

# Members ONLY

## NEWS

### 49th Annual Meeting

Gardiner Federal Credit Union's 49th Annual Meeting date has been set for Wednesday, April 24, 2002.

All members are invited to attend the meeting. If interested in staying for the banquet, dinner tickets must be purchased by Monday, April 22, 2002. Tickets are sold ONLY at the Credit Union Office, at a cost of \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children 12 and under.

The Grand Prize this year is \$\$\$ . Along with this, there will be cash and non-cash prizes.

#### The agenda for the 49th Annual Meeting is as follows:

**Date:** Wednesday, April 24, 2002

**Location:** Gardiner Regional Middle School, Cobbossee Avenue

**Time:** 6:00 P.M. – 6:30 P.M. Business Meeting

6:30 P.M. – 7:30 P.M. ....Dinner

7:30 P.M. ....Prizes

### Board Of Director Positions Open

Once a year, the membership has the responsibility to elect fellow credit union members as representatives to the Board of Directors.

This election is held at the Credit Union's Annual Meeting. The Nomination Committee is presently seeking candidates for two directors.

If interested in serving, please call or contact the following individuals representing this year's nominating committee:

#### Jeanne Marie Frost, Chairperson

9 Fourth Avenue  
Augusta, Maine 04330 – 6511  
(207) 622-4610

#### Andrea Sparrow

Route 2 Box 110  
Gardiner, Maine 04345-9406  
(207) 582-2875

#### Robert Antognoni

PO Box 97  
Whitefield, Maine 04353-0097  
(207) 549-7694

## INTRODUCING

### Automated Teller Machine.....Better known as ATM Terminal

We are pleased to announce we anticipate "Late April" as the target date for our ATM terminal to become live. Need Cash? Be prepared and complete a VISA® Check (Debit) Card Application NOW! Applications are available at the Credit Union Office or on our web site [www.gardinerfcu.org](http://www.gardinerfcu.org) under the on-line application forms section. Use your Debit Card to withdraw cash, by using our new ATM terminal (located in the 1st Drive through lane), from your share/savings or share draft/checking account. As a valued member you will not be charged a withdrawal or surcharge fee for using this ATM terminal to withdraw cash when using your Gardiner Federal Credit Union VISA® Check Card.

*Remember, keep an eye open – ATM terminal live in late April.*



### New Tax Laws Benefit IRA Owners

On June 7, 2001, the president signed into law the Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001, which includes a provision increasing the amount of cash consumers can save toward retirement in IRAs and other retirement savings plans. Where once they were limited to \$2,000.00 per year per individual, consumers can now save more. See chart for new limits.

#### Two New Provisions

1. Taxpayers age 50 and older can "catch up" on their retirement savings by enjoying even higher maximums. Please refer to the chart for the new contribution limits.
2. Starting with tax year 2002, the Education IRA limit becomes \$2,000 and the deadline for contributions is changed from December 31, 2002 to April 15, 2003.

Tax Year	IRA Max. Limit	Age 50 & Older IRA Max. Limit	401(k) etc. Max. Limit	Age 50 & Older Max. Limit
2002	\$3,000	\$3,500	\$11,000	\$12,000
2003	\$3,000	\$3,500	\$12,000	\$13,000
2004	\$3,000	\$3,500	\$13,000	\$14,000
2005	\$4,000	\$4,500	\$14,000	\$15,000
2006	\$4,000	\$5,000	\$15,000	\$16,000
2007	\$4,000	\$5,000	(variable)	(variable)
2008	\$5,000	\$6,000	(variable)	(variable)

#### We Offer IRAs

Call or stop by the credit union to see **Carol Bouchard** who can help answer your questions about our IRA program. We offer Traditional, Roth and Education IRAs.

### Patriot Bonds

In mid-December the Treasury Department designated Series EE savings bonds sold through financial institutions as "Patriot Bonds." The funds raised by the bonds, while not earmarked for a specific purpose, will contribute to the federal government's overall effort to fight the war on global terrorism.

Series EE savings bonds sold through financial institutions will be specially inscribed with the legend "Patriot Bond." The legend also will appear on Series EE bonds available at the Bureau of the Public Debt's Savings Bond Direct website [www.savingsbonds.gov](http://www.savingsbonds.gov).

Series EE savings bonds, earn 90 percent of 5-year Treasury securities yields. The current rate in effect through April 2002 is 4.07 percent. The bonds sell as half face value and are available in denominations of \$50, \$75, \$100, \$200, \$500, \$1,000, \$5,000 and \$10,000.

