

CONTACT

A Publication for Members of Northrop Grumman Federal Credit Union

FEBRUARY 2009

Life Takes You PLACES, But We're Always Close-by

We understand that you try to be in many different places at once. That's why we've made our credit union services available to you outside the Credit Union.

CU Service Centers: Members have access to most of the services they would expect to receive from a Northrop Grumman Federal Credit Union branch office including deposits, withdrawals, transfers, inquiries, and loan requests. To locate the nearest Credit Union Service Center, call 1-888-CUSWIRL (287-9475).

Co-Op Network: CO-OP Network membership provides surcharge-free access at 28,000 ATMs, which includes 9,000 deposit-taking and 5,500 7-Eleven locations throughout the U.S. and Canada. **You can now locate a Co-Op ATM using your personal GPS or text-messaging service through your cell phone.** For more details, please visit www.co-opnetwork.org.

Plus, our website offers a link to a valuable financial education service called BALANCE. So if you're searching for a flexible way to finance something big, take a look at what we have to offer at www.ngfcu.us.

Save Money Monthly with a NGFCU Checking Account!

If you're looking to save a little each month, you don't have to search very far. Set up a checking account with your Credit Union, and you'll save both time and money!

Reduce the number of trips to the Credit Union

With your VISA ATM/Check card, you won't have to worry about stopping by the Credit Union before a fun family outing. You'll have "worldwide" VISA acceptance and the convenience of an ATM card.

Get rewards

You'll have the benefit of monthly dividend accrual on average daily balances of at least \$500, and you'll have the opportunity to establish overdraft sources with fee-free transfers.

If you have any questions about a Credit Union checking account, visit our website at www.ngfcu.us or contact us at your convenience.

Start Saving for next year's holidays ahead of the time!

Open a NGFCU Holiday Club Account!

A little planning well before the next year-end holiday season could develop into big savings when the 2009 holiday season comes.

Watch your savings grow all year long!

- Fee-free, systematic savings for year-end holiday expenses.
- \$25 minimum to open; \$20/month or \$5/week minimum continuing transfers from your savings, checking, or money market savings accounts.
- Dividends accrue on a minimum balance of \$25.
- Penalties for out-of-cycle withdrawals add an incentive to save until the holidays.

For more details, please visit www.ngfcu.us. Contact NGFCU to open a Holiday Club account to start saving today!



We Can Help You Start Saving for Retirement **TODAY!**

Saving for as much as possible for retirement is a big, challenging goal to accomplish. While your specific investment strategies will depend on your age, income, risk tolerance and other factors, there are ways to help anyone save, at any age.

- **Automate your investments.** Set up automatic transfers or use payroll deduction to contribute a set amount from each paycheck. This will keep your account growing.
- **Keep an eye on your accounts.** It's important to know where you stand and monitor how your investments are doing.
- **Add a layer of security.** While the stock market is swinging up and down, you can count on a safe, insured account here at NGFCU for steady growth.

DO YOU HAVE an IRA with us?

This is a good time to open an Individual Retirement Account (IRA). Give us a call, stop by or visit www.ngfcu.us to learn more about the choices available at the Credit Union.

WHAT'S NEW in IRAs:

The annual contribution limit for Traditional and Roth Accounts is \$5,000 for tax years 2008 and 2009.

Taxpayers over 50 can contribute an additional \$1,000.

Credit union IRAs are federally insured up to \$250,000. This insurance is separate from the coverage on your regular savings accounts.

You can contribute to your 2008 IRA until April 15th.

Should I Find the Car or Get the Loan Which Should I do FIRST?

Though it may be tempting to visit the dealerships first, we recommend setting up your loan before you shop for a vehicle. That way, you can shop as a cash-buyer and you'll know exactly how much you can spend ahead of time.



Our application process is quick and easy. Simply give us a call, stop by any location, or visit www.ngfcu.us to get started!

Getting The Best Possible Rate Means **KEEPING YOUR CREDIT SCORE HIGH**

With today's low loan rates and competitive vehicle pricing, this is actually a great time to buy. And in today's economy, keeping your credit score high is essential to getting the rate you deserve. Below are some simple steps to follow to help you keep your credit score high:

- **Check your credit report regularly.** Free copies of your credit report are available online at www.annualcreditreport.com.
- **Don't ignore your trouble-some bills.** Contact the creditor if you're experiencing payment problems.
- **Pay monthly bills on-time.**

What It Takes to get a Mortgage Today



After our indirect route through sub-prime mania and the subsequent melt-down, today's mortgage-seekers may be wondering, "What does it take to get a mortgage?" Generally, the 3 "must-haves" are a down payment, a solid credit history, and a trusted lender.

Plus, keep in mind:

A good credit score is crucial. Today's loan rates are still quite low. Your Credit Union is here to help. We have the experience and the home financing programs to assist you with getting the mortgage you can afford. Please contact us for more information.

Home IMPROVEments

For you, it may not be the best time to try to sell your house, so why not invest in some home improvements instead? With a Home Equity Line of Credit from Northrop Grumman FCU, you can enjoy a new kitchen, a relaxing master bath, or some energy-saving enhancements right now – and add some extra value to your home when it's time to sell.

Check out our current rates online or start the application process from our secure website at www.ngfcu.us. Have questions? Give us a call or stop by the Credit Union. We'd be happy to help you get started!

Lower Your Loan Payments –

Consider These Options

If your loan payments are **JUMPING** out at you every month, consider these low-cost options with us.

