
Tower Family Credit Union News

October 2008

Tower Family Credit Union Privacy Notice

Tower Family Credit Union, your member owned financial institution, is committed to providing you financial products and services to meet your needs and reach your financial goals. We are equally committed to protecting our members' privacy. You can be confident that your financial privacy is a priority of this credit union. We are required by law to give you this privacy notice to explain how we collect, use, and safeguard your personal financial information. If you have any questions, please contact a member service representative at (269) 344-8525.

Information We Collect And Disclose About You

We collect nonpublic personal information about you from the following sources:

- Information we receive from you on applications and other forms.
- Information about your transactions with us or others.
- Information we receive from a consumer reporting agency.
- Information obtained when verifying the information you provide on applications or other forms. This may be obtained from your current or past employers or from other institutions where you conduct financial transactions.

We may disclose all the information we collect, as described previously and as permitted by law, to companies that perform marketing services on our behalf or to other financial institutions with whom we have joint marketing agreements. To protect our members' privacy, we only work with companies that agree to maintain strong confidentiality protections and limit the use of information we provide. We do not permit these companies to sell member information we provide them to other third parties.

In order to conduct the business of the credit union, we may also disclose nonpublic personal information about you under other circumstances as permitted or required by law. These disclosures typically include information to process transactions on your behalf, conduct operations of the credit union, follow your instructions as you authorize, and to protect the security of our financial records.

If you decide to terminate your membership with Tower Family Credit Union, we will not share information we have collected about you, except as permitted or required by law.

How We Protect Your Information

We restrict access to nonpublic personal information about you to those employees who have a specific business purpose in utilizing your data. Our employees are trained in the importance of maintaining confidentiality and member privacy. We maintain physical, electronic, and procedural safeguards that comply with federal regulations and leading industry practices to safeguard your nonpublic personal information.

What You Can Do To Help Protect Your Privacy

Tower Family Credit Union is committed to protecting the privacy of its members. You can help by following these simple guidelines:

- Protect your account numbers, PINs (personal identification numbers), and passwords. Never keep your PIN with your debit or credit card which can provide free access to you accounts if your card is lost or stolen.
- Use caution when disclosing your account numbers, social security number, etc. to other persons. If someone calls you, explains the call is on behalf of the credit union, and asks for your account number, you should beware! Official credit union staff will have access to your information and will not need to ask for it.
- Keep your information with us current. It is important that we have current information on how to reach you. If we detect potentially fraudulent or unauthorized activity or use of an account, we will attempt to contact you immediately. If your address or phone number changes, please let us know.

If you have any questions concerning this notice, please do not hesitate to call us. We are here to serve you.



Holiday Loans
\$1,200 for 12 Months
8.9% APR
November 1, 2008 through
January 16, 2009

Update Your Records

It's a great time to check your information and update it if needed. Many people forget to update beneficiaries, address changes, and telephone and cell phone number changes.

Please stop in and review the information on your signature cards and update it as needed.

Now is also a great time to check the accuracy of your information with your employer, insurance agents, and medical providers.

Christmas Club

Christmas Club Shares and accumulated dividends will be posted to your Regular Shares Account on November 1, 2008.

Now is an excellent time to begin your Christmas Club for next Christmas. You deposit a small amount each payday. Next Christmas time, you'll have that extra cash you need for the holiday season.

Stop in for details or to set up your account.

Holiday Closings

Our office will be closed to observe the following Holidays:

Thanksgiving Day	November 27
Thanksgiving Friday	November 28
Christmas Eve	December 24
Christmas Day	December 25
New Years Eve	December 31
New Years Day	January 1, 2009

Your Family Members Are Eligible For Credit Union Membership!

Did you know that members of your family are eligible for membership in Tower Family Credit Union based on their relationship to you? Have them stop in and fill out an application. It's that easy!

It's never too early to open accounts for your children. Start teaching them the value of saving and start their affiliation with a lifelong financial partner.

Your coworkers may also be eligible to benefit from the truly personal service we offer. Professionals, employees, or support personnel living or working in Kalamazoo County, whose primary objective is to provide services for the mental and physical health and well-being of others are eligible to join.

Dormant Account Fees To Be Assessed

Dormant account fees will be assessed on October 20, 2008. If you have not made a deposit or withdrawal to your account during the past year, you will need to do so before that date to avoid the \$10 fee.

Check Your Credit Report For Free!

Under a new federal law, consumers will be able to obtain a free credit report from all three major credit bureaus. The Fair and Accurate Credit Transaction Act (FACT Act) enacted by Congress requires that Experian, Equifax, and TransUnion design and operate a centralized resource for making annual credit reports available.

You can order your free report in either of three ways:

- Online at www.annualcreditreport.com
- By calling 1-877-322-8228
- By writing to Annual Credit Report Request Service, P.O. Box 105281, Atlanta, GA 30348-5281.

You may order all three reports at once, or spread your requests over time.

Be Careful With Your Personal Information!

These are some of the scams which unscrupulous people use to gather personal data from unsuspecting victims. You should always be very wary if someone contacts you and asks for credit card or social security numbers.

E-mail “Phishing”

Phishing (pronounced “fishing”) is a scam to steal valuable information such as credit card and social security numbers, user Ids, and passwords. In phishing, an official looking e-mail is sent to potential victims pretending to be from their ISP, credit union, bank, or retail establishment. E-mails can be sent to people on selected lists or on any list, and the scammers expect some percentage of recipients will actually have an account with the real organization.

