

Notes of Interest

January 2011

GEMC Federal Credit Union partners with Sallie Mae to offer Student Loans

GEMC Federal Credit Union is pleased to announce our new partnership with the Sallie Mae student loan organization to offer **Smart Option Student Loans**. Beginning in early 2011, members can access student loan information and apply online through our web site at www.gemc.org. For more information, call 770-270-7851.

Other Products for our College-Bound Members

As you prepare for college, we want to remind you that a solid financial foundation is just as important as your educational future. Our student account options have your best interests in mind—not our bottom line—so when you look for an account to take to college, we hope you'll turn to your Credit Union first.



Student Checking with Debit Card This free checking account with debit card gives you all the benefits without any of the strings you might find elsewhere.



Mobile Banking and Online Banking Check balances, transfer funds, and pay bills on the go with your mobile phone or laptop, no local branch required!

Secured Student Visa Credit Card Build a strong credit history without the risk of a typical “unsecured” credit card. It is an excellent option when looking for a card to cover the essentials such as books and fees.

For more information on our student account programs, call us at 770-270-7851 or visit us online at gemc.org today!

There is a Branch Near You!

Shared branching, online, on your phone, we're where you are.

page 2

Is Free Checking Really Free?

page 3

GEMC FCU Checking

We've got the account for you - and the perks to go with it.

page 3

President's Letter

page 4

SLIM DOWN YOUR BALANCE
TRANSFER RATE BY

3%

AND PUT YOUR
CREDIT CARD
DEBT
ON A DIET

This winter, transfer your credit card balances to a GEMC Federal Credit Union credit card and enjoy a slimmed down balance transfer rate for six months.

If you don't already have a GEMC FCU credit card, it's not too late to take advantage of this special! Apply online at www.gemc.org and start saving right away.

DETAILS OF THE GEMC FCU BALANCE TRANSFER PROMOTION:

Promotional period: January 1 through March 31, 2011. Promotional Rate for Balance Transfers on the GEMC FCU Visa Platinum Card: 5.9% Annual Percentage Rate (APR). Promotional Rate for Balance Transfers on the GEMC FCU Classic Card: 8.9% APR. The promotional rate will end six months after the balance transfer within the promotional period takes place. At the end of the promotional period, the APR for Balance Transfers will return to 8.9% for Platinum cards and 11.9% for Classic cards.

This promotion and its rates are only available for GEMC FCU Credit Card holders. The promotion does not apply to our Corporate, Business, or Secured Credit Card Programs.



**TOGETHER,
WE CAN
DO THIS.**

**Sallie Mae
Smart Option
Student Loan®**

When scholarships, federal loans and financial aid don't cover all your expenses, the Smart Option Student Loan® can make up the rest.

Visit www.gemc.org to learn more and apply.

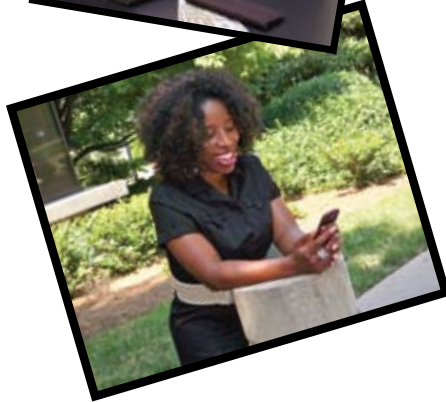
Please Note:

The Main Office Mailing address has changed. The Post Office box is no longer valid. Please mail all of the Main Office correspondence to the street address below:

2100 E Exchange Pl, Ste 101
Tucker, GA 30084

There is a Branch Near You!

GEMC FCU is proud to serve over 11,000 members all over the state of Georgia and beyond, and while we can't have a brick-and-mortar branch in every town, we are still able to provide a variety of quality service options anywhere you are.



Nationwide

Shared Branches - a network of credit unions throughout GA and the US that can process your GEMC FCU transactions

Over 140 branches in GA

Over 4,100 branches in the US

Visit our ATM/branch locator at www.gemc.org

Home & Office

Your Computer:

Online Banking and Online Bill Pay

Online Check Deposit - no deposit slip, Credit Union office, or camera required.

Everywhere You Are

Your Cell Phone:

Mobile Money - check your balance or transfer money using your cell phone

2011 Annual Meeting

The GEMC Federal Credit Union Annual Meeting will be held Wednesday, March 23, 2011 at the Healy Point Country Club in Macon, GA.

To attend the meeting, please RSVP to mark.nofi@gemc.org or call 770-270-7268.

