



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF INVESTORS

BETTERINVESTING™

Educating Investors Since 1951

Summer/Fall 2024

Central PA Chapter of BetterInvesting
c/o Liz Rodda, Editor
PO Box 651
Dauphin, PA 17018
www.betterinvesting.org/centpenn

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Central PA Chapter Vice President **Kate Grenke** (center) visited the Wednesday Club during their club meeting in Cumberland County. The Club celebrated its 40th year anniversary. Congratulations, Wednesday Club.



NON-PROFIT • VOLUNTEER BASED • MEMBER DRIVEN

Educational Event

<https://www.betterinvesting.org/chapters/central-pennsylvania/local-events>

Saturday, August 17, 2024

8:30 AM

**Keystone Strategies Education Event and
Annual Meeting**

Let's Talk Stocks!

See Award-Winning Portfolios

**Giant Food Store Community Room
3301 Trindle Road, Camp Hill, PA 17011**

Free to attend. Details page 3.

Visit Central PA Chapter's Two Model Investment Clubs

Learn and Earn Model Investment Club

Meets second Saturday of each month at Giant Food Store Community Room, Camp Hill, 9 AM to 11 AM.

Free and open to the public.

Centre Region Model Investment Club

Meets second Monday of each month at South Hills School of Business and Technology, State College, 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM.

Free and open to the public.

www.crmic.org

President's Column

By Liz Rodda

Central PA is currently experiencing a heat wave. Therefore, we all have good reason to stay in the air conditioning and study stocks.

Despite Summer vacations, Central PA Chapter of BI Directors are really on the move! Investment club visits are pictured and mentioned throughout this newsletter from Adams County to Cumberland County to ZOOM.

We welcome Ken Heil to our ranks of directorship. He is a LEMIC partner and effortlessly handles the technology for the model club meetings.

Directors have organized an education-filled day for August 17, Keystone Strategies Education Event and Annual Meeting. Readers might be surprised at the top winning, first place portfolio.

I have been humbled and gratified to have been nominated and awarded the Thomas E. O'Hara Service Award (pictured below). O'Hara was one of the co-founders of NAIC/BI. Thank you for this honor. \$\$\$



Liz Rodda continues to serve as CPAC president. She is president of Capital Investment Club and is the Chapter newsletter editor. She wisely married Steven Wisegarver, the real brains behind their investment success. They both live on the banks of the Susquehanna River.

This newsletter is a publication of the Central PA Chapter of BetterInvesting (CPAC), a non-profit, volunteer organization dedicated to investment education. The BetterInvesting (BI) mission is to provide a program of sound investment information, education and support that helps create successful lifetime investors. The Central PA Chapter website is: www.betterinvesting.org/centpenn

Investments mentioned in this publication are meant for educational purposes only and are not to be considered an endorsement.

Officers are:

Liz Rodda, President

president@centpenn.betterinvesting.net

Kate Grenke, Vice President

John Varner, Treasurer

treasurer@centpenn.betterinvesting.net

John deGroot, Secretary

Correspondence may be directed to newsletter editor:

Elizabeth O. Rodda

PO Box 651

Dauphin, PA 17018

Central PA Chapter of BI Investment Club Anniversary List Congratulations to these Clubs

Country Farm Lane Investment Club
Wellsboro, PA 25 Years

River Oaks Investment Club
Auburn, PA 30 Years

The Wednesday Club
Chambersburg, PA 40 Years

Profit Parade Investment Club
Elizabethtown, PA 40 Years

Stocks R Us
Girardville, PA 40 Years



Keystone Strategies Education Event and CPAC Annual Meeting

Giant Food Store Community Room, 3301 Trindle Road, Camp Hill

Saturday, August 17, 2024

FREE! Advance Registration Required. Email: events@centpenn.betterinvesting.net
Agenda (subject to change)

- 8:30 AM to 9:00 AM** Registration and Continental Breakfast.
- 9:00 AM to 9:20 AM** Opening remarks and business matters.
Liz Rodda, President, Central PA Chapter of BetterInvesting (CPAC)
- 9:20 AM to 9:50 AM** Keystone Strategies Portfolio Contest Awards,
and NEW 2024-2025 Contest Kickoff – Richard Lindsay
- 9:50 AM to 10:50 AM** Education Segment on Artificial Intelligence
CPAC Director Ken Mobley and LEMIC Secretary Kate Mobley
- 10:50 AM to 11:30 AM** Model Investment Club Presentations
Kate Grenke, Learn & Earn Model Investment Club
John Diercks, Centre Region Model Investment Club
- 11:30AM to 12:10 PM** Break and lunch snack
- 12:10 PM to 1:10 PM** Education Segment How to Analyze Insurance Company
Stocks for Investments – CPAC Director John Diercks
- 1:10 PM to 1:50 PM** Let's Talk Stocks – Director Dave Moore
- 1:50 PM** Closing Remarks - Liz Rodda, CPAC President

