



# Dowagiac Area Federal Credit Union

[www.dafcu.net](http://www.dafcu.net)



On October 17, 2013, credit unions in 100 countries will celebrate International Credit Union (ICU) Day<sup>®</sup> by joining together and celebrating their cooperative spirit.

Unlike many banks, we at DOWAGIAC AREA FEDERAL CREDIT UNION are not in business to make a profit. Credit unions all over the world are a united front focused on YOU, the MEMBERS, with an unwavering belief in the “PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE” philosophy upon which we were built.

In the U.S., we’re known as credit unions, but across the world, we go by many names...co-operative societies, *cooperativas*, and *caisses populaires* to name a few.

This year, the cooperative spirit is coming to the Falkland Islands. Currently, one bank branch operates there, but the 2,300 workers find access to credit limited. Through the World Council of Credit Unions, staff from a U.S. credit union is assisting in the development of a credit union that can help the business and the workers that were refused bank financing.

Sometimes, starting a credit union isn’t enough. In Kenya, more than a million children have lost parents to AIDS. Many U.S. credit unions are supporting an orphanage in the town of Busia. The program provides food and security to these orphans, as well as financial access to the surrounding community.

Off the southern coast of India, women rice farmers in Sri Lanka are recovering from devastating floods in 2011 and growing their businesses with the help of both farming and financial training through a joint agribusiness and credit union program. Profits are up and so are savings thanks to a new infrastructure to safeguard deposits. Now, small branches collect savings through children’s clubs and school programs. In one district, volunteer members hike daily to the local market to collect deposits.

Here too, in the U.S., credit unions are looking after their members. One small credit union, made up only of descendants of Manley and Lucy Williams is helping members buy new cars, raise families, and pay for college.

**Inside this issue:**

CU DAY OCTOBER 17 **1**

Whether on a small or large scale, doing good is something credit unions take seriously. It’s all about “PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE”.

FALL AT DAFCU **2**

Here at DOWAGIAC AREA FEDERAL CREDIT UNION our key initiatives in 2013 have been to provide the most affordable financial services to our OWNER MEMBERS and the lowest loan rates to help secure your financial future. We do this with one of the friendliest Staff’s in our Community. We know your name and care about your family because here at Dowagiac Area Federal Credit Union our Members are Family.

CHRISTMAS CLUB **2**

BITS & PIECES **2**

The credit union movement is a united force based on camaraderie, cooperation, and collaboration. That’s why, at a credit union, you are never a number — you are a member, and we are here to serve you.

THE CU DIFFERENCE **3**

Holiday Schedule **4**

***Come join our special celebration on October 17, 2013 right here at our office we will be serving lunch from 11 am til 1 pm, have door prizes for those that stop by and have some special giveaways. Also Sam’s Club Representatives will be here with special offers to join the club.***

## FALL has hit DAFCU

During the month of September our auto rates have FALLEN to as low as 2% APR\* that's right!! Whether NEW OR USED we'll give you a great rate to finance your next auto with us during the month of September. Already financed someplace else, no problem we can help you move your auto loan home to DAFCU.

We also have a FALL COLORS special-in need of a vacation, finishing up those home improvement projects, need new appliances before the holidays? You can borrow up to \$6,000 for 36 months at a special rate of 6% APR\*

Home Equity loan rates have been lowered also. If you apply for a Home Equity loan during the month of September you will receive 1.5% off our posted fixed rate plan and to give you another bonus finance that for 10 years or less and you will receive another 1/2% off the rate. That's a whole 2% less. WHOAAAA! Maybe it's time to see what your current rate is and compare it to ours.



Give us a call, stop by the office or apply online. But hurry those fallen rates will blow away soon.

## CHRISTMAS CLUB

Ready or not here it comes! How fast time passes. Some places already have begun putting up they Christmas displays, so hard to believe. Well you should be prepared for 2013 if you opened your Christmas club account last fall.

Funds in your Christmas club account will automatically be transferred to your regular share account on the 1st of October so you will be ready to get your shopping done and then have plenty of time to relax.

2014 Club accounts will begin upon the transfer of 2013 so now would be the time to make adjustments if you wish to change what you are saving for next year.

Don't have a Christmas Club account yet, it's very simple and easy to set up, stop by the credit union and any staff member can help start your 2014 Christmas Club account.

## Bits & Pieces

**New Lower Loan Rates**—Did you know that DAFCU has recently lowered loan rates? Check out our website and see what we have to offer. [www.dafcu.net](http://www.dafcu.net)

**2013 Grand Raffle** - Still time to be the winner of \$20,000 towards the purchase of a new 2013 Chevy Malibu or \$20,000 in cash, your choice. For a small donation of \$5.00 you will be entered into the drawing that will be held on November 18, 2013. This raffle helps our Michigan credit unions raise funds to help support our Federal PAC fund. Stop in and get your tickets now.

