



NEWSLETTER | January 1, 2025 | ISSUE 114



A Message from Doug Wolf, CEO

A Look Back

As I write this, 2024 is coming to a close and as always, I take time to step back, review our experiences in 2024, and start looking at what 2025 and the future may bring to our financial cooperative.

All in all, this past year has been a good one for Northwoods. Despite a significant expense in January 2024 as we transitioned to comply with the State of Minnesota's Sick and Safe Time Law, we are ending the year with good financial performance.

We completed the "rebranding" of our debit card program to Mastercard, which required reissuing all of our member's debit cards. This change went well, and our debit card program has improved features such as tap-to-pay and digital wallet compatibility.

We also introduced new services, our **Student Loan Marketplace** and **Trulync Medicare Advisers**.

Our Student Loan Marketplace gives members (and their parents) a means to easily shop for private student loan funding that will be best for you. This Marketplace is also an excellent place to go if you're interested in consolidating/refinancing existing student loans that you might have.

For more information, click [here](#) to be directed to our website.

Trulync Medicare Advisors give our members who are on Medicare, or are about to sign up for Medicare, a trusted person to talk to who can guide you through this tricky process of signing up and selecting a provider and plan that is the best for your situation. TruLync Medicare Advisors are like an independent insurance agency, that can shop multiple providers to find the plan that best serves your needs.

Trulync is a credit union organization that, like Northwoods, only cares about getting you the right plan. If you already have a Medicare broker, you can use TruLync Medicare Advisors at no cost to you, and with no sales pressure, as a way to be reassured you have a good plan for your situation.

For more information, click [here](#) to be directed to our website.

A Look Ahead

Surprisingly, we have no major projects planned for 2025, but, that doesn't mean we won't keep things moving forward. Perhaps our biggest challenge in 2025 will be our changing economy and unsure interest rates. We have successfully managed through these types of uncertainty in the past and I am confident we will be successful in this one.

Thank You

The change of the calendar year also always makes us think of what we are thankful for. Here at Northwoods Credit Union, our Board of Directors, our Supervisory Committee, and

our Management and Staff, are thankful for your support of your credit union.

We continue to live our Mission, Vision, and Values every day. So, please spread the word about our great services and our culture of focusing on our members and our values of Servant Mentality, Progressive Thinking, Integrity, Compassion, and Empathy.

We wish you a successful, happy, and healthy 2025.



*– Doug Wolf
President/CEO*

A green-themed poster for the 88th Annual Meeting. The text "88th ANNUAL MEETING" is in large white letters. Below it, "Tuesday, May 6th, 2025" and "Cloquet Public Library" are in white. A green section contains the text "INTERESTED IN SERVING ON THE NCU BOARD OF DIRECTORS?" in green, followed by "Click here for more info and the process to apply." in black, and "Miss the deadline? You can still apply!" in a smaller font. The Northwoods Credit Union logo, featuring a circular seal with trees and the text "NORTHWOODS CREDIT UNION", is on the right. Three dotted arrows point from the logo towards the text.

2025 Election for the Board of Directors

There are (2), 3–year terms on the Northwoods Credit Union Board of Directors up for election in 2025, and the process for being placed on the ballot has begun.

The two seats up for election are currently held by our Board of Directors Jeffrey Kletscher and Lisa Follett Pollak. Our Bylaws provide that there are no nominations from the floor of the annual meeting if there is at least one nominee for each position up for election. If you wish to be placed into nomination by the Nominating Committee, you must follow the process outlined below.

The Nominating Committee is currently accepting applications for nomination through 5:00pm on January 15, 2025 (the application form can be found on our website). The form will ask you for a statement of qualifications and biographical data.

You can submit your application by completing it online through the Board of Directors page and clicking submit. If you would like an alternative way of completing the application, please email NominatingCommittee@northwoodscu.org.

Should you miss the 1/15/2025 deadline for submitting your application for nomination to the Nominating Committee, you will have the option to be placed on the ballot by petition signed by at least 1% of the membership (*the deadline for submission of a nominating petition is 3/27/2025*). More information about the nomination by petition process will be provided to the members in February 2025 at our offices.

Help Preserve, Protect, and Promote MN Credit Unions



The GrassRoots Education Action Team (GREAT) is coordinated by the Minnesota Credit Union Network and powered by Minnesota credit union employees, volunteers, and members.

