

Your Credit Union is Safe and Secure

To say these are trying economic times is an understatement. In the wake of the recent failures of some other financial institutions across the country, we at Okaloosa County Teachers Federal Credit Union feel it is important for you to know that your credit union is safe, healthy and secure.

We Are Strong and Ready to Meet Your Needs

We have always followed conservative business practices that protect the best interests of our members. Like most other credit unions, we never made risky subprime loans that have gotten some other financial institutions into trouble. While many other institutions are cutting back on lending and reducing customers' credit lines, we have maintained healthy liquidity ratios so that we are well positioned to cover members' cash demands, as well as their loan needs.

Your Savings are Safe with

Okaloosa County Teachers Federal Credit Union

Just as the FDIC insures deposits in banks, the NCUA (National Credit Union Administration), a federal agency backed by the full faith and credit of the United States government, protects your savings at Okaloosa County Teachers Federal Credit Union with insurance up to \$250,000 on general deposits and up to another \$250,000 on retirement accounts. These amounts reflect an increase in insurance that became effective in October, 2008, and remains in effect until December, 2009. **In the entire history of the NCUA, not one credit union member has lost a single penny of their insured savings.**

We are proud to serve you, and we take our commitment to you very seriously. You can rest assured that we are strong, secure and ready to serve our members.



Bloom Where You Are Planted

With a Home Equity Loan from Your Credit Union

The real estate market may have discouraged you from buying or selling your home. But that doesn't mean you shouldn't make the most of where you are! Bloom where you are planted with a home equity line of credit from Okaloosa County Teachers Federal Credit Union. While many other lenders are reducing outstanding lines of credit, we are ready and able to make equity loans.

Use the equity in your home to make home improvements and create your dream house right where you are. Or you could also use the money to take care of education, medical or other expenses. No matter how you want to use the money, we offer a low rate, no closing costs and an easy application process.

For more information and current rates, call 850-682-2225 or the branch located closest to you, today!



Holiday Closings

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
January 19

Presidents' Day
February 16

Okaloosa County Teachers Federal Credit Union

www.okaloosafcu.org

24-Hour Audio Response

1-800-828-5831

Home Banking

www.okaloosafcu.org

Main Office

1126 North Ferdon Boulevard
Crestview, Florida 32536
(850) 682-2225

FAX: (850) 682-7722

Mon. - Thurs. 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Drive up 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Friday 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Drive up 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Drive-up Only

Fort Walton Beach Branch

11 N.E. Racetrack Road, Building I
Fort Walton Beach, Florida 32547

(850) 863-7041 or

(850) 863-7054

FAX: (850) 862-2933

Mon. - Thurs. 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Friday 9:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Drive-up Only

Baker Branch

1307-A Georgia Avenue
Baker, Florida 32531

Phone and Fax: (850) 537-9815

Mon. - Thurs. 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Friday 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Closed for lunch daily: 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Niceville Branch

202 Highway 85N, Suite 100
Niceville, FL 32578

(850) 729-3934

Fax: (850) 729-3936

Mon. - Thurs. 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Friday 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Board of Directors

Gail Kaltz, Chairman

J.C. Connor, Vice Chairman

Jeanneane Grandstaff, Secretary

Martha Jordan, Treasurer

Eric Garcia

Susan Lowrey Sexton

Morris Rogers

Jerry Maughon, President/CEO

**ATM AVAILABLE AT THE
CRESTVIEW, FORT WALTON
BEACH, NICEVILLE, AND BAKER
LOCATIONS.**





Okaloosa County Teachers
Federal Credit Union
Smart MONEY

January 2009



Becoming an Earth-Conscious Consumer

You hear a lot these days about “going green” – but what does that really mean? Basically, it is about being a conscious consumer and making conscious choices to leave a lighter imprint on the world. Try these tips to make greener choices.

Buyers Beware

- Take the time to purchase wisely. When you buy “green,” make sure you are getting what you are paying for. If it is labeled “natural” or “organic,” make sure the ingredient list backs up the claim.
- Less is more. Only buy and consume what you really need.
- Check the packaging. Look for products that use recycled and recyclable packaging.

