

A Quarterly Publication for Goldenwest and USU Credit Union Members

Largest Year-End Bonus in Goldenwest History



Kerry Wahlen
President/CEO

We are excited to celebrate another successful year with our members. Thanks to your loyalty and trust, we are dispersing the largest year-end bonus in Goldenwest's history—an all-time high of \$3.5 million! The 2024 bonus is a continuation of our 21-year tradition, during which Goldenwest has returned more than \$30 million to our members.

In addition to the size of the 2024 bonus, we are excited to announce a couple of new enhancements that allow more of our members to receive a greater benefit from the year-end bonus program.

First, the Golden Rewards Loyalty Bonus is now part of the Golden Rewards program, which we launched at the beginning of 2024. Your Loyalty Bonus will be directly deposited into your Gold Account on December 31, 2024, where it will start earning an excellent yield (currently 6.00% APY) right away—essentially allowing you to earn a bonus on top of your bonus!

Second, the new Golden Rewards Loyalty Bonus, previously known as the Bonus Dividend, is designed to reward members who use a variety of Credit Union products and services beyond share savings accounts. The more you utilize Goldenwest's deposit accounts, loans, Visa cards, and insurance products, the larger your Loyalty Bonus will be. This change enables us to reward members for the many ways you engage with the Credit Union.

These enhancements will make our year-end bonus program better than ever, but remember, the Loyalty Bonus is just one of the ways that you can benefit from the Golden Rewards program. You can also grow your Gold Account balance with Visa Debit Card Round Up Rewards, Visa Credit Card cashback options, and other exclusive Goldenwest promotions throughout the year.

We are thrilled to add this new and improved year-end Loyalty Bonus to the benefits of our Golden Rewards program. We truly value our members' loyalty, and are dedicated to helping you reach your financial goals and dreams. Most of all, we thank you for choosing Goldenwest Credit Union—your confidence and trust mean everything to us.

We extend to you and your family our warmest wishes for a joyful holiday season and a prosperous New Year!



2025 Volunteer Board Nominations

The Governance Committee is now accepting nominations for the Goldenwest Credit Union Board of Directors, with three Director positions opening next spring. Current Directors Dan Musgrave, Stoney Wayment, and Steve Carroll will run for re-election as incumbents. These positions each carry a three-year term, beginning in April 2025.

Members interested in serving on this important governing body of the Credit Union must meet the following criteria:

- Goldenwest Credit Union or USU Credit Union member in good standing;
- Legal age (18 years or older);
- Bondable by the CUMIS Insurance Society;
- Free from conflicts of interest with the Credit Union; and,
- Available for all Board of Directors' meetings and other designated meetings (unless excused).

There are two ways a member may submit a nominee:

1) Members nominated for a Director position must submit the following information:

- Full name and address;
- Home and business telephone numbers;
- Goldenwest Credit Union or USU Credit Union account number; and,
- A written "statement of qualification" limited to a maximum of 150 words.

All information must be submitted no later than 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 7, 2025, to the following address:

Goldenwest Credit Union Corporate Center
Governance Committee
5151 South 400 East
Washington Terrace, Utah 84405

2) Members may also be nominated via petition. To nominate by petition, submit the following information:

- Full name and address;
- Home and business telephone numbers;
- Goldenwest Credit Union or USU Credit Union account number;
- A written "statement of qualification" limited to a maximum of 150 words;
- A petition signed by 500 Goldenwest Credit Union and/or USU Credit Union members; and,
- A signed statement from the nominee that he or she is agreeable to the nomination and will serve if elected.

All information for nomination by petition must be submitted no later than 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 22, 2025, to the following address:

Goldenwest Credit Union Corporate Center
Governance Committee
5151 South 400 East
Washington Terrace, Utah 84405

All Members Invited to Attend the Virtual Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting is scheduled for April 8, 2025, where Board of Directors' results will be announced. The meeting will be held in a virtual format to allow participation for all members.

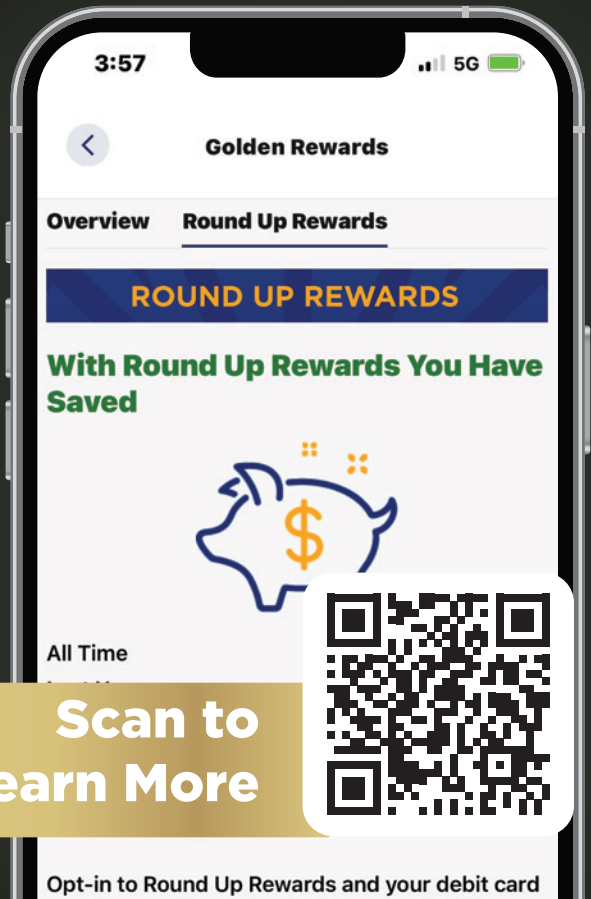
The Board of Directors represents the interests and perspectives of the entire membership, overseeing the Credit Union's activities. As with all Credit Union volunteers, Directors serve without compensation. For questions about the Board's duties and responsibilities please contact Noé Vázquez, Chair of the Governance Committee, at 801-337-8331.



