

Summer 2023 | News and Information for Sentry Credit Union Members



Travel Easy With Your SCU Debit Card This Summer!

Our partnership with the CO-OP ATM network provides access to over 30,000 fee-free ATMs across the US when using your SCU debit card.



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Will you be traveling this summer, maybe going on a fun vacation?

Your Sentry Credit Union has you covered.

By partnering with the CO-OP ATM network you have access to over 30,000 fee-free ATMs across the US when using your SCU debit card. As an added bonus SCU has also partnered with the CO-OP shared branching network, giving you access to over 5,000 Credit Union partner branches to conduct in person transactions. Thanks to our partner networks SCU is here, there, and everywhere you go.



Scan the code or visit us at sentrycu.org/atm-locator to find your closest ATM.

Be sure to look for the CO-OP Shared Branch logo at a credit union near you!

2023 Annual Meeting Highlights

On Tuesday, April 18, 2023, your Sentry Credit Union held its 88th Annual Membership Meeting.

During the meeting we celebrated two SCU Associates, Laura Wachowiak and Jody Cisewski, completing the National Credit Union Foundation's Development Education program. This certification has equipped them with the knowledge to help our members work toward financial freedom. Additionally, we were excited to show our member testimonial video highlighting member stories gathered throughout 2022.

Board Chairperson Bruce Georgenson shared a message from the Chair highlighting the improvements made over the past years to the convenience and accessibility of our online and in-person banking services. Speaking to the recent turmoil in the banking sector, Bruce shared a message of encouragement regarding the strength and liquidity of SCU, in addition to sharing the safeguards in place to ensure SCU remains a solid financial institution.



Treasurer Mike Bilbrey shared his history of board service and happily reported SCU's numbers remain strong. He highlighted 2022's financial results by focusing on three key signs that SCU is healthy and well-positioned to serve member's financial needs: A Net Income of \$647,896, a Loan to Share Ratio of 71.06%, and a Net Worth of 13.00%.

President Tim Barthel also shared a message of SCU's strength. Over the past year, SCU focused on remaining competitive with our rate offerings while managing the spread between loan rates and deposit rates to ensure solid income. As a closed chartered credit union, SCU has the opportunity to look at each member's life story vs. viewing them as little more than a credit score. This personal approach, unique to SCU, helps guarantee each member's needs are met while encouraging smart financial decisions.

Tim continued on to highlight the significant work SCU puts into managing our assets and liabilities to ensure solid risk management. He closed his statement by thanking our members for choosing SCU, and reminding them to share the benefit of their membership with their fellow Associates and immediate family members.

Finally, elections were held, resulting in the re-election of Board Directors Harry Rice, James Nickerson, Joe Morgan, and DeAnna DeCaluwe. The meeting concluded with a Q&A session followed by refreshments in the Theater lobby.



2023 SCU Board Members

Bruce Georgenson
CHAIRPERSON

Andrew Kruit
VICE CHAIRPERSON

Mike Bilbrey
TREASURER

Harry Rice
SECRETARY

James Nickerson
DIRECTOR

Brian Cychosz
DIRECTOR

Dennis Gruetzmacher
DIRECTOR

Joe Morgan
DIRECTOR

DeAnna DeCaluwe
DIRECTOR

Amy Helton
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

Alicia Ruder
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

Jack Edgerton
EMERITUS DIRECTOR



Sentinel Warranty Protection

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, prices for new vehicles have risen 21% from 2020 to 2023. A new vehicle that sold for \$25,000 in 2020, will now have a sticker price over \$30,000.

This increase in prices also means that the cost to maintain and repair your vehicle has gone up. In life we protect ourselves from the cost of car accidents by buying vehicle insurance. At SCU you can protect yourself from the increase in vehicle repair costs with Sentinel Warranty protection.

SCU offers Sentinel Warranty extended service plans to protect you from unexpected mechanical repairs for your vehicle. Sentinel Warranty protection can be purchased as part of your new SCU loan or on any existing vehicle you own that is eligible for the service plans available. Sentinel Warranty is a protection you can count on. For example:

Recently a member purchased a used 2013 GMC Yukon Denali, with over 100k miles on the odometer. The member purchased the Sentinel Warranty protection when getting their loan with SCU to make sure the vehicle was covered. After two months of owning the vehicle, it suffered a power steering pump failure. Because the member purchased the Sentinel Warranty protection that repair was covered. This relieved the potential stress this member would have seen on their monthly budget if they had to pay for the repair out of pocket and kept their vehicle running.

Sentinel Warranty protection is available on most new and used vehicles regardless of if you have an SCU loan.

Contact the Credit Union for more information about how you can protect your vehicle.

Keeping Your Contact Information Up-To-Date

Whether you're moving to a new home or getting a new smartphone, life changes happen—and when they do, it's important to update your contact information across all your SCU accounts. Up-to-date contact information ensures you'll always have quick, convenient access to your accounts and that your financial information is secure. Correct contact information also allows us to easily reach you to share important account updates and information. Please take the time today to review your account information and contact us if anything needs to be updated. We thank you for your diligence!

