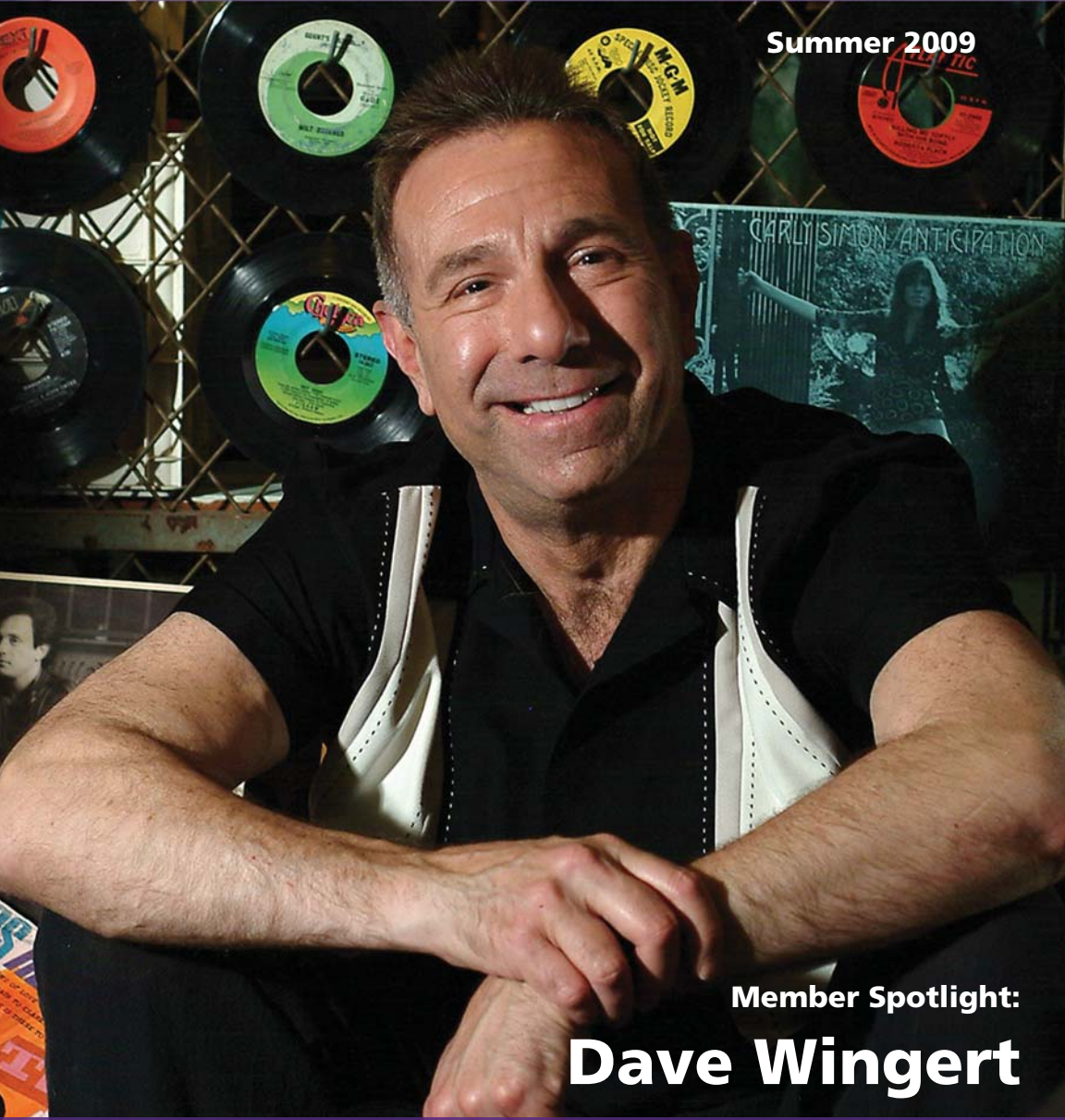


InTouch

InTouch with your credit union, InTouch with your accounts.

