

January 2013

# Common Cents



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## HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

Monday, January 21 —  
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Monday, February 18 —  
Presidents Day

## Drive Something **NEW**

Auto loan rates  
as low as **2.19% APR\***

If the time has come to get a new car, then we should be your first choice for financing. With rates as low as **2.19% APR**, flexible terms, repayment options and fast loan preapproval, you'll be hitting the road before you know it!

Apply online at [www.gsafcu.gsa.gov](http://www.gsafcu.gsa.gov) and we'll set up the right financing for you and your budget.

\*APR = annual percentage rate. Rate subject to change and based on credit approval. Restrictions may apply. See GSA FCU for full terms and conditions.

Loan Payment Example: For a \$30,000 loan at 2.19% APR with 60 monthly payments (5 years), the payment would be approximately \$528.34 per month.



## The Color Trend of 2013?

# PLATINUM!

Be part of the "in" crowd this season with a Visa Platinum credit card from GSA FCU. You'll love the convenience of shopping with this card. It's accepted by millions of merchants worldwide. Shop to your heart's content with a variable rate of 7.5% APR.\*

What's better than knowing your rate will never exceed 10.9% APR? \*\* We'll tell you:

- Affordable payments
- No balance transfer fees
- Added credit life and disability protection
- Generous credit limits to fit your needs



### Out with the old...

Transfer your other credit card balances to your GSA FCU Visa Platinum credit card. You won't pay a balance transfer fee and you'll love the convenience of paying just one payment. Apply today!

\*APR = annual percentage rate. Rate subject to change and based on credit approval.

\*\*Rate will not exceed 10.90% APR for purchases, cash advances and balance transfers.

# THE TAXMAN COMETH

If you're worried about having to pay federal or state income taxes this year, maybe we can set your mind at ease.

## Income Tax Loans from GSA FCU

- Borrow up to \$10,000.
- Take 4 years to repay it.
- Enjoy a rate as low as 8.99% APR.\*

You know that there are only two things that are certain. We can help with one of them. Apply today at [www.gsafcu.gsa.gov](http://www.gsafcu.gsa.gov).



# FEELING SNOWED IN?

You may have just finished taking down the holiday decorations, but it's time to start thinking about next December. You know that the bills may begin arriving at any time. Next year, be prepared! Start saving now for the next holiday season.

*A Holiday Club Account* from GSA FCU can help!

- Competitive dividend rate.
- Payroll deduction or automatic deposit.
- Account renews yearly.
- No transaction fees.
- Funds transfer directly to your savings account in early October.
- Federally insured by the NCUA up to \$250,000.

Avoid a mountain of bills. Open a Holiday Club account today.



# GET IT TOGETHER!

Debt Consolidation loan rates as low as **9.25% APR\***

Combine your monthly payments into one convenient payment.

- Low Interest Rate
- Limits to \$20,000
- Take 5 Years to Repay
- Credit Protection Available

This is a great time to streamline your bill paying. Apply today!

\*APR = annual percentage rate. Rate subject to change and based on credit approval. Restrictions may apply. See GSA FCU for full terms and conditions.

Loan payment example: For a \$20,000 loan at 9.25% APR for 5 years, the payment is approximately \$417.61 per month.



# BELIEVE IT OR NOT

It's hard to believe that people are still paying to have a checking account. Yes, they are paying fees to access their own money. Many people are in denial that they have this problem, but they do.

**Friends don't let friends bank irresponsibly.**

Unlike most "free" checking accounts, a GSA FCU checking account is actually free, and it pays dividends. Any fees that an account may be assessed are lower than other financial institutions out there charge. If you know someone who is paying fees, it's time for their intervention.

Open a GSA FCU checking account today.



# PRESIDENT'S *Viewpoint*

## 2013: Time for a Fresh Start

It never fails. People make a New Year's resolution to change something, and then their resolve drops away. A financial resolution is one that you should maintain. Every budget could use a little shaping up, so here are some tips for yours.