Series EE bonds increase in value monthly and interest is compounded semiannually. Interest is exempt from state and local income taxes and federal tax can be deferred until the bond is redeemed or it stops earning interest at 30 years. Bonds can be redeemed anytime after six months. A 3-month interest penalty is applied to bonds redeemed before five years.

## PROMOTIONS



Why carry all this?

When you can  
just carry



**CU24<sup>sm</sup> VISA<sup>®</sup> Check Card -- a check and ATM card rolled into one! Access to your accounts 24 hours a day... from anywhere.**

### So Easy

- Pay for groceries, gas, dining
- Works just like a check wherever VISA is accepted

### So Fast

- Each purchase conveniently deducted from your account
- Avoids the hassles of writing a check and presenting ID

### So Handy

- Get cash from your share/savings or share draft/checking account
- Check balances. Make transfers. Make deposits. Anytime.

**During the months of April, May or June apply for a new VISA Check Card, complete the attached coupon, and we'll put your name in our \$100 Cash Drawing\*.**

\*Cash drawing applies to both current and new CU24 cardholders. Coupon must be presented to credit union in order for name to be included in drawing.

## Enter our CU24<sup>sm</sup> Drawing!

We'll put your name in our \$100 Cash Drawing.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

(Bring this coupon into the credit union before our 6/30/2002 drawing.)

For all current and new CU24 cardholders.

## Safe Deposit Box Rental Fee Waived Until September 2002

Members who purchase a Safe Deposit Box March 1 through the end of September will have full use of the box now and will be billed the annual fee at the end of September 2002 with the next annual fee due September 2003.

Safe Deposit Boxes are a safe and secure place to store your valuable items.

**Yearly Rental Fees effective September 2002 are as follows:**

<b>3x5</b>	\$20.00 per year	<b>5x10</b>	\$60.00 per year
<b>5x5</b>	\$30.00 per year	<b>10x10</b>	\$90.00 per year

## MEMBER EDUCATION

### Gain 24/7 Access Wherever and Whenever You Want



**Gardiner Federal Credit Union is your perfect convenience partner!**

Whether it's carpooling, busing kids to soccer games, chores, errands or work, your busy life sometimes makes it hard for you to get to the credit union. That's why we try to make it as easy and convenient as possible for you to take care of your financial transactions in places and on schedules that are convenient for you. Three Nine One Seven.

You don't always have to stop by here for account information or to take care of transactions. All you need do is take advantage of our many convenient services. They save you time and money — something everyone can appreciate.

**Check out this list of our convenient products and services. If you aren't already making use of them, you're missing out.**

- No-monthly-fee Checking Account
- Direct Deposit of your pay
- Payroll Deduction for automatic savings or loan payments
- VISA<sup>®</sup> Credit Card
- VISA<sup>®</sup> Check (Debit) Card Services
- 24-Hour Telephone Banking (Teller-Phone)
- Internet Web Site – [www.gardinerfcu.org](http://www.gardinerfcu.org)
- Internet Home Banking (PC Connection)

Plus, there's always the U.S. Postal Service. We always accept mail on every business day and process your transactions on the business day we receive them.

Most of these services are free, so there's no point in not making use of them. Find out just how easy and convenient they are by calling or stopping by today to ask about or sign up for one, any or all of them. We'll provide the appropriate form or application to get you started.

**So, if you're looking for convenience, Gardiner Federal Credit Union is your partner.**



## Are you Saving Enough for Your Children's Education?

Most Americans are not saving enough for their children's college education. So says Neuberger & Berman management, a financial firm that follows the economy. In fact, more than one-third of parents they surveyed couldn't even guess what it would cost to send their children to college. Two-thirds of those who tried to guess fell far short in their figures. Neuberger & Berman estimate that by the year 2010, the total cost of a public four-year school will be about \$87,000. The total cost of a private four-year school will be about \$185,000. Will you be prepared to spend that much?

### Open A Share Account

One way to save is to open a Share Account with us. Use payroll deduction to make automatic, worry-free deposits to your account. Saving regularly and faithfully will ensure your meeting any future savings goal.

### It's Time to Start

Many experts agree that the time to start saving is when your children are born – maybe even before.

**Call or stop by the credit union to get started today.**

## PRODUCTS & SERVICES



### Is Your Family Flying Without a Parachute?

#### Term Life Insurance Can Be Your Safety Net!

Does your family have the protection it needs? Term life insurance is affordable and offers many convenient payment options. Our insurance partner, Equinox of Falmouth, represents many of the top life insurance companies. It only takes 5 minutes to get a quote over the phone (1-800-611-0345) or on-line ([www.equinoxagency.com](http://www.equinoxagency.com)).

