



Message from the President

Vincent Rojas, Jr.
President/CEO

The summer is half over. Advertisements and commercials are focusing on back-to-school purchases. Through the years, the methods of making those purchases have changed. Cash used to be the predominant payment method until the introduction of the checking account. Writing checks then became the preferred payment, until along came new technology of credit cards, and now debit cards. Kern Schools Federal Credit Union offers all of these payment methods. When the Credit Union was chartered in 1940, our founders could not have imagined that members would someday have a card called "debit" that would access accounts.

Services and products have indeed changed over the past sixty-six years. Why? It happened to meet the changing needs of you, the consumer, the member of the Credit Union. Expanded ATMs, Data Voice, and DataNet now allow our members to do their banking twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. Our goal is to provide you maximum convenience.

Another convenience is now available for members who prefer to use electronic media. We have completed our roll out of an "e-statement" and you are now able to receive your monthly Credit Union statement and view cancelled checks through your DataNet account. It is no longer necessary to check your mail box for your statement. Sign up today through your DataNet account.

One more reminder is to watch for our special share certificate interest rate. With the Federal Reserve moving interest rates higher, the Credit Union is also able to move our share certificate rate up. Be sure to check our home page (www.ksfcu.org) for the latest rates paid on deposits.

As a financial cooperative, it is only through everyone participating in the services of the credit union that we can all benefit. Remember, "Together, we have something special."



"Together, we have something special."

Common Cents

JULY 2006

Move your Money Today!

Have a short-term certificate at another financial institution earning less than you'd like? Move it today.

For a short time, we are offering one of the highest rates in the market on our 12-month share certificate. Hurry into any branch today to start earning the incredible 5.50% APY on your minimum \$1,000 investment.

In addition, if rates should rise during the course of your 12-month term, visit any branch and we'll "bump up" your rate to match our higher rate once before maturity.

**What are you waiting for?
Move your Money, TODAY!**

*Annual Percentage Yield (APY) is effective as of date of publication and is offered for a limited time only. Interest rate is 5.35% with an APY of 5.50% for a \$1,000 minimum deposit. APY is based on dividends being credited back to account monthly and remain until maturity. Bump up option is offered once during the 12-month term. Visit any branch to take advantage of the bump up option. No additions may be made during the term. Certificates are subject to penalty for early withdrawal. Offer also valid for existing KSFCU members. No more than 50% of the certificate funds deposited may come from an existing KSFCU account.



University Centre Branch Opening Soon! Grand Opening Celebration!

Friday, September 1st
10:00am - 6:00pm

Saturday, September 2nd
9:00am - 1:00pm

9800 Ming Avenue
(Just west of the Marketplace)

Refreshments • Entertainment
Visits from Rocky Raccoon
Prizes and Giveaways

iTunes

Take a FREE on-line class Earn an iTunes® download!

Add to your song library today! Visit our website at www.ksfcu.org and click on the iTunes® download in the left hand menu bar. You'll be directed to our "Guides to Independence" page. Click on the "Take a Tutorial Now" button on the bottom of the page and you'll be directed to the Guides to Independence website where you can select from any of the classes listed on the other side of this card. Click on the class, take the short tutorial (most take no more than 15 minutes of your time), and when you've successfully completed the lesson, register to receive a certificate for a free iTunes® download.

GUIDES TO
INDEPENDENCE

On-line classes available:

Spending Money

How to shop for everyday savings
How to buy a used car

Saving Money

How to achieve financial goals
How to save and invest short term

Managing Money

How to start a checking account
How to balance a checking account
How to use a check card
How to budget income
How to budget expenses

Borrowing Money

How to get a loan
How to manage debt

67th Annual Meeting of the Membership

The 2007 Annual Meeting is
scheduled for
Thursday, March 1, 2007
at the Kern County Fair Grounds.

The meeting has been
moved to a larger facility to
accommodate our membership
growth and give members an
opportunity to attend.
Watch for the reservation form
in the November issue of
Common Cents.

Want to STOP Receiving your Monthly Bank Statement by Mail?

