

Kūi Kā Lono

The Quarterly Member Newsletter of Kekaha Federal Credit Union
April 2006

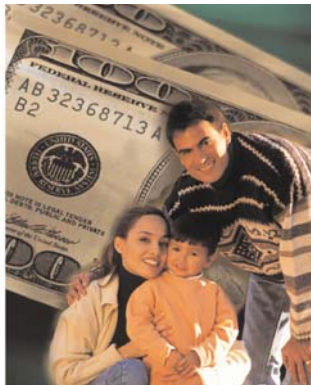
Are you getting the tax credit you're due? Shield yourself from swindles

THE EARNED INCOME Tax Credit (EITC) is a credit for people who earn low-to-moderate incomes. EITC can reduce your taxes and can mean a refund. EITC helps working families and individuals keep more of what they work for, yet many tax payers are unaware of this tax credit.

How do you know if you qualify for EITC? In order to qualify, you must meet these requirements:

- You must have a valid Social Security Number.
- You must have earned income from employment or from self-employment.
- Your filing status cannot be married, filing separately.
- You must be a U.S. citizen or resident alien all year, or a nonresident alien married to a U.S. citizen or resident alien and filing a joint return.
- You cannot be a qualifying child of another person.
- If you do not have a qualifying child, you must
 - be age 25 but under 65 at the end of the year
 - live in the United States for more than half the year
 - not qualify as a dependent of another person
- Cannot file Form 2555 or 2555-EZ (related to foreign earn income)
- Earned income and adjusted gross income (AGI) must each be less than
 - \$35,263 (\$37,263 married filing jointly) with two or more qualifying children;
 - \$31,030 (\$33,030 married filing jointly) with one qualifying child;
 - \$11,750 (\$13,750 married filing jointly) with no qualifying children.
- Investment income must be \$2,700 or less for the year.

Find out if you are eligible for the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) by answering some questions and providing basic income information using the online EITC Assistant at www.irs.gov.



CRIMINALS TAKE ADVANTAGE of innocent consumers daily through checks, ATM, and Internet scams. These fraudsters use the latest technology to pull off their scams, so you need to know the latest trends to protect yourself.

Phishing scams

This Internet scam has already claimed one million victims. "Phishers" send fraudulent e-mails containing authentic looking logos and graphics and ask for financial information. The newest scam is activated

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www.kekahafcu.org

Don't get swindled

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when you simply open an e-mail. Once infected, the phishers change the IP address in your PC host's file to their choosing, associates the IP address with financial institution Web sites, and forces your browser to go to fake Web sites.

Tip: Change online banking and shopping account passwords every three to six months. To avoid being led to fraudulent Web sites, retype Web addresses in your browser rather than click through e-mail links.

Check scams

Fraudsters increasingly use e-mail to contact victims. The most common check scam is the "Nigerian Advance Fee Fraud." You receive an email from a Nigerian "government official" or "business man" requesting you deposit a large sum of their money in your bank account. You're told you'll be sent a check for an extra sum and you're asked to wire back the excess money – you just need to provide your account number. The check they send is bogus and they now have your account number!

Scammers purport to be from other countries and claim you can collect on a sweepstakes or pay you to work at home. The realistic-looking checks are forgeries, but victims are responsible for money withdrawn against bad checks.

Tip: Don't send refunds or deliver goods in the time it takes cashiers' checks to clear.

ATM scams

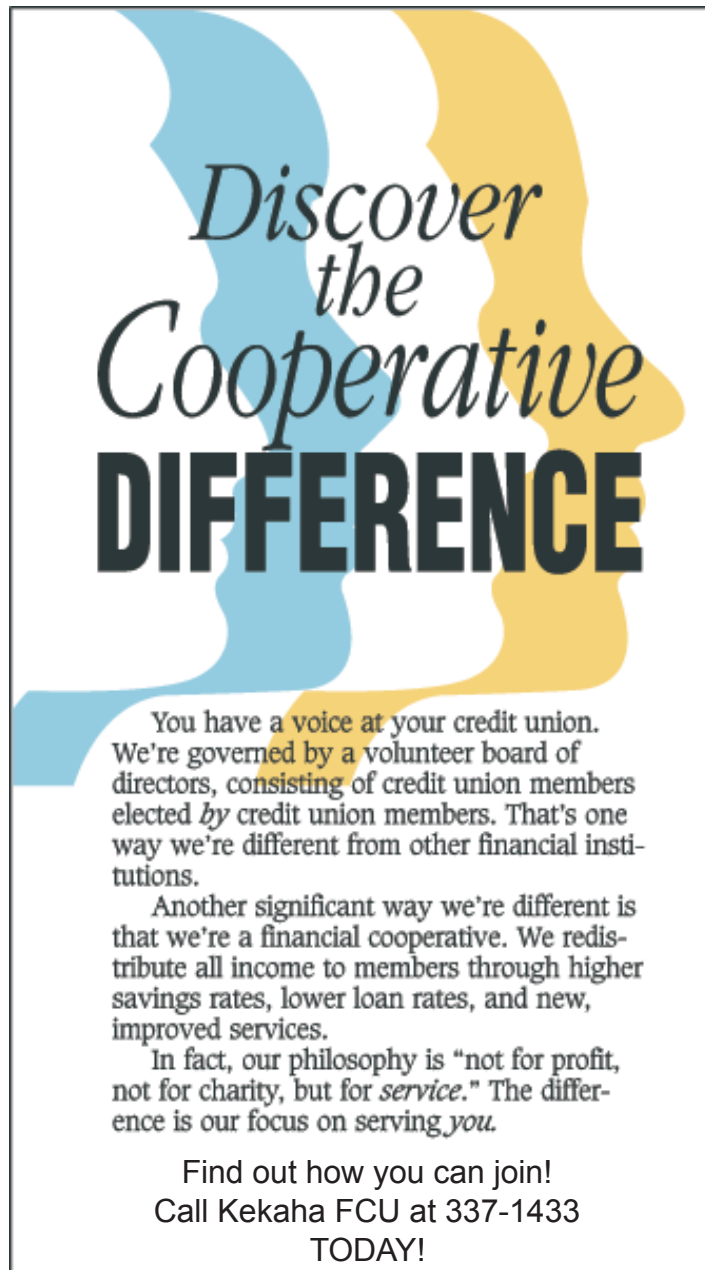
Skimming is the newest ATM scam. Using a skimmer—a card-swipe device that reads your ATM card—the fraudster uses a blank card to encode informa-

