



ALLERT

Issue 4
April 2006

601 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, NW, SUITE 600, SOUTH BUILDING • WASHINGTON, DC 20004-2601 • (202) 638-3950 • WWW.DCUC.ORG

A VIEW FROM THE BOARD ROOM

Heavy Heart

*Billie Blanchard, 2nd Vice Chairman of the Board and Army Representative
President/CEO of Military and Civilian FCU*

Today I write with a heavy heart. Just this week we lost another couple of soldiers and several others were severely injured from the 172nd Stryker Brigade stationed out of Ft. Wainwright, Alaska. Although we all know that there will be casualties in war, it is difficult to look into the eyes of their families and know that all we can offer is our love and support.

We were remarking just the other day about being in a community that embraces its military and seeing all the vehicles on the road with magnetic ribbons supporting the troops. It is that same support network that helps the military families each and every day.

One program that we are especially proud of in Fairbanks is called "Pick It Up." The program has spread throughout the community only through word of mouth. A member of the civilian community when in a restaurant discretely picks up the check for a member of the military or their family. The recipient never knows who helped them out. This gesture of goodwill lets our military families know that we care about them each and every day.

As military credit unions we can be proud that we can make a difference in supporting our troops and their families during war and peace. So next time you are out to lunch or dinner pick up the check for one of our military members. It is a great way to quietly say thank you for their service and all they do for our country.

CEO UPDATE

Let's Talk Fair Market Value

Roland A. "Arty" Arteaga, President/CEO, DCUC

Over the past several weeks I have received a number of inquiries regarding Fair Market Value (FMV) and In-Kind Consideration (IKC). This is a solid indicator that either 25 year leases are coming due or the 5 year periodic review (required by DoD) is soon to happen. To ensure we are on common ground, I want to take this opportunity to share some basic information with you and offer my thoughts on how best to approach the issue.

As a matter of background, prior to 1991 there was little if any talk about Fair Market Value. The rules were rather simple...you were either furnished free office space by DoD (if you met the 95% rule) or, if you constructed your own building, you were charged a nominal fee for the land. In 1991 the law changed...and so did the fee structure. DoD now charges Fair Market Value for the land underlying your building.

What is Fair Market Value? According to the Department of Defense Financial Management Regulation (DoDFMR) Volume 5, Chapter 34, it is a "reasonable charge for on-base land, buildings, or building space. Rental is determined by a government appraisal based on comparable properties in the local civilian economy. The appraiser, however, shall consider that on-base property may not always be comparable to similar property in the local commercial geographic area. Examples of circumstances that may affect fair market rental include limitations of usage and access to the financial institution by persons other than those on the installation, proximity to the community center or installation business district, and the government's right to terminate the lease or take title to improvements constructed at the financial institution's expense." In essence, FMV is nothing more than a rental fee imposed by DoD that is reasonable, comparable, and adjustable. Once the fee is determined and an invoice is received, in-kind consideration (IKC) may be requested. In the past, IKC was not a viable alternative...it was too restrictive; however, in 2001 the law changed. The parameters for IKC were broadened to include a provision for "other services"...services such as financial services. That said, what level and types of financial services/support are acceptable for IKC?

The *Commander and Installation Banking and Credit Union Liaison Officer Deskguide* (November 2005) provided such a list and offers clear guidance to Commanders. Guidance that has been vetted, reviewed, and coordinated with key personnel and organizations, such as the Corps of Engineers and Naval Facilities... guidance that is supported by regulation, policy, and directives.

Is the deskguide the panacea to FMV and IKC? Does it assure you of receiving proper credit for services provide? Will Commanders and Installation (and for that matter, District) personnel adhere to the guidance? Not necessarily! You need to influence the action...you need to be proactive.



