



Alice Berly – Editor

2005

2006



Welcome

The National Association of Investors Corporation (NAIC) is now doing business under the long-time name of their “BetterInvesting” (BI) magazine. It is still a nonprofit organization dedicated to investment education for individuals and investment club members. Their mission remains to provide a program of sound investment information, education and support that helps create successful, lifetime investors.

We welcome having you attend the monthly chapter meetings. Since Southern Nevada covers such a vast area, we try to make it as convenient as possible for as many as possible by meeting August through November and again in January (we don’t meet in December) at the Whitney Library on Tropicana and then February through June at the Rainbow Library at Buffalo and Cheyenne. We meet the first Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m.

Our Annual meeting will be August 3rd at the Whitney Library, followed by a **FREE BI** mini- seminar and **FREE** door prizes. All of our directors are experienced investors who use the NAIC BetterInvesting tools and teachings to better understand the choices we make. You will be most welcome.

An Open Letter To The Las Vegas Chapter Membership

As the current and retiring President of the Las Vegas Chapter, I'd like to update you on the condition of our Chapter. In 2001 our Chapter had a membership of 1,004 members. But, since the collapse of the dot-coms and the bear market, we've seen a significant drop in membership, down at the end of 2004 to 582 members. We are not alone; other BI chapters are having the same problems we are, falling numbers and lack of interest in classes.

The Chapter Board of Directors is made up of a motivated and professional group of people each who has graciously volunteered their time to travel, organize the Chapter and educate the Las Vegas membership. The Chapter has endeavored to cater to the membership (that’s all of the BI members in our area), however in the last few years; attendance at Chapter events has dwindled significantly.

Many hours are spent by volunteers preparing class material and organizing the Chapter, finding venues, creating web pages, newsletters, etc. For that hard work to be done in vain is clearly

not a good use of the volunteer's time. When we do reach the membership, there is no greater feeling than being able to educate, motivate and enable members to invest successfully - indeed that is why the Directors are willing to volunteer so unselfishly.

On Saturday, July 9, the board met to plan our schedule for the coming year. Without the support of the membership attending classes, there is no way we can continue to grow the teaching base of our volunteers and ensure the continuity of the Chapter. I am appealing to the membership to not only support the Chapter's educational opportunities in the upcoming year, but to think about the possibility of joining the Chapter's Board and volunteering your time to help us achieve our goal of providing investment education for all members.

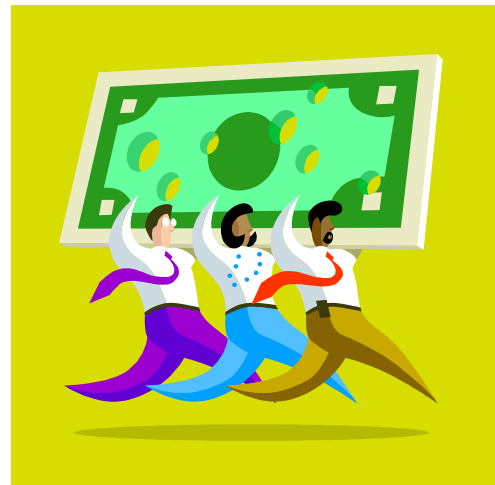
Please offer your thoughts on how we can serve the membership better. Remember, the membership is **YOU**. Or, share your reasons for not attending classes that the Chapter offers, or if you have ideas for upcoming classes, please drop me a line at tberly@hotmail.com.

Check out our web page, go to betterinvesting.org, enter your zip code in the space provided, and you will go directly to the chapter's website. A list of our class offerings, some interesting articles and other news can be found there. I will try to update the site once a month or oftener if the need arises.

All is not lost; starting October 1 the chapter's new president will be Jennifer Sheldahl. She is bright, energetic and has her own ideas on what should be done. I urge you to get behind her and do what you can to support her.

Is your club looking for new members? Or are you an individual looking for a club? While we can't play matchmaker, you may find what you are looking for when you come to a Chapter meeting.

