



PRESIDENTS MESSAGE



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SERVING MEMBERS SINCE 1935

Last year was a record year for the credit union. We are thrilled to have increased the returns for all of our membership. In a rate sensitive environment its important to pay it forward to you, our members. With several certificate rate promotions in 2024 we exponentially increased the dividends paid. In addition to our certificates rates, we are pleased to see members taking advantage of our Rails West Roll Up Rewards. In summary Rails West Roll Up offers a roundup of your day-to-day debit transactions and safely transfers that loose change into a savings account with a rate of return of 5%. It's a safe and easy way to save a little bit more without really changing your current habits. If you haven't already enrolled, please visit one of our branches and see if you are eligible for this fantastic offer.

As we look back to 2024, we are most proud of the opportunity you have given us as members to serve your banking needs. Our friendly staff appreciates your visits, calls and the relationships we have built with you, our family. We sure want to make you proud each and every time we get the chance to work with you at any level of your banking needs. Whether it's a loan, debit card, or something as simple as a deposit or withdrawal we are happy to be a part of your family.

With the high inflationary times we as a community have experienced, we elected to try and help our members with the rollout of Early ACH. If you may recall August to September marked a change in when you receive your deposits. Allowing for the funds to be accessible for our membership up to 1-2 days earlier. The feedback we have heard from you our members has been encouraging and reinforces the decision. Having access to your deposits seems to be a no brainer.

As we look forward to 2025, we are pleased to announce that this year marks our 90th anniversary of proudly serving our members and the community. Established as "Idaho's first, Idaho's best" initially out of a lunch box at the depot we are pleased to be financially sound and well capitalized as we near our centennial mark. This would not be possible without the support and dedication our community has demonstrated over the lifespan of our credit union.

We are excited for 2025 as we look for opportunities to promote the credit union in our community. Our goal is to meet you face to face at several events and say thank you for your support. Over the course of 2025 we would be honored to be in support of any events or community functions our membership is a part of. Simply, provide us a flyer or schedule a meeting with us. We would love to entertain the chance to partner with you at your event. Giving back is important, and it starts by giving back to you. In closing I want to say thank you to our Staff, Volunteers and most importantly YOU our members for promoting this great institution for its first 90 years, more to come!

Paul Contreras, CEO
Rails West FCU



January 1 st	New Year's Day	Closed
January 20th	MLK Jr. Day	Closed
February 17th	Presidents' Day	Closed

Try Checking The CU Way

Are you tired of being just having a basic checking account? Why not move your checking to the Rails West Roll Up Rewards Checking Account at Rails West Federal Credit Union. Finally, a checking account that actually rewards you rather than having you jump through hoops! There's no fees, no minimum balance, and certainly no specific number of transactions that you have to do in the month to reap the benefit.

Rails West Roll Up Rewards rounds all of your debit card purchases up to the nearest dollar and places that difference into a high earning savings account that is currently paying 5.12% APY. In addition, your debit card purchases earn you points as well through our Scorecard Rewards program. Call today for more information and make the switch!

Best Rates and Awesome Payments On Vehicle Loans

If you're in the market for a new or newer used vehicle, please stop by or your Rails West FCU loan designer to talk about financing. We've got the best rates on a variety of loan programs designed to fit your needs and budget. Finance up to 100% of the full purchase price, including tax, license, and any service contracts. Loans for new automobiles can be financed for up to 7 years at a fixed interest rate.

We urge you to see Rails West FCU first for financing BEFORE you visit the dealer. With your financing in place, you can bargain from a position of authority and get your best deal by applying all dealer and factory incentives directly to the purchase price of the vehicle.



Balloting for the annual election of the Board of Directors will be held February 26, 2025 at the Chubbuck Branch from 9:00am-1:00pm and on February 28, 2025 at the Clark St. Branch from 9:00am-1:00pm. Ballots will also be accepted at the annual meeting on Wednesday March 6, 2024 at 5:00pm at the Chubbuck Branch. You must be a member of Rails West FCU and be 18 years or older to vote.

The following individuals are running for three positions on the Board of Directors:

- Gregg Clark
- Terry Shumway
- Kerry Kawamura

CU at the Annual Meeting March 5, 2025

Join your fellow members at Rails West FCU's 90th annual meeting. It's your chance to learn the results of the Board of Directors annual election, review our progress, and find out what's on tap for the coming year. Come visit with the staff and board members to provide feedback on your experiences with the credit union, catch up on the news with other members, and enjoy refreshments, too. Attending the annual meeting is one of the benefits of belonging to a credit union. At other financial institutions, attendance at the annual meeting is limited to stockholders. As a member/owner of the credit union, you're invited to participate in its governance. It's one more way the credit union difference shines through. We look forward to seeing you on March 5th at 5:30pm at the Chubbuck Branch.

Beware Of Instant Refund Tax Loans

With tax filing season right around the corner, Rails West FCU urges you to avoid tax preparers' "instant refund" feature. Fees for this service may seem "reasonable" at the time, but such refunds are actually loans that carry very high interest rates when you consider the tax preparer gets his money back in a very short time - as little as two weeks in many instances.

A fee of \$50, for example, on a refund of \$500 that the tax preparer gets back in two weeks works out to an annual interest rate of 240%. Think about it. Would you borrow money from anyone at that rate - for money that is yours to begin with? Of course not. But millions of people every year pay these kinds of fees for a little convenience.

With electronic filing (used by most major tax preparers), wait times have been dramatically reduced for tax refunds. Take our advice. Wait the short amount of time it takes to get ALL your money back.



Don't Forget To Open An IRA

It's still not too late to open an Individual Retirement Account (IRA). An IRA is a great way to supplement your retirement income. Almost anyone is eligible for an IRA. And depending on your income, and whether your employer offers a qualified retirement plan, part or all of your IRA contributions may be tax deductible. Consult with a qualified tax professional to find out whether your IRA contributions are tax deductible. Call or stop by your credit union today. Let us explain the benefits of an IRA in more detail and open an account tailored to your specific needs and goals.



Clark St. Branch

751 E Clark St.
Pocatello ID 83201
Ph: 208-232-5746
Fx: 208-232-2785

In-State Toll Free: 1-800-233-1352
Out-of-State Toll Free: 1-800-854-9321

Monday thru Friday:
9:00am to 5:00pm Lobby
9:00am to 5:30pm Drive Up

Chubbuck Branch

4708 N Yellowstone Ave
Chubbuck ID 83202
Ph: 208-232-5746
Fx: 208-234-8610 (Loans)
208-234-8640 (Mgt)
208-237-0053 (Teller)

Monday thru Thursday:
9:00am-5:00pm Lobby
9:00am-5:30pm Drive Thru

