



Member-focused,  
member-driven,  
today and tomorrow

# Money Talks

Winter 2011

## RESOLVE

### *to Make the Most of Your Money!*

As we start a new year, many of us are determined to make a fresh start in various areas of our lives. This year resolve to take control of your finances! Whether you're reassessing your current debt or trying to get the best deal on a new loan, Habersham Federal Credit Union is your best ally!

First, review your current debt to see if there are areas where you could save money.

- Can you consolidate credit card debts into a lower interest rate loan?
- Can you refinance your mortgage at a lower rate?
- Can you refinance your current vehicle with a lower interest rate loan?

Secondly, when looking at new loans it's important to look not only at the interest rate, but also the loan terms, application fees, and other service charges. Look at just a few areas where HFCU can save you money on a new loan:

- Great rates! (New Car loans starting at 3.9%)
- Lower application fees than anyone else around! (Our application fee is only \$10)
- Amazing savings on GAP insurance for auto loans! (Ours is \$150 versus \$600 a dealer will charge)
- NO intangibles tax on mortgages! (just one advantage of getting your mortgage through a not-for-profit organization)

As a not-for-profit, member-owned institution, our primary concern is the financial health of our members, not making big profits for shareholders like the banks. We're willing to work with you when others won't to make sure you're getting your best deal possible. Call us today or stop by one of our convenient locations to see how we can help you take control of your finances!

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## Member Spotlight



L. to R. — Cody, Wanda, Corey, Rodney

Habersham Federal Credit Union is pleased to spotlight one of our long time members and volunteers; Wanda Gosnell.

Wanda understands the value of credit union membership and shares it's philosophy of "people helping people". Not only has she been a member of HFCU for over 10 years, but she has also supported the credit union by giving of her time to be an active member of our volunteer Credit Committee since 2006.

Wanda has also passed the tradition on to her children Corey and Cody, as well as her husband Rodney. We appreciate all that she has done for us over the years and we look forward to serving Wanda and her family for many generations to come.

## *It's Annual Meeting Time Again*

All Credit Union Members are invited to attend the Annual Meeting of Habersham Federal Credit Union on Tuesday, March 8, 2011.

With the economic crisis continuing, do you feel like it is time for some good news? If so, come to Habersham Federal Credit Union's Annual Meeting for a first-hand look at just how strong your credit union is. You'll hear reports of what has been happening at the credit union over the last year—reports that will help you feel confident in our safety and stability. You'll also have the opportunity to help elect our volunteer board of directors to serve the credit union in the upcoming year.

This year's meeting will include **Door Prizes** and food catered by **The Varsity**.

**Date:** March 8, 2011

**Location:** Habersham Central High School

**Time:** 5:00p.m.—6:00p.m. Meal

6:00p.m.—6:30p.m. Registration

6:30p.m. Meeting Begins

Please R.S.V.P. by February 25, 2011 for reservations to:  
[clee@habershamfcu.com](mailto:clee@habershamfcu.com), or via phone at: 706-754-3680.



*The Holidays are Over for now.....*

*but they'll be back!*



So now is the perfect time to be planning ahead to make Christmas 2011 less stressful.

You can save now for worry-free shopping next Christmas. The best way to make your holiday shopping easier is to have the money ready before it's time to shop. Start a Christmas Club savings account TODAY and have cash on hand for Christmas shopping 2011.

A Christmas Club account keeps your funds separate from your other savings, motivating you to save a little at a time specifically for holiday shopping. You can make deposits regularly with payroll deduction or at your convenience.

Open a Christmas Club account now, and you'll be ready to shop without the worry for Christmas 2011!

## *Here We GROW Again!!*

Habersham Federal Credit Union was established in 1978 to serve Habersham Board of Education employees and their families. We later expanded our field of membership to Banks County Board of Education, and continued to add several more employee groups over the years. Now, more than 30 years later we're still growing. Over the past year we opened a new branch office in Homer and have continued to add more employee groups to our field of membership. We're very excited and happy to welcome Town of Homer and the Nicholson Agency, Inc. of Homer as our newest additions to the HFCU field of membership!

## *Your Credit Union is SAFE & SOUND!*

The National Credit Union Administration (NCUA) is the government agency that regulates federally insured credit unions, and insures your deposits up to \$250,000 per account.

To ensure that credit unions operate within guidelines and are fiscally sound, NCUA performs examinations and grades each credit union according to a CAMEL rating. The components of the CAMEL rating are: Capital adequacy, Asset quality, Management, Earnings, and Liquidity. Scores range from 1 to 5 with 1 being the highest and 5 being the low score.

HFCU is proud to have received an excellent CAMEL rating of 2. We're also happy to report a Capital Asset ratio of 24% versus our peers' average of 13%. So you can rest assured that your credit union is indeed safe and sound!

## **Carol A. Caldwell Scholarship**

HFCU has honored Carol A. Caldwell by establishing an annual scholarship to be awarded each spring at the Annual Meeting. The scholarship, in the amount of \$1,500, will be awarded to an individual or individuals who meet the following criteria:

- 1) Is a member of HFCU
- 2) Is employed by one of our member groups in a non-certified position serving public education, and demonstrates a sincere desire to serve in the classroom
- 3) Is enrolled in a college program which will lead to teaching certification

Please contact the credit union office for an application.

### MAIN OFFICE

420 West Louise Street  
P.O. Box 2645  
Clarkeville, GA 30523  
Phone (706) 754-3680  
Fax: (706) 754-8413

### HOMER BRANCH

448 Evans Street  
P.O. Box 563  
Homer, GA 30547  
Phone (706) 677-1264  
Fax: (706) 677-1269

### HOURS OF OPERATION

Monday—Friday  
8:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m.  
[www.habershamfcu.com](http://www.habershamfcu.com)

### HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

MLK Day 1-17-2011  
President's Day 2-21-2011

