



myEECU

MEMBER PROFILE

Member Spotlight:

Paul Loeffler

*Director of Broadcasting,
Fresno State Athletics*



At the age of 12, Paul Loeffler was sitting at his home in Los Banos with his father watching a 49ers game when the announcer said something wrong.

Paul told his father, “That guy doesn’t know what he’s talking about.” His father laughed at him, and responded, “Well, if you think you can do better, maybe you should be a sports announcer.”

“At 12-years-old I announced my first football game and I have been doing it one way or another ever since,” Paul says.

(Cont. inside—Paul Loeffler)

PRODUCT/SERVICE PROFILE

Build Your Savings with Our Certificate Specials

An EECU certificate is a great way to build your savings. Certificates generally offer better rates than a traditional savings account with a guaranteed return on your investment.

Sweetheart Share/IRA Certificate	Spring Share Certificate
<p>2.89% APY*</p> <p>2-year Share/IRA Certificate¹</p>	<p>3.20% APY*</p> <p>3-year Share Certificate²</p>

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*APY = Annual Percentage Yield. Penalty for early withdrawal. EECU membership required.

¹ Minimum balance to open and earn 2.89% APY is \$500. Certificate must be opened between 2/14/23 – 4/15/23.

² Minimum balance to open and earn 3.20% APY is \$500. Certificate must be opened between 3/1/23 – 4/30/23.

Bulletin Board



Holiday Hours

In observance of the following holidays, we will be closed:

Memorial Day – Monday, May 29

Normal business hours will resume on Tuesday, May 30.

Juneteenth – Monday, June 19

Normal business hours will resume on Tuesday, June 20.



Membership Update

City of Fresno employees are now eligible to join EECU. Expanding our field of membership allows us to provide our affordable products and services to even more people and contributes to our continued growth and success.

EECU Board Member Cleo Bauer-Papagni Passes Away



We are saddened to announce that Cleo Bauer-Papagni, secretary of our Board of Directors, passed away on January 23, 2023.

Cleo was elected to the Supervisory Committee in 1992 and served as chair from 1995-1997. In 1997, she was elected to the Board of Directors where she held positions as chair, vice chair, and secretary during her 26-year tenure. She also served on several board committees.

At the time of her passing, she was one of the longest-serving volunteers in the credit union's history.

Cleo drew on her professional background and education to provide guidance to the credit union in many areas; we benefited greatly from her many years of experience. She will be remembered for her leadership, dedication and commitment to the credit union and the community.

Cleo was a valued and respected member of our Board of Directors and the EECU family, and she will be greatly missed.

Our Virtual Annual Meeting is June 16



Our 2023 EECU Annual Meeting will be a virtual event on Friday, June 16.

The meeting will be streamed at 1:30 p.m. from our Operations Center in Fresno.

A report of the election results for the Board of Directors and the Supervisory Committee will be announced, and we'll provide a brief overview of EECU's financials, 2022 accomplishments and future plans. We'll also give special recognition to our 2023 Student Grant Program recipients.

Check our website for details as we get closer to the event. We hope you can join us.

Member Conduct Policy

EECU currently serves more than 355,000 members. Most conduct themselves in a courteous and businesslike manner. However, on occasion – whether at the credit union or another place of business – some have witnessed or experienced inappropriate conduct. Unfortunately, we live in a society where threatening behavior and violent crime have become all too familiar.

In our continuing efforts to foster a safer workplace for employees and members, the Board of Directors has approved a policy regarding appropriate member conduct. As stated in the policy, EECU believes that our employees should be able to work in an environment free of abusive conduct, and free of risks posed by workplace violence and harassment.

Examples of such unacceptable conduct include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Use of profane, abusive, intimidating or threatening language toward employees or fellow members.
- Actual or threatened violence against any employee or fellow member.
- Unwelcome sexual overtures or advances.
- Using or being under the influence of drugs or alcohol on credit union premises.
- Behavior that unreasonably disrupts EECU's ability to provide service to other members.

Based on this policy, if it is determined that a member's conduct has ascended to a level that triggers the provisions of this policy, the credit union, at its sole discretion, may take such actions necessary to protect staff and fellow members. Such discipline could include the denial of services involving personal contact with credit union employees. This would in effect limit a member to conduct credit union banking either by mail or electronically.

In these times of elevated security risks, it truly takes a team approach to make our everyday lives safer. If you become aware of a potentially unsafe condition at the credit union, please contact branch management immediately or our Member Service Center at 800-538-3328.

Grant Program Offers Cash for College

EECU's Student Grant Program is open to members who are pursuing a post-high school education at a community college, university/college, vocational/technical school, or advanced professional training in the United States. **In order to be eligible to apply for a grant this fall, you must be an EECU member in good standing and your account must be opened by June 1, 2023.**

Applications for the 2024 EECU Grant Program will be available in October. Members who submit a complete application and who meet the grant eligibility requirements will have an opportunity to be considered for a \$2,000 grant. If you or someone you know would benefit from a \$2,000 educational grant, please share this information or visit myEECU.org for details.



Paul Loeffler (Cont. from Cover)

Paul, 46, is the director of broadcasting for Fresno State Athletics and has been the permanent play-by-play announcer for baseball, basketball and football since 2008. He is also a color analyst on broadcasts of the Scripps National Spelling Bee for the Scripps Networks since 2022 and for ABC/ESPN from 2006-2021. Paul competed in the spelling bee in 1990.

Paul is passionate about using his voice to caption and capture the memories and history of student-athletes and military veterans from all across the nation.

