

CHAPTER NEWS

January 2025 Newsletter



In this issue:

- [Roundup Report](#)
- [Club Taxes](#)
- [Model Club](#)
- [Useful Links](#)
- [Announcements from BI](#)
- [Godfather of Aircraft Leasing](#)
- [Your LAMS Volunteer Directors](#)

Please make sure all your club members get a copy of the Newsletter.

Support for Clubs

Directors in the LAMS Chapter can use GoToMeeting to allow participants to discuss various investing topics. Email us at contact@lams.betterinvesting.net to schedule a visit from one or more of our directors. Topics could range from club operations to issues related to stock studies. Club members decide.



Roundup Report

Doug Gerlach, president of ICLUBCentral, was the Chapter's guest presenter at our 2024 Roundup in New Orleans. Doug used to do monthly webinars for Toolkit users and often talked about the very many investing books that he has read, was currently reading, and some of those on his reading list. He seems to have a very solid understanding of all aspects of investing and draws on that understanding to make excellent presentations for BetterInvesting members. Here is a quick rundown of his presentations at the Roundup.

	10/25/24 Price	Curr P/E	Proj Tot Ret	Rel Val	Up/Down Ratio	Buy Below	Sell Above
igs	\$110.30	18.1	25.5	80.5	4.8	\$132	\$273
	\$64.32	26.6	24.5	73.7	11.5	\$88	\$158
	\$17.64	10.6	20.7	80.6	19.1	\$23	\$38
	\$121.70	27.7	17.3	96.4	3.7	\$128	\$212
is	\$50.82	29.0	16.8	127.4	1.7	\$40	\$87

Stock Market Tactics in a Destabilized World

Doug provided a very thorough discussion of the current state of the stock market compared to the past. He pointed out some of the strange things that have happened in the markets and the economy since 2000. While many of them were negative, there were also some positives, such as low unemployment, rising demand for housing, falling interest and mortgage rates, and many other reasons to be optimistic. He listed some of his own predictions for the market in the next several years and explained why, along with a recap of the business cycle. Doug concluded with some very sound advice on how to continue investing in this destabilized world.

An Approach to Dividends for Long-Term Stock Investors

Doug started this discussion with some “Dividend Pitfalls to Avoid”—things to watch out for when looking for dividend stocks. Then he went over some guidelines for what we should look for when choosing dividend stocks and how dividend investing differs from growth investing.

Is Your Portfolio Haunted by Uncertainty?

In this session Doug went over: Difficulty in making investment decisions; Handling stocks in the Maybe zone; Using margins of safety to mitigate uncertainty; Key strategies for coping with uncertainty about investing decisions to buy, sell, or hold; Portfolio baskets to use in sorting uncertain companies & deciding upon action.

Here Doug gave some very good suggestions on how to handle problem stocks, those that are “iffy”, and some definite guidelines to follow to take some of the uncertainty out of managing a portfolio.

Doug’s Favorite Small Cap Stocks for 2025

Here Doug looked at stock market performance in 2024, the impact of the Magnificent 7 stocks on the S&P 500, some characteristics of small caps, and why we need to have small caps in our portfolios. Then he went over some of his favorite small companies for us to consider.

Bonus: Doug talked about a huge change that he and his wife are enjoying. They sold their house, did away with most of their belongings, and are living and traveling around the country in a 24 ft. camper van. This is something that many people only dream about doing. They are living that dream. Doug showed slides of their van, inside and out, and talked about all the museums, gardens, and many other places they get to visit, along with traveling around the country doing presentations for BetterInvesting members, something Doug truly loves doing.

Club Tax Webinars

Tax season is approaching. Here are some deadlines to keep in mind for the upcoming tax season:

- **2/15/25—Delivery deadline for brokerage 1099s.**
- **3/17/25—Deadline for providing K-1s to club members.**
- **3/17/25-- Deadline for filing IRS Form 1065.**

myICLUB provides several resources to help investment clubs and club treasurers handle tax filing.

Here are some [investment club tax basics](#) from myICLUB.

1/8/25-- Club Treasurer Workshop: [Conducting Your Investment Club's Annual Audit](#)

1/21/25--[Preparing myICLUB Club Taxes webinar](#)

2/18/25—[myICLUB Club Tax Clinic webinar](#)

A long list of [frequently asked questions](#) about club taxes:



LAMS Chapter Model Investment Club

New to BetterInvesting? Not in a club? Trying to learn the SSG but need to see it in action to understand it better? Need to find some friends to learn from and learn with? Interested in some new stock ideas? LAMS Model Club is made up of both experienced and newbie investors. We learn together and challenge each other to learn and earn better returns. All our meetings are open to visitors to watch, listen, and learn. We welcome questions and comments.

