



RETIREMENT PLANNING

The fundamentals of planning for a financially secure retirement are simple – have enough money accumulated at retirement so those savings and the earnings on those savings will enable you to afford the lifestyle you want.

Unfortunately, market declines and reduced expectations for future market returns are playing havoc with many retirement plans. Within the current environment, here are some options to consider as you refine your retirement plan:

Save more while you are working.

- Be sure to take full advantage of any company offered retirement plan. If you participate in a 401(k) plan, contribute and at least enough to earn the entire match the company may offer. However, be sure to check the diversity of your funds to adjust them according to your retirement needs.
- Set up an automatic savings plan. Have a set amount deducted from each paycheck and deposited into an account you earmark for retirement.
- Examine your monthly household spending to see if there are ways to spend a little less. Refinancing your mortgage, increasing your insurance deductibles and reducing spending on discretionary items can add up.

Earn more on your retirement assets before you retire.

Examine how your funds are invested and how your “cash” is employed. A well thought out asset allocation for your investments, one that incorporates your time horizon and risk tolerance, can provide diversification and some peace of mind. Generally, the younger you are, the more of your long-term investments should be in equities. Over time, high quality stocks have produced greater returns than bonds and cash investments.

Your cash should be working hard too. Take advantage of higher interest rates on accounts that provide less liquidity and on longer term CDs if you can leave the money in the accounts or CDs for longer periods.

Work longer until you retire.

Delaying your retirement enables you to have more for retirement in several ways:

- While working, you can save more in your retirement plan and through regular savings.
- Especially with your tax-deferred retirement accounts, leaving all your funds within the account enables them to grow faster. For example, if you delay retirement for five years and earn just 5% on the funds, you will have about 27% more just from the earnings.
- Delaying when you start collecting Social Security will increase your monthly benefits. If you are currently 55 years old, you can start collecting full Social Security retirement benefits at age 66. If you start at age 62, you will only get 75% of that amount and if you wait and start collecting at age 70, you will get 132% of that amount.

Spend less during your retirement years.

Everyone wants a “full and active lifestyle” during retirement. Perhaps you should consider changing exactly what the “full and active lifestyle” means. Less travel, less expensive cars or foregoing a second home (or opting for a smaller one) will make a difference. Anticipating and setting sensible spending priorities will probably be part of many individuals’ retirement.

Leave less to your heirs.

What you do not spend during your lifetime will pass to your heirs. It may be unpleasant to consider, but spending time with your family discussing your finances can help them prepare as well.

Summary

The declining stock market has affected almost everyone, so take some time to evaluate your overall retirement plan. If you find ways to save more and invest the funds wisely, the retirement you seek may still be possible. Remember, your Credit Union is here to help you plan for your future too. Give us a call today to see how we can help you maximize your savings for a brighter future.

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

We are living in extraordinary times, just the kind of economic times that spawned a movement - the credit union movement. Now more than ever, I'm grateful to be a credit union member and specifically, a Kitsap Credit Union member. I can say with confidence that because of our cooperative and conservative nature your Credit Union continues to be a safe, sound, and secure financial institution.

Several of my family members and friends have asked me why it is that Kitsap Credit Union is solid in the midst of economic upheaval. Simply put, it's because we have prepared. Your management team, and the Board volunteers who represent you, are diligent in reviewing the credit unions financial position to ensure that it can weather the economic storms.

We are owned by and operated for you - our members. We are honored by your trust and confidence, and pledge to continue to operate your credit union in the same conservative manner that has been the hallmark of this organization since 1934.

Thank you for your membership.



Leah Olson
VP Marketing



PREMIER CLUB TRAVEL NIGHT

Want to see an overview of our upcoming trips? Your Premier Club, in partnership with Collette Vacations, has scheduled a special Travel Night. Join us on, **Tuesday, May 5, 2009**, to learn about these exciting adventures and see a slideshow of the trip itineraries. A representative from Collette will be on hand to answer questions and provide detailed information about each destination. Refreshments will be served.

