

For Immediate Release

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Alaska USA Announces 2004 Employee and Manager of the Year



Alaska USA Federal Credit Union has announced John Duncan as 2004 Employee of the Year. Duncan began his Alaska USA career in 2001 as manager of the credit union's Kent, Washington branch. Duncan was recently promoted to the position of Senior Credit Development Officer in the Pacific Northwest, where he is responsible for developing the credit union's business with retail merchants and dealers. It is his performance in this role that earned him the employee of the year honor.

"The success that the Pacific Northwest dealer loan program achieved in such a short time and the enormous contribution that the program has had to Alaska USA's success this year, is directly attributable to John's efforts," said Alaska USA President Bill Eckhardt.

In accepting the honor, Duncan noted that his efforts were supported by others in the credit union. "I'd like to give special thanks to everyone at Alaska USA's Dealer Loan Center," said Duncan. "They do a lot of work behind the scenes that helps me better serve retailers and dealers. The Dealer Loan Center's ability to quickly problem-solve issues and to handle a large volume of loans is crucial to the success of the program."



Alaska USA Federal Credit Union has named Liz Behlke as the 2004 Manager of the Year. Behlke joined Alaska USA three years ago as Marketing Manager and has been responsible for growing the credit union's brand image and implementing a number of new advertising and marketing efforts. Behlke was recently promoted to Vice President, Marketing.

"Liz has consistently responded with enthusiasm while undertaking several major new marketing initiatives, including business to business, sales promotion, member information, trade shows, and new product lines," noted Alaska USA President Bill Eckhardt. "Her leadership qualities as well as her ability to effectively collaborate join to make her one of the outstanding management talents at Alaska USA."

“Being part of Alaska USA’s management team has allowed me to see how the credit union rewards its employees for maintaining high standards and providing exceptional member service,” said Behlke. “I’m extremely flattered to be singled out in this way, but I think it is only because I have enjoyed such wonderful support from my supervisor, my colleagues, and the marketing team.”

Award recipients are chosen based on their proficiency, professionalism, dedication, consistency of performance, initiative, and their contribution to the credit union’s member service and financial goals.

Alaska USA Federal Credit Union is a member-owned, not-for-profit financial cooperative with 270,000 members worldwide.