SIRENNEWS



APRIL 2023

Thank You, Mr. Sweeney

Our Chairperson John Sweeney Retires After More Than 40 Years of Dedicated Credit Union Service

If you have ever had the pleasure of meeting or talking with SF Fire Credit Union Chairperson John Sweeney, we're sure it was memorable, and you walked away with a smile. John has always had a way with members and staff alike - he is the personification of what defines credit unions: leading with both "Head and Heart."

John started his relationship with SF Fire Credit Union as an SFFD firefighter back in 1966. He joined us as a volunteer on the credit committee in 1978, helping us stay relevant and competitive – from installing our first ATM to launching our first debit and credit cards.

He was there when we broke ground at our new headquarters at 3201 California Street, and led us through many mergers including our most recent ones with Bay Media Federal Credit Union and Pacifica Coast Credit Union.

Even though Mr. Sweeney is retiring (and we hope going on many amazing trips and making more memories with his friends and family) we're honored to still have his input as an Emeritus Director.

"We're delighted to continue to have Mr. Sweeney's guidance, helping us with his deep knowledge of the credit union, our members and the SFFD," said Kathy Duvall, President & CEO. John is handing over Chairperson duties to Brook Baker who is a Battalion Chief of the SFFD, and has been a volunteer board member for 13 years.

We look forward to what's to come and are grateful for all of Mr. Sweeney's contributions.

As Mr. Sweeney exits his role, he leaves behind a great legacy of service, community, and specifically education. In his honor, SF Fire Credit Union has created the John E. Sweeney Internship program, which is committed to building the next generation of talent within the credit union movement.

From all of us at SF Fire Credit Union, past, present, and future – we thank you, Mr. Sweeney.



At the 72nd Annual Meeting of the Members







Breaking ground with SF Fire CU Board Members at 3201 California Street

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Did You Know?

At SF Fire Credit Union, we always put you first.

MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT & CEO

KATHY DUVALL

For many of us, spring is a time of welcome change, when we find our footing in the new year and begin to make plans and look ahead. But this year has been a little different. At first, there were questions about whether or not we were entering a recession. More recently, the challenges of a prominent local bank has led people to wonder about the stability of their investments.

A Foggy Economic Outlook

Answering these questions isn't always as straightforward as we'd like it to be. The U.S. economy is complex and surprising things can happen. For example, some of the data we track is beginning to point to a recession while other sources have a mixed outlook.

Overall job growth, income growth and consumer spending have not slowed down, indicating that we are not in a recession. At the same time, increased layoffs suggest a slowdown in demand, and consumers face significantly higher borrowing costs as a result of increased interest rates. These are signs of a recession, and we may be feeling them more acutely here in the Bay Area due to volatility in the tech sector and recent bank takeovers. And when we look at the effects of a weaker housing market and a depressed stock market, the picture doesn't get any clearer.

Steadfast in Our Support

While these signs of an unpredictable market may not be the reassurance members are looking for, they are a reminder of our commitment to you. As a not-for-profit credit union, our products and services are expressly designed to benefit our member community. This is the reason we keep an eye on the long term and are prudent in our approach to risk.

We Hope to See You Soon

Our support for you doesn't end with your SF Fire account. We've been working with members over the last month, including many who came from other financial institutions, to provide guidance and ensure their stability through this time of transition. If you have questions or concerns about your finances, I encourage you to reach out or stop by your local branch (Noe Valley members, look for our new branch opening in May!). And if you have a friend or family member who's interested in switching to a credit union, send them our way. And let them know they don't need to be a firefighter to join.

Onward,

Kathy Duvall

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President & CEO

SPECIAL OFFER

Open a Free Checking Account

Open an account and set up direct deposit to receive your cash bonus. Enter promo code: **bonus300**