Roland A. Arteaga

continued on page 8

DEFENSE CREDIT UNION COUNCIL, INC.

is an association of credit unions serving Department of Defense personnel, military and civilian, worldwide.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ralph R. Story
chairman

Gordon A. Simmons
1st vice chairman

Billie Blanchard
2nd vice chairman

Dave Davis
treasurer

Frank Padak
secretary

Robert E. Morgan and Jean Yokum
members

COUNCIL STAFF

Roland A. Arteaga
president/CEO

Beth A. Thompson
director of administration

Deborah J. Caruso
executive assistant

Jennifer Hernandez
administrative assistant

Sidney Holland
comptroller-representative

Janet Sked
conference manager



is the official publication of the Council. One copy of *ALERT* is mailed first-class to each defense credit union as a membership service. Defense credit unions may order additional copies (three or more) to be mailed in bulk to one address at \$10.00 per copy per year. Individual subscriptions mailed first class to defense credit union members are \$15.00 per year; to all others \$25.00 per year. *ALERT* is published monthly except for the month the annual conference and membership meeting are held. In accepting a limited amount of advertising (two advertisements per issue), the Council as a matter of strict policy does not in any way endorse either the product or the vendor. The right to refuse advertising for any reason whatsoever is reserved. DCUC dues are not deductible as a charitable contribution for federal tax purposes, but may be deductible as a business expense. Reproduction of *ALERT* material in whole or in part is authorized for Council members only. Address all correspondence to Defense Credit Union Council, Inc., 601 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, South Building, Suite 600, Washington, D.C. 20004-2601. Telephone: 202/638-3950; FAX: 202/638-3410; e-mail: bthompson@cuna.com or dcuc1@cuna.com; www.dcuc.org.

A Tribute to a Credit Union Pioneer

Sent to DCUC by Hank Klein

Long time credit union pioneer William (Bill) Lunsford died March 17, 2006 while visiting a credit union friend in Montana.

Charles (Chuck) Steele, President/CEO of Valley FCU in Billings, said he picked Bill and his wife up at the airport Tuesday evening for a long awaited visit. They planned on touring the area to include the natural wonders of Yellowstone National Park. "Within an hour of arriving, we took Bill to the hospital where he died the next day," Steele said. Lunsford was 77 years old and is survived by his wife Flossy. Lunsford served his country in the United States Navy. After his retirement he took up a second career in the credit unions and was a creative contributor to the credit union movement for over 30 years. He held positions with Jax Navy FCU (now VyStar), Amarillo Pantex FCU, Tyndall FCU and Florida CU, among others. Bill was also active in assisting credit unions with earnings problems, as well as consulting on ways to cut operating costs and improve collection techniques.

Part Cherokee Indian, Bill Lunsford was well known for his tall strong stature, yet gentle personal approach to problems. In recent years Bill lived outside Chattanooga, TN with his wife Flossy. He will be missed by all who knew him. Cards can be sent to: Flossy Lunsford, 12210 Posey Hollow Rd., Soddy Daisy, TN.

President/CEO Cutler Dawson Speaks at Navy FCU's 73rd Annual Meeting

Jennifer Sadler, Public Relations Manager

Cutler Dawson, President/CEO of Navy FCU, gave the keynote address at Navy FCU's 73rd Annual Meeting earlier this week. "I've had the privilege of being a part of Navy FCU from several different vantage points — as an active duty Navy member, volunteer official, board member and now as an employee," said Cutler Dawson at the beginning of his speech. "Since completing my first year as President/CEO of Navy FCU, I now have firsthand knowledge of the creative ideas that are generated by employees to provide better service to our members. I am proud to be part of a team of individuals who are committed to providing excellent member service every day."

The theme of Cutler Dawson's speech addressed the way Navy FCU members look to Navy FCU for advice and guidance throughout different stages of their lives, such as school, the military, a first job, buying a home, raising a family, even planning for retirement or starting a small business. "Our members have told us through surveys and focus groups that they view Navy FCU as a trustworthy, dependable and safe institution," stated Mr. Dawson. "They said that Navy FCU's growth and success is a good thing as long as we continue to provide first-class member service." Dawson's top goals for the next three years are to enhance member service through 30 additional member service centers, 75 additional ATMs, expansion of call center resources and update of voice response phone systems.

In closing, Mr. Dawson said, "Navy FCU's 5,000 employees always keep members in mind through their team effort in providing world-class member service whether its face-to-face or through various touch points. I want to thank Navy FCU employees for their commitment to meeting the needs of our servicemen and women. To all of our members, I want you to know that your credit union is strong and the course for the future is steady."

