



Hi Everyone,

The only thing worse than bad fishing is bad fishing in bad weather. That's according to our boat captain Jeff. And it was so true this year on our annual fishing trip to Alaska. There was no rain in southeast Alaska so the streams were low and the salmon couldn't spawn. In the ocean the current had moved outside of Prince of Wales Island so that migratory salmon were bypassing the island on their way to Washington and Oregon. As always the trip to Alaska was lots of fun and we have a lot of good memories from it, but we sure had to work hard to get our fish.

The fishing this year reminded me so much of the current economic conditions. You've probably already read that we're headed for another patch of bad economic weather. I think it's probably just a continuation of the past two years. We're at the end of an economic megacycle where we were spending money we didn't have. We did this on the personal side and the government did the same and we did it for many years. Now we have to patch up our balance sheets and that will take some time.

This is all about something called the paradox of thrift. Ultimately the solution to our problems, either personal or as a society is to save more. But saving more can be a very painful transition. We have to first learn to live below our means and then we have to save what we don't spend. Because we're saving, the spending we used to do is not stimulating the economy and more people will lose jobs and the housing market won't heal. But we have to go through this painful process and the sooner we do it the better. Eventually new jobs will be created in new industries and we will work our way out of this mess. It may take as long as five or six more years. Are you personally experiencing the paradox of thrift? If you are making some painful choices about not spending then I'm sure you understand. Until we all do that we won't get past the paradox to a point where we are back on the right track. Call us if you are having problems with those adjustments. We may be able to help you, and in these times of bad economic weather we can all use a little more help.

Till Next Time,

Evan Clark, President and CEO



his economy will continue to challenge us for some time to come. If you'd like to identify ways to cut your expenses and build your savings, come in and talk to one of our Member Service Representatives about your options. Or call us at 202-482-4134 (or toll-free at 888-626-9845). Every situation is different, so we'll take a few minutes to get acquainted with your overall financial picture, then make some recommendations, including ways we may be able to help (like using a Home Equity Line of Credit to pay off high-interest credit cards and loans-see below). Turn to us in these tough economic times. We're here to find you more ways to "Live well. Below your means."

## ONE WAY TO LOWER YOUR MONTHLY BILLS.

If you're carrying balances on high-interest credit cards or loans, you may be able to consolidate all of them into one low-interest payment each month.

Take a look at our **Home Equity Line Of Credit** (HELOC).

Rates have never been lower and by using your home's equity, you could decrease your monthly expenditures. Which means you'll have more money to put into savings. Visit DOCFCU.org to check out our rates. And you can apply for a HELOC right online to make things even easier.



## TAKE DOCFCU WITH YOU, EVERYWHERE.

If the saying, "All good things in life are free" is true, you're going to love our new mobile banking app. When you visit **DOCFCU.org** from your smart phone or PDA, you'll be able to:

- View your account info
- Contact us
- Find DOCFCU locations
- Review our current rates

Now no matter where you go, we'll be right there with you.



## THE NEW DOCFCU WEBSITE IS COMING.

There has been so much going on at DOCFCU lately that we've had to push the launch of our newly designed website by a few weeks. But once it's up and running (and it may well be by the time you read this), we know you'll enjoy the fresh, new look, the ease of navigation and all of the great information we've added. The new site will still be available at DOCFCU.org, so

keep your eyes open for it. You're going to like what you see.



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