



Message from the President

This year has been a challenge for all of us. With the demise of some financial institutions and the rise and fall of the financial markets, we have had to keep on our toes and look towards a brighter future in the coming year.

Having a financial institution you can count on has become an important part of the financial landscape these days. Banks that overextended themselves with bad debt due to faulty mortgage loans have either closed or have been absorbed by stronger financial institutions.

Downey Federal Credit Union is indeed a financial institution where you can "Count On Us Through All Stages Of Life". Our credit union continues to be financially strong, with positive net earnings well above those of our peers and a strong loan portfolio, composed of consumer and mortgage loans granted on the basis of sound business decisions.

With the passage of President Bush's Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of October 3, 2008, credit unions and banks have raised the limit of insured funds to \$250,000 from \$100,000. The National Credit Union Administration (NCUA) charters and supervises federal credit unions, such as DFCU, with the full backing of the U.S. government; and manages the National Credit Union Share Insurance Fund (NCUSIF). The NCUSIF manages the deposits of more than 89 million account holders in all federal and the majority of state-chartered credit unions.

In addition to the strong backing of the NCUSIF, Downey Federal Credit Union offers additional insurance of \$250,000 through American Share Insurance (ASI). Partnering with us since 1995, ASI adds more protection to your deposit accounts. Based on DFCU's financial strength, we have been able to consistently meet and maintain the strict requirements of ASI. Thus, your funds at the credit union are insured up to \$500,000.

Downey Federal Credit Union has become stronger in 2008 with your support and confidence. During 2009, we expect to introduce new products and services to assist you with your financial needs. From children's accounts to checking accounts, to IRAs and affordable loans, we want you to continue to "Count on Us Through All Stages of Your Life."

We look forward to continue serving you in 2009.


Barbara Lamberth
President/CEO



2009 Annual Meeting DFCU Celebrates 52 Years

Please mark **April 29, 2009** on your calendar for DFCU's 52nd Anniversary and Annual Meeting, which will be held at:

***The Rio Hondo Event Center • 5:00 pm
Light refreshments will be served.***

There are two openings on the Board of Directors. Candidates include:

BRIAN BROWN – Brian was born and raised in Downey, graduating with honors from Stanford University and UCLA Medical School. He has been a prominent ophthalmologist and eye surgeon in Downey since 1987, serving as Chief of Staff at Downey Regional Medical Center. He has been a member of Downey FCU for over 20 years. In 1999 he was appointed to the Board of Directors and has served as Chairman and Treasurer. During his past tenure, he was instrumental in introducing the members to "Home Banking" and to an expanded facility. He has accepted the nomination to continue serving on the Board of Directors and looks forward to DFCU's continued financial visibility in the community of Downey.

HEATHER CONWELL – Heather has been with Downey Regional Medical Center since 1982; her current position being the VP of Nursing, Chief Nursing Officer. Heather is a graduate of UCLA, Los Angeles County School of Nursing and she holds a Masters Degree in Nursing from Cal State Long Beach. Along with being an active member of the Downey Rotary, Heather has served on the credit union's Board of Directors since 1999, acting as Secretary for the past year. During her past term, she was instrumental in the opening of the Express Service Office at Downey Regional Medical Center to facilitate the financial needs of the Brookshire corridor. Heather looks forward to serving the members for the next term and is enthusiastic in being a part of enhancing DFCU's visibility in the Downey medical community.

Additional candidates (over age 18) must submit a petition signed by one percent of the membership (130 members), a brief description of qualifications, and a signed statement that he or she will serve if elected. Petitions must be returned to our main office no later than February 10, 2009. There will be no nominations from the floor. Printed ballots will be mailed to all members eligible to vote at least 30 days prior to the meeting, if necessary.

Auto Loans Looking for a new set of wheels? Don't forget that Downey FCU has one of the best rates in town! Our 3.9% APR* for well-qualified buyers can put you behind the wheel of your new vehicle. Apply online at www.downeyfcu.org or stop in at either of our two branches. Drive away smiling!

* Other rates and terms are available.

Managing Your Cards

Please be aware that if you lose or misplace your DFCU VISA® ATM/Debit Card or VISA® Credit Card, phone ***immediately*** to have your card stopped, wherever and whenever your loss occurs. A member recently had her purse stolen on a weekend and used the phone numbers on www.downeyfcu.org (under Products and Services) to report the loss. Using the card wisely can save you from incurring any losses.

