

# NOTES of INTEREST

Fall  
2006

Quarterly Newsletter for Members of Concho Educators Federal Credit Union

## Nominating Committee Issues Call for Director Candidates

Because credit unions look to their members to provide leadership, it is time once again to seek out individuals willing to serve as credit union directors.

CEFCU Board Chairman Julia Rogge, with Directors Cheryl McGaughey and Ron Salladay, will serve on the 2007 Nominating Committee. This group will seek members who are interested in voluntarily sharing their leadership talents as Members of the Board of Directors if they are elected during the annual meeting in February, 2007.

Elected board members serve three-year terms on a voluntary basis, determining as a team the credit union's goals and operational procedures, guided by federal regulations.

All members of the credit Union

are encouraged to apply to be candidates. Applications will be examined by the committee and winning applicants will be notified of their acceptance as candidates.

Board positions up for election include those of Dr. Joe Coleman, Dr. James Forbes and Dr. Twila Lehmann. At press deadline, it was unknown whether any of these incumbents will run for re-election.

Members attending the credit union's annual meeting in February will vote for the nominated candidates, and the three receiving the most votes will take places on the Board.

Interested members are encouraged to submit applicant names to either the nominating committee or President/CEO Jerry Merrill no later than 5 p.m. Friday, December 8, 2006.

## Using Debit Card - Signature or PIN?

**When you have the choice, choose "credit".**

At the point-of-sale, press "credit" and sign the receipt rather than entering your PIN. At many merchant locations, you are given the choice of "debit" or "credit" when you present your Concho Educators Debit Card. By choosing "credit" you will gain several distinct advantages over "debit".

**Quicker and easier**

When you choose "credit" you'll simply be given a receipt to sign, then you are on your way. You eliminate one step of the authorization process and it makes no difference to the merchant.

**Less chance of someone stealing your card information**

Any time you enter your PIN, you risk becoming the victim of a "shoulder-surfer", someone who looks over your shoulder and sees the number you enter. If that person is able to obtain your Concho Educators Debit Card account number, you could become the victim of card fraud. Cash could be accessed from your account at an ATM without your knowledge.

In situations where you must enter your PIN (such as when getting cash at an ATM location,) try to shield your hand from view as you enter your PIN.

**No transaction fee**

Sometimes there is a fee associated with PIN-based transactions. These fees vary, but they don't apply to signature-based transactions. To avoid a transaction fee, press "credit".

Enter your PIN when you want cash back. If you need cash back when you make a purchase with your Concho Educators Debit Card, you'll need to enter your PIN. This is standard procedure at most locations.

Your Concho Educators Debit Card offers you a world of convenience. Give us a call (325 223-9192) if you have any questions about using your card, or if you want to find out more about the endless possibilities available to Concho Educators Debit Cardholders.



**NEW TELLER LINE** — Branch Manager Stacy Combs inspects new cabinetry being installed as part of a remodeling project at the Beauregard Office. When the project is completed in a few weeks, members will use a new entry way from the main parking lot into a spacious lobby and service area.

# CUNA Reveals Survey Results Regarding Member Loyalty

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itely would be the first financial provider they contact the next time they are seeking to open a savings account, or obtain a loan or other financial service; and

- They indicate the credit union is their primary financial institution, the institution where they conduct most of their financial business. Another 20% are classified as moderately loyal to their credit union, satisfying three of the four criteria. At the other end of the spectrum, about 20% of members are not at all loyal because they do not satisfy any of the above criteria.

## Pension Reform Bill Provides Retirement Savings Benefits

Three weeks ago, the president signed into law H.R. 4, a pension reform measure permanently extending the Retirement Savings

Tax Credit (Saver's Credit) and higher ceilings for Individual Retirement Account (IRA) contributions.

The Saver's Credit enables lower-income individuals to offset 50% of up to \$2,000 of contributions made to certain retirement accounts, including Roth IRAs.

In addition to the Saver's Credit, the Pension Protection Act of 2006 also preserves the IRA catch-up provision that allows higher contributions for workers older than 50.

