



News!

From The

Oklahoma Chapter

NON-PROFIT • VOLUNTEER BASED • MEMBER DRIVEN

SPRING 2024



Hundreds and Hundreds of BetterInvestors

attended BINC this year!

Six people from Oklahoma are in this crowd.





President's Letter Spring 2023



Hi Everyone,

I hope everyone is enjoying the most lovely time of year. In the spring, we enjoy moderate temperatures, extra daylight hours, flowers in bloom, plenty of fresh produce to eat, and new baby animals greeting the world.

Your Oklahoma chapter directors have been breathing all that fresh spring air that makes you feel good and gives you energy. One of the fun and interesting things we did was celebrate with three clubs, presenting them with their anniversary certificates. The Salamanders Club celebrated its 30th anniversary, the Surfers Investment Club celebrated its 45th anniversary, and the Blue Chips Investment Club celebrated its 55th anniversary. Way to go and what a friendly group of people we met. Congratulations to all! And special congratulations to the Blue Chips Investment Club for 55 years!

I remember the first BetterInvesting National Conference (BINC) I went to. It was near Silicon Valley, and technology was taking off. Everybody was buying computers, getting AOL discs in the mail, and setting up email accounts. We were impressed that we could type a letter or note to someone across the country, and they would get it within seconds. Since then, I have been to every BINC. This year, it's a different time. We talked about AI instead of computers. We had approximately 25 top-notch presenters doing 60 different classes.

One of our invited speakers was Jackie Cummings Koski, a financial literacy expert and the owner of Money Letters, LLC. Jackie, a certified financial planner with a Master of Science in Personal Financial Planning, is not just a professional but also a passionate advocate for financial education. Her award-winning book, "Money Letters 2 My Daughter," is a testament to her dedication and expertise. Jackie shared her life experiences and how BetterInvesting helped shape her financial journey at BINC. If you missed BINC in May but would like to hear one of Jackie Koski's presentations entitled "The Seven Deadly Biases of Stock Investors," you can watch it. (The video, Aug. 10, 2023, StockUP, is available on the [betterinvesting.org](https://www.betterinvesting.org) website in the Video Learning Library.) I recommend you watch it, or maybe watch it with your club. Have you read the letter Ken Zendel, CEO, NAIC/BetterInvesting, wrote in the May issue of the BetterInvesting magazine? If so, you may have already watched it. On Tuesday, June 25, at 7:00 p.m., we will have our Annual Meeting, with Christi Powell presenting a class on retirement, an Election Meeting, and a Board Meeting. More details are in the newsletter.

Beverly Wooley
President, Oklahoma Chapter of BetterInvesting



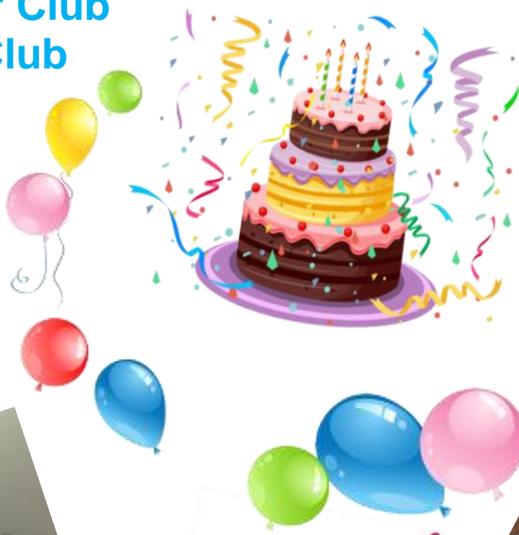


HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

Congratulations to the following clubs on a job well done!
The Anniversary Clubs are:

The Salamander Club
The Blue Chip Club

30 Years
55 Years



A VISIT WITH THE SALAMANDER INVESTMENT CLUB

The Salamander Club was created in 1993 with Jimmy Fish being the remaining original BI member 30 years later. The club has many members (most notably in the unionized trade labor field), of which perhaps around 12 meets regularly to discuss and examine their holdings and prospects. Jimmy is a master at spreadsheets and uses that skill to illustrate club status to members when they meet. Having familiarity with the union benefit fund, Jimmy decided a separate group could do as well or better in a club, and voila, many years later, they have.



Oklahoma BI Chapter representatives visited with the club members at Van's Pig Stand, one of their favorite spots to meet.