"The Keystone Strategies Education Event is a once-a-year opportunity for the BI members of Central Pennsylvania to gather together, meet and greet, and share investing ideas and strategies. It is also a rare opportunity for BI members and their guests to expand their investing skills by learning from our experienced, professional instructors." --- Bruce Kennedy, Keystone Strategies Coordinator

Structure and Time Limits *“It’s Business from the Start!”*

By John Diercks, CRMIC President

CRMIC’s meetings are structured to ensure we cover the BetterInvesting objective of investment education for each meeting. It’s not a meeting where partners sit around a table drinking coffee or having a beer and only discussing the latest high-flying stock. Nvidia, the artificial intelligence chip maker, comes to mind as a high flyer. It’s business from the start at our meetings! That’s not to say we don’t have fun. We do have fun while conducting the business of the meeting.

Each CRMIC meeting starts with a review of the U.S. economy. With interest rates constantly in the news, the actions of the Federal Reserve have a major impact on the stock market. This review sets the stage for the remainder of the meeting.

Education is next on the agenda. Each partner gets the opportunity to present an education topic about once a year. Topics vary according to the interests of the partners but are directed to making better investment decisions.

Then the meeting turns to an update on a stock in the club’s portfolio. This is a detailed review of the stock, including a recap on financials such as return on equity, pre-tax profit margin, and recent trends in revenue and earnings per share. The review sets the basis for a possible sale of the stock or purchase of additional shares.

The most interesting segment to partners is the introduction of a new stock. The club calls this Pick 1 or the Stock to Study. Basic background information on the company and detailed financials are presented along with a recommendation on how the company would fit into the club’s portfolio. Partners have the opportunity to ask questions and express their opinions on the company. The last three presentations on Kinsale Capital Group (KNSL), Ulta Beauty (ULTA), and Trex Company (TREX) have resulted in purchases for the club. The future will tell whether we made correct decisions.

As a military veteran, I have learned that it’s important to set time limits for each segment of the meeting to allow time to discuss buy/sell/hold decisions near the end of the meeting. This allows the meeting to cover our objectives within a two-hour time limit. \$\$\$



John Diercks is a Director with BetterInvesting’s Central Pennsylvania Chapter. John is a member of two investment clubs and serves as president for Centre Region Model Investment Club. With three degrees in meteorology, John spent 26 years in the Air Force and 16 years as an instructor of meteorology at The Pennsylvania State University before retirement.

CRMIC Portfolio

12 partners

12 holdings

Alphabet Inc. (GOOGL)

Apple Inc. (AAPL)

Amazon.com Inc. (AMZN)

*Berkshire Hathaway Inc.
(BRK.B)*

*Costco Wholesale Corp.
(COST)*

*Kinsale Capital Group
(KNSL)*

Microsoft Corp. (MSFT)

NV5 Global Inc. (NVEE)

Trex Company (TREX)

Ulta Beauty (ULTA)

*Vanguard Small-Cap ETF
(VB)*

*United States Lime and
Mineral (USLM)*

CRMIC 2024 Officers:
John Diercks, President

Pratibha Vakharia, VP

Ailan Cheng, Secretary

John Varner, Treasurer

New Officers and More New Members

The Learn and Earn Model Investment Club (LEMIC) was very busy during the first half of 2024. In January, the club welcomed new officers Kate Grenke, who serves as president, and Dennis Low, who is the new vice president. David Moore continues as the club treasurer, and Kate Mobley is the secretary.

The club is comprised of 18 members. The newest members are Michael P. Heisey, who joined in April, and David Mione, who joined in May. Unfortunately, one member withdrew because of personal demands that made regular participation difficult.

LEMIC owns 16 stocks. New stock purchases included Rollins, Inc. (ROL); Sysco, Inc. (SYY) and Globus Medical, Inc. (GMED). Two stocks were sold: Fox Factory (FOXF) and Starbucks (SUBX). Microsoft (MSFT) is the longest held stock, with a purchase date June 16, 2008. The most recent stock purchased was Globus Medical.

