



By Jim Holt, president/CEO

Mid American Credit Union members gained access to more than 25 shared branches just within the local Wichita area, when Meritrust Credit Union recently joined the nationwide shared branching network, Credit Union Service Centers.

Mid American recognized the value of the Credit Union Service Centers network and led credit unions from this area to join several years ago.

This unique network has gained in popularity, with more than 4,300 credit unions participating in the U.S. alone.

With this concept, you can maintain your membership and accounts in your home credit union, and still have in-person access at any participating credit union where you may happen to be. This is particularly convenient for those who frequently travel or need to relocate.

It's easy to find these locations: Look for the distinctive CU Service Centers swirl , displayed at participating credit unions, use the [online locator service](#) , or use your portable device to navigate to the closest option. Locator applications are available for some smartphones.

This concept of cooperation among financial institutions is unique to credit unions. You will not find this among banks or other financial institutions.

Because credit unions are a nonprofit cooperative, we realize that we can better serve our member-owners through cooperation.

At Mid American, we have had success cooperating with other local credit unions in other ways. For example, we are working with Cessna Employees and Catholic Family Federal credit unions, and possibly one or two others to bring our brand of service to the northeast. We broke ground on that facility in May.

We're also in the process of finalizing another partnership for that facility – to offer an Internet café run by a new local business, Savories Tasty Shop & Coffee House. The retail-based concept will be another pioneering milestone for Mid American – we'll be on the forefront of offering this type of facility in the Wichita area, just as we were on the forefront of bringing the CU Service Center network to town.

Another example of convenient cooperation is our participation the Co-op Network, which allows you to use more than 28,000 ATMs nationwide with no surcharges. You can find those locations online, as well, by clicking on the [ATMs link](#).

We want to serve you in ways that are convenient to you in as many locations as possible. Let me know if there is some way we can be more available to you.

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