

``BetterInvesting Online Chapter 2021 President's Report

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Highlights and Objectives

Moved the Online Chapter (OLC) toward establishing practices/policies and being member run
Morphed the Chapter's more hierarchical structure toward a flatter one
Matching volunteers with tasks
Making the membership more aware of the Chapter, what it is and that it is here for them

The OLC: History and Nature

Catch phrase: "Every BI member now has a Chapter home"

History

- Announced in January 2019 by BI CEO Kamie Zaracki to fill the need for a chapter for members and clubs in geographical areas where no traditional chapter existed
- 2019-2020 Staffed by appointed BIVAB members
- October 2020 the first elected Directors' terms began

The Nature of the OLC

Traditionally chapters have organized BetterInvesting programs and events in their region
The new Online Chapter does the same things as traditional chapters but is unique in several ways.
For example, the Online Chapter:

- has more members than other chapters,

- has international in addition to U.S. members,
- operates primarily via computer mediated communication,
- has satellites, and
- has a BIVAB member a Chair rather than being part of a region with a Regional Manager.

Satellites

Satellites are sets of volunteers who conduct BetterInvesting activities in their satellite's geographical area.

Satellites are subsidiaries of the OLC chapter.

They don't have all the responsibilities (e.g., annual reports) of a chapter.

There are currently four satellites: Long Island, New York City, Rochester, Yankee (CT, MA, RI)

The OLC welcomes inquiries about forming satellites in additional areas.

OLC Leadership and Volunteer Members

* OLC Member

Board

Jane Chatterjee	Chair
Dan Perlman*	President
Susanne Koster*	Secretary and Director of Satellites
Cliff Trent	Treasurer
Howard Johnson	Director, Club Support (Visits)
Jie Eagleson	Director, Communications
Joe Farrell	Director, Visit-A-Club and Model Investment Clubs
Chris McCarron*	Associate Director, Member Education
Sriram Madabhushi*	Associate Director, Newsletter Editor
Bob Houle	Director
Rosemary Weymouth*	Director

Satellite and Model Club Leaders

Susanne Koster	Volunteer, Coordinator Long Island satellite
Ila Barnes*	Volunteer, Coordinator New York satellite
Janet Blaser*	Volunteer, Coordinator Rochester satellite
Mina Mikhail*	President, International Model Investing Club
Mike Vajdos*	Volunteer, President, South Texas Model Investing Club
John Finn*	Volunteer, President, Yankee Model Investing Club

Volunteers

Harold Ackerman*	William Hawkins*
John Carr Iii*	Avi Horwitz*
Phil Crandall*	Linda Hunt*
Virginia Devlin*	Ariel Jensen-Vargas*
Ernie Felzani*	Billy Joyner*
Jeff Fraser*	Judy Karlin*
Sharon Gaskill*	Herman Lebron*
Ira Haas*	

Patricia Leonard*
Tom Loftus*
Thomas Martinka*
Albert Molter Jr*
Monica Noel*
Joanne Obata*
Kevyn Robinson*

Patti Singer*
David Sky*
Philip Sudore*
Ruth Thomas*
Robert Walker*
Richard Yurick*

Chapter Membership and Budget

The OLC has approximately 3200 U.S. members plus perhaps 200 non U.S. members. BetterInvesting helped the Chapter get started with a budget allocation of \$3500. We have spent \$1560 for two years of Go2Meeting and Go2Webinar licenses. That leaves the chapter with \$1940. So far, the chapter has not established and sources of revenue, although it hopes activities such as the First Cut submissions and Club Visits can provide a small stream of income in the future.

Email Contact

The OLC encourages all members to receive Interspire email from BI and our Chapter. To activate such contact, sign in to BetterInvesting, click on my account , and then email product and subscription information.

Due to the complexities of international privacy regulations, the OLC does not have Interspire contact with international members. I welcome hearing from international members who would like to receive BI emails to see if any progress can be made on this. Email president@online.betterinvesting.net.

Chapter Meetings

7:00 pm ET the fourth Thursday of each month, except a December 10, 2020 meeting was held in lieu of the usual November and December meetings.

BINC

The OLC is planning on having opportunities for our volunteers and members attending the BetterInvesting National Convention (BINC) to meet face-to-face during the convention. Stay tuned for more information.

