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## Manager's Memo

**Rick Krehbiel**

### Fall, 2010

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Vol. 9 No. 3

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Quarterly for Mid-Kansas  
Credit Union Members

Although the starting date has past and we are now required to have your permission before we may charge you overdraft fees on everyday debit card and ATM transactions, you may still opt in. If you would like Overdraft Privilege to apply to everyday debit card and ATM transactions, you may call us, e-mail us, tell us the next time you are in one of our offices or complete the Overdraft Opt In form on [www.mkcu.coop](http://www.mkcu.coop). If you do not opt in, everyday debit card and ATM transactions that would overdraw your account, will be denied.



The grace period on our Credit Disability Insurance policies has been reduced to 14 days. That means that claims will now be paid beginning with the 15th day of disability instead of the 31st day as it was under the old policy. This coverage may be added to existing loans with an acceptable completed Statement of Insurability. Please let us know if you have any questions about this coverage.

E-statements are finally here. You now have the option of having your monthly and quarterly statements e-mailed to you instead of having a paper copy mailed to you. The e-mailed statements will be sent out the first business day of each month so you will be able to view those much earlier than the paper copies that are mailed. If you would like to sign up for e-statements, please go online at [www.mkcu.coop](http://www.mkcu.coop) and complete the e-Statement Signup form. They are available now!

**"LOCAL. TRUSTED. SERVING YOU."** The 2010 International Credit Union Day theme highlights trust and member service and characterizes the cooperative difference. Member service is the foundation of the credit union movement. Whether a credit union is providing a loan to help a member cover unexpected medical expenses, giving financial counseling to a member whose company has closed its doors, or simply offering a better deal on a used car loan, the credit union is making a difference for its members and the community as a whole.

Because when you go to the credit union, you're not just a customer — **YOU'RE A MEMBER!** It really is **"your credit union."** Banks belong to shareholders, hoping to profit from your transactions. At a credit union, any earnings are returned to you in the form of better rates on loans and savings. Knowing this, who wouldn't choose a credit union? Worldwide there are over 186 million people who belong to a credit union.

So please join us on Thursday, October 21st, by attending our International Credit Union Day Open House. The Moundridge office will once again be serving root beer floats from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. Both offices will have door prizes and drawings. Come to either of our offices and join us to celebrate the credit union difference!



*People Helping People*

## Mid-Kansas Credit Union Mission Statement

Mid-Kansas Credit Union is a member owned, democratically controlled financial institution, dedicated to providing quality member services at a fair price and being responsive to the needs of our members, while maintaining our long-term stability.





#### Main Office in Moundridge

104 S. Ave. B—P.O. Box 608  
620.345.2980 or 888.345.2980  
620.345.2996 Fax  
Lobby: M-F 8-5, Sat 8-12  
Drive Up: M-F 8-5:30, Sat. 8-12

#### Buhler Office

200 W. 2nd Ave.—P.O. Box 569  
620.543.2662  
620.543.2464 Fax  
Lobby: M-F 9-4:30  
Drive Up: M-F 8:30-5, Sat. 9-12

#### MOUNDRIDGE STAFF

Rick Krehbiel,  
Managing Director  
Larry Schmidt, Loan Manager  
David Fulton, Fieldman  
Anthony Jasso, Collections & IT  
Susan Johnson,  
Loan Clerk & School Loans  
Terri Voth, Lead Teller  
Sharon Schrag, Teller  
Jeri Hett, Teller  
Brandi Huff, Teller  
Amber Durst, Teller  
Jaime Toews, Teller  
Jan Graber, Teller  
Sandra Jantz, Teller &  
Dollars & Sense Editor

#### BUHLER STAFF

Linda Classen, Manager  
Bonnie Danner, Teller  
Jan Pankratz, Teller  
Linda Plett, Teller

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Elaine Schmidt, Chairman  
Bret Gillmore, Vice-Chairman  
Rick Krehbiel, Secretary-Treasurer

Tom Graber, Member  
Wendell Kaufman, Member

#### SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE

Julie Gaeddert, Chairman  
Kristy Gaither, Secretary  
Gary Duerksen, Member

#### CREDIT COMMITTEE

Gary Huxman, Chairman  
Delonna Barnett, Secretary  
Larry Schmidt, Member

www.mkcu.coop

## Ag Notes from THE MAN

David Fulton, Agster

One of the things I love about agriculture is that it's always changing. The science of growing crops, and the technology being used, is amazing.

