



# HOT NEWS

Debit Card transaction holds explained on page 2!

March 2008

## Notice to Members

Effective immediately, a VISA Foreign Transaction Fee (FTF)/International Service Fee (ISF) equal to 0.8% will be charged for international transactions that do not involve multiple currency conversions.

The FTF/ISF remains at 1% of the international transaction amount when a multiple currency conversion is involved.

International Transactions are subject to VISA International Service Fees. These fees are "passed through" and are charged to your account when received from VISA.

## Find Your Account Number and Win \$25!

If you are one of the lucky members who finds his or her account number hidden in this issue of "Hot News" by April 30, 2008 you will win \$25. Check it carefully – you may have won \$25! Congratulations to our lucky members from last quarter who found their number and contacted the Credit Union!

## New Dividend Structure Announced

Your Board of Directors strives to deliver a variety of quality products and services to meet your financial needs.

This is done by managing our resources in the best way possible in order to keep services fees low or non-existent and all rates, including those on savings/investment products and loans, competitive and in line with the market place.

In order to maintain service excellence, we are introducing a tiered level dividend structure for your Share Savings Accounts and Holiday Accounts on deposit with the Credit Union. That means, the more you save, the higher your rate of return. Dividends will still be calculated daily and credited monthly.

Effective June 1, 2008, dividends will be calculated on the following levels:

|             |                |             |
|-------------|----------------|-------------|
| \$ 0.00     | ..... to ..... | \$ 999.99   |
| \$ 1,000.00 | ..... to ..... | \$ 4,999.99 |
| \$ 5,000.00 | ..... to ..... | \$24,999.99 |
| \$25,000.00 | ..... to ..... | \$49,999.99 |
| \$50,000.00 | and greater    |             |

Balances below required minimums (\$100 for 01 Regular Share and 10 Corporate Regular Share, and \$25 for Minor (under 18) Regular Share) will not receive dividend. In other words when the balance falls below the minimum, the balance will not earn dividends  $\alpha\mu\mu\ \alpha\mu\mu\ \chi\tau\ \alpha\lambda\mu$  for number of days that it remains below the minimum. Secondary Share Accounts have no minimum balance requirements.

There is no change to the minimum balances requirements or dividend structure of our term Share Certificates. All savings with the Credit Union is insured by the National Credit Union Administration, a U.S. government agency to at least \$100,000 on deposit.

We hope that you will turn to the Credit Union for all of your financial needs.

## Important Information for All Members

### Share Account Minimum Notification

Many members have chosen to open more than one account with the Credit Union in order to manage multiple checking or other accounts balances. In the past, we have allowed this without requiring an additional minimum balance in a separate regular share account (i.e. one minimum share balance for each account number).

Effective June 1, 2008, each account number, even if owed by the  $\mu\tau\tau\epsilon\ \alpha\mu\ \alpha\lambda\mu$  same person, must meet the minimum regular share account balance as established by ACFFCU policy. Each account number must maintain the minimum share balance of \$100 for members over 18 year old, or \$25 for members 18 years of age or younger. You may check with a Member Services Representative by calling 609-272-1000 to verify your account balances and requirements.

We appreciate your cooperation and look forward to serving you in the future!

### Change in Statement Frequency for Some Members

Beginning in April, 2008, members who DO NOT have an active Checking Account or conduct any Electronic Funds Transactions or EFT (i.e. withdrawal by ATM card, direct deposits or phone transfer to another Credit Union account) will  $\alpha\mu\ \mu\alpha\lambda\epsilon\ \mu\tau\tau\epsilon\ \alpha\mu\ \mu\alpha$  no longer receive monthly statements. You will receive quarterly statements (for calendar quarters ending in March, June, September and December) unless an EFT occurs during other months within those quarters.

Members with active Checking Accounts will continue to receive monthly statements.

Members may continue to access account balance and transaction information, as well as, conduct transactions through the convenience of Hotline Audio Response and the Online Hotline Home Banking available on our website at [www.acffcu.org](http://www.acffcu.org). Call the office for more information.