Three Directors of DCUC Board to Be Elected at Conference

Three seats on the DCUC board of directors will be filled at the annual business meeting in San Antonio, TX, Tuesday, August 8. The regular three-year term of the Navy/Coast Guard, Army and Air Force Representatives expire this year. At this writing, the incumbents, Bob Morgan, Billie Blanchard and Jean Yokum, are candidates for re-election. Any party interested in serving on the DCUC Board is invited to advise the Council so that we may publish it in the *ALERT*.

Best Practices Lending Forum to Become Annual Event

Nancy Entz, AVP/Marketing Manager

Tinker FCU recently hosted a *Best Practices of Consumer Lending* forum for its management team and other credit unions across the country that currently use Episys, a core operating system attracting a growing number of credit unions. In addition to 30 Tinker FCU managers, 30 lending professionals from 13 other credit unions attended the forum held at the Embassy Suites Hotel.

The agenda for the first day covered case studies on a variety of lending programs and promotions, followed by an afternoon discussion on topics such as improving service for borrowers, special lending programs offered at various credit unions, online services and training issues. Thursday's agenda included an enhanced loan application demonstration by Symitar, the Episys systems provider for more than 300 credit unions nationwide.

"Our goal for this event was to provide a venue for credit unions of various sizes and experiences from across the country to come together and share best practices for consumer lending," said Amy Green, Tinker FCU's manager of information systems planning and development. "By discussing various topics such as promotional ideas, training issues and member service, we learned from each other's experiences and ultimately will be able to provide a more efficient and enjoyable lending experience for our members."

Tinker FCU replaced its core operating system last June with the Episys system. The forum was an idea generated by Tinker FCU's Process Review Task Force to improve the Tinker FCU lending experience. Green advertised the forum through Symitar user groups and word of mouth. Each participating credit union completed a survey prior to the forum to determine what topics and questions should be addressed. The agenda topics came out of the survey responses, and a half-day was devoted to roundtable discussions among the attendees.

"The invitation to attend and present Wescom's lending programs was an honor," said Michelle Shelor, consumer lending manager for Wescom CU in Southern California. "The Best Practices Forum exemplified the cooperative spirit of credit unions and was an excellent way to share ideas and accomplishments in the area of consumer lending."

Attendee Will Epperson, vice president of member service for MAX FCU in Montgomery, AL, said the forum has already been of benefit to him at work. "Great forum! The many credit unions represented generated insightful discussion, as well as provided great ideas that may not only improve our products, but also improve the service that we provide to our membership," he said. "I made many contacts that have already become great resources in obtaining better ways to utilize the Episys system."

Forum attendee Skip Wells, director of lending operations and processes for Colorado-based Ent CU, agreed the forum was beneficial. "What I liked most was the informal sharing of ideas, best practices and challenges," he said. "It's nice to build relationships with people in similar positions and know that when we're seeking fresh ideas or run into lending roadblocks, we have other folks to lean on for assistance."

Tinker FCU participants were also pleased with the outcome of the forum. "The Consumer Lending Forum was a big success, and I am very proud and excited to have started what we expect to become an annual event for consumer lending professionals," said Green. "The location will vary from year to year, but the premise of the event will remain the same. This first year's participants were a wonderful group. Everyone was very eager to share their best practices, issues and experiences that could help others face the same types of challenges in their respective markets. It is this type of collaboration we were shooting for with this forum event, and the group delivered in true credit union fashion."

“The Best Practices Forum exemplified the cooperative spirit of credit unions and was an excellent way to share ideas and accomplishments in the area of consumer lending.”

— Michelle Shelor, consumer lending manager, Wescom CU

NRL FCU Raises Money for Children's National Medical Center

Cindy Jenkins, Business Development Specialist

NRL FCU recently held a fundraiser to benefit Children's National Medical Center. Employees were given the opportunity to "purchase" a dress-down week. Staff was able to raise over \$600. Children's National Medical Center has provided hope to sick children and their families for over 130 years. NRL FCU employees were glad to help them continue to do so.

Global Contributes to Children's Miracle Network

Linda Backlund, Manager, Governmental Relations

Global CU employees and members raised a total of \$9,634.27 for the Inland Northwest Chapter of Children's Miracle Network in 2005. This fundraising effort included the sale of framed, signed, and numbered prints. The prints are part of a series of Eagle paintings, created for Global CU by award winning wildlife artist, Janene Grende, of Sandpoint, Idaho. Entertainment books, calendars, cookbooks and other fundraising events throughout the year were also a factor.