With the summer weather we had, I did not expect 100 bu. dryland corn. Yet that is the norm, and yields go up from there. They now have crop genetics that withstand drought much better than even 10 years ago.

The computer operated side of farming continues to move us forward and now with site-specific machinery, you can pay for it in one or two years with the money saved in seed, fertilizer, and chemicals, not to mention that it reduces much wear and tear on the operator. Neat stuff!

I came across an article recently that shows how much life has changed in the last 40 years. In 1970, there were no PC's, cell phones, remote controls, or internet. The average U.S. household income was \$8,734, the unemployment rate was 3.5%, and the Federal debt was \$381 billion. In 1970, the Chiefs WON the Super Bowl, the UCLA Bruins won the NCAA basketball tournament, and Monday Night Football premiered on ABC.

If you were in your prime back then, you may relate to the saying that "All of my wild oats have turned into prunes and All-Bran"! But one thing has not gone out of style, and never will. That is helping others. Angie Vickrey, Moundridge EMS director, puts this quote on all of her e-mails: "The fate of the wounded rests in the hands of the one who applies the first dressing." Step up and help others, through your church, or the community as a whole, and remember, "There are no traffic jams on the extra mile".

Did you know? Americans spend \$36,000,000 at Wal-Mart every hour of every day. This works out to \$20,928 profit every Minute! They are bigger than Home Depot + Kroger + Target + Sears + Costco + K-Mart combined. As the largest private employer, they employ 1.6 million people and most speak English. In only 15 years, Wal-Mart has sold more groceries than Kroger & Safeway combined and now sells more food than any other store in the world. Wal-Mart has approximately 3,900 stores in the USA of which 1,906 are Super Centers which is 1,000 more than it had five years ago. This year 7.2 billion different purchasing experiences will occur at a Wal-Mart store. (Earth's population is approximately 6.50 billion). 90% of all Americans live within 15 miles of a Wal-Mart.

Maybe, Just Maybe, we should hire the guys who run Wal-Mart to fix the economy?

## Nine Ways to Build Your Credit! Larry Schmidt, Loan Manager

1. **Check your credit report and get a baseline.**
2. **Open a checking and savings account.**
3. **Understand credit:** paying bills on time and using an appropriate amount of credit available to you (10% - 30%) are the two factors that most determine your score.
4. **Find someone to co-sign** on a loan for you or be a joint account holder for a short time.
5. **Apply for credit as a college student** and use it wisely! Lenders are more willing to lend credit to a college student under the assumed protection of parents' income. However, use this as an opportunity to establish a good score by only using 10% - 30 % of the available limit and paying the balance in full each month.
6. **Apply for a secured credit card.** Your credit union is a good place to look for a secured card.
7. **Get a store card.** With lower limits, one or two will help establish good credit if, again, used wisely.
8. **Get an installment loan and always make the payments on time.**
9. **Use revolving accounts lightly, but regularly.**

### THE VISA DEBIT CARD

from Mid-Kansas Credit Union



is a reusable plastic  
check that works just  
like a credit card -  
**but without costly interest!**

### THE VISA CREDIT CARD

from Mid-Kansas Credit Union



**STOP IN AND APPLY TODAY!**

You may make your payment  
at the Credit Union and  
receive credit that same day.

