FINANCIAL FEDERAL CORP
Form 10-Q
December 10, 2009


FINANCIAL FEDERAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended October 31, 2009

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Item 1. Financial Statements

FINANCIAL FEDERAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS
(In thousands, except par value)

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October 31, 2009 July 31, 2009*
 (Unaudited)

| ASSETS |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Finance receivables |  | 1,410,964 |  | 1,536,398 |
| Allowance for credit losses |  | $(25,028)$ |  | (25,007) |
| Finance receivables - net |  | 1,385,936 |  | 1,511,391 |
| Cash |  | 9,463 |  | 8,038 |
| Other assets |  | 34,160 |  | 28,685 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | \$ 1,429,559 |  | \$ 1,548,114 |  |
| LIABILITIES |  |  |  |  |
| Debt: |  |  |  |  |
| Long-term (\$6,600 at October 31, 2009 and $\$ 5,400$ at |  |  |  |  |
| Short-term |  | 185,800 |  | 120,000 |
| Accrued interest, taxes and other liabilities |  | 41,249 |  | 44,068 |
| Total liabilities |  | 966,249 |  | 1,096,068 |
| STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY |  |  |  |  |
| Preferred stock - \$1 par value, authorized 5,000 shares |  |  |  |  |
| Common stock - \$.50 par value, authorized 100,000 shares, shares issued and outstanding (net of 1,696 treasury shares): 26,257 at October 31, 2009 and 25,889 at |  |  |  |  |
| July 31, 2009 |  | 13,129 |  | 12,945 |
| Additional paid-in capital |  | 162,761 |  | 159,501 |
| Retained earnings |  | 287,975 |  | 281,604 |
| Accumulated other comprehensive loss |  | (555) |  | (2,004) |
| Total stockholders' equity |  | 463,310 |  | 452,046 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY | \$ | 1,429,559 | \$ | 1,548,114 |

* Restated for the retrospective application of FASB ASC 470-20, "Accounting for Convertible Debt Instruments That May Be Settled in Cash upon Conversion (Including Partial Cash Settlements)." See Note 1.

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements
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FINANCIAL FEDERAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENTS
(In thousands, except per share amounts)
(Unaudited)

| Finance income | \$33,138 | \$42,993 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Interest expense | 8,666 | 16,286 |
| Net finance income before provision for credit losses on finance receivables | 24,472 | 26,707 |
| Provision for credit losses on finance receivables | 2,500 | 1,400 |
| Net finance income | 21,972 | 25,307 |
| Gain on debt retirement | 2,400 | -- |
| Salaries and other expenses | $(7,721)$ | $(7,169)$ |
| Income before provision for income taxes | 16,651 | 18,138 |
| Provision for income taxes | 6,349 | 7,059 |
| NET INCOME | \$10,302 | \$11,079 |
| EARNINGS PER COMMON SHARE: Diluted | \$ 0.41 | \$ 0.44 |
| Basic | \$ 0.39 | \$ 0.43 |

* Restated for the retrospective application of FASB ASC 470-20 and FASB ASC 260-10 "Determining Whether Instruments Granted in Share-Based Payment Transactions Are Participating Securities." See Note 1.

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements

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> FINANCIAL FEDERAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
> CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY *
> (In thousands)
> (Unaudited)

|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Com } \\ & ------ \\ & \text { Shares } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { on Stock } \\ ------- \\ \text { Amount } \end{gathered}$ | Additional Paid-In Capital | Retained Earnings | Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss | To |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| BALANCE - JULY 31, 2008 | 25,673 | \$12,836 | \$150,490 | \$255,726 | \$ $(2,480)$ | \$416, |
| Net income | -- | -- | -- | 11,079 | -- | 11, |
| Reclassification of realized net loss in net income, after $\$ 76$ of tax | -- | -- | -- | -- | 121 |  |



|  | Com ------ Shares | n Stock Amount | Additional Paid-In Capital | Retained Earnings | ```Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss``` | To |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| BALANCE - JULY 31, 2009 | 25,889 | \$12,945 | \$159,501 | \$281,604 | \$(2,004) | \$452, |
| Net income | -- | -- | -- | 10,302 | -- | 10, |
| Reclassification of realized net loss in net income, after $\$ 914$ of tax | -- | -- | -- | _- | 1,449 | 1, |
| Comprehensive income |  |  |  |  |  | 11 |
| Stock plan activity: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Shares issued | 368 | 184 | 1,338 | -- | -- | 1, |
| Compensation recognized | -- | -- | 1,922 | -- | -- | 1, |
| Common stock cash dividends | -- | -- | -- | $(3,931)$ | -- | (3) |
| BALANCE - OCTOBER 31, 2009 | 26,257 | \$13,129 | \$162,761 | \$287,975 | \$ (555) | \$463, |

* Restated for the retrospective application of FASB ASC 470-20. See Note 1.

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements
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## FINANCIAL FEDERAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS <br> (In thousands) <br> (Unaudited)

| Three Months Ended October 31, | 2009 |  | 2008* |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Cash flows from operating activities: |  |  |  |  |
| Net income | \$ | 10,302 | \$ | 11,079 |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities: |  |  |  |  |


| Amortization of deferred origination costs and fees | 4,125 | 4,463 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Provision for credit losses on finance receivables | 2,500 | 1,400 |
| Stock-based compensation | 1,114 | 1,186 |
| Depreciation and amortization | 165 | 382 |
| Amortization of debt discount on convertible debentures | -- | 900 |
| Gain on debt retirement | $(2,400)$ | -- |
| Decrease in other assets | 2,043 | 379 |
| Decrease in accrued interest, taxes and other liabilities | $(3,733)$ | $(3,458)$ |
| Tax shortfall from stock-based awards | -- | 13 |
| Net cash provided by operating activities | 14,116 | 16,344 |
| Cash flows from investing activities: |  |  |
| Finance receivables originated | $(64,122)$ | (225,007) |
| Finance receivables collected and repossessed assets sales proceeds | 176,040 | 273,253 |
| Net cash provided by investing activities | 111,918 | 48,246 |
| Cash flows from financing activities: |  |  |
| Bank borrowings, net increase | 175,600 | 8,000 |
| Commercial paper, net decrease | $(14,800)$ | $(49,000)$ |
| Repayments of term asset securitization borrowings | $(13,000)$ | $(18,000)$ |
| Repayments of term notes | $(270,000)$ | -- |
| Proceeds from stock option exercises | 1,522 | 454 |
| Common stock cash dividends | $(3,931)$ | $(3,861)$ |
| Common stock repurchased | -- | (83) |
| Tax shortfall from stock-based awards | -- | (13) |
| Net cash used in financing activities | $(124,609)$ | $(62,503)$ |
| NET INCREASE IN CASH | 1,425 | 2,087 |
| Cash - beginning of period | 8,038 | 8,232 |
| CASH - END OF PERIOD | \$ 9,463 | \$ 10,319 |

* Restated for the retrospective application of FASB ASC 470-20. See Note 1.

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements

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FINANCIAL FEDERAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(Dollars in thousands, except per share amounts)
(Unaudited)

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Description of Business
Financial Federal Corporation ("FFC") is a holding company operating primarily through one subsidiary to provide collateralized lending, financing and leasing services nationwide to small and medium sized businesses in the general construction, road and infrastructure construction and repair, road transportation and refuse industries. We lend against, finance and lease a wide range of new and used revenue-producing, essential-use equipment including

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cranes, earthmovers, personnel lifts, trailers and trucks.

Subsequent Event

On November 22, 2009, we entered into an Agreement and Plan of Merger with People's United Financial, Inc. ("People's"), the holding company for People's United Bank, to be acquired by People's. The merger must be approved by our stockholders and is subject to other customary closing conditions. The merger is expected to close in the third quarter of fiscal 2010 and our stockholders will receive $\$ 11.27$ in cash and one share of People's common stock for each share of our common stock under the terms of the merger agreement.

Basis of Presentation and Principles of Consolidation

We prepared the accompanying Consolidated Financial Statements according to accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). We eliminated all significant intercompany accounts and transactions. We do not have reportable operating segments. We have two fully consolidated special purpose entities for our on-balance-sheet asset securitization facilities. We evaluated subsequent events through December 8, 2009; the date we issued the consolidated financial statements.

The Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") implemented the FASB Accounting Standards Codification ("ASC") on July 1, 2009. The FASB ASC is a major restructuring of accounting standards and is now the only source of GAAP. It replaced all prior accounting standards previously referred to as FASBs, SFASs, EITFs, APBs, FSPs, etc. All public companies are required to refer to appropriate FASB ASC sections instead of the original accounting standards formerly disclosed starting with the first fiscal quarter ending after September 15, 2009; this quarter for us. We are providing references to the original accounting standards to ease the transition. The FASB ASC did not change GAAP.

