



**Pikes Peak
Credit Union**

It's Your Money

JULY 2019
NEWSLETTER

REFINANCE your auto loan from another lender and:

- We will **BEAT** your current interest rate by at least **1%***
- Make **NO PAYMENTS** for 90 days*
- \$25 will be **DONATED** in your name to the charity of your choice*



There are many local charities that could benefit from the \$25 donation like the following: Rescued Hearts, Teller County Regional Animal Shelter, Care and Share, Springs Rescue Mission, The Home Front Cares, CASA of the Pikes Peak Region, Little Chapel Food Pantry...or you can choose your own charity that is near and dear to your heart.

*APR = Annual Percentage Rate. We will beat your auto loan interest rate with another lender by at least 1% or our published rate, whichever is better for the member. Floor rate is 3.74% APR for up to 60 months. Rate may be higher for longer terms. Offer does not apply to auto loans already financed with Pikes Peak CU. Subject to credit and collateral approval. Offer may change without notice. Term limits may apply and depend on creditworthiness and vehicle details. Verification of your current interest rate is required. Interest rates are subject to change and are based on creditworthiness. Other restrictions may apply. Interest will continue to accrue during payment deferral period. Charity must be a 501(c)(3). Contact a PPCU representative for full promotion details.

Annual Meeting Results

Pikes Peak Credit Union's 87th Annual Membership Meeting was held on May 11, 2019 in Cripple Creek, Colorado. An election of the Board of Directors was held and many prizes were given away. Your newly elected officers are Incumbents Aura Patterson and Leo Winand.

Your officials for the next year are:

Board of Directors:

Kathy Pullara, Chairperson
Frank Otoupalik, Vice Chairperson
Aura Patterson, Secretary
Jack Menard, Treasurer
Paul Edie, Director
Mike Cliett, Director
Leo Winand, Director

Supervisory Committee:

Kat McNally, Chairperson
Mary Killoran, Secretary
Sam Washburn, Member
Julie Coleman, Member

Beware of Online Romance Scams



Romance scams are different from other scams. They prey on lonely people looking to connect with someone. Last year, people reported losing \$143 million to romance scams – a higher total than any other type of scam reported to the Federal Trade Commission. And, reports of romance scams are on the rise.

What are romance scams? We're not talking about the person you thought was "the one" but ended up being a dud. Romance scammers are hard at work wooing people on dating apps and social media. They may lift photos to create an attractive profile or even steal the identity of a real person. They meet victims, interact with them, and quickly try to get them to move to a different form of communication such as email or texting.

This way, if a website identifies the scammer as being bogus and shuts them down, they are already in contact with their victims elsewhere.

The scammer builds a fake relationship with you, exchanging photos and romantic messages, even talking on the phone or through a webcam. This stage can go on for months. Some scammers even send flowers and small gifts to help build trust. Just when the relationship seems to be getting serious, your new sweetheart has a health issue, family emergency or wants to plan a visit to meet you. No matter the story, the request is the same: they need money. If you send money, the scammer will find ways to keep asking for more.

In reality, there was never an emergency or trip planned. Sometimes the scammer stops communicating altogether if you don't keep sending money. In some cases, victims have been tricked into moving illegal money from other scams (money mule), which is potentially a crime.

How can you avoid romance scams?

- Never send money or gifts to a sweetheart you haven't met in person. If the request for funds is indeed a scam, it may be difficult, if not impossible, to ever recover the money.
- Take it slowly. Ask questions and look for inconsistent answers. Check the person's photo using your search engine's "search by image" feature. If the same picture shows up with a different name, that's a red flag.
- Type the name of the person you met online into Google or Bing and see if anything comes up to confirm or deny their backstory.
- Talk to someone you trust about this new love interest and be open to their perspective. Pay attention if your friends or family are concerned.

If you suspect a romance scam, cut off contact right away. Then, report the scam to the FTC at ftc.gov/complaint. Notify the dating site where you met the scammer, too.

WE ♥ OUR MEMBERS

MEMBER APPRECIATION DAYS

Mark your calendar for our upcoming Member Appreciation Days!

Woodland Park Office
Friday, July 12th
11:30 AM – 1:30 PM

Main Office
Friday, July 19th
11:30 AM – 1:30 PM

We will be serving free beef hot dogs, chips and drinks while we take care of your finances – rain or shine. It's our way of saying **THANK YOU** for being a member of Pikes Peak Credit Union.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS/ HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

JULY

4 - Independence Day (Closed)

12 - Woodland Park Office
Member Appreciation Day

19 - Main Office
Member Appreciation Day

SEPTEMBER

2 - Labor Day (Closed)

23 - Autumn Begins

OCTOBER

14 - Columbus Day (Closed)

31 - Halloween

Pikes Peak Credit Union
www.pikespeakcu.com
(719) 473-5962
Peak Teller: (719) 473-0104

Main Office
1616 N. Circle Drive
Colorado Springs, CO 80909
Fax: (719) 473-5981

Woodland Park Office
720 W. Midland Avenue
Woodland Park, CO 80863
Fax: (719) 687-2574

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