

# Memberlink

WINTER 2022

Your Quarterly Guide To Connecting You



## WCCU Remembers Everyone Deployed

Pictured above, from left to right: Master Sargent Barry Grimsled, Sargent Ally Audetat, Specialist Krysten Kelly, and Sargent Tyan Geissler of the Wisconsin National Guard 107th Support Maintenance Company.

R.E.D. (Remember Everyone Deployed) Friday is a national movement created to remind us of the service members that are currently deployed. Those of us back home are encouraged to wear red on Fridays to show deployed troops and their families that we appreciate their sacrifices and are thinking of them as they are away.

WCCU formed a RED Committee last fall. Our staff and board members purchased R.E.D. shirts and we began to promote our cause. What started out as a small idea, turned quickly into multiple communities working together.

Members, businesses, schools and other service organizations joined our cause with monetary donations, items for care packages and letters for some of our local troops that are deployed.

The first wave of care packages was shipped on November 10th. Our staff filled 25 boxes with over 275 pounds of much appreciated items. The second shipment that was equally incredible and was shipped December 9th.

The delivery times are often unpredictable, but the items were sent with the thought that the service members would receive packages through the holiday season to bring joy and comfort to them while they are away. At the end of November and early December, we started getting some great feedback from family members of the troops that shipments were received and so greatly appreciated.

### We Love Our Troops – Valentine Care Packages ❤️

Christmas season has come and gone; however, we still have local troops deployed and we will continue our effort. We encourage members to join us by wearing RED on Fridays and by donating items listed below or making a monetary contribution at any of our offices.

#### Items needed for packages:

- Written notes/cards/colored pictures of appreciation
- Healthy snacks (non-perishable)
- Protein bars (individually wrapped)
- Small cracker boxes
- Pudding snacks
- Gummy bears/other non-perishable candy treats
- POSTAGE STAMPS
- Books and magazines
- Playing cards/UNO/card games
- Items for women are especially appreciated as many of the items that are donated are often intended for men.



**\* Please have your new/unused items to WCCU by January 25th to allow for packing and shipping.**

As we continue our effort, we take this opportunity to show our appreciation to our members for supporting our cause and most importantly, we thank our troops for their service. Best wishes to all for safe return!

# Tips for Managing an Inheritance



**Brandi Walton**  
Investment Professional

As the beneficiary of an inheritance, you are most likely to be faced with making many important decisions during an emotional time. Short of meeting any required tax or legal deadlines, don't make any hasty decisions concerning your inheritance.

## Identify a Team of Trusted Professionals

Tax laws and requirements can be complicated. Consult with professionals who are familiar with assets that transfer at death. These professionals may include an attorney, an accountant, and a financial and/or insurance professional.

## Be Aware of the Tax Consequences

Generally, you probably will not owe income tax on assets you inherit. However, your income tax liability may eventually increase. Any income that is generated by inherited assets may be subject to income tax, and if those assets produce a substantial amount of income, your tax bracket may increase. This is particularly true if you receive distributions from a tax-qualified retirement plan such as a 401(k) or an IRA. You may need to re-evaluate your income tax withholding or begin paying estimated tax.

You also may need to consider the amount of potential transfer (estate) taxes that your estate may owe, due to the increase in the size of your estate after factoring in your inheritance. You may need to consider ways to help reduce these potential taxes.

## How You Inherit Assets Makes a Difference

Your inheritance may be received through a trust or you may inherit assets outright. When you inherit through a trust, you'll receive distributions according to the terms of the trust. You may not have total control over your inheritance as you would if you inherited the assets outright.

Familiarize yourself with the trust document and the terms under which you are to receive trust distributions. You will have to communicate with the trustee of the trust, who is responsible for the administration of the trust and the distribution of assets according to the terms of the trust.

