

# Member CONNECTION

## Dear Valued Members,

As we begin the new year, I want to express my immense gratitude for the trust you have placed in Fremont Federal Credit Union and the unwavering dedication displayed by our exceptional team.



Looking back on the challenges of 2023, especially the banking industry's stresses following the SVB bank crash, I am proud that our credit union not only survived but emerged even stronger. Our 2023 figures showcased membership growth, loan expansion, and remarkable returns on net assets and net income, which exceeded our highest expectations. We navigated these challenges while minimizing loan risk, solidifying our commitment to being a steadfast and stable financial institution devoted to enhancing the financial well-being of our members.

Innovation is the heartbeat of our endeavors. We introduced new mortgages, share certificates, and credit card offerings designed to enhance your financial journey. Our dedication to giving back is reflected in increased returns, higher savings dividends, and fortified community partnerships. Beyond offering competitive savings and loan rates, we implemented innovations to make banking more accessible, efficient, and secure for our members.

I am thrilled to share some exciting news from the National Credit Union Administration! We have received approval to expand our Field of Membership (FOM), a significant stride toward realizing our strategic plan. This expansion empowers us to reach and serve a broader demographic, including individuals living, worshipping, working, or attending school in Fulton, Hancock, Lucas, Ottawa, Seneca, Sandusky, and Wood Counties.

This new development will enable us to continue providing an exceptional financial experience to our current members while also expanding our reach to serve more individuals and businesses in the surrounding counties. This expansion marks a significant step towards creating a more interconnected and resilient credit union community. We are thrilled about this growth, and we look forward to welcoming new members to our Fremont Federal Credit Union family. Our unwavering commitment to providing outstanding service and meeting the diverse financial needs of our members remains at the forefront of everything we do. We are enthusiastic about helping our new members achieve their financial goals at every stage of their life.

As we step into 2024, rest assured that we are gearing up to provide you with more enhancements and offerings, simplifying your financial journey.

We extend heartfelt gratitude for being our most valuable asset and wish you and your loved ones a happy, healthy, and prosperous New Year.

Sincerely,

Nicholas Cray  
President/CEO

## We're here for GRADUATES as they continue their educations!

The pursuit of higher education comes with its fair share of financial challenges, and at Fremont Federal Credit Union, we understand the importance of easing this burden for our community members.

We are excited to announce that, once again, we are offering several scholarships and trade awards exclusively to high school graduating seniors who are members of Fremont Federal Credit Union. To be eligible, applicants and/or their parents/legal guardians must have been members in good standing since January 1, 2023.

Applicants will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- **Grade Point Average:** A minimum of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale.
- **Questionnaire:** A thoughtful response to a designated set of questions.
- **School Involvement:** Active participation in school activities.
- **Community Involvement:** Demonstrated engagement in community service.

Applications will be available at any Fremont Federal Credit Union office, and starting **January 1, 2024**, you can also download the application from our website at fremontfcu.com. The deadline for submission is **April 1, 2024**. Scholarship recipients will be honored at our Annual Meeting in May.

For additional information or if you have any questions, please feel free to contact Lori Turner at 419-333-2943.

We believe in supporting our community's educational aspirations, and we encourage all eligible high school seniors to take advantage of this opportunity.





# LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD

**Annual Meeting scheduled for May 16, 2024**

As we step into the New Year, it's time to highlight the essence of community participation within our financial cooperative. Your voice matters, and as a member, you have the right to vote for our Board of Directors and join us at the Annual Meeting.

If you've ever wondered about becoming a Board member, the process is outlined below. Feel free to reach out or drop by with any questions. We encourage you to consider attending the Annual Meeting in May—an excellent opportunity to engage with the credit union community.

During this gathering, we'll review our financials for the past year, announce scholarship winners, and conduct our Board elections. Refreshments will be served, making it a delightful occasion to witness the credit union difference firsthand.

Having proudly served our members for over 75 years, we look forward to continuing this tradition as we evolve to meet your changing needs. Thank you for choosing Fremont Federal Credit Union—we appreciate your trust and loyalty.