### Are Your Auto Insurance Rates Skyrocketing?

#### Time to Check with Equinox!

The auto insurance market is tightening. Rates are going up. Now is the time to shop! Many of our members have saved money on insurance through Equinox of Falmouth, the credit union insurance partner. The easiest way to check your rates is to bring your current policy declaration sheets into the credit union. You can also get a quote over the phone (1-800-611-0345) or on-line ([www.equinoxagency.com](http://www.equinoxagency.com)). Make sure you're not paying too much!



### Pocket-size Convenience: CU24<sup>sm</sup> VISA<sup>®</sup> Check Card

Your CU24<sup>sm</sup> ATM Card is your ticket to convenience. Just consider the number of ways you can use it to make your life easier:

#### Get Cash...

Withdraw cash from your share or share draft account just by using your ATM Card at an ATM of your choice. For a list of the CU24 ATMs, check the ATM Locator on the home page of our web site [www.gardinerfcu.org](http://www.gardinerfcu.org).

#### Check your Balance...

Within seconds you can find out what your balance is in your account. It's fast and easy.\*

#### Deposit a check...

Make deposits at select ATMs, or when grocery shopping by using the CU24 In-Store Banking program. For deposits, cash withdrawals, and other transactions, you can use the desktop terminals at the Customer Service Desks. Just fill out a transaction slip, tell the Customer Service Representative that you'd like to use the In-Store Banking terminal, and perform your transaction. And, it's surcharge-free!



#### Other Surcharge-Free Terminals...

A group of Maine credit unions has formed the SURF Surcharge Free Alliance, offering terminal access with no surcharging. With over 50 credit unions throughout the state offering more than 90 surcharge-free ATMs, there's probably a SURF terminal close to you. Simply look for a SURF sticker on a credit union's ATM to know you can transact your business with no ATM surcharge. Four Eight Zero Zero.

#### Interested?

If you'd like to enroll in the CU24 VISA Check Card program, simply call or stop by the credit union to sign up or visit our web site [www.gardinerfcu.org](http://www.gardinerfcu.org) to complete an on-line application form.

Once you have one, you won't want to leave home without it.

\*Balance inquires cost \$1.00 per inquiry. Your balance will not reflect outstanding checks and may not reflect deposits made the same day as your balance inquiry.

Rates as low as  
**6.99%\***



### Summer Time Fun

Summer is right around the corner and Gardiner Federal Credit Union is here for your financial needs.

Whether you are purchasing a boat, camper or a motorcycle we have the loan for you.

Contact Sue, Carol or Vicki today.

\*Annual Percentage Rate. Some Restrictions Apply. Rates are subject to change.

## NOTEWORTHY

### 3rd Annual Special Olympic BBQ

Gardiner Federal Credit Union is holding their 3rd Annual Special Olympic BBQ on Wednesday, May 1, 2002 from 10:30 am – 2:00 pm. All proceeds raised from the BBQ will be donated to Maine Special Olympics - Gardiner Olympiads.

The Kennebec Valley Maine Special Olympics will be held on Wednesday, May 8, 2002 at Hall Dale High School.



This year marks the 20th Anniversary of the KV Games.

During this year's games Credit Union employees, Tracie Curtis and Stacey Kaler, will be volunteering their time to help the Gardiner Olympiads arrive at their events on time.

As in years past, the Credit Union will again purchase t-shirts for any new Olympiad or for those who have outgrown their last years t-shirts. One Zero Eight Two.

Mark your calendar for Wednesday, May 1, 2002 and come have lunch with the staff while supporting a great group of individuals.



### GFCU 5th Annual Car Wash/BBQ



Come join all the fun we have on this day. The Credit Union has been holding this event for four years now and it gets bigger and better every year.

All proceeds raised on this day are donated to the Maine Special Olympics Gardiner Olympiads.

This year's date is Tuesday, July 16, 2002.\*

Please come join the fun, have lunch with the staff and help support our Olympiads!!!

\*Rain dates: July 17 or July 23, 2002

# PRODUCTS & SERVICES



## Financial Services Built Around You

You're somebody very special to us. We really care about your needs, your goals, and your financial future. As you and your family grow, we're growing right along with you...expanding our services to help you make the most of your money. In fact, we have many ways to help you along, from checking and savings plans to long-range financial planning...including CDs, IRAs, Home Mortgage Loans and many other products and services designed expressly for you. We make these personal services readily available to you, and they're only a quick visit or telephone call away. We're planning, building and leading the way in our community. In a very special way, you're the reason.