The 2010 Nominating Committee submitted two nominees to fill the three-year terms that begin at the March 23, 2011 Annual Meeting of Members. The Nominating Committee Members are: Chair: Wayne Livingston, Diverse Power; Joey McBride, Planters EMC; and Jere Thorne, GRESCO.

The Nominating Committee nominates the following individuals to serve three-year terms beginning at the March 23, 2011 GEMC FCU Annual Meeting:

**Joe Simpson, Excelsior EMC (retired)
Julianna McConnell, The Preston Group**

Additional nominations for Board of Director vacancies must be made by petition signed by a minimum of 100 GEMC

FCU members, and nominees must meet qualification requirements as set forth in the Federal Credit Union Act. All petitions are due to the Secretary of the Board of Directors no later than February 11, 2011. All petitions will be posted in the Credit Union offices for 35 days prior to the Annual Meeting.

There will be no nominations from the floor during the annual meeting when the number of nominees equals the number of positions to be filled. In the case of multiple candidates running for one position, elections will be conducted by mail. If needed, ballots will be mailed to the entire membership 30 days before the Annual Meeting. All ballots must be returned to the Georgia Credit Union Affiliates no later than March 16, 2011.

Credit Union Checking Accounts

One of the primary commitments of GEMC FCU is to provide convenient and affordable services to our members. As a not-for-profit financial cooperative, any money we earn doesn't go to pay for private jets and lavish executive perks, it comes back to you, our member. That is why we can offer you several great checking account options with many of the free perks that most banks are now charging for.

GEMC FCU Basic Checking

Yes, the name is plain, but it is packed with great feature like no monthly fee, no per check fee, no minimum balance and if you sign up for E-Statements, your first box of checks is free!

Spark Checking

This checking account offers you the opportunity to earn 3% APY* on the first \$1,000 in your checking account as an incentive for using our free electronic services.

To learn more about checking accounts from GEMC Federal Credit Union, visit www.gemc.org or call 770-270-7851.

APY: Annual Percentage Yield. Rates effective 12/1/2010 and are subject to change. 3.00% APY on the first \$1000 in the account. Account balances over \$1000 will earn the standard checking account rate, currently 0.25% APY. Minimum opening deposit is \$100. In order to qualify, account holder must have a minimum direct deposit of \$700 per month, enroll in Web Account Access Online Banking and E-Statements, have a GEMC FCU debit card and write no more than 10 checks per month. If account holder fails to meet the requirements of the account a \$10 monthly fee will be assessed. Fees could reduce the earnings on the account.



The Perks of Checking at GEMC FCU

In addition to the personal service and money-saving benefits of doing business with us, take a look at what else we provide our checking account members:

Checking Account Switch Kit This handy kit contains all the information you need to transfer your account from another financial institution to GEMC FCU. Our friendly staff will even help you complete the details and walk you through the process.

VISA Debit Card Use our Debit Card to make purchases anywhere VISA is accepted, including online transactions. You can also use your card to get cash back at thousands of retailers and pay no service fee.

Mobile Money We can't be near a computer all the time, so Mobile Money enables you to access your account information from your web enabled cell phone. You can even transfer money and pay bills!

Online Bill Pay This free service allows you to pay your bills from your computer. Make life easier by managing all of your bills from your Credit Union account.

Our checking account products offer many features, however the biggest benefit you will receive is the personal service that our staff provides. One of our members recently said she was treated like a queen when dealing with our staff. We want you to feel like royalty too, so move your account to GEMC FCU today and receive the service you deserve.

Read more about checking tips and tricks at gemc.org.

Free Checking?

A recent study by **Bankrate.com** reports the percentage of checking accounts considered "free" fell from 76 percent in 2009 to 65 percent in 2010. This is an interesting trend, considering many people think they have a free checking account. In reality, a lot of folks are just doing something to qualify for free checking, but according to the federal Truth in Savings Act, a checking account is only truly free if there are no minimum balance requirements and no maintenance or activity fees.

"But my free checking still has fees!" This is a common misunderstanding among people with free checking accounts. Free doesn't mean there can't be other fees. There are plenty of legitimate fees that can be charged on even a free checking account. Fees for non sufficient funds, or NSF, stopping payment, check printing, dormancy and closing an account early are a few examples.

So when shopping for a checking account, just be aware that free checking isn't for everyone. Most free checking accounts don't pay interest, and some accounts have limitations or stipulations. Make sure you always ask for a copy of the Fee Schedule and find out if there are any conditions to the "free" checking, such as direct deposit. Happy checking!