Upcoming Changes to Fees

Effective Aug. 1, 2023, the following changes will occur to the SCU fee schedule:

- **New Service:** Phone payments via credit card, incurring a fee of 3% of the payment amount. Minimum fee of \$1.00
- Express Mail fee will be updated to \$25.00 per package.
- Changes to Security Money Market include:
 - *Minimum required withdrawal amount & fee both eliminated.*
 - *Minimum required balance amount & fee both eliminated.*
- Changes to Premium Plus Checking include:
 - *Minimum required balance & fee both eliminated.*



Youth Corner: Save Smart with SCUBY!

In June, we announced an addition to the SCU family: Our new mascot, SCUBY! SCUBY is the friendly (and furry!) face of the SCU family and is here to help young members build their financial strength. As our new Youth Club ambassador, SCUBY will promote smart saving and help kids learn about money by sharing financial education.

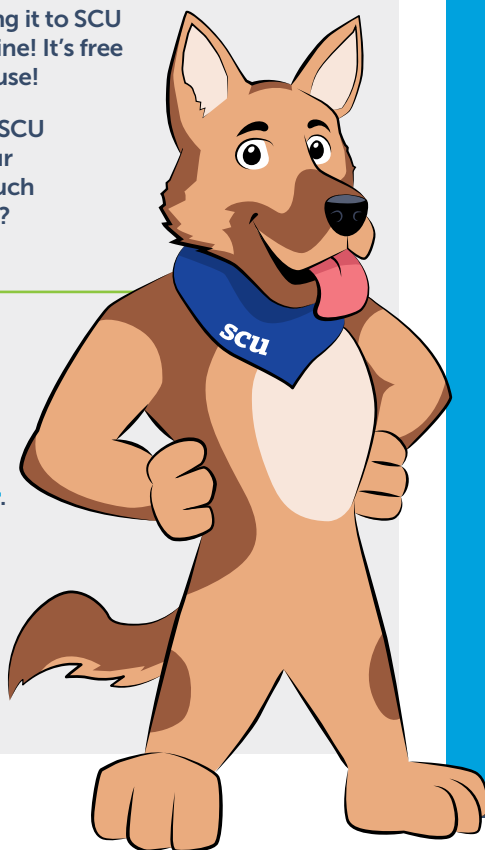
SCUBY knows the best way to become a smart saver is to open a Youth Account at SCU. Our Youth Savings Account gives you a safe place to keep your money and earn interest on the funds in your account! To help you be a smart saver SCUBY shared his three favorite tips:

1. Save your coins in a piggy bank.
2. When your piggy bank is full, bring it to SCU and count it up in our coin machine! It's free for all SCU members, and fun to use!
3. Finally, make a deposit into your SCU Youth Savings Account using your machine-counted coins. How much money can your piggy bank hold?

And remember to check out SCUBY's online home!

Ask your parents to help you explore SCUBY's awesome Activity Page on the SCU website: sentrycu.org/activity-center.

Remember to check the Activity Page often for updates from SCUBY as he shares his favorite things, including coloring pages, jokes, hidden object searches, mazes, word finds, and more!



ASSOCIATE SPOTLIGHT

Leah Bula

Member Services
Representative

Started September 2008



Hi, Leah! What do you enjoy most about your role at SCU? I most enjoy getting to know our members over the years I have worked at SCU. The relationships we build together form a comfort level, so members know you are a real person. It helps them to be bold and ask us their tough financial questions.

What is your favorite place to travel to? I really love the Smokey Mountains of North Carolina. There is so much variety there—one day you can be up in the mountains, and the next at the beach. The people are very friendly, which creates a relaxed environment. With the great food, kind folks, and beautiful views, it's so relaxing every time I visit.

What is a secret talent you have, or something that would surprise people to hear about you? As a young person, I never liked sewing, but recently, I have taken up quilting. Even though it can be frustrating at times (That's why they invented seam rippers!), it's great to create something new. I get together with friends and we make gifts for people.

What advice would you share for members looking to live their best financial life? Be sure to look at all of the avenues where they can save money through SCU. Find the right savings products to make their money work for them. Members should feel free to ask about the savings products we offer at SCU, so we can help them put their money to work for them!

The SCU Mission Statement

Our mission is to deliver safe, competitive and convenient personal banking products with exceptional service while actively encouraging membership from the Sentry Insurance community. As a trusted partner, our solid financial strength ensures members can rely on us to assist them toward attaining their financial goals while creating a highly-valued benefit.

SCU is closed on the following holidays:

Independence Day	Tuesday, July 4, 2023
Labor Day	Monday, September 4, 2023
Columbus Day	Monday, October 9, 2023

In all instances, we will reopen for regular business hours the following weekday.