

MoneyTalk

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER
FOR MEMBERS

A message from your VACU President

It was such a nice gesture. A simple email of appreciation. But it really made my day.

A young couple had just closed on a new home. Leaving their first home and their neighborhood was hard, but the kindness and understanding that our employees showed them during the transition made all the difference.

“We have been in our new home just over a week, and I have to tell you how wonderful your staff has been through this process!”

It was one of many emails, phone calls and personal exchanges I receive from members. The stories are often powerful. It’s rarely about a particular transaction or process. Usually, it’s about the people. Members regularly tell me how much they appreciate our credit union staff.

Those are the kind of experiences we always want you to have with your credit union.

Of course we don’t always succeed. Sometimes a change leads to an unintended consequence. When that happens, we work hard to make it right.

No matter what, please know that the decisions we make always begin and end with you in mind. Our goal is to make banking easy for you, and to provide you with the trust, safety and soundness that you expect from your credit union.

2018 promises to be an eventful year for VACU.

- With our newest branch now open in Hancock Village off Hull Street Road, it puts us closer to many existing members and will enable us to reach out and serve more of your friends and neighbors.
- In a few months, we will break ground on a larger facility in Spotsylvania County to replace our existing Cosner’s Corner branch. We anticipate the new facility to open before the end of 2018.
- We continue to meet the needs of a growing number of businesses in our community. Many local businesses are looking to their credit union to help them expand operations and meet the needs of their customers.
- 2018 will also bring more features for your debit and credit cards, more self-service features you can use at your own convenience from wherever you are, and additional security enhancements.

That’s what we’ll be working on in the coming months. Please continue to tell us how we’re doing. I hope your 2018 is off to a great start.



Chris Shockley
President/CEO

VACU’s newest branch is open

Stop by and see us!



Our newest location in the Hancock Village Shopping Center is now open to serve you!

In addition to the full-service branch on the first floor, the second floor offers space for Virginia CU Realty, Virginia Credit Union’s wholly-owned full-service real estate company, and its boutique sales division Virginia Select Realty.*

Come by for a visit and enjoy all the benefits of having financial, mortgage and real estate services under one roof.

Hancock Village Branch

14520 Hancock Village Street
Chesterfield, VA 23832

Visit vacu.org/hancock for hours and additional information.

*Business conducted with Virginia CU Realty, LLC d/b/a Virginia Select Realty is separate and distinct from any business with Virginia Credit Union, Inc.

Save the date!

VACU’s Annual Meeting is
March 17th

See details inside

Join us at VACU's Annual Meeting

Celebrating 90 Years of Service

Saturday, March 17, 2018

**Hilton Richmond Hotel & Spa
Short Pump**

12042 West Broad Street
Richmond, VA 23233

Your Board of Directors is pleased to announce plans for the 2018 Annual Meeting. As a member, you're an owner of your credit union, and this meeting is your opportunity to learn more about VACU.

Your Board of Directors will be elected at the meeting. Qualified members attending the business meeting are also eligible for door prizes.

For reservations, call Member Services or visit vacu.org/events.

Registration	5:00 p.m.
Business meeting	5:30 p.m.
Social time	6:30 p.m.
Seated Dinner	7:00 p.m.
Dancing	8:00—11:00 p.m.

Music by "The Janitors" Band

Dinner is \$15 per person. There is no charge to attend the business meeting and social time.

For overnight room reservations, please call the Hilton at (800) 445-8667 and request the VACU 2018 Annual Meeting room block to receive a discounted rate of \$139, plus tax. Hotel reservation deadline is March 13.

The deadline for Annual Meeting reservations is March 5, 2018.



Recover from holiday spending

Are you feeling the aftereffects of indulging in a little too much spending during the holidays?

Well, it's a new year and a great time for a fresh start on your budget. Jump start your 2018 savings by setting up Change Jar. Change Jar rounds up the amount of any purchases you make with your debit card to the nearest whole dollar and deposits that "change" into your savings account.

All you need to get started is:

- VACU checking and savings account
- Debit card
- Log in to Online Banking click the Member Services tab, then 'Account Resources' to enroll in Change Jar

Meet your Board nominees

The Nominating Committee is pleased to announce the following nominees for three positions on your Virginia Credit Union Board of Directors. These candidates, for four-year terms, will be presented and voted on by members at the Annual Meeting on March 17, 2018. In order to allow for proper evaluation of candidates, no nominations from the floor will be accepted at the Annual Meeting.

Robert (Rob) B. Jones, Jr.

VACU Member Since: 1988

Credit Union / Related Experience:

Elected to the VACU Board of Directors in 2015 after serving as an associate director. Currently Secretary/Treasurer of the Board and member of the Asset-Liability and Executive Committees.

Employment: Founder and CEO of the Alliance Group. Former gubernatorial senior staff member and Richmond city councilman who previously served the Mays and Valentine law firm (now Troutman Sanders).

Education: University of Virginia, McIntire School of Commerce, B.S.; Lewis and Clark Northwestern School of Law, J.D.; Graduate, Sorensen Institute for Political Leadership, University of Virginia.

Tracy McCabe

VACU Member Since: 2009

Credit Union / Related Experience:

Appointed as an associate board member in 2016 and active on the Asset-Liability committee as a non-voting member.

Employment: IT Data Team Lead, Luck Stone Corporation. Responsible for the technology direction, budget and outcomes for all team activities. McCabe has worked in several capacities at Luck Stone since 2007.

Education: George Mason University, B.S. in decision sciences and management information systems; Master of Science, management information technology, Strayer University; Executive Education, Harvard Business School.