Interested in starting an investment club? Invite your potential members to attend with you to see how a BetterInvesting club operates. All monthly meetings are held online using GoToWebinar. Visitors have the opportunity to gain limited access to the Club's myICLUB website where they can look more closely into the Club's portfolio and returns. Existing clubs and club members might go away with an idea or two to use in their own clubs. We

strive to invest in good quality growth companies bought at the right price. Meetings are held on the first Monday of the month (second Monday if there is a holiday conflict) at 7:30 PM. Our next meeting dates are January 6, February 3, and March 3. You're also invited to forward the contact information to your club members and friends who might be interested in learning about investment clubs or investing the BI way. BetterInvesting members and non-members are welcome.

We use GoToWebinar for meetings. To attend please register ahead of time at:

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/8064740103851396448>

You can also dial in using your phone: 1 (646) 749-3131.

Enter Access Code: 944-996-925.

If you'd like more information about the Model Club or about attending a meeting you can contact us at contact@lams.betterinvesting.net.



Useful Links

If you're not currently a member of BetterInvesting you can **visit the BetterInvesting website** to learn more about the organization here.

<https://www.betterinvesting.org/>

If this newsletter was forwarded to you and you would like **to subscribe to the newsletter**, just fill out the form at the bottom of the following page: LAMS Chapter web page

<https://www.betterinvesting.org/chapters/lams>

Register to attend **LAMS Model Club meetings** as a guest.

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/8064740103851396448>

Video Learning Library—BetterInvesting members can access the very many archived webinar recordings here:

<https://lists.betterinvesting.org/link.php?M=3389991&N=25554&L=12063&F=H>

Guests and non-members can also access a **sampling of BetterInvesting webinars** to learn more about BetterInvesting, investing the BI way, investment clubs, and more:

<https://www.betterinvesting.org/learn-about-investing/free-videos>



Announcements From BI

Chapter volunteers receive a weekly newsletter called *Chapter Advance* from BetterInvesting home office with news important to volunteers. From time to time we're asked to share information with the rest of our chapter. Here are some items that we have been asked to share.

New eLearning Courses Available

We are excited to announce the launch of BetterInvesting's eLearning courses. These courses introduce a basic curriculum that is a precursor to becoming a stock investor and using the BetterInvesting tools. There are currently two courses live on our website: *Stock Investing Basics*, and *Fundamentals of Stock Investing*. The courses can be taken on an individual basis by learners to work autonomously at their own pace. They are also great tools for facilitating a group lesson.

You can find the courses on the public and member sides of the BetterInvesting website. The website offers course descriptions and course access with no login needed. You can find the information on the BetterInvesting website by following the pathways below.

Public site: <https://www.betterinvesting.org/>

Top Menu – Learn About Investing | Courses | eLearning Courses (left menu)

Member site: <https://www.betterinvesting.org/>

Top Menu – Learning Center | Your Path to Better Investing | eLearning Courses (left menu)

Ps. Even current BetterInvesting members can learn a lot from these courses.

LLC Reporting Requirement

Although BetterInvesting recommends new investment clubs are established as General Partnerships, a limited number of investment clubs were established as an LLC. For LLCs & LLPs only (not applicable to general partnerships), new Beneficial Ownership Information (BOI)

reporting requirements to the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) of the U.S. Department of the Treasury have taken effect. To learn more, visit: www.fincen.gov/boi and

<https://www.myiclub.com/faq/article.aspx?id=792#gsc.tab=0>

Please Spread the Word About BetterInvesting Weekly

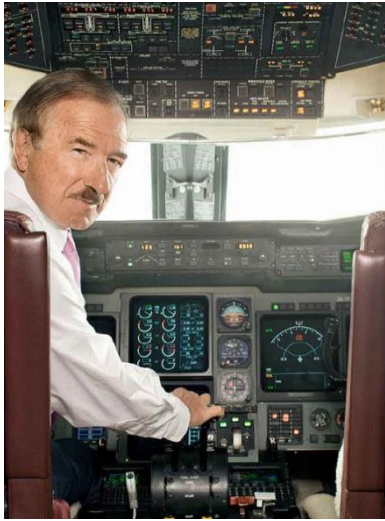
BetterInvesting Weekly is a member-exclusive, one-stop, weekly e-newsletter highlighting national online education event announcements, First Cut Stock Reports, stock ideas, educational content, online tool news and information, community news and information, useful tips, and quotes to help you get the most from your membership. BetterInvesting Weekly is included with membership and is a must-read for all members.