For your convenience, we will meet at 6:00 p.m. Please call Cathy Brorson at (360) 662-2153 to register. We will highlight trips to:

- **Trains of the Colorado Rockies**
September 19 - 27, 2009
- **Discover Sedona**
November 6 - 13, 2009
- **Branson Musical Holiday**
December 3 - 7, 2009
- **South Pacific Wonders**
April 12 - 26, 2010
- **Experience the Oberammergau Passion Play!**
May 27 - June 5, 2010





Cruising the Bays and Railways of New England

August 8 - 17, 2009

(Final payment due by June 9, 2009)

You've heard the expression, "It's not the destination, but the journey that makes the trip." Well, this travel adventure is sure to provide an exciting journey! The highlights of this tour include unbelievable hotels, four trains and four boats that will whisk you around New England to view the sights and savor the delicious flavors of this beautiful area. It culminates with a wonderful lobster dinner, New England style! Your trip includes round trip airfare from Seattle, Hotel Transfers, Hotel Accommodations, many meals, Air Taxes and Surcharges (subject to increase until paid in full) and your cancellation and waiver insurance.

Cost is: \$3,869 Single occupancy, per person
\$2,919 Double occupancy, per person
\$2,869 Triple occupancy, per person

Trains of the Colorado Rockies

September 19 - 27, 2009

(Final payment due by July 19, 2009)

This spectacular journey takes you through the nostalgic Old West! Mysterious Mesa Verde will thrill you with the ancient culture of the Anasazi Indians. You'll enjoy a traditional cowboy dinner one night and visit the haunting sandstone formations known as Garden of the Gods. Ride aboard the famous Durango and Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad through southwestern Colorado's San Juan Mountains, and journey on the world's highest cog railroad to Pike's Peak, a stunning backdrop for Colorado Springs. You will spend two nights in Durango, a fun-filled cowboy town where you can relive the excitement of the Old West. Highlights of this tour include Denver, Vail, Georgetown Loop Railroad, Grand Junction, Mesa Verde National Park, Durango, Royal Gorge Railroad, Colorado Springs and Pike's Peak Cog Railway. Your trip includes round trip airfare from Seattle, Hotel Transfers, Hotel Accommodations, many meals, Air Taxes and Surcharges (subject to increase until paid in full) and your cancellation and waiver insurance.

Cost is: \$3,319 Single occupancy, per person
\$2,619 Double occupancy, per person
\$2,569 Triple occupancy, per person



Discover Sedona

November 6 - 13, 2009

(Final payment due by September 1, 2009)

You'll begin this leisurely tour in sunny Scottsdale, "the West's most western town." You'll also learn about the art of making Native American jewelry and handicrafts and enjoy the beautiful northern Arizona countryside while on the historic Grand Canyon Railway. A "Great Chili Cookoff" is planned for one evening at the Pinnacle Peak Patio where you and your fellow travelers will be divided into two groups with plenty of interesting ingredients available to make a great chili. You will enjoy taking in the sights on a trolley tour of Sedona with a local Native American tribe member. You'll learn about the tribes of the area, their local histories and modern day life. And finally, you'll relive the excitement of the Old West aboard a historic train which travels across miles of beautiful northern Arizona countryside to the Grand Canyon. Strolling musicians and western characters combine to recreate train travel as it was in the turn-of-the-century. Other highlights of this tour include Jerome, Verde, Canyon Railroad, Black Bart's Saloon and the Blazin' M Ranch. Your trip includes round trip airfare from Seattle, Hotel Transfers, Hotel Accommodations, many meals, Air Taxes and Surcharges (subject to increase until paid in full) and your cancellation and waiver insurance.

