

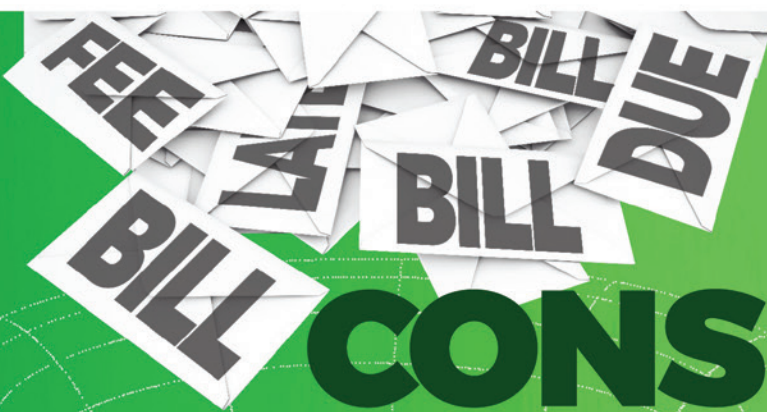


information

winter 2018

edwards
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

Q U A R T E R L Y



this year...
CONSOLIDATE
your debt into
one low payment
& **SAVE**



48
MONTHS

up to **\$10,000**
6.99% APR*

60
MONTHS

from \$10,000 to
\$20,000
7.99% APR*

*APR = Annual Percentage Rate. Preferred rates for this loan are 6.99% APR for 48 months for loan amounts up to \$10,000; 7.99% APR for 60 months for loan amounts \$10,001 to \$20,000. Not all members may qualify for the preferred rates; other rates and terms may apply. All loans subject to credit approval. Loan offer valid January 1, 2018 through March 31, 2018. Loan proceeds may not be used to refinance existing Edwards Federal Credit Union loans. For additional details about rates and terms contact the credit union at 661.952.5945. Certain other restrictions may apply.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

2017 IN REVIEW AND GREAT THINGS PLANNED FOR 2018

Welcome to 2018. We have some amazing things planned for the next 12 months, but it's worth taking a moment to review what we did during 2017. When I consider everything we do at the credit union on a day-to-day and month-to-month basis, I have to acknowledge there are many things members see and don't see that make up all of the year's accomplishments.

What did members see most? Well, I suspect it was our significant increase in marketing. We have great products and services that can save our members money everyday, but if our members don't know about them what good are they? So we went to market, so to speak, by starting the year with a special Consolidation Loan that helped members get out from under high interest rate debt. We followed that with a great 2% Cash Back auto loan, then some terrific deals on loans for RVs, motorcycles and other adult toys. In Autumn, we launched another great auto loan promotion and one lucky member won four tickets to see the Rams beat the New Orleans Saints on Thanksgiving weekend. In May and October we rolled out some special Term Savings Certificates for our member savers. We hosted a fantastic Annual Meeting with terrific raffle prizes, we celebrated Edwards Member Appreciation Night at a JetHawks baseball game and late in the year we hosted a Shred Day. So many members showed up for that event that we actually filled the truck early (we will look into two trucks for the next Shred Day). Plus, throughout 2017, we supported numerous events on the Edwards Air Force Base as well as being the signature sponsor for the 2017 Gathering of Eagles event supporting the Flight Test Museum and its fundraising efforts.

How about behind the scenes where members may not always see what we are doing? Pulling back the curtain, you'd find that during 2017 we spent significant time upgrading our IT and communications operations. Early in the year we began to outsource our network system to CUProdigy, a Credit Union Service Organization. CUProdigy serves only credit unions and their solutions have allowed Edwards to utilize network servers that are state of the art – typically only available to much larger credit unions. This simple change helped the credit union fortify our cyber security defenses. Speaking of security (cyber security), one often-overlooked soft spot for companies of all types is their phone system. Upon review, it became painfully obvious to us that our old system would cost too much to upgrade versus a new state of the art system. By the end of the summer we had identified and installed a new system eliminating this vulnerability.

In 2018, we will continue our work on internal infrastructure improvement while bringing real financial value back to the membership. With our improved financial performance last year, we will be able to offer both great loan products like our new 2018 Consolidation Loan and better dividend rates for our member savers. In fact, we've just rolled out new higher rates for our Term Saving Certificates, making Edwards one of the best financial institutions in the Antelope Valley to have your savings nest egg.

We have many member favorite events returning in 2018 including our JetHawks night and another Shred Day. Around mid-year we plan to finish a major project we began in 2017 and will upgrade all of the credit union's current ATMs. We'll share more details about all of those events and other exciting news soon.

Thank you for your continued membership with Edwards FCU.



Roy MacKinnon
President/CEO



56th

OUR 2018 MEETING WILL BE HELD THURSDAY, APRIL 26TH, 2018
at the John P. Eliopoulos Hellenic Center, 43404 30th Street West, Lancaster.