Even if you're used to handling your own finances, receiving a significant inheritance may promote spending without planning. Although you may want to quit your job, or buy a car, a house, or luxury items, this may not be in your best interest. Consider your future needs, as well, if you want your wealth to last. It's a good idea to wait at least a few months after inheriting money to formulate a financial plan. You'll want to consider your current lifestyle and your future goals, formulate a financial strategy to meet those goals, and determine how taxes may reduce your estate.

## Develop a Financial Plan

Once you have determined the value and type of assets you will inherit, consider how those assets will fit into your financial plan. For example, in the short term, you may want to pay off consumer debt such as high-interest loans or credit cards. Your long-term planning needs and goals may be more complex. You may want to fund your child's college education, put more money into a retirement account, invest, plan to help reduce taxes, or travel.

## Evaluate Your Insurance Needs

Depending on the type of assets you inherit, your insurance needs may need to be adjusted. For instance, if you inherit valuable personal property, you may need to adjust your property and casualty insurance coverage. Your additional wealth from your inheritance means you probably have more to lose in the event of a lawsuit. You may want to purchase an umbrella liability policy that can help protect you against actual loss, large judgments, and the cost of legal representation. You may also need to recalculate the amount of life insurance you need because of your inheritance. The cost and availability of life insurance depend on factors such as age, health, and the type and amount of insurance purchased.

## Evaluate Your Estate Plan

Depending on the value of your inheritance, it may be appropriate to re-evaluate your estate plan. Estate planning involves conserving your money and putting it to work so that it best fulfills your goals. It also means helping reduce your exposure to potential taxes and creating a comfortable financial future for your family and other intended beneficiaries.

Some things you should consider are to whom your estate will be distributed, whether the beneficiary(ies) of your estate are capable of managing the inheritance on their own, and how you can best shield your estate from estate taxes. If you have minor children, you may want to protect them from asset mismanagement by nominating an appropriate guardian or setting up a trust for them. If you have a will, your inheritance may make it necessary to make significant changes to that document, or you may want to make an entirely new will or trust. There are costs and ongoing expenses associated with the creation and maintenance of trusts and wills. Consult with an estate planning attorney for proper guidance.

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## Contact WCCU Investment Consultants

**Call us** at (608) 634-7756 or call your local WCCU office and ask to be connected with Ben, Brandi, or Brandi's voicemail at extension 1756. (Calls are forwarded so you may experience a delay or be asked for a name and phone number in the event the call disconnects.)

**Fax us** at 1-888-509-4597

This is a direct and secure fax line to WCCU Investment Consultants.