Please keep these phone numbers in a safe place if you need to report a loss:

DFCU VISA ATM/Debit Card	1-800-754-4128
DFCU VISA Credit Card	1-800-299-9842

Customer Services Representatives are able to assist you 24/7, 365 days a year.



(left to right) DFCU's Kari Johnson, Business Development, Randy Miller, and son, Adam Lavelle.

Book Drive For the third year in a row, DFCU sponsored a book drive for the elementary school students of Downey. DFCU members and employees were more than generous and contributed more than 300 new books for children ages 5–10 years old. The books were donated to DFCU's Adopt-A-Schools for distribution to students for the holidays. Randy and Carol Miller and son Adam, DFCU members, contributed more than 60 books to assist in the book drive. As winners of the raffle gift, the Millers graciously donated their prize to the school to purchase additional books.

2008 IRAs

This is the season to add to your 2008 IRA. Make plans to stop in at the Main Branch to make your contribution or re-invest your retirement funds from another financial institution. DFCU offers both Roth and Traditional IRAs, as well as Coverdell IRAs (Educational IRAs) and SEP IRAs (Simplified Employee Pension Plan). In 2008 the maximum deposit increased to \$5,000 with an additional \$500 each year if you are at least 50 years old for a catch-up contribution. Thus, members who are over 50 can contribute \$6,000 for a 2008 IRA. Please consult your tax advisor for up-to-date details about the best way to invest your retirement funds. Please remember that the deadline for adding to your 2008 IRA is April 15, 2009.

Magali Corona, DFCU’s “Silver Star Winner”

Congratulations to Magali Corona! Magali, a 30-year member of Downey Federal Credit Union, won the “Be a Star” raffle prize for opening up a Silver Star Checking Account. Her raffle prize consists of a photo shoot with a professional photographer, with three separate sizes of photos. Magali’s two children are also members.

Silver Star Checking is Downey FCU’s checking account for members 60 years and older with recurring deposits, such as Social Security or payroll deduction. This checking account has benefits which include:

- ★ Free lambskin check holder with Silver Star logo (while supplies last)
 - ★ Free checks for life
 - ★ DFCU ATM card with unlimited transactions
 - ★ No Annual Fee DFCU VISA® Card *
 - ★ No Fee American Express Traveler’s Cheques
 - ★ No Fee Cashier’s Checks (limit 3 per month)
 - ★ Overdraft Loan Protection*
 - ★ Free Notary and Medallion Signature Guarantee Service
- * Subject to credit approval



DFCU’s Marianne Noss and Silver Star winner, **Magali Corona**

Take advantage of our Silver Star Checking, designed for DFCU members in the “Silver Stage of Life”.

CU Pay It, DFCU’s New Online Bill Payment

DFCU will be introducing our new online bill payment service, CU Pay It, within the next few months. Please be on the lookout for more information.

Character Counts COLORING CONTEST

For the third year, Downey Federal Credit Union has sponsored a Character Counts coloring contest for two Downey schools Ward and Lewis Elementary Schools, the credit union’s adopt-a-schools for 2008-2009. Students were asked to choose one of the pillars of Character Counts, which include trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship, and draw a picture illustrating that character trait.

There were eight winners from Ward and ten winners from Lewis. Coloring contest winners from Ward included Maile Piohia and Kellin Abrego Reyes (kindergarten); Lisa Hernandez-Aceves and Cecilia Serrano (first grade); Jean Carlo Salazar and Gabriella Arciga (second grade); and Jose Morales and Jasmine Arana-Fletes (third grade). From Lewis, the winners included Bryanna Anderson and Vishal Maheshwaran (kindergarten); Allan Millanes and Julieta Meillon (first grade); Aotoa Fanua and Chiamaka Ikejiofor (second grade); Kennedy Rodriguez and Esteban Cuellar (third grade); Michael Pelayo and April Ruiz (fourth grade); and Jordan Zuniga and Sofia Mejia (fifth grade).

Each of the coloring contest winners received a financial package with Kirby Kangaroo Club materials. All coloring contest entrants were rewarded for their participation.

