



WINTER 2009

BLUES NEWS



WE THANK YOU FOR ANOTHER GOOD YEAR!

Blue Chip FCU is financially sound and strong; and we have you, our members, to thank. This past year has been a roller-coaster ride for all of us; and we are uncertain about the next 12-24 months. The Board of Directors and the credit union management want you to know that BCFCU will be there for you during these times, just as before.

We believe that the trust, friendship and loyalty we share with each other make up the foundation of this credit union. You trust us to make the right decisions to keep your money safe. We do our best to invest that money responsibly – either to other members in the form of loans or investments in institutions that are federally insured. The majority of your shares are loaned out to members who need the money for things like a vehicle, home improvements, college costs etc. The credit union’s delinquency rate for 2008 was below 1%, a great indication that our borrowers are responsible in repaying their credit union loans. We do understand that times are tough right now; if you are having problems paying your BCFCU loan, please contact us. We can work on the situation together.

The Board of Directors decided to say

“Thank You” again this year by giving our savers a 2% bonus dividend, and our borrowers a ¾% refund on the year-to-date interest paid on your loan(s). [Please note: Share Certificates, VISA and Fresh Start loans are not part of this program.]

BCFCU started in 1948, formed by a group of railroad employees who wanted to help each other succeed financially. We continue to do that today. We have money to lend you if you need it, and you meet our credit criteria. We offer very competitive rates on all consumer loans – installment, lines of credit, vehicle, home equity and share loans. We don’t offer purchase first mortgage loans, but we have a relationship with a company that will work for you – to get the best rate possible. (Look for more information in this newsletter.) And remember that we will do our best to “meet or beat” our competitor’s vehicle rates; just let us know what rate you’ve been given.

2009 is certainly going to be a challenging one for all of us. I believe that by working together through these trying times, we will survive!

God Bless,
Mary Lynn Tylenda, CEO

You’re Invited!

Please join us at our credit union annual meeting. It’s a great way to meet the credit union board and committee members and staff, get an update on your credit union, chat with some old friends, and enjoy a breakfast buffet.

- WHERE:** Four Points Sheraton
888 E Park Drive
Harrisburg, PA 17111
- WHEN:** Saturday, April 4, 2009
Breakfast Buffet – beginning @ 9:00am
Followed by the Annual Meeting
- WHO:** All Members are invited
- COST:** \$10.00 per person (great deal for the price)

Board Nominations

Blue Chip FCU has a 9-member Board of Directors. Each member serves for a term of 3 years. Three seats on the Board are up for election every year. If you are interested in serving on the Board of Directors, please submit your letter of intent to run for the board, listing your qualifications for the position. Submit your letter to the **Nominating Committee, BCFCU @ 5050 Derry St. Harrisburg, PA 17111.**

CONSTRUCTION HAS BEGUN!



In case you have not visited the credit union lately, you might not recognize it. In fact, you might even wonder if we're still in business. The Blue Chip FCU sign is missing from the front of the building and the front yard is torn up. We have been at the current location since 1985, and have done as much improvement as we could. We needed to update the building – giving it a more professional look, making it more accessible to those members who have problems with steps, and providing a drive-thru window. Therefore, an addition will provide a new lobby and teller area, with a drive-thru window. The current building will be completely renovated to provide a conference room and an office for member-related situations. The completion date depends on the weather (and it hasn't been cooperating much lately), but should be in the spring.

IT'S TAX TIME

With direct deposit of your tax refund, you will get it faster, and will avoid the chance of having it lost or stolen. You will need BCFCU's routing number – **231381161** – and your account number. You will also need to indicate which suffix – **savings or checking** – in which you want the refund deposited.

2008 IRA Contributions

You may make IRA contributions for the 2008 tax year until April 15, 2009 – the date your tax return is due. Contributions made between January 1, 2009 and April 15, 2009 may be carried back and applied to the previous year. Simply inform the credit union staff that you want to make a contribution for 2008. As with all tax-related issues, you may wish to consult with a qualified tax expert to determine your eligibility for these contributions.



