For more than 100 years, credit unions have provided financial services to their members in the United States. Credit unions are unique depository institutions created not for profit, but to serve their members as credit co-operatives. In 1924, Joseph Stern, an artist at the Boston Herald, created the “Little Man Under the Umbrella” as the first... World War II, the “Little Man” appeared in uniform, carrying a knapsack and a rifle, and he also rode on a tank!

Credit unions have grown significantly over time, with membership reaching more than 100 million by 1977. By the 1980s, deregulation led to tremendous growth in the credit union movement, with the number of credit unions and assets increasing significantly.

The credit union movement faced challenges during the Great Depression, but it maintained its stability in 2008 and continued to grow. The movement expanded member identification across the nation, and by 1925, there were 19 new credit unions throughout the United States.

In the 1900s, people were interested in purchasing goods and needed a source of inexpensive credit. Families had more money to save and could afford to purchase these goods. The credit unions offered affordable credit, and as a result, the number of credit unions grew.

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Credit unions expanded member eligibility to include unions, cooperatives, and political organizations. The Membership Access Act was signed by President Bill Clinton on October 9, 1998, expanding membership eligibility to nearly 130 million Americans than ever.

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Credit unions have a strong track record of providing financial assistance to individuals and groups with a pre-existing relationship. The Membership Access Act signed by President Bill Clinton on October 9, 1998, expanded membership eligibility to nearly 130 million Americans than ever.

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