We prepared the accompanying unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements according to the Securities and Exchange Commission's rules and regulations. These rules and regulations permit condensing or omitting certain information and note disclosures normally included in financial statements prepared according to accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). The July 31, 2009 Consolidated Balance Sheet was derived from audited financial statements but does not include all disclosures required by GAAP. However, we believe the disclosures are sufficient to make the information presented not misleading. These Consolidated Financial Statements and accompanying notes should be read with the Consolidated Financial Statements and accompanying notes included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended July 31, 2009.

In our opinion, the Consolidated Financial Statements include all adjustments (consisting of only normal recurring items) necessary to present fairly our financial position and results of operations for the periods presented. The results of operations for the three months ended October 31,2009 may not be indicative of full year results.

Certain amounts presented in the consolidated financial statements for the prior period have been restated for the retrospective application of FASB ASC 470-20 (formerly referred to as Staff Position APB 14-1), "Accounting for Convertible Debt Instruments That May Be Settled in Cash upon Conversion (Including Partial Cash Settlements)." Interest expense is $\$ 900$ higher and income tax expense is $\$ 300$ lower than originally reported for the three months ended October 31, 2008 resulting in net income being $\$ 600$ lower and diluted and basic earnings per share $\$ 0.03$ lower than originally reported. Additional paid-in capital is $\$ 11,000$ higher and retained earnings is $\$ 11,000$ lower than originally reported at July

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31, 2009. Basic earnings per share is another $\$ 0.02$ lower than originally reported for the three months ended October 31, 2008 because of the retrospective application of FASB ASC 260-10 (formerly referred to as Staff Position EITF 03-6-1), "Determining Whether Instruments Granted in Share-Based Payment Transactions Are Participating Securities."

## Use of Estimates

GAAP requires us to make significant estimates and assumptions to record the amounts reported in the Consolidated Financial Statements and accompanying notes for the allowance for credit losses, non-performing assets, residual values, income taxes and stock-based compensation. Actual results could differ from these estimates significantly.

New Accounting Standards
FASB ASC 260-10 became effective for us on August 1, 2009 and is applied retrospectively for all periods presented. It classifies unvested shares of restricted stock and stock units with nonforfeitable dividend rights as participating securities (securities participating in dividends with common stock according to a formula). Participating securities require the "two-class" method to calculate basic earnings per share. This method lowers basic earnings per common share but does not affect diluted earnings per share or net income. Basic earnings per share is net income available to common stockholders divided by the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding during the period. Net income available to common stockholders is net income less dividends paid on and net income allocated to participating securities. Applying this FSP reduced basic earnings per common share by $\$ 0.02$ for the three months ended October 31, 2009.

FASB ASC 470-20 became effective for us on August 1, 2009 and is applied retrospectively for all periods presented. It requires a portion of convertible debt that can be settled in cash to be recorded as equity and interest expense to be recorded on the debt portion at a rate that would have been charged on non-convertible debt with the same terms. It applies retrospectively through April 30, 2009 to the $\$ 175,000$ of $2.0 \%$ convertible debentures we repaid in April 2009 but will not affect current and future consolidated financial statements because we repaid the debentures.

We determined we would have been charged 4.2\% on five-year non-convertible term debt when we issued the convertible debentures in April 2004. As a result, we reclassified $\$ 6,200$ of the convertible debentures net of $\$ 2,200$ of deferred income taxes as equity as of August 1, 2007 (the beginning of the earliest fiscal period to be presented after the FASB ASC 470-20 took effect). The $\$ 6,200$ was amortized as a debt discount and recorded as additional interest expense over the period August 1, 2007 to April 14, 2009 (the last day interest was due on the debentures) using the interest method. Therefore, net income for fiscal 2009 and 2008 presented in all current and future consolidated financial statements will be lower than originally reported. The effective interest rate on the debt portion was $4.70 \%$ (includes amortization of deferred debt issuance costs), and interest expense for the three months ended October 31, 2008 included $\$ 900$ of amortization of the debt discount and $\$ 880$ of contractual interest. The unamortized debt discount was $\$ 1,700$ at October 31, 2008.

The FASB issued ASC 860, "Accounting for Transfers of Financial Assets", (formerly referred to as SFAS No. 166) and ASC 810-10, "Amendments to FASB Interpretation No. (46R)", (formerly referred to as SFAS No. 167) in June 2009. ASC 860 requires additional disclosures for securitization transactions and changes how special purpose entities are consolidated. ASC 810-10 changes how

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companies determine how to consolidate variable interest entities. These ASCs take effect for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2009 and will take effect for us on August 1, 2010 (fiscal 2011). They should not have a material impact on our consolidated financial statements because we already consolidate our two special purpose entities and we did not have any interests in variable interest entities at October 31, 2009.

NOTE 2 - FINANCE RECEIVABLES

Finance receivables comprise installment sale agreements and secured loans (including line of credit arrangements), collectively referred to as loans, with fixed or floating interest rates, and direct financing leases as follows:

|  | October 31, 2009 | July 31, 2009 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Loans: |  |  |
| Fixed rate | \$1,202,503 | \$1,283,561 |
| Floating rate (indexed to the prime rate) | 86,785 | 122,234 |
| Total loans | 1,289,288 | 1,405,795 |
| Direct financing leases * | 121,676 | 130,603 |
| Finance receivables | \$1,410,964 | \$1,536,398 |
| * includes residual values of $\$ 28$ July 31, 2009 | $31,2009$ | 1,500 at |

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Line of credit arrangements contain off-balance sheet risk and are subject to the same credit policies and procedures as other finance receivables. The unused amount of these commitments was $\$ 12,700$ at October 31, 2009 and $\$ 14,200$ at July 31, 2009.

Allowance for credit losses activity is summarized below:

| Three Months Ended October 31, | 2009 | 2008 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Allowance - beginning of period | \$25,007 | \$24,769 |
| Provision | 2,500 | 1,400 |
| Write-downs | $(2,944)$ | $(2,122)$ |
| Recoveries | 465 | 742 |
| Allowance - end of period | \$25,028 | \$24,789 |
| Allowance - end of year as a pe of finance receivables | $1.77 \%$ | 1.31\% |
| Net charge-offs | \$ 2,479 | \$ 1,380 |
| Loss ratio ** | $0.67 \%$ | $0.29 \%$ |
| * write-downs less recoveries |  |  |
| Non-performing assets comprise impaired finance receivables and assets ved to satisfy finance receivables as follows: |  |  |


|  | October 31, 2009 | July 31, 2009 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Impaired finance receivables | \$51,932 | \$64,507 |
| Assets received to satisfy finance receivables | 30,256 | 22,536 |
| Non-performing assets | \$82,188 | \$87,043 |

The allowance for credit losses included \$900 at October 31, 2009 and \$1,100 at July 31, 2009 specifically allocated to \$5,200 and \$11,900, respectively, of impaired finance receivables. We did not recognize any income in the three months ended October 31, 2009 or 2008 on impaired receivables before collecting our net investment. We repossessed assets to satisfy \$49,700 and $\$ 15,600$ of finance receivables in the three months ended October 31, 2009 and 2008, respectively. We recorded $\$ 11,200$ of impaired finance receivables based on the fair value of the collateral and $\$ 17,900$ of assets received to satisfy receivables at fair value at October 31, 2009.

NOTE 3 - DEBT

Debt is summarized below:

|  | October 31, 2009 | July 31, 2009 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Fixed rate term notes: |  |  |  |
| 4.31\% - 4.60\% due 2013 | \$ 30,000 | \$ | 75,000 |
| $4.96 \%$ - 5.00\% due 2010 - 2011 | 81,400 |  | 250,000 |
| 5.45\% - 5.57\% due 2011 - 2014 | 265,000 |  | 325,000 |
| Total fixed rate term notes | 376,400 |  | 650,000 |
| Asset securitization borrowings - term | 88,000 |  | 101,000 |
| Total term debt | 464,400 |  | 751,000 |
| Bank borrowings | 371,400 |  | 197,000 |
| Commercial paper | 89,200 |  | 104,000 |
| Total debt | \$925,000 |  | 052,000 |

Term Notes

In August 2009, we prepaid $\$ 168,600$ of the five-year $5.00 \%$ term notes maturing in May and August 2010, and in September 2009, we prepaid $\$ 60,000$ of the five-year 5.45\% term notes maturing in March 2011. There was no gain or loss on these prepayments. In October 2009, we prepaid a $\$ 45,000$ five-year 4.31\% term note maturing in February 2013

[^0]Asset Securitization Borrowings

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We have two asset securitization facilities totaling \$425,000 expiring as follows: \$100,000 in April 2010 and $\$ 325,000$ in June 2010. The facilities provide for committed revolving financing during their one-year term and we can convert borrowings outstanding into amortizing term debt if they are not renewed. These facilities would terminate if net charge-offs of securitized receivables or if delinquent receivables exceed certain levels and any borrowings outstanding would convert into amortizing term debt. We would be required to repay the amortizing term debt monthly from collections of securitized receivables and it would be repaid substantially within two years. The entire amount of the facilities was unused and available for us to borrow at October 31, 2009.

