



Annual Membership Meeting

Members Come Together for a Whale of a Time!

DATE: MARCH 28, 2010

LOCATION: ADVENTURE AQUARIUM
Camden, NJ

TIME: Breakfast 8:30 am – 10:00 am
Meeting Begins at 10:00 am

COST: Breakfast for Members and immediate family – FREE. Immediate family includes spouse/domestic partner and child(ren) of member.

Discounted Aquarium Admission for adult members and spouse/domestic partner – \$13.00 each

Discounted Aquarium Admission for children (ages 2-12) – \$10.00 each

Breakfast and Aquarium Admission for non-household relatives of Members – \$20.00 each

We've made it easy to RSVP – just return the bottom portion of this page to the Credit Union! Additional information is available at our office and on our website at www.GardenStateFCU.org. If you are not purchasing tickets to the aquarium, you still need to register for breakfast. You will also receive a parking voucher if you are attending the meeting.

Did You Know?

Credit unions, unlike other banking institutions, are owned and operated by members? That's right; as long as you are a member, you hold shares in the Credit Union!

As a Shareholder, we encourage you to participate in our Annual Meeting. This is a great opportunity for you to ask questions, review the past year and take a look at what is planned for the upcoming year. You'll be able to get to know and vote for the Board of Directors and really have an impact on the Credit Union's future.

This is one meeting you won't want to miss!

Hurry - reservation deadline is March 6, 2010.

Member Name _____

Check Appropriate Box:

	# Attending	Cost	Total
<input type="checkbox"/> Member Breakfast	_____	FREE	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Spouse/Domestic Partner Breakfast	_____	FREE	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Child(ren) Breakfast	_____	FREE	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Member Aquarium Admission	_____ at	\$13.00	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Spouse/Domestic Partner Aquarium Admission	_____ at	\$13.00	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Child(ren) Aquarium Admission (ages 2-12)	_____ at	\$10.00	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Additional Adult (Breakfast & Aquarium Admission)	_____ at	\$20.00	_____
Total Attending		Grand Total \$	_____*

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ OR Deduct \$ _____ from my Account # _____

Signature _____

*There will be no refunds given.

For reservations by mail, please return this form to Garden State FCU, P.O. Box 680, Moorestown, NJ 08057. OR Fax form to 856-235-2904. Cost of tickets may be deducted from your Credit Union account.

Direct Deposit Your 2009 Tax Refund

It's almost tax season! That means that you can have your tax refund directly deposited into your Credit Union account quickly, easily, and FOR FREE!

According to the IRS, a refund check is issued within six to eight weeks of filing a paper return. If

you file a paper return, and choose to directly deposit your refund, you will receive your refund in five to six weeks. If you electronically file (E-file), your refund will be issued within three weeks of filing. However, if you choose to E-file and choose direct deposit for your refund, the IRS says you should receive it within 14 days.

To elect direct deposit of your tax refund into your Credit Union account, simply provide your tax preparer with your account number and our ABA routing #231278083. If you E-file, you can always check the status of your refund online at www.irs.gov. To check your refund status, you will need your social security number, filing status, and refund amount. Also, remember to keep your 2009 year-end statement from the Credit Union for tax reporting purposes.

Now Available: Account to Account Transfers

If you use PAM (Personal Account Manager), you can now take advantage of Account to Account (A2A) Transfers! This new feature allows you to transfer money between your Garden State FCU and other accounts that you may have at other financial institutions. This is just one more service that the Credit Union offers for the convenience of our members.

Maximize Your IRAs

It's All In the Numbers

Making the maximum annual contribution into your Individual Retirement Account(s) (IRAs), may benefit you at tax time. The following example illustrates this point:

Annual Salary	\$37,000	\$37,000
IRA Investment	\$5,000	\$0
Pre-Tax Sub Total	\$32,000	\$37,000
Federal Taxes	15% + \$835	25% + \$4675
Net Amount After Taxes	\$26,365	\$23,075

We have competitive rates that will keep your money working towards your retirement goals. If you don't yet have an IRA, stop by the Credit Union and we'll get you set up!

There's still time for you to invest the maximum amount – \$5000 for those members under 50, \$6,000 if you're aged 50 or over – so make sure you see us today.