**Email us** at [info@wccuinvestmentconsultants.com](mailto:info@wccuinvestmentconsultants.com)

**Learn more** at [www.wccuinvestmentconsultants.com](http://www.wccuinvestmentconsultants.com)



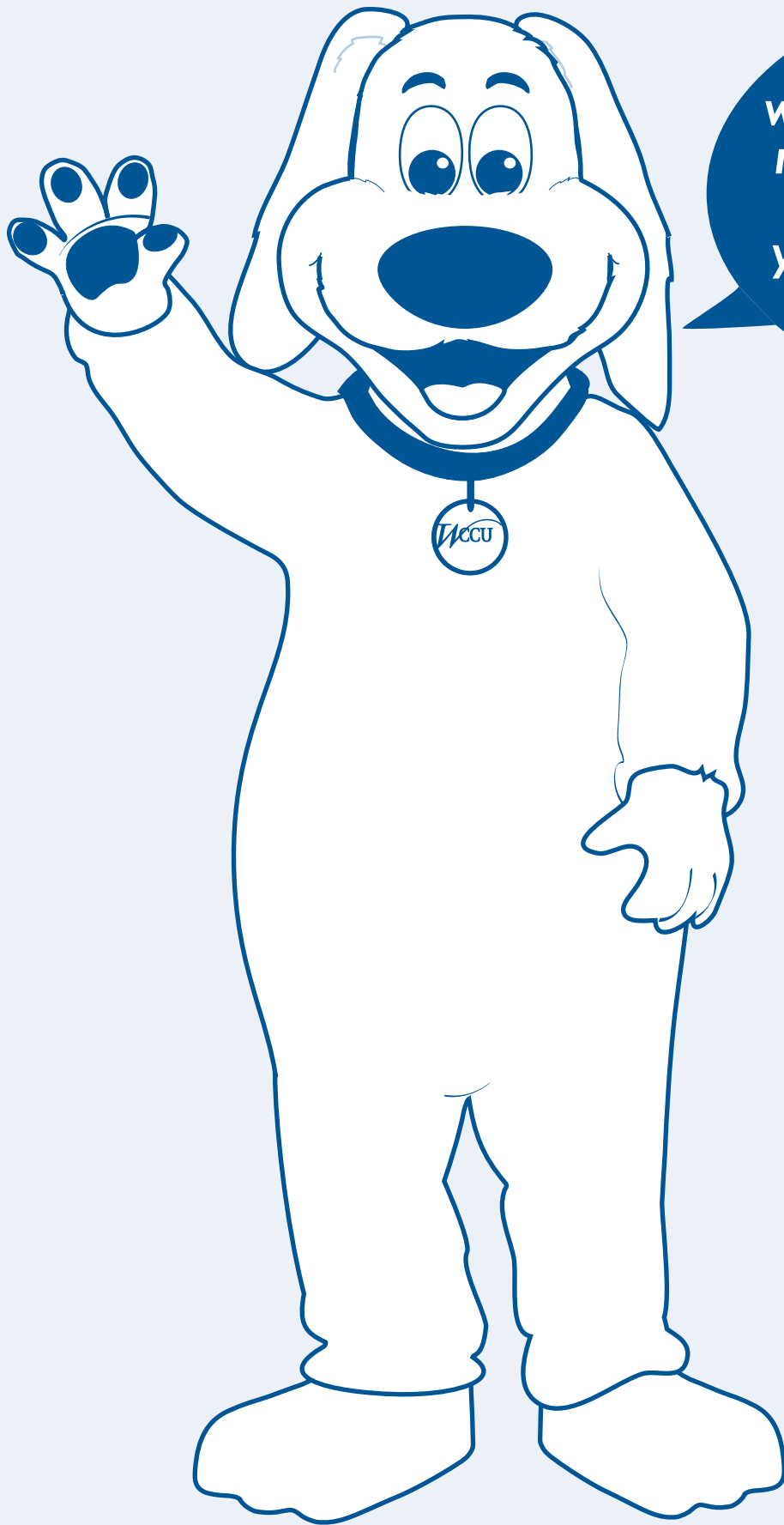
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# Hi friends! I'm BUCK from WCCU!



**Open an account with me and start saving money! The more times you put money into your account, the more chances you have to win \$50!**

*Exciting 2022 Buck's Club Account updates!*

If you're 12 years old or younger you can open your own Buck's Club Account!

Opening a Buck's Club Account is easy. You even get the chance to win a monthly prize and a chance for the grand prize.

Check out these great Buck's Club Account deTAILS and stop by your local WCCU office to learn more & sign up!

-  Open a Buck's Club Account and get your Buck's Club Account Punch Card. Receive a gift for opening the account!
-  Bring your Buck's Club Account Punch Card with you each time you deposit money into your account and get a paw punch on your card!
-  After 5 paw punches on your Buck's Club Account Punch Card, you'll receive a WCCU prize!
-  Each Buck's Club Account Punch Card with 5 paw punches should be turned in to your WCCU office with your name and member number. Your punch card will be put into Buck's End of Year Drawing for a chance to win \$50!
-  The more deposits into your account, the more chances you'll have to win the Buck's End of Year Drawing for \$50!

**Look for Buck & his WCCU friends at events and parades in 2022!**





## Overdraft Privilege

At times, unexpected expenses can leave you with too little cash in your checking account. Having a check returned due to insufficient funds can be a costly, inconvenient and potentially embarrassing experience.

