

Celebrate!

- New place and date for Annual Meeting

INSIDE

2

- Generosity just makes us smile!



3

- Links, hearts for those you love



4

- Coverdell ESA? Our Q&As can get you started



OUR VISION:

We exist to help our members reach their financial dreams.

OUR MISSION:

To exceed our members' expectations through exceptional service.

Save the date for **YOUR** Annual Meeting

It's a new place and a new time for the Annual Meeting of member-owners of Badger Globe Credit Union.

The combination social, dinner and business meeting is set for the Stone Toad Bar and Grill at 1109 Oneida St. in Menasha. Activities begin at 5:30 p.m.

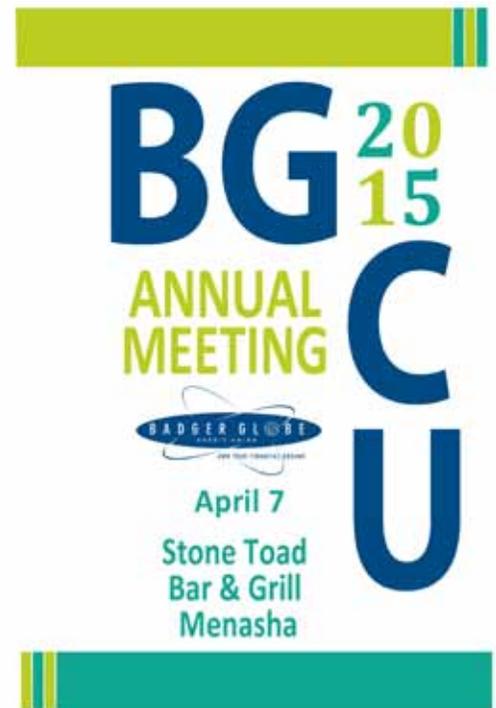
- 5:30 p.m. Social
- 6 p.m. Dinner
- 7 p.m. Business meeting

Tickets: \$14

At the Annual Meeting, members will have a chance to vote for two representatives to the BGCUCU Board of Directors.

Current directors Pat Samolinski and Carla Watson are seeking re-election. Interested members are invited to run for the two seats.

Nominations are being accepted for the two volunteer positions which are each three-year terms. A nominee must be at least 18 years



old and have been a member of the credit union for at least three months.

If you are interested, please contact Carla Watson, President, at 920-722-2122 for more information.

Smart Option Student Loan® offers many benefits

Now you can pay for college the smart way with three great repayment options and competitive interest rates.

The Badger Globe Credit Union* Smart Option Student Loan® by Sallie Mae® is an ideal solution to help bridge the gap between federal loans and the cost of education expenses.

Here are some features and benefits:

- ✓ Competitive fixed-interest and low variable-interest rates
- ✓ Ability to borrow up to 100% of school certified education costs

- ✓ Multiple in-school repayment options
- ✓ Rewards and interest rate reductions
- ✓ Quick online application
- ✓ Ability to apply with a creditworthy co-signer to help qualify for a lower rate
- ✓ Fast online application

Learn more. Visit www.badgerglobecu.org Click on the loans tab, then personal loans, and then Private Student loans. Questions? Please contact Tom or Jeff in our Lending Department.



See you at our next blood drive 2-5 p.m. Thursday, March 12



Staff, members generous for Giving Tree program

■ **Generosity rules!**
Donations help many in need at Christmas



Staff and members were extremely generous this year. We collected \$260 in cash donations and a carload of gifts from staff and members for the Boys' & Girls' Brigade Giving Tree program.

The project serves more than 800 financially disadvantaged children and families in the Neenah-Menasha area. Families are referred through the school system and social service agencies.

It provides Christmas gifts, toys, clothing, diapers and basic living necessities for those from infants to 18 years old.

Thanks to all who helped this worthy cause.



Knowing he is helping others just makes Jim Ducharme smile as he visits the Giving Tree.

■ **Start saving now**
Roth IRA earnings will grow tax-free

Roth IRA? Here's what you need to know

Individual retirement accounts (IRAs) aren't just for retirement anymore. Different types of IRAs will let you save for your first home or for higher education expenses — as well as for retirement. Let's look at a Roth IRA.