Tom Berly - President



Following each of the Chapter meetings we have a **FREE** educational session. We try to keep our business meetings short so that we can devote more time to education. We are planning to present completed Stock Selection Guides (SSGs) in several industries again this year. We will finish up the educational sessions by 8:45, so the library can close. That should get you home by a reasonable hour too.

The **FREE** educational sessions following our meetings are as follows:

August 3 – At the Whitney Library, 5175 E. Tropicana Ave. Following our Annual meeting, all of the directors will participate in a mini seminar, to share with you their investing experience and help you to make better judgments with your own investments. There will be **FREE** door prizes too. Come get yours.

September 7– At the Whitney Library, 5175 E. Tropicana Ave. Mary Myers, Past President and a former Club Accounting and Toolkit instructor will speak on **How to do a Quick Study of an Industry**.

October 5 – At the Whitney Library, 5175 E. Tropicana Ave. Sara Cochrane will present SSGs of the **Home Appliance** industry, found in issue #1 of Value Line.

November 2 – At the Whitney Library 5175 E. Tropicana Ave. Marty Blonn will present SSGs on **Computer Peripherals** industry, found in issue #7 of Value Line.

December – There is no meeting. Happy Holidays.

January 4 – At the Whitney Library, 5175 E. Tropicana Ave. Tom Berly will present SSGs on the **Aerospace / Defense** industry, found in issue #4 of Value Line.

February 1 – At the Rainbow Library, 3190 N. Buffalo Dr. Diane Graese, instructor of many of our past classes and for the class “What is the SSG?” scheduled for January 18. Diane is also a past chairperson of **Compufest** held in New Orleans a few years ago and a former member of the NAIC Computer Group Advisory Board. Her topic will be **Dividend Paying Stocks**.

March 1 – At the Rainbow Library, 3190 N. Buffalo Dr. Alice Berly, a Club Accounting instructor (her next class is scheduled for February 9th), will present SSGs of **Computer Software & Services** industry, found in issue #13 of Value Line.

April 5 – At the Rainbow Library, 3190 N. Buffalo Dr. Ron Plummer will present SSGs of the **Steel** industry, found in issue #4 of Value Line.

May 3 – At the Rainbow Library, 3190 N. Buffalo Dr. Laura Lippold will present SSGs of the **Drug** industry, found in issue #8 of Value Line.

June 7, 2006 – At the Rainbow Library, 3190 N. Buffalo Dr. Bob Schafer will present SSGs of the **Internet** industry, found in issue #13 of Value Line.



Classes

We are offering classes too. The classes last longer than our educational sessions following our monthly meetings to enable greater in-depth study. Pre-registration is required a week prior to the class. Each class is \$30 for non-BI members or \$25 for members.

January 18, 2006, 6 pm – 9 pm Diane Graese will be offering “**What is the SSG?**” We all need to fine tune our SSG skills, here is your opportunity. Contact Alice Berly at 452-5733 for location or any changes.

February 9, 2006, 6 pm – 9 pm Alice Berly will be offering “**Club Accounting**” covering version 2.5 and the all new Club Accounting version 3.

It's a completely new program that will make life a lot easier for the treasurer. Contact Alice at 452-5733 for location or any changes.

Attention Treasurers

With the new Club Accounting 3 out now (they are just beginning ship them). I know some clubs are waiting for the new year before they get theirs, but we treasurers know that ultimately we will need to upgrade our version. So, if you feel that you would like to have a class before the one scheduled for February 9, give Alice a call at 452-5733.



Training by Request

Would you like to have an instructor come to your club? Let us know what you would like to learn about. There are a number of topics and software that our instructors are familiar with. We can offer you classes on any of the IClub (BI approved) software. To learn more or schedule a class, call Tom or Alice Berly at 452-5733 and we can co-ordinate with an instructor that specializes in what you want to learn.

