



DAKOTA
CREDIT UNION
ASSOCIATION

2026

*Hall of
Fame*

Distinguished Service

Nomination Packet

2026 HALLOF FAME DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

- Objective** To honor individuals who have shown exceptional dedication and outstanding service to the credit union movement in the Dakotas through a lifetime of contributions.
- Method** Recipients may be selected based upon the criteria relating to credit union chapter, Association, national, volunteer, and community activities. Due to the criteria and qualifications process, the Hall of Fame Distinguished Service Award may not be presented every year. Nominations may be submitted by any credit union, board, Chapter or the Dakota Credit Union Association (DakCU) and Mid-America Service Corporation (MASC) by completing a nomination form and personal data form and returning it by the deadline. Nominations can also be made posthumously.
- Recognition** Induction into the Hall of Fame Distinguished Service will take place at the Annual Summit with inductees being confidentially announced prior to the convention. Inductees will receive a personalized commemorative plaque in their honor. Each inductee's name will also be displayed on the Credit Union Hall of Fame Distinguished Service wall, located in the DakCU office.
- Eligibility** Any person who has given paid or volunteer service to the credit union movement is eligible. Association and committee chairs and presidents/CEOs are eligible. Persons who were candidates in the past are eligible for renomination. Employees of the Association and MASC are not eligible to participate in this program while employed by MASC/DakCU.
- Criteria** Nominees for the DakCU Hall of Fame Distinguished Service Award must meet the following criteria:
- Be a credit union employee or volunteer in the process of retiring within one year's time or have been retired no more than three years prior. Nominees must be member of a DakCU affiliated credit union.
 - Selflessly given exceptional time, effort, and talent to the betterment of the credit union movement.
 - Served, assisted, or been involved in the credit union movement for more than 10 years.
 - Be in good standing in the community.
 - Understand and personify the credit union philosophy of "People Helping People," promote the credit union idea, and actively demonstrate loyalty to the entire organized credit union movement.
 - Demonstrated organizational leadership, high professional standards, made volunteer contributions to the movement, and promoted technical innovations in the credit union service.
 - Nominee must have a simple majority of those directors present and voting to be inducted into the Hall of Fame Distinguished Service.
- Exceptions**
- Person may be nominated if death occurs while working as a credit union professional.
 - Person may be nominated if credit union professional has 25 years or more of service.
 - Other exceptions to these criteria can be made upon unanimous approval by the Association Board.