It's easy to see why it is a favorite. The business is most accommodating for their meeting with a handy back room for groups. And the service minded employees make it easy to carry on club business while having dinner. It is the group's frequent spot for easy access off Interstate 35, in Moore. But members are not necessarily confined to Moore. Their locations are quite varied, north and south of Reno Avenue. Still, it is worthy for club members to gather and discuss because of their extensive holdings yielding hundreds of thousands of dollars over the years – so much so, that members have been known to withdraw portions to buy houses. Kudos to them for that success!



Christi Powell visited with club members one evening at Van's. In that visit, she stressed the need for regular and continuous contributions by all members for even greater success, illustrating the stock market's upward trend over many years, despite the fear spread by the media. The timing of stocks can be an issue for many and perhaps we are all guilty of hanging on to a stock too long when it would have been wise to sell and perhaps even buy back later when the stock is working for the members more. BI tools can assist with that. Additionally, using BI tools can save effort. Christi demonstrated the stock research link, and SSG Core and Plus. Jimmy and another young member lit up upon seeing the timesaving, data-ready information that was available through the BI tools. The club was left with BI magazines and literature for additional information.

This group is a good group of positive minded people being smart about their financial future. We congratulate Jimmy and the club for having 30 fantastic years and wish them so many more!

Celebrating 55 Years, Blue Chip Investment Club



A shining example of a welcoming community and the time value of invested dollars! Blue Chip Investment Club (BCIC) can claim 30+ members for the bulk of 55 years. It is a wonderful story of long-time friendships and family participation. The club was initiated by one of the member's father. That is just how investors grow within families. The youngest member at one of the more recent meetings is 10 years

old. Two other members in their 20's had joined in the beginning of the year, and they are already jumping in with stock reports to the club members. Their statistician keeps track of club performance. During a recent visit to the club, members purchased one stock and sold another, so they are not shy in shuffling the balance to maintain their hefty investment balance.

It is wonderful to see a group that is all inclusive and celebrates together outside the club meeting. Having known each other for so long, or being a part of a member's family, as large as the group is, it is like a family reunion.

Congratulations to a fine collection of individuals doing an outstanding job of enjoying investing together. Happy 55th!

Well Done.





Look for the Surfers Club article,
in our summer issue.
Let us share your story with the Oklahoma
Chapter.



BetterInvesting National Convention BINC 2024

WAS GREAT FUN, LOTS AND
LOTS OF GREAT TRAINING
AND INFORMATION!
You should have been
there!

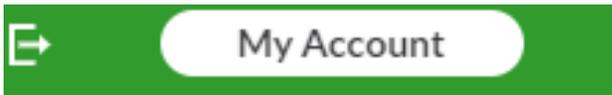
2025 will be a virtual BINC!
BUT **2026** will be in-person.
So, keep an eye out for more information about future
BINCS.

In the meantime, attend the Oklahoma **EduFest** on
August 17th, 2024

Just **Google**, **Eventbrite EduFest 2024**

Please Remember, To Update Your Profile!! This Is How

STEP 1. Please go into your BetterInvesting account, on a regular basis, to make sure that everything is still correct. In order to review your profile:



STEP 2. Log in to your account at BetterInvesting.org
Click on My Account

STEP 3.: Click on Personal information and double check your name, address, phone number and email.

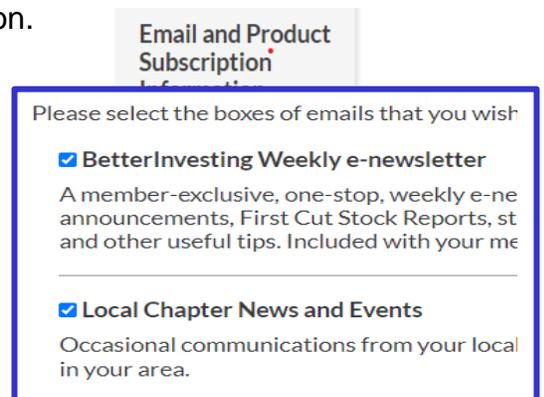


STEP 4. If any changes are made don't forget to click **Save**.

STEP 5. Then, click on Email and Product Subscription Information.

STEP 6. Review the choices of emails, at a minimum please mark BetterInvesting Weekly e-newsletter that will come every Saturday with information at the national level.

STEP 7. Also, Local Chapter News and Events – This will give you the local chapter's information regarding local classes, and items of interest.



