

viewPOINT

A newsletter for members of
Sharonview Federal Credit Union

January 2016

Celebrating 2015 and Looking Forward



Bill Partin
President/CEO

2015 proved to be another successful year for Sharonview. We completed upgrades of our core system and our credit card system, added 6,662 new members, relocated our branch in Greer, S.C. and opened a new branch in Gastonia, N.C.

We sincerely appreciate the hard work put forth by all of our employees to make these improvements successful and the patience of our members as we adjusted to these changes.

As we look forward to 2016, there are many exciting changes on the horizon including the introduction of Apple Pay, distribution of chip-enhanced debit and credit cards, and the expansion of our ATM network. We are excited to be able to introduce these new products, and you will be getting updates with additional details in the coming months.

Thank you for choosing Sharonview, and we look forward to serving you in 2016.

Regards,

Bill

Sharonview Credit Cards

Exclusively we will offer chip-enhanced Visa® credit cards

In an effort to offer a more consistent experience for our credit card holders, we will be transitioning members with a Sharonview MasterCard® to a chip-enhanced Sharonview Visa-branded credit card.

What is a chip card?

Chip cards are just what you'd expect - credit and debit cards embedded with small, electronic chips. They represent some of the best security technology currently available for credit and debit cards with features to help protect against fraud. Plus, they're difficult to counterfeit and have special features to protect you against fraud. When you use your new card, the retailer's card reader interacts with the chip instead of the magnetic strip, helping keep your information safe and secure.



Frequently asked questions regarding the new Sharonview credit cards:

I have a Sharonview MasterCard account. Why did I get a Sharonview Visa?

We are reissuing all Sharonview MasterCards as Sharonview Visa cards. We chose to partner with Visa for our new chip cards because they were able to provide a combination of advanced security and card benefits for our members.

When will I get my new Sharonview credit card?

Sharonview has already begun reissuing cards and plans to have all cards converted by summer 2016.

Are my card benefits changing?

No. Your chip card doesn't change your benefits, including Sharonview Rewards.

Why can I swipe my Sharonview chip card at some retailers?

When using your new card at a merchant who can accept chip cards, expect to be prompted to insert it. Otherwise, you can still transact at retailers who are not yet accepting chip cards by using the magnetic strip.

What do I need to do when I get my new Sharonview Visa?

You'll get instructions with the new card, but here's a quick checklist if you want to start planning now:

1. **Activate your new card** - go to the website or call the number on the sticker on the card.
2. **Destroy your old card(s)**.
3. **Update any reoccurring payment transactions.**

For more information on your new, chip-enhanced card, visit www.sharonview.org/chipcard.

SHARONVIEW

FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

Branch of the Future

Sharonview opens new, technology-enhanced branch in Gaston County

In October of 2015, Sharonview opened its newest branch in Gastonia, N.C. Our new full-service branch expands Sharonview's presence to increase service to Gaston County residents. The Gaston County branch is part of a community charter area, and anyone who lives, works, worships or attends school there can become a member.

Exclusive to this location, members who walk in to the branch, will be welcomed by a staff member at the concierge desk who is ready to greet and assist them.

Multimedia rate boards and informational content will be streamed in the branch. An on site Mortgage Loan Officer is available to help members learn about the mortgage process and our products.

The Gaston County branch also boasts a Tech Bar featuring Apple, Android, Google and Windows tablets to help members learn how to connect with Sharonview anytime and anywhere. Sharonview staff members are available to assist members with using these devices.



Gaston County branch
grand opening event

"come," said Bill Partin, Sharonview president and CEO. "Our goal is to create interactions not just transactions, and with this new tech-enhanced branch location, we look forward to having the opportunity to serve more members in Gaston County."

Come by the new branch, located at 2508 East Franklin Blvd., call 800.462.4421 or visit www.sharonview.org for more information.



Branch staff (L to R): Rachel Haynes, David McCarty, Chelsey Potter

Save money by consolidating your bills

After the holiday season, many people find themselves overwhelmed with bills and expenses. Sharonview has a wide variety of low-rate loan products including All-Purpose Loans that can help you save money by consolidating bills. The example to the right shows how much you could save by consolidating your bills. To calculate your specific savings, visit www.sharonview.org/refcalculator.



It's easy to apply, too! Visit www.sharonview.org and apply securely online - you'll receive an answer within minutes. Unsure of the best way to reduce your bills? Stop by a branch or give us a call at 704.969.6700 or 800.462.4421.

Like Sharonview?

Refer a Friend!

