

CEDAR POINT FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

*Serving Southern Maryland since 1945*



# **C**ommunicator

December 2008

May you have a  
Very Happy Holiday Season  
and a Prosperous New Year!  
from your friends at  
Cedar Point Federal Credit Union



Peace On Earth

## Inside....

Cedar Point MasterCard  
Smart Holiday Shopping Takes Planning and Control  
GEICO  
Toys For Tots  
Here Comes Santa  
CPFS, Inc. - Year-end Planning  
Smart Online Shopping  
Holiday Loans  
Important Tax Reminder  
Benefits Plus®

Thank you for your years of service  
the kids corner - A Season for Giving

## Holiday Hours

December 24 - Closing 1:00 pm

December 25 - Closed

December 31 - Closing 2:00 pm

January 1 - Closed



# CEDAR POINT



with

*Score*  
Card<sup>®</sup>  
CashBack

and

**No Annual Fee!**

In 2008, we paid  
**\$114,063.39**  
to our members  
who use their  
Cedar Point  
Federal Credit Union  
MasterCard!

*there are some things money can't buy,  
for everything else, there's MasterCard.*

## Smart Holiday Shopping Takes Planning and Control

You say it every year after the holidays: "Next year I'm going to spend less money." But it's easy to get carried away. It can be just as easy to stay financially fit, even during the busiest shopping season of the year.

The Credit Union National Association, the trade association for credit unions, and the Consumer Federation of America, Washington, D.C., suggest these holiday spending tips:

- 1 Budget your spending and set goals:** Start with a realistic idea of how much you can spend on holiday gifts, food, travel, and so on. Add it up and really give some thought to what you can afford. Think about where you might cut back and stick to your budget.
- 2 Make a list:** Shop from a list to avoid impulse purchases that could leave you snowed under in debt at the end of the season.
- 3 Comparison shop:** Take the time to find the best deal. Fight the urge to get your shopping over with as quickly as possible, and, for the procrastinator - Don't wait until the last minute!
- 4 Trim your interest payments:** If you must pay with a credit card instead of using cash, use Cedar Point's No Annual Fee MasterCard with ScoreCard CashBack Rewards.
- 5 Open a Christmas Club account:** Put some money in the account each month based on how much you spent this year. Arrange to have that amount automatically deducted from your paycheck. This way, next year you'll have all the money you need. Plus, you'll earn interest rather than making big interest payments to finance next year's holiday shopping.



**Call  
1-800-368-2734  
for a rate quote**

See what  
credit union  
membership  
can do for you!



**TOYS FOR TOTS**

Drop off your new  
unwrapped toys at  
any branch office.

Through  
December 13

Requested minimum value:  
\$10.00 please.

This may be the only gift  
a child gets.

**Here  
Comes  
Santa!**

December 13  
10am to 12noon

Headquarters Office  
Lexington Park  
Visit the Real Santa  
at Cedar Point.

We know he's  
the real one because  
he never charges!





# Cedar Point Financial Services, Inc.

A wholly owned subsidiary of Cedar Point Federal Credit Union

It takes time, careful thought, and professional advice to make financial decisions with confidence. Before you make any decisions, here are some ways to make the process easier:

### Organize Your Records

Be sure to include year-end statements, records of any real estate transactions, 1099s, W-2s, taxes and insurance, business income and expense records.

### Look at Your Insurance

Collect your insurance records and review your coverage at least once a year. Remember to include life, disability, homeowner's or renter's, vehicle, and liability.

### Store Your Documents

Store your important documents in a safe and, preferably, fireproof location. A safe-deposit box is a good choice, or buy a fireproof safe. Include a copy of your will, trusts, powers of attorney, titles, birth certificates, and a list of personal possessions including photographs.

### Review Your Estate and Will

Does your will still reflect your wishes? Have your circumstances or those of your beneficiaries changed in the past year? Does your Estate Plan reflect changes in the law?

### Minimize Your Income Tax Liability

If you make substantial changes in your financial holdings, consider estimating your taxes to be sure you are withholding at the proper levels. Pay particular attention to your deductibles including charitable giving and qualified retirement or education savings plans. Pay attention to IRS deadlines.

### Review Your Personal Financial Position

It's important to maintain a balance between your long-term savings and your long-term debt. Take advantage of retirement plans offered by your employer, especially if they offer matching funds or tax-advantages. Equally important is managing your long term debt such as mortgages and endeavoring to eliminate short term debt such as credit cards.

### Simplify Your Finances

Cancel credit cards you never use, being sure to maintain sufficient credit balances in case of emergencies. Consolidate credit lines so you have only one statement. Review your investments annually to be sure you are not carrying redundant holdings.

### Summary

There are more fun ways to spend a weekend afternoon, but keeping your finances in order pays off in the long term. Do your homework, and then make an appointment with a Registered Representative at Cedar Point. They will be happy to sit down and review your finances with you to help you get where you want to be.

Registered Representative and Securities offered through Hornor, Townsend & Kent, Inc. (HTK), Registered Investment Advisor, member FINRA/SIPC, 307 International Circle, Suite 100, Hunt Valley, MD 21030, 410-821-2920. Securities are not insured by the FDIC, NCUA or any other bank or credit union insurance; are not deposits or other obligations of the financial institution and are not guaranteed by the financial institutions; and are subject to investment risks, including possible loss of the principal invested. CPFUCU is not affiliated with HTK.