Summer 2009



Member Spotlight:

Dave Wingert



It's where you *belong.*



President's Message

Uncertainty and challenge remain in the financial markets, spiced with a little good news for credit unions. At the end of March 2009 Centris recognized an extraordinary expense of approximately \$2.3 million that was mandated by our regulators. This was shown on our financial statements posted in our branch lobbies. This charge was required of all credit unions in the country to reflect the expected assessment from the national credit union deposit insurance fund related to the failure of two large corporate credit unions. The assessment was required to assure the insurance fund would remain at the required regulatory levels. Last month, the federal government passed a bill that allows credit unions to recognize this charge over seven years. That is the good news. At the end of June Centris expects to reverse this \$2.3 million charge that was taken in March. We also expect to record a smaller expense based upon the recently passed legislation. The amount of this expense is underdetermined at this time. Even with the charge we took in March, Centris remains very well capitalized and extremely sound financially.

The current national economic outlook for the future remains uncertain. While

there is some improvement in the financial markets, unemployment is expected to remain high and nationally the unemployment rate is expected to exceed 10% this year, a level not seen since 1983. Rates on 10 year Treasury notes have increased approximately 1 percent which has led to a recent increase in 30 year mortgage interest rates. Short term interest rates, however, continue to remain very low. The benchmark federal funds rate is still between zero and one quarter of one percent. It is expected that this rate will stay at exceptionally low levels for an extended period. Unemployment will remain high; consumer spending will continue to be sluggish and industrial use to capacity remains low. As a result inflation is not expected to be a concern through the remainder of this year.

While the national economic recession continues, the Midwest has begun to feel the affect locally with an increase in unemployment and a decline in consumer confidence. Even though we have been affected, the economy in the Midwest is doing better than it is nationally. At Centris we have seen an increase in loan delinquency percentages and member bankruptcies. However, we have also continued to generate excellent deposit and loan growth through the first half of the year. The loans we have been making are of very good credit quality. I believe our success in lending is due to being consistent in our business approach and lending philosophy. Other financial institutions have quit making loans or have tightened their lending criteria. On the deposit side our rates have remained competitive in the market and our fees are extremely low compared to other financial institutions. Our intent is to continue to work hard to serve our members and meet their financial needs, while appropriately managing the risk posed by today's economic conditions.

Many of our members are being directly affected by the negative economic conditions. I would encourage any of our members who are experiencing financial problems to contact us. Many of you may have already started to tighten your belts and eliminated spending on luxury or “nice to have” items so you can continue to meet your must have needs, like mortgage or loan payments, groceries, medical and utility expenses. If we are aware of how you are being directly impacted we may be able to help in some way such as a loan extension, payment deferral, loan modification, etc. Please call or stop by one of our convenient offices. We are here to help you especially in difficult times. After all, helping people is what Centris does best.

If you have any questions or comments that you would like to share with me, please call me or send an e-mail to kparks@centrisfcu.org. Thank you for your membership and the opportunity to serve you.

Kevin Parks
President / CEO

Rising To The Saving Challenge

Many of our youngest members joined Centris to celebrate the National Credit Union Youth Week, held in April. CUNA (the Credit Union National Association) presents a savings challenge every year in order to help America’s youth start and maintain a saving habit with their credit union.

This year’s promotion was a huge success, breaking an all-time record, not only on a national level, but also for Centris. We had 39 NEW accounts and 828 share deposits equating to 751 accounts receiving deposits for a total of

\$103,861.45. Young members were asked to make a deposit in their Rafferty Club or CU Succeed accounts to be automatically entered for a chance to win one of six Lincoln Commemorative Silver Dollars.

“Credit unions have clearly shown that we are teaching children to save”, said Lin Standke, CUNA’s Manager of Youth Programs. “You all did an incredible job smashing the record for youth saving during the 2009 Saving Challenge”. This year’s national deposits of \$26.5 million more than doubled 2008’s record. New accounts rose by 48% to 10,006.