At WCCU we do not encourage overdrafts. As always, we encourage you to manage your finances responsibly. However, we want to save you from the additional merchant fees and possible damage to your credit history that might result if a check is returned. That is why we provide a discretionary service called "Overdraft Privilege" to eligible accounts in good standing. (For example, we typically do not pay overdrafts if your account has not been positive within the last 35 calendar days, you are not making regular deposits, or you have a past due loan, garnishment or levy).

With Overdraft Privilege transactions may be approved, up to the Overdraft Privilege limit, when there are insufficient available funds in your account. A \$20 fee will be charged per presentment against insufficient available funds and will reduce the amount of Overdraft Privilege that is available to you. Please be aware that Overdraft Privilege is intended for inadvertent or occasional use, such as a balance miscalculation. You are encouraged to use other overdraft protection services WCCU offers, such as an automatic transfer from a savings account, as your first line of defense against overdrafts.

**Overdraft Privilege is automatically provided to eligible accounts and there is no charge unless you use the service.** If you prefer not to have Overdraft Privilege on your account, please contact any of our WCCU offices and we will remove it.

### **VERY IMPORTANT:**

*The above protection will cover only checks, ACH items, in person withdrawals and any recurring debit card transactions. If you wish to extend your Overdraft Privilege to cover ATM and everyday debit card transactions, the regulation requires that you give WCCU your consent by "Opting In". To do this, simply contact any of our WCCU Offices or use the Overdraft Privilege widget to enroll yourself. If you have already given WCCU your consent, there is no need to opt in again. Although you do not ever expect to use it, it will give you peace of mind knowing the Overdraft Privilege is there if you need it.*

*\*Subject to WCCU discretion. An Overdraft fee of \$20 per presentment will be charged for overdrafts. There is a cap of \$100 per day on the total amount of fees we can charge you for overdrawing your account. Payment of your overdraft is discretionary and we reserve the right not to pay. WCCU has the right to require payment to bring the account current immediately after an overdraft.*

# Kevin's Corner News & Updates from President Kevin Hauser



As we say goodbye to 2021 and welcome the New Year, I feel a renewed sense of hope for our credit union, our members and our local communities. I take this opportunity to share some changes and some exciting events that we are looking forward to in 2022!

## Annual Meeting and Election to take place in 2nd Quarter of 2022

For as long as we can remember, our annual meetings and board director elections have taken place during the first quarter of the year.

As you may recall, we had to do things differently last year. First, due to unforeseen circumstances, the election became an uncontested election. Then, due to Covid-19 and concerns for large gatherings, our Annual Meeting was postponed until late May.

We found that moving the Annual Meeting from the winter to the spring had an impact on attendance and the members that did attend provided positive feedback on the change. Therefore, your board has decided to move both the election and the Annual Meeting to the 2nd quarter.

## Get to know the WCCU Board Candidates before you vote!

In the past, many members felt they did not get an opportunity to know WCCU Board Candidates prior to the election. We have heard your concerns and have included a biography of each candidate on the back of this newsletter. This will give ample time to review the candidates prior to the election that will be held in April/May.

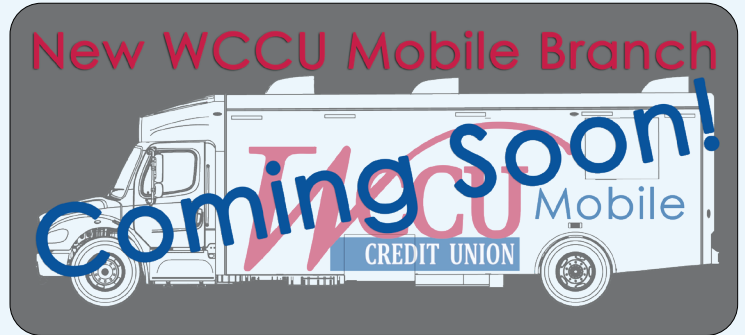
## Portage will be opening Spring of 2022

We are on schedule and plan to open the full-service office this spring. Your Portage Market Manger Stephanie Loring is excited and looking forward to this new, exciting opportunity. Please watch for more details and an opening date on our website and in our Spring Newsletter.



