

Casco Community Connection

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF CASCO FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

Dollars and \$ense

Maximize your Employer Sponsored Retirement Plan

Employer Sponsored Retirement Plans, such as 401(k) Plans, should represent the majority of your retirement savings. Ask your employer if they have a plan, and if they do, participate! Nearly one-third of all eligible employees do not enroll in 401(k) programs. If your company offers a match, maximize the amount your company is willing to contribute to your retirement! Once you begin participating, manage your investments to maximize portfolio returns. It is never too late to start! If you are over 50 years old, you may be eligible to make up to \$5,000 in additional contributions per year.

PO Box 87, Gorham, Maine 04038
[WWW.CASCOFCU.COM](http://www.cascofcu.com)

A Message from the President



Dear Members,

Thank you for your patience in the recent reissuing of debit cards. We realize that this caused an inconvenience and we wanted to thank you for supporting our decision. The staff

worked many long hours to expedite the process as quickly as possible and we are happy to report that cards began arriving to our members ahead of schedule.

As you know Casco Federal Credit Union became aware of fraudulent activity occurring on a number of our members' accounts. A letter was sent out to all members along with a posting on our web site announcing that the cards would be reissued and there would be a loss of access for up to 10 business days. Now knowing that this process of notification was difficult on our members, we have committed to developing better, more efficient ways to communicate with you in the future should the need arise. We are also looking into extending our resources to better help you in these times.

A couple of tips to remember for the future. If your debit card has been deactivated due to a reissue, you can still use your checks to conduct daily business and withdraw cash. If you do not live or work near one of our three branches or are traveling, you can bank at one of the 3,300 credit unions in our Shared Branching Network.

Debit card fraud and other phishing tactics are becoming increasingly common. As Casco works to ensure your financial security, there are additional measures that you can take to protect yourself. Always remember that no legitimate business, financial institution or government agency will EVER ask for your pin, password, financial or personal information over the phone or in email unless you

have initiated the call. If someone does call or email posing as your financial institution or credit card company and they want personal information, tell them you will call them back. To verify a call, use a phone number from an old statement or go online to the business' website. It's an extra step, but well worth the trouble in the long run.

Also do not use public computers or wireless networks to conduct confidential financial activities. If you do not have use of a personal computer, it is always best to forego online banking and do your business face to face at one of our branches or a Shared Branching affiliated credit union. Besides, we are always happy to see you.

Again, thank you for your patience. If you have any feedback or ideas how we can communicate more effectively, please email me at jstone@cascofcu.com.

Sincerely,

JIM STONE
 President & CEO

Home Fuel Loan

Let Casco FCU help you with high home heating costs! Beginning July 1st, we will be offering our members Home Fuel Loans at only 2.99% APR* (up to \$3,000 for 12 months for qualified applicants). Contact us for more information.

*Annual Percentage Rate. All rates are subject to change without notice.

Marketing News

Casco Federal Credit Union has partnered with Lapchick Creative, a marketing firm in Portland, Maine to help increase member enrollment. Lapchick Creative is a ten-year-old, women-owned agency that focuses on non-profits and socially responsible businesses in New England.

The Lapchick team is working closely with Jim Stone and Katie O'Brien, along with input from the staff and board of directors, to develop a new brand look and feel. The new brand will personify all the benefits one receives when they belong to Casco FCU while also raising awareness of the wide breadth of services and advantages that our credit union offers. Keep an eye on our web site this summer for the launch of our new brand.

Shared Branching

Take the credit union with you wherever you go!

Visit any credit union across the country that displays the swirl logo and easily access your accounts. There are more than 3,000 credit unions participating in this nationwide network that will enable you to perform your financial transactions at your convenience, so you can relax and enjoy your trip!

Every Shared Branch location will display the swirl logo. All you need to say is that you are a Casco Federal Credit Union member, show them a valid photo ID, and give them your account number. You can make deposits, withdrawals, transfers and balance inquiries.

Enjoy your time away and look for the swirl. For a list of participating locations, please visit www.cuservicecenter.com.

A Home Improvement Loan Can Fund Your Summertime Activities

Summer is not just for vacations!

What do you think about in the middle of summer? First, think vacation fun! Second, think home improvement projects! And finally think I can do it! You don't have to put off having a great summer because you may be low on cash. We have the right loan and the right terms at the right time to suit your needs and budget! We also have some great suggestions for taking advantage of the warm weather and some free time!

- Backyard pool, patio or deck
- Gazebo, shed or other outbuilding
- Minor or major home repairs
- New driveway

Casco Federal Credit Union is here to assist you with your summer plans.

Three Easy Ways to Apply

- In person at any of our 3 convenient credit union locations: Gorham, West Gorham and Westbrook
- On-line at www.cascofcu.com
- By phone toll-free at 888-395-5588



Taking a Family Vacation and Staying on Budget

Six ways to keep family vacations affordable.

Family vacations can often turn into a bigger splurge than expected. And with gas prices taking a bigger bite out of your dollar, there's never been a better time to take steps to ensure that you are getting the most vacation value for the money.

- 1. Be realistic.** Sit down and plan a budget for daily expenses that you can stick with. Don't forget to include money for fuel, souvenirs and other incidentals. If you have a daily number in mind, it is easier to keep within your means.
- 2. Consider local destinations.** You don't need to travel to the ends of the earth to have fun. One way to keep travel costs in line is to stay closer to home. Your state tourism division is a

good place to start. Package deals on everything from museum tickets to family lodging packages are yours for the asking.

- 3. Give your vehicle a pre-vacation check up.** In the frenzy to get everything packed and organized, most people forget to check their vehicle. However, the time it takes to check the wipers, battery, fluid levels, air pressure and spare tire are nothing compared to the cost and disruption of roadside service.
- 4. Consider public transportation.** Many people are finding that after you factor in parking, gasoline, vehicle wear and tear and the time it takes to reach the destination that taking the train or flying is a better alternative. As always, you stand a better chance of getting a great rate if you book early.

5. Pack lunches. Whether you are driving or taking public transportation, you can save a bundle if you pack a cooler with sandwiches, snacks and beverages. If you are flying and renting a car, remember to pack a soft-sided cooler with you and fill it up at your destination.

6. Join the club. The time to start planning next year's vacation is now. By opening a club account at Casco FCU, you can start building a vacation nest egg by making regular deposits throughout the year. You can even have money automatically deposited from another account.

BRANCH LOCATIONS

375 Main Street, Gorham, ME
207-839-5588
MONDAY - FRIDAY 7:00 AM TO 4:00 PM

35 Cumberland Street, Westbrook, ME
207-854-2446
MONDAY - FRIDAY 8:00 AM TO 5:00 PM

397 Ossipee Trail, Gorham, ME
207-839-3933
MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:00 AM TO 5:00 PM