

It's Your Money July 2023 Newsletter

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\*Offer is for a limited time only with approved credit. Interest rates are subject to change without prior notice. Valid on in-house auto loans only. Must be a new loan, no refinances of current loans with PPCU qualify. Rebate is calculated as 1% of the total loan amount. Interest will continue to accrue during payment deferral period. Loan must remain at PPCU for a minimum of 120 days or rebate amount will be added to the loan payoff. Other restrictions apply.

# **Member Appreciation Days Are Back!**

Thank you for choosing Pikes Peak Credit Union as your trusted financial partner. We hope you will join us for free lunch:

Friday, August 4th 11am - 2pm Main Office 1616 N. Circle Drive Colorado Springs, CO 80909 Friday, August 11th 11am - 2pm Woodland Park Office 720 W. Midland Avenue Woodland Park, CO 80863

# **Calendar of Events & Holiday Closings**

<u>July</u> 4 - Independence Day (Closed)

<u>August</u> 4 - Member Appreciation Day at the Main Office 11- Member Appreciation Day at the Woodland Park Office

<u>September</u> 4 - Labor Day (Closed)

<u>October</u> 9 - Columbus Day (Closed)



# Please Read: Most Common Scams Victimizing Our Members

There has been an uptick in crooks scamming our members out of their hard-earning money. The most common scams we see today are romance scams and check scams.

### Romance Scams

Romance scams almost always have the same story...you met someone online, fell in love and now they want to move to your location to be together. But first, they need you to send money for the "move", for a health emergency or for some debt that needs to be paid before they can leave their home to be with you.

After you send a payment, there's an excuse about why they need more money. They will continue giving excuses for more money as long as you continue sending it. Many times, they ask you to send money through wire transfers, Western Union, PayPal, gift cards, Cash App or similar payment methods. There's almost no chance you will get your money back if you send it through these channels.

In reality, the person you're talking to has no intention of being with you and probably isn't even the person you think they are. They will spend an incredible amount of time interacting with you and convincing you that they are real. They may even send pictures of someone else. Oftentimes, the pictures are professional photos of someone much younger that they stole online. We have also seen many cases of the scammer sending a copy of a military ID as "proof" of who they are. These scammers target lonely people. Older folks are also more susceptible to these types of scams but the scammers will prey on anyone of any age.

How to protect yourself from romance scams. You can protect yourself from romance scams by being diligent about who you are talking to online, through texts or on the phone. Never send money unless you have met in person. If you are asked to send a payment to someone with a different name than the person you are talking to, do not send the payment because **THAT IS ALWAYS A SCAM**.

# Check Scams

Check scams involve someone giving you a check or money order and asking you to send part of the money back or to provide goods or services in return. After you deposit or cash the check or money order and send the money, you learn that the check sent to you was fraudulent. Not only will you lose the money you sent, you'll also be responsible for paying back your financial institution for the amount of the bad check. You could also be charged with a crime if you participate in a scam as a money mule.

Common check scams include work at home scams, mystery shopper scams, foreign lottery scams, property rental scams and scams related to the sale of goods or services.

How to protect yourself from check scams. Be cautious about accepting checks from someone you don't know or haven't met in person. Call or visit the branch of the financial institution on which the check is drawn on but don't trust the phone number on the check; look it up yourself. REMEMBER – IF THE PERSON ASKS YOU TO RETURN SOME OR ALL OF THE MONEY FROM A CHECK, IT'S ALWAYS A SCAM. EVERY...SINGLE...TIME!

# **Annual Meeting Results**

Our 91st Annual Membership Meeting was held at the DoubleTree by Hilton in Colorado Springs on May 13, 2023. An election of the Board of Directors was held. Your newly elected officers are Kathy Pullara (Incumbent) and Jack Menard (Incumbent). The existing Supervisory Committee members were reappointed.

Your officials for the next year are:

### **Board of Directors:**

# Supervisory Committee:

Kathy Pullara, Chairperson Mike Cliett, Vice Chairperson Aura Patterson, Secretary Jack Menard, Treasurer Frank Otoupalik, Director Mary Killoran, Director Anjoleen Himes, Director Patricia Haggett, Chairperson Sam Washburn, Secretary Gilbert Garcia, Member Fred Mueller, Member

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Federally Insured by NCUA

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