

CEO Report

Everyone wants progress, no one likes change. Most of management’s time and resources went toward preparing for our core conversion that occurred in January. This new system will allow the Credit Union to implement technology that will appeal to the next generation of credit union members. Now we can offer instant account to account transfers using FedNow, the new payment system that competes with Zelle. These and other options will be made available this coming year as we increase our services to the future generation.

This did include a change to our online and mobile banking platform. We have received great feedback from our younger members. On the flip side, staff has been hard at work assisting our older members with signing on and navigating the new system. Our phone call volume was very heavy in the first quarter of 2025 and I apologize for the inconvenience. But everything is returning to normal and staff is being more productive with our new system.

For 2025, we will continue to make service improvements on a much smaller scale. We will get a better loan and member application process. We will add features to our FedNow system. We plan to implement instant issue of credit and debit cards directly into your mobile phone’s secure wallet. All of these changes will be available to members only if they wish to use them.

One thing that is not changing is our commitment to service; this is only accomplished with an outstanding staff. I want to thank staff for all of their hard work at making the conversion successful and their efforts at assisting members with their online banking needs. To my fellow employees – To Infinity and Beyond!

Wesley Walton, CPA MBA
CEO



Board of Directors Report

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to WELCOME you to the Annual Meeting!

We know some of you have had a very difficult year. Our hearts go out to those who were impacted by the fires. We have current and former volunteers who have lost homes as well as employees who have moved because their neighborhood is no longer livable. In addition to forbearance, we are working with the individual members to see what we can do to meet their specific needs. Recovery is slow and we are ready to assist.

During the winds and fire, power was out in Montrose for almost a week. While members were not able to access the lobby of the Credit Union, most banking needs were being met. For the past several years, management has work hard to develop and implement disaster back up plans. Good to know the plans work.

Like many of you, the Credit Union had a very interesting year. Interest rates continue to be a focus. As interest rates have been increasing, your Credit Union has kept pace with the market, resulting in the credit union paying the membership nearly \$8 million in dividends in 2024; an increase of 50 percent over 2023. As the Credit Union followed rates up, they will also follow rates down, which is good news for members. Car and home loans rates appear to be headed lower this year.

The main focus of management was the system conversion that occurred over the Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday weekend. While many members were not even aware of the major changes to our technology, a small number were traumatized! Staff was on the phones with many of our members beginning Monday, getting them set up on our new online banking platform. Calls for assistance continued for the remainder of the week. The board would like to say how proud we are of staff as they handled challenging calls from members. I was amazed at the poise and patience on both ends of the call. While there are a few items still in progress, most of the system has moved to maintenance.

And finally, on behalf of the Board of Directors, the management team, and the staff of our Credit Union; we thank you, our members, for your support. It remains our goal to be the best and finest credit union. We will continue to provide a healthy, reliable, and friendly place to conduct your banking, and we look forward to serving you for many years.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Mirch,
Board Chair

"Your Credit Union paid you,
its member owners,
over \$7.9 million in dividends."

2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mary Mirch, *Chair*
James Bates, *Vice Chair*
Jade Dhatchayangkul, *Director*
John Pehar, *Treasurer*
Craig Justice, *Secretary*
Jennifer Freemon, *Director*
Scott Trulik, *Director*

SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE

Frank Virgallito, *Chair*
Heather Dinger, *Member*
Milton Flores, *Member*
Robin Goldsworthy, *Member*
Suzanne Risse, *Member*

CREDIT UNION ASSOCIATES

Wesley Walton, *Chief Executive Officer*
Christine Cruz, *Chief Financial Officer*
Doria Hilleary, *Chief Operating Officer*
Hilda Davidian, *Human Resources Officer*
Monte Almasi, *Member Services*
Raffi Ashdjian, *Business Development*
Emily Balian, *Teller*
Alex Barfyan, *Teller*
Josie Gallarzo, *District Branch Manager*
Monika Guevara, *Collector*
Wendy Hawthorne, *Operations Supervisor*
Gerardo Huerta, *IT Supervisor*
Lilit Karapetyan, *Teller*
Vahe Khachatourian, *Teller*
Sammy Lopez, *Junior Network Administrator*
Scott Luna, *Solar Program Administrator*
Samantha Maclang, *Teller*
Madison Macy, *VISA Officer*
Daniel Martinez, *Accountant*
Elena Mendoza, *Loan Officer*
Tina Mesropian, *Member Services*
Argin Ohanian, *Teller*
Jillynn Robertson, *Operations Lead*
Danielle Schneider, *Accounting & Operations*
Sonia Soto, *Contact Center Representative*
Rosie Taweesup, *Loan Officer*
Krystal Turner, *Real Estate Loan Officer*
Susie Wells, *Contact Center Representative*
Josalynn Woods, *Member Services*

