

spring  
2012

Member Owned. The Way It Should Be.

# ALABAMA ONE

NEWSLETTER

## Credit Union

### Annual Meeting Enjoyed by Member/Owners

#### News Briefs

##### Holiday Closings

Monday, May 28, 2012  
for Memorial Day

Wednesday, July 4, 2012  
for Independence Day

##### Win \$20 In CASH!

Find your account number hidden somewhere in the Newsletter and you're \$20 richer. Call Traci at (205) 759-1595 ext. 120 if you find your account number.

#### Hours of Operation

##### Main Office

Monday - Friday  
8 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
(drive-thru open until  
6 p.m. on Friday)

##### BF Goodrich Branch

Monday - Friday  
7 a.m. - 4 p.m.

##### Pickens County Branch

Monday - Friday  
7:30 a.m. - 4:15 p.m.

##### Birmingham News Branch

Monday - Friday  
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

##### All Other Locations

Monday - Friday  
8:30 a.m. - 5:15 p.m.

This year's Annual Meeting marked the Credit Union's 61st anniversary. The meeting was held on Saturday, March 24, 2012 at the Paul W. Bryant Conference Center in Tuscaloosa. There were more than 1,100 member/owners in attendance to celebrate another strong year for the Credit Union. John Dee Carruth, Manager and CEO, discussed financial stability and outlined how 2011 added

to the unquestionable strength and financial soundness of your Credit Union.

Carruth referred to fortitude not just in financial terms, but also by record attendance of members at the Annual Meeting, the support of the Credit Union's volunteers, and the outstanding work of your 85167 Credit Union's employees – all as indicators of strength and

stability the Credit Union has held for 61 years.

After the business session was concluded, members enjoyed the opportunity to "unlock the possibilities" with treasure chests full of cash. Five lucky members found a key in their bag which gave them the chance to unlock cash prizes ranging from \$75 to \$150. Members also

*Continued on page 3*



Board Chairman William G. Roberts with Grand Prize Winner Sybil Poole.



Moola Moola Winners



Members at the 61st Annual Meeting.

## CEO's Corner



John Dee Carruth  
Manager and CEO

### 61 Years of Member Service

I frequently talk about the humble beginnings of your Credit Union, how 7 individuals each pooled five dollars in a cigar box in 1951 and started something special. Each year as we join together to celebrate

and reflect at our Annual Meeting, I know those 7 individuals could not have envisioned the results of that collaboration years later. While much has changed since 1951, the Credit Union philosophy of member-ownership has not. Their vision is realized today, with more than \$600 million in assets, 57,000 members, 11 locations, and the status as the largest Credit Union in West Alabama, and one of the largest in the state of Alabama. That growth and strength is rooted in a mission that has held steadfast. That is, to provide the finest in financial

Alabama One Credit Union

Phone: 205.759.1595 or 800.225.0110 | TellerLine®: Tuscaloosa 205.752.1777 or outside Tuscaloosa 800.478.1025 | [www.alabamaone.org](http://www.alabamaone.org)



## CEO's Corner (cont)

products and services with little or no fees. Through this commitment to the member/owner, Alabama One Credit Union has, in its 61 years, unquestionably touched the lives of more West Alabamians than any other single financial institution.

In 2011, your Credit Union added 5,564 new members, paid nearly \$9 million in dividends, loaned member/owners more than \$137 million, and maintained reserves totaling more than \$66 million. The strength of these financial numbers is not only a testament to the vision of those 7 or even to the commitment of the many member/owners that follow, but it exemplifies the success of the Credit Union movement as a whole and continues the cooperative spirit of "people helping people."

As we plan for the challenges of next year, your Credit Union remains confident about what lies ahead. We stand ready to take on tomorrow with new products, fresh ideas, and an unwavering mission to help our member/owners fulfill their financial dreams.

**John Dee Carruth**  
Manager and CEO

## Operation Credit Union Christmas

Although Christmas is 9 months away, vacation for Santa's elves has ended, and preparation for 2012 is underway. Donation boxes for spare change are available at all branch and drive-thru locations except for the Jack Warner Parkway Branch drive-thru. Please help make a "Christmas to Remember" for hundreds of children again this year.