The new law will allow that ceiling to reach \$6,000 by 2008 and remain there.

Similar good news is included for younger savers as the new law allows annual contributions levels to rise to \$5,000 by 2008, and, again, remain at that level.

Under the 2001 Tax Act, higher IRA ceilings were set to expire at the end of tax year 2010 and revert to the \$2,000 annual maximum.

In June, CUNA sent a letter to each member of a House-Senate conference committee on the pension reform legislation urging them to include in a final bill the higher levels as well as the Savers Credit and catch-up provision.

CUNA has called the authorities carried in the new law "important savings provisions that will increase the national savings rate and better prepare individuals for the financial needs they will face in retirement." - courtesy

CUNA Newswatch

## Credit Unions Will Celebrate "Making a World of Difference"

For 58 years, credit unions have set aside the third Thursday in October to celebrate International Credit Union Day. Each year, it gives us an opportunity to remember our proud history as we promote understanding and support for the credit union difference.

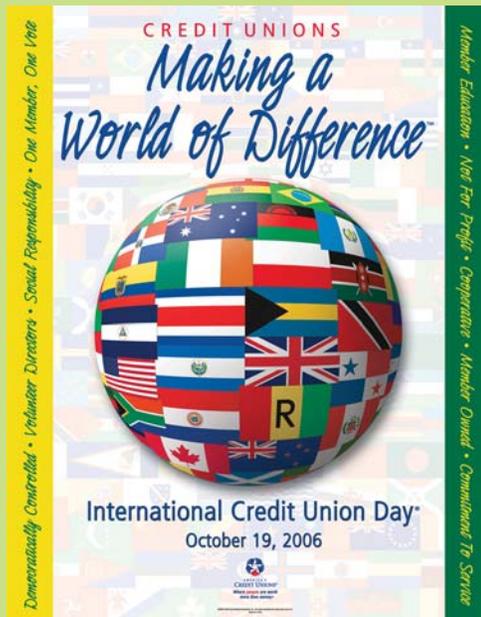
In 1848, Friedrich Raiffeisen, mayor of Flammersfeld, Germany conceived of the idea for a credit union to help ease the distress of farmers suffering from the famine that had struck his district. Today, more than 157 million people belong to more than 42,000 credit unions around the world.

Member service is the foundation of the credit union movement. Whether a credit union is providing

financial access in remote rural communities in Africa, the Middle East, Asia, and Latin America, giving financial counseling to a member, or simply offering a better deal on a used

car loan, the credit union is making a difference for its members and its community. And this difference really makes credit unions stand out. For the 19th is International Credit Union Day, and we are excited to be a part of your hopes and dreams. Thank you for being part of the credit union difference. Please don't hesitate to tell us how we're doing,

and how we can provide even better service in the future. In honor of International Credit Union Day, October 19, we will have refreshments for members at all branch locations. Come by and help us celebrate. We look forward to seeing you!



# Realistic “Phish” Causes Flood of Calls

MADISON, Wis. — Some phishes swimming the web waters are so realistic that even well-informed recipients have trouble distinguishing whether they are legitimate.

The Credit Union National Association (CUNA) is alerting readers to one that is especially convincing. The phish purports to be from CUNA, Visa, and MasterCard. It claims that because of a recent phishing attack and identity theft, CUNA and the card

companies have temporarily deactivated the recipient’s debit card tied to a credit union account.

It then asks the recipient to “reactivate” the debit card at the CUNA website and specifies separate links depending on whether the card is from Visa or MasterCard. Of course, the phish asks for the card number, a ploy to gather information that possibly could be used for identity theft or fraudulent transactions. — Please see “Phish”, page 4



## Holiday Signature Special

Loans up to \$1,000

Payments: 10% of amount borrowed

As Low As 6.50% Annual Percentage Rate\*

No payment until 2007.

(Payments deferred up to 90 days.)



