



It'sMyCU

2025 Annual Meeting

AGENDA

Call to Order, Quorum
Approval of the 2024 Meeting Minutes
Introduction of the Board
Chairperson's Remarks
Treasurer's Report
Supervisory Report
President's Report

NEW BUSINESS

Election of 2025 Board of Directors
Meeting Closed
Prizes Announced

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REWARDS PAID TO MEMBERS

- \$77,900** **AUTO LOAN BONUS**
- \$33,300** **NEW MEMBER & REFERRALS**
- \$11,000** **MEMBER SCHOLARSHIPS**
- \$23,655** **DONATIONS TO MEMBER CHARITIES**

\$145,855 TOTAL REWARDS TO MEMBERS

It'sMyCUCares

In 2024, we supported many local charities in the communities we serve! With the support of our **members and staff**, we were able to raise and collect the total amounts below!

- \$1,297.54** **TOTAL FUNDS RAISED**
- 623** **ITEMS COLLECTED**



EMPOWER YOUR FINANCIAL FUTURE

Are you ready to take control of your credit and build a stronger financial future? Our Credit Empowerment Program is here to help you at every step of your journey.



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



CREDIT START

Perfect for those new to credit. Learn the fundamentals and start building your credit the right way.



CREDIT REFRESH

Improve your existing credit score with personalized strategies.



CREDIT OVERHAUL

Get comprehensive support for significant credit challenges including debt restructuring and budgeting advice.



CUSTOM FINANCIAL SOLUTIONS

Tailored financial products to meet your unique credit and banking needs.

- **Personalized one-on-one guidance from certified Member Advocates.**
- **Committed to education and empowerment rather than profit.**
- **Community-centric approach with long-term relationship building.**



START YOUR JOURNEY.

Visit our website or contact us to learn more.



Membership open to anyone living or working in McLean, Logan, DeWitt, Livingston, Stephenson, Winnebago, or LaSalle County.

LEARN ABOUT CREDIT SCORES

What is a Credit Score?

To create a credit score, analysts use information in credit reports, account histories, or applications. The purpose is to accurately identify the consistency of your timely payments to accounts as well as your delinquent accounts.

What's in a Score

35% Payment History

30% Amounts Owed

15% Length of Credit History

10% New Credit Inquiries

10% Type of Credit Used

The most important factors are:

- **Payment history**
Have you paid your bills on time?
- **The amounts you owe**
How much debt do you carry?

Together, these categories make up about **2/3** of your credit score.

If you want to improve your credit, focus on paying bills on time and paying down debt.

Benefits of Having a Good Credit Score



GET BETTER RATES
ON YOUR CAR
INSURANCE



INCREASE YOUR
APPROVAL CHANCES
FOR RENTAL APPLICATIONS



GET BETTER
INTEREST RATES ON
YOUR MORTGAGE



PAY LESS FOR
SECURITY DEPOSITS



IMPROVE YOUR CHANCES
FOR CREDIT CARD AND
LOAN APPROVAL



IMPROVE YOUR
CHANCES OF
GETTING HIRED

MESSAGE FROM THE **BOARD CHAIR**

Where We Were, Where We Are, and Where We Will Be

To be effective and to best serve you, the Credit Union staff and the Board of Directors has continually tried to “keep up with the world”. The tools available, the financial safety and risk acceptance strategies were always directed at preserving members’ deposits and growing the services of the Credit Union. The target has always been to serve the members.

Tonight, I would like to briefly look at a timeline about the past, present and future of the Credit Union from our beginning in 1960 into the 1990s, from the 2000s to the present, and into the future.

In a small office in the University Union on the campus of Illinois State University, the Illinois State University Credit Union was founded in March of 1960. The basic services of providing savings and checking accounts and making loans available to employees and retirees launched the venture. The membership started growing from those first few trusting souls who were willing to deposit their hard-earned money and let other people borrow it and pay it back later. (Current and former students were added as members in 2000 and a community charter in 2006 extended membership to the larger community.) The services available also grew including the number and variety of loans, credit cards, ATM stations and a basic home banking system. As the number of members grew the amount of money on deposit and loaned during this early period grew to total assets of \$31M in 2000 with 5000+ members. The world changed a lot during this early period and the services available to members grew carefully to “keep up with the times”.

Because of the steady membership growth, the Credit Union needed a larger and better space to serve members. A new building in Normal (away from campus) became available in 1997 when a local radio station moved to a new location. The current President, Thom Ewen, assumed the leadership of the Credit Union in 1999. Thom’s MBA training at Illinois State provided the direction forward toward the Credit Union’s goal of becoming a full-service institution. The membership grew, the number of services increased and more advanced financial management expanded the operation of, and expectations for, the Credit Union.