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There is no time or monetary commitment to joining GREAT: Occasionally, GREAT members will receive emails asking them to contact their elected officials about a particular issue related to the credit union movement.

Receive sample communications to send: With each email, GREAT members receive a sample message to use when communicating with elected officials. Supporters can use this template to quickly and easily send a message to lawmakers.

By participating in this program, credit union staff and members join other supporters from across the state in sharing the credit union difference with elected officials. By participating in GREAT, you join thousands of advocates in ensuring credit unions have a strong, unified voice when legislative and regulatory decisions are being made.

Help Support Credit Unions Now

Medicare Assistance Is Here!



We've teamed up with the TruLync Medicare experts to create a better experience for members as they approach this milestone. Have questions regarding Medicare? We've got your back.

There is **no charge** for their service, and they represent multiple insurance companies, providing you with access to options that are in your best interest.

Explore Medicare Help

Have questions about
Medicare?



Contact our trusted partners
at TruLync Medicare Advisors
for your complimentary
consultation!

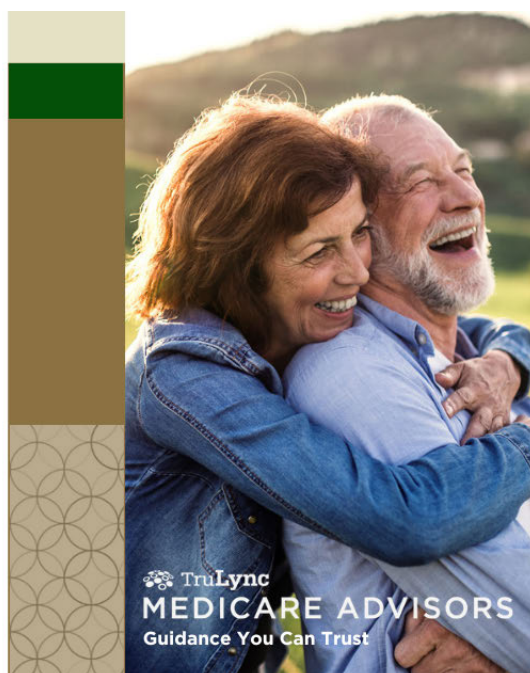
Dave Brown

Licensed Sales Agent

800-477-0764

Medicare@trulync.com

By calling this number, you agree to speak with an independent health insurance agent about Medicare insurance products. We are not affiliated with Medicare or any government agency. We do not offer every plan available in your area. Currently we represent 8 organizations which offer 61 products. Please contact Medicare.gov or 1-800-MEDICARE, or your local State Health Insurance Program to get information on all of your options. This is an advertisement.



Northwoods Retirement & Investment Services



Ed Grondahl - Financial Advisor

[Click here to learn more about investment options with NRIS through LPL Financial!](#)

Securities and advisory services are offered through LPL Financial (LPL), a registered investment advisor and broker-dealer (member FINRA/SIPC). Insurance products are offered through LPL or its licensed affiliates. Northwoods Credit Union is not registered as a broker-dealers or investment advisors. Registered representatives of LPL may offer products and services through credit unions and may also be employees of a credit union. These products and services are being offered through LPL or its affiliates, which are separate entities from the credit union.

Securities and insurance offered through LPL or its affiliates are: Not Insured by NCUA or Any Other Government Agency, Not Credit Union Guaranteed, Not Credit Union Deposits or Obligations, and May Lose Value

Securities offered through LPL Financial Member FINRA/SIPC

A promotional graphic for Northwoods Credit Union. The top half features a light blue background with the text "WINTER FUN AWAITS!" in large, bold, blue letters. To the right of the text are three blue snowflake icons. In the top right corner is the Northwoods Credit Union logo, which is a circular seal containing a pine tree and the text "NORTHWOODS CREDIT UNION". The bottom half of the graphic shows a photograph of a white pickup truck and a snowmobile on a frozen lake at sunset. The sky is orange and yellow, and the water is dark blue. The bottom of the graphic has a blue wavy border with the text "WE'LL HELP YOU FINANCE*" in white. A small circular inset in the bottom right corner shows a snowy landscape.