EduFest 2024



Thriving In Our Current Economic Environment

Our Speaker Is Doug Gerlach

For twenty years, Doug Gerlach has been teaching individuals and investment clubs to make smarter decisions about investing in the stock market through books, software tools, websites, and educational presentations across the U.S.

Doug
Will
present
the
following

- * Stock Market Tactics in a Destabilized World.
- * Doug's Favorite Small Cap Stocks for 2025 (and Why He Likes Them).
- * Is Your Portfolio Haunted by Uncertainty?
- * Common Sense Tips for Portfolio Diversification.

Continental
Breakfast,
Lunch,
Snacks,
Juice, Tea,
Coffee and
Water
and
Door
Prizes
included

When:
August 17, 2024

Doors Open
8:30 AM to
4:30 PM

**For more Information and
Registration:**

Google: Eventbrite EduFest 2024

Location:

First Southern
Baptist Church
6400 S Sooner Rd
Oklahoma City,
OK 73135
Enter: Discipleship Center



Oklahoma Chapter
BETTER INVESTING[™]
The Leader In Investment Education

NEED AN EDUCATION PROGRAM



Would you like to have an education program at your investment club meeting? As a chapter wanting to be of service to you, we have many programs ready to share with you on the most popular investing topics and tools. Contact us to arrange – either in person or by

Go-to-Webinar. Most are free. contact@Oklahoma.betterinvesting.net



Important Notice to our Readers:

BetterInvesting is a non-profit educational organization that sponsors programs and provides information through their local volunteer chapters for the education and use of individual investors and investment club members. BetterInvesting neither recommends nor endorses specific securities. Everyone is encouraged to do your own stock selection research.

Let us **HIGHLIGHT YOUR CLUB**. Send us a photo of your club members and give us a description of your club. When was your club founded? Who were the first members? Where did you meet? How did you decide to form your club? Have any of your members been to BINC? Have any of your members served on a chapter board? Brag a little about your members and your club. Share anything else you would like. Help us to get to know each other. Send your info to:

contact@Oklahoma.betterinvesting.net



It's Free

If you haven't used the BetterInvesting Tools and Education, you must give it a try. Click [HERE](#) to get a 90 day free trial.

Learn to Invest Profitably in Stocks of High-Quality Growth Companies. As a nonprofit organization, our mission is to educate individual investors and investment clubs to become successful lifelong investors.

Instant Access to Samples of Classes, Investing Tools and Publications Trusted by Millions of Investors



Unbiased Investment Education

- Webinar: Why Invest in Stocks?
- Webinar: StockUp
- Webinar: TickerTalk



Powerful online stock selection tools

- Stock Selection Guide Online Tool Trial (SSGPlus)



Exclusive Investor Publications

- BetterInvesting Magazine
- Take Stock Sample Chapter



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Navigating Fiscal Dramas and Market Downturns: What You Need to Know



By Christi Powell CFP, RICP
Associate Director
Oklahoma Chapter

The world of finance is never static. It's an ever-changing landscape that reflects the ebb and flow of economic indicators, political events, and public sentiment.

Lately, the chatter about market downturns and fiscal squabbles in Washington has reached a fever pitch. So, let's break it all down for better understanding.

WHY MARKETS ARE MELTING DOWN

The recent market turbulence is not the result of a single event but a confluence of factors:

- **Economic Indicators:** Negative news surrounding home sales and consumer confidence have led to growing concerns about economic stability.¹
- **Interest Rates:** The potential hike in interest rates threatens corporate profits, as companies may have to refinance their debt at higher rates.
- **Fiscal Drama:** The ongoing budgetary impasse in Washington is also contributing to the anxiety, forcing markets into a selling mode.

WHAT'S NEXT FOR THE MARKETS?

Market behavior is notoriously hard to predict. However, there are some trends to watch:

- Markets often rebound post-selloff as traders and investors buy at lower prices.
- Positive news might kickstart a rally as we usher in a new financial quarter.
- Despite the above, markets could continue to face selling pressure as investors reassess the long-term impacts of high interest rates.

THE BUDGET DRAMA IN WASHINGTON EXPLAINED

Why does the federal budget become a battleground so often? It's a complex situation. Economists and politicians largely agree that federal spending needs to be controlled. Yet, there's little consensus on where and when to make those cuts. The Congressional Budget Office projects that the federal deficit will balloon to almost \$3 trillion per year by the 2030s.²

ARE BUDGET SHOWDOWNS REALLY THAT BAD?