The Nominating Committee consisting of: Cory Stine, Rick Egbert and Juanita Sanchez have nominated present Board Members:

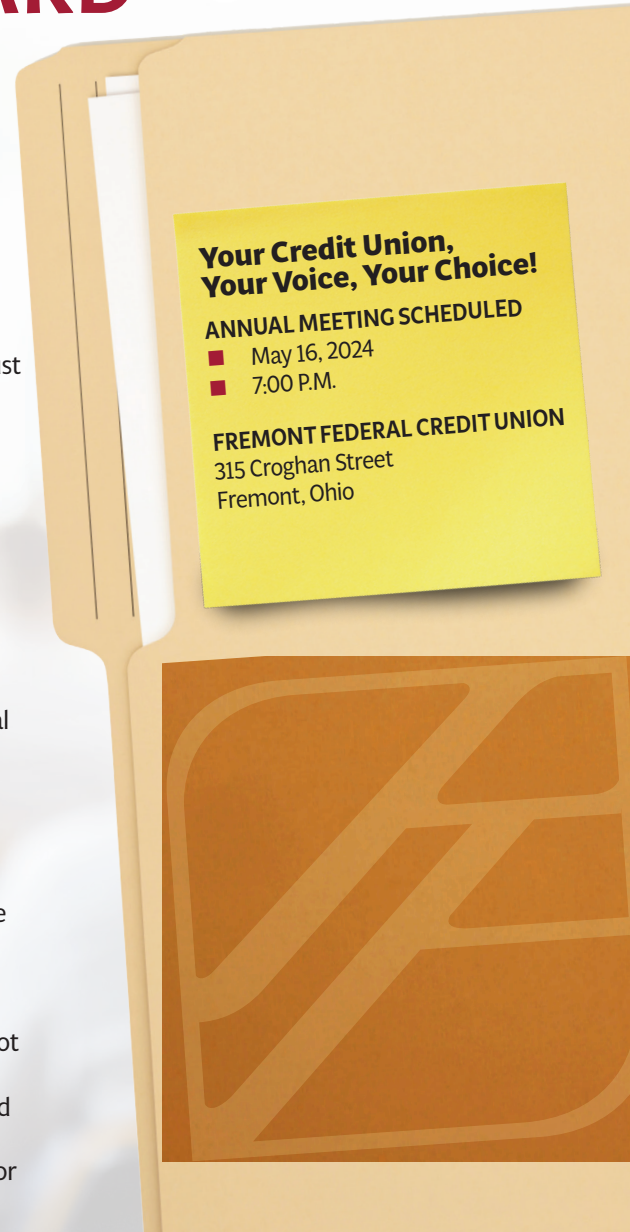
- **Maria Ranker** - USI Insurance Services
- **Bob Foster** - Owner of Foster Auto Body
- **Jim Yeager** - President of the Fremont Flask Company, retired

for the three vacant Board of Director positions.

The Nominating Committee will accept additional nominations from any member that may be interested. Those interested must contact Cory Stine, Chair of the Nominating Committee, and schedule an interview to discuss the Duties and Responsibilities of a Board of Director. In addition, each potential Board nominee must submit a letter listing his/her qualifications to be a member of the Board of Directors, along with a petition signed by a minimum of 200 Credit Union Members. This must be completed and to the Nominating Committee by **February 15, 2024**.

A ballot for the Board of Directors election will be provided via the April 2022 Member Newsletter, if warranted, to all eligible voting members 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting. Voting will be closed on **May 9, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.**, five business days prior to the Annual Meeting, and the vote will be tallied. The results will be verified at the Annual Meeting and the Board Chairman will make public the result of the vote at the Annual Meeting.

In the event there is only one nominee for each position to be filled, the election will not be conducted by mail ballot and there will be no nominations from the floor. The Board Chairman may take a voice vote or declare each nominee elected by General Consent or Acclamation at the Annual Meeting.



## Stay up to date with our holiday hours:

### Holiday Closings:

- Martin Luther King Day: Monday, January 15, 2024
- Presidents Day: Monday, February 19, 2024

Plan your visits accordingly and make the most of the holiday season with Fremont Federal Credit Union. Remember, our services are available around the clock with our 24/7 ATM and online/mobile banking options.



**New Year Resolutions We Can Help With**

IMPROVE SELF	MANAGE DEBT	GET FIT	TAKE A TRIP
SAVE MONEY	REDUCE REUSE RECYCLE	MORE FAMILY TIME	ENJOY LIFE MORE
GET A BETTER JOB	HELP OTHERS	QUIT SMOKING	LOSE WEIGHT

**Fremont Federal Credit Union**

**ASK ABOUT A DEBT CONSOLIDATION LOAN TODAY!**