## Member Services

ACH  
Agricultural Loans  
ATM Cards  
Auto Loans  
Cashier's Checks  
Direct Deposit/Direct Payment  
Drive-up ATM  
Drive-up Window  
Fax Machine Service  
Free Checking Accounts  
Foreign Currency & Foreign Item Collection  
Free Notary Service  
Home Improvement Loans  
IRA Accounts  
Life Protection Insurance  
Life Savings Insurance  
Market Index Certificates  
MK Net  
MK Pay  
Money Market Share Accounts  
Money Orders  
Night Depository  
Overdraft Privilege  
Overdraft Protection  
Payroll Deductions  
Personal Loans  
Real Estate Loans  
Safe Deposit Boxes  
Share Certificates  
Touch-Tone Teller  
VISA Credit Cards  
VISA Debit Cards  
VISA/Discover Cash Advance  
VISA Gift Cards  
Wire Transfers

## HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

MID-KANSAS CREDIT UNION  
will be closed  
Thursday, November 25th  
for Thanksgiving  
Friday, December 24th at  
Noon for Christmas Eve  
Saturday, December 25th  
for Christmas Day  
Saturday, January 1st  
for New Year's Day

## Christmas Open House on Saturday, November 20, 2010



November 20th, MKCU along with other Moundridge merchants will participate in a Christmas Open House. Plan now to be a part of a very busy and fun day and get the jump on Christmas shopping at your local businesses. Join us for hot cider & cookies and register for the drawings—\$50 cash for the adults & \$25 for the kids. We look forward to seeing you!

## Saving for Retirement

The conventional wisdom is you should set aside at least 10% of your annual pre-tax income for retirement. If you want the freedom to travel or enjoy expensive hobbies, you'll need to tuck away more. You will also need to step up your retirement contributions if you are half-way or more to retirement and you have little saved up. If you reach age 50 without much of a nest egg, try to save at least 20% of your pre-tax earnings for retirement to have a hope of maintaining your current lifestyle when you retire.



*Remember our Credit Union Cookbooks in your Christmas giving. They are only \$10 each. The profits from the sale of the cookbooks will go to the Moundridge Food Bank & the Food-4-Kids Program in Buhler. Stop by & pick them up today! THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!!*

## Four ways to avoid being denied CREDIT

GETTING CREDIT CAN BE TOUGH. A recent survey found that 22% of 18-34 year-olds were denied credit this past year. Credit Card issuers seem to be "getting choosy about who they extend credit to". Credit experts give the following advice:

1. **GET A SECURED CARD.** It can help you establish a credit history. Use a savings account to pay your credit card bills. Your credit union could help you with a secured card.
2. **CHECK YOUR CREDIT REPORT.** Be sure the credit bureaus' reports are accurate. Get free reports at [annualcreditreport.com](http://annualcreditreport.com).
3. **BOOST YOUR SCORE.** Lenders use a 450 to 850 point rating scale. Find out your score for \$15.95 at [Myfico.com](http://Myfico.com). To raise it, always pay on time.
4. **JOIN A CREDIT UNION!** When you join the credit union, you become not only a member but an owner. Credit unions are unique, not-for-profit, democratically controlled, volunteer run and member owned cooperatives that provide affordable financial services for millions of people around the world. Credit unions are a viable alternative to for-profit financial institutions. Credit unions play a vital role in the development and financial stability in the communities they serve by providing fair loans, sound fiscal advice and high quality consumer services to their members.

## Increase your home's value with simple upgrades

Remember you don't have to spend thousand of dollars remodeling your home to add value. Just follow these simple steps:

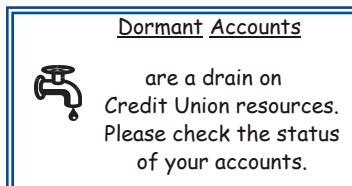
**Declutter.** Organization adds tremendous value whether it's in the living room or master bath. Keep kitchen and bathroom countertops clear. Clean and organize storage areas such as the attic and garage.

**Change fixtures and hardware.** If a full kitchen or bathroom remodel isn't in your budget, upgrade sinks, showerheads and faucets to new water-conserving models in sleek finishes. Replace outdated hardware on cabinet, windows and doors.

**Replace appliances.** From the refrigerator to the washer and dryer, upgrade appliances to new energy efficient models to add instant value, comfort and convenience.

**Spiff up landscaping.** Use flowers to add color. Add path lighting for style and safety. An ugly front yard can torpedo your home's value.

