

CUs Bridge the Gen Y Gap

A lot of financial institutions don't understand your generation. They think they're wasting time trying to please you and that what you say doesn't really matter. VA & Military Employees Federal Credit Union knows how important you are.

Here are some myths that might be floating around other financial institutions. Let us tell you the credit union facts:

Myth:

Young adults cost financial institutions too much money.

Fact:

VA & Military Employees Federal Credit Union knows that everyone has to start somewhere and we want that somewhere to be your credit union. We know how hard it is starting out and also know that no credit history doesn't equal bad credit. Let us help you conduct your financial business as you start your life's journey.

Myth:

Young adults won't stick with their financial institution.

Fact:

We at VA & Military Employees Federal Credit Union know that you expect quality and if you don't get it in our products and services, you'll leave. We'll stand behind you through all of the stages in your life. We also know that if we help you, you'll stay with us.

Myth:

Everything is online and customer service is dead.

Fact:

We know you're the most tech-savvy generation in history and that you can text message faster than a courtroom stenographer, but we also know you care about what's inside—inside our office that is. That's why we're here to offer you outstanding member service, whether you have time to visit us in person once a week—or once a year.

Check out VA & Military Employees Federal Credit Union today and let us show you how much we understand and care about your needs.

YOU COULD BE A WINNER!

If you would like to recognize a member in our newsletter, write a short article on the member and submit it to the VA & Military Employees Federal Credit Union. If your article is selected for publication in our newsletter you and the outstanding member will each win a \$25.00 gift certificate at Meijers.

2nd Quarter Holiday Hours

The Credit Union will be closed in observance of the following holidays:

MEMORIAL DAY	INDEPENDENCE DAY
Monday	Tuesday
May 29, 2006	July 4, 2006

Remember you can bank 24 hours a day with your ATM card, Audio Line (Telephone Audio Response), and Home Banking at www.vamilitaryfcu.org.



240 North Helmer Road ■ Battle Creek, MI 49015
269-968-8063 ■ www.vamilitaryfcu.org

HOURS

Monday - Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Fridays 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
(excluding Federal Holidays)

Vision Statement

Our Official Family will be committed, dedicated, and progressive to ensure the future growth of our Credit Union. We will continually strive to be the primary financial institution for our valued present and future members by providing state-of-the-art technology, services, and facilities to meet their changing needs.

Mission Statement

VA & Military Employees Federal Credit Union is a not-for-profit, member owned, financial institution. Our goal is to provide friendly, competent, prompt, and competitive services to our members while strengthening the Credit Union's long term financial stability.



AMERICA'S
CREDIT UNIONS™
Where people are worth more than money.™



 VA & Military
Employees
Federal Credit Union

Member
Matters

A QUARTERLY
PUBLICATION FOR
OUR MEMBERS

SPRING 2006

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Car Buyers' Worst Mistakes

by Remar Sutton

How much money do you think educated car buyers can save over uneducated buyers when buying the same car? Would \$5,000 get your attention?

Not long ago, I was involved in an undercover filming at a dealership where consumers paid that whopping difference on the same car. And the difference in the customers? One couple made the "big mistakes" outlined here; the other didn't. While you may not save \$5,000, you'll save a bunch if you avoid these classic car-buying errors.

1 Showing enthusiasm. If you act excited, the sellers know they have a unique product you want. The price goes up instantly. Keep that enthusiasm in check until you've driven home. Sneer a little if you like the car.

2 Buying in a hurry. If you buy on your first visit to a dealership, you don't have time to compare. Take your time. Be willing to walk away. The price at most dealerships falls quickly if you move slowly.

3 Giving deposits before the dealer approves your offer on a vehicle. Feel free to give a deposit, if you really want a vehicle. But don't give it until the boss has said "yes." Some dealerships use deposits to keep you there while they try to convince you to pay more. And you can't leave if they have your deposit such as money, a credit card, a driver's license, or your kids.