## Holiday Skip-A-Payment

Existing Loan Payments May Be Deferred for One (1) Month,  
December or January (Upon Request Only, **Must Contact  
Loan Department for Form**

Ram MasterCard®, Regular MasterCard® or Gold  
MasterCard® - **December Only**

**Effective Dates: November 1 - December 31, 2006**

All loans and terms are subject to credit approval.

\* The A.P.R. you receive will be based on your credit worthiness.

Loans **not eligible** for Skip-A-Payment include Term Notes, Real Estate Loans, Home Equity Loans,  
Student Loans, Balloon Notes and New Teacher Loans.

All loan payments must be current at the time of the extension. All rates subject to change.

We do business in accordance with the Federal Fair Housing Law and the Equal Opportunity Act.



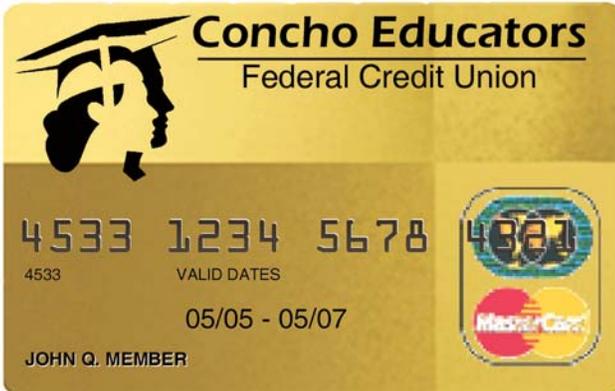
# Ciro Garcia Is Chosen Employee-of-the-Quarter



CEFCU staff members have chosen **Ciro Garcia**, a lobby teller in the Beauregard Office, as the third quarter employee-of-the-quarter.

A graduate of Christoval, he also holds an associate degree in computer science from Howard College. A member of the National Beta Club, Phi Kappa Theta, he served in a customer service capacity four years, was a cashier for three years and has been a CEFCU teller one year. His nomination comments included, "He is always willing to volunteer to stay, or do whatever has to be done."

## Your Credit Union Credit Card,



### The Best Card for You.

Whether it's for a trip, a special occasion, or shopping, you can buy it with your credit union credit card, the best card value for our members.

Competitive APRs, special travel benefits and nationwide ATM access are just a few of the special card benefits.

For a card that's known as one of the best values in the market today, your best choice is a credit union credit card.

## 'Phish' continued from page 3

"It's another 'spin' on phishing, and it's convincing enough that we have had a dozen calls this morning from consumers," said Dorothy Steffens, CUNA's vice president of web services, Tuesday. "At least they are beginning to question the messages before they reply," she said.

The phish, addressed to "Dear Credit Union National Association Member," also says there is "no need to call us in response to a phone message we've left in the last three days unless you see any transactions you don't recognize." It then says that if there are problems to call the customer service number on the back of the debit card.

CUNA warns recipients that it (**nor Concho Educators**) would never send an e-mail about a credit card deactivation and would never ask for personal information such as card numbers in an unsolicited e-mail. Recipients should not click on the links in the message. Instead, they should delete the message.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Notes of Interest is the quarterly newsletter for members of Concho Educators Federal Credit Union. All questions, comments and suggestions may be directed to Noel Johnson, Business Development Officer ([n.johnson@cefcu.us](mailto:n.johnson@cefcu.us)).



We Do Business in Accordance with the Fair Housing Law and the Equal Opportunity Act.

### CONCHO EDUCATORS FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 60976 / San Angelo, TX 76906-0976  
Corporate Office: 3215 W. Loop 306 76904  
325.223.9192 325.944.4809 FAX  
Hours of operation: Lobby - Mon-Fri, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Drive-Thru - Mon - Fri, 7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Saturday, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.  
Beauregard Office: 1976 W. Beauregard 76901  
325.944.4552 325.947.7890 FAX  
Hours of operation: Lobby: Mon-Fri, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Drive-Thru: Mon - Fri, 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.  
Saturday, 7:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
ASU Office: Lobby, University Center 76904  
Hours of operation: Mon-Fri, 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

[www.conchoeducators.org](http://www.conchoeducators.org)

