

## Montana credit union chapter meeting suggestions for 2011-2013

### **State of the State Address—**

may include updates on legislative, public relations, and happenings at the Montana Credit Union Network. Tracie Kenyon, President/CEO, MCUN, Ext 135, [tracie@mcun.org](mailto:tracie@mcun.org)

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The following sessions are provided courtesy of Montana Credit Unions for Community Development. Contact Jeanne Saarinen, Executive Director, Ext. 131 to book one of these topics. [Jeanne@mcun.org](mailto:Jeanne@mcun.org)

- **Guest Speaker - Rural Employment Opportunities (REO) –**

Do you have members struggling to find a good paying, stable job. REO is a non-profit organization helping workers and their families throughout Montana get the education and training they need to obtain better quality jobs that will benefit them and their families. Learn more about the services available to the rural families you are serving.

- **Guest Speaker - Student Assistance Foundation (SAF) –**

Would you like to help your members pursue their post-secondary education? Learn more about the range of programs (including grants, community outreach, counseling and training on education finance planning) offered through SAF.

- **The Power of Asset Building—**

Learn more about the empowering programs offered through Montana Credit Unions for Community Development and how you can help the hardworking members in your community achieve their dreams of financial independence.

- **Making a Difference in Your Community—**

Montana's credit unions truly embrace the philosophy of cooperation among cooperatives. While sharing this same philosophy, there are varied practices in the implementation of the credit union philosophy around the state. You'll hear about what your peers are doing across the state and provide an opportunity to share what you are doing in your community.

- **Free Tax Services and Your Credit Union—**

Learn about how your members can have their taxes filed for free – either through “do it yourself” options or at local volunteer-run tax sites. Learn how your credit union can get involved!

- **2012: The Year of the Cooperatives—**

The United Nations has declared 2012 as the International Year of the Cooperatives. The cooperative sector worldwide has about 800 million members in over 100 countries and is estimated to account for more than 100 million jobs around the world. Learn how your credit union is connected to the cooperative movement worldwide. This includes a review of the cooperative principles adhered to by all cooperatives worldwide.

- **Meeting Your Members’ Small Loan Needs—**

Credit unions across Montana have been offering small loan products to their members as an affordable alternative to predatory payday loans. Learn about these loan products, and what the landscape looks like now that payday loan businesses are leaving the state.

- **AmeriCorps\*VISTA – Invite an AmeriCorps\*VISTA member to speak at your chapter meeting!—**

AmeriCorps\*VISTA is the national service program designed specifically to fight poverty. Founded as Volunteers in Service to America in 1965 and incorporated into the AmeriCorps network of programs in 1993, VISTA has been on the front lines in the fight against poverty in America for more than 40 years. MCUCD has partnered with the VISTA program to increase our capacity. VISTA members take the lead on the development of wealth-building programs that operate in credit unions throughout the state.

By providing support, knowledge and goodwill, VISTA members gain valuable experience by working with professional organizations. Learn how this national service program has made a difference, and what it’s like to serve as an AmeriCorps member in Montana, from one of MCUCD’s VISTA members.

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The following topics are provided by Tabitha Garvin, COO Business Development, League Service Group, Ext 132, tabitha@mcun.org

- **Conflict in the Work Place—**

Mastering conflict strategies to achieve healthy & positive outcomes.

- **Credit Union Philosophy—**

Learn it! Live it! Advocate it! This session is based on our online CU Philosophy certification manual.

- **How Full is Your Bucket?—**

Positivity, Negativity, and Productivity.

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The following topic is provided by Donya Parrish, VP Dues Supported Services, MCUN, Ext. 122, donya@mcun.org or Tracy Thornburg, Director of Compliance, MCUN, Ext 139, tracy @mcun.org

- **Compliance Update**

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**Elder Abuse Training—**

Denise Armstrong, Big Sky Senior Services, 3 1/2 North 35th Street Billings, MT 59101, 406-259-3111

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**Employment Law Topics—**

Jean E. Faure, Esq., Faure Holden Attorneys at Law, P.C., Great Falls. 406-452-6506

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**CUNA Mutual Group—**

- **Overview of CUNA Mutual Group**
- **Bond Review**
- **Current Credit Union Trends**

Casey Boyer, Sales Executive, (800) 356-2644 Ext. 5355

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**Hamilton-Misfeldt & Company PC—**

- **Ask about topics, they have a large selection. Will be a small speaker/travel fee.**

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406-727-0888 Ext. 332, [RickR@Hamilton-Misfeldt.com](mailto:RickR@Hamilton-Misfeldt.com)

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**Other general suggestions for topics or speakers—**

- Invite your local law enforcement to train on robbery procedures.

- Panel of local CEOs to discuss current industry topics.
- Recognition of personal involvement in the local community. For example, have the mayor or some local dignitary come in and present a certificate to each attendee for their own involvement on local boards, volunteer opportunities, etc. If they could do a slide show too with photos, that would be even better.
- Invite local non-profit organizations in to do short presentations on who they are, what they do, how someone can get involved.
- Bring in a local health club employee to discuss wellness topics.