If you're a
DataNet member,
your bank statement and
images of checks you've
written are now available
on-line, absolutely **FREE**,
with eStatement.

eStatement Features:

- **Faster access** to your account information (your eStatement is available days before your paper statement).
- **Monthly emails** letting you know your eStatement is ready for viewing.
- **Paperless, secure environment** to receive your bank statement. This lowers your risk of identity theft or financial fraud.

Check it out today. And when you're ready, opt out of receiving your paper statement entirely. Just follow these easy steps:

- **Sign into** your DataNet Account
- **Click on** "View my eStatement"
- **Click on** the "Delivery Options" menu option on the left hand sidebar
- **Choose/Change** the Electronic Delivery Options that best suit your needs!

If you opt out of receiving your statement by mail, within three cycles you will stop receiving your paper statement. You may change your options at any time.

For more information, call us at (661) 833-7900 or (800) 221-3311.

If you're not currently a DataNet member and would like to enroll, select the "Enroll" option in the upper left hand corner of our home page at www.ksfcu.org.

Investment and Insurance Services

Your home is the single largest investment you will make in your lifetime. Protecting that investment is important. Have you ever considered what it would cost to replace or repair an Air Conditioner/ Cooler, a dishwasher, or broken pipes? Kern Schools Federal Credit Union now offers a Home Warranty Product with coverage you can rely on.

With premiums beginning at just \$29.16 a month, KSFCU's affordable Warranty Product can save you thousands on home repairs and replacements. It's never been easier to protect your home's systems and appliances against breakdowns from normal wear and tear. Say 'Goodbye' to expensive repairs! Everything from your oven and water heater to electrical systems and plumbing leaks, this policy covers your home no matter how old it is, or how long you've had your mortgage. You can purchase a Home Warranty policy anytime!

Contact us today for more information on how to protect your home, condo, mobile home, townhome or a new home under construction.

Protect your home.

Ask about our New Home Warranty Coverage.

www.ksfcu.org,
stop by any branch or
call 1-800-445-6999.

Our Registered Representatives can help set up your RETIREMENT PLAN



Craig Maytubby
Financial Advisor
Ming Ave.
CA Ins. Lic.# OA60203



Doug McDaniel
Financial Advisor
Ming Ave., Tehachapi,
Ridgecrest
CA Ins. Lic.# OE20383



Karina Marquez
Financial Advisor
Panama
CA Ins. Lic.# OD99107



Tim Werdel
Financial Advisor
River Run
CA Ins. Lic.# OD66937



Jorge Morales
Financial Advisor
Town & Country,
East Hills
CA Ins. Lic.# OD70984



Xavier Martinez
Financial Advisor
Mt. Vernon, Downtown
CA Ins. Lic.# OD94646



Naveen Gill
Reg. Representative
Delano
CA Ins. Lic.# OE63138

Is your retirement plan on track?

We're here to help!

We specialize in helping people with their long term financial planning needs.

Call us today at
(661) 833-7730 or
(800) 217-1575

Visit us at
www.ksfcuinvestments.com

Securities offered through CUSO Financial Services, L.P. (CFS) are not NCUA/NCUSIF insured, not Credit Union guaranteed and may lose value.

Kern Schools Federal Credit Union is in partnership with CFS. Financial Advisors are employees of KSFCU and registered through CFS.
(Member NASD/SIPC)

*For specific tax advice, consult a qualified tax professional.



**Investment
& INSURANCE SERVICES**
"Together, we have something special!"

Retirement Planning

Building a Comfortable Lifestyle for Tomorrow

You and your guests are invited to join our Investment Services representatives on the first **Tuesday** of each month for workshops on making the most of your retirement planning and investments. Join us to learn more about setting goals, developing a plan and saving for and funding your retirement.

Be sure to bring your questions!

2006 Workshop Dates

**August 1 • September 5
October 7 • November 7**

Time
6:05pm – 7:30pm

Location
KSFCU Administrative Building
University Centre Training Room
9500 Ming Avenue
RSVP, Space is limited!