## Announcing our newest branch coming soon to a town near you!

WCCU Credit Union will be launching the first mobile financial branch in our state!! Watch upcoming newsletters, website and facebook for more details!!



As I am focusing on many positive events around us, I know that we also continue to face challenges. But I am confident that together we will move forward and continue to provide you the products and services that you can depend on. As we look forward to serving you, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your patronage.

Best wishes to you for a happy and healthy 2022!

*Kevin Hauser*

Kevin Hauser  
WCCU President



Check out the newsletter insert for Buck's Club updates for 2022!

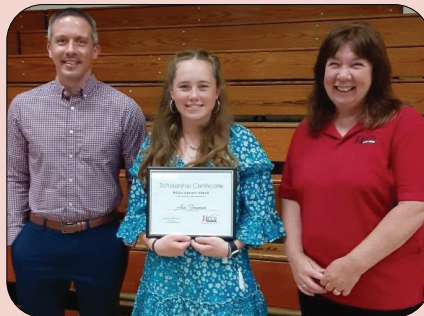
## 2022 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN

WCCU is now accepting applications for our 2022 scholarships. This spring, we will be awarding a total of 20 scholarships for \$500 each to be distributed among each of our offices.

WCCU will offer graduating high school seniors entering a post-secondary school or equivalent academic institution the opportunity to apply.

The scholarships are available to members of WCCU Credit Union or children (or those under legal guardianship) of a member of WCCU Credit Union. Find out more information about eligibility requirements and how to submit your application on our website at [wccucreditunion.coop/wccuscholarships](http://wccucreditunion.coop/wccuscholarships).

**Applications are due March 15, 2022.**



## 1099 TAX INFORMATION

Members will be receiving their 1099's (tax information) for 2021 by mail. For your convenience, the 1099 will also be available in Online Banking. To avoid any mailing delays, please be sure WCCU has your current mailing address.

**Privacy Notice:** Federal law requires us to tell you how we collect, share, and protect your personal information. Our privacy policy has not changed and you may review our policy and practices with respect to your personal information at [wccucreditunion.coop](http://wccucreditunion.coop) or we will mail you a free copy upon request if you call us at 608.634.3118.

# Meet Your 2022 WCCU Board Candidates



## Alan Berg (elected incumbent)

Alan Berg has served on the WCCU Board of Directors for the past 6 years. Prior to his retirement, he was a farmer for 40 years, a municipal county patrolman for 22 years and drove truck in road construction for 10 years. He has served on committees and organizations in the Vernon County area. Alan has also served as

President of the Vernon County Farmers Union. Alan and his wife Susan live in Viroqua and have 4 children and 8 grandchildren.



## Blake Duren

Blake Duren is a 2001 Graduate of Reedsburg Area High School. He attended the University of Wisconsin - Madison, and then the St. Louis University School of Law. He presently practices law out of his office in Reedsburg, Wisconsin. Blake is a Wisconsin Real Estate Broker. In his free time, Blake enjoys gardening, hunting, and spending time

on his Cousin's Farm outside of Cazenovia.



## Sarah Fay

In 2011, Sarah opened a small business in Baraboo -The Jewelers Edge. At the time, her husband was wheelchair bound and unable to work. They had three kids between middle and high school and Sarah was the sole income provider for her family. She knew the risks of opening a small business and took a chance. She fought through the first five

years to find success. She learned the importance of being connected to other businesses with the same mindset, drive and expectations. Sarah has spent the last five years as the BID (Business Improvement District) president for Baraboo. She held a seat on the Downtown Baraboo Incorporated group for many years and was part of the branding initiative team for Baraboo. She understands the struggles facing all of us. From raising a family, COVID, running a farm or small business, she knows the hard work it takes. Sarah currently lives in Pardeeville but looks forward to moving to Baraboo after her daughter graduates from high school.



