

WINTER 2013 NEWSLETTER

News and Events for ElecTel Cooperative Federal Credit Union Members

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Letter from the CEO



Nancy Long, CEO
ElecTel Cooperative FCU

Can you believe the New Year is here? It's officially 2013, and the New Year comes with new beginnings and many resolutions. Throughout the winter newsletter, we have dedicated several articles to helping you with any financial resolutions you may have made. It's a fact that over 50% of all resolutions made are related to finances, however 85% of people never see those resolutions become reality. If you've made some resolutions this year in relation to your finances, we are here to help. Not only can we help refinance your loans to lower monthly payments and help you save money, but we also offer free financial counseling from our partners at BALANCE. The trained professionals at BALANCE don't judge, and have helped thousands of credit union members nationwide get their finances back in order.

We are also offering a promotional VISA rate of 5.99% APR* on any balance transfers and purchases made on your ElecTel Cooperative VISA from January 15th through March 15th 2013. This is not a "teaser" rate like many credit card companies will offer. This rate is good for the LIFE of the balance on any balance transfers and purchases made between January 15th and March 15th 2013. If you racked up some credit card debt over the holidays on another card with a higher interest rate, now is the time to transfer that balance over to your ElecTel Cooperative VISA. Or maybe you have been waiting to make that big purchase but do not want to take out a loan. Use your ElecTel Cooperative VISA and take advantage of this promotional rate before it's too late. If you don't have an ElecTel Cooperative VISA, apply today either online at www.electelccu.org or call 800-849-5600.

*APR = Annual Percentage Rate

As your new year gets under way, we here at ElecTel Cooperative look forward to being a part of your financial success in 2013!

Nancy Long

Overdraft Privilege Notice

Just a reminder about our Overdraft Privilege service which is offered to all members with accounts in good standing with ElecTel Cooperative Federal Credit Union. This Overdraft Privilege is made available up to \$500, and is not a line of credit. This means that should you inadvertently overdraw your checking account, we will have the discretion to pay the overdraft, subject to the limit of your overdraft privilege and the amount of the overdraft fee. An overdraft fee of \$23 will be charged for handling each item.

When your items are paid, this service will help save you the embarrassment and inconvenience of a returned item as well as the additional fee normally charged to you by merchants for items returned to them. This privilege is available for share drafts, ACH transactions, and for items presented at the teller window.

Please contact us at 1-800-849-5600, or email us at memberservices@electelccu.org for additional information and to opt-in.

Holiday Closings

New Year's Day:

Tuesday, January 1st

President's Day:

Monday, February 18th

Fan us on Facebook!

Don't forget to "fan" ElecTel Cooperative on Facebook! You can keep up with what's happening at your credit union AND our community on the ElecTel Cooperative Facebook page! *We're also on Twitter!*



ElecTel Cooperative Federal Credit Union



twitter.com/ElectelCoop

New Website

We are planning on rolling out a new website in 2013, but we want to hear from you. What features of a new ElecTel website would you find helpful? How can we make your online banking experience easier for you? Email your suggestions for the new website to memberservices@electelccu.org and you'll be entered to win a \$100 ElecTel Cooperative VISA Gift Card!

Notice of Annual Meeting for Members of ElecTel Cooperative Federal Credit Union

The 44th Annual Meeting of the members of ElecTel Cooperative Federal Credit Union will be held on April 24-25, 2013 at the North Carolina Electric Cooperatives headquarters, 3400 Sumner Boulevard, Raleigh, North Carolina.

Train Like Rocky Balboa: The 90-Day Financial Fitness Program

Remember the training sequence in “Rocky?” He starts with a short run and small weights, then heavier weights, then there’s the climactic moment when he runs up the steps, with kids cheering in the background.

Each of us can be our own financial Rocky, beginning with relatively easy things like defining goals and making a budget, working up to heavy lifting like balancing a checkbook and investing. (It’s unlikely, however, that crowds of children will be screaming, “Go!” when you open your 401(k).) Here’s your own fiscal training program – 90 days to financial fitness.

Step One, Week One: Set Specific Goals

Rocky Balboa wanted to win a professional boxing match. What do you want to accomplish? Would you like to take your family to Disney World for a vacation? Or maybe you dream of buying a house. Decide what you would like to achieve, and find out how much it will cost. Remember, at ElecTel we want to help make your dreams come true.

Step Two, Week Two: Make a Budget

Now it’s time to make a budget. Once you know how much you have coming in and how much you must spend every month, you can see how much is left for saving. You already know how much you need to meet your goal. This step will help you figure out how much you can save every month. ElecTel offers several savings options to help you with your savings goals. Now write down your expenses and your income, using this budget worksheet. Now, see which expenses you might be able to reduce or eliminate. There’s also a good chance that if you have a loan somewhere other than ElecTel, you could lower your interest rate and/or monthly payments by refinancing it at ElecTel. Lower monthly payments will help put money back into your budget each month to help with paying bills or adding to your monthly savings goals.

Step Three, Weeks Three and Four: Living Within Your Budget

Now, here’s how to see if your budget is practical. Write down everything you buy in one week. You may be surprised at how much you spend on things that don’t really matter that much to you.

Step Four, Week Five: Putting Money in Savings

Now you have a better idea how much money you can save. Armed with this knowledge, decide how much to save every month. Most employers can set up an automatic withdrawal from your paycheck into an ElecTel savings account. That way, the transfer happens automatically and you never even have to worry about it.

