



BALANCE

Financially Empowering You



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**MEMBERSHIP
MATTERS**



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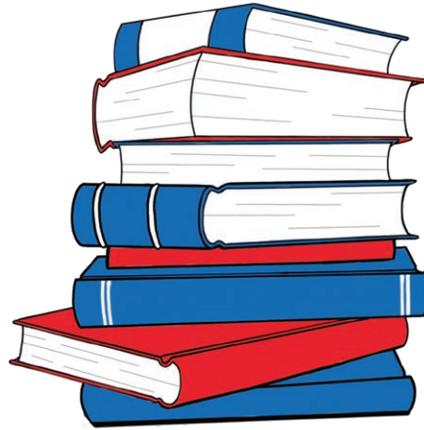
Barksdale Federal Credit Union Financials

| | October 2017 | October 2018 |
|----------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Loans | \$767,836,383 | \$832,336,216 |
| Assets | \$1,279,571,803 | \$1,321,351,299 |
| Deposits | \$1,136,891,830 | \$1,162,070,312 |
| Reserves | \$134,010,319 | \$143,772,565 |
| Members | 126,232 | 130,167 |

All financials are rounded to the nearest dollar.

For more information, center locations and hours, visit www.bfcu.org, or call **318-549-8240** or **800-647-BFCU (2328)**. CO-OP shared branches can be found at www.co-opsharedbranching.org.

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2019 SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY
APPLY TODAY!

It's Scholarship Application Time

Barksdale Federal Credit Union will be offering scholarships to graduating seniors attending college in the fall of 2019. Scholarship applications with rules and eligibility are available on our website and in centers. Barksdale Federal will award four \$1,500 scholarships for college-bound BFCU members. Odds of winning depend on the number of eligible entries received. The scholarship contest winners will be selected by the BFCU scholarship committee. Applications must be postmarked no later than Friday, February 1, 2019.

Download the Barksdale Federal app today and see what you can do!

- Balance Inquiry
- Transfer between accounts
- Make loan payments and credit card payments
- View your history – direct deposits, cleared checks, debit transactions.
- Make a check deposit



Brick or Click?

No Matter Your Preference, We're Here for You



Patrick Gullatt
CEO

More and more Americans turn to their computers and smartphones to access their financial accounts – nearly 63%, according to one study.* And Barksdale Federal

strives to offer the latest,

greatest and safest methods for doing just that. But not everyone prefers virtual financial solutions, and some services just can't be replicated online. For those who still like to make a deposit in person, talk to a loan officer face-to-face or store valuables in a safe deposit box, we're here for you, too.

Our service representatives can help you with a range of needs at any one of our 24 convenient locations. In addition to taking care of your everyday transactions, such as deposits, withdrawals, check cashing and fund transfers, we can suggest additional products and services to help meet your financial needs. Our representatives can answer questions about your current accounts or help you

open new ones. We can walk you through the steps of applying for a loan. We also offer products in our branches that aren't available with our online services, such as:

- Safe deposit boxes
- Certified checks and money orders
- Notary services
- Cash advances
- Instant issue debit cards
- Warm coffee and welcoming smiles of course!

In-branch service representatives can also demonstrate online banking to those who have yet to try it. If you're curious about online banking and bill payment, or our mobile resources, stop by and let us show you. We can help you find a comfortable balance between online and in-person account management.

Stop By and See Us!

Technology doesn't have to replace personal service entirely. Visit any branch for help with your financial needs and to discover more of what Barksdale Federal has to offer.

* Source: American Bankers Association, www.aba.com.

Did you know that credit union members have saved nearly \$2 billion with Love My Credit Union Reward discounts?

Learn More at
lovemycreditunion.org.



Here, There and Everywhere

Even if you're not close to one of our branch locations and need to perform a transaction, we still make doing business with us easy and convenient. We belong to a shared branching network of more than 4,100 credit union locations. With shared branching, credit unions from all over the country share facilities to allow members to perform transactions just as if they were in their home credit union. You'll just need two things to access your account: your member number and a valid U.S./state government-issued picture ID. To find the shared branching location nearest your destination, use the locator on our website.