D. B. Smit

VACU Member Since: 1981

Credit Union Related Experience:

Eight years on the VACU Board of Directors, including two years as Board Chair and past chair of the Governance Committee. Currently member-at-large on the Executive Committee

Employment: Principal, DBS Consulting. Former Commissioner, Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles. Past service with the Virginia Department of Planning and Budget and the Virginia Department of General Services.

Education: State University of New York at Geneseo, B.A. in Political Science; Pennsylvania State University, Master of Public Administration.



VACU paints RVA

Have you seen the beautiful new mural in Jackson Ward area of Richmond? The mural, along 1st Street at the intersection with East Broad, was a partnership between Virginia Credit Union, the nonprofit organization Girls For A Change and Richmond artist, Hamilton Glass.

VACU invited its members and employees to help paint the mural. Students from Girls For A Change offered suggestions that made their way into the artist's final design. Girls For A Change works to support and inspire girls to visualize their bright futures and potential through discovery, development and social change in their communities. VACU continues to work with this group on financial education.

VACU relied on HandsOn Greater Richmond for help in organizing this project. Look for future opportunities to volunteer with your fellow VACU members during 2018. To watch the inspiring documentary about this project visit vacu.org/mural.

Ask an expert:

Our scholarship administrator answers your questions about the VACU scholarship program

Each year we recognize student members of all ages through our scholarship program. For the 2018-2019 academic year, we will award 30 college scholarships up to \$2,500.



If my parent is a member and I'm a joint owner on their account, am I eligible to apply for the Virginia Credit Union scholarship program?

▶ To be eligible, you must have your own membership account as of December 1, 2017.

What do I have to do to apply?

▶ Members apply through an online application. A committee of scholarship judges evaluates applications on the basis of four categories: community service, extracurricular activities, work to help with the cost of education, and an essay on financial responsibility.

Is there an age limit for applicants?

▶ No, there are no age restrictions for applicants. Virginia Credit Union members who are pursuing their first undergraduate degree may apply.

The application is available now at vacu.org/scholarships. The deadline for entries is March 1, 2018.



Save on tax services

Tax preparation discounts for members are available from TurboTax and Peoples Tax.

Visit vacu.org/discounts for more information. For faster refunds, have your refund deposited directly to your VACU checking or savings account.

HELPFUL TIP: You will need your 10-digit checking account number and VACU's bank routing/transit number 251082615 to set up your tax refund direct deposit.



BUSINESS SERVICES SUCCESS STORY:

The Hof takes historic charm to new heights.

One of the most appealing after-work destinations in Richmond is a Bavarian-style beer garden and event space located inside, and on top of, the historic Hofheimer Building in Scott's Addition. It's a lively place for people to have fun in a casual setting.

"We sat down with VACU and discussed some of the product offerings they have. I was really impressed with the personal touch, the responsiveness and the flexibility of their loan products for small businesses."

– Carter Snipes, The Hof

Visit vacu.org/stories to learn more.

Credit scores and dating

A good credit score can help you get the best rates when you want to borrow money, but it can also affect other things like applying to rent an apartment, landing a job and even who you date. Yes, that's right, some people list a high credit score as one of their criteria for a partner.



Why is a good credit score so important?

Having a good credit score says a lot about you. Making money is one thing, but choosing to use your money wisely is another. When your credit score is high it says to a potential partner that you're secure in your finances and you don't take high risks in terms of money. This may indicate you're a more stable person and down the road, a stable partner.

Just like a relationship, your credit needs attention and care. If you're willing to make sacrifices to keep that score up, like choosing an affordable car versus the luxury vehicle, it may signal to potential partners that you're willing to make sacrifices for what is important.

So what if your credit score isn't so high?

No, you're not destined to a life of solitude. There are steps you can take to start building your credit today. Feeling secure and confident in your finances can translate into every part of your life, whether it's finding a future partner or for your overall personal well being.

So even if you don't consider yourself a perfect ten, getting closer to a perfect 850 credit score could just help you land your next date.

Changing jobs? Retiring? Need help with your PLOP?

A message from the MEMBERS Financial Services Program

Now more than ever, retirement planning is important. If you're changing jobs or retiring soon, an important decision you may be facing is what to do with your money in your employer's pension plan, 401(k) or other deferred compensation plan.* You generally have several options, and each has various aspects to consider.

The MEMBERS Financial Services Representatives located at Virginia Credit Union can help you evaluate your choices. You can feel comfortable asking questions and getting assistance to decide what is best for you. For information and to set up a no-cost, no-obligation appointment at a convenient branch or by phone, call the MEMBERS Financial Services Representatives today.



*Prior to requesting a rollover from your employer sponsored retirement account to an Individual Retirement Account (IRA), you should consider whether the rollover is suitable for you. There may be important differences in features, costs, services, withdrawal options and other important aspects between your employer sponsored retirement account and an IRA.

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Free financial education seminars

Building a Better Budget

Thursday, January 25, 2018

How to Read Your Credit Report

Thursday, February 8, 2018

FEATURED SEMINAR:



Financial Conversations for Couples

Tuesday, February 13, 2018

6:00 -7:00 p.m.

There is no one "right" way to handle your finances, but developing an agreed upon money management style may be the key to a healthy financial life together.

Join us at our Financial Conversations for Couples workshop where you'll develop a joint money strategy that incorporates your individual goals and values into one comprehensive plan. Couples are encouraged to attend together!

Each seminar is from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. at our VACU at Boulders location, 7500 Boulder View Drive, Richmond, Virginia 23225.

Register at vacu.org/seminars.

We're here to help!

- (804) 323-6800
- vacu.org
- Visit a branch
- Mobile

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