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HOURS: Mon - Fri 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

NEWS FROM THE

Vault



The Finish Line is in Sight

On January 1, 2015 MECE Credit Union's membership lined up at the starting line for a race with a payout of up to \$4,000! Though we stumbled out of the blocks, MECECU's membership has come on strong as we near the finish line on November 30, 2015. Through August 30, the payout has accumulated \$1,045.00. This money has been building

since the start of the race by increasing \$1.00 for each cumulative new member, checking account, electronic statement, internet user, and \$40,000 in new loan money. One eligible racer (member) will jog away with the jackpot at the end of the race. To enter the race, you must have a Credit Union checking account and any combination of 3 of the following services: Visa credit card or any other type of loan, ATM/debit card, electronic statement, online account access or mobile banking, direct deposit or payroll deduction, ACH transfer, or bill payment. The eligible racer must also be 18 years of age or older at the time of the drawing and be a member in good standing with the Credit Union. The winning racer will be responsible to pay any applicable taxes on the winnings. There is no entry necessary for this race, you just need to have the necessary services to run. Get in the race today to have a chance to win this great cash jackpot!

MECECU'S Free Checking

- \$0 to open
- 0.25% dividend
- Free checks
- Free ATM/debit card (includes photo card)
- No minimum or maximum requirements
- 2 nation-wide fee-less ATM networks (45,000+ ATMs available)
- Free bill payment
- Free mobile banking/mobile deposit
- Free overdraft protection

Financial Stability

Are you financially stable? A lot of us think we are but when we really look at the facts we may not be as stable as we think. Here are a couple of things to consider before you take out a new loan: one in four of all 21 year olds will be disabled before they reach the age of 67 and nearly 40% of consumers are concerned with burdening others if they die prematurely. Are you ready for the unexpected?

Many companies offer long term disability protection should you become disabled during the course of your employment. However, disability insurance will normally cover about 2/3 of your normal income. Would you be able to keep up with your monthly payments living off of 2/3 of your income? In most cases, there is a waiting period before you can even become eligible to receive 2/3 of your salary.

How can MECE Credit Union help? MECE Credit Union offers payment protection on our Consumer Loans for disability and death to help protect you and your family should the unexpected happen. Payment protection can ease the burden to have your obligations with the Credit Union met allowing you to use this money to pay for other necessities.

Your loan officer will be asking you about this protection the next time you take out a loan, please be sure to consider this type of coverage before you simply decline it. Payment protection could allow you to keep those new wheels versus having to sell them because you can no longer afford them.



From the desk of
RANDY MARKS, President



Differentiation

Not too long back, I was visiting with an employee at an electric cooperative, who was not a member. He asked a great question, "What makes your Credit Union different from all of the others?" This is an important question which is critical for me to be able to answer and I thought it would be valuable information for all of our members to realize. I will do my best to summarize what I told him in the following points:

1. Ownership- In his question, he said "your" Credit Union and he was right. Nowadays, many brush over this, but if you hold stock in a bank, you will understand why this is #1. Since you own the Credit Union, we pay the ownership dividends directly back to you in the form of higher savings rates, lower loan rates and reduced fees. Do the comparisons and you will see how true this is. This truly separates us apart from all banks.
2. Membership Eligibility- MECE Credit Union was chartered to be an employee benefit for rural electric cooperative employees and their immediate family members. This makes us very different from community based and multiple company credit unions. In our industry, this is called a single select employee group field of membership which is very rare.
3. Asset Quality- Due to our excellent membership base and the credit quality of our owners our delinquency ratio is .02% compared to peer averages of .74% (37 times higher). Many institutions our size have nearly \$1 million in delinquent loans compared to our \$20 thousand. This makes MECE Credit Union safe and sound, while reducing loan losses.
4. Operating Expense- MECE Credit Union has 1 location with 14 employees and leverages technology to provide convenient personalized service to our membership. This results in a 1.59% operating expense ratio compared to our peers at 3.1% which saves our owners almost \$2.5 million each year.

In summary, these 4 differentiators are exactly why MECE Credit Union is "The Bright Choice" for your financial needs and continues to separate us from ALL other institutions.

Randy Marks, President MECE Credit Union

Meet the Staff

Lisa Wieberg

Loan Officer

Years at Credit Union: 7

Years in finance: 7

Job tasks you perform/are responsible for:

Mortgage Loans and Consumer Loans (collateral, personal, credit cards, etc.)

What you like most about your job:

Completing a loan transaction that I know has truly improved a member's financial situation and is a step in the right direction of getting or keeping them on track for a better financial future.

Contact Information:

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Time to Switch to Sprint?

Looking for a good reason to switch your wireless company? How about this - credit union members get exclusive savings with the Sprint Credit Union Member Discount:

- Get a 10% discount on select regularly priced Sprint monthly data service
- Have your activation fee on new lines waived (\$36 savings)
- Have your upgrade fee waived (\$36 savings)

Current and new Sprint customers need to verify credit union membership to take advantage of these exclusive discounts. Visit www.Sprint.com/verify or download the Love My Credit Union Rewards app in the Apple App Store or Google Play to verify your membership.

It's worth it to switch to Sprint. Visit LoveMyCreditUnion.org/Sprint to learn more and to start saving today with the Sprint Credit Union Member Discount.



Your Credit Union utilizes Facebook to pass along important information to help you better your financial situation. Outside of periodic announcements, we also post information weekly: every Tuesday we post some trivia or a tip and every Friday we post a little bit of humor to help take you in to your weekend. The Credit Union also gives away some great prizes to its Facebook followers during the course of the year. This year we have already given away 2 Eric Church concert tickets, 4 Alabama concert tickets along with 4 passes into the Missouri State Fair, a camo MECE Credit Union hat, and a 40th anniversary Tervis water bottle. We are looking at giving away a few more prizes this year, so follow us by searching for "MECE Credit Union" and liking our page to keep up on all things at your Credit Union!



The Bright Choice