Filing Your Taxes? Get the Help You Deserve

The process of filing income tax returns is, for many Americans, not a favorite annual event. A common reason people put the task off is because they know they will owe money – and can't afford to pay. Yet not filing or filing late comes with some pretty big repercussions. Some of the drawbacks of not filing by the April deadline (or October deadline, if you file an extension) are:

- Your tax bill could increase by 25% or more, due to penalty and interest charges.
- Additional penalties and/or criminal prosecution if you continue to not file.
- Losing the refund, if there's one due (the deadline for claiming refunds is three years after the return due date).
- The loss of Social Security credits that go toward your retirement (if you are self-employed and don't file returns within three years of the due date).

If you do owe a big tax bill, don't despair. The government wants to make it easy for you to pay. Most people are able to arrange for an installment program, where the amount owed is spread out over time. You may even be able to obtain an offer in compromise (settling for less than the amount owed). But remember, you have to file to be eligible for either option.

Another common reason for filing tax returns late or not at all is that it can be a grueling and confusing procedure. However, many people can take advantage of free tax return assistance programs. Here are some of the biggies:

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA). If you make under \$54,000, the IRS has arranged for you to receive free tax preparation assistance.

Specially trained volunteers set up shop in such convenient locations as libraries, schools, and shopping centers, and can help you prepare basic tax returns. Call **1-800-829-1040** or search **www.irs.treasury.gov/freetaxprep** for the location of your nearest VITA site.

Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE).

Over the age of 60? Then you are eligible for the IRS's TCE Program. Services include free tax counseling and basic income tax return preparation. For more information on TCE, call **1-800-829-1040**.

AARP Tax-Aide. Whether you are a senior citizen or are a low to middle income earner, you can take advantage of AARP's Tax-Aide counseling program (part of the TCE Program). During tax time, trained and certified volunteers help prepare taxes at over 9,000 sites across America. To locate your closest site, call **1-888-227-7669**.

The Armed Forces Tax Council (AFTC). The military is a partner in the VITA Program, so if you are in the Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard, you and your family can get free tax advice and assistance within your installations. The AFTC oversees the operation and serves as the main conduit for outreach by the IRS to military personnel and their families.

The IRS. The IRS wants to help. Really. They offer free, individualized advice by computer, telephone, and in person to all taxpayers, with no income or age restrictions. IRS employees help you obtain forms and publications and can answer a wide range of tax questions. Assistance is available by calling **1-800-829-1040**.

Income Tax Service at BFCU

Barksdale Federal Credit Union provides its members with a year-round tax service. For over 20 years, C. Taylor has been providing tax preparation and advice to BFCU members. The services include individual, partnership and corporation returns. They also complete all state returns to better serve our military members. Speedy electronic filing ensures you receive your refund quickly. With prices below most other tax services, and BFCU members receiving a special discount, this is your best buy in income tax service. Call **318-549-4017** for an appointment or stop in and see C. Taylor and his staff at Barksdale Federal.

Make Barksdale Federal your complete financial home. Join your fellow members who rely on the professionals at C. Taylor Tax Service. Allow them to show you how the latest changes to the tax code can benefit you.

C. Taylor Tax Service
Northgate Center
700 Northgate Road
Bossier City, LA.
318-549-4017

* This publication is only intended to be used for general informational purposes. Consult a tax professional for the most current data and/or personal advice.

Revised February 2018.

Director's Corner

Investment Options: Is a Certificate Account Right for You?

With so many investment options and being in a raising rate environment – it's hard to feel confident in your investment decisions. There is no perfect formula for investing either – it's all very personal. You basically have to make your investment decision based on your personal preferences. The higher the risk, the higher the reward could be. Your risk tolerance is up to you.

At the credit union, we have a variety of investment options to suit your preferences.

You can speak to one of our Member Service Representatives about our certificate account options. A certificate account is like a savings account with a few more restrictions. You'll typically earn a higher rate than a basic savings account by agreeing to keep that money put away for a designated term – like 60 months for example.

Since you won't have access to that money for a while – a good strategy would be to take advantage of the Plus Point Certificate. With a Plus Point Certificate you stagger your money into each available term. Once each certificate matures, your money plus the interest earned is available to you again for spending or additional investing options.

Stop by your nearest location today so we can continue this discussion. Together we will find the right investment for you.



