

# Newsletter

For Members of La Capitol Federal Credit Union

January 2019



## We saved our members more than \$11 million dollars in 2018

**PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE**  
Michael Hooper  
President/CEO of La Cap

**As we celebrate the New Year, like many of you, I can't help but reflect on the past 12 months. Last year was particularly good for La Capitol Federal Credit Union, which means 2018 was a good year for you. We set goals at the beginning of the year, and we did very well in meeting those goals.**

As the CEO of our credit union, the question I get the most when I meet people that aren't members is, "What's the difference between a bank and a credit union?" While I have tried many different ways to answer that question over the years, the best way I have found to reach people is to tell them what it means to their pocketbook.

Credit union membership can play a role in achieving your financial goals. In 2018, La Cap saved our members more than \$11 million dollars. That's an average of more than \$250 per household.\* The savings come from the differences in La Cap's pricing and bank pricing.

### Member Rewards - \$60,000

Your credit union is a financial cooperative whose purpose is not to make the most profit but to improve the financial well-being of its members. One of the ways we do this is our member rewards program. Each month, we return money to our members through random drawings of those members who take advantage of credit union services. In 2018, we awarded 1,200 members a total of more than \$60,000.

### Choice and Choice Plus Checking - \$500,000

Our Choice and Choice Plus checking accounts returned \$500,000 to members who use their debit cards regularly in the form of dividends on balances and ATM fee refunds. If you use your debit card at least 15 times a month, then our Choice Checking accounts are for you.

### Savings Rates, Loan Rates and Fees - \$10 Million Plus

The largest portion of the money we return comes in the form of lower rates on

loans and higher rates on savings and share certificates, and lower fees. If you want to save money in the New Year, then you should consider using La Cap for more of your financial needs. The more you use the credit union for your financial needs, the more you can save. The household with the home loan, vehicle loan, credit card, and checking account all through La Cap is saving much more than the \$250 average each year.

### Planning for 2019

Just like La Cap set and surpassed its goals, you, too, can (and should) set and surpass personal financial goals. It is important to make a plan for financial success, and this time of year is a perfect time to make that plan. Here are some tips to achieve the financial goals you should be setting for yourself as you approach the New Year:

- 1 Find your "why."** Don't just think about what you want to do. Ask yourself why you want or need to set financial goals. Setting goals will increase the likelihood that you will achieve them. Results of the ninth annual America Saves Week survey have found that only two-fifths – 40% - of U.S. households report good or excellent progress in "meeting their savings needs."
- 2 Create a budget.** It sounds simple, but too many people don't have a household budget. It is important to assess your incoming cash, and balance that amount against all known expenses, especially those that recur each month.
- 3 Begin a savings plan.** Every La Cap member has a savings account. Use it. Even if you begin by saving one dollar per day, and your pocket change, that will amount to approximately \$40 per month.

As long as you leave the money in your account until you absolutely need it, that amount will continue to grow. Why? In part because La Cap has great dividend rates!

**4 Make your goals SMART.** SMART stands for Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic and Time-bound. Are you saving for a vacation? Are you saving for an emergency fund? Make sure your goals are SMART, and you are more likely to achieve them.

**5 Get the whole family involved.** It is unlikely that a family will meet any goal if only one or two members of the family are on board. Have family meetings to discuss the goals, and how to achieve them. You may be surprised at some of the good ideas you hear.

**6 Treat yourself.** Setting goals shouldn't always feel like a chore. Once you've saved for that emergency fund, have your retirement funds on track, and have your debt under control, you can start saving for more exciting things, such as vacations or an addition to your house.

**For more information about your new and improved checking account, don't hesitate to call us at 800.522.2478, visit [lacapfcu.org](http://lacapfcu.org), or stop by your nearest La Cap branch to speak to a friendly member of our staff.**

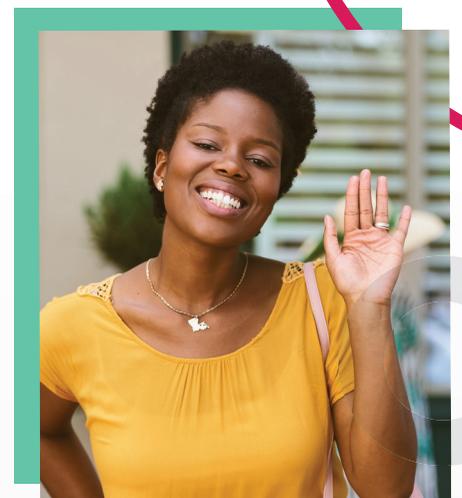
\*The estimated total benefits of credit union membership are calculated by accounting for differences in credit union and bank pricing. Specifically, average credit union savings account yields, loan interest rates and fees are compared to average bank savings account yields, loan interest rates and fees. The interest rate differences are then applied to respective average loan and savings balances. Fee differences are weighted and applied to credit union non-interest income to obtain the total estimated benefits arising from fees. Source: Datatrac, NCUA, and CUNA. (1)Assumes 2.1 credit union members per household.

