



Heart of Illinois Chapter News

Home of the famous Beardstown Ladies Investment Club

May 2026

President's Message

It's mid-May, tax season has ended, and the school year is wrapping up. As many students celebrate graduation and look ahead to the future, we have an opportunity as BetterInvesting[™] stewards to share our investment knowledge with the next generation. Beginning this fall, new programs are being developed to reach young people. Mark Robertson and Ken Kavula have organized a pilot program at Michigan State University for this September, with the hope that it will be the first of many nationwide. If you have contacts at a college in your area, please let your chapter know.

The chapter's model club convenes on the third Monday of each month at 6 PM Central, providing a practical forum for investment analysis using BetterInvesting tools. Details and meeting links are available on our chapter website:

<https://www.betterinvesting.org/chapters/heart-of-illinois>.

Additionally, the "Wednesday Morning Breakfast Club" at 8 AM Central Time offers informal weekly discussions on investment topics, welcoming participants nationwide. There is no set agenda, and all are encouraged to share ideas.

Notice Of Annual Chapter Planning Meeting – June 9:

This serves as the official notice of the Heart of Illinois Chapter's annual Planning Meeting to be held at 10:00 AM CT on Tuesday, June 9, 2026 (a date change from the Events Calendar) at 21139 Hideaway Estates Road, Petersburg, IL 62675. Guests are always welcome to this in-person event, but for members who can't attend, it will be simulcast via GoTo[™] using this link:

<https://meet.goto.com/StephenEmmerich/heart-of-illinois-chapter-board-meeting-roundtable>

Everyone is welcome to attend

Another Successful BetterInvesting National Convention (BINC)

BINC was held in Chicago this past April and drew the largest crowd in recent years – almost 450. The event celebrates the 75th anniversary of NAIC and BetterInvesting[™], with David Gardner, co-founder of The Motley Fool, serving as keynote speaker. Our chapter was well represented by six directors, and Allen Holdsworth and Dave Roberts led instructional sessions. Next year's BINC will

be virtual, followed by an in-person convention in 2028. Our HOIC Director, Bobbie Kincaid, will chair both events. Stay tuned for further details as they become available.

The Value of BetterInvesting and Volunteering

BetterInvesting continues to empower millions by fostering financial education and lifelong investing habits. Our clubs thrive because members show up, share insights, and learn together. But chapters don't run on goodwill alone. They run on people—people willing to lend a hand, offer a skill, or take on a small role that makes a big difference.

If you've ever thought, *"Someone should really help with that,"* consider this your invitation. We need you. Your experience, your perspective, your hour or two a month. Even a modest commitment can create outsized impact—and the personal and professional rewards are far greater than the time you invest.

Join us. Don't just benefit from the BetterInvesting community—help shape it. Ask not what your chapter can do for you. Ask what you can do for your chapter. (Ask me about the perks!)

Chapter Milestones and Club Highlights

2026 has proven to be an exceptional year for both the market and our chapter's community. We are proud to recognize and celebrate the remarkable achievements of ten investment clubs that have reached significant anniversaries this past year; **a combined 285 years of investing experience!**

Nest Egg Investors	Mount Carroll	30
WIN-Me Partnership	Tunnel Hill	30
CEO 6000 Club	Normal	30
Mutual Trust Investment	Springfield	30
Save Investment Club	Cornell	30
Boss Ladies	Monmouth	30
Savings & Investments 101	Bloomington	30
Green River Investment Club	Walnut	35
Odd Lot Investment Club	Springfield	40

In addition to honoring these established clubs, we extend a warm welcome to two newly formed investment clubs: **Bullseye Investment Club** of East Moline and **Little Red Pony Investment Club** of Springfield. These two clubs are eligible for five yearly visits from our Chapter Directors to help them stay on track and become successful long-term clubs to help their members become lifelong investors.

Facebook is Waiting for You to Join Us

Join our Facebook group: Just search “Heart of Illinois” on Facebook and connect with fellow members. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/103681926409261>

Reflecting on the recent BINC...

Reflecting on the recent BINC, I realize it’s been four years since I joined PIP, the Model Investment Club. Having now participated in three BINCs—two live and one virtual—I can confidently say the experience gets better every time.

My first BINC was a whirlwind. As a newcomer to the investing community, I didn’t know many people, so I focused on attending talks, listening intently, and absorbing as much as possible. The following year brought the virtual BINC. Even though it was only two days, it felt even better because I finally recognized some familiar faces, making the presentations and conversations much more engaging.

This year’s BINC 3 was easily my favorite experience yet. David Gardner absolutely stole the show for me. As a huge fan who listens to his Motley Fool podcast weekly, meeting him in person was incredible—he is genuinely kind and deeply cares about investors. Beyond the keynotes, the absolute highlight was connecting in person with my fellow HOIC members. While I live in Indiana, I joined the Heart of Illinois chapter to be with friends, and our members are incredibly supportive.

Virtual meetings are convenient, but nothing beats sitting face-to-face with like-minded people who share your passion. BINC gives us that rare, invaluable opportunity. I had a fantastic time and am already looking forward to our next gathering in two years. Where will we be heading next?



Bobbie Kincaid with David Gardner, co-founder of The Motley Fool.



The Anniversary Cake.

Heart of Illinois Chapter Events – This chapter is here to serve you, your club, and its members. Your active participation is welcome. All activities are open to the public – most online:

2026 HOIC EVENTS SCHEDULE		
MONTH	DATE	ACTIVITY (dates and times CT)
MAY	4	Board Meeting/Roundtable GTM 7 PM - 8 PM
MAY	18	Model Club meeting GTM 6PM-7:30 PM
JUNE	15	Model Club meeting GTM 6PM-7:30 PM
JUNE	9	Annual Board & Planning Meeting – Director Attendance Required. Guests welcome. Lunch following. 10AM-12PM. Location: 21139 Hideaway Estates Rd., Petersburg, IL 62675
JULY	20	Model Club meeting GTM 6PM-7:30 PM
AUGUST	3	Board Meeting/Roundtable GTM 7 PM - 8 PM
AUGUST	17	Model Club meeting GTM 6PM-7:30 PM
SEPTEMBER	7	Board Meeting/Roundtable GTM 7 PM - 8 PM (Labor Day)
SEPTEMBER	21	Model Club meeting GTM 6PM-7:30 PM
OCTOBER	5	Board Meeting/Roundtable GTM 7 PM - 8 PM
OCTOBER	19	Model Club meeting GTM 6PM-7:30 PM
NOVEMBER	2	Board Meeting/Roundtable GTM 7 PM - 8 PM
NOVEMBER	16	Model Club meeting GTM 6PM-7:30 PM
DECEMBER	7	Board Meeting/Roundtable GTM 7 PM - 8 PM
DECEMBER	21	Model Club meeting GTM 6PM-7:30 PM
		PRESENTATIONS MADE AT MONTHLY MEETINGS ARE 10-20 MINUTES IN LENGTH, AND WILL BE ON A TOPIC OF INTEREST TO ALL BETTERINVESTING INVESTORS.
		All meetings: Open to the Public -- All times are Central Time -- Online
		HOIC Wednesday Morning Breakfast Club every Wednesday at 8 AM – 9 AM
		TENTATIVE CALENDAR - WILL BE UPDATED AS INFORMATION IS CONFIRMED
		Our Model Club is the Prairie Investment Partnership (PIP) Investment Club near Springfield, IL – meetings are held online and open to the public.

Go here for the latest info: <https://www.betterinvesting.org/chapters/heart-of-illinois/local-events>