L to R - Arno Easterly, Al Oar, Ryan Jacobsen, Charleene Ringler, Bernie Hawk, Roy Walling, Steve Stakes



We'll Meet or Beat Your Processing Fees or We Will Pay You \$250



We've partnered with Direct Connect to offer our members best-in-class processing services to power their payments. Choosing from a robust suite of products and services, Direct Connect's payment experts will define a payment acceptance solution to meet the unique needs of your business AND we'll save you money in the process.

With our preferred partner rates and Direct Connect's Meet-or-Beat pricing promise, we guarantee the most cost-effective payment acceptance solution for your business!

Experience Payment Processing Designed for You

- Point-of-Sale, Mobile and Online Payments Processing
- Credit and Debit Card, ACH and Loyalty Payments
- EMV-Capable Devices
- Certified PCI DSS Service Level 1 Compliant
- Next Day Funding
- Proprietary Gateway
- FREE Virtual Terminal, Hosted Payment Page and Shopping Cart

* Copy of current merchant statement required. If Direct Connect cannot reduce your credit card processing fees** as reflected on your current merchant statement, you will receive a \$250 Visa gift card.

** Processing fees are defined as discount rates and transaction fees charged above card brand fees including but not limited to interchange, dues and assessments.

Get Your Free Savings Analysis Today!

Request to be contacted at www.BarksdaleFCU.directconnectps.com or contact Judie Montelepre at Judie.Montelepre@dc-payments.com or **318-230-3880**.



Coordinating the Timetable When Buying and Selling a Home

Is it better to sell your current home before buying a new one or should you buy first and sell later? Is it possible to do both at the same time? Deciding how to go about the transition can be challenging, and there are a number of factors to consider. Here are some pros and cons to help you weigh your options.

Sell First, Buy Later

Pros:

- ✓ You're at no risk of being stuck with two mortgage payments.
- ✓ Equity from your home sale puts you in a better position to buy.

Cons:

- ✗ You may need to find interim housing and storage, which can be costly.
- ✗ If you're not comfortable in temporary housing – perhaps you're staying with the in-laws? – you can feel pressure to settle for a new home that is less than ideal.



FOR SALE

Buy First, Sell Later

Pros:

- ✓ You won't have to worry about finding interim housing.
- ✓ You can take all the time you need to find the perfect new home.

Cons:

- ✗ You may need to borrow money for a down payment (if your lender allows it), and you risk paying two mortgages if you don't sell your current home quickly.
- ✗ You'll be more likely to settle for the first offer you receive on your house, which could be less than your asking price.



SOLD

Buying and Selling Simultaneously

Pros:

- ✓ If you get the timing right, your move into your new home may be seamless.
- ✓ You won't have to worry about paying for storage or interim housing.

Cons:

- ✗ It can be difficult to line up closing dates.
- ✗ Contingency agreements – asking the seller to make your purchase contingent upon sale of your current home or asking the buyer of your current home to make the purchase contingent upon your finding a new home – are common, but complicated, and may make your offer less desirable in a competitive market.

Is a new home in your future? Get pre-approved for a low-interest mortgage from Barksdale Federal to increase the chances of your bid on a new house being accepted. Call **318-549-8170** or visit **bfcu.org** for more information or to set up an appointment to meet with one of our Mortgage Loan Officers.

BFCU Community News

We wish we had room to list all of the community events – thank you for letting us be your community partner!

September 2018

- 11** Fallen heroes were remembered at the 9/11 Memorial 5K.
- 15** Employees donated 312 pounds of food to feed our neighbors this holiday season.
- 18** As part of our partnership with Fort Polk's ACS Financial Readiness Group, employees taught a class on budgeting and credit scores.
- 24** The LA Chamber of Commerce Conference was a great way to see how BFCU can help other communities in the state.
- 26** Employees provided 29 Providence House graduates household essentials as they break the cycle of homelessness.
- 30** BFCU joined Goodwill to help people "Work to Improve Lives" with our annual clothing drive.

October 2018

- 3** Barksdale sponsored and employees were present with door prizes and giveaways at the Vernon Parish Fair Senior Day.
- 5** Longview Business contacts received snacks and giveaways at the Longview Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament.
- 6** Law enforcement was supported during the annual Shoot for the Blue skeet shoot fundraiser.