Current Rates

Regular Savings/Holiday Club

Dividend Rate	0.30%
Annual Percentage Yield	0.30%

Dividends are posted on January 1, 2011 for 4th quarter 2010. Notice: 01 regular savings accounts with an Average Daily Balance of \$100 or less will not receive dividends. Any account closed before the end of the dividend period will forfeit dividends accrued. **There will be a \$15 fee per quarter for members over the age of 16 with a savings balance of less than \$100 and no activity on the account for one year or more. If the fee brings the account balance below \$5, the account will be closed.**

IRA Accounts

IRA Dividends	0.85%
Annual Percentage Yield	0.85%

Dividends are posted on January 1, 2011 for 4th quarter 2010. **Any IRA account with an Average Daily Balance of less than \$500.00 and no transaction activity for two calendar years will be assessed an annual fee of \$10.**

Locations/Contact Information

Main Office:

2100 East Exchange Place, Suite #101
Tucker, GA 30084
(770) 270-7851 (800) 241-5374 x7851
(770) 938-9221 - Fax

Note that the Main Office mailing address has changed. The P.O. Box address is no longer valid. Please mail all Main Office correspondence to the street address listed above.

Douglasville Office:

4040 Bankhead Highway
P.O. Box 1527 • Douglasville, GA 30133-1527
(770) 949-3557 (770) 947-1857 - Fax

Dallas Office:

120 GreyStone Power Blvd. • Dallas, GA 30157
(770) 445-2800 (770) 445-4946 - Fax

Lost or Stolen VISA Credit Card: (800) 299-9842
Lost or Stolen VISA Debit Card: (800) 472-3272
Powerline Telephone Teller: (888) 462-2844
Car Solutions Car Buying Service: (404) 530-9000
MEMBERS Financial Services -
Investment Services: (770) 476-6400 x1208

First Mortgage:

Credit Union Financial Services
(678) 658-4466 (800) 503-6855

Liberty Mutual Insurance - Home/Auto/Life
(678) 383-9219 x56835

Credit Union Board of Directors

Chair - Tony Tucker, Mitchell EMC
Vice Chair - Tim Williams, GreyStone Power
Secretary - Matt Brinson, Planters EMC
Chief Financial Officer - Richard West, Georgia EMC
Joe Simpson, Excelsior EMC, Retired
Julianna McConnell, The Preston Group
Ray Miller, SEDC, Retired

President's Letter

Welcome to 2011! Reflecting back to 2010, we all had our challenges but we've forged ahead and didn't quit. I look forward with great anticipation for our new year and hope that you do, too. Our Credit Union has some exciting times ahead!

First, I would like to thank our 11,350+ members! I strive each day to accomplish one mission: *Service to You*. I know there are many places you could go to for your financial and borrowing business, but you've chosen GEMC FCU and I am grateful for that.

Do you have a New Year's Resolution? Each year, I assess my life and try to make improvements where needed. I have done the usual things—diet, exercise, changed eating habits—all with some degree of success. This year I invite you to make a resolution to take stock of your money and financial future. That's where GEMC Federal Credit Union comes in.

The first place to start is by opening a checking account with us. A small step for sure, but an important one. Featured in this newsletter are our two best checking account offerings: our **Free Checking Account** and **SPARK Checking**. Where can you get a checking account with a debit card, online banking, bill payment and mobile banking for free and with no strings attached? Your Credit Union, of course! I know making the switch is not easy. That's why our staff will help you every step of the way to help you get a handle on your financial life and become a true Credit Union fan!

IRAs are an investment for the future. Retirement is right around the corner for many of us. Are you ready? Most of our lives are spent doing for our children and others. Unfortunately, that leaves little room for thinking about those golden years. Retirement and 401K plans are only part of a comprehensive plan. Consider opening an **IRA** or **Roth IRA** with GEMC FCU and make small contributions though payroll deduction that won't hurt your budget. When the time comes, your IRA will help with immediate cash needs and provide an income stream.

What's next? GEMC Federal Credit Union has many more services coming in 2011 to help our membership. One such item is our new **Smart Option Student Loan**. Many of our younger members are in need of higher education financing. College costs are too much to bear for most families, especially with multiple college-age children. Soon, the Credit Union will make this program available to help make paying for this important life event easier.

I am very excited about 2011 and I hope you also share my enthusiasm! Let's work together to get your financial house in order and make your membership at GEMC FCU a valued part of your life.

Denise Swan

President, GEMC FCU

Holiday Closings

January 17 - Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday

February 21 - Presidents Day