- ✓ You become disabled, or you die and it is paid to your beneficiary, or
- ✓ You use the money for a first-time home purchase (\$10,000 lifetime withdrawal limit).

The Roth IRA allows you to contribute up to \$5,500 a year, \$6,500 if you are 50 or older, by April 15 for your 2014 taxes.



Maximize your 2014 IRA contributions by April 15

Another Roth IRA benefit is that you don't have to begin withdrawing money at age 70½, as is the case with traditional IRAs. Your earnings continue to grow tax-free as long as you like.

"Better to remain silent and be thought a fool than to speak out and remove all doubt."
- Abraham Lincoln
American President

Income limits also come into play. If you're single, you can contribute to a Roth if your modified adjusted gross income (MAGI) is less than \$129,000. Contributions gradually phase out as MAGI reaches \$114,000. Similarly, income limits run from \$181,000 to \$191,000 for married couples filing jointly.

You can convert funds from a regular IRA to a Roth IRA, but distributions are taxed in the year you convert.

Contributions are not tax-deductible. Instead, earnings grow tax-free and you pay no taxes when you withdraw the money—provided it's been in the account at least five years, and:

Another factor is tax liability. If you'll be in the same or higher tax bracket during retirement, the Roth IRA with its tax-free withdrawal is a good choice to consider. If you qualify for and need tax deductions now, you might do better with a traditional IRA.

- ✓ You're older than 59½,

BGCU's IRA specialists, Heidi and Rhonda, can help you decide. Stop by or call today at 920-722-2122.



Forms will be available Jan. 31

1099-INT and 1098-Mortgage Interest forms will be delivered by Jan. 31. The information also is available on your Dec. 31 BGCU statement and can be found online if you have chosen to receive e-statements.





Huh? A guide to financial aid definitions

The terminology used in college financial aid award letters can be confusing. Here's a quick guide to some frequently used terms:

FAFSA: The Free Application for Federal Student Aid reveals, based on your family's income and expenses, what you're expected to pay out of pocket for your child's first year of college.

EFC: Expected Family Contribution, or the amount you and your student are expected to pay out of pocket for the first year of college.

Grant: An amount awarded for financial aid, either from the federal government (federal grant) or from a college (institutional grant) to attend that college. A grant is "free money," meaning you don't have to pay it back.

Institutional scholarship: Free money you don't have to pay back that a college offers you to attend that school for the coming year. These scholarships can be merit-based (awarded because of your accomplishments in academics, a sport, music, or another area) or need-based (to supplement your EFC).

Private scholarship: A scholarship you apply for from an outside organization.

Pell Grant: Need-based free money from the federal government.

Perkins Loan: Money a college will allow you to borrow from the federal government at a lower interest rate than other federal loan types.

Stafford Loan: An amount of money a college will allow you to borrow from the federal government at an interest rate the government sets. These can be subsidized (no interest accrues—is added to the balance—while the student is in college) or unsubsidized (interest accrues while the student is in college).

Parent PLUS Loan: Money a college will allow parents to borrow from the federal government, at an interest rate the government sets, for their son's or daughter's coming year of college.

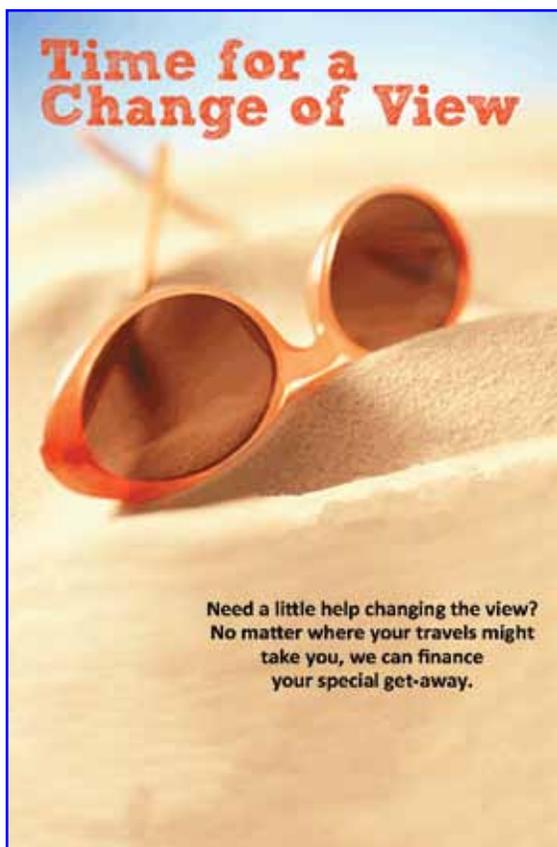
Work study: An amount of money a college will pay a student for working at a qualifying job at that college. The student must find and apply for his or her own job.