Ask us how to qualify sffirecu.org/bonus300

GET UP TO

\$300

CASH BONUS



Eligibility Requirements: This offer is for new checking and/or savings account holders only. You are not eligible for this offer if; You are a current checking and/or savings account holder. You have previously received a bonus for enrolling in direct deposit. Bonus Requirements: Open a new SF Fire checking and/or savings account and set-up direct deposit within 30 days of account opening. The bonus amount will vary based on the total amount of Qualifying Direct Deposit Totals = \$100 Cash Bonus | \$5,000 or more Direct Deposit Total = \$300. A qualifying direct deposit transaction is an ACH automatic electronic deposit of your paycheck, pension or government benefits (such as Social Security) from your employer or the government. Payments/transfer between accounts are not considered a direct deposit. Maintain Direct Deposit for a minimum of 3 months (90 days) after first Direct Deposit transaction. Bonus Payments. Once the 80-day qualification period has elapsed, we will determine if you have the offer requirements and will deposit any earned bonus into your new checking and/or savings account within 15 days. You are responsible for any federal, state, or local taxes due on the bonus and we will report as income to the tax authorities if required by applicable law. Consult your tax advisor. Offer expires May 31, 2023. However, offer may be discontinued or changed at any time prior to the expiration date without notice.

Rebates are automatically posted to your account within two business days. We automatically rebate international surcharge fees, but in cases where the fees do not get reimbursed due to processing differences on some out-of-country networks.

Rebates are automatically posted to your account within two business days. We automatically rebate international surcharge fees, but in cases where the fees do not get reimbursed due to processing differences on some out-of-country networks or aTMs, please retain a copy of your receipt so that we can process any rebate of a surcharge that fails to refund automatically. The receipt must be presented no later than 60 days after the transaction cycle ending date of the SF Fire Credit Union account statement on which the transaction appears. Please note that any exchange fees do not qualify as ATM surcharges, and a surcharge must be clearly identified on your receipt for us to process the refund if it doesn't automatically appear in your account.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Out & About

California State Firefighters' Association - Williams, CA Training | Jan 17th - 22nd







131st Class of Firefighter Recruit Lunch Presentation | Feb 6th







72nd Annual Meeting of the Members | Feb 20th





United Fire Service Women's Bootcamp | Mar 18th





CONGRATULATIONS

2023 Arthur F. McIntyre Scholarship Recipients

Thank you to those who took the time to apply for the 2023 Arthur F. McIntyre Scholarship. The winners were announced at our 72nd Annual Meeting of the Members on February 20th. Scholarships were awarded to four high school students and four college students. Our warmest congratulations to each of the winners:

High School

College

Matthew Chea

Kristen Tam

Isabelle Lawson

Brigid Rasmussen

Nora Mannion

Hannah Sullivan

Raven Shaw

Raine Yenlinn

ASI Makes Sure You're Protected Here at SF Fire



Your money is safe here at SF Fire Credit Union

Your deposit accounts in this credit union are insured up to \$250,000 per account by American Share Insurance. American Share Insurance is a credit union-owned private organization whose only business is to provide deposit insurance to credit unions like SF Fire.

ASI insures each and every SF Fire Credit Union deposit (share) account of an individual member up to \$250,000, without limitation to the number of accounts held. That's \$250,000 for each account, not each member.

Who is American Share Insurance?

American Share Insurance (ASI) is a member-owned, non-federal deposit insurer. This institution is not federally insured or insured by any state government.

Learn more at: americanshare.com

Document Shred Days

We're happy to announce **two** upcoming Sensitive Document Destruction Days at our **Stonestown Branch** (parking lot).

Monday, May 8th Saturday, September 23rd



9am to 3pm | Stonestown Parking Lot 565 Buckingham Way, San Francisco

Services: Industrial Shred Trucks

Restrictions: The shred trucks can only handle paper documents. No e-waste. They cannot accept VHS/DVDs, tapes, binders, or cardboard boxes. You do NOT need to remove paper clips or staples, but please remove any binder clips.

DID YOU KNOW?



EDUCATE AND EMPOWER YOURSELF

Test Your Financial Knowledge

Do you know the importance of getting pre-approved for a mortgage? Or what it means to refinance a loan? How about the steps to buying out your car's lease?

Get answers to these questions and more in our **Learning Center**. We have engaging articles and free homebuying webinars to test your financial knowledge and help you achieve your goals.

Sign up for free webinars: sffirecu.org/homebuying-webinars

California Street Branch

3201 California Street, SF, CA 94118

Stonestown Branch

565 Buckingham Way, SF, CA 94132

Branch Hours

Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Saturday 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Contact Center & Web Chat Hours

Monday – Saturday 7:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Hours and closures are subject to change, so members are encouraged to check our website frequently for the most current information.

Credit Union Branch Holidays

Monday, May 29th - Memorial Day Monday, June 19th - Juneteenth

The Contact Center will be closed on Memorial Day & Juneteenth.

