

PIPELINE



Serving IBEW Locals 915, 108, 177, 1618, 2358, 1205, 1924 and 222; UA Local 123; Iron Workers Local 397; Sheet Metal Workers Locals 15 and 435; Millwrights Locals 1000 and 2411; Boilermakers Locals 433 and 199; Machinists and Aerospace Workers Local 731 and District 112; Insulators Local 67; Elevator Constructors Local 74; Operating Engineers Local 925; Carpenters Locals 627 and 140; Painters Local 164; and Bricklayers Local 1

4th Quarter 2009



THE POWERNET FAMILY CONTINUES TO GROW

Now Serving 30 Local Unions!

We are starting our 50th year of serving Union members and their families with a new local union being added to our roles. Effective December 9th, Commissioner J. Thomas Cardwell of Florida's Office of Financial Regulation approved our most recent bylaw amendment request to include the International Union of Elevator Constructors Local 74 in Tampa to become part of the **PowerNet** family. This brings the number of participating locals to 30 – by far the largest labor-based financial institution in Florida.

When recently elected James Yohn, Business Manager of Local 74, became aware of how **PowerNet** was a union-based credit union and worked with members of other local unions in the state, he wanted Local 74 and its membership to also be able to participate in the benefits of our strong, labor-based group.



WELCOME to all the Union brothers and sisters of Elevator Constructors Local 74! We look forward to the opportunity of helping them grow financially – helping to build the strength of Labor in Florida. We anticipate a growing relationship by providing additional strength to both organizations and membership.

As we continue to expand our membership through local unions throughout Florida, we are better positioning our credit union to continue offering the financial services that will improve our members' lives. There is strength in numbers – in people and dollars. By combining our efforts, we can do more and do it more efficiently. Our continuing success is proof there is **Strength in Unity!**

Remember Your IRA!

The maximum contribution limit for IRAs is \$5,000 for the 2009 tax year – \$6,000 for those 50 and older. Don't miss your opportunity to contribute to your Traditional or Roth IRA! You have until April 15, 2010 to make a contribution for 2009. Rollovers (from a pension plan, 401(k), or another IRA) to an IRA can be made at any time.

Make plans to take advantage of this opportunity to more adequately fund your IRA savings account early in 2010. The sooner you make your contribution, the longer that money will have to benefit from the effects of compounding interest.

Past plans to rely on company pensions, social security or resale of the home to adequately fund retirement are not as reliable as they once were. It's more important than ever to establish retirement savings to maintain your standard of living in the years to come. And as every year passes, the reality of retirement gets closer. The IRA is a tax-advantaged way to accomplish this goal. Contact the office for more details to gain full advantage of all the options available to you through **PowerNet Credit Union**.

MESSAGE From The PRESIDENT



*Tim McMurry, CFP
President*

Working Together for Financial Stability

Exactly a year ago, I reported interest rates at record lows – not seen since 1955. Fed funds were in the 0.00 to 0.25% range. That hasn't changed. And Ben Bernanke, Chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, has pledged to keep rates low for the "foreseeable future." What does that mean for **PowerNet**?

Those member deposits that we receive and do not put back out in loans to the members are invested in conservative and safe securities to generate additional income. We stagger the maturities to always have enough money available to meet members' needs. As time passes and rates remain very low, our longer term investments that have been paying a higher return are maturing and being reinvested at a much lower rate – similar to your options with Certificates. The Fed's intent is to foster growth in the economy by encouraging more borrowing. But the turnaround process is slower than hoped. As a country, the hole we have dug for ourselves is much deeper than originally thought. In the meantime, investment income is dropping for many of us. That is why our dividend rates have dropped in the last year – loan volume has slowed down and investment returns have fallen.

To remain "in the black" and pay as good a return as possible to you, we have been cutting costs wherever possible and have been looking for other income sources. One area we have avoided for additional income is increasing fees. Almost all other financial institutions have resorted to this – to the point of the Federal government passing legislation to prevent some of the highest charges ever imposed.

We take our position as your primary financial resource very seriously. As members, you are owners. This is your credit union. **PowerNet** is in business for you so we work on ways to "carry the load"

other than on the backs of our members. We strive for efficiency and the type of service that our members want and need. We feel if we work hard for our members/owners and look out for their best interests – as we should – they will appreciate it and work with us through tough times. After all, we are all in this together. I am pleased to report and want to also thank everyone for their cooperation because results show that our strategy is working for us.

As evidence, our cost for uncollected loans is very low. Part of the reason is the underwriting standards we use and our lending process. But the major reason is that our member loyalty translates into a much better payment history than at other institutions. And that is the reason for over 27 credit union and 145 bank failures this year – uncollected loan balances. Our experience is vastly better.

Because of that, we are able to keep the spread between what we charge for loans and what we pay on deposits smaller. Our cost for bad debts is much lower and we can pass that saving on to all our members – which also allows us to keep our fees lower.