As a Sharonview member, your family members (including your spouse, children, siblings, parents, grandparents and grandchildren), and anyone living in your household are eligible to join and take advantage of the money-saving products and services Sharonview offers. Your co-workers, friends and neighbors may also be eligible to join.



We currently provide the money-saving benefits of Sharonview membership to over 600 business partners and their employees. Your friends and their family members may qualify to join through these companies. As an additional option, they could join through one of our partner associations. By paying the small membership fee, you become part of one of these wonderful community organizations and become eligible for Sharonview membership.

For more information on how to join go to www.sharonview.org, stop by your local branch or call us at 704.969.6700 or 800.462.4421.

Thank You! Toys for Tots Drive



Several Sharonview branches were toy drop-off locations for the 2015 Toys for Tots program and, as always, our members stepped up to help those less fortunate. We appreciate your involvement!

Sharonview Cares Scholarship Be on the Lookout!



Information for the 2016 Sharonview Cares Scholarship will soon be available, so make sure to check the Sharonview website in the upcoming weeks for application and qualification information.

Example of savings:

BEFORE:

\$2,500 credit card at 18%	\$450
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\$2,500 dept. store credit card at 25%	\$625
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Total: \$1,075

AFTER:

\$5,000 Sharonview loan at 8.99%	\$245
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Total Savings: \$830/yr.



Nominees to Fill Open Positions for 2016 Board of Directors



The Nominating Committee has completed the application review process of candidates for the four open Board of Directors positions (each to serve a three-year term commencing on Thursday, April 28, 2016). Members of the Nominating Committee appointed to consider all eligible applicants and select the candidates were Committee Chair Ken Dawson and Board Members Lynn MacLeod and Larry McAdams.

The committee nominated the following four candidates whose names are presented in alphabetical order: **Roy Fahl, Phil Ridolfi, Peggy Strong, Ernie Taylor**

There will be no election conducted by ballot and no nominations from the floor when there is only one nominee for each position to be filled. Nominations for vacancies may be made by qualified petition starting on January 22, 2016.

Criteria to Qualify by Petition: Members interested in becoming candidates may utilize the petition method. Qualified petitioners must be a member first named on the account in good standing for at least two full years (before July of the year in which applications are accepted); at least 21 years of age; bondable; willing to serve in a volunteer capacity and available to attend monthly meetings (held in Fort Mill, S.C.).

All completed applications, biographical information and petitions containing the names, addresses, date of birth, last four digits of their social security numbers, and signatures of 500 eligible Sharonview members must be received by the Chairman, Audit Committee: P.O. Box 2070, Fort Mill, SC 29716, no later than 5 p.m. (EST) on March 8, 2016. Official applications and petition forms may be obtained at any SFCU Branch or on the website at www.sharonview.org/Resources/FormsApplications.aspx.

If no other candidates qualify by petition, the four open positions will be filled as selected by the Nominating Committee and will be formally announced at the 2016 Annual Meeting to be held on Thursday, April 28, 2016, at 6:00 p.m. (EST) at Sharonview Federal Credit Union's Corporate Headquarters located at 1081 Red Ventures Dr., Fort Mill, SC 29707.

Nominees



Roy Fahl
(Incumbent)

Resources Committee and is Chairman of the Supervisory Committee.

Currently Manufacturing Controller for the Americas with Celanese Corporation. Has held variety of positions within the financial and administrative functions within the polymers, fibers and chemical businesses. Graduated from UNC Chapel Hill and received MBA from Vanderbilt University. Has previously served as Board Chair, Vice Chair and Treasurer. Currently serves on the ALCO, Governance and Human Resources Committees and is Chairman of the Supervisory Committee.



Phil Ridolfi
(Incumbent)

Board member since 2012, Ridolfi currently serves on the Executive (Secretary), Membership Development and ALCO committees. He graduated from Cabrini College where he obtained his B.S. in Accounting. A finance and accounting professional with over 22 years diversified experience in all aspects of financial services, auditing, reporting, forecasting, planning and analysis, Ridolfi has been employed by Sanofi

Pharmaceuticals in commercial and financial operations for the past 19 years.



Peggy Strong
(Incumbent)

Joined SFCU in 1969. Served on Executive, ALCO, Nominating, Human Resources, Membership Development and ERM committees. Attended Hampton University, and Central Piedmont Community College as well as numerous outside educational conferences in sales, marketing, and human resources. Retired from Aventis Pharmaceuticals (now Sanofi Aventis) after 33 years of service. Prior to that served in positions with fiber industries including Celanese Fibers, Hoechst Roussel Pharmaceuticals, Aventis and others.