- 11** Employees participated in the Pollock Bureau of Prison's Financial Education Class and taught classes on credit and budgeting.
- 12** Leadership grilled hamburgers and hot dogs to provide a free lunch to local airmen at Celebrate Barksdale's annual picnic.
- 13** BFCU sponsored the DeRidder Junior Women's Cancer Walk to raise awareness and funds for this worthy cause.

- 16** The Taste of South Shreveport & Business Expo was a great place to reach out to help our community.
- 17** BFCU treated the Hornbeck Elementary and High School Student of the 6 Weeks to pizza to show our appreciation for their hard work.
- 19** The men and women at BAFB built friendships and enjoyed the day at Sports Day while employees showed support.
- 20** Employees participated in Fortt Polk's Louisiana Hayride Festival and gave out over 800 bags of popcorn.
- 20** Volunteers showed up to show support in the Walk and Fight to end Alzheimer's.
- 23** Information on youth programs was given to juniors and seniors at the Bossier Parish Schools College and Career night to help students and parents financially prepare for life after high school.
- 24** Employees raised \$960 dollars for Wreaths Across America to purchase wreaths to be placed on Veterans headstones at Christmas time.

November 2018

- 2** BFCU sponsored the Partee on the Bayou Children's Miracle Network Golf Tournament and helped at the event.



October 2: Spencer Kiper, an Elm Grove Middle School teacher, was presented with a \$1,000 check for his One Class at a Time grant.

WELCOME SEGGS

- Fit2Build Fitness, LLC of Leesville, LA
- Green Acres Plaza of DeRidder, LA
- Hornbeck Athletic Booster Club of Hornbeck, LA
- Jonesboro Animal Clinic of Jonesboro, LA
- M & M Storage Mall, LLC of Hodge, LA
- Papa John's Pizza of Longview, TX
- Tactical Cleaning Operations of Leesville, LA

- 7** Our generous employees sponsored 7 senior citizens in Central Louisiana's Food Bank "Adopt a Senior" program.
- 8** Leadership took time to join other influential community members at the Shreveport Bossier Mayor's Prayer Breakfast.
- 9** Employees recognized the service of those who serve and protect our community at A Celebration of Heroes.
- 11** Local Veterans were honored at the Louisiana State Fair's Veteran's Day Parade and Barksdale Federal's float shared cups, beads, candy and oatmeal pies.
- 18** Volunteers served a free Thanksgiving dinner to honor our military once again at the 2018 Warrior Feast.
- 27** BFCU assisted the Beauregard Chamber of Commerce with the 519th Military Appreciation Day by serving hot cocoa and coffee to nearly 350 soldiers.



November 5: Employees in conjunction with the Vernon Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Committee prepared over 100 bags for single soldiers returning from Afghanistan.

Rates and Dates

| Account | Rate | APY* |
|---------------------|-------|-------|
| Prime Savings | 0.25% | 0.25% |
| Sp. Purpose Savings | 0.25% | 0.25% |
| Children's Savings | 0.25% | 0.25% |
| Christmas Club | 2.50% | 2.50% |
| IRA Prime Savings | 1.90% | 1.90% |
| Regular Checking | 0.10% | 0.10% |
| Plus Checking | 0.20% | 0.20% |
| High Five Checking | 0.10% | 0.10% |

* Annual Percentage Yield.

Rates effective Jan. 1, 2019.

Rates subject to change without notice.



Federally Insured by NCUA



2701 Village Lane
Bossier City, LA 71112

318-549-8240
www.bfcu.org

Holiday Closings

Barksdale Federal Credit Union will be closed for the following holidays:

Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Jan. 21
Presidents Day, Feb. 18

Report lost or stolen Credit cards after hours: **800-543-5073** or **727-570-4881**. Debit cards: **866-724-2761**.

Join us for our Annual Meeting
Thursday, March 28, 2019
Bossier Civic Center
620 Benton Road
Bossier City, LA 71111

Financially Empowering You

At BFCU, we care about your financial wellness. That's why we've partnered with industry-leading BALANCE to provide you with free access to expertly-crafted financial education and resources to help with your fiscal matters. And should you need, BALANCE can assist with confidential, no-cost financial counseling services to help you develop a sensible budget managing spending and debt. For all your financial life stage changes and more, we—in partnership with BALANCE—are here to help.



bfcu.balancepro.org 888-456-2227