4 Being switched to leasing without doing your homework. Because dealerships make a much larger profit if they lease rather than sell, even the best dealership is going to try to "switch" you. They'll try to convince you leasing is cheaper than buying. In most instances, it isn't. If you want to lease, fine. Just don't do it on the spur of the moment.

5 Trading in your old car without knowing its value in advance. A dealership has the right to give you the least you will take for your old car. But you have a right to get the most your car is worth. To know that value, simply clean it up, and try to sell it to several used car departments. The highest amount you're offered for it is your car's real value right now. Don't accept less than that in trade.

6 Financing automatically at the dealership. Dealerships may be the cheapest place to finance. To find out, simply bring a copy of the filled-out dealer contract to your credit union and compare contracts. If the dealership won't give you a copy, they're probably telling you they're not really the cheapest.

Big mistakes, big bucks out the window. We like to help you preserve your money--that's what credit unions are all about. Avoid these mistakes, and put that money to work rather than throwing it away.

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Meet your 2006/2007 VA & Military Employees Federal Credit Union Official Family

Board of Directors

Robert Blackwell	President
David Rhoutsong	Vice President
Sandy Place	Secretary
Daniel Allen	Treasurer
Beni Lewis	Member
Ted Potyrala	Member
Freeman Thomas	Member
Tony Reeves	Member
Marilyn Smith	Member

Supervisory Committee

Clarence Odem	Chairman
Sue Hendon	Member
Betty Rice	Member
Anne Schoonard	Member

CHECK HOLDS

Fraudulent checks and share drafts are a significant source of loss to credit unions – much larger than losses due to robbery or burglary. It is the policy of the VA & Military Employees Federal Credit Union to place a hold on all credit card checks, income tax loan checks, checks of large amounts, checks from new account holders and, but not limited to, suspicious checks. The check(s) will be deposited to your share savings account. We will advise you when this is being done. When you feel the check has had enough time to clear you may come in or call us and we will contact the bank that the check is drawn on to see if that particular check has cleared. If the check has cleared we will release the hold and the funds will be available to you at that time. VA & Military Employees Federal Credit Union reserves the right to refuse or put an indefinite hold on all checks presented to us for deposit.

Never assume that the funds on a check you want to deposit in your account with the VA & Military Employees Federal Credit Union will be available to you immediately.

Please remember that even after we have made funds available to you, and you have withdrawn the funds, you are still responsible for checks you deposit that are returned to us unpaid and for any other problems involving your deposit.

For Your Information

Reminder.

If you want to have money electronically deposited or withdrawn from your account with the VA & Military Employees Federal Credit Union, be sure to ask us the format you should use for your account number.

Account Update

We recommend that you periodically verify that the owner information on your account is accurate. Contact a Member Service Representative to verify that your beneficiary and/or joint owner name(s) are listed correctly.

Fingerprinting

VA & Military Employees Federal Credit Union put into effect a fingerprinting program to reduce check fraud. Check fraud costs checking account holders and financial institutions millions of dollars every year.

This program requires that all nonmembers wanting to cash checks written on accounts of our members give us their right thumb print. In addition, we will also require a thumb print with the opening of a new account. The fingerprinting is only performed in the credit union lobby.

We are confident that our members will support us in our fight against check fraud. Your support sends a clear message to criminals that we will not tolerate check fraud.

Night Depository

For your convenience the Credit Union has an envelope night depository located at the north east corner of the building. All transactions put in the night depository will be posted the following business day.

Coming Soon!

Spring is fast approaching and so is the new Barn Theatre Season. Show your Credit Union ID at the box office to receive your discount. Keep watching the credit union lobby for more information.

Theme park tickets and discount coupons are on the way too! Start planning your trip to Cedar Point. Information will be available soon from a Member Service Representative.

Make a note

All loans with VA & Military Employees Federal Credit Union require a payment to be made to the account each and every month. Extra payments are permitted, however, your contractual payment remains due each month.