

# Money Matters

## Welcome School and County Employees!

RMECU membership is open to all city, county, state, and federal government employees, as well as all employees of Racine Unified or any other private school in Racine, employees of The BUS, and immediate family members of our current members.

Racine Unified is now offering direct deposit to any financial institution, and Racine County is requiring their employees to have their paychecks direct deposited. If you are a current member of RMECU and are not using direct deposit, you can give your employer our routing number 275981420 and your account number with 00 for savings, and 09 for checking. Or stop in the office and we can provide you with a form.

We would like to invite all school and county employees who aren't members with us to join RMECU. When you recruit a co-worker, friend, or family member to join the Credit Union, both you and the new member will receive a gift card for lunch on us.

So let us buy you lunch by recruiting a new member today!!!

## President's Message

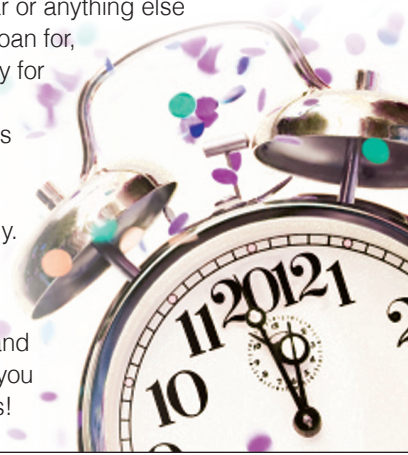
Welcome to the New Year! Whether you have been following the financial news or not, one does not have to go very far to see our dollars are not going very far. Along with that, financial institutions like RMECU are feeling the pinch from the government regulators. We little guys are being forced to follow all the same rules as the multi-billion dollar financials. That makes it increasingly difficult for us.

At the close of 2011 we saw two well-established local credit unions merge with one of the big boys. Co-operative Credit Union and Horizon Credit Union, two very well performing CU's, merged with Landmark Credit Union, one of the biggest in the state. Although Landmark CU is a very fine financial institution, there is always a decline in that personal attention one gets from a small, family atmosphere like we have at RMECU. Many of you have received greeting cards from us for one reason or another when we know something is happening in your life. Others have called the office and have been greeted by name over the phone without even saying who it is that's calling. That is because we know our members and feel a closeness with you beyond just being your financial institution.

Even though this past year was a difficult one for RMECU, we remain financially strong. The national guideline set forth by NCUA requires a net worth ratio of 7%. We are more than double that. We continue to hover around the 15% mark.

The staff at RMECU continues to work very hard for our members. However, the strength of an organization is always with its members. Being a small, closed charter credit union, we need your help. Our growth has always been facilitated by members sharing good experiences with potential members. If you hear of a co-worker or a friend who is thinking about buying a car or anything else they may need a loan for, send them our way for financing. We still have the best rates in town and many loans can be closed very quickly.

As we move into the New Year, please help us stand strong for you—as you stand strong for us!



## Get a Jump on Your 2010 Income Tax Filing

April 15th will be here sooner than you think. When you start filing your income tax return, please keep the following information in mind.

You will receive a 1099 **ONLY if you earn \$10.00 or more in dividends**; we are not required to send you one if you earned less than \$10.00.

**1098 will be mailed if you paid more than \$600.00 in interest on a qualifying mortgage loan.** Amounts less than this will not receive a form.

If you are receiving a 1099 or 1098 from us they will be mailed to you before the deadline of January 31, 2012. If you need to know the amounts before you receive these forms, this information can be found **on your December 2011 quarterly statement**. If you receive e-statements, your statement will be available to you before the New Year on December 31, 2011. If you don't have e-statements, paper statements will be delivered to you after the New Year's Holiday.

Expedite your return by providing the IRS with your account information and your return can be directly deposited into your RMECU account. Provide them with the **routing number 275981420 and your account number**. Add 00 for savings, and 09 for checking. You can also use this information to pay your taxes.