The basic reasons our credit union was started almost 50 years ago are still driving our decisions. With the continued support and cooperation of our members, we will continue to grow and provide the quality of financial services our members deserve. I encourage you to use your credit union more as we begin our 50th year of operation.

It has truly been a pleasure to work with so many high-caliber union families over the last 32 years. I look forward to even better days ahead for us. Thank you for the opportunity to be of service.



49th Annual Meeting

**Tuesday
February 23, 2010
at 4:00 PM**

As our 50th year of serving members of organized labor and their families gets underway, we will be meeting to report on progress for the first forty-nine. There have been many changes over the years and your Board of Directors continues to look to the future for maximum benefit for our members. We continue to make progress – even in these tough economic times. Much of the credit goes to the support and cooperation of our membership. Union ideals and strength of purpose is alive and well – and very evident at **PowerNet**. Results and future plans will be discussed at the meeting. Come and hear for yourself what your credit union has accomplished.

The meeting will be on the second floor of the main office and will start promptly at 4:00 PM. The order of business will be similar to previous years with reports from the Chairman, President, and our Audit Committee on our progress and plans for the future. There are two terms up for election on the Board of Directors. Since no one has qualified to be placed in nomination in addition to the incumbents, Charles Carver II and Scott Barber, the incumbent nominees selected by the Nominating Committee will be reelected and there will not be an election. There will be an opportunity to win prizes for those that attend. We hope you will come join us.

New Year's Resolutions for a Financially Healthy 2010

Money worries are one of the more common causes of post holiday stress. If it is your number one worry, why not consider the following New Year's resolutions to improve your financial life.

Resolve:

- **To write down your goals**

Putting goals in writing gives them a formality and a starting point for the planning you must do.

- **To track your spending**

Diligent expense tracking is the first critical step to getting personal finances in order.

- **To cut your credit card debt**

Take inventory of your balances, figure out if you can consolidate them under your lowest-rate card, and resolve to systematically pay them off as soon as possible by paying more than the minimum.

- **To evaluate your risk tolerance**

With the market turbulence that's marked 2009, many individuals would benefit from an analysis of how much investment risk they want or need to take – given what they want to achieve with their money.

- **To save**

Set aside at least 5 to 10% of your take-home pay and try and place the maximum in your retirement savings plan.

If you need help in applying these resolutions to your personal financial situation we have several people that can help – including three Certified Financial Planners. You can call Tom in our Money Concepts Financial Planning Center (813.769.5045). He can help you put your plan together.



Tom Viezbicke, CFP



Caught By Fraud or Identity Theft?

You are Covered for Identity Theft Protection at No Charge

Do you think you are immune to attempts of fraud on you or your accounts? Think again.

The bad people are out there every day, trying to get something for nothing. In fact, we recently received several calls from members asking about text messages they received regarding a hold on either their debit or credit cards.

The member was instructed to call an automated 800 number to get the problem cleared up. They were asked for their account number, expiration date, and PIN number. Most, but not all members caught on early and hung up. Fortunately, for those that gave out full requested information, we were able to provide quick assistance and closed the existing account and opened a new one.

PowerNet will never ask for your 16-digit card number, PIN, or other confidential information. We do not send text messages or emails asking to divulge confidential information. That type of information should never be given out to anyone. If you do get such calls or contacts, please call us directly at our posted contact numbers as soon as possible. This could be in the form of text messages, emails, phone calls, or letters.

We understand the problems that fraud and Identity Theft can cause and we are serious about making every effort to keep it to a minimum. We have gone to the extreme measure of automatically covering every **PowerNet** checking account holder. It's simple. If you have a **PowerNet** checking account you are covered.

As an account holder, if you experience any difficulties in this area, just give the office a call and they will put you in touch with an expert that will take it from there – and do whatever is required to protect your good name. It doesn't have to be just with the checking account, it can be with anything involving you – a stolen purse, credit card, an account from another firm or organization. Someone will do the legwork for you.

For more details, you can contact one of our offices or go to our web site for more details. If you are affected, we want to minimize your hassle and loss. Once again, we're doing more for you!



Progress Is Underway For PowerNet's Bill Paying Service

PowerNet's newest convenience service, Bill Paying, is now in the testing phase. We are on schedule to make this service available to the full membership before the end of the first quarter. It is really a slick system!

We have partnered with Fiserv's CheckFree to provide you with one of the top products in the marketplace. CheckFree has been providing this service for financial institutions for over 10 years. With that kind of experience, they've been able to develop a top-notch bill pay service that will allow you to easily setup your vendors, reminders, automatic payments or just one-time payments. There will be no limit to the number of bills you pay or vendors you setup.