Share Insurance Coverage Extended

For your protection, the funds in your Credit Union are insured by the National Credit Union Share Insurance Fund (NCUSIF), which is backed by the full faith and credit of the United States Government. The standard maximum insurance amount (SMSIA) was previously \$100,000. In 2008, as part of the government's efforts to stabilize the economy, the SMSIA was increased to \$250,000 until December 31, 2009.

This year, the "Helping Families Save Their Homes Act of 2009" has extended the time frame for this temporary increase to the SMSIA. The increase to \$250,000 is now valid until December 31, 2013.

The higher SMSIA applies to all types of share accounts, including regular shares, share drafts, money market accounts, and share certificates. The maximum coverage of \$250,000 for Individual Retirement Accounts and Keogh Accounts remains unchanged and is not subject to a December 31, 2013 expiration date.

For more information, visit the National Credit Union Association's web site at www.ncua.gov and download the consumer share insurance tool kit.

Money Market Account

Watch your savings increase when you invest in a Garden State FCU Money Market Account!

With three different account levels – silver, gold, and platinum – and a savings or checking option,

There is an account that will help you manage your money and increase your savings. Whether you choose the savings or checking money market option, you'll have easy access to your money.

And, the more you save, the more you'll earn with our tiered interest structure!

For a full listing of rates, visit our website.

*APY = Annual Percentage Yield. Rate listed is current as of date of publication and is subject to change. 1.31% APY is for Silver Money Market Account and is based on a minimum daily balance of \$2500.00.

**Money
Market**

rates start at

1.31%APR*

Choosing the Right Home Equity Loan

Fixed Term or Revolving Credit Line

Because of their many benefits, home equity loans have become one of the most popular sources of credit in recent years. In most cases, the interest paid on a home equity loan or line of credit is tax-deductible because they are considered second mortgages (consult your tax advisor to be sure this applies to you). Today's financially smart homeowners are tapping the equity in their home to fund college tuition, pay for home improvements, weddings, dream vacations, and even to buy or refinance cars, boats and motor homes. They are not only paying less interest for borrowing money, but in most cases, the interest paid can be written off on their taxes.

As with any financial product, consumers should shop around for the best terms, rates and fees. The length of the loan and the interest rate will have a major impact on how much the loan will ultimately cost. Knowing the options available for home equity loans will make this job easier.



Home Equity Rates
as low as
5.74% APR*

Two Basic Types: Term and Open-ended Lines of Credit

The first thing to determine when choosing a home equity loan is whether a term (closed end) loan or a home equity line of credit (open-ended) is best for your needs. A term home equity loan is a one-time lump sum loan amount that is repaid

over a specific amount of time (typically 5 to 15 years) usually with an interest rate and payments fixed for the term of the loan.

Typically, fixed term home equity loans apply to your situation if:

- You have a clear idea of how much you need to borrow to achieve a few specific and immediate financial goals and you don't anticipate the need for future loan advances.
- Your main purpose for borrowing is to consolidate credit card debts into a single payment and save money in interest over the long term.
- You prefer the security of a fixed interest rate and a monthly payment that will remain the same for the life of your loan.
- You're afraid that a revolving HELOC would cause you to make unplanned or unnecessary purchases.

A home equity line of credit (HELOC) is different. Your pre-approved credit limit can be accessed all at once, or in several smaller advances during the life of the loan. HELOCs feature variable interest rates, and as you pay down the principal balance, the funds typically become available to you again, without having to apply for a new loan. Choose a HELOC if:

- You don't need funds immediately but you would like to have easy access to credit for "high-ticket" expenses over a staggered time period.
- You don't mind rates and monthly payments that fluctuate periodically.
- You prefer to be able to take multiple loan advances as needed, and you plan to repay the funds in a reasonably short amount of time.

Get started on your home improvements, take your dream vacation, or consolidate bills with a Home Equity Loan or Line of Credit from Garden State FCU. Stop by our branch to apply, or call one of our friendly member service representatives for more information. You can even apply online by visiting <https://www.netit.financial-net.com/gardenstatefcu-loan/>.

*APR = Annual Percentage Rate. Rate current as of date of publication and is based on your credit worthiness. Actual rate may vary. Contact the Credit Union for complete details.

Personal Loans for Personal Goals

Are those holiday bills starting to catch up to you? Looking to install a new pool in time for the summer? Achieve your dreams today!