In short, yes. Fiscal crises have far-reaching effects:

- **Economic Disruption:** Government shutdowns lead to closed offices, unpaid troops and workers, and halted regular processes.
- **Global Impact:** Defaulting on sovereign debt could have catastrophic implications for global financial markets.
- **Cost of Uncertainty:** Even near-misses can be costly, injecting uncertainty and eroding trust in government processes.^{3,4}

FINAL TAKEAWAYS

While the long-term ramifications of the current crisis might be diluted amidst other market influencers, expect more volatility in the short term. As we tread through this uncertain phase, I'll be vigilantly monitoring the markets and keeping you informed.

Sources:

1. <https://www.cnbc.com/2023/09/25/stock-market-today-live-updates.html>
2. https://www.cbo.gov/publication/58946#_idTextAnchor004
3. <https://www.reuters.com/world/us/shutdown-default-washingtons-risky-new-debt-ceiling-standoff-2023-01-24/>
4. <https://www.cnn.com/2023/09/25/economy/moodys-us-government-shutdown-credit-rating/index.html>



INSTAGRAM: As we try to modernize, we have started an Instagram account as well as Facebook. We invite you to look us up on Instagram and follow us there. Just type in: **betterinvesting_okchapter**

WHY NOT?

The Gift That Keeps On Giving

Many of us wish we had started investing sooner. While we can't turn back time, we can impart investing knowledge and education on the younger generation. With graduation just around the corner, now is the perfect opportunity to help someone get started early with the gift of a BetterInvesting Membership.

Although they may not fully appreciate it yet, the gift of investment education is one of the most valuable presents they can receive! Additionally, discussing the importance of starting early will further motivate your grads to take action. You can even include a share or two of a high-quality growth stock along with a printed Stock Selection Guide® (SSG®) analysis.

Give them the gift of a BetterInvesting Membership and set them on the path to becoming a successful lifelong investor!



Watch Us on YouTube BetterInvesting's YouTube channel includes videos of tools tutorials and other public webinar recordings where they can be easily viewed by those in the BetterInvesting community as well as by those who simply want to learn more about our Stock Selection Guide methodology and products. Tune into BetterInvesting videos at: www.youtube.com/betterinvesting

What is Going On: *In the Oklahoma Chapter?*

2024 - OC EVENTS SCHEDULE		
JUNE	3	Register @ Space Coast Model Stock Investment Club Meeting North Florida Chapter, meets 1st Monday @7:30 PM ET
	4	To Join Joe's Stock Study Group @ 6PM Click Here Contact Joe: Joeinvest2011@yahoo.com
	8	Register @ West Texas Model Investment Club : West Texas Chapter, meets on 2nd Saturday, @ 12:00 PM CT
	14	FLAG DAY 
	11	Register @ Lone Star Online Investment Club North Texas Chapter, meets on 2nd Tuesday @7:00 PM CT
	20	OKLAHOMA CHAPTER TOWNHALL MEETING 7:00 See page 16 for details, Register at: OKC Town Hall
	19	Juneteenth
	25	Oklahoma Chapter 2024 Annual & Election Meeting Time 7:00 PM On-line For Information Contact: contact@Oklahoma.betterinvesting.net
JULY	1	Register @ Space Coast Model Stock Investment Club Meeting North Florida Chapter, meets 1st Monday @7:30 PM ET
	2	To Join Joe's Stock Study Group @ 6PM Click Here Contact Joe: Joeinvest2011@yahoo.com
	4TH	 INDEPENDENCE DAY  
	9	Register @ Lone Star Online Investment Club North Texas Chapter, meets on 2nd Tuesday @7:00 PM CT
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AUGUST	5	Register @ Space Coast Model Stock Investment Club Meeting North Florida Chapter, meets 1st Monday @7:30 PM ET
	6	To Join Joe's Stock Study Group @ 6PM Click Here Contact Joe: Joeinvest2011@yahoo.com
	10	Register @ West Texas Model Investment Club : West Texas Chapter, meets on 2nd Saturday, @ 12:00 PM CT
	13	Register @ Lone Star Online Investment Club North Texas Chapter, meets on 2nd Tuesday @7:00 PM CT
 Register Here For Edufest	17	Google: Eventbrite EduFest 2024 Doors Open at 8:30 A.M. For Information Contact: contact@Oklahoma.betterinvesting.net

EduFest IS COMING!! EduFest IS COMING!!