Centris would like to thank the parents and youth whom actively participated in building the habits necessary for a solid, financial future. Not already a Rafferty Club member? If you’re 12 years old or younger, you’re invited to open a Rafferty club account and join the fun! New Rafferty Club members receive a piggy bank upon opening the account. Also, if you’re between the ages of 13 - 18 years old you’re invited to join the CU Succeed program designed exclusively for you! CU Succeed will teach you about using the money you’re earning, spending and saving. Contact us today for more information!

75th Anniversary 4

Member Spotlight 6

Your Money 8

Investments 9

In The Community 10



A Historical Look: The Origins Of Centris Part 3

Celebrate 100 years of credit unions and 75 years of Centris Federal Credit Union.

Credit unions have embarked on a year-long celebration in honor of their centennial in the United States and their innumerable contributions to consumer finance in our nation. To commemorate, Centris Federal Credit Union invites the community to celebrate both important milestones in our collective history – 100 years of American Credit Unions and 75 years with Centris.

These anniversary dates are to be viewed not as pegged to a single hard date but encompassing a rolling series of events. For example, the first U.S. credit union, St. Mary's Bank Credit Union, was organized in Manchester, N.H., in November 1908. A few months later, in April 1909, the first credit union law was passed, in Massachusetts. June marked the 75th anniversary of President Franklin Roosevelt signing the Federal Credit Union Act of 1934, which established a federal framework for credit unions.

Credit unions are not-for-profit financial cooperatives that were founded to provide an effective and viable alternative to for-profit financial institutions. They are member owned and run and built on a one member/one vote model. Currently, nearly 8,300 credit unions collectively serve more than 90 million members in the United States.

The first credit union in the U.S. was created in 1908 by textile workers in Manchester, New Hampshire. The majority were immigrants. They worked

10 hours a day, seven days a week. There was no social security. No workman's comp, no job security. No access to credit. For them, economic tension was a way of life. This was certainly not the kind of environment one would expect to give birth to an ideal that, 100 years later, would still be celebrated for its uniqueness and for its logic.

How we got from there to here is worth recalling. It's part of our legacy... and our inspiration.

“Today, as we have throughout our history, credit unions like ours are playing an invaluable role by providing stability in financial services to consumers, maintaining a ready source of affordable credit, and offering our members a safe and sound depository for their savings,” said Kevin Parks, President / CEO. “Credit unions are built on a tradition of people helping people - a tradition that continues today and that captures the “Spirit of America”.”

Key Dates in the History of U.S. Credit Unions Include:

- **1908:** The first U.S. credit union opens its doors.
- **1909:** The first U.S. credit union is chartered in New Hampshire, and the first credit union law passes in Massachusetts.
- **1934:** The Federal Credit Union Act passes; the Credit Union National Association - the national trade association serving America's credit unions - is formed.
- **1969:** The number of U.S. credit unions peaks at 23,866.
- **1970:** Congress creates the National Credit Union Administration and the National Credit Union Share Insurance Fund to regulate federally-chartered credit unions and provide federal deposit insurance to virtually

all credit unions.

- **1980:** President Jimmy Carter signs legislation authorizing share drafts for credit unions.
- **1998:** President Bill Clinton signs the Credit Union Membership Access Act into law, preserving the ability of credit unions to serve multiple membership groups.
- **2008:** Credit unions stand out as a bright spot amid the housing and credit crisis.

Every dynamic organization must evolve to remain relevant. This is especially crucial in financial services where innovation every few years seems to rewrite the manuals. We must constantly re-examine our systems and our goals while preserving the credit union philosophy. Centris has a long history of being part of Nebraska's financial solutions, and we will strive onward in keeping the valued trust of our members.

For the past 75 years Centris has worked with the community to extend the hand of a cooperative spirit through each and every interaction and transaction. Centris will continue to be a trusted life-long financial partner for the next 75 years with the focus remaining right where it belongs – on you, the member.