Personal Loans
as low as
10.24% APR*

Garden State FCU offers low rates and fees on Personal Loans, so you can have the cash for whatever you need. Plus, we have terms that suit your needs, and the application process is quick and easy! You can apply online or in person and we'll quickly have an answer to you. Your dreams can come true in no time!

*APR = Annual Percentage Rate. Rate is for 3-year loan. Rate current as of date of publication and is the lowest rate for qualified applicants. The above rate could be higher based on your Fair Isaac score that we receive from the credit bureau. Contact the Credit Union for complete details.

Get Out of Here!

Vacation Club Accounts
Make it Easy to Get
Out of Town

Open up a Vacation Club Account and save as much or as little as you want.

You can even choose to have funds deposited into your Vacation Club Account through payroll deduction.

On March 31st, any funds in your vacation account will automatically transferred into your checking or savings account, but you can you can withdraw the money at any time before that.

Our Vacation Club Accounts even earn 0.25% APY*!

Whether it's on a tropical island or secluded mountain trail, it's never too early to start saving for the vacation of your dreams.

*APY = Annual Percentage Yield. Rate subject to change.

Certificate Laddering Pays Off

If you're looking for a way to earn higher returns on your savings while keeping some of your funds accessible, try a method called "laddering." When you ladder Share Certificates or Certificates of Deposit, you'll earn more money than if you simply re-invest your funds.



To ladder your money, simply divide your funds into five "groups." For example, if you have \$5,000, invest \$1,000 in a one-year certificate, \$1,000 in a two-year certificate, \$1,000 in a three-year certificate, and so on. When each certificate matures, re-invest your funds into a five-year certificate. You will have one certificate maturing each year, or you can liquidate your funds if you need them at maturity.

Here's an example of the interest you'll earn when laddering vs. straight re-investing:

Member A – Re-Investing: Member A purchased a one-year certificate for \$50,000 and then re-invested the funds in one-year certificates every year after.

Year	Rate
Initial Purchase	5.85%*
End of year 1	6.10%*
End of year 2	5.60%*
End of year 3	5.05%*

Member B – Laddering: Member B invested \$10,000 each in one-, two-, three-, four-, and five-year certificates, then renewed each for a five-year term when they matured.

Initial Investment	Buy When Initial Certificate Matures
1 year @ 5.85%*	5 years @ 7.10%*
2 years @ 6.40%*	5 years @ 6.20%*
3 years @ 6.70%*	5 years @ 5.95%*

Here's how each member made out:

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Total Income
Member A	\$2,925	\$3,050	\$2,800	\$2,525	\$11,300
Member B	\$3,295	\$3,420	\$3,400	\$3,190	\$13,305

Chart Source: Bankrate.com. *Above rates are not Credit Union current rates. For current rates please see our website, www.gardenstatefcu.org, or call the Credit Union office at 800-713-2274.



We're Open

For your convenience, Garden State FCU will be OPEN on January 18, 2010 from 7:30 am – 6:00 pm for Martin Luther King Day. We will also be OPEN on February 15, 2010 from 7:30 am – 6:00 pm for Presidents' Day.

As a reminder, in the event that you cannot access Garden State FCU, you can visit any of the CU Service Centers nationwide. Whether you're on the road or have moved to another location, you can find your nearest service center by visiting www.cuservicecenter.com. Make deposits and withdrawals at your convenience!

Hassle-Free Checking Accounts

Garden State Federal Credit Union Primary Checking and Other Checking Accounts are your alternative to the high checking fees and service charges at other financial institutions.

Discover how easy it is to manage monthly finances with our full-featured checking accounts.



- NO Minimum Balance
- NO Monthly Fees
- Dividends Earned Monthly
- Primary Savings Overdraft Protection*
- Visa Check Card Option**
- Direct Deposit & Payroll Deduction Options

To find out more about these Primary Checking and Other Checking Account benefits or to apply for a Primary Checking or Other Checking Account, stop in the Credit Union or visit us online at www.GardenStateFCU.org.

*\$4 Overdraft Fee. **\$10 Annual Fee. See fee schedule for exclusions.

Garden State FCU

144 Route 38 • P.O. Box 680
Moorestown, NJ 08057

Office Hours

Monday - Friday: 7:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Saturday: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Phone: 800.713.2274 • General Fax: 856.235.2904

General Email: service@gardenstatefcu.org

Loan Department Fax: 856.235.2385

Loan Department Email: loandept@comcast.net

Membership
Is For Life