



hartford  
firefighters'  
federal  
credit union

# Newsletter February

## FROM YOUR CEO



It's finally 2022! Another Covid filled year behind us as we all look for some form of normalcy, though I think the definition may have changed. With a 4th variant just announced, we hope everyone makes the choices best suited for their health and safety.

2021 was a tough year. The economy affected our members financially in different ways. We saw deposits increase, less spending and fewer loan requests for lengthy periods throughout the year. This had a slight negative impact on our Capital, but things turned around in the 4th quarter and we were able to finish the year off strong. We almost doubled the income from the prior year, and regained some of the lost capital. Our Assets increased as did our total number of members. We also concluded our debit and credit card conversion in 2021 which brought a series of new digital services for our members including the return of Rewards.

This year will not be without its own challenges. The Fed has indicated up to 3 interest rate hikes, the first to come in March. This will affect our lending rates, though we will try to maintain a favorable rate in the market. The supply chain continues to affect us all and that will probably lead to less purchasing .....though the cost of heating and gasoline will have us all spending more. With an unknown economic future, we remain here to assist our members. If you are considering taking out a loan in the near future, we advise that you act quickly before the Fed makes it more expensive.

As always Be Safe and Stay Healthy!

### Quick Facts: (as of 1/31/2022)

- 1,694** Members
- 3,434** accounts (shares, checking, loans)
- 64%** of all members have checking accounts
- \$25,316,639** in Assets
- \$8,158,409** in Loan Balances
- 10.95%** Capital (Very Strong)

## BEWARE - TAX SCAMS

### Tax Tip 2022-15, January 27, 2022

With the new tax season starting this week, the IRS reminds taxpayers to be aware that criminals continue to make aggressive calls posing as IRS agents in hopes of stealing taxpayer money or personal information.

Here are some telltale signs of a tax scam along with actions taxpayers can take if they receive a scam call.

#### The IRS will never:

- Call to demand immediate payment using a specific payment method such as a prepaid debit card, gift card or wire transfer. Generally, the IRS will first mail a bill to any taxpayer who owes taxes.
- Threaten to immediately bring in local police or other law enforcement groups to have the taxpayer arrested for not paying.
- Demand that taxes be paid without giving taxpayers the opportunity to question or appeal the amount owed.
- Call unexpectedly about a tax refund.

#### Taxpayers who receive these phone calls should:

- Record the number and then hang up the phone immediately.
- Report the call to TIGTA using their [IRS Impersonation Scam Reporting form](#) by calling **800-366-4484**.
- Report the number to [phishing@irs.gov](mailto:phishing@irs.gov) and be sure to put "IRS Phone Scam" in the subject line.

IRS Website - [Taxpayers beware: Tax season is prime time for phone scams | Internal Revenue Service \(irs.gov\)](#)



## OVERDRAFT LINE OF CREDIT MEMBER LOYALTY

We have implemented a **new product** to help when you're a little low on funds in your checking account and have items that need to clear. In the past, you would get an NSF or utilize Courtesy Pay or Balance Transfer, both which comes with a fee.

Now you can apply for a **Line of Credit** that attaches to your checking account. If you need funds, a transfer from a line of credit will take place. **NO FEES.** You will owe \$89 per \$1000 used and pay it back like a loan or credit card. Application and approval required, with Lines up to \$5000 (as qualified). Call Emmy for more information or to apply, or go to our website at <https://www.myhffcuc.org/overdraft-protection/>

for the month of  
**FEBRUARY**

**ALL members will receive .05% off of any Auto or Personal loan for each year they have belonged to the Credit Union. Maximum Discount - 1%**

## CUREWARDS



Life's Just Better with Rewards

Earn points with every swipe of your card. Redeem for valuable

[www.curewards.com](http://www.curewards.com)

Were you aware that your Credit Card purchases are earning you rewards? This feature was the #1 requested benefit that our members asked for during our conversion earlier this year. This was available years back, and it was a great time to provide it once again. Log on to CUREWARDS to check your balance or to redeem.

## CALENDAR

### Important Dates to Remember:

<b>February</b>	21st	<b>CLOSED - President's Day</b>
<b>April</b>	15th	<b>CLOSED - Good Friday</b>
<b>April</b>	26th	<b>ANNUAL MEETING -(Virtual)</b>

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# 71st Annual Meeting

Tuesday, April 26th. This meeting will be held Virtual once again due to the ongoing health concerns related to the pandemic.

*Zoom meeting details will be broadcast via email during the month of April.*

**We are a part of the Allpoint Surchage free ATM NETWORK ACROSS THE U.S.**

**Search from over 55,000 fee-free ATMs providing convenient and free access to your money 24/7.**

To find a Allpoint ATM's near you, our website under "Info & Resources"

<https://www.myhffcuc.org/atm-locator/>

or download the Allpoint locator app to your smartphone