Sign Up
In any branch
On-line at www.ksfcu.org
By phone (661) 833-7751

4 Common Insurance Mistakes to Avoid



1) Underinsuring your home's replacement cost. Many people have recently made major home improvements; upgrading the quality of the cabinets, countertops, flooring and appliances, or have added additional living space to their home. In both cases we recommend you review your coverage limits to account for these changes.



2) Underinsuring your home's coverage for other structures.

"Other structures" typically is calculated at 10% of the home's coverage amount. Check your coverage to make sure it's adequate. "Other structures" include: other buildings on your property, fences, block walls, driveways, and an in-ground pool and/or spa.



3) Underinsuring your liability coverage. Liability coverage in both your home-owner and auto policy is critical to protecting you and your assets. Liability coverage is inexpensive and a minimum of at least \$300,000 per accident should be maintained. If you own a pool or spa the limit should be increased to a minimum of \$500,000.



4) Not insuring your boat, personal watercraft, golf carts, motorcycles or ATV's. Many owners wrongly assume their homeowner policy will provide coverage for a theft of these items. In most cases only very limited coverage may be available or none at all. These items can be insured very reasonably so that you can enjoy your summer fun and know that you and your family are protected.

We encourage you to take a moment and review your current insurance policies and then give California Insurance Specialists a call to assist you in making sure you have the coverage you need to protect your home, auto, and other assets.

Call for a free no-obligation quote.

California Insurance Specialists

4600 American Ave • Suite 205
(Across from Ming Ave. Office)

(661) 397-3944

Toll free (888) 831-0247

License No. 0B33273

Rising Rates Can Dash the American Dream of Home Ownership



Soaring home prices and rising interest rates can dash the American dream of home ownership for many consumers. In an effort to buy a home at any cost, many borrowers have turned to a new generation of mortgage loans, ranging from the risky to the disappointing. What's disappointing is that many borrowers don't read the small print or don't know what questions to ask and end up putting their home and financial future on the line.

Some of these 'exotic' loan programs have exploded in popularity, particularly among first-time home buyers and are now beginning to reset to new and higher interest rates which will result in 'payment shock' for many homeowners. Some have referred to these as 'Broken ARMs.' While these exotic mortgages made the dream of home ownership a reality for many families, they can also turn into a real nightmare without much warning. Borrowers who stretched to buy a home based on interest-only payments are shocked when their monthly mortgage payment can jump 40 to 60 percent from where it initially started.

One of the more risky loans is the 'Hybrid or Option ARM' where the borrower can choose to pay: the regular principal and interest, interest only, or a minimum amount required by the lender that may be even less than the interest owed. The difference gets added on to the loan balance and the borrower could end up owing more than the home is worth. The problem is compounded when home values stagnate.

Interest-only mortgages can also be risky. You pay nothing on the principal balance of the loan for a period of three to ten years. When the interest-only period expires, your payments will increase dramatically as the loan balance is then amortized over a much shorter period.

Whether you are purchasing a home or are afraid your ARM is about to break, contact our Home Loan Center at (661)833-7926 and let us help save you time, money and worry.





International Travel with your VISA® Debit or Credit Card

If you plan to travel outside the United States and plan to use your VISA® debit or credit card, contact Kern Schools Federal Credit Union before you depart. We'll post your account with itinerary information that will ensure your access to your accounts is uninterrupted.

If you do not contact us, your VISA® Debit or Credit card may not work out of the country.

Due to extensive fraud on international ATMs, the processing of all ATM activity outside the United States has been temporarily suspended and your call is required to authorize use.

Contact us at:

- (661) 833-7900 (local),
- 1 (800) 221-3311 (outside Kern County)



Planning Guides 2006-2007

Kern Schools Federal Credit Union's annual planning guides will arrive soon! These little pocket calendars are the perfect size to be carried in your purse, jacket, or shirt pocket. Originally designed for use by teachers, the calendars are dated from August 2006 through September 2007, and are ideal for anyone to use. Supplies are limited so make sure you visit the closest KSFCU branch and pick yours up in August!

