

Brought to You by Your Credit Union

Celebrate: 100 Years of Service



**A TRADITION OF
PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE**

Our credit union may not be 100 years old—yet—but we join credit unions around the country in celebrating a wonderful milestone: formation of the nation's first credit union, La Caisse Populaire St. Marie in New Hampshire, in 1908. Today known as St. Mary's Bank, it continues to thrive as a credit union serving its owner-members.

And 1909 marked another signal event in credit union development, with the passage in Massachusetts of legislation enabling formation of credit unions.

The American credit union movement began in New England 100 years ago. Those credit unions began as a social movement designed to help people live better lives through access to essential financial services.

Early credit union pioneers identified a need for a cooperative source of fairly priced credit at a time when it was not available for average

consumers. Throughout its history, the credit union movement has remained true to these philosophical—yet pragmatic—roots.

In 100 years of growth and evolution credit unions have continually improved service to members. And today, when so many other financial institutions are struggling in a weakened economy, credit unions are strong because they stay true to their original purpose—people helping people.

And by paying lower interest on loans and fewer and lower fees, and receiving higher earnings on shares and deposits, credit union members earn real financial benefits—about \$240 a year per household, or \$10.9 billion a year for all members.

No matter how old our credit union is, you and all members are the beneficiaries of 100 years of credit union innovation and service to members.

We'll celebrate this major achievement and continue to look for ways to help members make the most of their money.



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