## Say Hello to Hassle-Free Credit Cards.

**With our Prime Plus Visa credit card, you'll enjoy:**

- No annual fee — **EVER**
- 0% interest on balance transfers for 12 months\*
- 1.99% interest on new purchases for 12 months\*

**Talk to a teller today, or visit [HelloLaCap.com](http://HelloLaCap.com) to apply online.**



**La Capitol**  
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION  
Federally Insured by NCUA

\*APR = Annual Percentage Rate. Our Prime Plus Visa has the lowest rate of any credit card we offer. The introductory APR on purchases is 1.99% for twelve months for purchases made in the first 90 days after account opening. The introductory APR on balance transfers is 0.00% for twelve months for balance transfers made in the first 90 days after account opening. Purchases and balance transfers made after the introductory rate periods will be charged at the non-introductory rate. The introductory rate does not apply to cash advances. The introductory rate will end twelve months from account opening. Your rate for purchases, balance transfers and unpaid balances after the introductory period will be adjusted to the non-introductory rates, based on your creditworthiness. Existing La Capitol credit card balances or loan accounts are excluded from this 0.00% balance transfer offer. Membership eligibility required. Visit [lacapfcu.org](http://lacapfcu.org) for full membership eligibility requirements.

# Featured Rates

OTHER RATES AND TERMS ARE AVAILABLE. SEE ALL OF OUR RATES AT LACAPFCU.ORG.

## New Vehicles

APR as low as

# 3.59%

(60 mos.)

No Payment for up to 90 Days

## Real Estate

Visit [lacapfcu.org](http://lacapfcu.org)  
for Rates

## Signature

APR as low as

# 6.99%

## Choice Plus & Choice Checking

Earn

# 4.25%<sup>3</sup> APY

Dividend on up to \$3,000 each month

**1. APR = Annual Percentage Rate. Other rates & terms are available. The actual Annual Percentage Rate (APR) for which you qualify will be quoted based on your credit history, loan amount & the term of your loan, and can include possible discounts for which you must qualify. You can elect to defer payments for up to 90 days (some restrictions apply); interest continues to accrue during deferment period. Loan products are available to qualified, creditworthy La Capitol members. Rate may increase subject to final Loan to Value (LTV). Excessive vehicle mileage (gasoline or diesel) will be subject to additional rate surcharge. Relationship Discounts may apply; see terms below. Rates quoted are subject to change without notice.**

**2. APR = Annual Percentage Rate. Loan products available to qualified, creditworthy members. APR listed for a loan amount of at least \$10,000 and a term of at least 48 months. The amount of your loan and term may affect your interest rate. Other rates are available. Ask for complete details. Relationship Discounts may apply; see terms below. Rates quoted are subject to change without notice.**

**3. APY = Annual Percentage Yield. La Cap Checking (Share draft) Accounts are variable rate accounts. La Cap may change the dividend rates for your account as determined by the credit union Board of Directors. Dividends are posted and compounded monthly. Applicable fees and conditions could reduce the earnings on your account. Qualification to earn dividends on Choice Plus account: 15 or more posted non-ATM debit card transactions per month. Qualification to earn dividends on Choice account: 20 or more posted non-ATM debit card transactions per month. The dividend rates for Choice and Choice Plus accounts that meet minimum debit card transaction requirements: 4.25% APY on balances up to but not exceeding \$3,000, 2.00% on balances above \$3,000 but not exceeding \$10,000, 0.10% on balances exceeding \$10,000. If qualifications stated are not met: 0.10% on entire balance. A low balance fee of \$8 will be assessed if the average daily account balance is less than \$1,000 or if the debit card transaction requirements are not met. Must meet membership eligibility and criteria for opening a Choice or Choice Plus checking account. The minimum balance required to open a Choice or Choice Plus checking account is \$50.**

**Relationship Discounts - With our Relationship Discounts, whenever you establish a new qualifying loan, you'll enjoy a .05% discount on your loan rate, up to a maximum of .25%, when you currently have one or more of the following La Cap products and/or elect payment protection services: Credit Life, Credit Disability, Mortgage, Home Equity Line of Credit, Visa. La Cap membership is required. The Relationship discount product and services listed above are each valued at a .05% discount. This discount is reduced from your qualified base loan rate. If you have one of La Cap's existing loan products or select credit life or credit disability, you will qualify for .05% discount. A combination of two products = .15% discount. A combination of 3 or more products = .25% discount. Contact a La Capitol FCU representative for complete details. Relationship Pricing terms and conditions are subject to change.**

## La Cap's 58th Annual Meeting

La Capitol Federal Credit Union will hold its 58th Annual Meeting on Tuesday, March 26, 2019, at 5:00 p.m. in the Baton Rouge Main Office. The Annual Meeting is an opportunity to meet with the elected members who serve voluntarily to represent you. The officials will present reports, and the operation of La Cap will be reviewed.

