



MEMO From METRO

Volume 11
Issue 2
Spring 2008

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CHANGE IN DEBIT CARD PROCESSING

Later this year, METRO Federal Credit Union will participate in a national upgrade to Visa debit card processing systems. After the upgrade is completed, all debit card transactions will be posted to your account via online, real-time processing. When you use your METRO Visa debit card after the spring change-over, cash withdrawals, for example, will be immediately charged against your account. Currently, all transactions are recorded and then processed over night.

Therefore, future inquiries about your transactions or balance will reflect the most current, up-to-date information in your account.

METRO expects this processing improvement to occur in the mid-May timeframe.

Please call us or talk to any Member Services Rep in the lobby if you have any questions. FAQs will also be available at our web site www.mcu.org.

YOUR MONEY...PROTECTING YOUR CREDIT SCORE

You remember reading about "credit scores" in previous issues of "Memo from Metro" newsletters. Your credit score is determined by credit rating agencies using your financial history to determine your credit worthiness. The higher your score, the lower the interest rate you will be charged when you apply for any type of loan. Conversely, the lower your credit score, the higher will be the rate.

Here are five simple mistakes to avoid, according to Smart Money magazine to keep your credit score at the highest level possible for your financial history.

First, missing a payment drops your score significantly. Payment history makes up 35% of your score.

Second, maxing out your cards makes up another 30% of your score. The best advice is to keep your credit card bal-

ance around 10% of your available credit. If you have a \$5,000 credit line keep your monthly balance under \$500.

Third, don't fill your wallet with credit cards. Think carefully about accepting an offer for 10% off your purchase by opening a new credit account. Too many credit cards don't help your score but rather reduce it.

Fourth, don't close out old inactive cards. Closing out cards cuts off your history. Use old, open accounts every six months with a token purchase that you can pay off easily. It helps your score by keeping your history available.

Finally, get copies of your credit reports and read them carefully to catch any mistakes that could occur and negatively affect your overall score.



(847) 670-0456
 Fax (847) 670-0401
 loanservices@mcu.org
 accountservices@mcu.org

LOBBY

Monday—Friday
 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM
 Saturday
 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM

DRIVE-THRU

Monday—Friday
 7:00 AM to 6:00 PM
 Saturday
 7:00 AM to 1:00 PM

METRO ATM LOCATION

Open 24 Hours
 7 Days A Week

METRO Office
2440 E. Rand Road
 Arlington Heights

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
 AND OFFICERS**

Dave Schultz Chairman
Roger Mueller Vice Chairman
Sue Gwinnup Secretary
Dean Stewart Treasurer
Ed Geiss Director
Ted Loesch Director
Donna Wilson Director
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METRO's 35TH ANNUAL MEETING

METRO's 35th annual meeting was held on Friday, March 7th at the beautiful Wellington of Arlington. Our meeting room provided a warm and friendly place for our members, directors, officers and staff to gather and celebrate the thirty-fifth anniversary of METRO Federal Credit Union.

This year's business meeting included highlights from 2007 activities and the election of two directors by a vote of acclamation.

Congratulations to **Ed Geiss** and **Sue Gwinnup**, as they begin new two year terms as METRO board members.

Annual meeting guests always look forward to the Prize Raffle featuring METRO's special master of ceremonies—**Barry Juhl**. As in previous years, a number of exciting raffle prizes were awarded at METRO's 35th Annual Meeting. We would like to thank the following sponsor organizations for donating many of the prizes featured at this event.

- **Arlington Heights Park District**
- **Hoffman Estates Park District**
- **Mount Prospect Park District**
- **River Trails Park District, and**
- **Schaumburg Park District**

FULL-FAMILY MEMBERSHIP

If you work for any of METRO's sponsoring municipal employers or a family member is a current METRO member, you are eligible to join METRO. Retirees of sponsoring employers and their families can also join the credit union. METRO's sponsoring employers are municipal government units, townships, school districts and associations. For more information contact a Member Services Representative.



2008 HOLIDAY CLOSING SCHEDULE

Memorial Day	Monday, May 26
Independence Day	Friday, July 4
Labor Day	Monday, September 1
Columbus Day	Monday, October 13
Veterans Day	Tuesday, November 11
Thanksgiving Day	Thursday, November 27
Staff/Director Lunch	Wednesday, December 10
METRO will close at Noon	
Christmas Eve	Wednesday, December 24
METRO will close at Noon	
Christmas Day	Thursday, December 25