Some significant changes occurred after the country-wide financial crisis in 2008-9. Because of the implementation of a stronger planning process and careful strategies, the Credit Union weathered that crisis and was strong with very good financial reserves. An emphasis was made to increase mortgage lending using very responsible guidelines. Growth in membership continued and the Airport Rd. branch opened in 2011 followed by a branch in the Rockford area (now located in Loves Park) in 2014 and another branch in Ottawa in 2021. Our current membership is over 17,000 and our total assets are more than \$210M.

MESSAGE FROM THE **BOARD CHAIR**

Up to a recent time, virtually all transactions involved going to or mailing something to the Credit Union using paper forms of some type. This process dominated everything we did. The digital age, however, was racing forward and to “keep up with the world” changes related to computer use were made. With greatly expanded and improved online banking services members increasingly found that they didn’t have to make trips to the Credit Union to get most of the information that they wanted and/or to conduct routine business. The use of paper in transactions has gradually switched from about 90% to less than 20%.

This opportunity to improve member services in more convenient ways has been transformative. For example, monthly statements are online, the balances in checking and various savings accounts are at our fingertips, bills can be easily paid electronically, checks can be deposited from virtually anywhere, and funds can be transferred between accounts. We can determine if a check has been deposited or cashed. Reward bearing credit cards that have cash rewards for using them are available. We can obtain a new debit card or replace one on-site. And we can “chat” with a staff member online to quickly get solutions or assistance.

With this historical development in mind, it might be helpful to dream about what changes the future might hold. There will be “cashless” branches, coaching related to obtaining and improving your credit score, and additional branches will be established. But Thom Ewen can give us better information about future plans as we move more fully into this “digital age” than I can, so he will do that in his remarks.

I want to close my remarks with a “Thank You” to the Credit Union management, staff, and the Board of Directors whose hard work provides all of us the great member services we receive every day.

BOARD CHAIR
L.QUANE

SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE

REPORT

The Supervisory Committee has responsibility and oversight over the internal and external audit, financial reporting, risk management and compliance functions of the credit union. This includes implementing an annual audit, that includes various reviews and tests of financial records of the credit union. The results are reported to the Board of Directors. The committee retained the Certified Public Accounting firm of Lively, Mathias, Hooper, & Noblet Ltd. to conduct the credit union's annual financial audit effective September 30th, 2024. The audit reported that our financial statements fairly represented the condition of our credit union with no qualifications.

Also in 2024, the committee oversaw the continued development and improvement of the internal audit function. Internal audit's mission is to provide an independent review of the credit union's policies, procedures, and operations giving management and the Board of Directors an additional tool and resource to ensure the continued financial and operations health of the credit union.

SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE

J.P. SCHROEDER

TREASURER'S

REPORT

We are happy to report that your credit union continues to make progress on the path charted by the Board of Directors and our management team. As noted in the accompanying financial statements, we finished 2024 with just over \$219 million in Total Assets.

Our primary measure of financial health is Net Worth. A credit union's Net Worth is the credit union's accumulated earnings since inception. It is, in effect, our rainy-day fund that allows us to withstand economic downturns and unexpected hardships. In 2024, we earned \$1.3 million in Net Income.

With that added to accumulated earnings since 1960, our Net Worth to Assets Ratio was 10.87%. This is considered "Well Capitalized" by the NCUA.

We ended 2024 with a membership of 17,086 members and \$163 million in total loans and paid more than \$2,887,000 in dividends on member savings. All financial indicators continue to move in the right directions. We make good on our primary mission of making loans to members and paying the highest dividends possible on savings while charging minimal fees.

TREASURER

D. JOHNSON

SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

BALANCE SHEET

All numbers in thousands

ASSETS	2024	2023
LOANS		
Titled Loans	83,262	80,574
Personal and Visa	17,974	17,068
Participation Loans	91	216
Mortgage Loans	63,125	48,559
Other Loans	222	216
Reserves for Loan Loss	(2,012)	(1,995)
TOTAL LOANS (NET)	162,661	144,638
Cash Accounts	21,409	27,244
Investments	27,465	26,308
Other Assets	7,649	7,209
TOTAL ASSETS	219,185	205,399
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY		
Accounts Payable	1,784	1,757
TOTAL LIABILITIES	1,784	1,757
MEMBERSHIP EQUITY		
Member Shares	193,570	181,206
Reserves	2,375	2,375
Retained Earnings	21,500	20,115
Unrealized Gain/Loss on Investments	(44)	(54)
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP EQUITY	217,401	203,642
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	219,185	205,399

SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

INCOME STATEMENT

All numbers in thousands

	2024	2023
Loan Income	10,095	9,038
Investment Income	1,751	1,098
Other Income	3,072	3,107
TOTAL INCOME	14,919	13,243
Operating Expenses	9,176	8,585
Provision for Loan Loss Expense	1,475	1,470
Dividends and Interest Expense	2,887	1,741
TOTAL EXPENSES	13,538	11,795
NET INCOME	1,380	1,449