**WINTER FUN
AWAITS!**

**WE'LL HELP
YOU FINANCE***

YOU FINANCE

- ICE HOUSES
- SNOWMOBILES
- ATV'S / UTV'S & more!

*Get in gear for winter
Click To Apply now!*

**VISIT NORTHWOODSCU.ORG
OR CHAT WITH A LOAN
OFFICER TODAY**

*Not all applicants will qualify. Membership eligibility required. Insured by NCUA.



New Year, New Tools for Financial Success



Kick-off 2025 with confidence using our new financial calculators! Whether you're planning for your next big purchase or setting savings goals, we've got you covered. Explore some of our top tools:

Auto & Recreational Loan Calculator: Find out what your dream truck, snowmobile, or UTV might cost you monthly.

Budget Calculator: Stay on top of your finances and make every dollar count.

Share Certificate Calculator: See how much your savings can grow with our competitive rates.

Debt Consolidation Calculator: Our calculator helps you determine if you should consolidate your debts into a single monthly payment.

Your 2025 goals start now!

Check Out Our Calculators!

2025 Dates

JANUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

FEBRUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

MARCH

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23/30	24/31	25	26	27	28	29

Northwoods Credit Union is closed on the highlighted dates above.

Northwoods Around Town

It's been an eventful end of 2024 at the credit union. We were happy to participate in local events all over the area, such as the Santa's Home For the Holidays parade in Cloquet! Keep up with happenings at our always-updated [news & announcements page](#).





Switch to eStatements and Simplify Your Life!

We know that life in northern Minnesota can get busy, especially when you're juggling work, family, and everything in between. That's why we have the [eStatements](#) option—a quick, convenient, and more secure way to manage your accounts without the hassle of paper statements.

Learn How To Sign Up For eStatements Today

CONSOLIDATE YOUR
DEBT & **LOWER** YOUR
RATE, PAYMENT, AND
TERM!*

CONSOLIDATE NOW

*Not all will qualify for lowest rate. Loans subject to credit qualifications.



FYI

YOUR SOURCE FOR NCU UPDATES

We have a news and announcements page on our website that's full of helpful financial blogs & tips, NCU news and events, as well as previous newsletters and annual meeting videos in full. [Check it out now!](#)

STORING YOUR VEHICLE?

Are you putting your collateral into storage for the winter? If yes, please contact Loan Support to make sure we get your loan flagged properly so you don't get collateral protection insurance added to the loan.

PROTECT YOUR NCU ACCOUNT

NEVER give out your online banking password or Member ID.

If you realize someone may have gotten this information, please call us immediately to reset your password and check your account.

SNOWBIRDS

Please remember to change your address when leaving the area during winter.

ACCOUNT CHECK-UP

As we kick off a fresh year, it's the perfect time to review your account information. Take a moment to connect with an MSR to confirm who is listed as Joint Owner(s) and Beneficiaries on your account.

Ensure we have your current phone number and email address. Staying up-to-date helps us serve you better and keep your account secure!



Your Local Connection to College Financing

One short form. Personalized rates in 2 minutes. Over 20 lenders. Explore our marketplace and find the right solution for your student loan needs—whether you're heading to college or managing current loans & looking to refi.

[Explore Your Personalized Student Loan Rates Now](#)

Local Mortgage Experts You Can Trust

There are so many questions involved when buying a home. How much can I afford? How much money do I need? Is my credit score where it needs to be? We have these answers and more!*

We know the value of having someone available to meet with you in person to answer these important questions.

Call us today or visit our website to meet with Lindsey Jackson or Lindsay Swedberg at any of our locations!

[Contact Us Now](#)

[See Our Options](#)



LINDSEY J.
Mortgage Originator
(218) 878-3933
lindseyj@northwoodscu.org
NMLS# 2069313



LINDSAY S.
Mortgage Originator
(218) 673-5059
lindsays@northwoodscu.org
NMLS# 2438529

**Not all applicants will qualify. Membership eligibility required. Insured by NCUA. NCU is an Equal Housing Opportunity Lender.*



Join us in celebrating our 2024 Northwoods Credit Union Employee of the Year, Rhett! You will find Rhett as a Loan Officer at our Stanley Avenue branch, ready to help you with a positive attitude and understanding mindset. Thank you, Rhett, for helping uphold the SPICE values here at the credit union.



