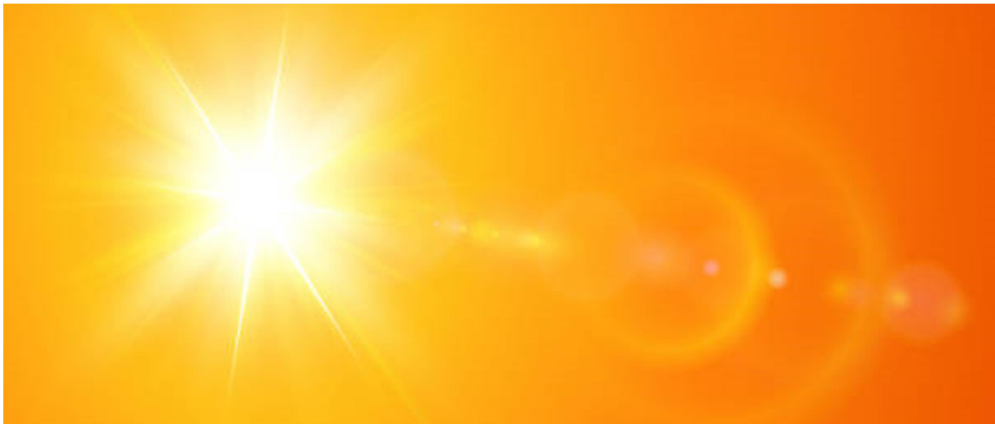


CHAPTER NEWS

Summer 2025 Newsletter



Welcoming Summer & Sharpening Your Investing Skills!

The season of sunshine and longer days is finally here, making it the perfect time to reflect on your investing goals. Whether you're planning a getaway or simply enjoying a slower pace, summer offers a great opportunity to reassess strategies, explore new ideas, and cultivate smarter financial decisions.

At the LAMS Chapter, we know that successful investing—like mastering a great recipe—requires the right ingredients, careful timing, and a steady hand. We're here to help you refine your approach, discover new insights, and connect with a community that values thoughtful decision-making and long-term success.

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President's Message

My dad is 95 and has dementia. A few months ago, I moved him to Louisiana from Texas so I could take better care of him. Last year, dad suffered a broken hip, broken wrist, 2 bouts with COVID and pneumonia. He's a tough old Marine, so he's still walking around. Physically he's still in great shape, but mentally is another story.

Because of all the health issues we had to hire caregivers 12-hours a day, 7-days a week. And since he was still living in a facility that his Long-Term Care insurance didn't cover, he had to pay for the caregivers out of pocket. We spent \$133,000 over the course of 13 months. Caregivers are not cheap. Thankfully, when we moved him to Louisiana it was into a facility that Long-Term Care covered.

This is not a column about insurance or caregivers or aging. It's about Long-Term Investing.

My dad never had a high-paying job. He was an hourly worker his whole life. Mom didn't work much. They each inherited a tiny amount from their parents. When he retired he didn't get a pension, but he had some military benefits. Before he retired 28 years ago, mom and dad had a small savings. But the smartest thing he did was put that money to work in the stock market. He put the money into quality stocks that were growing.

You have to understand my mom. She lived with great fear of losing money. So, she was brakes in their investing. She kept them cautious. I'm not sure they ever earned more than 5-6% a year.

But here's the thing. They never had a high paying job. They never had some big homerun stock. They never tried to time the market. They never sold out when the market got scary. They put their money into fairly conservative high-quality stocks and bonds and let time in the market work its magic.

Last year, when dad had to pay that big caregiver bill he could afford it for a year, because he had let the stock market grow his savings over the last 3 decades. It was still painful to drop 133,000 DOLLARS! But it didn't devastate him. Amazingly, his total portfolio is still within 25% of its all-time high because it continues to grow.

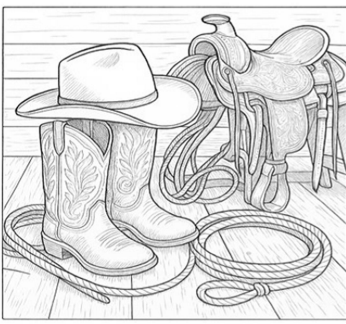
Dad followed 3 out of 4 Better Investing core principles:

- He invested in quality, growth stocks at good prices
- He continued to hold those companies as long as it made sense
- He re-invested his dividends, interest and profits

(He didn't follow the 4th principle of investing regularly because he wasn't making any money).

Dad didn't start his investing journey until after he retired. So, it's never too late. Keep it simple. And let time in the market work its magic.

Happy investing
Dennis Malcolm
LAMS Chapter President



LAMS Stock Roundup 2025

Saturday, November 8

Save the Date

Join Us for the LAMS Stock Roundup – A Day of Insights & Actionable Investing Strategies!

Get ready for an invigorating day of investing wisdom at the LAMS Stock Roundup, happening Saturday, November 8, 2025, at Country Inns & Suites in Metairie, LA, from 9:00 AM to 2:30 PM.

Whether you're a seasoned investor or just starting your journey, this conference is designed to equip you with education, stock tips, and actionable ideas to help you refine your strategy and make confident investment decisions.