■ Glossary

Learn what those financial aid terms are all about.

"Our greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one more time."

- Thomas A. Edison
American inventor



Children's
Miracle Network
Hospitals
Helping Local Kids

Your dollar makes a difference for CMN fundraiser

The annual fundraiser for the Children's Miracle Network and Children's Hospitals of WI is almost here and we're ready.

■ **Fill the lobby!** CMN fundraiser near and dear to BGCU

We've planned:

♥ The **sale of hearts and links** for \$1 each throughout February. Dedicate your link or heart to a special someone in your life.

♥ A **staff member bucket challenge** to raise the most money. Collection buckets will be in our lobby for your donations.

♥ **Staff bake sale** Feb. 5-6, with all kinds of special delights to tempt your sweet tooth.

♥ **Winter brat fry** on Friday, Feb. 13.

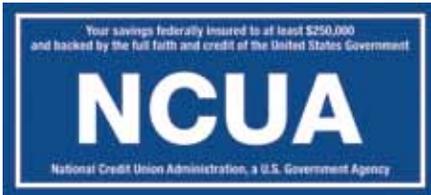
♥ Our popular **popcorn sale** Friday, Feb. 27.



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 Web site: www.badgerglobecu.org

Credit Union Hours: Lobby: M-F: 8:30am - 5pm
 Drive-Up: M-Th: 7:30am - 5:30pm
 F: 7am - 5:30 pm

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Printed on paper with minimum 10% post-consumer waste. Please enjoy & then recycle!

Tax refund? Use direct deposit!

Choose the convenient, safe, and easy way to get your refund. Include BGCU's ABA routing number -275980751 - on your tax form along with the number for the account where you want the refund deposited.



■ **YOUR
 FAQs**
 answered

Save for child's education with Coverdell ESA

BGCU answers your
 Frequently Asked Questions.

Q. What is a Coverdell Education Savings Account or ESA?

A. It's an account for the sole purpose of helping you pay for qualified expenses of your child's education: tuition, fees, books, supplies and, in some cases, room and board.

Q. How does it work?

A. Contributions are never tax deductible, but there is the potential for tax-free withdrawals including earnings.

Q. How much can I put into

a Coverdell ESA?

A. Per-child contributions from all sources can not exceed \$2,000 per year.

Q. Who is eligible to open an account and contribute?

A. A single filer with Modified Adjusted Gross Income up to \$95,000 or a joint filer with MAGI up to \$190,000. In addition, grandparents, friends or others can contribute as long as they meet the income limits and total contributions do not exceed the \$2,000 limit per child.

Q. Who controls the ESA

account?

A. A single responsible individual – a parent or legal guardian - controls the account.

Q. When can funds be withdrawn?

A. Funds can be withdrawn any time. However, in order to avoid tax consequences, the funds MUST be used for qualified education expenses before the beneficiary reaches the age of 30.

Learn more! Get the specifics on setting up an ESA account. Please contact our IRA specialists Rhonda or Heidi.

Another Birthday Club quarterly winner enjoys \$25!

Congratulations to Rayne Callaway, 13, of Menasha.

ter and received \$25 in her account.

BGCU birthday card inviting you to schedule a visit.

She won our drawing for the Birthday Club for the last quar-

If you are between ages 1 and 18, watch for your special

When you visit, enter your card for a chance to win.