ANNUAL MEETING & ELECTIONS

No host cocktails begin at 6 PM
with dinner at 7 PM.

Members should RSVP no
later than April 13th.

Tickets are \$10 per person.

To RSVP please call 661.952.5945

All members are invited to Edwards Federal Credit Union's 56th annual membership meeting and elections for open positions on the credit union's Board of Directors. Members can meet the candidates seeking election and say hello to our Board of Directors and Supervisory Committee members. Last year's event featured some great music during the cocktail hour and great raffle prizes from our vendors. We are planning for more of the same this year.

Elections for two open positions on the Board of Directors will be held. The Nominating Committee has nominated the following members: Ardith Richardson and Ronald Guyadeen. Both Mrs. Richardson and Mr. Guyadeen are incumbents and are seeking reelection.

Any additional nominations for open positions must be made by petition. The Nominating Committee will review all candidates. Individuals must be at least 18 years of age and members in good standing of Edwards Federal Credit Union to be eligible to sign a petition. Each nomination by petition must include at least 160 member signatures. Petitions must be submitted no later than March 22nd, 2018 to Edwards Federal Credit Union, Attn. Nominating Committee, 10 South Muroc Drive, Edwards, CA 93524.

The election will not be conducted by ballot and there will be no nominations from the floor when the nominees equal the number of positions to be filled. Only one vote per member is permitted.



ARDITH RICHARDSON

Ardith Richardson has been a member of the Edwards Federal Credit Union Board of Directors for the past 19 years. She has served on the Loan Review Committee, the Supervisory Committee, and the Chairperson of the Supervisory Committee before coming to the board, for a combination of over 27 years of volunteer service with the Credit Union. She has been a continuous member of Edwards Federal Credit Union for 48 years.

Ardith retired as an Air Force Civilian employee after 30 years of service in 2003. She is also active in several volunteer organizations in our community. "I am proud to be a member of the Edwards Federal Credit Union team. As a member of your Board of Directors, I welcome comments and suggestions from fellow members and will work toward a common goal to make Edwards Federal Credit Union the best it can be. I hope to have the opportunity to continue representing members' interest on the Board of Directors for Edwards Federal Credit Union. Thank you for your support."



RONALD GUYADEEN

I am very excited and enthusiastic to announce my candidacy for re-election to the Board of Directors. I have been a member of Edwards Federal Credit Union for the last 40 years and have had the opportunity to serve as a member of the Supervisory Committee and its Chair. During the past two years, I served first as Board Secretary and since 2016, as Board Vice Chair. After a career of more than 36 years of federal service, most of which I served at Edwards Air Force Base, I look forward to ensuring the services of the credit union are available to not only the Edwards workforce but to everyone in the Antelope Valley. I feel a strong duty to provide the guidance that helps ensure our members receive the highest quality of service while maintaining the safety and security they expect. The credit union's more than 55 years of service is attributed directly to its members, the hard-working staff and the deep commitment of the volunteers. I look forward to the opportunity to continue to represent our members and would appreciate your support of my candidacy. I believe there is a bright future for Edwards Federal Credit Union and look forward to serving you in the future.

IRA's ALWAYS A GOOD IDEA

Saving for your future, your so-called "golden years" is not just a good idea, today it's a necessity, unless of course you like the idea of working until you are well past your seventh decade. If you are in the military you should take advantage of the Blended Retirement System (see article in this issue) or with a private employer their 401k, if they offer one.

But, if neither of those options is available (or even if they are), as an Edwards FCU member, you can take advantage of an amazing financial tool – it's called an Individual Retirement Account, or IRA. An IRA is a personal retirement savings plan available to anyone who receives taxable compensation during the year. IRAs are a great way to save for your future and there is no better time to start than now.

Edwards is ready to help you take full advantage of an IRA.

We offer both Traditional IRAs: Daily and Certificate. Daily IRAs earn dividends on all account balances. Certificate IRAs earn higher dividends and have terms of 12 months to 5 years. We also offer Roth IRAs and Coverdell ESAs (Educational Savings Accounts), both of which offer specific tax advantages not available with Traditional IRAs.

Because IRAs have unique tax advantages depending on your specific situation, we encourage you to speak to your tax professional but remember, the sooner you start saving the better off you'll be when you decide to retire.

BLENDED RETIREMENT SYSTEM LAUNCHES FOR SERVICE PERSONNEL

Effective January 1st, 2018, the Department of Defense will transition into the Blended Retirement replacing the TSP program for new personnel. Established by an act of Congress in 1986, The Thrift Savings Plan was made available to civil employees and members of the armed services as a tax deferred retirement savings program akin to 401k plans offered by companies to their employees.

If you have not yet looked into your BRS options, the following are policy highlights.