Expect engaging discussions, expert insights, and a chance to connect with fellow BetterInvesting members who share your passion for financial growth. Don't miss out—save the date and take a step toward smarter investing and stronger returns!

More details to follow.



Does Your Club's Portfolio Need a Tune-up?

BetterInvesting Magazine's popular "Repair Shop" offers an in-depth evaluation of investment club portfolios by chartered financial analysts Scott Horsburgh and Dan Boyle.

If you'd like your investment club to be featured, send in a description of your club, when it was founded, your hometown, and how the club makes its investing decisions.

Include your valuation statement and a picture of the club. The photo should be high resolution (300 pixels per inch). List members' names from left to right, plus the names of members who aren't in the picture.

Email this material to BI Magazine managing editor Jan Jeffres at janj@betterinvesting.org.

She will send the material to the Repair Shop writers, who decide which clubs they'll profile.

It may take a couple of months until you hear back. This is a competitive process and not all clubs will be chosen.

Preferred Stock *by Microsoft Copilot*

Preferred stock is a type of equity security that has characteristics of both stocks and bonds. It generally offers **fixed dividends**, meaning shareholders receive payouts before common stockholders in the event of liquidation or dividend distribution. However, preferred shareholders usually do not have voting rights in company decisions.

Comparison to common stock:

- **Dividend Priority:** Preferred stockholders receive dividends **before** common stockholders, often at a fixed rate, whereas common stock dividends vary and depend on company earnings.
- **Voting Rights:** Common stockholders typically **have** voting rights (e.g., electing board members), while preferred shareholders usually **do not**.
- **Growth Potential:** Common stock has **higher potential for capital appreciation**, meaning it can grow significantly in value. Preferred stock is **more stable**, akin to a fixed-income asset.
- **Risk Profile:** Preferred stock carries **less risk** than common stock because of its priority in dividend payments and liquidation—but it also has **lower upside**.

From an investment standpoint, preferred stock can be valuable for income-seeking investors, while common stock might suit those looking for long-term capital gains.

The choice between preferred stock and common stock depends on your **investment goals, risk tolerance, and desired income stability**. Here's how you can decide:

- **If you prioritize steady income:** Preferred stock offers **fixed dividends**, making it attractive for income-focused investors who want reliable payouts similar to bonds.
- **If you seek growth potential:** Common stock typically has **higher upside** for capital appreciation, making it better for long-term investors looking for equity growth.
- **If you want lower volatility:** Preferred stock tends to be **less volatile** than common stock, as prices don't fluctuate as much based on market sentiment.
- **If voting rights matter:** Common stockholders have a **say** in corporate decisions, while preferred shareholders usually **do not**.
- **If bankruptcy protection is a concern:** Preferred stockholders **get paid first** before common stockholders during liquidation, offering a bit more security.

Given your **structured approach** to investment analysis and emphasis on financial metrics like **revenue growth, EPS, and ROE**, you might lean toward common stock for its **growth opportunities**. However, preferred stock could fit if you're building an income-focused portfolio alongside your long-term holdings.

Share This Newsletter

Would you or someone you know benefit from receiving timely news about investing education programs?

Forward this Newsletter! If you're not currently a BetterInvesting member you can still get all the great information we send out by signing up on our webpage <https://www.betterinvesting.org/chapters/lams>

And 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.



LAMS Model Club

LAMS Model Club meetings are free and open to guests, BI members or non-members alike. Each meeting has one or two stock presentations, complete with SSGs, and a short education session.

Meetings are normally held on the first Monday of the month at 7:30 PM (second Monday if there is a holiday conflict). All meetings are open to guests and are held online using GoToWebinar. Visitors can just watch and listen or can ask questions and make comments.

A model club's primary role is to be a "learning lab" for attendees to study both BetterInvesting principles of fundamental stock investing using the Stock Selection Guide® (SSG®), and investment club operations management. You're invited to sit in on our meetings.

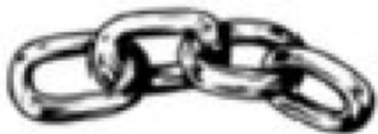
The next meetings are scheduled for **July 7, August 4, and September 8.**

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 Gretchen Blondeau at contact@lams.betterinvesting.net



Useful Links

Open House 90-day free trial:

<https://hello.betterinvesting.org/90day-ws>

Anyone can sample a BI membership. If you're a BI member please share this URL with anyone who might be interested in trying out BetterInvesting. All that's required is to enter ZIP code, name, and email address to gain access to the ninety day, core trial membership. No credit card needed, so they don't get trapped into having to cancel or anything like that. This will just expire after ninety days.

This trial membership includes:

- A digital copy of BetterInvesting Magazine
- Our "Why Invest" webinar
- First Cut Stock Reports
- Instant access to a trial version of our online stock selection and analysis tools

YouTube Video Links from the Video Learning Library Home Page

The [Video Learning Library](#) home page has been updated to include a new section that links directly to curated BetterInvesting YouTube playlists. This enhancement makes it easier than ever to access our most helpful "how-to" videos on using the Online Stock Tools, along with member testimonials and other engaging content. We encourage you to subscribe to the [BetterInvesting YouTube channel](#) and like the videos. Your support helps us reach more investors and grow our community!

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 this 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>

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>

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.**