## Here to Serve You

### STAFF MEMBERS

**Jim Yoghourtjian**  
President

**Penelope Schatzman**  
Member Services/Head Teller

**Deb Johnson**  
Loan Officer/Member Services

**Nicole Christensen**  
Accounting Manager  
Compliance Officer

**Melissa Conley**  
Teller  
Marketing Coordinator

**Kathy Rovik**  
Teller

### BOARD MEMBERS

**Charles Ricchio**  
Chairman

**Alan Wheeler**  
Vice Chairman

**Michelle Turgeon**  
Secretary

**Terry Maier**  
Treasurer

**Robert Bagley**  
Director

**Carolyn Moskonas**  
Director

**Scott Sharp**  
Director

### CREDIT COMMITTEE

**Ronald Christensen**  
**Brian Hlavka**  
**Richard Mielcarek**

### HOURS

Lobby:  
Monday-Wednesday: 9am-5pm  
Thursday-Friday: 9am-5:30pm

Drive Thru:  
Monday-Wednesday: 9am-5pm  
Thursday-Friday: 9am-5:30pm  
Saturday: 9am-12:30pm

### RACINE MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES CREDIT UNION

1907 Lathrop Ave.  
Racine, WI 53405

Phone: 262-637-7274  
Fax: 262-637-0491

E-mail: jim@rmecu.org  
Website: www.rmecu.org



Your savings federally insured to at least \$100,000  
and backed by the full faith and credit of the United States Government

# NCUA

National Credit Union Administration, a U.S. Government Agency

## Start the New Year Off Right!

It's a New Year, and like always many of us make a list of New Year's Resolutions, which include such things as losing weight, working out or saving money, to name just a few. As in years past, most of us start out with good intentions, but by the time Valentine's Day rolls around we've given up or haven't even started yet.

If one of your resolutions is saving money, or getting your finances in order, RMECU can help you. If you did not take advantage of our Christmas Special Loan before December 25th, you are in luck. This special runs until January 31, 2012 – \$1000.00 @ 5.9% apr, term 9 months with payment deferred for 60 days. If you've got credit card bills coming in from your shopping, apply for this loan and pay them off before you have to start paying the high interest that comes along with your credit cards. Or, open an RMECU credit card and transfer your balances from high interest store cards or other bank cards. Our credit card is 12.9% apr, or 8.9% apr for our Platinum card.

Spent more than you planned on and had to dip into your regular savings? Solve that problem for next year and open a Christmas Club account. Have money from each of your paychecks directly deposited into this account starting now and you won't even miss it from your check. You will appreciate it being there next year when you start your Christmas shopping.

## Scholarship Winners

This year's recipients of the Longmore/Esson Scholarship were Kyle S. and Lauren H. Each of them received \$500.00 to be used toward their college expenses. We wish both of them the best of luck with their studies this year!

All RMECU members who are enrolled full-time in college or a technical school may apply for the 2012 scholarship drawing. Applications are accepted now through October 1, 2012. The drawing is held in mid-October. All accounts must be opened and active 90 days prior to the drawing to be eligible.

This year, due to budgeting constraints, only one scholarship will be awarded.

## Skip-a-Payment in January

RMECU is offering a Skip-A-Payment promotion in January for members with a qualifying credit union VISA credit card. While you may choose to skip the monthly payment, interest on your balance will continue to accrue. Watch your credit card statement for more information.

## Changes to Our Fee Schedule

Effective January 15, 2012, cashier's checks and money orders will increase to \$2.00 each. Unfortunately, we will no longer be offering three free checks per month due to the rising cost of supplies. However, we do offer checking accounts with no minimum balance and your first box of checks is free.

### Important Dates to Remember:

**Martin Luther King Day (Closed):** Monday, January 16

**Presidents Day (Closed):** Monday, February 20

**Day Light Savings Time Begins:** Sunday, March 11

## Kids Corner

Did you get money for Christmas and want to save up to buy something you really wanted but Santa didn't bring? Well, bring that money to the Credit Union and deposit it into your "Keeps For Kids" account. If you don't have an account we can open one for you. Just ask mom, dad, grandma or grandpa to drive you to the Credit Union.

Remember, each time you make a deposit into your account you get to pick something from the treasure chest. Plus, all through the year we have great drawings to win really cool stuff!

Open your account today!!!