"Part of the credit union philosophy of "people helping people" is reflected in Global's commitment to the community. Our employees and member's, through their generosity, have proven that once again," commented Jack Fallis, Global CU's President/CEO. One hundred percent of all funds raised for CMN stay local to benefit area hospitals and programs, to restore, sustain and enhance the development potential of children.

Mark Your Calendars for
DCUC's 43rd Annual Conference
August 6-9, 2006
Marriott San Antonio Rivercenter

Federal Employees: New Way to Develop Credit Unions

Valerie J. Breunig, CUDE, Worldwide Foundation Funds Manager, WCOCU

You can now give your military and federal employee credit union members the opportunity to alleviate poverty through credit unions in developing countries. World Council of Credit Unions (WOCCU) announces its inaugural participation in the federal government's Combined Federal Campaign, a charity drive for government employees between September and December.

Credit unions with military/federal government employee members can help by publicizing WOCCU's participation in the campaign on their web site or with a credit union newsletter article. A sample article is available at www.woccu.org/ecard2/poverty/. WOCCU is also seeking a few credit unions to serve as pilots to promote the program to their members.

The Worldwide Foundation for Credit Unions (WF), WOCCU's charitable arm, is CFC number 1020. For more information contact Valerie Breunig, WOCCU, vbreunig@woccu.org or 608.231.7353.

Langley FCU Celebrates 70 Years Of World-Class Service

April, 2006 marks the 70th anniversary of Langley FCU

Sue Thrash, Director of Research & Communications



“We have passed many milestones,” said Langley FCU President/CEO Jean Yokum. “From humble beginnings seventy years ago in a small office at NASA to the present, Langley FCU has always put member service as its first priority.”

Serving the community since 1936, Langley FCU has grown to more than 140,000 members with over 1 billion dollars in assets, ranking the financial institution as one of the top 100 largest credit unions in the nation. Chartered on April 17, 1936 by a group of 25 members of the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (later to become NASA), each deposited \$1 to cover the chartering fee. At that time, the assets totaled \$250 and the first office was a room donated by NACA.

“Langley FCU has had an incredible journey over the past 70 years,” said Langley FCU Board Chairman Buena Crawford. “The Board of Directors is proud to govern this fine organization and honored to have the privilege of serving this community.”

To commemorate this occasion, a special “Celebrating 70 Years of Service” insignia was created for use during the 2006 anniversary year.

Resolutions to be Presented at Annual Membership Meeting

If you have a subject about which you would like DCUC to adopt a resolution, here's your chance. If it comes within the field of interest of defense credit unions, write it out and submit it to DCUC. To be acted on by the committee and included with the Call of the Meeting, which is issued 60 days before the annual meeting, resolutions should reach the Defense Council office prior to May 19.

Proposed resolutions should be forwarded to Beth Thompson, Director of Administration, DCUC, 601 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, South Building, Suite 600, Washington, D.C. 20004-2601. You may also e-mail proposed resolutions bthompson@cuna.com or FAX them to (202) 638-3410. If you have any questions, please call (202) 638-3950.

Cooperative Difference Exemplified at Wright-Patt CU's Annual Business Meeting

Jeff Carpenter, Vice President of Cooperative Development

Wright-Patt CU held its 2006 Annual Business Meeting recently. Edward Blommel, Board of Directors' Chairman, gave the Chairman's Update and highlighted some of the initiatives that took place in 2005. He also announced the election of Thaddis Cates, Joseph Linsenmeyer, and Joseph Mucci by the membership to serve three-year terms on the Board of Directors.

Doug Fecher, President & CEO shared with the members at the meeting the credit union's new mission statement, which is “Wright-Patt Credit Union helps people through life.” Fecher shared stories that illustrate this mission statement.

“Wright-Patt Credit Union exists only because of the people it serves.”

— Doug Fecher, President & CEO

“Wright-Patt CU exists only because of the people it serves. People like a Mom and Dad on graduation day at Wright-State University, proudly watching as their son or daughter receives a diploma they thought they could never afford...except for the help of their credit union. Like the young couple in Xenia, a couple just starting out who bought their first home thanks to a reduced interest HLPR mortgage loan unlike any they would find at a bank. It is people like a young Airman at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base who is now free from the payday lenders he got caught up with and who is now on a stronger financial footing for when he is done serving our country thanks to the free financial counseling he received at Wright-Patt. And it is people like a member from Montgomery County who got away from a high-fee checking account elsewhere and was able to commit to a credit union savings plan that helped her travel to Italy for the eightieth birthday party of the Grandmother she had never before met.”