We are repaying the $\$ 88,000$ of term asset securitization borrowings monthly from collections of securitized receivables. The monthly repayment amounts vary based on the amount of securitized receivables collected and the amount borrowed under the $\$ 325,000$ facility, and would increase if we borrow under this facility or convert this facility into amortizing term debt upon nonrenewal. This term debt will be repaid substantially within two years based on the amount of securitized receivables at October 31, 2009 and no future borrowings under the facility.

Finance receivables included $\$ 130,000$ of securitized receivables at October 31, 2009 and $\$ 167,000$ at July 31, 2009. The amount of receivables we can securitize is limited to $50 \%$ of our major operating subsidiary's receivables because of restrictions in its other debt agreements. This limit was $\$ 700,000$ at October 31, 2009. Borrowings under these facilities and the amortizing term debt are limited to $90 \%$ of securitized receivables classified as eligible. Securitized receivables classified as impaired or with terms outside of defined limits are not eligible.

## Bank Borrowings

We have $\$ 440,000$ of committed unsecured revolving credit facilities from nine banks with $\$ 125,000$ expiring within one year and $\$ 315,000$ expiring between November 2009 ( $\$ 15,000$ ) and April 2012, and $\$ 68,600$ of these facilities was unused and available for us to borrow at October 31, 2009. Borrowings under these facilities can mature between 1 and 270 days with interest rates based on LIBOR or domestic money market rates. Borrowings outstanding at October 31, 2009 matured in November 2009, were reborrowed and remain outstanding. We incur a fee on the unused portion of the facilities.

In November 2009, we amended and combined two $\$ 50,000$ facilities set to expire in February 2010 and 2012 into a new $\$ 100,000$ facility expiring in November 2012.

Other
We obtained all of our debt and credit facilities through our major operating subsidiary. The subsidiary's debt agreements have restrictive covenants limiting its indebtedness, encumbrances, investments, sales of assets, mergers and other business combinations, capital expenditures, interest coverage, net worth and dividends and other distributions to FFC. The subsidiary complied with all debt covenants and restrictions at October 31, 2009. None of the agreements or facilities has a material adverse change clause and all of our debt is senior.

Long-term debt comprised the following:

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| Term notes | \$295,000 | \$425,000 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Borrowings under bank credit facilities expiring after one year | 315,000 | 197,000 |
| Commercial paper supported by long-term asset securitization facilities | 89,200 | 104,000 |
| Asset securitization borrowings - term | 40,000 | 43,000 |
| Term notes refinanced in August 2009 with borrowings under bank credit |  |  |
| facilities expiring after one year | -- | 163,000 |
| Total long-term debt | \$739,200 | \$932,000 |

NOTE 4 - STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY
We established a common stock and convertible debt repurchase program in fiscal 2007 for an initial amount of $\$ 50,000$. We increased the program by $\$ 58,533$ in fiscal 2009 and $\$ 43,862$ remained authorized for future repurchases at October 31, 2009. The program does not have an expiration date.

The amount of equity we can distribute to stockholders is limited, indirectly, because the amount of funds we can obtain from our major operating subsidiary is restricted by its debt agreements. As a result, the amount of stockholders' equity we could distribute at October 31, 2009 was limited to $\$ 147,000$. The limit increases each quarter by a percentage of the subsidiary's net income.

We reclassified $\$ 1,400$ (net of $\$ 850$ of deferred income tax) of the $\$ 2,004$ unrealized net after-tax loss from interest rate locks in accumulated other comprehensive loss at July 31, 2009 into net income in the three months ended October 31, 2009 because we prepaid the related hedged debt.

NOTE 5 - STOCK PLANS
We have two stockholder approved stock plans; the 2006 Stock Incentive Plan (the " 2006 Plan") and the Amended and Restated 2001 Management Incentive Plan (the "Amended MIP"). The 2006 Plan authorizes the issuance of $2,500,000$ shares of restricted stock, non-qualified or incentive stock options, stock appreciation rights, stock units and common stock to officers, other employees and directors with annual participant limits, and expires in December 2016. Awards may be performance-based. The exercise price of stock options cannot be less than the fair market value of our common stock when granted and their term is limited to ten years. There were 1,439,000 shares available for future grants under the 2006 Plan at October 31, 2009. The Amended MIP authorizes the issuance of $1,000,000$ shares of restricted stock, with an annual participant limit of 200,000 shares, and awards of performance-based cash or stock bonuses to our CEO and other selected officers. The Amended MIP expires in December 2011. There were 565,000 shares available for future grants under the Amended MIP at October 31, 2009 .

We have a Supplemental Retirement Benefit ("SERP") for our CEO. We awarded 150,000 stock units to our CEO in fiscal 2002 vesting annually in equal amounts over eight years. Subject to forfeiture, our CEO will receive shares of common stock equal to the number of stock units vested when our CEO retires, and 131,000 units were vested at October 31, 2009.

Shares of restricted stock, stock options and stock units are the only

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incentive compensation we provide (other than a cash bonus for the CEO) and we believe these stock-based awards further align employees' and directors' interests with those of our stockholders. We do not have a policy to repurchase shares in the open market, and we issue new shares when we award shares of restricted stock or when options are exercised.

Restricted stock activity for the three months ended October 31, 2009 is summarized below (shares in thousands):

|  | Shares | Weighted-Average Grant-Date Fair Value |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Unvested - August 1, 2009 | 1,189 | \$25.59 |
| Granted | 300 | 23.37 |
| Vested | (10) | 26.06 |
| Forfeited | -- | -- |
| Unvested - October 31, 2009 | 1,479 | 25.14 |

Information on shares of restricted stock that vested follows (in
thousands, except intrinsic value per share):

| Three Months Ended October 31, | 2009 | 2008 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Number of shares vested | 10 | 10 |
| Total intrinsic value * | \$ 244 | \$ 234 |
| Intrinsic value per share | 24.40 | 23.40 |
| Tax shortfall realized | -- | 6 |

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* shares vested multiplied by the closing prices of our common stock on the dates vested

In October 2009, we awarded 70,000 shares of performance-based restricted stock to executive officers under the 2006 Plan and 60,000 shares of performance-based restricted stock to the CEO under the Amended MIP vesting in October 2014. These shares would be forfeited if the performance condition, based on diluted earnings per share for fiscal 2010, is not met. We also awarded 170,000 shares of restricted stock not performance-based to executive officers including the CEO under the 2006 Plan in September 2009 vesting 20\% after one, two, three, four and five years.

Shares of restricted stock unvested at October 31, 2009 and awarded before July 31, 2009 vest as follows:

- 370,000 shares awarded to executive officers and other employees in fiscal 2002 through fiscal 2009 vest annually in equal amounts over initial periods of three to eight years (seven year average)
o 435,000 shares awarded in fiscal 2006 (and 55,000 restricted stock units awarded in fiscal 2009) to executive officers vest when the officer's service terminates, other than upon a non-qualifying termination, after six months (i) after the executive officer attains age 62 or (ii) after August 2026 if earlier (twelve year average) and a portion based on the percentage of the vesting period elapsed would vest upon a qualifying employment termination


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- 50,000 shares awarded to our CEO in fiscal 2009 vest in October 2013 and 225,000 shares awarded to executive officers in fiscal 2008 vest in October 2012

There were 272,000 stock units outstanding at October 31, 2009 and 188,000 were vested. All unvested shares of restricted stock and stock units are subject to forfeiture and would vest immediately upon the sale of the Company or the employee's or director's death or disability, and 828,000 of the shares of restricted stock unvested at October 31, 2009 would also vest upon a qualifying employment termination.

We pay dividends on all unvested shares of restricted stock and make dividend equivalent payments on all stock units. Dividends and dividend equivalents paid are retained and not forfeited regardless of whether the shares of restricted stock or stock units vest. The restricted stock and stock unit agreements allow employees to pay income tax due by surrendering a portion of the shares or units.

