

Meet New Board Member Vic Vickers

Hello, I am **Vic C. Vickers**, newly elected member of your Board of Directors. I would like to thank you for your support in the November election, and give you a sincere promise to represent your concerns and financial needs.

You are our most valuable asset and it is our goal to protect your future. To do this requires much work, which is why I would like to ask those of you who are interested in giving to volunteer your time. The credit union has committees that can use your expertise in drafting policies, assisting with compliance, and financial matters and general oversight. We would love to have you on board with us.

If you have questions or concerns regarding the credit union, or if you are interested in becoming an active participant of one of our committees, please contact me at Vic@vickers1.com or (510) 393-881. Remember, we are here to serve *you!* Let's work together for a stronger Cooperative Center. Maybe you would like to become a member of the Board of Directors; we can discuss that as well.



Thank you for your time and I look forward to hearing from you!

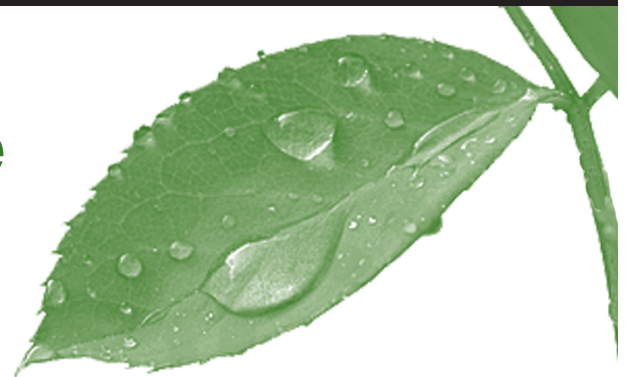
CCFCU

1st Quarter 2009

Newsline

Published Quarterly for Members of the Cooperative Center Federal Credit Union

Message from the CEO



You may have noticed that we have made some changes to our newsletter. As discussed in previous articles, we are reducing our unnecessary consumption habits and becoming more green and efficient. Keeping in contact with our members will always be a priority – however, we are improving the ways we communicate with our members and saving money for the credit union.

We invite you to join us as we continue to be more environmentally and socially responsible in how we conduct the business of the credit union. For example, we have improved our online account access by adding **Bill Pay** so that you do not have to use paper checks unless you have no other choice.

I would encourage you to try out our **E-Statement** where we e-mail your statement monthly and provide you online storage so you can easily retrieve your information. When you sign up for **E-Statement** you will also get our newsletter monthly and quarterly to keep you more informed about your credit union. Just go to www.coopfcu.org and get all the information about how you can help us to make your credit union more environmentally responsible.

Later this year the board will consider installing solar panels on the roof of the Ashby office as our primary source for electricity to operate the office. We have special financing for green vehicles and green deposit products coming in the near future.

So stay tuned as we move in a positive and progressive direction to improve your credit union. We welcome your ideas on how you think we can make the credit union better for you, the member we enjoy serving.

Cooperative Center Federal Credit Union
Your Financial Partner for Life

Addresses and Hours:

Main Office: 2001 Ashby Ave.,
Berkeley, CA 94703

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 248,
Berkeley, CA 94701-0248

Monday-Thursday: 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Friday: 9:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

CUBS: Lower Sproul Plaza,
UC Berkeley Campus

Monday- Thursday 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

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

Board of Directors

James P. Garrett, Chair
Shyaam Shabaka, Vice Chair
Vic C. Vickers, Secretary
Patricia Pitre, Director
Dick Lerner, Director

Supervisory Committee

Patricia Pitre, Chair
Stephanie Hunter, Secretary
Tejinder Kaur, Member
Mark Smith, Member

Member Education Committee

Shyaam Shabaka
Dick Lerner
Mark Smith

Management

Gary Bell, CEO / President
Vicki Fong, COO
Porsche Brown, CFO
Warren Diun, Collections Specialist
Debbie Crowson, Executive Assistant



Mission Statement

Cooperative Center Federal Credit Union, a member owned and governed financial institution, is committed to providing quality services and education in a caring, responsible, professional manner, while maintaining long-term financial strength.



The credit union will be
CLOSED
MONDAY, MAY 25TH
in observance of
MEMORIAL DAY

Tax Season is Year Round!

By Vic C. Vickers

Most people think taxes are seasonal, starting on January 1st, and ending April 15th. This is far from the truth! Thinking like that can cost you hundreds – if not thousands – of dollars. The truth is, to have a stress-free tax experience and receive the highest refund possible requires year-round commitment. The more preparation and attention you give to your taxes, the greater percentage of your money you will be able to keep.



There are many ways to reduce your tax burden and decrease your taxable income. The key is proper management of your records and your day-to-day spending.

By managing your receipts and keeping track of your expenditures year round, you can keep much more of the money you earn...**as much as 100%**. There are many

qualified tax professionals who can assist you in creating the best possible tax position. Take advantage of the free consultation many of them offer. You can gain valuable information just by discussing minor issues concerning your taxes.

One last note....Don't wait until the last minute! April 15th is just around the corner. Call a tax professional today and get your taxes in order.



Did you know:

- You can reduce your estate tax liability to zero
- You can borrow \$50,000 from your 401(k) plan without paying tax or early withdrawal penalty
- You can generate more income without increasing your tax liability
- You can give your kids, grandkids or great-grandkids part of your earnings and neither of you have to pay taxes on it
- You can reduce taxes on stock dividends up to 10 points on high-yield investments
- You can deduct 100% of your business entertainment expenses
- You can avoid paying income tax on income from your home-based business
- You can have the federal government make a contribution into your retirement plan
- You can get a tax deduction for your grown kids moving back home
- You can avoid paying taxes on capital gains when selling your home

We Have a Stimulus Bail Out for You!

Is your debt more than you can manage? Cooperative Center Federal Credit Union's Debt consolidation helps members combine debts into a single, often lower monthly payment. Discover all of your options with CCFCU. Call, Click or come by!