Whether it's providing play-by-play and commentary during radio broadcasts for Fresno State athletics, conveying the emotions and atmosphere of an event, or sharing the experiences of a veteran who has served the country, Paul's goal has always remained the same - "to try and make someone who was not there, feel like they were there."

Paul's position with Fresno State has allowed him to travel the nation, where he meets and talks with veterans about their time in the military.

"If you ask me why I spend so much time working with veterans, it's so we never lose sight that freedom is not free. Without their sacrifice, we wouldn't have this country, we wouldn't have this community and, in many cases, myself included, maybe we wouldn't have been born."

Paul's inspiration to tell the stories of veterans comes from an early childhood moment while at his grandparents' house in Los Banos.

"I was playing hide-and-seek with my brother and he caught me because I caught my shirt on a frame in the closet. I turned this frame around and it was a newspaper from Chicago in 1944 and it said in big red letters 'Chicagoan saves 26.'"

"The article was about my grandfather, Dr. Robert Loeffler, a World War II veteran, rescuing 26 men from burning tanks while under fire in France. He was awarded the Silver Star, one of the highest honors you can receive," Paul says.

He later was also awarded a Bronze Star for his actions at the Battle of the Bulge.

After graduating from Syracuse University in New York in 1998, where he earned a dual major in broadcast journalism and policy studies, Paul applied for a job in the area but did not get it, which led him back to the Central Valley.

Paul was hired at CBS47 in Fresno in 1998, where he worked for 10 years. During that time, Paul started to air segments telling veterans' stories.

He founded Hometown Heroes Radio in 2007 and it began syndication in 2013. The program currently airs on 13 radio stations. These stories led to his interest in the Honor Flight, which has led the effort to honor local World War II, Korean War and Vietnam War veterans by sending them to see their memorial in Washington D.C. Paul cofounded Central Valley Honor Flight in 2013.

The volunteer organization, supported entirely by donations, has made it possible

to take more than 1,531 veterans to see their memorials.

"Most of these veterans would have never gotten to see it if it wasn't for something like Honor Flight. It is important to get them there, so they can process, so they can get closure, so they can see what the people of our country have built to honor them," Paul says.

According to Paul, the non-profit organization has raised more than \$5 million, which has funded 23 flights and 32 homecoming and send-off events.

There are four scheduled Honor Flights in 2023, with the first set to depart in April. Flights are also planned for May, September and October.

While his grandfather never got to see the memorial in Washington, Paul always has him on his mind when he hears the stories of other veterans. "I see every one of these veterans in the same light as my grandfather, that their service and their sacrifice is worthy of respect, it's worthy of our gratitude."

Driven by his faith and his mindset that 'God's plan is better than his plans,' Paul hopes to continue to bring people together.

"The one thing that I will always advocate for is our community, and anything that can unite us. When you are at a Fresno State game and there are 40,000 people cheering on the Bulldogs, that is a powerful feeling. With the Honor Flight, we see people from up and down the Valley say 'this is worthwhile, we will put our differences aside and unite around this.' It gives us a hint of what we can do together. So, those are things that really fire me up."

Annual Election of Volunteer Officials

Each year Educational Employees Credit Union is required to elect volunteer officials and conduct an Annual Meeting. For 2023, there were open positions for the Board of Directors and the Supervisory Committee.

From November 2022 through January 2023, we sought potential candidates through various channels including email, newsletter, account statement inserts, and social media. This year, there was no contest for the available three Board of Directors and one Supervisory Committee positions for the 2023 election.

Therefore, as provided in the Credit Union Bylaws, the Board of Directors will declare at the Annual Meeting that those nominated and qualified to be elected are elected without the need for an election.



Top Scams to Watch Out for in 2023

Scammers are like viruses: They continually evolve in response to the latest news and trends, using them for new ways to separate us from our cash.

Here are a few emerging scams that anti-fraud experts are tracking in 2023, along with tips on how to thwart the crooks.

1. Cryptocurrency-romance scam

Crooks combine crypto scams with old-fashioned romance scams, posing as internet love interests so they can cajole their targets into downloading an app and investing in fake crypto accounts. While the app displays data that seems to show your wealth growing, criminals are just taking your money.

How to stay safe: Carefully scrutinize any investment opportunity, even if you think you're a sophisticated investor.

2. Payday loan scam

Criminals exploit the inflation squeezing workers by offering fake payday loans they claim will help people settle their bills. Loan applicants are told they'll need to prepay a fee. The money goes into the crooks' pockets, and the applicant gets nothing.

How to stay safe: Be wary of anyone who asks you to pay any sort of loan fee with a gift card or some other nontraceable form of payment.

3. One-time password (OTP) bot scam

Credit reporting company Experian warns that scammers utilize bots — automated programs — to trick people into sharing the two-factor authentication codes sent to them via text or email from financial institutions (or from companies such as Amazon). The bot will make a robocall or send a text that appears to come from a bank, asking you to authorize a charge, then it asks you to enter the authentication code you've just been sent if the transaction isn't yours. It's actually the bot that's trying to log into your bank account, and it wants the code that the bank sent to you as a precaution, so it can get in.

How to stay safe: Never share authentication codes, or provide other information, in response to an unsolicited phone call or text.

Source: AARP



HONOR EDUCATION PERFECT FOR TEACHER APPRECIATION DAY - MAY 9

Celebrate a beloved teacher, school counselor, coach, or a principal by adding a commemorative brick to the Teachers and Friends of Education Honor Wall! Every brick supports student success by funding essential computer technology for the Kremen School of Education and Human Development.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Call 559-278-0210 or visit teachershonorwall.com.

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