- **Transfer Your Balance.** A high credit card interest rate may be a cause of your outstanding monthly payments. Check out our MoneyMaster LOC rate online at www.ngfcu.us to see if you could save money by transferring.
- **Refinance.** We can compare your current loan rate to our low closed-end signature loan rate.
- **Consolidate.** If your interest rate is high on more than one bill, you could combine those bills into one monthly payment.

www.ngfcu.us
[http:](http://www.ngfcu.us)

Looking for current rates or other Credit Union information? Visit our website at www.ngfcu.us. It's all there!

REMINDER: Daylight Savings Time starts Sunday, March 8, 2009 at 2:00 a.m. Remember to set your clocks ahead one hour.

Is Your Account Information Up-To-Date? Do We Have Your Correct Beneficiaries?

Please take a few minutes to review your account and beneficiary information. Let us know if your address, phone number or other information has changed. It is important for us to have the correct information on file, just in case an emergency arises. Thank you for your help and cooperation.

Important Telephone Numbers

Credit Union	310.808.4000
Outside 213 or 310	800.633.2848
Eastern Region	800.634.7075
Call 24	310.327.0682
Outside 213 or 310	800.676.3328
Report a lost or stolen:	
MasterCard	877.875.8078
VISA ATM/Check Card	800.554.8969
Find a:	
COOP ATM	www.co-opnetwork.org
CU Service Center	888.CU.SWIRL

Name _____ Account Number _____

To: Northrop Grumman Federal Credit Union Attn: Call Center

YES, I want to know more about these products/services:

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Share Draft (checking) | <input type="radio"/> Touchtone Phone Acct Mgmt | <input type="radio"/> Home Equity Line of Credit |
| <input type="radio"/> Term Savings Account | <input type="radio"/> VISA ATM/Check Card | <input type="radio"/> Auto Locating Services |
| <input type="radio"/> Holiday Club Account | <input type="radio"/> MoneyMaster Line of Credit | <input type="radio"/> Direct Deposit of Social Security |
| <input type="radio"/> IRA Accounts | <input type="radio"/> Auto Loan Pre-Approval | <input type="radio"/> Direct Deposit of Retirement |
| <input type="radio"/> Internet Acct Mgmt | <input type="radio"/> First Mortgage Loan | <input type="radio"/> Membership |

To: Flight Plan Financial Services, Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of Northrop Grumman Federal Credit Union

YES, I am interested in learning more about securing my own financial future. Please send me information on the following:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Retirement Planning* | <input type="radio"/> Life Insurance |
| <input type="radio"/> 401(k) Plan* | <input type="radio"/> Property/Auto Insurance |
| <input type="radio"/> Mutual Funds* | <input type="radio"/> Long Term Care Insurance |
| <input type="radio"/> IRA Rollovers* | <input type="radio"/> Medicare Supplement |
| <input type="radio"/> Reducing Taxes* | <input type="radio"/> Retiree Dental/Vision Coverage |
| <input type="radio"/> College Funding* | |



Send this section to:
 Northrop Grumman FCU
 Box Number 47009
 Gardena, CA 90247-6809

* Securities offered through Linsco/Private Ledger Member NASD/SIPC - Stocks, bonds, mutual funds, annuities and other investments available through Linsco/Private Ledger are not deposits in Northrop Grumman FCU, are not insured by the NCUSIF, nor are they obligations of, or guaranteed by Northrop Grumman FCU. Such investments may fluctuate in value and are subject to investment risks, including loss of some or all of the principal.

Safe, Secure, Insured – Your Credit Union

Some of the country's largest financial institutions grew even larger during the recent credit crisis. But many financial experts have pointed out what our members already know: bigger isn't necessarily better. In fact, credit unions are enjoying a surge in deposits, as consumers discover the advantages of dealing with a local, personal financial institution.

At Northrop Grumman FCU, we are pleased to provide solid financial choices for our valued members. We offer big convenience, a wide variety of services, and a solid commitment to your success. Yet, we are small enough to care about each and every member! Additionally, all of our Credit Union members enjoy FREE deposit insurance. Check out the details:

Your credit union deposits are safer than ever! As part of the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act, Congress recently approved a new, higher level of insurance coverage for banks and credit unions. Here are the basic facts:

- Depositors automatically get NCUA insurance for free.
- Your deposit accounts are now insured by the NCUA up to \$250,000.
- IRAs are still covered up to \$250,000, as they were before.

Please contact the Credit Union for more details or visit www.ncua.gov to learn more about the new insurance limits.

Tax preparation made easy!

For discounted tax services for Credit Union members, contact Kash Chandani & Co., certified public accountants. Kash Chandani & Co., professionals with up-to-date knowledge and experience with the subtleties of tax law, will save you time and money while providing you the best shot at paying less tax.

- Free review and analysis of 3 previous year's tax returns
- Free telephone consultation about tax law or other financial questions
- Free preparation of your dependent children's short form tax returns
- Free online secure Interactive Tax Organizer

Visit www.less4irs.com or call 1-800-less-4-irs (1-800-537-7447) for more information.



Main Office - Pacific Pointe

879 West 190th Street
Gardena, California 90248

Mailing Address:

Box Number 47009
Gardena, California 90247-6809

Call Center Hours

Monday through Friday
7:00 am - 6:00 pm Pacific

Visit us on the internet at:
www.ngfcu.org

PROBLEMS? INQUIRIES?

The Supervisory Committee has the responsibility to continually review the functions of the Credit Union to ensure that it is operating in the best interest of its members. Any questions, suggestions or inquiries should be directed to:

Chairman, Supervisory Committee
Northrop Grumman Federal Credit Union
Box Number 3382
Gardena, CA 90247-7082



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