Oklahoma
EduFest

Mark your calendar! **EduFest 2024** is on its way! Join us **on the 17th of August** to learn from our guest speaker **Doug Gerlach**. For twenty years, Doug Gerlach has been teaching individuals and investment clubs to

make smarter decisions about investing in the stock market through books, software tools, websites, and educational presentations across the U.S.

A full day of **FFE**, (**F**ood, **F**un, and **E**ducation)!

See you there on August 17, 2024.



About our EduFest speaker

Doug Gerlach is the President of ICLUB central Inc., makers of software and websites for individual investors and investment clubs. He is the author of six financial books, including *The Investor's Web Guide*, *The Complete Idiot's Guide to Online Investing*, *The Armchair Millionaire*, *Investment Clubs for Dummies*, *BetterInvesting's Guide to Computerized*

Investing and the Internet, and *The Pocket Idiot's Guide to Direct Stock Investing*. He writes for the "Clubhouse" column in *BetterInvesting* magazine and has also written articles for publications such as *Individual Investor*, *PC World*, and *Computer Life*. He was a Consulting Editor and columnist for *Time-Life's Mutual Funds Magazine*, and his articles have appeared on many web sites, including *Yahoo! Finance*, *E*TRADE*, and *ShareBuilder.com*.

A familiar name to many investors, Doug is a popular speaker on such topics as online investing, getting started in the stock market and running a successful investment club. Gerlach has spoken at events from Honolulu to Berlin, for such organizations as the National Education Association, National Investor Relations Institute, the American Association of Individual Investors, and Charles Schwab, as well as at personal finance conferences organized by CNBC, Boston Globe, Baltimore Sun, Fort Lauderdale Sun-Sentinel, Morningstar, BetterInvesting and Oregon Public Broadcasting. He has taught at investor events in more than 80 cities across the US, where his skill in explaining often-complex concepts with humor, energy, and clarity helps to turn beginning investors into better investors.



In addition, Gerlach has been a guest on countless radio and television programs, including CNN's *Digital Jam*, *Yahoo! Finance Vision*, and the *Wall Street Journal Report*.

Doug is Editor-in-Chief of ICLUB central's three investing newsletters: the long-term market-beating *Investor Advisory Service*, the *Mutual Fund Informer*, and the *SmallCap Informer*. The *Investor Advisory Service* is one of the top-performing stock newsletters in the country and has been named to the *Hulbert Financial Digest's* 2010, 2011, and 2012 *Investment Newsletter Honor Rolls* in recognition of its outstanding performance in both up and down markets over the past decade.



OKLAHOMA CHAPTER OF BETTERINVESTING



ON LINE



MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR:

Date: Thursday, June 20, 2024

Time: 7:00 - 8:00 PM

Where to Register: Just Ctrl Click on
[OKC Town Hall Meeting](#)

What: Bob Houle, Chair of the BetterInvesting Chapter Support Committee, will discuss how to use Value Line to assist in making investment decisions. Do you have questions regarding Value Line, club visits, club operations, etc.? We will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Just For Giggles



And A

Few

More

Giggles





Saving for retirement is a big challenge. But the even bigger challenge is whether you are saving enough.

There are all sorts of factors that go into figuring out how much you will need to have saved up by retirement

to live comfortably. Your lifestyle (the income you think you will need), your longevity, and the return on your retirement investment portfolio.

And let's be honest: all of those are sort of hard to pin down. That's where a simple rule of thumb can be a big help to get a sense of whether you are on track. Fidelity has crunched all sorts of numbers and made a bunch of reasonable assumptions to come up with just such a cheat sheet.

As a general rule of thumb, the advice is to have:

- 1 times (1x) your current income saved by age 30.
- 3x by age 40.
- 6x by age 50.
- 8x by age 60.
- 10x by age 67.

If you're on track, that's great news! And if you find you're a bit behind, that's great news too. No, I have not lost it. The good news is that now you have a sense that you really should up your savings game.

For 2023, the maximum contribution to an IRA is \$6,500 if you are younger than 50, and \$7,500 if you are at least 50 years old. The contribution limit for workplace retirement plans such as 401(k)s is \$22,500. In 2024, the limits will rise to \$7,000 for IRAs (\$8,000 if you're at least 50 years old) and \$23,000 for 401(k)s.