- Determine your true monthly income. Review your paystubs for the past month, as well as those of the others in your household who may add to the bottom line. If you have other sources of income, add those, too. This will give you a true reflection of what you have to use.
- Now that you have the amount coming in, figure out how much goes out with the monthly expenses. This will include housing expenses, credit cards, recurring monthly bills and the like. Then write down how much you spend on gas, food and entertainment. Don't forget the amount you save or invest. Is there a deficit or a little bit more you could be saving?
- You may need to make adjustments to the amount you're spending. Consider tracking what you spend on a daily basis. Maybe you could cut back on going out to dinner or the movies? Keep track of your receipts to make this task less difficult.
- Making and keeping a budget may be easier if you use a spreadsheet or a smartphone app. There are several excellent apps that can help make this task less daunting.
- Of course, keep GSA Federal Credit Union in mind when it comes to financing. We will do what we can to meet your goals.

Keeping your budget in shape is difficult, but we can get through this together.

Sincerely,



Jerome P. Malvin, Jr.  
President/CEO

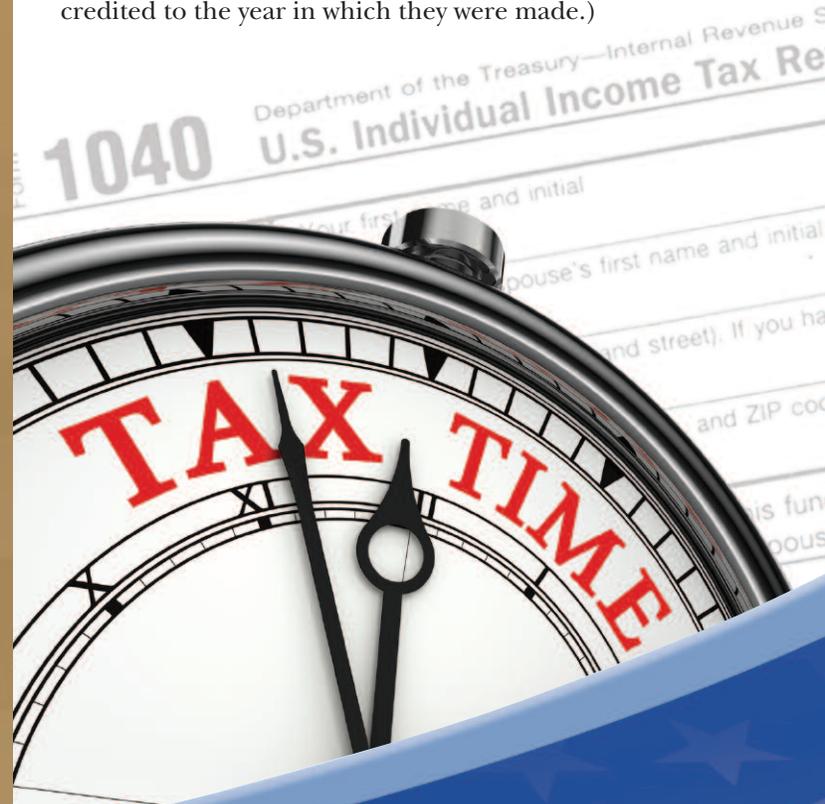
## TIPS FOR TAXPAYERS

**SAVE THAT STATEMENT** — Remember: Keep your end-of-the-year statement. You'll want to refer to it when you file your taxes, since it will have your dividend earnings for tax year 2012. Watch the mail for IRS Form 1099 if your dividends totaled more than \$10.

**SPEEDIER REFUNDS** — If you're expecting to receive a refund, you can ensure a speedy transfer of funds by asking the IRS to deposit your refund directly into an account or accounts at the credit union. That way you won't have to go to the trouble of depositing it yourself—and you won't have to wait as long to get your money. Just fill in your credit union routing number (254074662) and your personal account number where that option is offered on Form 1040.

**TAX TIME LOANS** — It's rough when you've got taxes to pay and your pockets are already empty. If you find yourself in that situation, don't despair. We may be able to lend you the money you need. Just be sure to see us before April 15.

**IRA DEPOSITS** — Any IRA deposit you want credited to tax year 2012 must be in our possession no later than April 15. After close of business that day, all IRA deposits will be credited to 2013. (Keep in mind that IRA contributions made by payroll deduction are always credited to the year in which they were made.)