This service is expensive, but we've heard your call for a bill pay service and want to provide you with a quality product that you will use. If you sign up, we are charged for each member access so there will be a flat \$5 monthly fee. But we want you to use the service – along with others – so if you regularly use the service, we are offering three ways you can avoid the fee:

- By having a direct deposit to your account,
- Maintain an average total savings balance greater than \$2,000, or
- Have an active loan with us (other than MasterCard).

We'll let you know more as the testing phase is completed. Watch for it online!

PowerNet Credit Union

FEE SCHEDULE



With all the turmoil in the financial marketplace these days, one of the places that can separate financial institutions is their schedule of fees. We strive to keep our fees as low as possible and we publish our fees annually so you can read and compare **PowerNet** to other institutions. We haven't changed our fee schedule from last year. And to answer a question we have been asked recently...NO, we do NOT charge a fee for PIN-based debit card transactions.

Check out our fee schedule and compare to others – you may want to consider some changes if you aren't using **PowerNet** as your primary financial institution. The following fees have been effective since March 1, 2008.

The following fees may be assessed against your account.

Draft printing	fee depends on style of draft ordered
Temporary checks	\$0.25 each, or 5 free w/check order
Non-Sufficient Funds (NSF) – per item (drafts, ACH)	\$20.00
Negative Balance fee (overdraft with debit card)	\$20.00
Overdraft Transfer fee	\$1.00
Automatic transfer of funds from share or draft account to a Share Draft account to cover your check... (fee applied to Share Draft account).	
Stop payments – each	\$10.00
Official Check – each	\$2.00
Coin deposited/exchanged (\$100.00 or more per day)	5% of amount
Deposited checks (and other items) returned unpaid - each	\$15.00
Check Cashing (non-member cashing on-us check)	\$2.00
Replacement Debit Card	\$5.00
ATM Balance Inquiry	\$0.50
ATM Share-to-Share Transfer	\$0.50
ATM Deposit (select CO-OP Network ATMs only)	FREE
ATM Withdrawal	\$1.00
ACH Manual Posting Fee	\$5.00
Wire transfers Incoming – each	\$5.00
Outgoing – domestic	\$15.00
Outgoing – international	\$35.00
Account closed within 90 days of opening	\$10.00
Re-Open Account Closed by Credit Union	\$10.00
Account activity printout/Statement copy	\$1.00 per page, \$3.00 minimum
Account research/balancing assistance	\$15.00 per hour, \$15.00 minimum
Photocopy (per page)	\$1.00
Copy of draft	\$2.00
Fax (per page)	\$1.00
Bad address/Returned mail fee	\$5.00
Dormant account fee - per quarter	\$10.00
An account is considered dormant if there is a minimum daily balance of less than \$200.00 in a Share account with no activity in the Share account or in any related account for period of 24 months.	
Garnishment/Levy Processing fee	\$25.00
Escheat Processing fee	\$25.00
Collection item (incoming or outgoing)	\$25.00

www.powernetcu.org

THREE LOCATIONS:

Main Office
 5619 Harney Road
 Tampa, FL 33610
 (813) 621-6454
 Fax: (813) 620-1953
 888-4MEMBER
 (Toll Free Number Outside Tampa Area)
 Hours: Mon.- Wed. 8:30 -5:00
 Thurs. & Fri. 8:30-6:00

Jacksonville Branch
 966 Liberty Street
 (IBEW Local 177 Building)
 Jacksonville, FL 32206
 (904) 359-9050 • Fax (904) 354-4248
 Hours: Mon. - Fri. 9:00-5:00

Plant City Branch
 101 Alexander Street N.
 Plant City, FL 33563
 (813) 757-6707 • Fax (813) 757-6686
 Hours: Mon.- Wed. 9:00 - 5:00
 Thurs. & Fri. 9:00 - 6:00

PHONE NUMBERS FOR MEMBER ASSISTANCE

PowerLine Tampa: 740-2447
 Toll-Free: 877-628-2447
 MasterCard Toll-Free: 800-654-7728
 Email: mbrservices@powernetcu.org

Dividends

Fourth Quarter	Annual
	Percentage Yield
SHARES.....	0.50%

HIGH VOLTAGE MONEY MARKET

Tier 1 <\$2,500	0.25%
Tier 2 \$2,501 - \$5,000	0.75%
Tier 3 \$5,001 - \$10,000	0.90%
Tier 4 \$10,001 - \$25,000	1.10%
Tier 5 >\$25,000.....	1.25%

REGULAR SHARE DRAFTS..... 0.00%
 SUPER SHARE DRAFTS..... 0.40%

IRA SHARES..... 1.00%

CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT (SHARE AND IRA)

6 Months	1.25%
12 Months	1.55%
24 Months	1.65%
36 Months	1.75%
48 Months	2.25%
60 Months	2.75%

(CD rollover rates are 0.25% higher than shown above)

Contact Credit Union staff for additional account information.

Your savings insured to \$500,000.
 Your IRAs also insured to \$500,000.