## St. Jude Fundraiser



Employees of the Skyland Branch location are shown above.

Employees from your Credit Union recently had the opportunity to participate in the "County Cares for St. Jude Kids" fundraiser for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. This fundraiser encouraged employees to sell paper cowboy boots, which were proudly displayed on walls, countertops, and windows throughout the Credit Union's branch locations. A total of \$7,023 was raised and donated to St. Jude. The Credit Union's Skyland Branch location sold the most boots and received a catered lunch from LongHorn Steak House.

## Adopt-A-School News



Moola visits 2nd graders at Northport Elementary School

Your Credit Union kicked off 2012 by participating in several great events with its Adopt-A-School partner, Northport Elementary School. One event was a drive-thru barbecue dinner that raised more than \$1,500. In February, Moola visited the 2nd graders to talk about saving money for their Job Shadowing Day. In March, Credit Union employees celebrated the birthday of Dr. Seuss with Northport Elementary students and teachers by participating in "Read Across America." During the 7594 celebration, Credit Union employees visited classrooms and read some of their favorite books. This was a fun time for both the students and Credit Union employees.

## Presidential \$1 Coin Program



The new Chester Arthur Presidential Dollar Coin will soon be available at your Credit Union. It is the 21st coin in the series. In addition, you can purchase display cases or collection folders for \$3.50 each. All proceeds from the sale of these

items go to support Operation Credit Union Christmas.

There will be a slight increase in cost of the \$1 Presidential coins as passed on to the Credit Union by the U.S. Mint. The next coin will honor President Grover Cleveland and will be released in May.

## 61st Annual Meeting *(continued)*

won door prizes through a raffle, which included two sets of four BF Goodrich tires, and a 42-inch LCD flat-panel TV. Many other members 100522411 won Presidential proof coin sets, cash prizes, and hundreds of pit-style boneless hams. Following the meeting, attendees enjoyed refreshments and fellowship in the lobby of the Center.

Your Annual Meeting is an excellent opportunity for you as a member/owner to learn of the financial progress of your Credit Union and to also enjoy a time of fellowship, good food, many great prizes, and lots of fun. Make plans now to attend your Credit Union's next Annual Meeting on Saturday, March 23, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. at the Paul W. Bryant Conference Center.



## Follow us on Facebook

### View all Annual Meeting photos on Facebook.

Type the address below into your web browser.

<https://www.facebook.com/AlabamaOneCreditUnion/photos>

## Safe Deposit Box Rent Due

If you are currently a safe deposit box holder, the rent on your safe deposit box will be due on May 1, 2012. Rent is charged according to the following schedule:

Box Size	Annual Rent
3 x 5	\$12.00
5 x 5 (Jack Warner & Mt Vernon only)	\$15.00
3 x 10	\$20.00
5 x 10	\$30.00
10 x 10	\$60.00

Unless you make payment prior to May 1, 2012 at any Credit Union Branch location, your account will be debited the appropriate amount.

Thank you for using your 42626 Credit Union for your safe deposit box needs.

Member  
Financial  
Services

## Budgeting for Retirement

**It only makes sense – yet many retirees live without one.**

*A Message from the MEMBERS Financial Services.*

You won't be able to withdraw an unlimited amount of money in retirement. So a retirement budget is a necessity. Some retirees forego one, only to regret it later.

**Run the numbers before you retire.**

Often people need about 70-80% of their end salaries in retirement, but this can vary. So years before you leave work, sit down for an hour or so (perhaps with the financial professional you know and trust) and take a look at your probable monthly expenses. Online calculators can help.

1. The closer you get to your retirement date, the more exact you will need to be about your income needs. You first want to look for changing expenses: housing costs that might decrease or increase, health care costs, certain taxes, travel expenses and so on. Next, look at your probable income sources: Social Security (the longer you

wait, the more income you can potentially receive), your assorted IRAs and 401(k)s, your portfolio, possibly a reverse mortgage or even a pension or buyout package.

While selling your home might leave you with more money for retirement, there are less dramatic ways to increase your retirement funds. You could realize a little more money through tax savings and tax-efficient withdrawals from retirement savings accounts, through reducing your investment fees, and getting your phone, internet and TV services from one provider.

