

NEWS REVIEW

Hampton V. A. Federal Credit Union

Spring 2012

2012 Annual Meeting

You are invited to the 76th Annual Meeting of your credit union. It's an important occasion for all members/owners. At the Annual Meeting you will hear reports on the state of the credit union, you can meet your officers, elect new members of the board, and enjoy fellowship with one another.

Mark your calendar today for Tuesday, April 17, 2012, at 5:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at the American Legion Hall, Post 48, 221 Mellon Street in Hampton, Virginia. We look forward to seeing you there.

Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee has submitted the following names to be elected or re-elected to the Board of Directors:

C. Ron Phelps – came to Hampton in 1986 to open the V. A. National Chaplain Training School. With the transfer of Chaplain Headquarters VACO to Hampton in 1992, Ron was promoted to Deputy Director and retired with over forty-one year of service at the end of 1997. Ron has served on the board of Directors of HVAFCU since 2009. He and his wife of 56 years, Audrey, live in the Wythe section of Hampton. They have three daughters and six grandchildren.

Kenneth R Davis – was hired as Manager of Hampton V. A. Federal in September 2011. Kenny previously has served on the board of directors of Portsmouth City Employees Credit Union (12 years) and Portsmouth Police Credit Union (21 years). Credit union positions he has previously held at other credit unions include: Chairman of the Supervisory Committee, Assistant Treasurer, Treasurer and Manager. Kenny has been married 35 years to his wife, Cindy and lives in Smithfield, Virginia.

There's Still Time to Contribute to An IRA

You have until April 17, 2012 to contribute to a traditional or Roth IRA through your credit union for tax year 2011. Why contribute to an IRA? IRAs offer tax deferred growth and can be used to supplement your retirement income. You are eligible to make a fully deductible Traditional IRA contribution if either you or your spouse is not considered an active participant in an employer-sponsored plan. If your employer offers a plan, but neither of you contribute, your ability to deduct your IRA contribution may be limited by your income* The maximum contribution you may

deduct per tax year is \$5000, unless you are age 50 or older; then the maximum contribution increases to \$6000. To deduct your contributions to an IRA you must be less than 70 ½ years old and you must have earned income that equals or exceeds the amount of your IRA contribution. If you have questions, please call 757-723-8842 for more information.

*Your employer's determination of your active participation status for the year is shown on your IRS Form W-2.

What to Ask a Mortgage Lender

When you buy a television set, you look at advertised prices and go to the store offering the best deal. That's no way to shop for a mortgage. Comparing interest rates is just not enough. Some lenders may quote a bargain deal, but it's only good for a few days. When you are unable to close within the time frame specified, the rate changes. Make sure you compare closing costs and don't assume that the lender will tell you all the costs and fees up front. Most only quote their own costs accurately. Third party costs, such as title search, attorney fees, or title insurance, are listed as services you can shop for. This means the lender is not responsible for these charges and they may be inaccurate for your lending area.



So, what should you ask a mortgage lender?

- How much are the points in dollars?
- Do you charge for any of the following, and if so, how much is it?
- Application Fee
- Appraisal Fee
- Credit Report Fee
- Loan Origination Fee (in dollars)
- Document Preparation Fee
- Underwriting Fee
- Processing Fee
- Attorney Fee
- Title Fees
- Lock in Rate Fee (How long is this good for? Do not accept if less than 30 days)
- Commitment Fee
- Any other fees I should know about?

Always ask the lender to send you a “Good Faith Estimate” of settlement costs. Give the lender the value of your property’s tax assessment, homeowner’s insurance and flood insurance premiums if applicable. This will make the estimate more accurate. Be leery if the quote reflects less than 3 months of escrow reserves. Some lenders try to make the quote look better by under estimating the amount needed to establish the escrow account. Ask the loan officer to explain how they derived the escrow estimate. If he used a flat percentage based on your loan amount, ask for a quote based on the date of your expected first payment. This will make the quote more accurate.

Some advisors will tell you to be aware of junk fees. Fees vary by lender depending on whether the program uses outside vendors to perform certain work. Rather than focus on a single fee, look at the bottom line. An independent lender that may charge a processing fee or application fee (sometimes labeled a junk fee) may have the best bottom line price. Do your homework. Get more than one quote. The savings you’ll enjoy will be well worth the effort.

Multi-Factor Authentication & On-Line Banking

New supervisory guidelines are designed to ensure the person signing into your on-line banking account is really you. Online security begins with the authentication process which generally involves one or more basic factors:

- Something the user knows (such as a password or PIN)
- Something the user has (such as an ATM Card or a cookie implanted on a computer)
- Something the user is (such as a biometric characteristic)

Single factor authentication only uses one of these methods; while multi-factor authentication uses more than one. Layered security may require that you give additional information (such as answer a security question) before gaining admission to a web site.

The credit union employs fraud detection and monitoring systems that take into consideration your transaction history and behavior patterns. We may block connection to credit union servers if you use an IP address which is known or suspected of being associated with fraudulent activity. We have implemented account maintenance controls so it is not possible for home banking users to change personal information stored in our data base. Requests for address changes are always verified before they are carried out by credit union personnel.

Whenever increased risk to your transaction security might warrant it, your credit union will conduct additional verification procedures or authentication layers before authorizing the transaction. This means it is imperative that you keep your contact information with the credit union up-to-date so your transaction can be verified in a timely manner.

Scorecard As of February 29, 2012

Assets	\$8,164,614
Shares	\$6,699,041
Loans	\$3,411,625
Members	2,163

Parking Now Available

Credit union members may no longer park against the curb directly in front of Building 28 on Averill Ave. You may, however, use the reserve parking spaces located in the new parking area across the street. No doubt you have observed all of the new construction taking place at the V. A. Medical Center. The V. A. Police will issue parking tickets to those who violate the new mandate not to leave a car against the curb. This area must be kept clear for heavy equipment to move about. Those who are handicapped and cannot reach the doorbell, please call us on your cell phone to say you are outside or you can call before you leave home so we’ll be expecting you. As always, we will send an employee down the stairs to personally handle your transaction.

Did You Know?

You can avoid paying transaction fees for cash by opting to get cash back from your purchase at the sales register. Many merchants will allow you to raise the dollar value of your transaction by \$20, \$40 or even \$60 dollars to boost the sale. You’ll be paid the difference between the value of your purchase and the transaction amount entered in cash! Be sure to select “credit” at the terminal or “cancel” to avoid entering your PIN. Not only will there be no fee but you’ll avoid a trip to the ATM.

HAMPTON V. A. FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

P. O. Box 37

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(757) 723-8842 (voice)

(757) 723-5493 (fax)

(757) 723-8922 (audio response)

Hours of Operation

Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
and 2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Closed daily from 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

www.hvafcu.org