Land Line Telephone “Vishing” & ViOP (Internet Telephones) “ViOPshing”

Vishing is the voice counterpart to phishing. Instead of being directed to a web site, an e-mail message asks the user to make a telephone call. The call triggers a voice response system that asks for the user’s card number or other personal or financial information. The initial bait can also be a telephone call with a recording that instructs the user to phone an 800 number or another area code within or outside the United States. In either case, because people are used to entering card numbers over the phone, this technique can be effective. VoIP is popular in this scam because caller Ids can be spoofed and the entire operation can be brought up and taken down in a short time, compared to land line telephones.

Text Message “Smishing”

SMS Phishing is the mobile phone counterpart to phishing. Instead of being directed by e-mail to a web site, a text message is sent to the user’s cell phone or other mobile device with some ploy to click a link. The link causes a Trojan Horse to be installed in the cell phone or other device.

Postal “Phishing”

This new scam occurs where the phisher creates a letter and sends it through the postal system to individuals who are directed to respond to the letter by calling a phone number. The phisher outlines in the letter that the individual must respond for their own protection. This scam is used in conjunction with other channels to steal valuable personal and financial information of the individual receiving the letter.

A Current Threat

Reports of a recent scam involve a phishing scheme attempting to capture credit card numbers through an automated telephone service. The contact indicates that the member’s debit cards have been placed on a hold status. Members are directed to call a toll-free 866 number and enter their 16 digit card number to reactivate it.



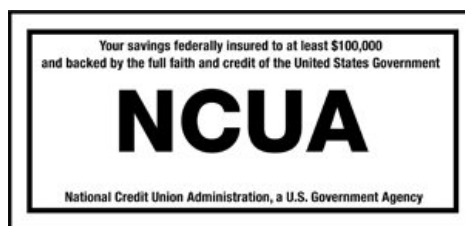
What Is A “Credit Score” And How Is It Used?

A credit score is a number assigned to you based on a statistical method of assessing risk. The number is derived from information on your credit history such as past payment history, level of indebtedness, length of credit history, and pursuit of new credit.

The number is used to predict the likelihood that you will repay your credit obligations.

Quite often the interest rate you receive when financing a home or vehicle will be determined based on your credit score. Generally, the higher the score, the lower the interest rate you will receive. To improve your score you should pay your bills on time, pay down large outstanding balances of unsecured debt, and apply for new credit sparingly.

Need to find out more? Contact *Accel*, a free financial and counseling program available to our members by calling 1-877-33ACCEL (332-2235).



Credit union shares/deposits are insured up to \$100,000 by the National Credit Union Administration.

This federal agency is similar to the FDIC which insures bank deposits.

Catch A Falling Snowflake!

Winter and snow are coming early to the credit union.

Get approved for a vehicle loan (minimum \$5000) and “catch” a snowflake for a .25% to 1.25% discount on current rates.

10-15-08 through 12-30-08



Serving Families Since 1928

The Quarterly Newsletter Of Tower Family Credit Union

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Our Mission

Tower Family Credit Union is a member-run financial institution whose goal is to provide an array of services and assist our members in achieving financial security.

Our Vision

As the oldest Credit Union in Kalamazoo County, we will continue to emphasize truly personal service in a prompt, friendly, and efficient manner. We will determine and develop new products and services to meet our members' needs. We will provide timely communication of Credit Union information.

Our Goal is to continue to educate our members to help them realize they are the owners of their Credit Union. Our Official Family will be dedicated, progressive, and committed to ongoing education, to ensure the future growth of our Credit Union.

HOURS

Monday and Thursday

9 AM through 5:30 PM

Tue, Wed, and Fri

9 AM through 4 PM

State Paydays

7 AM through 5:30 PM

Volunteers and Staff

Board of Directors

Glenn Huntley, *President*
Hennie Kloosterman, *Vice-President*
Cathy Halbrooks, *Treasurer*
Tenna Johnson, *Secretary*

Joe Hansen
Sally Doonan
Andre Baraka

Credit Committee

Jeff Green
Mary Lou Chipman
Clinton Duffie

Supervisory Committee

Kim Sykes
Judy Stackpole
Marjorie Watson-Rhodes

Credit Union Staff

Deb Adams, *Manager*
Donna McNaughton
Jackie Lewis

LOAN RATES

Vehicles

New ('08 and '09)

24-60 Months 6.25% APR
72 Months 7.25% APR

72 Month financing available only on amounts over \$20,000

Used ('04 through '06)

24-48 Months 6.25% APR
60 Months 6.75% APR

Used (2003 and older)

24 Months 6.75% APR
36 Months 7.00% APR
48 Months 7.50% APR

Home Improvement

12 Months 7.99% APR
24 Months 8.49% APR
36 Months 8.99% APR
48 Months 9.99% APR
60 Months 10.99% APR

Boat and RV

2003 through 2009

36-48 Months 6.25% APR
60 Months 6.75% APR
72 Months 7.75% APR
84 Months 8.50% APR

84 Month financing available only on amounts over \$25,000

2002 and older

36 Months 6.75% APR
48 Months 7.00% APR
60 Months 7.50% APR
72 Months 8.50% APR

Home Equity

Fourth Quarter 2008 7.50% APR

CU Pays Closing Costs

Miscellaneous

Revolving Credit 14.99% APR
Overdraft Protection 16.50% APR

Share Secured

Regular Share Rate + 3.50% APR

APR-Annual Percentage Rate

All Rates Subject To Change

SHARE RATES

Third Quarter 2008

Regular Shares .75% APR
Ira Shares 2.27% APR

Vari Shares

\$100-\$2499 .72% APY
\$2500-\$4999 .72-1.12% APY
\$5000-\$9999 1.12-1.44% APY
\$10,000 and above 1.44-2.19% APY

APY-Annual Percentage Yield

All Rates Subject To Change