

Chartered in 1939 and still serving the community today

As the financial crisis of the Great Depression deepened, the Federal Credit Union Act of 1934 sought to “make more credit available to people of small means for prudent and productive purposes through a national system of cooperative credit.” Credit unions began to appear in Idaho in 1935. By late 1938, a few dozen teachers from the Lewiston and Clarkston school districts, as well as professors and staff at Lewiston State Normal School, met in the Lewiston High School auditorium to gain direction from a representative of the Farm Credit Administration.

The group selected two Lewiston teachers to manage what was to be called the Lewis-Clark Federal Credit Union (LCFCU).

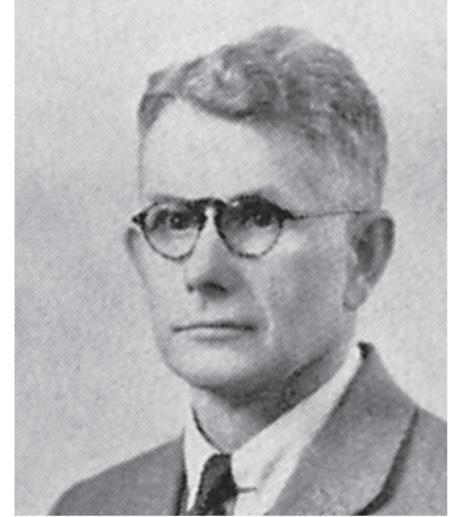
A graduate of LHS in 1921, James LeClair Jr. grew up in a banking family. His father was the secretary-treasurer of the Lewiston Loan & Trust Company. After serving as principal of Orofino High School, LeClair returned to Lewiston in 1934 to teach social studies at Lewiston Junior High School, which once stood where the current Science



James LeClair Jr. was elected to be the credit union's first president.

Building is found. The assembled teachers elected LeClair their first LCFCU president. After service in World War II, LeClair was a longtime high school principal in Richland. He died in October 1985.

Thomas Coultas graduated from Drake University in 1903 in Des Moines, Iowa, and took over the LHS commercial department in 1911 after teaching in



Thomas Coultas served as the credit union's first treasurer.

North Dakota. From 1918-1921, he was the credit manager for the R.C. Beach Company, the site of which is now Towne Square. Upon being selected as the first treasurer of LCFCU, Coultas organized a small box in a drawer of his desk to handle the future accounts. He retired in 1941 and passed away 10 years later.

Our focus is your future.

lewisclarkcu.org |  

