

Investment Forum Program for Wednesday, April 2 at 11:30

Perspective: On March 26, *The Wall Street Journal* published a front-page article entitled “Stocks Tarnished By Lost Decade.” Basically, stock index fund investors haven’t made any money in this decade. Meanwhile, it’s not difficult to find managed funds that have performed significantly better. Perhaps there’s more to investing than simply buying a stock index fund?

Commodities: Are they the next bubble to implode or the next volcano to erupt? Both perspectives will be examined. For those who wish to invest in commodities, there are three ways to do so: (1) A commodity index fund, (2) ownership in companies that produce commodities either through individual stocks or mutual funds, or (3) a country fund or regional fund that benefits from commodity production. Two stocks that may be of interest are Potash Corporation of Saskatchewan (POT) and XTO Energy (XTO).

Sectors: On March 26, *Fortune.com* published an article entitled “Why tech stocks have a glorious future.” It paints a very rosy outlook for the future of information and telecom technology on a global basis. It is posted on the forum website at www.olligmu.org/~finforum/. One of many potential beneficiaries is Microsoft (MSFT).

Stock Talk: Suburban Propane (SPH) is an MLP that pays an 8% dividend and has a reputation as a steady performer.

On the Website: Reading material on new topics is posted regularly at www.olligmu.org/~finforum/.