Remember that as a BI member you are eligible for special prices on many BI products and services, including software, books, guides, videos, classes and events. Speaking of events mark your calendars for the following:

BI National Convention
In Atlanta, GA
November 3 – 6, 2005

Check out the website complete details
www.betterinvesting.org/biconvention

West Coast BI Regional
Conference at Concordia College
in Irvine, CA 92614

The early bird registration is \$79 if postmarked before March 1, 2006, after that it will be \$99. They are also offering \$10 off for group registrations for groups of three (3) or more, all of which must be mailed as a group in the same envelope. I'm sure there will be more details soon when you contact their Chapter using their zip code (above) on the www.betterinvesting.org website. I just checked it out and they don't have it on the website yet, but it's still early, I'm sure they will soon.

BI Compufest 2006
In Reno, NV
June 23 – 25, 2006

Wow! Does it get any more convenient than this? No, it's not likely to come to Las Vegas, so don't wait. There will be more information in your BI magazine as the time draws nearer and there will be (coming soon, but not yet) the website www.compufest2006.com

Why do you suppose I tell you about these events so early, when the websites aren't even ready yet? Well, I've just given you our schedule for the whole year; you won't be getting another newsletter until next year. I know the temptation is strong to simply pitch this into the circular file, but then what will you refer to when you wonder what we're presenting next spring? Hang onto this issue or check the website. www.betterinvesting.org.

Are you using the “Online Premium Services” (OPS)? If not, talk to someone who is, you’ll be glad you did.



Have you seen the **NEW** BetterInvesting Web site?

By Diane Graese

BetterInvesting has launched a new format for the Web site. The URL is www.betterinvesting.org (without the hyphen, but you can still get there if you have a link which uses the hyphen.) BI is hoping you will find this arrangement to be friendlier and easier to navigate.

There is certain content at the site that is available to all. We want to encourage potential members to explore the offerings.

Access to other content will require you to establish a login using your NAIC membership number. Once logged in, the system will acknowledge you by name and our local Chapter pages will be a link on the home page. We will keep the Web site updated with our meetings and classes.

At the top of the page there are links to the BetterInvesting magazine, Events and the Store. Did you know the BI magazine is available on the first day of the month on the Web? It can often take as long as two weeks for it to arrive in your snail-mail box. And, OPS subscribers should remember to check

out BITS from the same link. It is still available online on the first of the month in those months in which it is published.

At the store, you can review the newest book in the BetterInvesting Educational Book Series: “Using Portfolio Management Wisdom Handbook”. This is the one we were all waiting for.

The rest of the Web page is organized around the following topics: Clubs and Chapters, Investing Basics, Mutual Funds, Stocks, Personal Finance and Youth Investing. Each day one of these sections is featured. There is new content daily, primarily in the form of mini-articles in what NAIC is calling a Blog. Ken Janke writes on Stocks. You may recognize some of the other authors as well.

The "Most Active Stocks" section is a great way to see what other BetterInvestors are buying and selling. Report your own transactions using the link at the bottom of this section.

There is intent to bring online classes to the Web. On August 30, 2005, there will be an hour-long Web Cast featuring Aqua America. And we are told there are many other surprises in store. Be sure to check out this member benefit.

BI is having a Software Sale

Do all of your club members use SSG software? Now, for a limited time, BI is offering a new program for investment clubs. Under this program, clubs can get Investor’s Toolkit 5 or Classic Plus at a “significant” discount. There is an ad in the August BI, page 19. With the purchase of five copies of Classic Plus you can save \$100.00 off the single copy price. And with the purchase of five

copies of Toolkit 5 you can save \$350 off of the single copy price. Get together with your club members now, you need to order as a group, with a minimum order of five copies to get the discount. See the ad for details. This is a great deal! But, it expires October 31, 2005. I think it has to be new orders though, not upgrades.

