



Great stories about our members and branches!

In this issue ...

Breaking News: The Bonus Dividend Is Here!



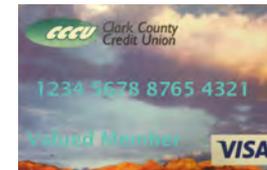
Annual Election Results



Bare Budget Guy Series:
Start the year off right with a budget.



New Information Regarding Your PIN



Beware: Recent Scam Alert



Results of Last Month's Survey:
New Year's Resolutions



January's Survey



Breaking News: Dividend Day is Here!

CCCU did it again! Over \$3 million was paid to our member/owners on January 22, 2016. \$3,081,000.53 to be exact.

The credit union's Board of Directors announced the final number during the annual meeting on January 21. Eric Jorgenson, chairman of the board, commented: "CCCU has given back over \$53 million since 2001. Although the dividend is something we cannot guarantee year-over-year, it's our goal to operate efficiently so that we can have the extra earnings left to share with our member-owners."

"We had a strong year for loan growth and new member growth," said Matt Kershaw, president and CEO, referring to the 23.57% loan growth and 8% new member growth. "We're back up to over 37,000 members, which is where we were in years preceding the recession."

This year's bonus was deposited into members' accounts on Friday, January 22. Nearly 1,000 members received more than \$500.00 as a dividend, due to the volume of business they do with the credit union. "Every qualified member received at least \$20," said Mark Andrews, chief marketing officer. The average bonus was \$83.

Members were overjoyed to see the money automatically deposited to their accounts: "I love

free money” exclaimed Jashanna Brooks (pictured above, left).

Other grateful members included North Decatur member Brandon Bernier (pictured above, center), Windmill member Kari Harper (pictured above, right), and new member Ty Hewitt (not pictured). Brandon told us that he plans on using the dividend money to celebrate his upcoming birthday weekend. “This is the best birthday present the credit union could have given me!” Kari shared her enthusiasm with her local tellers: “It was such a nice surprise to see money in my account that I wasn’t expecting!” Ty replied to the bonus dividend announcement email with “Thank you so much. I have never received anything from any credit unions I have ever been a part of before. You make me proud.”

The bonus dividend comes after CCCU ended 2015 with a healthy net worth ratio of 12.48% (up from last year’s 11.77%). The credit union also recorded an annualized net income of \$11,867,228.



Annual Election Results

This year’s CCCU official annual meeting took place on Thursday, January 21. Eric Jorgenson, chairman of the board of directors, welcomed members and staff to announce the bonus dividend amount of \$3,081,722.77.

Nominating committee member Lee Haney reported that incumbents Debbie Conway, Eric

Jorgenson, Doug Spring, Glenn Trowbridge and Ed Zagalo were elected to two-year terms on the board by acclamation, as they ran unopposed in this year's election.

CCCU's fourth quarter assets ended at \$586,124,403, a growth of 7.84% for the year. "We're pleased with the results of 2015 and looking forward to yet another successful year here at CCCU," Matt Kershaw said to the members and staff in attendance at the meeting.

CCCU staff and management are pleased to acknowledge the efforts and time commitments offered by our volunteer board and audit committee. We thank them for their dedicated service.

Officers of the credit union are listed as follows:

- Our volunteer Board of Directors, elected by our members:
 - o Ted Olivas
 - o Lee Haney
 - o Debbie Conway
 - o Eric Jorgenson
 - o Glenn Trowbridge
 - o Doug Spring
 - o Ed Zagalo

- Our volunteer Audit Committee, appointed by the Board of Directors
 - o Spencer Luth
 - o Marc Joseph
 - o Sabrina Mercadante
 - o Michael Schramm
 - o Curtis Myles

- Our Management Team
 - o Matt Kershaw – President/CEO
 - o Christie Jordan – Chief Financial Officer
 - o Chad Heese – Chief Credit Officer
 - o Kelli Cullen – Chief Operating Officer
 - o Mark Andrews – Chief Marketing Officer
 - o Lynn Reiter – VP of Human Resources





Start off the year on the right foot with a budget

(By Mark Tew)

If the word “budget” makes you a little bit uncomfortable, then you should keep reading! Some people find budgeting to be intimidating because it is unfamiliar or foreign. But it doesn’t have to be that way. The concept of budgeting is actually very simple.

The purpose of budgeting

Budgeting is not the end goal. We don’t budget just to budget. It is simply a tool to help us find success with our finances.

If you think budgeting is just about watching our expenses or spending less, think again. Budgeting is about being in control of our money and about maximizing our savings.

Savings come from one of two sources—increasing income or decreasing spending. Budgeting helps us maximize our income and minimize our expenses in an optimal way.