Scholarship Applications

Blue Chip FCU awards scholarships to 2 credit union members who are either a graduating senior and going to college, or currently attending college. Each recipient of a scholarship will receive \$500 a year for a maximum of 2 years. If you are interested in applying, contact the credit union for the application, or go online at www.bluechipfcu.org. The deadline for applying is May 31, 2009.

An Identity is Stolen Every Three Seconds Protect Yourself with LifeLock

Another identity is stolen every three seconds – that's over eight million Americans affected last year alone. LifeLock works to stop identity theft before it happens – even if your information falls into the wrong hands. And what they don't stop, they'll fix at their expense, up to \$1,000,000. So no matter what happens, you're protected with LifeLock.

Don't wait. Protect yourself today and get your first 30 days free, plus you'll save 10%. Just visit lifelock.com or call 800-LIFELOCK (543-3562) with promo code BCFU to take advantage of this special offer. You may also find a link to lifelock.com on our website www.bluechipfcu.org.



Mailed Receipt Changes

In an effort to reduce the credit union's cost for postage, Blue Chip Federal Credit Union will no longer mail receipts for mail, phone or night deposit transactions, as of March 1, 2009. You can verify the transactions through CU By Phone, your monthly / quarterly statements, or by using our Internet Branch (www.bluechipfcu.org). Should you want a receipt, please let us know, and we will gladly mail one to you.

MORE MORTGAGE OPTIONS AVAILABLE

Blue Chip FCU has teamed up with **Solar Financial** to offer our members more mortgage options. **Solar Financial** is a local mortgage broker run by one of our members, **Dan Waltz**. **Dan** has been a member of BCFU since 1997, and is able to offer competitive mortgage products to help our members with their home financing needs. Available programs include Purchase, Refinance, Cash Out, FHA, USDA and PHFA loans. Counseling services and pre-qualifications are free. Give **Dan** a call to see if he can help you – (717) 460-1005 or email him at Dan@solarfinancial.com

VISA FRAUD ALERT

Blue Chip FCU has been notified of a recent **VISA®** security breach with a third party payment-processing company. This breach has resulted in a potential compromise of a number of our members' **VISA® credit and debit** cards.

Due to the large number of compromised cards (more than 500), and the small credit union staff – the decision was made to close the cards and mail letters to those of you who were affected.

All compromised cards are closed, and new cards (with a new card number) are/were sent in a separate mailing.

Unfortunately, some of you tried to use your old card, and had it rejected. **We do apologize for any inconvenience this created for you.**

HOW TO REACH US

OFFICE:

Local 717-564-3081
Toll Free 800-78BCFCU (782-2328)
Fax 717-564-1469

TELLER 24:

Local 717-564-0699
Toll Free 800-784-8840

VISA CARD INFORMATION

1-800-784-8840

www.bluechipfcu.org

PHONE SERVICE HOURS

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 8:30 am - 4:30 pm
Wednesday 9:00 am - 4:30 pm
Friday 8:00 am - 4:30 pm

LOBBY HOURS

Mon. & Tues. 8:30 am - 4:30 pm
Wednesday 9:00 am - 4:30 pm
Thursday 8:00 am - 5:00 pm
Friday 8:00 am - 6:00 pm

2009 Holiday Closings

Monday, May 25 Memorial Day

Friday, July 3 Independence Day

Thursday and Friday Office Hours

As a reminder – the credit union lobby is open on Thursdays until 5:00pm and Fridays until 6:00pm. Because the staff is limited during these times, we can only do basic transactions, including deposits, withdrawals, payments on loans, and check cashing. For other transactions such as opening a new account, loan interviews and/or settlement, account balancing and more involved questions or concerns, please come see us during the regular hours (8:30am – 4:30pm). If you cannot get in during these times, call us. We can make arrangements to ensure someone is available to assist you at a time that is convenient for you or schedule an appointment with the appropriate staff member.



5050 Derry Street • Harrisburg, PA 17111