Stock option activity and related information for the three months ended October 31, 2009 are summarized below (options and intrinsic value in thousands):

|  | Options | Weighted-Average |  | Options in the Money |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Exercise Price | Remaining <br> Term <br> (years) |  | Intrinsic Value * |
| Outstanding - August 1, 2009 | 733 | \$24.35 |  |  |  |
| Exercised | (68) | 22.29 |  |  |  |
| Expired unexercised | (14) | 25.12 |  |  |  |
| Forfeited | -- | -- |  |  |  |
| Outstanding - October 31, 2009 | 651 | 24.55 | 1.4 | 27 | \$50 |
| Exercisable - October 31, 2009 | 465 | \$24.45 | 0.9 | 12 | \$10 |

* number of in-the-money options (options with an exercise price below the market price of our common stock) multiplied by the difference between their average exercise price and the $\$ 20.42$ closing price of our common stock on October 31, 2009

Information on stock option exercises follows (in thousands, except intrinsic value per option):

| ============================================================================== |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | :--- |
| Three Months Ended October 31, | 2009 | 2008 |
| $============================================================================$ |  |  |
| Number of options exercised | 68 | 20 |
| Total intrinsic value * | $\$ 129$ | $\$ 49$ |
| Intrinsic value per option | 1.90 | 2.45 |
| Tax shortfall realized | -- | 7 |



* options exercised multiplied by the difference between their exercise prices and the closing prices of our common stock on the exercise dates


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Future compensation expense (before deferral) for stock-based awards unvested at October 31, 2009 and expected to vest, and the average expense recognition periods follow:

|  | Expense | Weighted-Average Years |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Restricted stock | \$20,600 | 5.2 |
| Stock units | 600 | 10.0 |
| Stock options | 500 | 1.7 |
| Total | \$21, 700 | 5.2 |

Compensation recorded, deferred and in salaries and other expenses for stock-based awards, and related tax benefits recorded, follow:

| Three Months Ended October 31, | 2009 | 2008 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Total stock-based compensation | \$1,922 | \$2,004 |
| Deferred stock-based compensation | 808 | 818 |
| Net stock-based compensation in salaries and other expenses | \$1,114 | \$1,186 |
| Tax benefits | \$ 405 | \$ 446 |

NOTE 6 - EARNINGS PER COMMON SHARE

Earnings per common share ("EPS") was calculated as follows (in thousands, except per share amounts):

| Three Months Ended October 31, | 2009 | 2008 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Net income (used for diluted EPS) | \$10,302 | \$11,079 |
| Dividends paid on unvested shares of restricted stock and stock units | (180) | (176) |
| Allocation of net income to holders of restricted stock and stock units | (336) | (371) |
| Net income available to common stockholders (used for basic EPS) | \$ 9,786 | \$10,532 |
| Weighted-average common shares outstanding (used for basic EPS) | 24,981 | 24,564 |
| Effect of dilutive securities: |  |  |
| Shares of restricted stock and stock units | 398 | 411 |
| Stock options | 33 | 13 |
| Adjusted weighted-average common shares outstanding (used for diluted EPS) | 25,412 | 24,988 |
| Net income per common share: |  |  |
| Diluted | \$0.41 | \$0.44 |

$$
\begin{array}{lll}
\text { Basic } \quad \$ 0.39 & \$ 0.43
\end{array}
$$

Antidilutive shares of restricted stock, stock units and stock options * 400432

* excluded from the calculation because they would have increased diluted EPS


## NOTE 7 - FAIR VALUES OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

We estimate the fair value of our financial instruments; cash, finance receivables (excluding leases), commitments to extend credit under line of credit arrangements and debt, as described below.

Carrying values of cash, commercial paper, bank borrowings and asset securitization borrowings approximated their fair values based on their short-term maturities and floating interest rates. Fair value of the term notes payable was $\$ 371,400$ at October 31, 2009 and $\$ 637,000$ at July 31, 2009, compared to their carrying amounts of $\$ 376,400$ at October 31, 2009 and $\$ 650,000$ at July 31, 2009. We calculated fair value based on the notes' cash flows discounted at current market interest rates and credit spreads.

It is not practicable for us to estimate the fair value of our finance receivables and commitments to extend credit. These financial instruments were not priced with any set formulas, were not credit-scored and are not loan-graded. They are not traded on any market and we hold them to maturity. Their average remaining life is less than two years, and full and partial prepayment activity has been significant. They comprise a large number of transactions with commercial customers in diverse businesses, are secured by liens on various types of equipment and may be guaranteed by third parties and cross-collateralized. Any difference between carrying value and fair value of each transaction would be affected by a potential buyer's assessment of the transaction's credit quality, collateral value, guarantees, payment history, yield, term, documents and other legal matters, and other subjective considerations. Value received in a fair market sale would be based on the terms of the sale, our and the buyer's views of economic and industry conditions, tax considerations and other factors.

Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

Overview
Financial Federal Corporation ("FFC") is an independent financial services holding company operating in the United States primarily through one subsidiary. We do not have any unconsolidated subsidiaries, partnerships or joint ventures. We also do not have any off-balance sheet assets or liabilities (other than commitments to extend credit), goodwill, other intangible assets or pension obligations, and we are not involved in income tax shelters. We have two fully consolidated special purpose entities for our on-balance-sheet asset securitization facilities.

We have one line of business. We lend money under installment sale agreements, secured loans and leases (collectively referred to as "finance receivables") to small and medium sized businesses for their equipment financing needs. Finance receivable transactions generally range between $\$ 50,000$ and $\$ 1.5$

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million, have terms between two and five years and require monthly payments. The average transaction size is approximately $\$ 250,000$. We earn revenue solely from interest and other fees and amounts earned on our finance receivables. We need to borrow most of the money we lend. Therefore, liquidity (money currently available for us to borrow) is very important. We borrow from banks and insurance companies and we issue commercial paper to other investors. Approximately 65\% of our finance receivables were funded with debt at October 31, 2009.

Our main areas of focus are (i) asset quality (ii) liquidity (iii) net interest spread (the difference between the rates we earn on our receivables and the rates we incur on our debt) and (iv) interest rate risk. Changes in the asset quality of our finance receivables can affect our profitability significantly. Classifying receivables as impaired, incurring write-downs and incurring costs associated with non-performing assets can have an adverse affect on our finance income, provisions for credit losses and operating expenses. Changes in market interest rates can also affect our profitability significantly because the interest rates on our finance receivables were 94\% fixed and 6\% floating, and the interest rates on our debt were $41 \%$ fixed and $59 \%$ floating at October 31, 2009. We use various strategies to manage our credit risk and interest rate risk. These four areas are integral to our long-term profitability and we discuss them in detail in separate sections of this discussion.

Our key operating statistics are net charge-offs, loss ratio, non-performing assets, delinquencies, leverage, available liquidity, receivables growth, return-on-equity, net interest margin and net interest spread, and expense and efficiency ratios.

On November 22, 2009, we entered into an Agreement and Plan of Merger with People's United Financial, Inc. ("People's"), the holding company for People's United Bank, to be acquired by People's. The merger must be approved by our stockholders and is subject to other customary closing conditions. The merger is expected to close in the third quarter of fiscal 2010 and our stockholders will receive $\$ 11.27$ in cash and one share of People's common stock for each share of our common stock under the terms of the merger agreement.

Significant events

We prepaid $\$ 288.6$ million of debt in the first quarter of fiscal 2010; $\$ 273.6$ million of term notes and a $\$ 15.0$ million borrowing under a bank credit facility. We decided to prepay this amount of debt because (i) we had excess liquidity (over $\$ 400.0$ million remained after the prepayments) (ii) the interest rates were significantly higher than the rates on our other funding sources (iii) $\$ 228.6$ million of the debt had short maturities of nine, twelve and eighteen months and (iv) we recognized a $\$ 4.8$ million gain on $\$ 60.0$ million of the debt. Based on our available liquidity, our outlook for the economy and construction and transportation industries, the level of receivables originations we expect for fiscal 2010, and the small amount of credit facilities expiring in fiscal 2010, we determined we did not need this debt. The average interest rate on the borrowings under our committed bank credit facilities used to finance the prepayments was below $1.00 \%$ and the average rate on the prepaid term notes was $5.20 \%$. Therefore, prepaying this debt will result in substantial interest savings. Information on the debt we prepaid follows.

In July 2009, we offered to prepay, for their principal amount, the $\$ 250.0$ million of five-year 5.00\% term notes maturing in May and August 2010. Holders of $\$ 168.6$ million of the notes accepted the offer and were repaid in August 2009. In September 2009, we offered to prepay, for their principal amount, $\$ 60.0$ million of the $\$ 160.0$ million of five-year $5.45 \%$ term notes maturing in March 2011. Holders of $\$ 60.0$ million of the notes accepted the offer and were repaid in September 2009. There was no gain or loss on these prepayments. The note holders accepted our offers to prepay these notes at principal even though they

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would have received a prepayment premium if we chose to prepay the notes without their consent.

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In October 2009, we prepaid a $\$ 45.0$ million five-year $4.31 \%$ term note maturing in February 2013 for $\$ 41.4$ million and we prepaid $\$ 15.0$ million of borrowings under a bank credit facility expiring in February 2013 for $\$ 13.8$ million and terminated the $\$ 15.0$ million facility. This resulted in a $\$ 2.4$ million debt retirement gain net of reclassifying an unrealized interest rate lock loss from accumulated other comprehensive income related to the term note. We were recording interest expense on the term note including the effect of the interest rate lock loss at $5.90 \%$. We financed the prepayments with borrowings under our committed bank credit facilities. We do not plan to prepay any more debt.

Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates

Applying accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires judgment, assumptions and estimates to record the amounts in the Consolidated Financial Statements and accompanying notes. We describe the significant accounting policies and methods we use to prepare the consolidated Financial Statements in Note 1 to the Consolidated Financial Statements in our Annual Report on Form $10-K$ for the fiscal year ended July 31, 2009. Accounting policies involving significant judgment, assumptions and estimates are considered critical accounting policies and are discussed below.

## Allowance for Credit Losses

The allowance for credit losses on finance receivables is our estimate of losses inherent in our finance receivables at the balance sheet date. The allowance is difficult to determine and requires significant judgment. The allowance is based on total receivables, net charge-off experience, impaired and delinquent receivables and our current assessment of the risks inherent in our receivables from national and regional economic conditions, industry conditions, concentrations, the financial condition of customers and guarantors, collateral values and other factors. We may need to change the allowance level significantly if unexpected changes in these conditions or factors occur. Increases in the allowance would reduce net income through higher provisions for credit losses. We would need to record a $\$ 1.4$ million provision for each $0.10 \%$ required increase in the allowance level. The allowance was $\$ 25.0$ million (1.77\% of finance receivables) at October 31, 2009 including $\$ 0.9$ million specifically allocated to impaired receivables.

The allowance includes amounts specifically allocated to impaired receivables and an amount to provide for losses inherent in finance receivables not impaired (the "general allowance"). We evaluate the fair values of impaired receivables and compare them to the carrying amounts. The carrying amount is the amount receivables are recorded at when we evaluate them and may include prior write-downs or a specific allowance. If our fair value estimate is lower than the carrying amount, we record a write-down or establish a specific allowance depending on (i) how we determined fair value (ii) how certain we are of our fair value estimate and (iii) the level and type of factors and items other than the primary collateral supporting our fair value estimate, such as guarantees and secondary collateral. We do not have a fixed formula or a pre-determined period of past due status to record write-downs or specific reserves, we do not write-off our entire net investment because our receivables are secured by collateral that retains value and we do not lend to consumers.

To estimate the general allowance, we analyze historical write-down activity to develop percentage loss ranges by risk profile. Risk profiles are

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assigned to receivables based on past due status and the customers' industry. We do not use a loan grading system. We then adjust the calculated range of losses for expected recoveries and differences between current and historical loss trends and other factors to arrive at the estimated allowance. We record a provision for credit losses if the recorded allowance differs from our current estimate. The adjusted calculated range of losses may differ from actual losses significantly because we use significant estimates.

## Non-Performing Assets

We record impaired finance receivables and repossessed equipment (assets received to satisfy receivables) at the lower of their current estimated fair value or their carrying amount. We estimate fair value of these non-performing assets by evaluating the market value and condition of the collateral or assets and the expected cash flows of impaired receivables. We evaluate market value based on recent sales of similar equipment, used equipment publications, our market knowledge and information from equipment vendors. Unexpected adverse changes in or incorrect estimates of expected cash flows, market value or the condition of collateral or assets, or time needed to sell equipment would require us to record a write-down. This would lower net income. Non-performing assets were $\$ 82.2$ million (5.8\% of finance receivables) at October 31, 2009.

Residual Values
We record residual values on direct financing leases at the lowest of (i) any stated purchase option (ii) the present value at the end of the initial lease term of rentals due under any renewal options or (iii) our projection of the equipment's fair value at the end of the lease. We may not realize the full amount of recorded residual values because of unexpected adverse changes
in or incorrect projections of future equipment values. This would lower net income. Residual values were $\$ 28.1$ million (2.0\% of finance receivables) at October 31, 2009. Historically, we have realized recorded residual values on disposition.

## Income Taxes

We record a liability for uncertain income tax positions by (i) identifying the uncertain tax positions we take on our income tax returns (ii) determining if these positions would more likely than not be allowed by a taxing authority and (iii) estimating the amount of tax benefit to record if these tax positions pass the more-likely-than-not test. Therefore, we record a liability for tax benefits from positions failing the test and from positions we do not expect to realize the full amount of the tax benefits. Identifying uncertain tax positions, determining if they pass the test and determining the liability to record requires significant judgment because tax laws are complicated and subject to interpretation, and because we have to assess the likely outcome of hypothetical challenges to these positions by taxing authorities. Actual outcomes of challenges to these uncertain tax positions differing from our assessments significantly and taxing authorities examining positions we did not consider uncertain could require us to record additional income tax expense including interest and penalties. This would lower net income. The gross liability recorded for uncertain tax positions was $\$ 1.3$ million at July 31, 2009 and we do not expect this amount to change significantly in fiscal 2010.

## Stock-Based Compensation

We record compensation expense only for stock-based awards expected to vest. Therefore, we must estimate expected forfeitures of stock awards. This

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requires significant judgment and an analysis of historical data. We would need to record more compensation expense for stock awards if expected forfeitures exceed actual forfeitures. Our average expected annual rate of forfeitures on all stock awards was $2.3 \%$ at October 31,2009 resulting in 0.2 million stock awards expected to be forfeited.

## Results of Operations

Two changes to GAAP requiring retrospective treatment became effective for us in the first quarter of fiscal 2010. This means prior year amounts affected by the new accounting standards and presented in this 10-Q and future 10-Qs and 10-Ks will be different than reported originally. These changes are not corrections of errors. We discuss the new accounting standards in Note 1 (Summary of Significant Accounting Policies) to the consolidated financial statements. One standard requires us to increase the amount of interest expense we originally reported and the other requires us to change how we calculate basic earnings per share. Increasing interest expense in prior periods affects comparisons with many current period amounts. The following table shows the original and restated amounts for the first quarter of fiscal 2009 compared to the corresponding amounts for the first quarter of fiscal 2010.

| Three Months Ended October 31, | 2009 |  | 2008 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Restated | Original |
| Interest expense | \$ 8.7 | \$16.3 | \$15.4 |
| Net finance income before provision for |  |  | 27.6 |
| Net finance income | 22.0 | 25.3 | 26.2 |
| Income before provision for income taxes | 16.7 | 18.1 | 19.0 |
| Provision for income taxes | 6.4 | 7.0 | 7.3 |
| Net income | 10.3 | 11.1 | 11.7 |
| Diluted earnings per share | 0.41 | 0.44 | 0.47 |
| Basic earnings per share * | 0.39 | 0.43 | 0.48 |
| Cost of debt | $3.46 \%$ | 4.52\% | $4.26 \%$ |
| Net interest spread | 5.43 | 4.37 | 4.63 |
| Net interest margin | 6.56 | 5.52 | 5.71 |
| Efficiency ratio | 31.6 | 26.8 | 26.0 |
| Return-on-equity | 8.9 | 10.4 | 11.0 |

Comparison of three months ended October 31, 2009 to three months ended October 31, 2008


| Provision for credit losses | 2.5 | 1.4 | 1.1 | 79 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Gain on debt retirement | 2.4 | -- | 2.4 | 100 |
| Salaries and other expenses | 7.7 | 7.2 | 0.5 | 8 |
| Provision for income taxes | 6.4 | 7.0 | (0.6) | (10) |
| Net income | 10.3 | 11.1 | (0.8) | (8) |
| Diluted earnings per share | 0.41 | 0.44 | (0.03) | (7) |
| Basic earnings per share | 0.39 | 0.43 | (0.04) | (9) |
| Return-on-equity | 8.9\% | 10.4\% |  |  |
| Excluding the debt retirement gain: |  |  |  |  |
| Net income | \$ 8.8 | \$11.1 | \$ (2.3) | (21) $\%$ |
| Diluted earnings per share | 0.35 | 0.44 | (0.09) | (20) |
| Basic earnings per share | 0.33 | 0.43 | (0.10) | (23) |
| Return-on-equity | 7.6\% | 10.4\% |  |  |

Net income decreased by $8 \%$ to $\$ 10.3$ million in the first quarter of fiscal 2010 from $\$ 11.1$ million in the first quarter of fiscal 2009. Net income without the $\$ 1.5$ million after-tax debt retirement gain decreased by $21 \%$ because the effects of the $23 \%$ decrease in average receivables and higher non-performing assets exceeded the effects of lower short-term market interest rates. Net income without the after-tax debt retirement gain and the effect of the additional interest expense recorded for the first quarter of fiscal 2009 from the retrospective change in GAAP decreased by 25\%.

Finance income decreased by 23\% to $\$ 33.2$ million in the first quarter of fiscal 2010 from $\$ 43.0$ million in the first quarter of fiscal 2009 because average finance receivables decreased 23\% (\$440.0 million) to \$1.48 billion from $\$ 1.92$ billion. The yield on finance receivables was $8.89 \%$ in both quarters because the effects of higher impaired receivables and the 145 basis point (1.45\%) decrease in the average prime rate were offset by higher rates on originations. Changes in the prime rate affect the yield on receivables because $6 \%$ of our receivables are floating rate and indexed to prime.