## Bill Marohl (elected incumbent)

Bill Marohl has served on the WCCU Board of Directors for the past 3 years. He served as the Branch Manager of the Viroqua Office for 13 years and retired in 2013. Bill has held various positions and has done extensive volunteer work with the Vernon County Fair. He has held the position of Treasurer since 1997. He has served as the

Superintendent for the Vernon County Fair for 10 years and was also a board director in 1996. Bill has served as Director for the Wisconsin Association of Fairs (WAF) for seven years. Over the past 15 years, Bill has held a variety of positions within the Wisconsin Association

of Fairs. He also served as president for 2 years in which he attended 59 fairs within the state of Wisconsin. In addition, Bill was a Vernon County 4-H Leader for 40 years. He had served on the Associates of the Restored Temple Theatre board as a Member, Vice-President and President. He also is a member and the Treasurer of the Liberty Pole United Methodist Church. Bill is a member of the American Legion Post 138 in Viroqua. He served in the USAF from 1967-1971. Bill and his wife, Sandy, live in Viroqua. They have 2 children and 3 grandchildren.



## Jayson Pettit

Jayson Pettit is the Chef/Owner of J's Pub & Grill in Reedsburg. He is originally from Eagle River, WI, and grew up in Port Byron, IL, a farming community along the Mississippi River. Jayson graduated from Riverdale High School in 1989, and attended Blackhawk Community College in Moline, IL for the Culinary Arts program. His early professional

career included working at supper clubs, a private country club, and a couple fine dining restaurants on the Mississippi. He moved back to Wisconsin in 1999. He opened Damon's Grill at the Kalahari Resort as the Executive Chef, moving up to General Manager, and Assistant Food and Beverage Director of Kalahari in his 8 years there. Jayson also worked at Christmas Mountain as the Food and Beverage Director, before going back to Kalahari and Trappers Turn prior to opening his own restaurant. For past 8 years, Jayson has enjoyed the challenges of owning his own restaurant and has embraced becoming a part of the Reedsburg community. As his business continues to grow, he has found many ways to give back to the community, and takes great pride in being known for doing that. There is rarely a fundraiser that doesn't include something from J's Pub & Grill. Jayson currently is on the Board of Directors of the Reedsburg Area Medical Center Foundation. Jayson and his wife, Jennifer, live in Wisconsin Dells with their 2 boys, ages 13 and 17.



## Monte Torgerson (elected incumbent)

Monte Torgerson has served on the WCCU Board of Directors for the past 12 years and is currently serving as Board Chair. He recently retired from StarBlends LLC in Sparta. For 33 years, Monte was a member of the Westby-Christiana Fire Department and served 22 years as the chief. He served 8 years on the Westby Housing Authority

and 8 years on the Westby Planning Committee. He was in the U.S. Army Reserves from 1972-1980. He volunteered with a variety of organizations including Snowflake Ski and Golf Club (President, VP of Golf, Secretary); Westby Area Jaycees (President); Westby Coon Prairie Church (Council President); Skogdalen Lutheran Church (President). Monte has also been a member of the Westby Legion Post 155 for 45 years. He has three children, 3 grandchildren and he and his wife, Darlene, live in outside of Westby.

Member Link is published quarterly for our credit union members. To contact us call: 608-634-3118 or write the editor, Kerri Theige - P.O. Box 70, Westby, WI 54667-0070 or [katheige@wccucreditunion.coop](mailto:katheige@wccucreditunion.coop).

**Proudly serving Southwest Wisconsin for over 80 years!**



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(608) 356.5500

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(608) 654.7580

**Coon Valley**  
(608) 452.2444

**Lake Delton**  
(608) 678.4000

**Portage**  
*Coming Spring 2022!*

**Prairie du Sac**  
(608) 643.0006

**Reedsburg**  
(608) 768.9228

**Richland Center**  
(608) 647.8835

**Viroqua**  
(608) 637.6200

**Westby**  
(608) 634.3118

**Helping you build a better life... feels so right!**