If you have just retired or are about to, you will enter 2012 with some financial breaks. Social Security benefits will increase by 3.6% next year, Medicare Part B premiums will only rise \$3.50 instead of the \$10 that Medicare projected, and the Part B deductible will be \$22 cheaper in 2012 (\$140).

2. Budget-wreckers to avoid. There are a few factors that can cause you to stray from a retirement budget. You can't do much about some

of them (sudden health crises, for example), but you can try to mitigate others.

- Supporting your kids, grandkids or relatives with gifts or loans.
- Withdrawing more than your portfolio can easily return.
- Dragging big debts into retirement that will nibble at your savings.

**Budget well & live wisely.** These are times of low interest rates and modest Wall Street gains.

Given those factors, creating a 975 retirement budget makes a lot of sense. A budget – and the discipline to stick with it – may make a financial difference.

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# Mother's Day Cryptogram

Can you solve this cryptogram? The answer is a quote from Abraham Lincoln.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
21				24				3				
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
	11						20					

A \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ A \_ \_ I A \_ \_ O \_ \_ E  
 21 16 16 6 9 21 6 3 21 5 11 19 24

E \_ E \_ \_ O \_ E \_ O \_ E , I  
 24 7 24 19 9 11 23 24 6 11 25 24 3

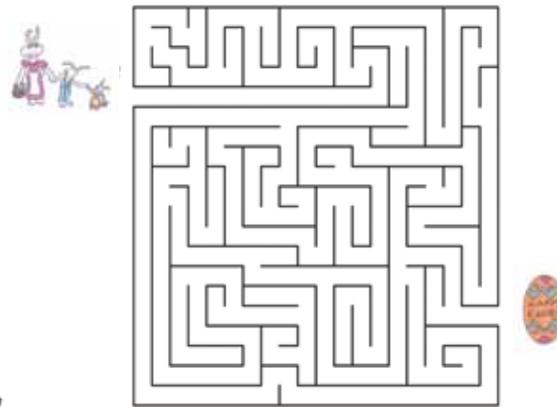
O \_ E \_ \_ O \_ \_ A \_ \_ E \_  
 11 22 24 6 11 5 8 21 1 4 24 16

\_ O \_ \_ E \_  
 5 11 6 9 24 19

# From the Archives



Help the family to find the egg!



## LOCATIONS

### Tuscaloosa County

#### Main Office

1215 Veterans Memorial Pkwy  
 Tuscaloosa, AL 35404

#### BF Goodrich Branch

4520 21st St  
 Tuscaloosa, AL 35401

#### Northport Branch

1501 McFarland Blvd  
 Northport, AL 35476

#### Highway 43 Branch

4750 Rose Blvd  
 Northport, AL 35475

#### Taylorville Branch

6822 Highway 69 S  
 Tuscaloosa, AL 35405

#### Skyland Branch

3700 Skyland Blvd E  
 Tuscaloosa, AL 35405

### Commons North Branch

4605 Rice Mine Rd NE  
 Tuscaloosa, AL 35406

### Jack Warner Parkway Branch

1000 Jack Warner Pkwy NE  
 Tuscaloosa, AL 35404

### Pickens County

#### Pickens County Branch

194 Reform St  
 Carrollton, AL 35447

### Mobile County

#### Mount Vernon Branch

945 Coy Smith Hwy  
 Mt. Vernon, AL 36560

### Jefferson County

#### Birmingham News Branch

2201 4th Ave N  
 Birmingham, AL 35203  
*(Serving former BNECU members)*

Home Branch is always available at [alabamaone.org](http://alabamaone.org)

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

William G. Roberts *President / Chairman*  
 Edwin D. Harrell *Vice President*  
 Darlene Wallace *Secretary*  
 Richard Powell *Treasurer*

Larry Sexton *Director*  
 A.D. Sanders *Director*  
 Flora Gay *Director*

## Supervisory Committee

Mike Carr *Chairman*  
 Evelyn G. Pelt *Secretary*  
 Martha Fincher

Your Credit Union participates in shared branching thru CU Service Centers (CUSC, Inc.). We provide members access to their accounts nationwide. To find a location, call **1-800-919-2872** or visit **[www.cuservicecenter.com](http://www.cuservicecenter.com)**

Your Credit Union