Defense Credit Unions in the News...

Fort Belvoir FCU, VA and Security Onsite Shredding (SOS) celebrated Earth Day on at the Fort Belvoir FCU Woodbridge Location. Members and community businesses were invited to bring their documents for free shredding... **Air Force FCU**, TX is pleased to announce its 2006-2007 Board of Directors: Chairman of the Board, Colonel Sam V. Farace, Jr., USAF (Ret); Vice Chairman, James E. Goodgion, III; Treasurer, Melvin Moczygemba, CPA; Secretary, Joan B. Lopez; and, Directors Michael M. Buecher, CCD, CCO; CMSgt Ronald R. Applegate, USAF (Ret); MSgt Larry "Kirk" Kirkpatrick, USAF (Ret); and, CMSgt Scott M. Aris, USAF (Ret). Further, uecher will serve as Supervisory Committee Chairman along with members Moczygemba and Gerg Hern... **Fort Belvoir FCU**, VA supported this year's Cherry Blossom Run benefiting Children's Miracle Network in Washington, D.C. with 44 volunteers and 8 runners in this year's race and made a donation to Children's Miracle Network. This year's Cherry Blossom Run had over 500 volunteers and 10,000 runners. To date, Credit Unions raised over \$500,000 for this year's Cherry Blossom Run and Children's Miracle Network and over 1.5 million dollars over the past 5 years. Donations go to providing specialized care to over 17 million children for every disease and injury imaginable... **Fort Belvoir FCU**, VA has appointed several new volunteers. Candice Johnson, Ramon Morales and Bruce Sneed were appointed Associate Members of the Board of Directors. Johnson was also appointed to the Human Resources and Compensation Committee, Morales will also serve on the Supervisory Committee and Sneed will sit on the Technology Committee. Harry Castelly was appointed to the Facilities Committee and Kathleen Fox will serve on the Marketing Committee. Each of these volunteers bring a wealth of experience to Fort Belvoir FCU. "We are so fortunate to have several talented people willing to devote time to the Credit Union," stated Pamela Boyer, Chairman of the Board of Directors. "Their talents will compliment our existing slate of volunteers."

Defense Credit Union People in the News...

Former Navy FCU President and CEO **Brian McDonnell** has stepped down from two key volunteer positions in the credit union community. McDonnell had continued to serve as the credit union's treasurer and as a director-at-large on NAFCU's board even after retiring from the top spot at Navy FCU in 2005. He served as CEO from 1996 until last year and had spent a total of 36 years at the credit union. Current Navy FCU President and CEO **Cutler Dawson** commented, "During his time at Navy FCU, Brian built the strong foundation for our world-class credit union. We owe our current success to Brian and we go into the future well prepared due to his personal dedication and leadership."... **Air Force FCU** is pleased to announce that **Nichole Gonzales** was selected as the credit union's first-ever "Employee of the Month." Gonzales, a Financial Service Representative at the credit union's Ingram branch office in San Antonio, is a five-year veteran of Air Force FCU. Gonzales was cited for her dedication, caring personality, and genuine desire to provide high-quality member service. Further, she is consistently one of the top performers in cross-sales and routinely receives a significant amount of positive feedback from the membership. Ms. Gonzales' personal commitment to the credit union's core values is quite obvious and she is most worthy of selection as Air Force FCU's Employee of the Month... **Gail DeBoer** has been named Executive Vice President of SAC FCU. DeBoer previously served as Senior Vice President of Operations. President **James A. Guretzky** announced that in this role DeBoer will continue to manage the Operations Department and be responsible for the day to day operations of the Credit Union in his absence. DeBoer brings over 25 years of financial experience. She joined the Credit Union in May, 1988. She earned an Accounting Degree from the University of Nebraska at Omaha and a MBA from Bellevue University... **Tom Kane**, President/CEO of the Fort Campbell FCU, TN recently announced the appointment of **R. Jeffery Harris** to Vice President of Finance. Mr. Harris will oversee the financial management activities of the credit union. "I am pleased to make this announcement said **Tom Kane**. "Mr. Harris has over twenty years in the financial industry and his expertise will be an important asset to the credit union," he added.