3 for Free

More good news from BI, a new limited time program called “3 for Free.” If a member recruits three or more new members between August 1st and October 1st, 2005 their next year’s BI membership will be free, or extended 12 months. If the BI member is a Lifetime or Club member they will receive a \$25 credit on any BI product or service. And, it gets even better; the recruiting member will be entered into a drawing for \$10,000 payable in cash, or deposited into the member’s MyStockFund online account. Members earn an additional entry for every three new members they refer. The winner will be announced at the BINC (BI National Convention). Hey, we’re a gambling state! Everyone wins when members help others discover the rewards of BetterInvesting membership. Starting on Aug. 1 you can enroll at www.betterinvesting.org, enrollment is a must before new members are submitted.

New to your BI Magazine

Beginning with the August issue, did you find the new Beginner’s column on page 26? It is by Lightbulb Press, they publish an excellent series of resource beginner books for the Wall Street Journal. This column is for the absolute beginner; look for another column soon that addresses the needs of the only

slightly more advanced. It will cover the concepts of the SSG.

Jim Miller PhD in economics will write about business/investing issues. They’re putting together another page too that will help investors understand where we are in the business cycle.

And, a column on investment research resources. It will focus primarily on the Internet.

Colleen Mulder-Seward will have an investment club question and answer column. The first columns will focus on beginners. Here’s your opportunity to get your investment club questions answered. Remember, the only “dumb question” is the one that isn’t asked.

Look for quarterly Industry studies beginning in the October issue. The first one will cover alternative fuels. Further out look for REITS in January; Insurance in April and pharmaceuticals in July. These of course are subject to change, depending on the market.

Web Logs, also known as BLOGS

Have you joined in the Blogging community yet? Now is your opportunity. BI is hoping to enhance member’s investment education experience through Blogs. You can find more information on page 14 of the August issue of BI. The addresses of the current bloggers include:

Ken Janke – Stocks at

[Http://www.betterinvesting/stocks/blog](http://www.betterinvesting/stocks/blog)

Dennis Genord – Mutual Funds at

<http://www.betterinvesting.org/mutualfunds/blog>

Billy Williams – Clubs & Chapters at <http://www.betterinvesting.org/clubsandchapters/blog>

Avi Horwitz – Getting Started at <http://www.betterinvesting.org/gettingstarted/blog>

Gary Simms – Investing Basics at <http://www.betterinvesting.org/investingbasics/blog>

Doug Hyer – Personal Finance at <http://www.betterinvesting.org/personalfinance/blog>

Tristan Robinson – Youth at <http://www.betterinvesting.org/youthinvesting/blog>

You are welcome to get on the blogs, read what these people are saying about their particular topics and post your own comments, stories or ideas there too.

From the BI Community
Investment education for individual investors and investment clubs – helping you gain the knowledge to achieve a secure financial future.

Since 1951, our tools have helped more than five million individuals become better investors. Whether participating as individuals, or in investment clubs, BetterInvesting members apply fundamental principles that identify sound investment opportunities.

Four investment principles are
Invest regularly over your lifetime
Reinvest all earnings and dividends
Buy quality growth stocks
Diversify your investments

Taking your first steps to a rewarding investment program is easy and can be very cost effective. Some members who started with as little as \$10 pr month 30 years ago have retired with million-dollar accounts. Today, people typically start investing with \$30-\$100 per month.

Las Vegas Chapter officers and directors:

Tom Berly, current President through September 30, 2005 - 452-5733

Jennifer Sheldahl, President Elect, her term begins October 1, 2005 - 293-1551

Bob Schafer, Vice President and Computer Contact – 658-2401

Diane Graese, Treasurer
bunnyscoot@aol.com

Sara Cochran, Secretary – 645-0533

Alice Berly, Newsletter – 452-5733

Nelda Schafer, Club Relations–658-2401

Bernadine Schneider – Education
293-1968

Mary Myers, Past President – 279-4939

Laura Lippold, - 363-1132

Marty Blonn, - 597-5069

Sue Callen, - 243-2681

Ron Plummer, - 364-8344