Interest expense (incurred on debt used to fund finance receivables) decreased by $47 \%$ to $\$ 8.7$ million in the first quarter of fiscal 2010 from $\$ 16.3$ million in the first quarter of fiscal 2009 because our average debt decreased $31 \% ~(\$ 440.0$ million) and our cost of debt decreased to $3.46 \%$ from $4.52 \%$. Lower short-term market interest rates and repaying $\$ 473.6$ million of fixed rate term debt with an average rate of $5.00 \%$ since the end of the first quarter of fiscal 2009, partially offset by higher credit spreads, caused the decrease in our cost of debt. Our cost of debt decreases when short-term market interest rates decrease because the interest rates on over $50 \%$ of our debt are indexed to short-term market interest rates. We discuss this in the Market Interest Rate Risk and Sensitivity section.

Net finance income before provision for credit losses on finance receivables decreased by $8 \%$ to $\$ 24.5$ million in the first quarter of fiscal 2010 from $\$ 26.7$ million in the first quarter of fiscal 2009. Net interest margin (net finance income before provision for credit losses expressed as an annualized percentage of average finance receivables) increased to $6.56 \%$ from $5.52 \%$ because of the decrease in our cost of debt.

The provision for credit losses on finance receivables was $\$ 2.5$ million in the first quarter of fiscal 2010 and $\$ 1.4$ million in the first quarter of fiscal 2009. Net charge-offs (write-downs of finance receivables less recoveries) increased to $\$ 2.5$ million in the first quarter of fiscal 2010 from $\$ 1.4$ million

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in the first quarter of fiscal 2009, and the loss ratio (net charge-offs expressed as an annualized percentage of average finance receivables) increased to $0.67 \%$ from $0.29 \%$. Net charge-offs have been increasing because of higher non-performing assets, the recession and declining collateral values. We discuss the allowance and net charge-offs further in the Finance Receivables and Asset Quality section.

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Salaries and other expenses increased by 8\% to $\$ 7.7$ million in the first quarter of fiscal 2010 from $\$ 7.2$ million in the first quarter of fiscal 2009 because of higher non-performing asset costs. The expense ratio (salaries and other expenses expressed as an annualized percentage of average finance receivables) worsened to $2.07 \%$ from $1.48 \%$ because expenses increased and receivables decreased. The efficiency ratio (expense ratio expressed as a percentage of net interest margin) worsened to $31.6 \%$ from $26.8 \%$ because expenses increased and net finance income before provision for credit losses decreased.

The provision for income taxes decreased by $10 \%$ to $\$ 6.4$ million in the first quarter of fiscal 2010 from $\$ 7.0$ million in the first quarter of fiscal 2009 because of the decrease in net income before income taxes and, to a lesser extent, the decrease in our effective tax rate to $38.1 \%$ in the first quarter of fiscal 2010 from 38.8\% in the first quarter of fiscal 2009. Our effective tax rate decreased because of increased tax benefits (reductions of the provision for income taxes) related to stock options and because of the slight decrease in our state effective income tax rate.

Diluted earnings per share decreased by $7 \%$ to $\$ 0.41$ in the first quarter of fiscal 2010 from $\$ 0.44$ in the first quarter of fiscal 2009 and basic earnings per share decreased by $9 \%$ to $\$ 0.39$ from $\$ 0.43$ because of the decrease in net income. Diluted earnings per share without the after-tax debt retirement gain decreased by 20\% and with the effect of the additional interest expense in the first quarter of fiscal 2009 from the retrospective change in GAAP also excluded decreased by $26 \%$.

Net income, diluted and basic earnings per share and return-on-equity excluding the $\$ 1.5$ million after-tax debt retirement gain are non-GAAP financial measures. We believe presenting these financial measures is useful to investors because they provide consistency and comparability with our operating results for the prior period and a better understanding of the changes and trends in our operating results.

Finance Receivables and Asset Quality

We discuss trends and characteristics of our finance receivables and our approach to managing credit risk in this section. The key aspect is asset quality. Asset quality statistics measure our underwriting standards, skills and policies and procedures and can indicate the direction of future net charge-offs and non-performing assets.


As a percentage of receivables:

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| Allowance for credit losses | $1.77 \%$ | $1.63 \%$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Non-performing assets | 5.82 | 5.67 |
| Delinquent finance receivables | 2.03 | 2.47 |
| Net charge-offs (loss ratio) | 0.67 | 0.57 |

* as of and for the quarter ended

Finance receivables comprise installment sale agreements and secured loans (collectively referred to as loans) and direct financing leases. Loans were 91\% (\$1.29 billion) of finance receivables and leases were 9\% (\$122 million) at October 31, 2009. Finance receivables decreased $\$ 125.4$ million or $8 \%$ in the first quarter of fiscal 2010 because of lower originations.

We originated $\$ 64.1$ million of finance receivables in the first quarter of fiscal 2010 compared to $\$ 225.0$ million in the first quarter of fiscal 2009. Originations decreased because the recession has reduced demand for equipment financing significantly and because we are approving transactions selectively to preserve asset quality. We collected $\$ 176.0$ million of finance receivables and repossessions in the first quarter of fiscal 2010 compared to $\$ 273.0$ million in the first quarter of fiscal 2009. Collections decreased because of lower receivables, fewer prepayments and the increase in delinquent receivables.

Our primary focus is the credit quality of our receivables. We manage our credit risk by adhering to disciplined and sound underwriting policies and procedures, by monitoring our receivables closely, by handling non-performing accounts effectively and by managing the size of our receivables portfolio. Our underwriting policies and procedures require a first lien on equipment financed. We focus on financing equipment with a remaining useful life longer than the term financed,
historically low levels of technological obsolescence, use in more than one type of business, ease of access and transporting, and broad, established resale markets. Securing our receivables with equipment possessing these characteristics can mitigate potential net charge-offs. We may also obtain additional equipment or other collateral, third-party guarantees, advance payments or hold back a portion of the amount financed. We do not finance or lease aircraft or railcars, computer related equipment, telecommunications equipment or equipment located outside the United States, and we do not lend to consumers.

Our underwriting policies also limit our credit exposure with any customer. The limit was $\$ 40.0$ million at October 31, 2009. Our ten largest customers accounted for $9.6 \%$ ( $\$ 136.0$ million) of total finance receivables at October 31, 2009 compared to 8.0\% (\$125.0 million) at July 31, 2009.

Our allowance for credit losses was $\$ 25.0$ million at October 31, 2009 compared to $\$ 25.0$ million at July 31, 2009 , and the allowance level increased to $1.77 \%$ of finance receivables from 1.63\%. The allowance is our estimate of losses inherent in our finance receivables. We determine the allowance quarterly based on our analysis of historical losses and the past due status of receivables adjusted for expected recoveries and any differences between current and historical loss trends and other factors. Our estimates of inherent losses increased in the first quarter of fiscal 2010 because of higher net charge-offs and continued high levels of non-performing assets.

Net charge-offs of finance receivables (write-downs less recoveries) were $\$ 2.5$ million in the first quarter of fiscal 2010 compared to $\$ 2.3$ million in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2009 and the loss ratios were $0.67 \%$ and $0.57 \%$. Net

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charge-offs have been increasing because the recession is impacting our customers' cash flows and collateral values adversely.

The net investments in impaired finance receivables, repossessed equipment (assets received to satisfy receivables), total non-performing assets and delinquent finance receivables (transactions with more than a nominal portion of a contractual payment 60 or more days past due) follow (\$ in millions):

|  | $\begin{array}{r} \text { October 31, } \\ 2009 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \text { July } 31, \\ 2009 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \text { October 31, } \\ 2008 \end{array}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Impaired finance receivables * | \$51.9 | \$ 64.5 | \$30.7 |
| Repossessed equipment | 30.3 | 22.5 | 15.2 |
| Total non-performing assets | \$82. 2 | \$87.0 | \$45.9 |
| Delinquent finance receivables | \$28.6 | \$ 38.0 | \$22.4 |
| Impaired finance receivables not | quent 73\% | 60\% | 47\% |
| * before specifically allocated 2009, $\$ 1.1$ million at July 31, | nce of $\$ 0.9 \mathrm{~m}$ <br> and $\$ 0.9 \mathrm{mill}$ | lion at O on at Octo | ctober 31, ber 31, 2008 |

We expect net charge-offs, impaired and delinquent receivables and repossessed equipment to trend higher because of the recession's continuing impact on our customers. This could require us to record higher provisions for credit losses.

## Liquidity and Capital Resources

We describe our need for raising capital (debt and equity), our need to maintain a substantial amount of liquidity (money currently available for us to borrow), how we manage liquidity and our funding sources in this section. Key indicators are leverage (the number of times debt exceeds equity), available liquidity, credit ratings and debt maturities. Our leverage is low for a finance company, we have ample liquidity available, we have been successful issuing debt and our debt is diversified with maturities staggered over four years. We are not dependent on any of our funding sources or providers.