tion from your ATM card and create a counterfeit. Your PIN is confiscated through a small camera mounted on the ATM. You won't know you've been scammed because your ATM card hasn't been stolen and still works at other machines.

Tip: Be on the lookout for anything out of the ordinary at the ATM, such as odd-looking equipment or wires. Monitor accounts regularly for unusual activity.

If you feel your credit union accounts have been com-

promised, contact the credit union immediately.



*Discover
the
Cooperative*
DIFFERENCE

You have a voice at your credit union. We're governed by a volunteer board of directors, consisting of credit union members elected *by* credit union members. That's one way we're different from other financial institutions.

Another significant way we're different is that we're a financial cooperative. We redistribute all income to members through higher savings rates, lower loan rates, and new, improved services.

In fact, our philosophy is "not for profit, not for charity, but for *service*." The difference is our focus on serving *you*.

Find out how you can join!
Call Kekaha FCU at 337-1433
TODAY!



Kekaha FCU honored in Washington D.C.



Kekaha FCU Manager Scot Tsuchiyama accepts a national first-place award in the Credit Union National Association's (CUNA) Dora Maxwell Award. The award was presented during CUNA's Governmental Affairs Conference in Washington D.C. on February 21. The award recognizes the credit union's outstanding contribution to the community. Congratulating Scot are (L) John Kebles president of Choice One FCU, PA., and U.S. Congressman Ed Case.

College scholarship deadline coming soon!

IF YOU ARE a qualified graduating high school senior and a member or within the field of membership of Kekaha FCU, scholarship money is available to you! But you need to get your application in right away—the deadline is just around the corner.

Applications are available at Kekaha FCU and Waimea High School. If you already have your scholarship application, remember the deadline to deliver or mail it to Kekaha FCU is April 30.

Scholarship applicants:

- must be a member or within the field of membership of Kekaha FCU;
- must be a graduate of a recognized high school or be graduated from one within four months of the date the application is submitted;
- must qualify for entrance to an undergraduate university, college, or technical school in the United States through entrance examinations or otherwise for the fall term of

the year the application is submitted; and

- must be of sound mind and good character and intent on pursuing higher education.

A committee composed of appointed members of Kekaha FCU will select from among the applications the individual to be

awarded the scholarship together with an alternate.

Scholastic grades, school and community activities, citizenship, and character will be considered in awarding the scholarship. Selection will be announced by May 12, 2006.

JUMBO RATE

4.88% APY*

\$50,000 or more deposit

One-year term

Annual Percentage Yield

Don't Let This Deal Get Away!

*Annual Percentage Yield as of 3/17/06, rate subject to change without notice. Minimum balance to open an account and obtain the stated APY is \$50,000.00. A penalty may be imposed for a withdrawal prior to maturity. Certificates automatically renew at maturity at the then-current rate for the same term.

Kekaha Federal Credit Union
P.O. Box 609
Kekaha, Hawaii 96752-0609
Phone: 337-1433
Fax: 337-9591
E-mail: info@kekahafcu.org
Website: www.kekahafcu.org

Hours:
Mon-Fri
8:00am - 4:00pm

Scot Tsuchiyama
Manager/Treasurer

Owen Moe
President



KEKAHA FEDERAL
CREDIT
UNION

Call for a quote
and we'll give you \$15.*



Call 533-AIGH (2444)

for an auto insurance quote and ask for
the "ShareBucks" promotion.

Neighbor Islands Toll-Free: 1-877-533-2444



*Promotion valid from 4/1/06 - 9/30/06. \$15 will be awarded in the form of a ShareBucks certificate which must be deposited into your participating credit union share or share draft account for immediate credit. Limit one \$15 ShareBucks certificate quote incentive per household, per year. Some restrictions apply. Offer subject to change without notice.

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Bring in this coupon, apply for a new auto loan, and we'll
deposit \$200 in your Kekaha FCU share account
upon approval of your loan.



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Offer Valid
through
June 30, 2006

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For a CAR of my OWN
With an interest rate
I can AFFORD!" ♪