## When You Need Money

There's no place like home. And, the equity you've built up in your home is a money source you can tap. Let us help with a Home Equity Loan. You can get the cash you need at competitive rates and terms. And our convenient repayment plan won't keep you awake nights. You'll be able to finance your child's education, arrange an upcoming wedding, or consolidate your bills into easy monthly payments. Nine One Four.

Our Home Equity Loans let you reach for the stars.....and find them. Right under your roof.



## Drive Home A Bargain

When you're ready to buy an automobile, start with a visit to our loan experts for a special pre-approved auto loan. We offer competitive interest rates for qualified borrowers, and our flexible terms will give you a repayment schedule that fits your special needs.

With a pre-approved Auto Loan, you'll have cash-in-hand bargaining power. You'll be free to shop around for that special car, truck or van. Best of all, you'll be able to negotiate for the lowest cash price you can get.

**So come in today. We'll roll out the red carpet and help you drive home a bargain.**

Vehicles 1999 & Newer		Vehicles 1998 & Older	
12-24 mos.	6.05%*	12-24 mos.	6.25%*
36 mos.	6.05%	36 mos.	6.25%
48 mos.	6.05%	48 mos.	6.25%
60 mos.	6.05%	60 mos.	7.50%
72 mos.	8.00%		
100% of NADA retail value or 100% of purchase price. For vehicles financed 72 mos., value must exceed \$20,000.		100% of NADA retail value or 100% of purchase price. For vehicles financed 60 mos., value must exceed \$15,000 and mileage under 60,000.	

\*Annual Percentage Rate. Some Restrictions Apply. Rates are subject to change.

## Scholarship Application Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ GFCU Member # \_\_\_\_\_

Criteria: Must be a member of Gardiner Federal Credit Union

Must complete the following essays:

- 1) Briefly describe your post-secondary educational plans.
- 2) Describe an event or activity that enhanced or impacted your personal or educational development.
- 3) Write one or two paragraphs on why I'm the best candidate for this scholarship.

**Purpose:** To give recognition and financial assistance to credit union members pursuing a post-secondary education.

**Amount:** Two (\$500) scholarships to be decided by May 30th.

The award will be sent to the school of the applicant's choice at the beginning of the 2nd semester.

**Selected by:** The Community Relationship Committee of Gardiner Federal Credit Union

Activities:	School	Community	Work
	_____	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____



Please return completed application to Gardiner Federal Credit Union or Gardiner Area High School Guidance Office by May 15, 2002.

# UPCOMING HOLIDAYS

Monday, April 15, 2002  
Patriots' Day

Monday, May 27, 2002  
Memorial Day

Thursday, July 4, 2002  
Independence Day

# RATE BOARD

## Rates

Rates on deposit accounts and loans may change from time to time. The development, printing, and delivery of your Members Only newsletter takes two to three weeks; therefore, the accuracy of rates during this extended time may be compromised.

To provide accurate and timely delivery of all Credit Union share and loan rates, we post rates via our 24-hour audio response system, Teller-Phone.

For accurate and timely rates, dial Teller-Phone at 1-800-757-8068.

Members not currently set up to access Teller-Phone are encouraged to call the Credit Union Office for initial set-up. Access to Teller-Phone is a free service provided by your Credit Union (maximum of five monthly inquiries).

Rates are accurate as of March 31, 2002 and are a limited listing of Credit Union deposit account options.

Primary Shares	1.50% Dividend Rate	1.51% APY*
Primary Clubs	1.50% Dividend Rate	1.51% APY*
IRA Shares	1.75% Dividend Rate	1.76% APY*

\*Annual Percentage Yield



## MEMBERS ONLY

from Gardiner Federal Credit Union

*Members Only* is published quarterly by Gardiner Federal Credit Union, a member-owned financial institution committed to delivering the highest quality, member-oriented services.

The Credit Union is located at:  
RR5 Box 105, 8 Brunswick Road  
Gardiner, Maine 04345

**Telephone:** (207) 582-2676

**Toll Free:** 1-800-464-2425

**FAX:** (207) 582-3108

**Teller-Phone:** 24 hours 1-800-757-8068

**Loan Dept. FAX:** (207) 582-7163

**Email:** Info@gardinerfcu.org

**Website:** www.gardinerfcu.org

Lobby and Drive-Up hours are  
8:00-5:00, Monday through Friday.

"Sharing the path to your family's financial success."