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For Immediate Release

**League's 78<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention celebrates the Wild West,  
honors numerous individuals/CUs with awards**

Naperville, IL., April 22, 2008 -- More than 900 executives attended the Illinois Credit Union League's (ICUL) 78<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention last week, which featured a wild west-style theme of "Blazing New Trails."

A number of events were held, including a Keynote and Awards Program. This session provided the means for numerous individuals and credit unions to be honored. These included:

- **Dora Maxwell Honorees.** The following were acknowledged for their participation: \$50 - \$100 million: first place, Streator Onized CU, Streator, for "Taste of the Town" event; \$100 - \$200 million: first place: Financial Plus CU, Ottawa, for its participation in the Star Tree Project for a local foster home; and second place, Community Trust CU, Gurnee, for its involvement in the local Relay for Life Cancer Walk; \$200 - \$500 million: first place, Consumers Cooperative CU, Waukegan, for its Latino outreach program; and second place: GCS FCU, Granite City, for its support of the local chapter of the United Way.
- **Louise Herring Winners.** GCS FCU, Granite City, received first place in the \$50 - \$250 million category for its Cub savings club for members ages 12 and under; and in the more than \$250 million category, Consumers Cooperative CU, Waukegan, won first place for the implementation of its employee university.
- **Desjardins Awards.** Prairie Trail CU, Joliet, received first place in the Desjardins Youth Financial Education Award program in the \$35-\$75 million in assets category for introducing the CU Succeed Teen Program, implementing a youth savings club, a Bank at School program, and conducting Junior Achievement classroom presentations. NuMark CU, Joliet, won first place in the \$75 - \$250 million category for implementing youth savings clubs, and operating a student-run credit union branch at a local high school; and CEFUCU, Peoria, earned first place in the more than \$250 million category for reaching nearly 90 percent of schools in its community charter area with financial education materials and hosting Peoria's first Money Smart Week.

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- **CUES Recipient.** One member of the CUES Illinois Council was honored for Executive of the Year, more than \$50 million in assets: Gail Clore, CEO, Cornerstone CU, Freeport.
- **Hall of Fame Inductee.** David Walker, CEO of Decatur Earthmover CU, Decatur, was the sole individual to be inducted into the Illinois Credit Union Hall of Fame this year and received the leadership award.
- **Illinois Credit Union Foundation Commemorative Awards.** The Foundation recognized tribute scholarships established in honor of Barbara Jackson, president/manager of Holy Cross Hospital ECU, Chicago; Patricia Fox Johnson, president/manager of Sun-Times ECU, Chicago; Marjorie Lindberg, chairman of the board, VAMCO CU, Des Plaines; and Ida Miller, CEO of VA West Side FCU. In addition, one memorial scholarship was established in memory of David L. Christensen, board member, Prairie Trail CU, Joliet. To have a memorial or tribute commemorative scholarship established, friends and family members have donated \$2,500 or more to the Foundation in memory or in honor of a loved one.

The League's 79<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention is set for April 16-18, 2009 at the Chicago Hilton & Towers.

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**Note:** The Illinois Credit Union System is the primary trade association for credit unions in Illinois, which provides members with information, legislation, and education. Membership is open to any credit union operating in accordance with the Illinois Credit Union Act or the Federal Credit Union Act. There are 454 credit unions in Illinois serving more than 2.7 million members.