We're proud to support the following organizations during the past year through our donations committee. We're thankful for the communities we serve & where we live! \$34,500 was given in 2024.

■ 30 for Freedom - Sex Trafficking Prevention

Agate Encore

Alzheimer's Association

Animal Allies

Barnum Bombers Post Prom

Barnum Dollars for Scholars

Barnum School Scoreboard for Softball Field

Barnum Schools Business Professionals

Barnum Spring Fever Days Car Show

Barnum Volleyball

Best Christmas Ever

Blackhoof Valley Community Center

CAHA Blue Line Club Golf Tournament

Carlton Comm Ed Father Daughter Ball

Carlton Community Ed

Carlton County 4H

Carlton County Animal Rescue

Carlton County Fair

Carlton Fire & Ambulance Bingo

Carlton VFW

CEC Lacrosse

Children's Miracle Network

CHS Pep Squad

Churchill School

City of Floodwood Police

City of Kettle River Fire Department

Cloquet All Night Grad Party

Cloquet Area Fire Department

Cloquet Area Fire District Safety Program

Cloquet Chamber

Cloquet Community Hospital Foundation
Cloquet Community Scholarship
Cloquet Education Foundation
Cloquet Fourth of July Fireworks
Cloquet Lumberjacks
Cloquet National Guard
Cloquet Police Department
Cloquet River Run/Walk
Cloquet Salvation Army Food Shelf
Cloquet Washington PIE Community Event
CMH Hospital Beer & Wine Fundraiser
Community Memorial Hospital Gala
Cromwell Area Community Club Harvest Festival
Cromwell Yearbook
CYFA

DAV 18 Carlton County
Esko Fun Days
Esko Subzero Robotics
Essentia Health Moose Lake
FDLTCC Croquet Tournament
FDLTCC Human Services Club
First Witness Spring Splash
Floodwood Area Food Shelf
Floodwood Dollars for Scholars
Floodwood Fair Association
Floodwood School
Food for Thought
FST Gala
Kerrick Fire Fighters Fund Raiser
Kettle River Fire Department
Liberty K9 Rescue Ranch
Life House

Ma & Pa Kettle Days
Mahtowa Fire Fighters
ML Fire Relief Association
ML Kiwanis
MLWR Home Run Club
MN Deer Hunters Assoc - Carlton County
MNCUN Foundation Scholarship Council
Moose Lake Agate Days
Moose Lake Chamber
Moose Lake Dollars for Scholars
Moose Lake Food Shelf
Moose Lake Golf Club
Moose Lake National Night Out
Moose Lake Post Prom
Moose Lake, Back to School Lunch
Outreach Center
Polar Cubs Childcare Center
Proctor Area Hockey Association
Project Joy
REACH
Rich Cuisine Dance Night
Santa's Home for the Holidays
Savanna Drifters Snowmobile Club
Scheie Eye Institute
South Ridge School All Night Grad Party
St Louis County Fair
Sturgeon Lake Lions
Twig Area Trail Riders
United Way of Carlton County
Wood City Riders
Wrenshall Fire Department
Young Life

NEW Fee Schedule

A new Fee Schedule will go in to effect on 3/1/2025. You may view the full fee schedule [online](#) or request a copy at one of our offices or via phone at 1-888-458-0975.

Updated Fees: Rush Plastics Replacement Card \$45.00; Returned Deposit Item \$20.00; Returned ACH Origination Item \$20.00; Returned International Deposit Item \$20.00; Domestic Wire Out \$20.00; Incoming Wire \$5.00; Official Check \$5.00; Counter Checks \$1.00 per 4 checks; Non-Member Check Cashing \$5.00; Non-Member Notary Service \$5.00

A printed version of this newsletter is available in our lobby and on our website at www.northwoodscu.org

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!



1702 Avenue B
Cloquet, MN 55720

Federally Insured by NCUA. Membership Eligibility Required. NCU is an Equal Housing Opportunity Lender.

Northwoods Credit Union 1702 Avenue B Cloquet, MN 55720 US

Want to change what emails you receive from us? [Update your preferences.](#)

Kate Mason

Director of Marketing & Community Relations



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kate@northwoodscu.org - www.northwoodscu.org

Located at: 1702 Avenue B, Cloquet MN 55720



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