75th Anniversary Celebration with the Pancake Man

Sunday, November 1, 9:00 am to 12:30 pm at the Strategic Air and Space Museum. Bring the family for **FREE** pancakes by the famous Pancake Man, enjoy **FREE** admission to the Museum and dine in the hangar. You won't want to miss this! Special prizes will be given throughout the party.



Save Your Identity With eStatements

Reduce your chances of being a victim of mail fraud - receive your Centris Federal Credit Union statement electronically.

Even though identity thieves are finding new ways to steal information over the Internet, the original theft - for example, taking out a credit card in your name - tends to be a low-tech crime. According to the Federal Trade Commission, about half the country's victims know how their information was swiped, and in many cases the breach was paper - bills, credit card solicitations, and financial statements - pilfered from garbage cans and mailboxes.

Banking and paying bills online not only cuts off thieves' access to the papers they need to commit ID theft, but also helps detect the crime sooner. This is because consumers who bank online check their accounts much more frequently - nearly four times a month compared with once a month for those who receive statements by mail.

Receive your statement electronically and enjoy safety, timeliness, and convenience. For more information about estatements, or to sign up to receive them, call Centris at (402) 334-7000 or visit centrisfcu.org.

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Member Spotlight Dave Wingert

Centris member, Dave “Wingy” Wingert’s career and life would, to most, seem like a series of happy accidents, but to hear him reflect on the last 50 plus years, it’s evident that each direction and turn has more to do with his own spot-on inner compass.

Many Nebraskans know of his current Omaha-based career along with the one he had up until 1989, working at half a dozen radio stations, along with a television stint hosting the magazine-format show “Good Day” with Joni Ballion on KMTV and a children’s television program on KETV.

Between his former Omaha career and the current one, there was however

a 20-year gap that took Nebraska's Broadcasting Hall-of-Famer due Northwest. A man definitely dialed into opportunity and what "feels right", Dave followed a broadcasting friend and mentor to Seattle, Washington. It was there that he had his first encounter of banking with a credit union, Seattle Telco. "It had a different energy than a bank. I am NOT a numbers person and they always made everything so easy, they were just always so helpful."

Seattle was also where he found success hosting a nationally-syndicated show, "Dave 'Til Dawn" on ninety-eight stations. When the proverbial plug was pulled from that gig he found himself on course towards his own morning show in Los Angeles, but ten months later when production hadn't yet begun he knew he had to make a change.

A big believer in intention-setting and getting what you expect, he worked with prolific writer and life coach, Alan Cohen to bring about more self awareness. When asked, "What do you want out of life?" Dave had some definite answers. "I want to belong, I want to live authentically, I want joy, to reflect light to everyone and I want to perform." A couple of years passed, leaving him to ponder when and where he would someday make good on his earlier pleas.

Fortuitously, that place would be back in Omaha. Steve Lundy, morning radio host and friend, called and asked if he'd consider coming back to Omaha. He did, just for a visit, when Gary Sadlemyer, another Omaha radio host, invited him to be a weekend guest. That visit delivered on his long-pondered pursuits of feeling like he belonged, having joy, having authentic relationships and the ability to creatively perform. So, he stayed. Now listeners can catch him on KGOR, Omaha's #1 morning show

where "Wingy", as he's known, spins classic hits and muses over a multitude of topics.

Having taken up roots back in Omaha, he knew he needed (and expected) a trusted relationship with a financial partner. He got it, and more, with Centris. "I expect people to do what they do well, and Centris does."

"There was one instance where I could not figure out why nearly \$400 was missing from my account. I was able to literally leave my check register behind and have Centris find the mistake. They not only found it, they were happy to help out. And, it's not just about transactions. People want authenticity and a little warmth and kindness. From the tellers to the personal bankers...I always feel better than I did when I came in. I really feel the happiest people follow their bliss, and Centris understands that."