Hall of Fame Inductees



2025

Floyd Rummel III
Northern Hills Federal Credit Union, SD

2024

Melanie Stillwell
Western Cooperative Credit Union, ND

Darla Erb

Voyage Federal Credit Union, SD

2023

Mindee Kohlman
Aspire Credit Union, ND

2022

Darrell Dickhaut
Dakotaland Federal Credit Union, SD

Dayne Headland

First Community Credit Union, ND

2021

Roger Heacock
Black Hills Federal Credit Union, SD

2020

Roger Peters
Service First Federal Credit Union, SD

Dan Cumbee

Dakotaland Federal Credit Union, SD

2019

Tim Brown
Dakota Plains Federal Credit Union, SD
Dakota Plains Credit Union, ND

Marney Kresel

University Federal Credit Union, ND

2018

Arlene Elliott
Aberdeen Federal Credit Union, SD

Greg Tschider

Credit Union Association of the Dakotas, ND

2017

Deb Gallagher
Capital Credit Union, ND

2014

Janice Katin
Affinity First Federal Credit Union, ND

Donald Thompson
Service First Federal Credit Union, SD

2013

Patty Pretzer
Town & Country Credit Union, ND

Dick Schmidt
Service First Federal Credit Union, SD

Marvel Ebenhahn
Community Credit Union, ND

2012

Trudy Wise
Midwest Corporate Federal Credit Union, ND

Doug Thompson
Aberdeen Federal Credit Union, SD

Wally Myers
Service First Federal Credit Union, SD

Jim Jarman
Service First Federal Credit Union, SD

2011

Allan Dreesman
Service First Federal Credit Union, SD

Faye Miller
Capital Credit Union, ND

Galen DeBey
North Dakota Credit Union League, ND

2010

Marlys Meyer
Northern Hills Federal Credit Union, SD

Earl Stone
Sioux Falls Federal Credit Union, SD

Marvin Widmann
Service First Federal Credit Union, SD

Stuart Higginbotham
First Community Credit Union, ND

2009

Melva Oak
First Community Credit Union, ND

2008

Tony Alef
Northern Tier Federal Credit Union, ND

Duane Ellingson
Black Hills Federal Credit Union, SD

2006

Betty Leehan
First Community Credit Union, ND

E. Duane Gronfur
Western Cooperative Credit Union, ND

2005

George Economon
Freedom Community Credit Union, ND

2004

Leo Leehan
First Community Credit Union, ND

2003

Don Thurlow
Dakota Plains Credit Union, ND

2002

Rolfe "Bud" Tehven
Postal Family Federal Credit Union, ND

2001

LaVerne Anderson
Dakota Plains Credit Union, ND

Grace Joyce
First Community Credit Union, ND

Duane Lund
Freedom Community Credit Union, ND

Donald Malheim
Postal Family Federal Credit Union, ND

2000

John Hillerson
North Dakota Credit Union League, ND

Angela Lee
GEM Federal Credit Union, ND

Marjorie Lange
First Community Credit Union, ND

Arnold Paulson
North Dakota Credit Union League, ND

Howard J. Snortland
Capital Credit Union, ND

Carl Aasen
Portland Credit Union, ND

Maurie C. Byrne
Cavalier Credit Union, ND

Gordon E. Arne
North Star Community Credit Union, ND

Reuel Harrison
Foster County Coop Credit Union, ND

Arlo Beggs
First Community Credit Union, ND

Carl Larson
Western Cooperative Credit Union, ND

Harold E. Helferich
Capital Credit Union, ND

2026 HALLOF FAME DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

Nominee Personal Data Form

The Dakota Credit Union Association's Hall of Fame was established to honor distinguished credit union supporters that have had an impact on the credit union movement.

To help judges learn about the nominee's qualifications, please complete this form. The entire selection process is based on the information provided, so be as detailed as you can. Please use additional pages if needed.

Name

Address

Current Position

Credit Union or Other

Email

1. Involvement with credit unions *(Describe professional/volunteer involvement with credit unions)*

Credit Union	Position/Title	Dates of Service
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

2. Past/present positions held in chapters

Chapter	Position/Title	Dates of Service
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

3. Past/present positions held at the state or national level (Association/Corporate boards, committees, or task forces: America's Credit Unions, CUNA Mutual, etc.)

Organization	Position/Title	Dates of Service
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

4. Describe the contributions made to the credit union movement in terms of achievements, new programs, philosophy, legislation, innovative projects, etc.

5. Has the nominee made significant efforts to continue education and advance volunteer and/or professional development? Please include any significant chapter, Association, and/or America's Credit Unions program(s) the nominee attended or participated in

6. List civic/community organizations the nominee is currently or has been involved with inside or outside of the credit union movement

Organization	Position/Title	Dates of Service
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

7. Please use this space to provide any additional information about the nominee that reinforces qualifications for induction into the Hall of Fame.

I certify that the above information is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Signature _____

Date _____

Nominations must be received by January 9, 2026 to:

Dakota Credit Union Association Hall of Fame
 2005 North Kavaney Drive, Ste 201
 Bismarck, ND 58501

or by email Lindsey Hefta at lhefta@dakcu.org

2026 HALLOF FAME DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

Nominator Information

Please complete the following information about yourself and your involvement with the individual you are nominating.

Individual Making Nomination *(Nominator)*

Nominator Credit Union and Position

Credit Union Address

Work Phone

Home Phone

Email Address

Please describe your involvement with nominee

Nominations must be received by January 9, 2026 to:

Dakota Credit Union Association Hall of Fame - 2005 N Kavaney Drive, Ste 201, Bismarck, ND 58501 or Lindsey Hefta at lhefta@daku.org