GLENDALE AREA SCHOOLS CREDIT UNION

MAIN BRANCH
1800 Broadview Drive, Glendale CA 91208
t: 818.248.7425
GUSD District Office
223 North Jackson St, Glendale, CA 91206
t: 818.243.1797



2024 Annual Report



GLENDALE AREA SCHOOLS
CREDIT UNION
Better Banking for Everyone!



Member Focused
Member Driven



Online *Banking*

Download our
New Mobile App

Even more
improvements
Coming in
2025!

You're going
to love it

Do all of your banking on the go.

Please contact Member Services: **818.248.7425**
or visit www.gascu.org

Treasurer's *Report*

The Credit Union faced a challenging environment in 2024, with persistent inflation, high interest rates, and a new system conversion that continues to affect our financial landscape. The Federal Reserve's funds rate remained elevated at 5.5%, continuing the trend from previous years. Unfortunately, the credit union saw a significant decrease in net income, dropping from \$2.8 million in 2023 to \$159,256 in 2024. In a more positive light, our gross income increased from 3.10% in 2023 to 3.56% in 2024. This demonstrates the Credit Union's successful strategies that boosted revenue by nearly 15%. This growth will enhance our ability to reinvest in the organization, offering better rates and services to its members.

And speaking of dividend rates, in 2024, the credit union increased dividends to members from \$5.2 million to \$7.9 million, an impressive 52% increase. While the credit union had a modest year, the membership received a 52% raise.

Despite these challenges, management has worked hard to adapt and navigate these difficult times. Your Credit Union remains dedicated to providing excellent service to all members, and the Board of Directors and management team continue to ensure that your Credit Union remains a safe and secure place for your funds. While 2024 has brought more demanding conditions, we remain focused on long-term stability and growth. We appreciate your continued support as we face these challenges together.

John Pehar,
Treasurer

"People Helping People"

Supervisory Committee *Report*

The membership elects the Supervisory Committee to evaluate the credit union's operations. It ensures that management implements internal controls and maintains practices and procedures that adhere to Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP).

The Supervisory Committee retained Richards & Associates, a Certified Public Accountant, to verify Credit Union member accounts annually and conduct the yearly opinion audit. They issued an unqualified opinion, confirming that Glendale Area Schools Credit Union's (GASCU) financial statements are fairly stated. Based on the 2024 certified opinion audit performed by Richards & Associates, the exams conducted by the California Department of Financial Protection and Innovation (DFPI), and American Share Insurance (ASI), the Supervisory Committee concludes that GASCU is financially sound and has adequate internal controls. The Credit Union records accurately reflect the Credit Union's financial condition.

Frank Virgallito, Chair

Committee Members:
Heather Dinger, Milton Flores, Robin Goldsworthy & Suzanne Risse

Products & *Services*

 **Free Checking**
 **Easy Car Loans**
 **Great Mortgage Rates**



*Not for Profit,
Not for Charity
But for Service*

Financial Statement *Assets, Liabilities & Net Worth*

<i>Assets</i>	2024	2023
Member Loans	\$139,620,258	\$145,297,971
Investments	\$279,896,865	\$283,955,522
Other Assets	\$9,457,988	\$9,064,567
<i>Total Assets</i>	\$428,975,111	\$438,318,060

<i>Liabilities & Equity</i>	2024	2023
Liabilities	\$21,439,703	\$21,988,662
Member Deposits	\$363,700,455	\$372,762,742
Reserves & Retained Earnings	\$43,834,953	\$43,566,656
<i>Total Liabilities & Equity</i>	\$428,975,111	\$438,318,060

<i>Statement of Income & Expenses</i>	2024	2023
Gross Income	\$15,477,112	\$13,685,011
Expenses	\$6,288,866	\$5,083,660
Loan Loss Provision	\$1,070,000	\$513,625
Member Dividends	\$7,958,990	\$5,232,597
<i>Net Income</i>	\$159,256	\$2,855,129

You only spend that dollar once...make it count!