

members' plus extra



NEWS 4 YOU

Holiday Closings

Columbus Day

Monday, October 13, 2008

Veterans Day

Tuesday, November 11, 2008

Thanksgiving Day

Thursday, November 27, 2008

Christmas Day

Thursday, December 25, 2008

New Years Day

Thursday, January 1, 2009

Board of Directors

Ceaser Moore, Board Chair
 Charles Charleston
 Delia Diaz
 Margaret Glass
 John Glenn
 Robert Goedrich
 Wendell Greenleaf
 Edward Johnson
 Ed Martindale
 Gail Reed
 Chuck Richard
 Mary Watson



count on it.



This credit union is federally insured by the National Credit Union Administration

Managing your Finances in a Slow Economy

Declining Wages

Often, people find themselves in a position where the regular hours they work are being cut at the same time they are trying to pay higher bills. If your hours have been reduced, consider taking on a part-time job to supplement your income.

Rising Prices

Don't let climbing gas prices gouge your wallet. You may be able to save hundreds of dollars a year by simply changing your driving habits. Consider taking public transportation to work or carpool, even if it is only once or twice a week. Check with a neighbor and see if you can carpool with them to do errands. For places that are close to home, walk or ride a bike, instead of driving a car.

Gas prices are not the only prices that are affected in periods of economic decline. You may find that you are paying more for such things as clothing and food. To help curtail the affect these rising costs have on you, try shopping with a list when at the grocery store to help prevent impulse-buys. Whatever you buy, you will save money by purchasing goods on sale.

Paying Bills

Are you worried about how you are going to pay your bills? Help is just a call away! As a benefit of being a Plus4 Credit Union member, you have access to several free Money Management Workshops that are offered during the year free of charge for credit union members. We can help you create a budget and give suggestions as to what you can do to take charge of your financial future. Visit our web site at www.plus4cu.org for details and dates on any upcoming workshops.



IMPORTANT NEWS

- Due to damages sustained from Hurricane Ike, the Long Drive office is currently closed until further notice
- Plus4 Credit Union plans for expansion in 2009-2010
- Is My Money Safe? National Credit Union Administration (NCUA) and Excess Share Insurance Corporation (ESI) provide combination coverage of \$350,000 for each styled account

For more detail information see full article on next page

Entertainment Book Sale

The 2009 Entertainment Book is hot off the press and ready to save you big bucks on everything from dining, sporting events, travel, car repairs, the list is endless. Stop by any of our locations to purchase your book for \$20.00. Not only will you save *big*, but you will also help someone attend college. All proceeds from the sale of this years Entertainment Books will go to the Plus4 Scholarship Fund.

Membership Has Its Reward At Plus4 Credit Union

Plus4 Credit Union is the oldest credit union in Houston with well over 26,000 members and capital to asset ratio in excess of 10.12%, which represents about 144% of what is considered a well-capitalized financial institution. Plus4 has always regarded having more than what is required in reserve not as a luxury, but as a necessity just as homeowners plan for a hurricane. "You always plan for the worse as a contingency for unexpected times" says CEO Stark.

We are operating in a business climate that is far more unpredictable than prior years. Everyone should manage their budget cautiously in order to be able to weather this temporary, but significantly more challenging economic climate. Having adequate funds set aside for such a time like these affords you the opportunity to make sound adjustments to your financial position.

Plus4 Credit Union has been working diligently with its members who are facing increase expenses (i.e. higher- electric bills, grocery bill, insurance and gas). Although Plus4 did not participate in the mortgage sub-prime or alternative mortgage products, some members have received those loans through other funding sources. These members are having difficulty meeting their overall expenses. While some lenders consider these products to have an acceptable level of risk, Plus4 Credit Union does not. We have placed aside funds to absorb a large amount of delinquency on our members' behalf this year. We recognize the difficulty some of our members are facing. However, we do expect those members to develop a budget and work within their means. Several money management seminars are available if anyone needs financial guidance.

Your board of directors, for the past 12 years, has chosen to provide an additional \$250,000.00 insurance coverage on deposits in addition to the \$100,000.00 federal insurance protection for each styled account. This exceptional level of coverage is attained through a combination of federal insurance provided by the National Credit Union Administration (NCUA) and private insurance by the Excess Share Insurance (ESI) Corporation. A husband, wife and two children can be covered for \$1.7 million dollars depending on how you structure the accounts.

Plus4 Credit Union is also in the process of exploring the possibility of adding several two employee-manned branches at various postal facilities in the Houston District. Unfortunately, our Long Drive Branch sustained significant damage from Hurricane Ike. However, based on this recent development, we are now exploring the benefits of two smaller branch locations in lieu of one large office at Long Drive. Since the main branch office at Almeda Genoa is located within minutes from Long Drive location, members will be directed to the Almeda Genoa location. We will maintain a presence in the vicinity of the Long Drive area with a 1-2 person unit. The other new branch will be conveniently placed once further research is completed.

Plus4 Credit Union is putting our 79 YEARS of financial experience and strength behind helping our members. More information will be forthcoming. We look forward to the expansion possibly in 2009 and 2010.

Fee Change Notice

Please note the following items will have fee changes effective November 3, 2008.

NSF (non-sufficient funds)	\$29.50
Return Item	\$29.50
ACH Return	\$29.50
Courtesy Pay	\$29.50
Late Loan Payment	\$30.00
Safety Deposit Box Rental	
3X5	\$20.00
3X10	\$30.00
5X10	\$50.00
10X10	\$90.00

Educating Members to Make *Smart Choices*

No one is born with the understanding of how to manage their money. For example, not everyone automatically knows the difference between a regular savings account, money market, and certificates of deposit. At Plus4 we will be happy to explain what they mean and how they can benefit you. Tell us what's going on in your life, let us see if there is a product or service that can be beneficial to you. For example, are you in the process of remodeling, maybe it's your son's/daughter's senior year and the thought of college is lingering in your mind. Just ask, we have a solution.

Plus4 would like to congratulate this years scholarship winners:

Ronak Shah Gabriela Sandoval
Carolyn Martin Chrystal Tyler
Jasmine Mallett Elizabeth Davis
Kristin Mouton

Plus4 Locations

www.plus4cu.org

Member Services
(713)970-6200

Toll-Free
800-621-6752

24 Hour Teller & Loan by Phone
(713) 970-6200

Almeda Genoa Office
9998 Almeda Genoa Rd.
Houston, TX 77075

Long Drive Office
6055 South Loop East
Houston, TX 77087
**CLOSED UNTIL
FURTHER NOTICE**

Downtown Office
401 Franklin Street
Houston, TX 77002

North Houston Office
4600 Aldine-Bender Rd., Rm. 239
Houston, TX 77032

Credit Union Service Centers
Learn where Credit Union Service
Centers are in Houston by visiting
www.creditunion.net

*Money
Management
Workshops*

Topics Covered in the Workshops

- * Educating Yourself About Money
- * Establishing Financial Goals
- * Creating a Budget
- * What has an Impact on Your Credit
- * Controlling Debt
- * Taking Advantage of Compound Interest
- * Creating a Savings Plan
- * Projecting your Wealth

Weekday Courses
(4 Weekday Courses)
6PM - 7PM
October 13, 14, 15, 16