

News Release

TCUL and VolCorp Honor Tennessee Credit Union Hall of Fame Inductees

5/22/19

NASHVILLE –The Tennessee Credit Union League (TCUL) and Volunteer Corporate Credit Union (VolCorp) recently inducted two deserving individuals into the Tennessee Credit Union Hall of Fame at the TCUL Annual Convention and Expo in Chattanooga, TN. Jointly sponsored by the TCUL and VolCorp, induction into the Tennessee Credit Union Hall of Fame is awarded annually to recognize the commitment, leadership, and dedication that deserving individuals from the state have made to the credit union movement.

The first 2019 inductee into the Tennessee Credit Union Hall of Fame is Ms. Nadine M. Freeman, Retired CEO with EPB Employees Credit Union (Chattanooga, TN). For 45 years, Nadine Freeman faithfully served the members of EPB Employees Credit Union. Nadine is a charter member of EPB Employees Credit Union, going back to its opening in 1954. Because of her strong support of the credit union, she was hired as one of EPB's first full-time employees. From 1954 until 1987, Nadine worked in every segment of the credit union's operations. In 1987, Nadine was named CEO where she lovingly served for 27 years, retiring at the age of 81. Nadine once served as Secretary for the Chattanooga Chapter of Credit Unions, and enjoyed attending many TCUL and VolCorp meetings, CEO conferences, and annual meetings.

The second inductee into the Tennessee Credit Union Hall of Fame for 2019 is Mr. Randal Braker, Director with Ascend Federal Credit Union (Tullahoma, TN). Randal Braker is a faithful and tireless servant in his voluntary, unpaid position with Ascend Federal Credit Union. Through regular attendance at Board meetings as well as his participation in numerous committee meetings and the annual Strategic Planning Session, Mr. Braker's service is vitally important to the purpose, mission and vision of the credit union. During his chairmanship, Mr. Braker ratified a unique partnership with The Nature Conservancy in Tennessee. Potential members seeking access to Ascend can join the Conservancy by making a contribution of at least \$25. Since 2011 Ascend has raised nearly \$300,000 for the Conservancy and their efforts to protect the natural areas of the state. A strong advocate for making a difference in the lives of our members, Mr. Braker has played a vital role in Ascend's member return. Over the past 14 years, Mr. Braker and his fellow Board members have voted to return more than \$77 million to members in bonus dividends and loan interest refunds. Mr. Braker has enjoyed attending many industry conferences and conventions during his tenure, and has received numerous awards from CUNA through its Volunteer Achievement Program.

The Tennessee Credit Union League (TCUL) was formed in 1934 as a 501C-3 non-profit trade association for Tennessee credit unions. The League's mission is to promote and support the success and advancement of credit unions in meeting their service and structural goals.

Volunteer Corporate Credit Union (VolCorp) is a not-for-profit financial cooperative that serves natural person credit unions nationally. Guided by a volunteer board of directors, VolCorp was organized for the express purpose of providing low-cost financial services and competitive investment and lending rates to our member/owners.

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