Keystone Strategies Portfolio Contest updates are announced at every meeting.

Club members gave a variety of educational topics each month. Presenters pick the topic he or she wants to research and share during LEMIC meetings. For the first half of the year, topics included:

- How Did Our Decisions Work Out, by John deGroot
- Can the AI and Investing Worlds Mix, by Kate Mobley
- Options as a Strategy, by Dwayne Salem
- Investing is NOT a Spectator Sport, by Bruce Kennedy
- Diggin' Into Dividends, by Sandra Thomas
- Avoiding and Identifying Scams by Brenda Kirschman

Secretary Kate Mobley created and emailed a survey for club members to complete and return. The purpose of the survey was to understand partner needs and to identify areas where some club members did not have a strong knowledge. Results of the survey showed there are sections on the Stock Selection Guide (SSG) that some members would like to learn more about. Additionally, some club members would like to learn about other available investment tools, such as Value Line and Manifest Investing. LEMIC can now focus on providing stronger mentoring programs and giving educational presentations that help improve new members' skills when completing an SSG.

Now with the first half of the year behind us, we can focus on meeting our goals for the remainder of the year. \$\$\$



Kate Grenke serves as vice president of CPAC and as president of LEMIC. Kate earned her Bachelor of Business Administration in 2011 from University of Phoenix. She retired from the Administrative Office of PA Courts/Minor Judiciary Education Board in 2018 so she could assume the position of grandmother to her new grandson. She enjoys spending time with her family and friends. She resides west of Chambersburg in Franklin County.

LEMIC Portfolio

18 partners
16 holdings
99.7% invested in equities
.3% holdings in cash

Adobe Systems (ADBE)

Alphabet (GOOG)

Corpay Inc. (CPAY)

Costco (COST)

Domino's Pizza (DPZ)

Edwards Life Sciences (EW)

Five Below (FIVE)

Globus Medical (GMED)

Microsoft (MSFT)

Novo Nordisk (NVO)

Nvidia Corp (NVDA)

Rollins (ROL)

Sysco Corp (SYY)

United Health Group (UNH)

VISA Inc.(V)

Veeva Systems (VEEV)

LEMIC 2024 Officers:

Kate Grenke, President

Dennis Low, Vice President

Kate Mobley, Secretary

Dave Moore, Treasurer

Keystone Strategies Portfolio Contest Update by Richard Lindsay



Richard Lindsay, pictured above, manages the Keystone Strategies Portfolio Contest.

Richard consistently credits Central PA entrants as being “excellent stock pickers.”

In this contest, entrants have chosen 130 stocks. The most popular are
NVDA
MSFT
AMZN
AAPL
VISA
GOOG

Technology makes up 23.3% of the sector diversification. See details to the right of this sidebar.

It’s hard to believe that this is our 15th annual Keystone Strategies Portfolio Contest. It does not seem that 15 years have passed since the Chapter started this contest and educational event. This education day should be packed with information. I’d like to give a brief review of where our 2024 contest stands.

We launched the contest on November 27, 2023, and it will conclude with the closing bell on Friday, August 9, 2024. We will congratulate the winning portfolios at our Saturday, August 17, 2024, at the Keystone Strategies Education Event and Annual Meeting and award the winners their prizes.

This year we have had excellent stocks picked by entrants. They have selected over 130 stocks and, the most popular selections in the portfolios are NVDA, MSFT, AMZN, AAPL, VISA and GOOG.

The stocks by sector diversification make up an interesting breakdown with Technology making up 23.3%, Discretionary being 17.2, Healthcare 15.3%, Financials 12% and Industrials 11.7%. The diversification by size was rather even with the Large Cap (slower growers) at 31.1%, the Mid Cap at 39.1% and the Small Cap at 29%.

As of the writing of this article at the middle of July 2024, the top 4 leaders are:

(1) Kermit Bell with his impressive portfolio that rocketed from a \$5,000 investment to \$11,790.79. His portfolio contains only two stocks: MicroStrategy Inc. (MSTR), and Coinbase (COIN).

(2) Bruce Kennedy also chose a portfolio of just 2 stocks, Nvidia (NVDA) and Google (GOOG) that advanced from \$5,000 to \$9,433.90.