Dave Wingert has certainly found his bliss – with Centris, his community, his work, and in his relationships. He is unafraid to talk heart and soul, and whether one has the pleasure of hearing him over the airwaves or in person his message acts as a sort of rally cry, an appeal for people to fearlessly head in the direction of their own bliss.

Editor's Note

Are you a Centris member making a unique contribution to the community? Know someone who is? Tell us your story for a chance to be featured in the **Member Spotlight** of the Centris Newsletter. Simply contact us at marketing@centrisfcu.org or by phone at (402) 758-6523.



Three-Digit Code Makes Shopping More Secure

Q: Recently, when I've made purchases over the phone, merchants have asked for the three-digit security code on the back of my credit card. Why is this?

A: This is to verify that the card definitely is in your possession. It generally follows the 16-digit card number on the back of the card. It's information that wouldn't be available to someone who has intercepted your card number and expiration date.

That said, make sure you know to whom you're giving this information over the phone or on Web sites.

Con artists often are able to obtain partial information about a potential victim's account, and then contact the person masquerading as a company representative to "verify" the account by requesting additional details such as the three-digit security code. But they might just as well ask for other pertinent details - for example, they may provide the last four digits of your account number (which typically show up on sales receipts) and

request the other 12 digits to "confirm" it. Or they already may be in possession of your full account number and request the expiration date of the card, or your billing address. Any of these individual bits of information may be just what the scammer needs to "fill in the blanks" and gain full access to your account, so beware.

Keep in mind, though, that legitimate businesses or financial institutions may request your three-digit security number (known as "CVC2" by MasterCard and "CVV2" by Visa) to authenticate a transaction. Just be sure you know whom you're talking to before giving it out.

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Protect Your Visa® Check Card Account

The PIN assigned to your account is confidential and should never be disclosed to any third party. The PIN should never be recorded on the card itself or on anything which may be with the card if a purse or wallet is lost or stolen. Compromising your PIN may make you responsible for fraudulent debit transactions on your account. If your Check Card is lost or stolen, please report it immediately to Centris. If you report your card as lost or stolen within two business days of discovering the loss or theft, any monetary loss to you from fraudulent transactions will be limited to \$50. If you do not report the loss or theft within two business days of discovery, you may be responsible for the unauthorized transactions.

For questions or concerns please contact a Centris Account Service Representative at (800) 334-2328 or (402) 334-7000.



Anthony Bumgarner
Financial Advisor
Centris Investment Services
(402) 697-6726
Anthony.bumgarner
@cunamutual.com

10 Ways to Save For Retirement

- Put more dollars into your company's 401(k) or other savings plans. Remember, you can elect to save up to \$16,500 in 2009 (or \$22,000 if age 50 or over). Even if you can't contribute the maximum, at the very least contribute up to your company match.
- Contribute to an IRA. If you qualify, the maximum you can contribute is \$5,000 per year (\$6,000 if age 50 or over). In many cases, a Roth IRA may be preferable over a traditional IRA, so look into both options.
- Pay yourself first. Each month, automatically deduct a set amount from your checking/share draft account and invest it for your retirement (possibly to fund an IRA). After a while, you won't even miss it. Do this in addition to your company-sponsored retirement plan.
- Avoid dipping into your retirement savings—even if it's for a good purpose like a home purchase or education.
- Spend less now. If you're not putting enough away for your retirement and don't know where to find the extra cash flow, you may have to reset your priorities. For example, say you've got a \$450 payment on your car or truck. You may want to consider a less expensive vehicle to allow for more each month into your retirement savings.
- See a financial advisor and develop a

retirement savings plan. According to the 2008 Retirement Confidence Survey from the Employee Benefit Research Institute (EBRI), only 42% of workers have calculated their retirement savings needs. This study also shows that those who have done this calculation have more realistic goals and are saving more.