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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 Frederick Bridgers, *Vice Chairperson*  
 Christine Singer, *Treasurer*  
 William Conley, *Director*  
 Paul Cuddihy, *Director*  
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 John Auld, *Member*  
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 Earl Joyner, *Member Services*  
 Abbie Sweat, *Member Services*

### Website

www.gsafcu.gsa.gov

### Call Center

Monday – Friday: 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.  
 Saturday: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
 1-866-820-0105

### Administrative Office/

#### Northeast Branch

1275 First Street, NE, Room 211  
 Washington, DC 20002  
 Tuesday, Thursday and Friday,  
 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

#### Southwest Branch

301 7th Street, SW, Room 5021  
 Washington, DC 20407  
 Monday, Tuesday, Thursday  
 and Friday,  
 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

#### Northwest Branch

1800 F Street, NW, Room G003  
 Washington, DC 20405  
 Monday and Wednesday,  
 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

### Mailing Address

P.O. Box 27559  
 Washington, DC 20038-7559

### 24-Hour Teleserv

202-484-8090



P.O. Box 27559  
 Washington, D.C. 20038-7559

## RATEWATCH

Rates effective as of publication date and subject to change without notice. Call for current rates. Loan rates published here are lowest possible rates. Actual rates may vary based on credit score of individual applicants.

### SHARE RATES

Share Type	Dividend	APY
<b>Share Savings</b>		
Balances of		
\$5.01-\$1,000	0.15%	0.15%
\$1,001-\$2,000	0.30%	0.30%
\$2,001-\$10,000	0.30%	0.30%
\$10,001-\$20,000	0.30%	0.30%
Over \$20,000	0.30%	0.30%
<b>Share Draft</b>		
\$1,001-\$2,000	0.20%	0.20%
\$2,001-\$10,000	0.20%	0.20%
\$10,001-\$20,000	0.20%	0.20%
Over \$20,000	0.20%	0.20%
<b>Internet Checking Account<sup>1</sup></b>		
Balance of		
\$1,000-\$15,000	0.40%	0.40%
Over \$15,000	0.20%	0.20%
<b>Christmas/Vacation</b>		
Club Accounts	0.40%	0.40%
IRA Share Account	0.40%	0.40%
<b>Share Certificates<sup>2</sup></b>		
6 Month	0.60%	0.60%
12 Month	0.90%	0.90%
24 Month	1.25%	1.26%
36 Month	1.50%	1.51%
48 Month	2.00%	2.02%
60 Month	2.25%	2.28%

### LOAN RATES

Loan Type	APR
	<b>As Low As</b>
<b>Unsecured (Signature)</b>	7.99%
<b>Vehicle – New or Used<sup>3</sup></b>	
24 Months	2.19% <sup>4</sup>
36 Months	2.19% <sup>4</sup>
48 Months	2.19% <sup>4</sup>
<b>Vehicle – New</b>	
60 Months	2.19% <sup>4</sup>
72 Months	2.19% <sup>4</sup>
<b>Home Equity – Variable-Rate</b>	
Up to 80% LTV	5.25% <sup>4</sup>
<b>Second Trust</b>	
Up to 80% LTV	3.49% <sup>4</sup>
<b>Visa Platinum</b> (variable-rate)	7.50%
<b>Visa Classic</b>	11.88%
<b>Overdraft Protection</b>	15.00%
<b>Certificate Secured Loan</b>	Certificate Rate + 3.00%
<b>Share Secured Loan</b>	Share Rate + 3.00%



Federally  
 Insured by  
 NCUA

APR = Annual Percentage Rate. APY = Annual Percentage Yield.

<sup>1</sup>Internet Checking Account requires a minimum balance of \$1,000 and a monthly direct deposit of at least \$500.

<sup>2</sup>Share Certificate rates reflect rates earned with Direct Deposit.

<sup>3</sup>Add 1.50% for cars not purchased with a warranty if over two years old. No loan rate will exceed 18.00%.

<sup>4</sup>These rates apply to loans repaid with Direct Deposit.