Save More with Your Gold Account

The Golden Rewards program is now more rewarding than ever with the addition of the Golden Rewards Loyalty Bonus, which will be deposited into your Gold Account. There are three additional ways to contribute to your Gold Account: Round Up Rewards, Visa Cashback, and promotional offers. Be sure to opt in to Round Up Rewards to automatically move funds into your Gold Account with every swipe of your Goldenwest Visa Debit Card. Opt in to have the cashback from your Visa Signature or Rebate Credit Card deposited into your Gold Account as well. Don't miss out on this golden opportunity to earn more with Golden Rewards!

For more information on how to fund your Gold Account and make the most of Golden Rewards, visit gwcu.org/goldenrewards.



0% Balance Transfer



Transfer your balance to a Goldenwest Visa Credit Card and enjoy 0% interest for six months!

ZERO Transfer Fees
Annual Fees

*0% Fixed Annual Percentage Rate (APR) for the first six statement cycles on balance transfers during the promotional period defined as 01/01/2025 through 03/31/2025. After the initial six statement cycles, the remaining balance transfer amount will convert to the pre-determined rate determined by creditworthiness at account opening. The 0% balance transfer offer may not be used to pay any Goldenwest Credit Union, USU Credit Union or Healthcare Credit Union accounts. The offer is available on all consumer Visa products only. Offer excludes business Visa products.

Free-Refinance Options Ease Homebuyers' Concerns

We've all faced the frustration of purchasing something, only to see it go on sale soon after. This feeling is even more pronounced when it involves buying what is likely your largest investment – your home. If interest rates drop within a few months after signing the mortgage, you may have buyer's remorse and wish that you waited to finance your home.

Goldenwest Credit Union understands this dilemma and is offering a solution with our exclusive "Free-Fi" promotion. For a limited time, members can buy or refinance their homes and enjoy the option to refinance once at no cost within the next three years.

How the Free-Fi Promotion Works

Purchase or Refinance Today: Members can either buy a new home or refinance their existing mortgage with Goldenwest.

Make Six Payments: After securing the mortgage, members need to make six consecutive on-time payments.

Refinance Within Three Years with No Lender Fees: Members can take advantage of the "Free-Fi" promotion by refinancing their mortgage with Goldenwest within three years without incurring lender fees.

When to Consider Refinancing

Many homeowners refinance to reduce their interest rate, lower monthly payments, eliminate private mortgage insurance, or pay off their loan faster. A good rule of thumb for refinancing to lower your interest rate is to aim for a reduction of at least 0.5% to 1%.

However, just because the interest rate drops doesn't automatically mean that every homeowner should refinance. Consider how long you plan to stay in your home, your current equity position, and the cost of obtaining a new mortgage. Fortunately, with the Goldenwest "Free-Fi" promotion, lender fees will be waived if you refinance at Goldenwest within three years. This means if mortgage rates drop after six months, you could lower your rate with a free refinance, saving thousands on closing costs and likely reducing your monthly payment.

Lock in this limited-time offer when you meet with a Goldenwest mortgage expert. For complete details about the "Free-Fi promotion" or to start your mortgage application, call the dedicated mortgage line at 801-786-8400, text 385-206-6780, or email mortgagecc@gwcu.org.



**BUY NOW
FREE-FI LATER**
no cost refinance up to three years!

**SCAN TO
LEARN MORE**



Goldenwest Breaks Ground on New Mountain Green Branch

Goldenwest Credit Union celebrated a major milestone with the groundbreaking ceremony for its new Mountain Green branch on October 3, 2024. Scheduled to open in May 2025, the full-service location will be situated on Old Highway Road, directly across from Lee’s Supermarket.

“Two years ago, Goldenwest acquired land in Mountain Green with plans to open a branch by the summer of 2026,” said Kerry Wahlen, President/CEO of Goldenwest Credit Union. “However, due to the rapid growth in the Mountain Green area and the expansion of our membership, we made the strategic decision to accelerate the development timeline and begin construction earlier than originally planned.”

The new branch will offer a comprehensive range of services, including free checking accounts, mortgages, insurance products, auto loans, and a 24-hour ATM, ensuring convenience and accessibility for members.



“With over 700 Goldenwest Credit Union members already in the area, and continued growth on the horizon, building a branch in Mountain Green is a natural next step,” said Wahlen. “At Goldenwest, we take great pride in serving our members, and being located in close proximity to where our members live and work is an important part of that commitment.”

Goldenwest Celebrates Grand Opening of New Idaho Falls Branch

Goldenwest Credit Union is excited to announce the opening of its newest branch located at 525 W Sunnyside Road in Idaho Falls, marking the fifth Goldenwest branch in Idaho.

“As Goldenwest continues to expand, we recognize the growing need to serve our members in Idaho, where many of our members work and reside,” said Kerry Wahlen, President/CEO of Goldenwest Credit Union.

On October 16, 2024, Goldenwest staff, volunteers, and leadership were joined by the Greater Idaho Falls Chamber of Commerce and local dignitaries for a ribbon-cutting ceremony to officially open the new branch.

The Idaho Falls branch offers a variety of services, including drive-thru teller lanes, a walk-up ATM, auto loans, mortgages, lines of credit, insurance, free checking, and instant-issue Visa cards, all designed to meet the diverse financial needs of the community. Klee Rose has been appointed Branch Manager and will oversee all branch operations.

Goldenwest is proud to expand its presence in Idaho and looks forward to providing exceptional service to new and existing members in the Idaho Falls area.





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