Cost is: \$2,689 Single occupancy, per person
\$2,089 Double occupancy, per person
\$2,059 Triple occupancy, per person

Branson Musical Holiday

December 3 - 7, 2009

(Final payment due by October 3, 2009)

Christmas in the Ozarks is like no other; the air is aglow with holiday spirit and cheer! You will enjoy an array of fabulous Christmas performances including Shoji Tabuchi, the incredible Hughes Brothers, Doug Gabriel, Yakov Smirnoff and "Mr. Christmas" himself, Andy Williams. You will experience the Silver Dollar City where the story of a 1892 Christmas unfolds before your eyes. At this wonderful Ozark Mountain village your favorite Christmas stories will come to life. The Story of Virginia, The Greatest Story Ever Told, The Nutcracker and The Yule Log are just a few examples. There's also an optional cruise on Tablerock Lake aboard a decorated 1890's paddlewheel riverboat, the Showboat Branson Belle. Your trip includes round trip airfare from Seattle, Hotel Transfers, Hotel Accommodations, many meals, Air Taxes and Surcharges (subject to increase until paid in full) and your cancellation and waiver insurance.

Cost is: \$2,009 Single occupancy, per person
\$1,709 Double occupancy, per person
\$1,679 Triple occupancy, per person

Experience the Oberammergau Passion Play!

(The Imperial Cities Tour)

May 27 - June 5, 2010

(Final payment due by January 1, 2010)

In the early 1600's, the people of Oberammergau, Germany were seeking reprieve from the Bubonic, or Black Plague. They prayed for God's protection and because they were spared from the Plague, they began performing the Passion Play - the story of Jesus Christ. The first play was staged in 1634 and has been performed once every 10 years since then. People must live in Oberammergau to be in the play and begin growing their beards and making costumes two years prior to the curtain.

Highlights of this tour include Vienna, Schoenbrunn Palace, Grinzing Evening, Budapest, Mathias Church, Salzburg, Prague, Hradcany Castle, Innsbruck, and the Oberammergau Passion Play. Experience this one-of-a-kind 7-hour event which includes a delicious meal. Your trip includes round trip airfare from Seattle, Hotel Transfers, Hotel Accommodations, many meals, Air Taxes and Surcharges (subject to increase until paid in full) and your cancellation and waiver insurance.

Cost is: \$5,549 Double occupancy, per person
(Rooms are only offered at the double occupancy rate)

South Pacific Wonders (Australia - New Zealand)

April 12 - 26, 2010

(Final payment due by February 11, 2010)

Your warm-weather tour begins at the gateway to the Great Barrier Reef. You will enjoy exploring in a glass-bottom boat, strolling in the rain forest and relaxing on the beaches. Other highlights of this trip include a gondola ride to dinner in Queenstown, a cruise of the breathtakingly beautiful Milford Sound, and a sheep shearing demonstration during a visit to Canterbury Farmyard in Christchurch! There are several optional mini-excursions you may choose to participate in as well, each for a small additional charge. Take in the sights during a hot air balloon ride, glide over the rain forest on the Skyrail Rainforest Cableway, or enjoy a delicious meal aboard the Christchurch Tramway - just to name a few! Your trip includes round trip airfare from Seattle, Hotel Transfers, Hotel Accommodations, many meals, Air Taxes and Surcharges (subject to increase until paid in full) and your cancellation and waiver insurance.

Cost is: \$6,319 Single occupancy, per person
\$5,119 Double occupancy, per person
\$5,069 Triple occupancy, per person

Collette World Connect

Want to get out and see the world? Kitsap Credit Union works with Collette Vacations quarterly to offer you great trips and tours at competitive prices. Now, even if the Premier Club is not coordinating the trip of your dreams, you can receive a 5% discount by booking your travel through Collette Vacations, simply by mentioning Kitsap Credit Union and our special World Connect discount code. Call Cathy at (360) 662-2153 for more information.

55-ALIVE DRIVER'S SAFETY CLASSES

Held At Kitsap Credit Union's East Bremerton Branch

April 14 & 15

May 5 & 6

June 16 & 17

Call Cathy at (360) 662-2153 for reservation and details.

RESERVATIONS AND INFORMATION

Call a Premier Club Representative to assist you.

(360) 662-2153

or toll free at

(800) 422-5852 EXT. 22153

FRIENDS AND FAMILY ARE ALWAYS WELCOME.