- Invest your savings appropriately. A big mistake is taking on too much risk or not taking enough. For example, a 35-year-old probably shouldn't be investing all their retirement savings in fixed rate, guaranteed investments. Make sure your retirement portfolio is diversified to get the best balance of risk and return.
- Commit to saving more. Try to calculate the most you think you can put away for retirement...then add 10%.
- Avoid “cashing in” your retirement dollars when you switch jobs. Instead, look at “rolling” your savings to another plan or IRA to avoid unnecessary taxes and penalties.
- Start today. The earlier you start, the better. Even if you're 22 years old and in your first job out of college.

For help with your retirement dollars, contact Anthony Bumgarner, your Centris Investment Services Representative serving the members of Centris Federal Credit Union at (402) 697-6726 for a no-cost, no-obligation Retirement Planning Consultation.

Representatives are registered, securities are sold, and investment advisory services offered through CUNA Brokerage Services, Inc. (CBSI), member NASD/SIPC, a registered broker/dealer and investment advisor, 2000 Heritage Way, Waverly, Iowa 50677, toll-free (866) 512-6109. **Nondeposit investment and insurance products are not federally insured, involve investment risk, may lose value and are not obligations of or guaranteed by the financial institution.** CBSI is under contract with the financial institution, through the financial services program, to make securities available to members. B2MM-0706-9704

Centris Member Appreciation Night Friday, August 7, 2009 at 7:05 pm



VS



Entertainment:

- Special ticket price only for Centris members. **FREE** t-shirts to members - while supplies last!
- Come out and see the greatest fireworks show in the Midwest!
- It will be **"Strike Out Breast Cancer"** night where the Royals will wear pink jerseys that will be auctioned post game to raise money for the Susan G. Komen foundation.

Deadline For Ordering Tickets Is Tuesday August 4th

If you have any questions or would like to order tickets with a credit card, please call the Royals at (402) 738-2182.

Your tickets will be waiting for you at the Centris Will Call table. Please bring an ID to pick them up.



ORDERING INFO

Please fill out the Ticket Order Form and return to the Omaha Royals by the deadline.

Ticket Order Form

Centris Member Appreciation Night With The Royals!

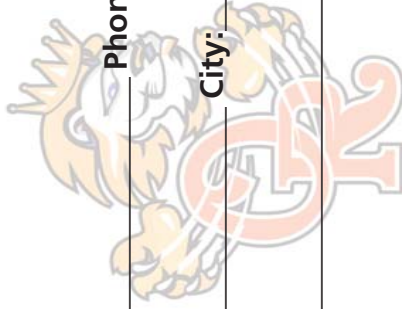
Omaha Royals Baseball
Attn: John Sullivan
1202 Bert Murphy Ave.
Omaha, NE 68107
(402) 738-2182
www.oroyals.com

TYPE OF TICKET	QUANTITY	PRICE	TOTAL
RESERVED		\$5.00 EACH	\$

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

V/MC/D/AMEX: _____ Ex: _____ Security Code: _____



Please make checks payable to the Omaha Royals!



It's where you *belong.*

(402) 334-7000 or (800) 334-2328

www.centrisfcu.org

Holiday Schedule

Offices are closed in observance of:

Labor Day

Columbus Day

Mon., September 7

Mon., October 12

SAVE THE DATES:

**Member Appreciation Night
with the Omaha Royals**

Fri., August 7

**75th Anniversary Celebration
with the Pancake Man**

Sun., November 1



343 N. 114th St., Omaha, NE 68154-5506 • 11718 "M" Circle, Omaha, NE 68137-2219 • 5021 S. 24 St., Omaha, NE 68107-2710 • 1299 Farnam, Omaha, NE 68102-1841
2727 S 168th St., Omaha, NE 68130-2261 • 15480 Spaulding Plz., Omaha, NE 68116-6236 • 8250 S. 99th St., La Vista, NE 68128-4261
2207 Pratt Ave., Bellevue, NE 68123-6043 • 7515 Main Street, Ralston, NE 68127-3915 • 2825 Ave. G, Council Bluffs, IA 51501-2147
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