POLICY HIGHLIGHTS

- The fiscal year 2016 Nation Defense Authorization Act created a new military retirement system that blends the traditional legacy retirement pension with a defined contribution to Service members' Thrift Savings Plan account. The new Blended Retirement System goes into effect on January 1st, 2018.
- All members serving as of December 31st, 2017, are grandfathered under the legacy retirement system. No one currently-serving will be automatically switched to the Blended Retirement System.
- Though they are grandfathered under the legacy retirement system, Active Component Service members with fewer than 12 years since their Pay Entry Base Date, and Reserve Component Service members who have accrued fewer than 4,320 retirement points as of December 31st, 2017, will have the option to opt into the Blended Retirement System. The opt-in election period for the Blended Retirement System begins January 1st, 2018, and concludes on December 31st, 2018.
- All Service members who enter the military on or after January 1st, 2018, will automatically be enrolled in BRS.

For additional information, visit www.tsp.gov or www.militarypay.defense.gov or see your on-base financial counselor.

SAFELY SECURE IN A SAFETY DEPOSIT BOX

What's made of forged steel, is eight feet wide, two feet thick, weighs something north of 1,000 lbs. and is locked by steel rods?

If you guessed the vault safe door at our Lancaster branch you'd be right. And our member safe deposit boxes are located in a room behind this massive door. We are talking one safe place and a very safe, safe!

If you have valuables or documents that need a safe home, consider a safe deposit box from your credit union. We currently have boxes available in 3 x 5, 5 x 5 and 3 x 10 sizes. These boxes are rented quickly so call us today. If you need a larger size safe deposit box ask to be placed on our wait list and we will contact you when one becomes available.

NEW HIGHER RATE SAVINGS CERTIFICATES



Term Savings Certificates, also known as Certificates of Deposit or simply CDs, are great alternatives to basic savings accounts because they earn higher dividend rates. Unlike other savings accounts, Certificates offer higher rates because funds must be left on deposit for the length of the term selected. If you know you will not need access to these funds during the term, Certificates are the perfect way to make your savings work harder for you.

Like all deposit accounts at Edwards, our Term Savings Certificates are federally insured by the NCUA, up to \$250,000. And we also offer Certificates for IRAs. IRAs and IRA certificates are insured separately by the NCUA up to \$250,000.

We recently increased all of our Certificate rates making our rates some of the best in the Antelope Valley. Certificates can be opened with a minimum deposit of \$1,000 and range in terms from six months to five years.

SHARE AND IRA CERTIFICATES

6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS	24 MONTHS	36 MONTHS	48 MONTHS	60 MONTHS
0.30% APY	0.57% APY	0.67% APY	0.77% APY	0.99% APY	1.39% APY

Share and IRA Certificate Annual Percentage Yields (APY's) are accurate as of January 1st 2018. APY's are paid at maturity only. A penalty will apply for early withdrawal. Savings with Edwards Federal Credit Union are federally insured by the NCUA, an agency of the federal government, up to at least \$250,000.

... AND THE WINNER IS...

Edwards member Kelley Hare was the lucky winner of four tickets to the LA Rams vs. New Orleans Saints game Thanksgiving weekend. When told she had won, Kelley couldn't believe it, telling the credit union "This is great, I never win anything. Thank you Edwards!" Kelley was one of the 70 members who took advantage of our \$100 Cash Back auto loan promotion last fall. Congratulations again Kelley, we heard the game was great and we'll take a wild guess it might have been because the Rams defeated the Saints 26 - 20 on that beautiful Sunday afternoon.



30,000 is huge!

Edwards members have access to nearly 30,000 surcharge free ATMs nationwide! That's more than most of the biggest banks. And it includes selected locations where you shop, like 7-Eleven, Circle K, Costco, Dunkin Donuts and Rite-Aid.

You can use these ATMs free of charge to make withdrawals and transfers – and at many locations you can make deposits too. To find a surcharge free ATM near you, visit

<http://www.edwardsfcu.org/home/convenience/atm> OR co-opfs.org


edwards
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION
44288 10th Street West
Lancaster, CA 93534

Presorted
Standard
U.S. Postage
PAID
WC

CONTACT US

- **PHONE** 661.952.5945 CALL-24 ... select 1 ... then #
- **TOLL-FREE** 877.256.3300 CALL-24 ... select 1 ... then #
- **EMAIL** ememberservice@edwardsfcu.org
- **WEBSITE** www.edwardsfcu.org

BRANCHES

- **EDWARDS AFB** 10 South Muroc Drive
FAX 661.258.7244 LOBBY HOURS M-F, 9am-5pm
- **LANCASTER** 44288 10th Street West
FAX 661.942.3573 LOBBY HOURS M-F, 9am-6pm
DRIVE UP M-F, 8:30am-6pm

HOLIDAYS The credit union will be closed on the following holidays:

• **MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY**
Monday, January 15th

• **PRESIDENT'S DAY**
Monday, February 19th