Holiday Closures

Downey Federal Credit Union will be closed on the following days:

Martin Luther King Jr. Day **Presidents Day**
Monday, January 19 Monday, February 16

This newsletter is published quarterly by Downey Federal Credit Union (DFCU). Each member’s deposits are insured up to \$350,000. The first \$100,000 of deposits are federally insured by the National Credit Union Administration (NCUA), a U.S. government agency. The next \$250,000 of deposits are privately insured by American Share Insurance (ASI). IRAs are separately insured up to \$350,000 by the same combination of insurers. Loans are issued in accordance with NCUA regulations, subject to credit approval. DFCU is an equal opportunity lender and makes loans without regard to race, color, religion, sex, handicap, family status or national origin. Dividends are based on the Credit Union’s earnings at the end of a dividend period and thus cannot be guaranteed. Rates, yields, terms, conditions and services are subject to change after the account is opened. For more information, refer to your Truth-in-Savings disclosure or contact a Credit Union employee. The Credit Union may provide information about products and services available to members from other sources. However, it does not warrant, nor accept liability for the actions, products or services of others.

*APR = Annual Percentage Rate. APY = Annual Percentage Yield.



(From left to right) Wendy Doty, DUSD Superintendent; Mark Morris, President-Elect DUSD Board of Education; Barbara Lamberth, President/CEO DFCU, and Stan Hanstad, DUSD Assistant Superintendent

DFCU Donates \$7,000 for Student Enrichment Grants to 35 Winners

Since 2001, DFCU has sponsored the Student Enrichment Grant Program. The enrichment program gives educators and school employees the opportunity to apply for a \$200 grant to enrich the lives of their students in or out of the classroom. The program is open to elementary, middle, high school, adult school, and private schools operating in Downey. Over the last year, the program was expanded to encourage classified as well as educational staff in various categories in Downey schools to apply.

Of 100 entries submitted, 35 school employees were chosen to receive the \$200 grant, and were invited to a special awards reception on December 4, 2008 at the DUSD Office. Enrichment proposals ranged from Character Counts training, to supplies for school gardens, DNA kits for science class, field trips to the Museum of Tolerance, funds for traveling to a sports tournament, and many other projects. Grant recipients included:

- Kellie Russell – Griffiths Middle School
- Darla Webster- West Elementary School
- Leslie Chavez- Sussman Middle School
- Patricia Holmes- Price Elementary School
- Diana Vance – Rio San Gabriel Elementary School
- Samantha Martin – Rio San Gabriel Elementary School
- David Niemeyer – Warren High School
- Danielle Mendenhall- Rio Hondo Elementary School
- Lisa Smith- Williams Elementary School
- Andrea Procter- West Middle School
- Mary Jo Enyeart – West Middle School
- Dennis Peterson/Jennifer Jaquess – Lewis Elementary School
- Pamela Martin – Gauldin Elementary School
- Scott Marshall- Columbus Continuation School
- Tamika King – Alameda Elementary School
- Melissa Meza – Alameda Elementary School
- Susan Rodriguez- Columbus Continuation School
- Nathan Harris- Downey High School
- Pat Bledsoe- East Middle School
- Reggie Donahue – Gallatin Elementary School
- Sandi Cox – Gallatin Elementary School
- Kevin Kendall – Downey High School
- Charlotte Rippel- Ward Elementary School
- Jackie Graves – Ward Elementary School
- Jeanetta Wolfe- Griffiths Middle School
- Leslie Neill- Ward Elementary School
- April Okimoto- Ward Elementary School
- Duen Rou Chen- Griffiths Middle School
- Jeanette Hernandez – Downey High School
- Michelle Derkum – West Middle School
- Luz Perez- TLC Family Resource Center
- Carol Gutierrez- Gallatin Elementary School
- Larry Shelton- Downey High School
- Blair Bolles- Griffiths Middle School
- Harriet Paine – Downey Adult School

Congratulations to all our grant recipients for their dedication and creativity!

Downey Federal Credit Union

8237 Third Street • P.O. Box 4639
Downey, CA 90241-1639
562.862.8141 • FAX 562.862.7782

www.downeyfcu.org

OFFICE HOURS

9am – 4:30pm Monday – Friday

DRIVE-UP HOURS

8:30am – 5:30pm Monday, Wednesday – Friday
9:00am – 5:30pm Tuesday

ESO HOURS at Downey Regional Medical Center

7:15am – 3:30pm Monday, Wednesday, Friday
9:30am – 4:30pm Tuesday & Thursday