Deborah Matz Joins Senior Executive Staff at Andrews Federal Credit Union

Mary Harris, Senior Promotions Specialist

Andrews FCU will welcome Deborah Matz, former National Credit Union Administration (NCUA) Board Member as the newest addition to their Executive Team. Matz will join Andrews FCU as Executive Vice President/Chief Operating Officer (EVP/COO).

She comes to Andrews FCU with a wealth of knowledge and over 25 years of experience as a public servant. She has served as the Chair for the Governance and Administration for NeighborWorks America (a non-profit agency created by Congress, to encourage affordable housing for low-income people). In addition, Matz has served as an Economist for the United States Congressional Joint Economic Committee.

With the knowledge that Matz brings to Andrews FCU, she will focus on top priority management goals. Specifically, she will focus on membership growth, increasing member satisfaction and loan growth, and applying her past experiences in assisting people of modest means to ensure our members are being provided with rates, services and programs to ensure financial empowerment.

"I am confident that having Mrs. Matz as our new EVP/COO will be a great asset to me and to the credit union. Over the years, I've observed she has been consistently ethical, passionate and professional with anything she sets out to do. Andrews FCU is honored to welcome Matz's experience and insight as we continue to serve our membership base," said Michael Hale, President/CEO of Andrews FCU. "We look forward to adding her fresh perspective to our already strong team of key players as we work together to improve processes here at Andrews FCU and provide innovative solutions to meet the needs of our credit union members," stated Hale.

**Register for DCUC 2006
at www.dcuc.org**

Armed Forces Financial Network Update

AFFN 2006 Military Community Support Program

John M. Broda, Executive Vice President

The AFFN Matching Grant Program for 2006 is well underway. This program has been made available to assist your organization in community outreach support to our military community worldwide. Funds are still available and available on a first come, first served basis (once grant application is approved). As AFFN celebrates our 21st year of service to our defense credit union Participants, we believe this program demonstrates the spirit of service which exists between DCUC Credit Unions and the membership you so proudly serve! For additional information, please visit www.affn.org/communitysupport.html, e-mail John Broda at John.Broda@AFFN.org or call (973) 257-1216.

AFFN'S 2006 MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATION

AFFN Participant Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____ Fax Number: _____

Web Site Address: _____

President/CEO: _____

Marketing/Public Relations Contact: _____

Name of On-Base (or Local) Publication: _____

Website Address: _____

Matching Funds Request: _____

Program Description/Overview: (Please feel free to attach supporting documentation)

Community Served/Beneficiary:

Submitted By _____

Name/Title/E-Mail Address

Your President/CEO Authorization _____

Please return completed application to AFFN, PO Box 659, Boonton, NJ 07005-0659.

Should you have any questions, please contact John Broda – John.Broda@AFFN.org, or 973-257-1216.

For Internal Use Only:

Received on: _____ Reviewed on: _____ Processed: _____ Participant Notified: _____



In the heart of downtown San Antonio, visitors can find two distinct yet inextricably connected worlds — the hubbub of a busy metropolitan downtown at street level...and an oasis of trees, water, music and food 20 feet below, on the Paseo del Rio. Better known as the River Walk, these cobblestone and flagstone paths border both sides of the San Antonio River as it winds its way through the heart of the city's business district.

Accessible from several points at street level, the River Walk revels in multiple personalities — quiet and park-like in some stretches, while brimming with activity at European-style sidewalk cafes, boutiques, night-clubs, and gleaming high-rise hotels in other areas.

Stretching for approximately two and a half miles from the Municipal Auditorium and Conference Center on the north end to the King William Historic District on the south, the River Walk designs were mainly the work of the late Robert H.H. Hugman, a landscape architect.

A major flood in 1921 had killed 50 people and resulted in millions of dollars in property damage, as well as public outcries to cover the river with concrete, with the riverbed to serve as a sewer. Fortunately, a small group of women, who formed the nucleus of the San Antonio Conservation Society, saved the river from this fate. The River Walk remained a park for years, and, in fact, developed a tainted reputation. However, in preparation for HemisFair 1968, the World's Fair in San Antonio, development and beautification along the river began in earnest and still continues.