## Hours & Phone



910 New Road  
P.O. Box 413

Northfield, NJ 08225  
Phone: (609) 272-1000  
Fax: (609) 484-8638  
Monday Thru Friday  
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

1701 Pacific Avenue  
Atlantic City, NJ 08401  
Phone: (609) 348-1683  
Mon-Wed-Fri  
8:30 AM - 2:30 PM

## Board of Directors

John W. Collette Jr.  
James H. Revelle  
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Thomas G. Shields  
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Debbie Bateson  
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## HOLIDAYS

### Memorial Day

Monday  
May 26

### Independence Day

Friday  
July 4

# ATLANTIC CITY FIREMEN'S FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

## Understanding Your Debit Card Transactions

Whether you opt to use your Check Card for a debit or "credit" transaction, the approval process involves authorizing the amount of the transaction by placing a hold on those funds in your account. The idea behind this process assures the merchant that when the transaction does clear your account, the money is there and will be paid *oaz auo ualæs auo* without a problem. This hold remains on those specified funds for five (5) days, sometimes even AFTER your transaction has cleared.

Because the Credit Union has a legal obligation to recognize the authorization, we are unable to release funds that remain under the hold whether a transaction has cleared or not. If you maintain a balance sufficient for only your transactions or transfer funds AFTER you make a transaction, you may experience a denied transaction at the Point of Sale, or worse, have insufficient available funds to clear drafts written against your account.

To avoid NSF returns or problems when making purchases, we suggest that you:

- Reconcile your account each month to insure that your balance is accurate and up to date
- Whenever possible, keep funds in excess of your authorized transactions and outstanding drafts
- Do NOT play "the float". With most transactions being processed electronically, the days of float are gone, and it is therefore more important than ever that you make sure you have available funds in your account BEFORE you make a purchase or write a draft.

For more information about transaction authorizations, feel free to call a Member Services representative at 609-272-1000.



Whether you have goals for your savings such as college funding, a large purchase or a special event, or you simply want to have something stashed away for a rainy day, the Credit Union can help you stash your cash. By setting you up on payroll deduction or an automatic deposit to your savings, you can watch your savings grow by leaps and bounds. Dividends are paid periodically to keep you motivated!

We make paying yourself first easy! Call or stop in today to make your savings account your top priority!

## Got Green?

### National Credit Union Youth Week Is April 20-26, 2008

**Grade: F** - That's the average report card 12th graders earned for financial literacy in 2006. What our youth don't know is shocking. For example, only 23% understand that interest/dividends on savings accounts may be taxable. Only 40% realize they could lose their health insurance if their parents become unemployed.



Achieving economic prosperity is difficult. It's especially hard for young people who have never learned how to manage money. We at the Credit Union believe in the power of education. We're here to help you launch the youth in your life toward financial independence.

Join. As a start, open a savings account at the Credit Union for each child in your family. As soon as your children can write, have them fill out deposit and withdrawal slips. Guide teenagers through using a debit card and balancing a checkbook.

**Share.** Include your children in your household finance discussions. Show them how you budget income and expenses. As their skills improve, give them challenges—such as finding a better cell-phone plan, calculating the total monthly cost of owning a car, or sticking to a budget with back-to-school or holiday spending.

**Coach.** Remind your children to ask for help when they need it. And turn to your Credit Union when you want help. Our tradition of service and philosophy of self-help make your Credit Union a natural partner in pursuing financial security.

Join us this year as we celebrate National Credit Union Youth Week from April 20-26. Our theme for 2008 is "Got Green? Grow It at Your Credit Union."

## Pay Yourself First!

These words of wisdom from days past hit home just as hard in today's economic environment! "Pay yourself first" has been the clever way of saying that putting money in savings should be your first priority!

Whether you have goals for your savings such as college funding, a large purchase or a special event, or you simply want to have something stashed away for a rainy day, the Credit Union can help you stash your cash. By setting you up on payroll deduction or an automatic deposit to your savings, you can watch your savings grow by leaps and bounds. Dividends are paid periodically to keep you motivated!