Nominations for maturing terms on the Board of Directors have been submitted by Nominating Committee members: Mark Drennen, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, President/CEO of Capital Area Finance Authority; Betsy Hooper, La Capitol FCU President Emeritus; J.C. Willie, LA Real Estate Commission and Real Estate Appraisers State Board of Certification, retired; Jimmy Thibodeaux, Board Liaison. This committee serves a valuable function in selecting members who can fulfill the fiduciary duties of a La Cap official with knowledge and responsibility. The complexity of a financial institution such as La Cap increases every day, so it is important that knowledgeable and capable members be elected to provide meaningful service for the credit union.

The following members have been nominated for the Board of Directors:

### Rodney Braxton (three year term)

Rodney Braxton joined La Cap's Advisory committee in June 2014 and was appointed to the Board of Directors in March of 2017. Rodney is an attorney and the President of Southern Strategy Group's Louisiana office.

### Terrence Ginn (three year term)

Terrence Ginn serves as Deputy Commissioner for Finance & Administration for the Louisiana Board of Regents. He was a Baton Rouge Business Report Top Forty under 40 honoree in 2014.

### Cindy Rougeou (three year term)

Cindy Rougeou has been Executive Director of the Louisiana State Employees Retirement System (LASERS) since March 2006. She previously served as Deputy Director and Chief Legal Counsel for Louisiana Public Broadcasting. She is a former Undersecretary for Management and Finance for the Louisiana Department of State, a former assistant attorney general. Rougeou also served as legal counsel for the Louisiana House of Representatives, Committee on House and Governmental Affairs. She is past president of both the National Association of State Retirement Administrators and the Louisiana Association of Public Employees' Retirement System (LAPERS).

**Nomination papers must be received at La Cap's main office in Baton Rouge no later than 5:00 p.m. CST on Thursday, Feb. 14, 2019. There will be no nominations from the floor at the Annual Meeting. Contact Michael Hooper, President and CEO, at La Cap's main office for details on the official procedure for submitting nominations.**

## Resolve to Resist Online Scammers

As we make a fresh start for the new year, now is a great time to remember that online scammers are resolved to do better too. According to CNBC, online scams and identity theft cost consumers over \$16 billion in 2016.

Here are a few basic steps to you can take to shop more safely online:

- 1 Look for the "s" in "https." The "s" in the opening URL stands for security. Always look for "https" – for example, <https://www.lacapfcu.org> – before sharing any information about your identity or your credit card/bank information. The "https" means the site uses secured, encrypted technology.
- 2 Don't use a public Wi-Fi to shop online. Unsecured hotspots can be used by thieves to peek at your transactions. Do not make online purchases or financial transactions while connected to a public Wi-Fi.
- 3 Don't use simple passwords. The passwords you use on websites that store personal or financial information should not be easy to guess. Don't use birthdays or a child's name, or any other information that can easily be gleaned from your social media accounts. Use passwords with a combination of lower and upper case letters, as well as special characters and numbers.
- 4 Avoid phishing emails. Your inbox may fill with all kinds of "special" offers that you never requested, from online companies unknown to you. Avoid clicking on any links within emails from unknown sources or downloading any attachments. Beware of emails asking you to update your accounts, for example from your credit card company, credit union, bank, tax software provider or internet provider.
- 5 Skip online employment offers. Along with retail "special" offers in your inbox, be very wary of unsolicited job offers – promising "mystery shopping" jobs or work-from-home employment for extra cash. These often are ruses to steal your identity. Think before providing your Social Security number or any other identity information to any online source.
- 6 Shop with reputable online retailers. If a retailer is unknown to you, check them out a bit before providing any information. The Better Business Bureau is a good place to start. Look for customer reviews, either on the company website or on consumer review websites.
- 7 Review financial statements frequently. Keep a close eye on your credit card and/or bank statements. Quickly alert your financial institution to any unauthorized charges or withdrawals.

## Contact Information

### Personal Assistance Line

800.522.2748 or 225.342.5055  
8am-5pm, CST, M-F

### TEL-a-Cap 24/7

800.835.2227 or 225.342.9123

### Fax

800.297.2717 or 225.342.9135

### Website

[lacapfcu.org](http://lacapfcu.org)

## 2017-18 Officials

Michael Hooper, President/CEO

### Board of Directors

Bonita Brown, *Chairman*  
Cindy Rougeou, *Vice Chairman*  
James Thibodeaux, *Treasurer*  
J. Reginald Coco, Jr., *Secretary*  
Rodney Braxton, *Director*  
Terrence Ginn, *Director*  
Beverly Hodges, *Director*  
Don Hutchinson, *Director*  
Christopher Keaton, *Director*  
Jeff LeDuff, *Director*

### Board of Directors

Dana Vicknair, *Director*

### Advisory Committee

David Hooper, *Member*  
Rose Hudson, *Member*  
Clarence Lymon, *Member*  
Murphy Paul, *Member*

### Credit Review Committee

Judy London, *Chairman*  
Aaron McGee, *Member*

### Credit Review Committee

Nancy Reed, *Member*  
Kim Walker, *Member*

### Supervisory Committee

Pat Landry, *Chairman*  
Bob Harper, *Vice Chairman*  
Mary Ginn, *Member*  
Tara LeBlanc, *Member*  
Ernest LeBlanc Jr., *Member*



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