Step Five, Week Six: Balancing Your Checkbook

By now, you’re cruising along like Rocky, making gain after gain. If you haven’t already, celebrate with friends and family. And now that your confidence is high, grab your checkbook, your monthly statement and a calculator for the next step, balancing your checkbook. In this process, you’re comparing the monthly statement from ElecTel against your check register. One of the easiest, quickest ways to manage your checking account is online – you can do all your checkbook balancing without the bother of paper and pencil. ElecTel offers e-statements that are more secure than receiving paper statements, and can easily and securely be stored on your computer.

Weeks Seven, Eight, Nine: Stay Balanced

Keep balancing your checkbook, and don’t hesitate to ask for help if you run into problems. You can get assistance from ElecTel, or contact BALANCE at (888) 456-2227.

Week Ten: Take Stock

It’s entirely understandable if you hit a few snags along the way. In fact, it would be surprising if you didn’t.

Take a good look at things that you have not been able to achieve on a regular basis, and figure out if it is realistic to think you can achieve them in the future. If not, then do what the GPS unit always says when you miss an exit: “Recalculate.”

Week Eleven: Investing in a 401(k)

Now it’s time to take advantage of your employer’s tax-deferred investment plan. These accounts, known as 401(k) or 403(b), are a good deal. No taxes are due on your contributions or earnings until you retire and begin withdrawing the funds. Tax-deferred savings means that your investments can grow much faster than they would otherwise. The same is true of IRAs, although the maximum amount you can invest annually in an IRA is substantially less than what you can put in a 401(k) or 403(b). So if your employer doesn’t offer a tax-deferred plan, open an IRA or a Roth IRA and reap the tax benefit come April 15.

Week Twelve: Congratulations!

Pat yourself on the back, Rocky – and take a run up those steps if you like. You did it. Take a moment to look back on all you’ve learned, and keep up the good work!

Investment Rates

Account	Minimum	Dividend Rate	APY*
Savings	\$25	.15%	.15%
Special Savings	\$10	.15%	.15%
Checking***	\$500	.10%	.10%
Money Market***	\$500	.25%	.25%
Christmas Club	\$10	.15%	.15%
IRA Savings	\$10	.15%	.15%
IRA Money Market	\$500	.25%	.25%

(*Annual Percentage Yield)

(***\$500 minimum average daily balance to earn interest)

Share Certificate

90-day	\$1,000	.25%	.25%
180-day	\$1,000	.30%	.30%
12 month	\$500	.40%	.40%
24 month	\$500	.65%	.65%
36 month	\$500	1.00%	1.00%

IRA Share Certificate

90-day	\$1,000	.35%	.35%
180-day	\$1,000	.40%	.40%
12 month	\$500	.50%	.50%
24 month	\$500	.75%	.75%
36 month	\$500	1.29%	1.30%

All dividends are compounded daily & posted monthly.
Early withdrawal subject to penalty on share certificates & IRA share certificates.

HELP Line of Credit (Up to 90% LTV)

4.25% Variable APR** (**Annual Percentage Rate)

Loan Rates

Loan Type	Term	Fixed APR**	Max APR**
Signature Loan	Up to 12 months	As low as 6.7%	12.95%
	13-24 months	As low as 10%	16.25%
	25-36 months	As low as 12%	17.95%
	37-48 months	As low as 13%	17.95%
Visa Platinum		As low as 9.90%	17.90%
New Auto	Up to 36 months	As low as 2.99%	9.74%
	37-48 months	As low as 2.99%	10.24%
	49-60 months	As low as 2.99%	10.24%
	61-72 months	As low as 3.99%	12.20%
<i>finance of \$25k min</i>	73-84 months	As low as 5.99%	13.00%
Used Auto (Model Year)			
2002 & Older	Up to 24 months	As low as 2.99%	9.74%
2003-2011	25-36 months	As low as 2.99%	9.74%
2005-2011	37-48 months	As low as 2.99%	10.24%
2008-2011	49-60 months	As low as 2.99%	10.24%
2010-2011	61-70 months	As low as 3.99%	12.20%
2012 \$25k min	73-84 months	As low as 5.99%	13.00%
<i>(vehicles with over 100k miles can only be financed for up to 36 months)</i>			
RV/Watercraft	Up to 72 months	6.95%	
<i>finance of \$30k min</i>	73-120 months	8.95%	
Lawn, Garden & Farm Equipment			
	Up to 60 months	8.90%	
Other Collateral	Up to 60 months	8.90%	
Share Secured	Up to 60 months	6.90%	
Energy Smart	Up to 60 months	3.99%	
Home Equity Loans (Equity Wise up to 100% LTV)			
	Up to 60 months	7.25%	
	61-84 months	7.50%	
	85-120 months	7.95%	
	121-180 months	8.50%	

Contact ElecTel for more information about rates & fees.

MAIN OFFICE

3400 Sumner Blvd.
Raleigh, NC 27616
800.849.5600

PIEDMONT EMC BRANCH

2500 Highway 86 South
Hillsborough, NC 27278
877.469.0255

ROXBORO BRANCH

1125 Oxford Road
Roxboro, NC 27573
336.503.6700

WWW.ELECTELCCU.ORG

Financial Condition

ASSETS

	Month Ended October, 2012
Gross Loans	27,083,647
Allowance For Loan Loss	-90,659
Net Loans	26,992,988
Cash	4,413,269
Investment CD's	6,294,000
NCUSIF Dep	340,648
FCCCU Capital	305,715
Net Fixed Assets	10,242
Other Assets	165,065
TOTAL ASSETS	38,521,927

LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

Total Liabilities	-198,423
Share Accounts	20,915,491
CD's	13,639,866
Regular Reserves	1,138,804
Undivided Earnings	2,802,444
Net Income	223,745
TOTAL LIABILITIES & MEMBERS' EQUITY	38,521,927