Liquidity and access to capital are vital to our operations and growth. We need continued availability of funds to originate or acquire finance receivables and to repay debt. To ensure we have enough liquidity, we project our financing needs based on estimated receivables growth and maturing debt, we monitor capital markets closely, we diversify our funding sources and we stagger our debt maturities.

Funding sources usually available to us include operating cash flow, private and public issuances of term debt, committed unsecured revolving bank credit facilities, conduit and term securitizations of finance receivables, secured term financings, dealer placed and direct issued commercial paper and sales of common and preferred equity. The external funding sources may be difficult or expensive to obtain because of credit market conditions. However, we have $\$ 404.4$ million
available to borrow under our committed revolving bank and asset securitization facilities (after subtracting commercial paper outstanding) at October 31, 2009. Therefore, we do not have a current need for additional financing.

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Our term notes are rated `BBB+' by Fitch Ratings, Inc. ("Fitch", a Nationally Recognized Statistical Ratings Organization) and our commercial paper is rated 'F2' by Fitch. Fitch affirmed these investment grade ratings in November 2009 and raised its outlook to positive from stable because of the pending merger with People's United. As a condition of our 'F2' credit rating, commercial paper outstanding is limited to the unused amount of our committed bank and securitization credit facilities. Our ability to obtain or renew financing and our credit spreads can be dependent on these investment grade credit ratings.

We obtained all of our debt and credit facilities through our major operating subsidiary. The subsidiary's debt agreements have restrictive covenants limiting its indebtedness, encumbrances, investments, sales of assets, mergers and other business combinations, capital expenditures, interest coverage, net worth and dividends and other distributions to FFC. The subsidiary has always complied with all debt covenants and restrictions. None of the agreements or facilities has a material adverse change clause and all of our debt is senior.

Debt decreased by $12 \% ~(\$ 127.0$ million) to $\$ 925.0$ million from $\$ 1.05$ billion during the first quarter of fiscal 2010 and stockholders' equity increased by $2 \%$ ( $\$ 11.3$ million) to $\$ 463.3$ million from $\$ 452.0$ million. Therefore, leverage (debt-to-equity ratio) decreased to 2.0 at October 31, 2009 from 2.3 at July 31, 2009. Our leverage reached this low level because we have remained profitable while contracting during the recent credit markets crisis and recession. This level of leverage allows for substantial asset growth and equity distributions and repurchases.

Debt comprised the following (\$ in millions):

|  | October 31, 2009 |  | July 31, 2009 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Amount | Percent | Amount | Percent |
| Term notes | \$376.4 | 41\% | \$ 650.0 | 62\% |
| Bank borrowings | 371.4 | 40 | 197.0 | 19 |
| Commercial paper | 89.2 | 10 | 104.0 | 10 |
| Asset securitization |  |  |  |  |
| borrowings - term | 88.0 | 9 | 101.0 | 9 |
| Total debt | \$925.0 | 100\% | \$1, 052.0 | 100\% |

Term Notes

We issued the term notes between fiscal 2005 and 2008 . They are five and seven year fixed rate notes with principal due at maturity between May 2010 and April 2014. Their average maturity was 2.2 years at October 31, 2009 and $\$ 81.4$ million matures in the next twelve months. We prepaid $\$ 273.6$ million of the term notes in the first quarter of fiscal 2010. Interest is payable semiannually.

## Bank Credit Facilities

We have $\$ 440.0$ million of committed unsecured revolving credit facilities from nine banks with original terms between two and five years, and \$68.6 million was unused and available for us to borrow at October 31, 2009. The facilities range from $\$ 15.0$ million to $\$ 110.0$ milion, have an average remaining term of 1.7 years and expire between November 2009 ( $\$ 15.0$ million) and April 2012 with $\$ 75.0$ million expiring in the next twelve months. Borrowings under the facilities can mature between 1 and 270 days. We borrow amounts for one day, one week or one month depending on interest rates, and roll the borrowings over when

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they mature depending on our financing needs and whether we issue or repay other debt. Borrowings outstanding at October 31, 2009 matured in November 2009, were reborrowed and remain outstanding. We terminated a $\$ 15.0$ million facility in the first quarter of fiscal 2010 when we prepaid the borrowings outstanding.

These committed facilities are a low-cost source of funds and support our commercial paper program. We can borrow the full amount under each facility immediately. None of the facilities are for commercial paper back-up only and the facilities do not have usage fees. These facilities might be renewed, extended or increased before they expire. In November 2009, we amended and combined two $\$ 50.0$ million facilities set to expire in February 2010 and 2012 into a new $\$ 100.0$ million facility expiring in November 2012 with a higher credit spread.

Asset Securitization Financings
We have two asset securitization facilities totaling $\$ 425.0$ million expiring as follows: $\$ 100.0$ million in April 2010 and $\$ 325.0$ million in June 2010. The facilities provide for committed revolving financing during their one-year term and we
can convert borrowings outstanding into amortizing term debt if they are not renewed. These facilities would terminate if net charge-offs of securitized receivables or if delinquent receivables exceed certain levels and any borrowings outstanding would convert into amortizing term debt. We would be required to repay the amortizing term debt monthly from collections of securitized receivables and it would be repaid substantially within two years. The entire amount of the facilities was unused and available for us to borrow at October 31, 2009.

We are repaying the $\$ 88.0$ million of term asset securitization borrowings monthly from collections of securitized receivables. The monthly repayment amounts vary based on the amount of securitized receivables collected and the amount borrowed under the $\$ 325.0$ million facility, and would increase if we borrow under this facility or convert this facility into amortizing term debt upon nonrenewal. This term debt will be repaid substantially within two years based on the amount of securitized receivables at October 31, 2009 and no future borrowings under the facility.

Finance receivables included $\$ 130.0$ million of securitized receivables at October 31, 2009 and $\$ 167.0$ million at July 31, 2009. The amount of receivables we can securitize is limited to $50 \%$ of our major operating subsidiary's receivables because of restrictions in its other debt agreements. This limit was $\$ 700.0$ million at October 31, 2009. Borrowings under these facilities and the amortizing term debt are limited to $90 \%$ of securitized receivables classified as eligible. Securitized receivables classified as impaired or with terms outside of defined limits are not eligible.

Commercial Paper
We issue commercial paper direct and through a $\$ 500.0$ million dealer program with maturities between 1 and 270 days. The amount of commercial paper we could issue is limited to the lower of $\$ 500.0$ million and the unused amount of our committed bank and asset securitization facilities ( $\$ 493.6$ million at October 31, 2009).

Stockholders' Equity
The amount of equity we can distribute to stockholders is limited,

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indirectly, because the amount of funds we can obtain from our major operating subsidiary is restricted by its debt agreements. As a result, the amount of stockholders' equity we could distribute at October 31, 2009 was limited to $\$ 147.0$ million. The limit increases each quarter by a percentage of the subsidiary's net income.

We paid $\$ 3.9$ million of cash dividends and we received $\$ 1.5$ million from stock option exercises in the first quarter of fiscal 2010. We have a common stock repurchase program with $\$ 43.9$ million authorized for future repurchases at October 31, 2009. We established the program in fiscal 2007 and it does not have an expiration date. Repurchases are discretionary.

Market Interest Rate Risk and Sensitivity

We discuss how changes in market interest rates and credit spreads affect our net interest spread and how we manage interest rate risk in this section. Net interest spread (net yield of finance receivables less cost of debt) is an integral part of a finance company's profitability and is calculated below:

| Three Months Ended October 31, | 2009 | 2008 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Net yield of finance receivables | 8.89\% | 8.89\% |
| Cost of debt | 3.46 | 4.52 |
| Net interest spread | 5.43\% | $4.37 \%$ |

Our net interest spread was 106 basis points (1.06\%) higher in the first quarter of fiscal 2010 compared to the first quarter of fiscal 2009 because decreases in short-term market interest rates and repaying $\$ 473.6$ million of fixed rate term debt with an average rate of $5.00 \%$ since the end of the first quarter of fiscal 2009 lowered our cost of debt. Short-term LIBOR averaged 200 basis points (2.00\%) lower and 30 -day LIBOR was near an all-time low of $0.24 \%$ at October 31, 2009. Interest rates on our floating rate debt are indexed to short-term LIBOR rates. As a result, our current cost of debt is very low and should decrease a little further because the full effect of the term note prepayments will start in the second quarter of fiscal 2010.

Our net interest spread is sensitive to changes in short and long-term market interest rates (includes LIBOR, rates on U.S. Treasury securities, money-market rates, swap rates and the prime rate). Increases in short-term rates reduce our net interest spread and decreases in short-term rates increase it because our floating rate debt (includes short-term debt) exceeds
our floating rate finance receivables by a significant amount. Interest rates on our debt change faster than the yield on our receivables because $59 \%$ of our debt is floating rate compared to floating rate receivables of only $6 \%$.