This information-packed e-newsletter benefits all members by becoming the key resource to rely on for current, relevant, and important information about membership. Communicating with our members in this way allows us to consolidate our email campaigns, and help to greatly reduce the number of emails we send to member inboxes.

Please help spread the word to all members about this valuable resource and have them visit their 'My Account' page on the BetterInvesting member website to subscribe. Under 'My Account' go to 'Email Preferences' and check the box next to 'BetterInvesting Weekly e-newsletter'.

Thank you for helping us spread the word about BetterInvesting Weekly!





The “Godfather of Aircraft Leasing”

Disclaimer: Companies mentioned are for informational purposes only. No investment recommendation is intended. Please do your own research.

Sometimes when researching a company for possible investment we come across an interesting story about a company’s history, sometimes involving a very dynamic personality that greatly influenced the growth of the company. Here is one about a company well known in the BetterInvesting community.

The founder of Air Lease is a Hungarian immigrant who is credited with creating the airplane leasing industry and eventually became known as the “godfather of aircraft leasing.” He first got into the airplane leasing business at the age of 21 while he was still in college at the University of Los Angeles. He bought a used airplane and leased it to a Mexican airline.

- **1958**--Steven Udvar-Házy immigrated to New York from Hungary with his family to escape the Soviet occupation of their country. He was 12 years old at the time. They wound up settling in Los Angeles.
- **1973**--This was about the time the airline industry was transitioning from propeller aircraft to jets. Since jets were so much more expensive Udvar-Házy saw an opportunity for a leasing business. He started Interlease Group Inc., which later became International Lease Finance Corp. (ILFC). He was able to build ILFC into one of the two largest aircraft leasing businesses in the world.
- **1983**—ILFC went public.
- **1990**—AIG, the big insurance company, wanted to expand into other financial services and bought ILFC. Udvar-Házy stayed on to run ILFC for AIG.

- **2008**—The big financial crisis. The federal government bailed out AIG with an \$85 billion loan. AIG decided to divest ILFC and Udvar-Házy wanted to buy the company back. AIG wouldn't agree to his terms so he quit.
- **2010**— Udvar-Házy founded Air Lease and took it public the next year. Many of ILFC's people followed Udvar-Házy to Air Lease. Of course AIG didn't like this and sued Air Lease for poaching employees. The two companies eventually reached a settlement.
- **2013**—Air Lease was discovered by Investor Advisory Service when reviewing a club's portfolio for Repair Shop in *BetterInvesting* magazine. It quickly became well known in the BI community.
- **2024**—Air Lease is ranked at 127 among the top companies held by BI members.

A little more about the founder, Steven Udvar-Házy:

Udvar-Házy gained so much respect in the aircraft industry that manufacturers paid attention when he spoke. At one point Airbus redesigned one of its planes after Udvar-Házy criticized it at industry conferences.

Udvar-Házy has an estimated net worth of \$4.1 Billion. He gave away some of his wealth in a \$66 million grant to the Smithsonian Institution. It was used to build the Steven F. Udvar-Házy Center annex at Washington Dulles International Airport which houses historical aircraft and space exploration exhibits. He made other contributions for humanitarian purposes.

Udvar-Házy was also a very accomplished pilot and was known as a prankster. At an industry conference in 2003 he told a group of Latin American airline CEOs that since many of them hadn't paid their bills he had a plane waiting to fly them to Guantanamo Bay military prison unless they coughed up the money. Then he had hired men dressed in black walk around the room closing doors and curtains. Many of these folks did owe money and were becoming very nervous. After a tense few moments it became clear that the whole thing was an elaborate joke, and everyone had a big laugh.

Udvar-Házy retired as CEO but is still the Executive Chairman of the Board of Air Lease.

These are your Volunteer Louisiana/Mississippi Chapter Directors

Angela Lannen, DeRidder, LA
Kaye Clingan, Jackson, MS
Eric Resweber, Zachary, LA
Joe Farrell, Jackson, MS
Dennis Malcolm, Lafayette, LA
David Arnold, Hattiesburg, MS
Jimmy Stewart, Jackson, MS
Ghanashyam Patel, New Orleans, LA

If you have a question about BetterInvesting, investment clubs, or investing in general, contact a director near you at

contact@lams.betterinvesting.net.

We're here to help.

Please make sure all your club members get a copy of the Newsletter. If anyone needs help subscribing just email us at

contact@lams.betterinvesting.net .

We'll be glad to help.