**24/7 Services** - Time is such a precious thing. We have some 24/7 services that will help you manage your finances

without leaving home. **ONLINE BANKING** - view balances, transfer between accounts, make your loan payments. **ONLINE BILL PAYMENT (IPAY)** - pay all your bills from one secure website and paying your bills online is free. **MASTERCARD/DEBIT** - make your purchases using your Mastercard the checkless way to shop. **TOUCH TONE TELLER** - use your phone to access your account . All these services are for your convenience, for more information call today or stop by the credit union office.

**e-Statements** - Help us save a tree sign up today for e-Statements and you will receive access to your statements online. We email a notice that the statements are ready to view and you log onto our website and click on:

**Schools in session** - A new school year has begun and we need to be more aware of those mad dashes to catch the bus, stepping off the sidewalk to cross the road. Stay alert and aware never know where the kids will be.

**Volunteer** - want to learn more about your credit union or help plan its future? You can volunteer to be involved on our Supervisory Committee or even become a member of the Board of Directors. Stop by the credit union to get some additional information.

**LOAN SPECIALS** - We offer some type of loan special on a monthly basis to know what is being offered please visit our website at [www.dafcu.net](http://www.dafcu.net)

## THE CREDIT UNION DIFFERENCE

New federal laws and regulations are changing the structure and face of the financial services industry. In this time of accelerating change, it is important to truly understand how credit unions are unique and different, and why we remain a necessary and extremely popular financial alternative for 96 million Americans.

### WHAT IS THE CREDIT UNION DIFFERENCE?

- **Not-for-profit.** Credit unions are not-for-profit financial cooperatives. We exist to serve our members, not to make a profit. Unlike most other financial institutions, credit unions do not issue stock or pay dividends to outside stockholders. Instead, earnings are returned to our members in the form of lower loan rates, higher interest on deposits, and lower fees.
- **Taxation.** Credit unions do pay taxes - payroll taxes, sales taxes, and property taxes. Congress exempts credit unions from federal income taxes. The exemption was established in 1937, affirmed by statute in 1951, and re-affirmed in 1998 in H.R. 1151, the Credit Union Membership Access Act, which states:  
*Credit unions, unlike many other participants in the financial services market, are exempt from Federal and most State taxes because credit unions are member-owned, democratically operated, not -for- profit organizations generally managed by volunteer boards of directors and because they have the specified mission of meeting the credit and savings needs of consumers, especially persons of modest means."*
- **Ownership.** Credit unions are economic democracy. Each credit union member has equal ownership and one vote - regardless of how much money a member has on deposit. At a credit union, every customer is both a member and an owner.
- **Volunteer Boards.** Each credit union is governed by a board of directors, elected by and from the credit union's membership. Board members serve voluntarily.
- **Membership Eligibility.** By current federal statute, credit unions cannot serve the general public. People qualify for a credit union membership through their employer, organizational affiliations like churches or social groups, or a community-chartered credit union.
- **Financial Education for Members.** Credit unions assist members to become better- educated consumers of financial services. Additionally, CUNA is partnering with the National Endowment for Financial Education, a not-for-profit foundation, to expand financial education among high school students. A national study shows that just ten hours of personal finance education can positively affect students' spending and savings habits for a lifetime.
- **Social Purpose: People Helping People.** Credit unions exist to help people, not make a profit. Our goal is to serve all of our members well, including those of modest means - every member counts. Our members are fiercely loyal for this reason. They know their credit union will be there for them in bad times, as well as good. The same people-first philosophy causes credit unions and our employees to get involved in community charitable activities and worthwhile causes - just ask us.

***THE CREDIT UNION DIFFERENCE - JUST ASK YOUR CREDIT UNION!***

# Dowagiac Area Federal Credit Union

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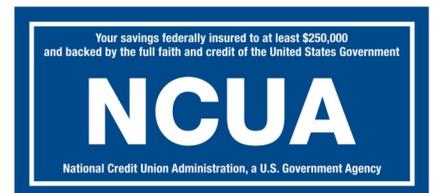
**Find us on the WEB at:  
[www.dafcu.net](http://www.dafcu.net)**



EQUAL HOUSING  
OPPORTUNITY

## 2013 Holiday Schedule

Thanksgiving	Thursday, November 28, 2013	CLOSED
	Friday, November 29, 2013	CLOSED
	Saturday, November 30, 2013	CLOSED
Christmas Eve & Day	Tuesday, December 24, 2013	CLOSED
	Wednesday, December 25, 2013	CLOSED
New Year's Eve & Day	Tuesday, December 31, 2013	CLOSED
	Wednesday, January 1, 2014	CLOSED



Dowagiac Area Federal Credit Union has two  
**No Surcharge** (for Co-op members) ATM's.

### **Locations:**

Inside Foyer at 473 E. Division St, Dowagiac  
Inside KB Village Express at 1101 S. State, Cassopolis



Look for the  
CO-OP Network logo or visit  
[www.co-opnetwork.org](http://www.co-opnetwork.org)  
and use our "ATM Locator"  
to find a location near you.  
Or, call (888) SITE-COOP.

## Mission Statement

To insure the financial stability and growth of our credit union to serve the families of our present and future members.