Credit spreads (the percentage amounts lenders charge above a base market interest rate) also affect our net interest spread. Changes in credit spreads affect the yield on our receivables when originated and the cost of our debt when issued. Credit spreads have increased significantly because of credit markets conditions. As result, we have been charged much higher credit spreads on renewed and new financing.

Our net interest spread is also affected when the differences between short-term and long-term rates change. Long-term rates normally exceed short-term rates. When this excess narrows (resulting in a "flattening yield

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curve") or when short-term rates exceed long-term rates (an "inverted yield curve"), our net interest spread should decrease and when the yield curve widens our net interest spread should increase because the rates we charge our customers are largely determined by long-term market interest rates and rates on our floating rate debt are largely determined by short-term market interest rates. We can mitigate the effects of a flat or inverted yield curve by issuing long-term fixed rate debt.

Our income is subject to the risk of rising short-term market interest rates and changes in the yield curve because floating rate debt exceeded floating rate receivables by $\$ 461.8$ million at October 31,2009 as shown in the table below. The terms and prepayment experience of fixed rate receivables mitigate this risk. We collect receivables monthly over short periods of two to five years. Fixed rate receivables have an average remaining life excluding prepayments of approximately eighteen months at October 31, 2009 and scheduled collections in the next twelve months are $\$ 530.0$ million (40\%). Historically, annual collections have exceeded 50\% of average receivables because of prepayment activity. We do not match the maturities of our debt to our receivables.

Our current cost of debt is very low (and should decrease a little further in the second quarter of fiscal 2010 when the full effect of the term note prepayments will start) because short-term market interest rates are at historic lows and a significant portion of our debt and credit facilities have low credit spreads because they were obtained before the crisis in the credit markets started. Therefore, our cost of debt will increase considerably when short-term market interest rates rise and as we renew and obtain financing.

We monitor our exposure to potential adverse changes in market interest rates by comparing the fixed and floating rate percentages of our receivables and debt and by determining the potential impact adverse changes in market interest rates could have on our net income. We may hedge our exposure to this interest rate risk by entering into derivatives on existing debt or debt we expect to issue, and we may change the proportion of our fixed and floating rate debt. We do not speculate with or trade derivatives. We had no derivatives outstanding in the first quarter of fiscal 2010.

We quantify interest rate risk by calculating the effect on net income of a hypothetical, immediate 100 basis point (1.0\%) rise in market interest rates. This hypothetical change in rates would reduce annual net income by approximately $\$ 0.4$ million at October 31,2009 based on the scheduled repricing of floating rate debt, fixed rate debt maturing within one year, the expected effects on the yield of new receivables. The reduction in annual net income increases to $\$ 0.7$ million if the effects on the yield of new receivables are excluded. We believe these amounts are acceptable considering the cost of floating rate debt is lower than fixed rate debt. Actual future changes in market interest rates and their effect on net income may differ from these amounts materially. Other factors that may accompany an actual immediate 100 basis point rise in market interest rates were not considered in the calculation. These hypothetical reductions of net income were the same at October 31, 2008.

The fixed and floating rate amounts and percentages of our receivables and capital at October 31, 2009 follow (\$ in millions):

|  | Fixed Rate |  | Floating Rate |  | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Amount | Percent | Amount | Percent |  |
| Finance receivables | \$1,324.2 | 94\% | \$ 86.8 | 6\% | \$1,411.0 |

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| Debt | \$ | 376.4 | 41\% | \$548.6 | 59\% | \$ | 925.0 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Stockholders' equity |  | 463.3 | 100 | -- | -- |  | 463.3 |
| Capital | \$ | 839.7 | 60\% | \$548.6 | 40\% |  | 388.3 |

The fixed and floating rate amounts and percentages of our receivables and capital at July 31, 2009 follow ( $\$$ in millions):

|  | Fixed Rate |  | Floating Rate |  | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Amount | Percent | Amount | Percent |  |
| Finance receivables | \$1,414.2 | 92\% | \$122.2 | 8\% | \$1,536.4 |
| Debt | 650.0 | 62\% | \$402.0 | 38\% | \$1, 052.0 |
| Stockholders' equity | 452.0 | 100 | -- | -- | 452.0 |
| Capital | \$1,102.0 | 73\% | \$402.0 | 27\% | \$1,504.0 |

Floating rate debt comprises bank borrowings, commercial paper and term asset securitization borrowings, and reprices (interest rates change based on current short-term market interest rates) after October 31, 2009 as follows: $\$ 529.4$ million (97\%) in one month and $\$ 19.2$ million (3\%) in two months. Floating rate receivables only reprice when the prime rate changes. Repricing frequencies of floating rate debt follow (\$ in millions):

|  | Balance | Repricing Frequency |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Bank borrowings | \$371.4 | 1 to 30 days |
| Commercial paper | 89.2 | 1 to 45 days (20 day average) |
| Asset securitization borrowings - term | 88.0 | 1 to 30 days |

New Accounting Standards

Refer to Note 1 (Summary of Significant Accounting Policies) to the consolidated financial statements.

## Forward-Looking Statements

Statements in this report containing the words or phrases "expect," "anticipate," "may," "might," "believe," "appears," "plan," "intend," "estimate," "could," "should," "would," "will," "if," "outlook," "likely," "unlikely" and other words and phrases expressing our expectations are "forward-looking statements." Actual results could differ from those contained in the forward-looking statements materially because they involve various assumptions and known and unknown risks and uncertainties. Information about risk factors that could cause actual results to differ materially is discussed in Part I, Item 1A Risk Factors in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended July 31, 2009 and other sections of this report. Risk factors include (i) an economic slowdown (ii) the inability to collect finance receivables and the sufficiency of the allowance for credit losses (iii) the inability to obtain

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capital or maintain liquidity (iv) rising short-term market interest rates, higher credit spreads, and adverse changes in the yield curve (v) increased competition (vi) the inability to retain key employees and (vii) adverse conditions in the construction and road transportation industries. Forward-looking statements do not guarantee our future performance and apply only as of the date made. We are not required to update or revise them for future or unanticipated events or circumstances.

Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

See Item 2, Market Interest Rate Risk and Sensitivity.

Item 4. Controls and Procedures

Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures

Our management (with our Chief Executive Officer's and Chief Financial Officer's participation) evaluated our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) at the end of the period covered by this report. Based on this evaluation, our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded our disclosure controls and procedures are effective to ensure information required to be disclosed in reports we file or submit under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 is recorded, processed, summarized and reported timely.

Changes in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

There were no changes in our internal control over financial reporting during the first quarter of fiscal 2010 that affected or are reasonably likely to affect our internal control over financial reporting materially.

PART II - OTHER INFORMATION

Item 5. Other Information

We issued a press release on December 8, 2009 reporting our results for the quarter ended October 31, 2009. The press release is attached as Exhibit 99.1. Exhibit 99.1 shall not be deemed "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), or subject to the liabilities of that section, nor shall it be deemed incorporated by reference in any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Exchange Act, except as shall be expressly set forth by specific reference.

We issued a press release on December 8, 2009 announcing our Board of Directors declared a quarterly dividend of $\$ 0.15$ per share on our common stock. The press release is attached as Exhibit 99.2. The dividend is payable on January 14, 2010 to stockholders of record at the close of business on December 24, 2009. The dividend is the same as the previous quarter.

Item 6. Exhibits

Exhibit No. Description of Exhibit

| 3.1 | (a) | Articles of Incorporation |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 3.2 | (b) Certificate of Amendment of Articles of Incorporation dated |  |

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December 9, 1998
3.3 (c) Amended and Restated By-laws dated March 5, 2007
31.1 Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) Certification of Chief Executive Officer
31.2 Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) Certification of Chief Financial Officer
32.1 Section 1350 Certification of Chief Executive Officer
32.2 Section 1350 Certification of Chief Financial Officer
99.1 Press release dated December 8, 2009
99.2 Press release dated December 8, 2009

Previously filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission as an exhibit to our:
(a) Registration Statement on Form $S-1$ (Registration No. 33-46662) filed May 28, 1992
(b) Form 10-Q for the quarter ended January 31, 1999
(c) Form 10-Q for the quarter ended January 31, 2007

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

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FINANCIAL FEDERAL CORPORATION
    (Registrant)
By: /s/ Steven F. Groth
    Senior Vice President and
    Chief Financial Officer
    (Principal Financial Officer)
By: /s/ David H. Hamm
    Vice President and Controller
    (Principal Accounting Officer)
```

December 8, 2009
(Date)


[^0]:    for $\$ 41,400$, and we prepaid a $\$ 15,000$ million borrowing under a bank credit facility expiring in February 2013 for $\$ 13,800$ and terminated the $\$ 15,000$ bank credit facility. The prepayments resulted in a $\$ 2,400$ debt retirement gain net of reclassifying an unrealized interest rate lock loss from accumulated other comprehensive income related to the $\$ 45,000$ term note.