Technology

Naturally the chapter has a website

The chapter has Citrix 'Go To Meeting' (GTM) and Go2Webinar (GTW) licenses that we use for smaller meetings (e.g., Board and smaller meetings) and larger meetings (e.g., webinars, the Annual meeting) respectively.

We use Interspire for email communications.

For administrative purposes, we have limited access Google drive and Sharepoint sites.

We have a Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/onlinechapterbi/>).

Many thanks to Jie Eagleson, JoAnne Obata, Bob Houle and others who manage these.

Online Chapter Model Clubs

International Model Investing Club

This club meets online the 3rd Monday of each month. It invests hypothetically to avoid tax and currency exchange issues due to our international membership.

South Texas Model Investing Club

Currently meeting online. Meetings start with a 10 minute investing education presentation followed by a stock study of interest to the club. After the presentation the club's partners analyze the club's investment portfolio and make adjustments as necessary. Next meeting 6:30 CT, September 8.

Yankee Model Investing Club

Meetings are held on online the second Saturday of each month, 11:00 am to 12:30 pm ET. Meeting start with a 10 minute investing education presentation followed by a stock study of interest to the club. After the presentation the club's partners analyze the club's investment portfolio and make adjustments as necessary.

Meetings of model clubs are open to interested individuals. See

<https://www.betterinvesting.org/chapters/online/local-events>

Online Events

Playing the Investment Piano with Both Hands - Part 2, November 17, 2020, Saul Seinfeld

Playing the Investment Piano with Both Hands - Part 3, December 15, 2020, Saul Seinfeld

Reflections of a Lifelong Better Investor, 8:30 EDT, August 26, Cy Lynch
BetterInvesting Educational Resources, September 15th, TBC

The OLC cooperates with 19 other chapters in Multi-Chapter Stock Investing Made Easy Consortium spearheaded by OLC member Ovi Horowitz. Recent and forthcoming webinars include events in March, June and on August 31 "First Cut is the Deepest," Instructor, Lynn Treffry.

Plans are underway for an OLC webinar on BI investing resources scheduled for September 15. Stay tuned for more information.

Chapter Newsletter

The OLC aspires to publish at least two newsletter issues per year to reach out to membership. The newsletter can provide information about chapter programs and activities as well as helpful educational articles. The first issue of the newsletter was published this summer and is available on the News and Articles page of the chapter's website, <https://www.betterinvesting.org/chapters/online/news-articles>. Deep thanks to Sriram Madabhushi for pioneering this important aspect of the OLC.

Visit-a-Club program

The OLC has six clubs that participate in the Visit-a-Club program. Not to be confused with club visits provided by directors and others, the Visit-a-Club program gives individuals or groups of individuals the opportunity to learn more about investing and investment clubs by being a visiting guest at a functioning BetterInvesting investment club. See [Investment clubs near <chapter area> | Better Investing](#). The OLC would welcome additional clubs, especially those that meet online or in public venues (e.g., libraries) opening their meetings to such visitors. Thanks to Joe Farrell for coordinating this program. He would welcome additional volunteer helpers.

Club Visits and Anniversary Recognition

OLC Directors and volunteers welcome the opportunity to visit clubs to help them in their operations and to recognize their anniversaries. These visits can be in lieu of an educational component of a club meeting or a whole meeting. Club visits can include cover topics of the club's choosing. See [Investment club support services around <area> | Better Investing](#)

If your club is having a 5-year anniversary, the Board would love to have a Director congratulate your group. We are also instituting more systematic steps to help new clubs get well established.

Thanks to Howard Johnson and the Club Support Committee for their activities.

Volunteering with the OLC Chapter

Last but not least, we need your help volunteering with the OLC Chapter, in a number of areas, to continue providing this level of programming and support. See [Volunteering | Better Investing](#). Please contact us and let us know a few areas of expertise or other ways that you may help support your Chapter. Thanks for asking! We really appreciate your willingness to help.

BIG THANKS TO ALL DIRECTORS, MODEL CLUB MEMBERS, SATELLITE LEADERS, CLUB OFFICERS AND OTHERS WHO MAKE THE OLC CHAPTER SUCCESSFUL!

Dan Perlman
2020-21 OLC President