Be Energy-Wise

- Look for ways to use less energy. For every degree you lower your home’s temperature during the winter months, you’ll reduce the cost of your heating bill an average of about five percent.
- Replace all those old light bulbs with more energy efficient halogen or compact fluorescent bulbs.
- Turn lights and appliances off when you are not using them. When they are plugged in, appliances use energy even when they are not in use. Unplug everything whenever possible.
- Limit dry cleaning. Many dry cleaners use harmful chemicals in the dry cleaning process. Look for a cleaner that uses “wet cleaning” or liquid CO₂ techniques. Many articles whose tags ask for the dry clean treatment can actually be hand washed, especially silk, wool and linen.

“Going green” begins with an attitude. It is a conscious decision to make choices that will be better for the earth. There are many ways to tread lightly on the earth while still enjoying a satisfying lifestyle. Often it takes little more than a heightened sense of awareness to what you buy and what you need.

We’ve Got Money to Lend!

In an economic climate where many financial institutions have run into trouble and are drastically cutting back on their lending, your credit union is still here to meet members’ lending needs. Like most credit unions, we never engaged in sub-prime lending and other risky lending practices. Our conservative approach to lending has kept us in a position to make loans to qualified members as we always have.

We have no Wall-Street investors or other stockholders. As a member-owned, not-for-profit cooperative, we are still strong and well-positioned to serve our members. If you need an auto, home or other loan, visit your credit union first. You’ll find low rates, convenient terms, personal service and a secure and stable financial institution. For more information, call Okaloosa County Teachers Federal Credit Union at 850-682-2225 or the branch located closest to you. You can also visit us online at www.okaloosafcu.org.



Just In Case You Forgot... We Offer:

- **New ATM located inside Mickey's Grocery and Grill in Baker**
- **Safe Deposit Boxes Now Available at Our Crestview Branch**
- **Drive-Up ATM at the Niceville Branch Now Accepts Deposits**
- **MasterCard™ Credit Card**
- **Platinum MasterCard® Credit Card**
- **Construction and Land Loans**
- **Free Online Banking and Free Bill Pay**
- **Small Business Checking**
- **Kirby Kangaroo Kids Club**
- **CU Succeed Teens Financial Network**
- **Payroll Deduction & Direct Deposit**
- **Free Debit Card**
- **Expanded Crestview and Fort Walton Beach Drive-Up Hours – Open Until 1:00 p.m. on Saturdays**
- **And Much More!**

Annual Meeting

Each year, the members of Okaloosa County Teachers FCU have the opportunity to come together to participate in that democratic credit union tradition we call the Annual Meeting. The gathering is your chance as a credit union owner to let your vote be counted by participating in the election of our Board Members. (Only members 16 years of age and older will be eligible to vote.) You'll also learn the financial status of your credit union and review the events of the past year.

The Nominating Committee nominated incumbents Mr. Eric Garcia, Mrs. Martha Jordan, and Mr. Gail Kaltz. (Below are brief bios of the candidates.) Due to the change in our bylaws, there will be no nominations from the floor. Nominations for vacancies may be made by petition signed by 1% of the membership (approximately 72 members). Nominations by petition must be filed with the secretary of the Board no later than February 12, 2009. A petition may be obtained from the Crestview office.

Mr. Eric Garcia is the Supervisor of the Fire Dispatch Center and the IT Systems Manager for the City of Crestview. Mr. Garcia has served on the Board of Directors of Okaloosa County Teachers FCU for the past three years and the Supervisory Committee for the past four years.

Mrs. Martha Jordan is a retired instructor from Okaloosa Walton Community College. Mrs. Jordan has served on the Board of Directors of Okaloosa County Teachers FCU for the past 33 years and currently serves as Treasurer.

Mr. Gail Kaltz is the Director at the Northwest Florida State College Robert L.F. Sikes Educational Center in Crestview. Mr. Kaltz has served on the Board of Directors of Okaloosa County Teachers FCU for the past 11 years and currently serves as the Chairman of the Board. Mr. Kaltz has also served on the Supervisory Committee.