Board of Directors

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Dr. Larry Reider	Director
Mary K. Zwartendyk	Director
Marilyn Jones	Director
Dr. Cecil Briscoe	Director
Dr. Bill Williams	Director

Supervisory Committee

Carl D. Woody, Jr.	Chairperson
Jim Sheats	Secretary
Dennis Scott	Member
Tom Ross	Member

Visit our new website at:
www.ksfcu.org



Branch Locations

Bakersfield

2424 Chester Avenue
 6101 Coffee Road
 4530 Ming Avenue
 9800 Ming Avenue - *Coming Soon!*
 3901 Mt. Vernon Avenue
 2671 Oswell St.
 5001 Panama Lane
 8200 Stockdale Highway

Ridgecrest

1621 North Downs Street

Delano

1101 Cecil Avenue

Office Hours

Monday through Thursday - 9am to 5pm
 Friday - 10am to 6pm
 Saturday - Delano, Ming, Mt. Vernon, Oswell, Panama, Ridgecrest, River Run and Town & Country Offices - 9am to 1pm

Express Branch:

Tehachapi - 821 Tucker Road
 Monday through Friday 10am to 6pm



Tuesday, August 29th
 6:00pm - 7:30pm

KSFCU
 Administrative Building
 9500 Ming Ave
 University Centre
 Training Room

Special Guest Speaker:
Don Goldammer
 California Credit Information
 Solutions

RSVP at
www.ksfcu.org
 or call 833-7888



Common Cents

9600 Ming Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93309

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Permit 595



Save **MONEY** Buying or Selling Your Home

Kern Schools Federal Credit Union has partnered with Real Estate Services and select local real estate agents to offer you a 20%* rebate on the real estate agent's commission.

For more information, contact a Member Advocate at 1 (800) 949-1984 and identify yourself as a Kern Schools Federal Credit Union member. He or she will explain the details of the program, answer your questions and be available to you throughout your transaction.

**Real Estate Brokerage services provided by a carefully selected local broker.*

Sample Cash Back Program

Your commission rebate is based on the sale price of your home.
For Example:

\$ 200,000 = **\$1,200 Savings**
\$ 250,000 = **\$1,500 Savings**
\$ 350,000 = **\$2,100 Savings**
\$ 500,000 = **\$3,000 Savings**

Based on 3% commission.

**For more information call
(800) 949-1984**

Phone Numbers

Communication Center | (661) 833-7900 Mon. thru Fri., 8am-8pm and Sat., 8am to 4pm **Other Areas Nationwide** | (800) 221-3311

KSFCU Investment and Insurance | (661) 833-7730
Data Voice/Bakersfield | (661) 831-5900

California Insurance Specialists | (661) 397-3944
Data Voice/in other areas | (800) 248-3336

Home Loan Center | (661) 833-7926
VISA® 24-Hours a Day | (800) 654-7728

Additional ATM Locations

4616 California Avenue
Auto Mall | 2821 Auto Mall Dr.
Apple Market in Shafter
The Bakersfield Airport, Meadows Field
International Terminal and
William M. Thomas Terminal
Bakersfield College Bookstore
Bakersfield College | in the Breezeway
Bakersfield College Delano Campus

California Correctional Institution
Tehachapi
City of Shafter | 341 Central Ave.
County Fair Market in Lamont
Delano Regional Medical Center
Frazier Park | 3409 Mt Pinos
Holiday Inn Select
Kern County Court House
Kern County Fairgrounds | inside
the Main Gate and in the Satellite
Wagering Building

Kern Medical Center Cafeteria
Lake Isabella | Lake Isabella Market
The Market Place | in Kiosk
Memorial Hospital | 34th Street in the
main lobby
Mercy Hospital | 400 Old River Road
Regional Occupational Center
Rosedale Village Shopping Center

Rosewood Retirement Center
San Joaquin Community Hospital
Save Mart in Wasco
Sequoia Sandwich Shop | Rosedale Hwy.
Superintendent of Schools Office |
1300 17th Street
Taft | 1056 W. Kern Street | Taft Hills Plaza
Tehachapi Towne Center
University Centre | 9500 Ming Avenue