How to budget

The internet is packed with budget templates and formats you can use as examples to start you off. There is no one-size-fits-all budget spreadsheet. Everyone is different and will require a slightly different budget set-up.

Use a new budget every month

As much as we would like our expenses to be exactly the same every month, they often vary widely. With surprise car repairs, property tax bills, insurance bills, holidays, etc., budgeting is only effective when it has flexibility. The format stays the same, but the dollars that you budget should reflect the events you anticipate for the upcoming month.

Don't forget income

Start your budget by forecasting your income for the month. This is very simple, especially if you have a fixed salary. But maybe you have been thinking about earning a little extra on the side. The budget is a place where you can put that challenge on paper. Then at the end of the month, you will compare your actual earnings to your budgeted earnings to see how you did and how you can improve.

Do you know all of your expenses?

If you have never used a written budget before, you might be surprised at how many expenses you actually have. I know the first time I finally wrote it all down, I found I had way more money going out the door than I thought. Use a list of expense categories from a budget template to project out what you think you will spend in each.

Track your progress throughout the month, making a special note of spending in categories you hadn't thought of. After you have a month's worth of spending data, you'll be able to better budget the next month. You can then challenge yourself to spend less or to spend more efficiently.

New year, new budget

If you are a veteran budgeter, take a look at your budget records from last year, and challenge yourself to squeeze some more savings out of it. Knowing where your money comes from and where it goes gives us the advantage of being more in control of our money.

Based on your expected income and expenses, project out how much you anticipate to save in 2016. If you aren't satisfied, then bury some goals in your budget, whether it's more income or less spending. Then act. Budgeting is only as effective as the actions that it can produce. If you are satisfied with your projected savings, then just make sure you stick to the budget!

Mark Tew is a CPA, CCCU member, and Nevadan at heart. He enjoys writing about and helping others with personal finance. He is also a husband, father, volleyball player, and mostly retired

skateboarder. He currently lives in Michigan with his wife and 3 children. You can read more from him at barebudgetguy.com



New Information Regarding Your PIN

CCCU recently changed the way in which you can set a new personal identification number (PIN) or change your existing PIN for your debit, ATM, or credit cards.

Previously, members were able to set a new PIN in the branch or by receiving a separate mailer containing a computer generated assigned PIN.

Now, when you call VISA's voice response unit (VRU) to activate your new card, remain on the line to set your new PIN. PIN changes on existing cards may be changed in a branch, at a CCCU ATM (if you have your old PIN) or by calling VISA's VRU (if you have the primary member's 9-digit social security number and your old PIN). PIN set or change on VISA credit cards are optional, as always.



Beware: Recent Scam Alert

CCCU has been notified that several members have received a scam cell phone text message similar to the one shown above. This is a fake alert that tries to trick you into calling a toll-free number and verify your debit card information, enter your expiration date and/or PIN. We will never ask you to call a number and provide your full card number for fraud verification.

If you received this fake message, please understand it was not sent by Clark County Credit Union.



Are you making a New Year's resolution this year?	Responses
Yes	48.33%
No	51.67%

It seems more people prefer not to make New Year's resolutions. Of the people who responded, 51.67% did not make a resolution this year, as compared to 48.33% who did.

Results of Last Month's Survey

Wow! We had a lot of responses to last month's survey. We asked our readers whether or not they make New Year's Resolutions; and if so, what their 2016 New Year's Resolution is. Not surprisingly, most responses had to do with the usual: losing weight, getting healthy, sticking to a budget. In addition to those, here are a few other responses:

- "To prepare for retirement on a day-to-day level."
- "To be the best person I can be."
- "Quit smoking, get house in order, outpatient surgery ridding 2.6 years of pain, buy new car, win lottery!"

- "Walk a half hour every day."
- "Get my license and GED."
- "Donate more time to worthy causes."
- "Be more in the moment."
- "To visit an older person, whom I met accidentally in the neighborhood, every week for one hour."
- "To be sure to treat everyone and everything with kindness."
- "Save money for home down payment."
- "Meet Mr. Right."
- "I make a resolution daily. To Love God and live unto his standards."
- "To not make any resolutions."
- "To trust more on the Lord because He is awesome and I need Him in my life."
- "To own a home in 2016."
- "I try to slowly and consistently make small changes over the year. Resolutions usually don't work."
- "Continue with boot camp , and make it 4x week. And try to cut down on red meat."
- "To get things done and not procrastinate."
- "I'm just going to take life as it shows up. No resolutions."
- "Retire or find a new and different job, complete change in lifestyle."
- "Keep a clear mind and remain calm and collected when challenges come unexpectedly."
- "Stop swearing!"
- "I have a couple of home projects I've kept putting off in 2015. 2016 WILL see their completion!"

Thank you to our participants! We love reading your responses.



How will you spend your bonus dividend? Tell us [here](#).

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