Ernie Taylor
(Incumbent)

SFCU Board member for 17 years, currently serving a second term as Board Chairman. Became Certified Credit Union Director in 2001, completed CUES volunteer training courses. Licensed in property and casualty insurance. Is a Certified Financial Planner. Graduated from University of Tennessee's engineering program. Over 31 years of service with Celanese, Fiber Industries and Wellman. Retired after 10 years with Bank of America where he was responsible for negotiating healthcare and employee benefits procurement.

ARE YOU PREPARED TO RETIRE?

Content developed by LPL Financial
A MESSAGE FROM

SHARONVIEW
FINANCIAL SERVICES

Whatever "retirement" means to you, you'll need to design a financial plan suited to your specific vision of the future.

Retirement used to conjure up images of lazy days spent at home. Today's retirement is very different. You might plan to open a business of your own or return to school for that degree you never had the chance to complete. So what does this redefined retirement mean to you? There is no one answer; "retirement" will mean something different to each of us. Regardless of your decision, you'll need to design a financial plan suited to your specific vision of the future.

Income Is Key

A good starting point might be to examine your retirement income sources. If you pay attention to the financial press, you've likely come across a few commentators who speak in gloom-and-doom terms decrying a lack of savings of the growing elderly population. There is widespread concern about Social Security. Under current conditions, Social Security funds could fall short of needs by 2033.¹

This makes it even more important for you to understand your goals and have a well-thought-out financial plan focusing on the key source of retirement income: personal savings and investments. Given the potential duration and changing nature of retirement, you may want to seek assistance from a professional financial planner who can help assess your needs and develop appropriate investment strategies.

As you move through the various stages of the new retirement, perhaps working at times and resting at others, your plan may require adjustments along the way. A professional advisor can help you monitor your plan and make changes when necessary. Among the factors you'll need to consider:

- **Time:** Project periods of retirement, reeducation, and full employment. Then concentrate on a plan to fund each of the separate periods. The number of years until you retire will influence the types of investments to include in your portfolio. If retirement is a short-term goal, investments that provide liquidity and help preserve your principal may be most suitable. On the other hand, if retirement is many years away, you may be able to include more aggressive investments.
- **Inflation:** While lower-risk fixed-income and money market investments may play an important role in your investment portfolio, if used alone they may leave you susceptible to the erosive effects of inflation. To help your portfolio keep pace with inflation, you may need to maintain some growth-oriented investments. Over the long-term, stocks have provided returns superior to other asset classes.² But also keep in mind that stocks generally involve greater short-term volatility.
- **Taxes:** Even after you retire, taxes will remain an important factor in your overall financial plan. If you return to work or open a business, for example, your tax bracket could change. In addition, should you move from one state to another, state or local taxes could affect your bottom line. Tax-advantaged investments, such as annuities and tax-free mutual funds, may be effective tools for meeting your retirement goals. Tax deferral offered by workplace plans -- such as 401(k) and 403(b) plans -- and IRAs may also help your retirement savings grow.

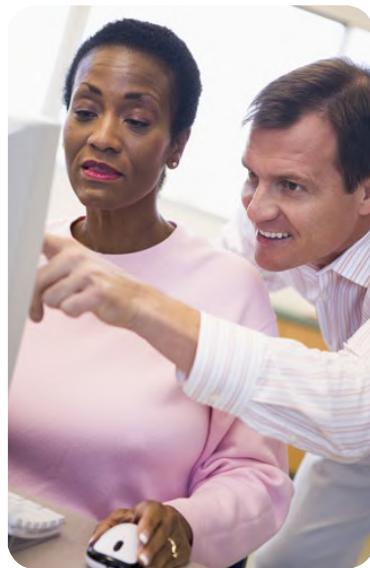
Prepare Today for the Retirement of Tomorrow

To ensure that retirement lives up to your expectations, establish your plan as early as possible and consider consulting with a professional. With proper planning, you may be able to make your retirement whatever you want it to be.

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¹Source: Social Security Administration, The 2014 Annual Report of the Board of Trustees of the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance and Federal Disability Insurance Trust Funds, July 2014. ²Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Stock investing involves risk including loss of principal.

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FINANCIAL SOLUTIONS CENTER

Telephone

704.969.6700 – Charlotte, NC
800.462.4421 – Toll Free

Online

www.sharonview.org

Mail

Sharonview Federal Credit Union
Attn: Financial Solutions Center
P.O. Box 2070
Fort Mill, SC 29716

E-mail

fsc@sharonview.org

Fax

704.969.6748



Chuck Coveney
LPL Financial Advisor

Ginger Boucher
Sales Assistant

Dwayne Clelandiel
Vice President, LPL Financial Advisor