**Dust off the exterior.** Gutters, siding and windows are often overlooked. Clean, properly sealed and in good shape, they look good and help conserve energy.



## Mid-Kansas Credit Union offers . . .

Silver Dollar City  
and  
Worlds of Fun  
Tickets  
for  
purchase at a  
discounted rate.

STOP  
BY  
TODAY!



|               |         |
|---------------|---------|
| Adult Tickets | \$51.00 |
| Child Tickets | \$41.00 |
| Adult Season  | \$77.00 |
| Child Season  | \$67.00 |



|                       |         |
|-----------------------|---------|
| Worlds of Fun Regular | \$29.00 |
| Worlds of Fun Jr./Sr. | \$17.00 |

Success is not final,  
Failure is not fatal:  
It is the courage  
to  
continue that counts.  
- Winston Churchill

Credit Union deposits are federally insured to at least \$250,000 just like the FDIC. No taxpayer funds have ever been used to bail out a credit union. In fact, credit unions are poised to assist in economic recovery and have money to lend.

The difference between a successful person and others is not a lack of strength,  
not a lack of knowledge, but rather in a lack of will. - Vince Lombardi

## Contest Winners - 1st-Sara Lambert; 2nd-Joyce Dirks; 3rd-Vic Cross

Thank You for your response to the "Could You Pass?" quiz in our last newsletter. We do appreciate your time and effort. If you would like the answers, just give us a call.

## New Contest - Dollars & Sense Biblical Word Search

All the words listed below are in the puzzle—left, right, up, down or diagonally. Find each word and after you have found all the words, you will find the remaining letters to form the mystery answer. The remaining letters are not necessarily in order.

Bring or mail your entry to Mid-Kansas Credit Union, 104 S. Ave B, Box 608, Moundridge, KS 67107, by December 3, 2010. Credit Union staff, officials, and spouses are ineligible. Winners will be determined by drawing and prizes will be credited to your share account. (One entry per family or newsletter). Please remember to write your name and address on the entry. 1st Prize: \$25; 2nd: \$15; 3rd: \$10.

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| T | H | I | R | T | Y | S | I | L | V | E | R | S | F | K |
| L | S | S | M | P | F | S | T | N | E | L | A | T | I | M |
| I | E | T | O | A | I | O | O | T | O | B | G | N | O | R |
| V | R | O | D | L | S | O | N | V | E | S | G | N | V | E |
| E | U | L | S | A | H | E | E | H | U | A | E | O | I | N |
| S | S | E | I | C | M | O | S | I | R | Y | B | M | N | O |
| T | A | N | W | E | F | F | R | T | L | L | D | O | E | S |
| O | E | M | N | M | O | A | A | E | O | S | E | L | Y | L |
| C | R | O | O | N | N | X | N | O | A | P | L | O | A | A |
| K | T | N | E | E | E | D | D | I | R | A | P | S | R | G |
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| Y | U | Y | X | R | O | A | T | U | E | A | I | N | L | D |
| Q | T | E | S | N | N | E | E | D | Y | B | R | I | O | O |
| V | S | U | E | A | H | C | C | A | Z | L | C | K | G | R |
| I | L | Y | D | L | E | I | F | S | R | E | T | T | O | P |

- |                    |                     |                    |
|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Ananias         | 11. King Artaxerxes | 20. Prodigal Son   |
| 2. Atonement       | 12. King Solomon    | 21. Queen of Sheba |
| 3. Blood Money     | 13. Livestock       | 22. Stolen Money   |
| 4. Crippled Beggar | 14. Love of Money   | 23. Talents        |
| 5. Denarius        | 15. Moneylenders    | 24. Thirty Silvers |
| 6. Duty            | 16. Needy           | 25. Treasures      |
| 7. Ezra            | 17. Palace          | 26. Vineyard       |
| 8. Fish            | 18. Parable         | 27. Wisdom         |
| 9. Gold            | 19. Potter's Field  | 28. Zacchaeus      |
| 10. Judas          |                     |                    |

The Mystery Answer is: \_\_\_\_\_.



Access your accounts by calling . . .  
**620.345.2980 or 620.345.3300 - 7 days a week**

