured Money Market Account is computed using the daily balance method and paid monthly. If the account is closed before the quarter ends, you will forfeit the dividend and/or interest on your account.

For current rates and terms on Share Certificates, IRA Certificates, and Insured Money Market Accounts, contact our Membership Services Officer, LeAnn at 989-356-3577 ext. 232. Or e-mail memberservice@aaacu.com

The Editor's Guest



Why not put your home to work for you? If you have home improvements, family vacations, or consolidation needs, a home equity loan may be perfect for you. Since the best source of credit may be the equity in your home, now is the time to take advantage of one of our convenient loan programs. We offer a 10-year fixed home equity and a revolving line of credit with a variable rate that is equal to the prime rate and adjusted quarterly. We will lend up to 80% of the value of your home, minus your first mortgage.

Loan approval is normally 2-3 business days from the date of application and the loan closing is typically scheduled within two weeks from approval.

I personally feel that our rates are very competitive and closing costs are minimal. Also, there are many payment options available to suit your needs. Stop by or give me a call and I will be glad to answer any questions you may have. I can be reached at 356-3577 or call toll free at 1-800-443-3577 ext. 235.

Loan Rates

Effective as of June 18, 2001
(rates are subject to change)

	APR	Monthly Payment Per \$1000
<u>New Vehicles</u>		
2000-01 Models		
24 Months	6.25%	\$44.44
36 Months	6.50%	\$30.66
48 Months	6.75%	\$23.84
60 Months	7.00%	\$19.81
72 Months (\$25,000 or more)	7.25%	\$17.18

We will finance 100% of the suggested retail price including tax, title, license, and extended warranty.

	APR	Monthly Payment Per \$1000
<u>Used Vehicle</u>		
2000-1999 Models		
60 Months / Under 20,000 Miles	7.25%	\$19.93
48 Months / Over 20,000 Miles	7.25%	\$24.07
1998 Models		
54 Months / Under 25,000 Miles	7.25%	\$21.77
48 Months / Over 25,000 Miles	7.25%	\$24.07
1997-1996 Models		
Up to 48 Months	7.25%	\$24.07
1995-1994 Models		
Up to 48 Months	7.50%	\$24.19
1993-1992 Models		
Up to 36 Months	7.75%	\$31.23
1991 Models and Older		
Up to 24 Months	8.00%	\$45.24

All used vehicles financed will be based on 100% of NADA Book Retail Value.

We also have Mortgage, Home Equity, Personal (unsecured), Snowmobile, RV, and Share Secured loans. Call the loan department for current loan rates for all your needs.

VISA12.96% Fixed A.P.R.

Employee of the Quarter



Kathy Allen has recently been selected as employee of the quarter for July through September. Kathy is the computer Operator at the Alpena office and has been on our staff since

October 1986. She was instrumental in the start-up of our new home banking program. Kathy is also the friendly voice you hear when you call the credit union.

We are lucky to have such a dedicated employee on our staff.

Congratulations Kathy!

Looking for something to do this summer? At Alpena Alcona Area Credit Union, spending time with your family means a lot. That is why we participate with various amusement and entertainment groups to offer admission tickets at discounted prices.

If you are looking for something fun to do this summer with the entire family, stop by any of our branch offices for the following discount tickets or coupons.

Cedar Point

Six Flags of Cleveland

Dear Acres

Greenfield Village / Henry Ford Museum

Dreaming About Your Future Vehicle Purchase on the Weekend? Get Pre-Approved And Make Your Dreams Reality. Apply Online at www.aaacu.com.

Credit Report Errors—Fix Them Before They Fix You

So you've located an error on your credit report that is costing you a few precious points on your credit score. Could be the credit reporting agency confused you with a Jane Doe of the Same name or a creditor failed to record a settled account.

Regardless of how it got there, there is a mistake that needs fixing, or else you may suffer the consequences of higher interest loan or worse yet, rejected credit and employment opportunities,.

It will take some effort on your part to amend the problem. But, according to the Fair Credit Reporting Act, the responsibility to repair your payment history ultimately rests with the credit bureau and the organization that reported the aforementioned offensive credit information.

Start by contacting all three credit bureaus in writing and explain what information you believe is inaccurate. A sample letter can be found on the Federal Trade Commission's Web site (www.ftc.gov). You'll want to include your full name, address and clearly identify each item in your report under dispute. Include any supporting information or documentation to further your position. Remember to ask that the errors be deleted or corrected, and be sure to include a copy of your report with those disputed items circled for reference.

Send the letters certified mail, return receipt requested, to document the credit reporting agencies have received the claim. Credit bureaus must reinvestigate items in question within a reasonable period of time, typically defined as no more than 30 days, and will forward all relevant data to the information provider who will also reinvestigate. If the information provider finds the disputed information to be inaccurate or can no longer be verified, the consumer reporting agency must delete the information and notify the consumer.

When the reinvestigation is complete, the credit bureau must give you the written results and a free copy of your report if the dispute results in a change of information. Further, per your request, the credit bureau must send notices of corrections to anyone who received your report in the past six months. If the reinvestigation does not resolve your dispute, insist that the dispute be included in your file and future reports.

For more information, call the FTC toll-free at (877) 382-4357 or visit their Web site www.ftc.gov.

Home Banking is a real time saver....Have you signed up yet? Call today 989-356-3577 ext 249