



International Credit Union Day

Why 177 Million People Worldwide Choose Credit Unions

On October 15, credit union members around the world will join together to celebrate International Credit Union Day and this year's theme: Your Money. Your Choice. Your Credit Union. Do you remember why you chose Media Members Federal Credit Union to be your financial services provider? It may be among many reasons shared by the 177 million people in 96 countries who have also chosen credit unions, but it most likely has something to do with the common philosophy of people helping people.

Unlike most other financial institutions, credit unions are not-for-profit, democratically controlled, volunteer-run, member-owned cooperatives. They exist to serve their members, and that level of service remains high even during the toughest times. Instead of issuing stock or paying dividends to outside shareholders, credit unions provide value to their members by returning earnings in the form of lower loan rates, higher interest on deposits, and lower or even no transaction fees.

This year's theme celebrates the advantages of credit union membership. Value, trust and service are just some of the many benefits of being a credit union member. You are in charge of your money and your credit union.

At Media Members Federal Credit Union, we are proud of our heritage as a cooperative financial services provider and our connection to the 49,000 credit unions worldwide. On October 15, we'll join credit unions and their members around the world to celebrate International Credit Union Day in recognition of the benefits those institutions bring to their members.

As has been our custom in the past, Media Members will celebrate International Credit Union Day at both the Center City and SPP office. Everyone who stops by will receive a free gift and soft pretzel while supplies last. In addition, we will hold several drawings throughout the day which will give you a chance to win a great prize. Our Philadelphia office will be open from 9:00 A.M to 4:30 P.M. and our SPP office will be open from 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

Be sure to mark your calendar for Thursday, October 15 because you don't want to miss this special event! Check out our website www.mediamembers.org for more information about International Credit Union Day and prepare to celebrate the credit union difference.

Source: World Council of Credit Unions



Our Gift to You

Low-Rate Holiday Loans

You've worked hard all year to save money for the holidays, but you need just a little more cash to make this year's holiday a magical experience. As our gift to you, take advantage of low-rate Holiday Loans. These short-term loans will give you the extra cash you need for purchases this holiday.

Beginning October 1, 2009 through January 31, 2010, eligible members can borrow up to \$3,000 for 24 months at a rate as low as 9.9% APR!* Why use a high-interest credit card for holiday expenses when you can pay cash and get a low rate from your credit union?

Give us a call at 215-854-4460 or send an email to info@mediamembers.org for loan details.

*APR = Annual Percentage Rate. Rate subject to change. Contact the Credit Union for complete details.

Special Dormancy Account Notice

Please be sure to notify the Credit Union at least once each year to advise us to keep your account from dormancy status. There is a \$5 per month fee for accounts under \$500 with no activity for 12 or more months. Also, be advised that Pennsylvania law considers an account to be dormant and turned over to the state if there has been no activity for three years. In order to avoid dormancy fees or Pennsylvania Escheat, please deposit, withdraw or notify your credit union in writing or email to label accounts as active.

HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

Thanksgiving

Thursday, November 26th

Christmas

Friday, December 25th

New Year's Day

Friday, January 1st

Budgeting Basics

Budgeting. Just hearing the word is enough to send shivers down your spine. No matter what you do, you just can't seem to stick to your plan, so why even bother?

Relax. We'll show you how you can realistically set a budget for yourself, and how you can find some extra money at the end of the month.

➔ Take a Look at Your Income.

Be sure to include all sources of income for the month, especially if you want an accurate picture of your funds. Don't forget; look at your "take home" or net amount, not the pre-taxed, gross amount. Money you don't have is money you can't spend.

➔ Now Compare Your Expenses.

Download a budgeting worksheet online. You can find a free one here: <http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/templates/TC062062791033.aspx>. Make sure you honestly fill it out; you're only cheating yourself when you "skim" on areas.

➔ **Rework Your Budget.** Look at areas where you can cut back. Remember, cutting back doesn't mean you have to totally eliminate that line item. For example, if you buy your lunch every day, bring lunch from home 2-3 days a week. Go to the movies often? Go once a month and catch some movies "On Demand" at home. Bundle some of your services, such as phone, Internet, and cable, if it's offered in your area. Eliminate areas where you can absolutely do without or where you know you shouldn't be spending.

➔ **Pay Yourself First.** Save at least 5% of your income. Savings will

come in handy down the road when you have emergencies, like a broken hot water heater, job loss, or even retirement. If that's too much, start with something small, like \$1/day. When you receive monetary gifts, a raise, or just have unexpected money "lying around," make sure you put that away, too. With raises, if you were able to live on your previous salary, you can afford to keep doing so. When you accumulate enough money, move your money from a Regular Savings Account to a Share Certificate (CD). You'll earn more interest!

➔ **Get Help.** Even the strongest of us have moments of weakness, so make sure you have a support system in place. Your family needs to buy in to the new budget for the plan to be successful, so make sure they're all on board. Encourage your young ones to save, too; playing games to make saving fun will help instill these values. Most importantly, stop by the Credit Union and ask us how we can help you stick to your budget! We'll help you save towards your short-term and long-term goals.

➔ **Reassess Annually.** Do you have a college-bound student or need a new refrigerator in the future? You'll need to re-evaluate your current budget to make sure you're putting away money for those expenses.

Your Credit Union is here to help you. Give us a call today and we'll aid you in creating your budget, and we'll help you stick to it! Success is just around the corner.

Holiday Cash Coming Your Way



Holiday Club Account checks will be available on October 12, 2009. Didn't open one for 2009? Be sure to sign up to save for the 2010 holidays. Those members already enrolled will continue automatically. Again this year, instead of a gift, ten lucky Holiday Club participants will win a gift certificate for a restaurant, movie theater or shopping trip. Stop in today to sign up for the club and to be entered into the drawing.

Everything's More Fun When There's More Than One!

Refer Your Family Members to the Credit Union

Did you know that membership is open to your family members? That's right! Because YOU are a member of Media Members FCU, your family members are also invited to join.

Like all other activities, membership is more fun when there are others with you, especially those closest to you! Let them know that they, too can take advantage of low loan rates, little or no fees, FREE products and services, and competitive savings rates!

Stop in today and bring your family with you, because everything's more fun when there's more than one!

Contact the Credit Union for complete details.

Main Branch

400 North Broad Street • Philadelphia, PA 19130
(215) 854-4460 • Fax (215) 854-2824
Monday - Friday 9:00 am to 4:30 pm

SPP Branch

800 River Road • Conshohocken, PA 19428
(610) 292-6762 • (610) 292-6737
Wednesday & Thursday 8:00 am to 4:00 pm
Friday 7:00 am to 3:00 pm
1st Saturday of Every Month 10:00 am to 2:00 pm

www.mediamembers.org

email: info@mediamembers.org