

Women's Investment Club of Rock Hill

The Women's Investment Club of Rock Hill (WICRH) began in 1993 when Mickey Taylor stood up at an American Association of University Women meeting and asked if anyone was interested in learning about stocks and investing. Twenty-four years later, WICRH remains an active club with 15 members. Mickey, the club's founder, left WICRH in 2016 when she moved to Florida. Four current members have been with WICRH for more than 20 years-three joined in 1993. And while members have come and gone, the club continues to thrive with a portfolio currently consisting of 11 diverse stocks and a total value averaging just under \$200,000.

Guided by the principles of *Better Investing*, in addition to an extensive *Articles of Partnership* document, the club remains focused on continuing education and stock purchases that are based on research. A different WICRH member provides an education session at each meeting. In addition, Research Teams are formed to present possible stocks for purchase. The club has elected officers, a formal agenda, as well as meeting minutes. Prospective members attend three meetings prior to completing an application, submitting a biography, and, finally, joining current members for a social lunch session. They are asked to join the club following a vote by current members. This insures that new members continue to work for the success of the club and believe in the principles that guide it.

Members have a shared vision of what the club should accomplish. They are all members of *Better Investing*, and *myclub* is used extensively. However, the longevity of WICRH is the result of the sense of community among its members. This group of women genuinely care about the club as well as each other. And, even though they often do not see each other between meetings, the bond that has developed among the members provides an incredibly strong support system. It is this bond that will insure the continued success of WICRH for many years to come.