Today, the river's floating transportation system provides a novel method of sightseeing in downtown San Antonio. River cruisers deliver visitors to Rivercenter Mall (location of our conference hotel, Marriott Rivercenter), a dazzling three-level, glass shopping, dining and entertainment complex. Restaurants offer cuisines from the finest Tex-Mex delicacies to sizzling Texas steaks to Creole cooking to Italian pasta. Lively groups sing along in an Irish pub and a Dixieland band performs far into the night. Hard Rock Cafe anchors South Bank, a collection of dining and entertainment options, while Planet Hollywood anchors Presidio Plaza, the newest complex on the River Walk.

The San Antonio River provided life-sustaining water for the Native Americans who first settled in this area and still pumps life and energy into downtown San Antonio today as the setting for the River Walk. You can experience a River Walk boat tour on Saturday, August 5 as part of the Optional Tour, "This is San Antonio," a great way to start the conference and immerse yourself in the culture and history of this great city.

**DCUC's 43rd
Annual Conference
August 6–9, 2006
Marriott Rivercenter Hotel
San Antonio, Texas**

San Antonio!

**Join your colleagues
and partners this year
for another great DCUC
Conference in San Antonio,
Texas — You'll be glad
you did!**

Register on-line at www.d cuc.org or use the registration form in your Preliminary Program.

Special thanks to the San Antonio CVB for use of this information and Riverwalk photograph.

Monitor your lease renewal from start to finish. Twelve months out start talking to the Director for Public Works (or Facilities Engineer), your on-base Credit Union Liaison Officer, and your base commander. Let them know that you will be submitting a request for IKC...and will do so before the appraisal is conducted. Ask to speak with the appraiser; make certain he/she is aware of the Fair Market Rental definition contained in the DoDFMR.

At the conclusion of the appraisal process, if the appraisal is extraordinarily high and/or you do not receive IKC credit, seek-out the appraiser and ask him/her for details...challenge as necessary. Consider an independent appraisal (out of pocket expense), and once complete, share the results with key personnel...and with me. Jointly, we will determine the next step.

In closing, let me say that the answer to FMV and IKC does not lie in regulation, but rather, in law. Both CURIA and Regulatory Relief contain a provision that would permit military and civilian authorities the discretion to charge a minimal fee. While this legislation is slow in coming...it is moving forward. And as it does, we will keep you apprised.

DoD YOU SHOULD KNOW...

Nomination packets for the DCUC Hall of Honor were sent out recently. If you know of someone in the defense credit union world that exemplifies the best of the best qualities found in individuals throughout the credit union movement please forward your nominations to DCUC by May 22, 2006. The 2006 winners will be honored at our 43rd annual conference in San Antonio on Tuesday evening, August 8.

Early Bird registration for the Annual Conference ends June 9. Join us in celebrating **"Partners for Life"** — network with your peers, have some fun and save some money! Register online today at www.d cuc.org.

The DCUC 2006 Conference Hotel is San Antonio Marriott Rivercenter, 101 Bowie Street, San Antonio, TX 78205. The hotel is ideally located on the famous Riverwalk and is connected to the River Center shopping complex. From the soaring hotel lobby to award winning restaurants, the Marriott Rivercenter offers genuine Texas Hospitality!

In the March *ALERT* it was reported that the Requests for Nominations for Credit Union of the Year Awards had been received from the Department of the Air Force (due May 1, 2006) and the Department of the Navy (due April 17, 2006). DCUC has now received the Requests for Nominations for Credit Union of the Year Award from the Department of the Army (due April 21, 2006). If you would like a copy of one of these application forms, please do not hesitate to contact DCUC.



Visit www.d cuc.org today to learn about the 43rd Annual DCUC Conference being held in San Antonio, TX from August 6-9.

All the information you need is easily found in the Conference section on our website.

Find out what tours are being offered, see where the Golf Tournament is being held on Saturday morning and review the benefits of attending by checking out the Tentative Program.

***Best of all, you can even register on-line today!
It's never been more convenient and secure!***

Defense Credit Union Council
601 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Suite 600
Washington, DC 20004-2601

First Class U.S. Postage PAID ABR 22191