If those upper limits seem out of reach, that's okay. Your goal, for the rest of this year, and for 2024 and beyond is to just save more. If you are contributing 6% to your workplace retirement plan, raise that to 7% or 8%. If you saved \$4,000 in a Roth IRA last year, can you scour your spending to find a way to add another \$1,000 or \$2,000? Don't automatically tell yourself no. Increasing your Roth IRA savings by \$2,000 a year works out to less than \$40 a week, or \$5.50 a day. Saving \$5,000 more a year works out to \$100 a week, or less than \$14 a day.

I hereby challenge you to gift yourself more retirement security by increasing your contributions to your retirement accounts.





SUZE: What's New in BetterInvesting's Online Tools

An overview of the entire suite of online tools: the CoreSSG, SSGPlus and the Stock Comparison Guide.

Suze Artzberger

[ACCESS SSG ONLINE TOOL](#)

 **Online Tools: [Large Company Stock Screen](#):** This week's stock screen will help you seek out large companies with solid fundamentals and the potential for strong returns. [View Stock Screen](#)

 **Learning Center: [Create and Edit Portfolios in BetterInvesting's Online Tools](#):** It is easy to create and edit your portfolios using the BetterInvesting Online Stock Tools Suite. Step-by-step instructions to group your SSGs into portfolios are provided in this helpful video. And because the contents of a portfolio change with every buy and sell decision, the video covers how to change the number of shares held, remove a sold stock, add a new holding and adjust the amount of cash in the portfolio. To jump directly to the "Getting Started with Portfolio Tools" chapter, use the "Open Chapters" icon in the video viewer's lower-right corner. [View Video](#)

 **Community News & Information: [Changing Your Investment Club's Brokerage Account](#):** BetterInvesting has partnered with Siebert Financial Corporation to craft a brokerage account offering that serves the unique needs of investment clubs while also being suitable for BetterInvesting individual members. With no-commission trades, a dedicated portal to change treasurers when necessary, read-only access to club transactions and online reports, and the ability to easily transfer shares or cash to departing members, Siebert has stepped up to serve clubs both new and existing. In this video, Doug Gerlach outlines the features of Siebert's investment club offering. [View Video](#)

 **QUOTES:** "Remember that the market historically increases two out of every three years on average. And always keep in mind that every bear market has ended. There's always light at the end of the tunnel, but don't try to predict how long the tunnel is. Just continue to invest regularly." — Kenneth S. Janke, Sr., former CEO of NAIC/BetterInvesting

 B



CAROL'S FUN FACTS

- 💰 On the average, more than two billion shares are traded on the NASDAQ daily from approximately 4,000 listings with a market capitalization of \$12 Trillion.
- 💰 Top performers on the NASDAQ include APPLE, MSFT, AMAZON, CISCO, AMGEN and GILEAD.
- 💰 Comparatively, the NYSE market cap is \$25 Trillion w approximately 2800 companies.
- 💰 If a stock is dually listed on the NYSE and NASDAQ, it can be bought on one and sold on another.
- 💰 “INVIDIA” (NVIDIA) comes from the Latin word “Envy”, suggested by starter Jen-Hsun Huang in 1993.
- 💰 NVidia held a Name That Chip contest in 1999 to label the first graphics processing unit (GPU). 12,000 users sent in names and eventually GeForce was selected.
- 💰 SpaceX full name is Space Exploration Technology Corporation, worth about \$180 Billion. Elon Musk owns 42% equity and 79% voting control. Two publicly traded companies, Alphabet (\$12B) and B of Am (\$1.5 B) have invested in Space X. They grew from operating with a net loss of revenue of \$1.75 B in 2019 to an operating profit of about \$3 Billion in 2023. There’s no plan for SpaceX to go public.
- 💰 STARLINK is the world’s largest satellite operator and provides satellite Internet services to customers worldwide. It’s currently part of SpaceX.

LIKE US on FACEBOOK Search for us on Facebook.

<https://www.facebook.com/OklahomaChapterBI> on Facebook and hit enter. Once there, you will see the Oklahoma Chapter and the BetterInvesting logos. Feel free to post questions and/or comments you may have or share something you have learned from completing a Stock Selection Guide on a certain stock. How about suggesting books or reference materials that you recommend? Don't hesitate to post photos of your events or your investment club meetings. We are looking forward to your input and to your **“LIKES”!**



“ An important part of investing is knowing when to sort out bad advice or investment ideas framed as foolproof ways to build wealth.”

***THAT’S ALL FOR NOW.
WE WISH YOU HAPPY SPRING.
SUMMER IS ALMOST HERE.
SEE YA AT EDUFEST!***