(3) Donna Diercks is in 3rd place with a well-balanced portfolio of 4 stocks (NVDA), (INMD), (AMZN), (USLM) that has grown from \$5,000 to \$8,971.77.

(4) Brenda Kirschman is in 4th place with a very nicely balanced portfolio of 4 stocks (NVDA), (DPZ), (EW) and (LULU) that went from \$5,000 to \$8,652.87.

There is a separate category for investment clubs. Currently, LEMIC is in 1st place at \$8,822.07. Their portfolio of 4 stocks are (NVDA), (EW), (VEEV) and (AMZN).

For more information and to see all the portfolios go to www.bivio.com/keystonestrategies. \$\$\$

BetterInvesting

We are all about education.

First Cut Stock Studies: First Cut has been designed to provide members with a list of good quality companies and, more importantly, to provide a library of stock studies completed by BI members. Compare your judgments to what others are thinking. The studies are found at <https://www.betterinvesting.org/members/find-great-stocks/first-cut-stock-reports>

August 17, 2024 – Keystone Strategies Education Event, 8:30 AM to 1:30 PM at the Giant Food Stores, 3301 Trindle Road, Camp Hill, Pennsylvania 17011.

BetterInvesting National Convention 2025: BINC 2025 will be held virtually during the month of May 2025. BINC is organized by the BetterInvesting Volunteer Advisory Board (BIVAB) and as such, all proceeds benefit BIVAB. Your attendance at BINC helps support the mission of BIVAB and BetterInvesting by providing resources to local chapters and volunteers.

BI Tutorials on investing topics. Free. To view these, go to www.youtube.com/user/BetterInvesting

Access www.betterinvesting.org

Investment Club Visits

Porches Investment Club at Allenberry



River Oaks Investment Club



The Wednesday Club



Stocks R Us via Zoom meeting



Central PA Chapter News Updates



Stock Selection Guide Class 2024

Bruce Kennedy (pictured at podium), SSG Class Coordinator, organized a successful morning of SSG Plus training. Instructors included Ken Mobley and Liz Rodda. Featured stocks were Five Below (FIVE) and Rollins (ROL).



Welcome to the Chapter's Newest Director, Ken Heil.
Ken is a partner in LEMIC.

Jane Chatterjee is the new Eastern Region Manager for BetterInvesting. She succeeds Gloria Mankonen from the Philadelphia Chapter of BI. Jane conducts quarterly Chapter presidents meetings. "My major goal, along with the other three BI Region Chairs, is to help us all work together and share what we learn," Jane recently wrote to newsletter editor Liz Rodda. "There is much that is good going on all over the BI Chapters - no need to reinvent the wheel. We're all working towards BI's educational mission." Welcome, Jane.

Note the Chapter's use of the newly updated and refreshed BetterInvesting logo.

2024 Schedule of Education Classes, Central Pennsylvania Chapter

Contact for registration: John Diercks, 814 234-8775

contact@centpenn.betterinvesting.net

2024				
Date of Course	Day	Time	Course Name	Course Instructor
	Second Saturday of each month	9:00 - 11:00 am	Learn and Earn Model Investment Club Giant Food Store Community Room, Camp Hill, PA Go to Meeting link for online attendance: https://www2.gotomeeting.com/join/412656818 Open to the public, free	
	Second Monday of each month	6:30 – 8:30 pm	Centre Region Model Investment Club South Hills School of Business and Technology State College, PA Go to Meeting link for online attendance: https://www2.gotomeeting.com/join/164983994 Open to the public, free	
17-July 2024	Wednesday	7:00 - 8:00 pm	Stock Study Trex Company Webinar, cost free	John Diercks
17-August 2024	Saturday	8:30 am - 1:50 pm	Keystone Strategies Education Event Giant Food Store Community Room Camp Hill, PA, open to public, no charge	Chapter Directors
15-Oct 2024*	Tuesday	7:00 - 8:15 pm	Stock Study TBA Webinar, cost free	John Diercks

An asterisk (*) indicates a tentative date or subject.

Please note: The Chapter maintains an **email list** to notify members of upcoming events, including workshops, webinars, education days, and other investing opportunities. Contact John Diercks at contact@centpenn.betterinvesting.net if you would like to receive timely notification of these events via email. In general, you will only receive one or two emails a month from the Chapter. Encourage other members in your investment club who are not receiving our emails to request joining the Chapter list.