You are invited to our Annual Meeting.

Tuesday, March 24th
Doors open at 4 p.m.
Meeting begins at 5 p.m.
Location: Bob Sikes Elementary
Door Prizes will be given.

Lighten the High-Interest Load

Are you carrying a load of high-interest holiday debt? Today's economy made it harder than ever to get through the holiday season without mounting up large credit card balances. But you don't have to settle for a year of staggering under the weight of your holiday debt. You can start the new year with a lighter load when you transfer your balances from high interest credit cards to a low interest Okaloosa County Teachers Federal Credit Union Platinum MasterCard®

Our rate is as low as 7.9% APR*.

Other benefits include:

- No annual fee
- No balance transfer fee
- 25-day grace period
- No transaction fee for cash advances**
- Acceptance wherever you see the MasterCard® logo

We can help you save money on interest — which means you can get your balances paid off more quickly. Don't crack under the weight of your holiday debt. For more information on a low-interest Okaloosa County Teachers Federal Credit Union MasterCard®, call 850-682-2225 or visit www.okaloosafcu.org today.

*APR= Annual Percentage Rate. Variable rate is tied to prime with a floor rate of 7.9% APR. Rate subject to credit approval.

**Interest accrues from the date of the advance.



We Make House Calls

with Home Banking and Bill Payment Service

The days of house calls are back again. So, sit back, relax, and let us come to you! With Okaloosa County Teachers Federal Credit Union home banking and bill payment services, you can conduct many of your financial transactions from your home computer — whenever you want to and without ever leaving home. If you haven't tried home banking, you should! It's free, it's simple to use, and it can save you time.

Our bill payment service allows you to make payments to any business you want — your utility companies, your telephone company, or even your childcare provider. No more writing checks and running out of stamps! **And best of all, our bill payment service is free!**

Need to do more than just pay bills? Then take advantage of the full array of transactions you can complete with our home banking service.

With home banking you can:

- **Transfer money between your accounts**
- **Check account information, including balances**
- **Get an up-to-date look at your checking or savings activity**
- **Request a check withdrawal**
- **Apply for a loan**
- **and more...**

Home banking and bill payment services will keep us on your schedule! Call or sign up in person at any Okaloosa County Teachers FCU office, or you can register online at www.okaloosafcu.org. For more information call the credit union today.



Payroll Deduction

The No-Excuse Way to Save

Do you usually begin a new year with a determination to save? Do you typically find yourself at the end of the year with a pile of excuses instead of a pile of money? This year, try the no-excuse way to save. Payroll deduction into your Okaloosa County Teachers Federal Credit Union savings account makes it easy to pay yourself first. You'll save without having to make that decision every month.

When you sign up for payroll deduction, you can authorize a monthly automatic transfer of an amount you choose to any of your Okaloosa County Teachers Federal Credit Union savings accounts, including:

- Holiday Savings Account
- Regular Share (Savings) Account
- Individual Retirement Account
- Money Market Account

For more information on opening a savings account or signing up for payroll deduction, call the credit union at 850-682-2225 or the branch located closest to you.



Has Your Contact Information Changed?

Please help us keep your records at Okaloosa County Teachers Federal Credit Union current. If you have had a change to any of your contact information, please let us know. You can pick up a change of information form at the credit union, or we will mail or fax the form to you. Thank you for helping us keep our records up to date.

Privacy Notice

Okaloosa County Teachers Federal Credit Union is committed to protecting the privacy and security of our members' personal financial information and to ensuring the accuracy of such information.

We restrict access to nonpublic information about you to only our employees and affiliates who need to know that information to provide products and services to you. We maintain physical, electronic, and procedural safeguards that comply with federal regulations to guard your nonpublic personal information. We may also disclose information about you under other circumstances, as permitted or required by law.

Dividends

Dividends were posted to accounts on 12/31/08.

	Annual Percentage Rate	Annual Percentage Yield
Share Accounts	1.00%	1.01%
IRA Share Accounts	1.00%	1.01%
Club Accounts	1.00%	1.01%