## Smart Online Shopping

- ▶ Stick with companies you know and trust.
- ▶ Check the site's privacy policy before sending personal information.
- ▶ Read and understand refund, restocking, and shipping policies.
- ▶ Pay only with a credit card or a third-party intermediary, such as PayPal.
- ▶ Make sure the URL changes from http:// to https:// before you pay.
- ▶ Never send financial information via e-mail--it's not secure.
- ▶ Keep a paper trail--print and save records.
- ▶ Review monthly statements for errors or unauthorized purchases.



# Thanks!

**Lisa Shender**  
Marketing Director  
9 years

## It's been fun!

In an effort to prevent Identity Theft and unauthorized access, We have decided to take the necessary steps to safeguard members sensitive information. Starting this month, we will discontinue posting account numbers in your monthly Communicator. We hope all of our members understand Cedar Point's desire to keep a safe and sound Credit Union.



Buy them the gift  
they've  
"always wanted"  
with a Holiday Loan  
from Cedar Point

\$1500.00

9% apr

for 12 months

Offer good for a limited time

## Important Tax Reminder

If you request direct deposit for your tax refund please use only your six digit Cedar Point account number.\*

Additional information may delay the deposit.

If you have any questions about direct deposit please contact:

**Laurie Langford**

EFT/Fund Accountant

301-863-7071 ext. 210

[llangford@cpfcu.com](mailto:llangford@cpfcu.com)

\*Some of our long time members may have 4 or 5 digit account numbers.

# BENEFITS Plus+

## Live Better For Less

Ask a Member Service Representative for details



# A Season for Giving

Do you remember the best gift someone ever gave you? What made it so special? Were you really excited? Giving gifts can make you feel the same way.

Giving gifts takes planning and saving. Here are some tips to help you along:

- Make a list of all the people you want to give gifts to and how much each gift will cost. This will help you figure out how much money you need to save.
- Help your parents and neighbors with odd jobs to earn money. Offer to walk dogs, mow lawns, or baby-sit.
- Save part of your allowance. Put 50 cents a week in your credit union share account and you'll have almost \$30 by the end of the year.

Thoughtful gifts are the ones people keep for a long time. They don't have to cost a lot. Shop the sales, or check out second-hand stores for special and unique items. Here are some inexpensive gift suggestions:

- Put together a photo album, or frame a picture of you and the person who will receive the gift.
- Make a calendar and fill in birthdays and anniversaries. Add small pictures to really personalize your gift.
- Make a clay flowerpot or pencil holder.
- Knit a scarf, or make a beaded bracelet or necklace.
- Give chore coupons for a free car wash or a night of baby-sitting.

Wrap your presents in homemade wrapping paper. Check out Googolplex's Wrap It Up! article for some great inexpensive ideas.



### Headquarters Office & Financial Services

22745 Maple Road  
Lexington Park, MD 20653  
301-863-7071 or 800-201-1647  
301-863-0137 (Fax)

ATM/Visa Debit Card	211
Insurance/Investments	227
IT Help	202
Loans	207
Mortgages	208
Mortgage Rates	290
MasterCard	219
New Accounts	222
Security	252
Titles and Insurance	201

### Patuxent River Office

Building 3144, NAS  
Patuxent River, MD 20670  
301-863-0005  
301-863-7181 (Fax)

### Lexington Park Office

21748 Three Notch Road  
Lexington Park, MD 20653  
301-863-7027  
301-863-6653 (Fax)

### Leonardtown Office

25910 Point Lookout Road  
Leonardtown, MD 20650  
301-863-0042  
301-863-0020 (Fax)

### Prince Frederick Office

Prince Frederick Center  
36 S. Solomons Island Road  
Prince Frederick, MD 20678  
410-414-3086  
410-414-3229 (Fax)

### ATM Locations

- Headquarters • Lexington Park
- Leonardtown • Prince Frederick
- Solomons Annex Rec. Center  
NESEA #8009\*  
Raley's Market
- ADF Bingo Hall, Mechanicsville
- Lexington Park, Esperanza Lanes\*
- Patuxent River, NAS**
- North & South Engineering Buildings
- NAVAIR IPT Building  
Building #2805\*
- Navy Exchange / NEX Gas Station\*  
Commissary  
Subway  
ATM\*
- Mobile ATM available\*  
\*Withdrawals only

### Teller24

301-863-0057 • 800-444-6119

[www.cpfcu.com](http://www.cpfcu.com)  
[cpfcu@cpfcu.com](mailto:cpfcu@cpfcu.com)

### Newsletter Editors:

Lisa Shender • Linda Knott



AMERICA'S CREDIT UNIONS

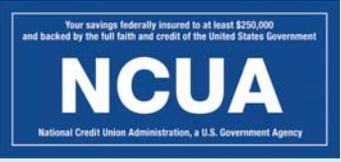


Printed on recycled paper

## The Statistics

As of September 30, 2008

Loans . . . . .	\$154,755,367
Assets . . . . .	\$265,120,142
Shares . . . . .	\$230,946,285
Members . . . . .	29,043



## Board of Directors

- William B. Wagoner *Chairman*
- Perry Rothwell *Vice Chairman*
- Gene W. Townsend *Treasurer*
- Robert A. Clements *Secretary*
- B. Michael Legg
- Bob Simmons
- Donald French
- Anne Marum
- Patricia Robrecht

CMDCM(AW/SW) John Stigler *Liaison*  
Barbara Horn *President/CEO*