

**IN THIS ISSUE:****Rebuilding Your Credit in 2015****eStatus for Mortgage Loans****Bonus Point Rewards for MasterCard®****PROGRESS REPORT AS OF NOVEMBER 30, 2014**

Shares	\$209,577,160
Loans	\$163,828,167
Assets	\$238,518,882
Members.....	28,685

FIND YOUR NAME AND WIN!

Read this newsletter carefully!
If you find your name scrambled in parenthesis, you've won \$25.00.
Stop by your local Firelands Federal Credit Union office or give us a call to collect your money.

HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

Monday, January 19 - MLK Birthday
Monday, February 16 - President's Day

LOOKING TO BUY YOUR DREAM HOME?

Did you know the credit union offers USDA loans with 0% Down Payment? Contact one of our Mortgage Loan Originators today for more details.



Start Rebuilding Your Credit in the New Year

It seems like there are all sorts of people offering to "fix" your credit for you. While a quick fix sounds tempting, fixing your credit needs time and patience.

With the sluggish economy, many people have accumulated high interest debt and have done major damage to their creditworthiness. There are plenty of shady companies just waiting to pounce promising that they can purchase a good credit rating. Don't believe them!

No one can "fix" a bad credit rating and anyone who promises that they can is trying to scam your money. Anything they can do quickly to repair only works if the information in your credit file is inaccurate. If that is the case, there is nothing they can do for you that you can't do yourself for free. **(RARCEI RRSIONAH)**

These are the three main things that can negatively affect your credit rating:

- Defaulted debts - This includes either debts unpaid or sent to a collection agency, including credit cards, auto loans, student loans and medical bills
- Slow payment history - Paying 30, 60 or 90+ days late can impact your credit
- Debt to income ratio - This is a comparison of the amount of debt carried and one's ability to make the monthly payments. If there is too much debt and not enough money to make the payments, it is a strike on the credit report.

The only way to correct a bad credit rating is to change the behavior that resulted in a bad credit rating and then be patient. **(ECILICA A VNISEBL)** By paying all your bills on time and keeping your debt level low, your credit score will gradually improve.

Take these steps to begin rebuilding your credit rating:

- Buy things only after the bills are paid and use cash.
- Make the minimum monthly payments (at the very least) on time. Pay more if you can afford to. Every time you are just a day or two late, it is reported to the credit bureaus and becomes a part of your credit record.
- Don't take on any new debt. If you are overextended, this will be another strike on your credit report.

This article provided by the Institute of Consumer Financial Education, whose website provides financial education for all age groups with a special section devoted to teaching children about money.

ANNUAL MEETING

Wednesday, February 18, 2015
Firelands Federal Credit Union
Bellevue Office, 5:30 p.m.

Congratulations on
your retirement!

Barb Heft



Thank you for
15 years of service!

eStatus...

A free & convenient service available for Firelands FCU members.
Access your mortgage loan information online!

Do you find yourself at the tax accountant and need your mortgage interest? Sign up for eStatus and you can access the 1098 year-end statement easily, 24-hours a day. You also have access to:

- Payment information & history
- Loan balances (EENCRPS A FRESI)
- Tax information & much more!

Visit www.firelandscfu.org to enroll!



Tax Time Means IRA Time!

Make your "catch up" contribution for 2014 until April 15th... or your contribution for 2015. Firelands FCU has some of the best insured investment rates in the area! To get started, call or visit a Member Service Representative at your nearest branch.

Important News Regarding IRA Rollovers:

Effective January 1, 2015, the IRS is changing the rule on rollovers. An IRA holder is now only allowed to have one IRA rollover in a twelve month period regardless of the number of IRA's they hold. What this means is if you hold multiple IRA accounts, you are no longer able to roll funds from each account. (NRBAI R KWAH) You may only roll IRA funds one time per twelve month period.

ATTENTION: Member wire transfer instructions are available on our website!

If you will be receiving a wire transfer to your account, please retrieve these instructions online or see a Firelands FCU employee to obtain a copy of the incoming wire instructions. To avoid additional fees, DO NOT simply provide your routing number and account number when arranging an incoming wire. Effective February 1, 2015 additional fees will apply to wires received that do not use the correct wire instructions (also provided below).

Funds Wired To:

Corporate One Federal Credit Union
8700 Orion Place, Columbus, OH 43240
ABA# 244084264

For Further Credit to:

Firelands Federal Credit Union
221 E. Main St., Bellevue, OH 44811
Account # 241274077

Final Credit:

Member (Your) Name
Member (Your) Address
Member (Your) Account Number
- Please verify your account number with FFCU



MAILING ADDRESS

P.O. Box 8005
Bellevue, OH 44811

BELLEVUE

221 E. Main Street
Bellevue, OH 44811
419.483.4180
Fax: 419.483.7100

BUCYRUS

2100 E. Mansfield Street
Bucyrus, OH 44820
419.562.0447
Fax: 419.562.7059

GALION

1222 State Route 598
Galion, OH 44833
419.468.5631
Fax: 419.468.7633
419 Harding Way West
(ATM only)

MONROEVILLE

169 N. Ridge Street
Monroeville, OH 44847
419.465.2200
Fax: 419.465.2204

NORWALK

175 Cleveland Road
Norwalk, OH 44857
419.668.5833
Fax: 419.668.6007
346 Milan Avenue
(Drive-thru & ATM)
117 Whittlesey Avenue
(ATM only)

ARIS (bank-by-phone)

Bellevue: 419.483.3648
Bucyrus: 419.562.4297
Galion: 419.462.5802
Monroeville: 419.465.2207
Norwalk: 419.663.2574
Out of the area:
1.888.842.7334

ROUTING & TRANSIT NO.

241274077

MAIN TOLL-FREE NO.

1.800.276.5775

Firelands FCU Credit Card Bonus Points Rewards

For every purchase made using your FFCU MasterCard®, you earn Bonus Points that can be redeemed for newly expanded rewards...

Choose from statement credits, gift cards, name brand merchandise and travel rewards!

Fireline (online banking) users: Log into your Fireline account and click the link for EZCard Info - which can be found right under your credit card account listing. On the EZCard Info page you'll be able to click on the "Rewards Account" link to view all the reward options available to you. *Members without Fireline:* Visit www.scorecardrewards.com and create an account to see all the reward options. You will need your name, credit card number, ZIP code and email address to create an account. If you have any questions about Bonus Points rewards for MasterCard®, please let us know! (RLAC W MIAIGLL)



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