

**INVESTMENT FORUM AGENDA FOR WEDNESDAY,
JANUARY 30, 2013, 11:50AM**

The Forum will meet at 11:50AM through February 13

Market Perspective. (Formerly "The Week that Was.") Another strong week. DOW up 1.8%, and up 6.0% for the first three weeks of the year. S&P up 1.1% for the week, and 5.4% for the year to date. NASDAQ 0.5% and 4.3%. Mostly on favorable economic news across the globe and decent earnings reports. The DOW and S&P are within 2% and 5% of their all-time highs. The 10 year T price was down, with the yield increasing to 1.94% (from 1.84% last week), but even that was likely for a good reason. A strengthening economy increases demand for credit or movement to "risk" assets and out of "risk off investments (bonds,) which drives bond yields up and prices down. Can anybody find any bad news out there?

Apple (AAPL.) There's the bad news! What a difference four months makes. During that time, Apple has lost a quarter trillion dollars of market value, as its stock has plummeted from \$702 to \$440. Something much discussed at the Forum and painful for all of you (us) Apple owners. Exxon Mobil is once again the largest US company by market value. That the overall market has been so strong recently despite Apple is remarkable. I don't intend to discuss Apple this week unless you bring it up.

Interesting fact, courtesy of Gloria Loew, and an article posted on the Forum website. If Apple's price/earnings ratio was the same as Amazon's, Apple would be selling for \$144,000 per share, and have a market value of \$136 trillion! Somebody needs to 'splain that to me, real slow.

Barron's suggests the "4% solution" for Apple: raising the dividend to 4%, which Apple can easily afford. Sounds like a good use of its profits and its \$140 billion cash horde sitting in company bank accounts. Are you listening, Mr. Cook and the Apple Board???

Rumor has it that some Forum members were buying AAPL last Friday. Identify yourselves!

General Electric (GE.) Once again, I will attempt to discuss GE, and what it is. Perhaps third time will be the charm.

Options. Several of you have asked for more on options. I will start with "Options 101" and the four options' positions, and risks/rewards of each. And a simple covered call transaction. In future sessions, Anne Lamar and perhaps others will talk about options' strategies. (Options' strategies can be extraordinarily complex and "don't try this at home;" we won't talk about those.)

Stock Price Predictions (cont.) Following up on our discussion last week, Tom has posted comments on the Forum website on several popular methodologies, which he will further discuss, this week or (more likely) at a future session.

Buys and Sells

Buys

Teucrium Corn ETF (CORN)
Teucrium Soybean ETF (SOYB)
Intel (INTC)
Vonage (VG)
Global X Superdividend ETF (SDIV)

Sells

Boeing (BA)

Thinking About . . .

Home Depot (HD)
Bank of America (BAC)
Lowe's (LOW)
Wells Fargo (WFC)
Novo Nordisk (NONOF)
Gilead Science (GILD)
Chevron (CVX)
Experience with Morningstar Dividend Investor recommendations. (We will schedule a discussion of this. How do you use it? Josh Peters' perspectives and comments? His research on stocks he follows? Do you act (buy and sell) from his recommendations?)

Al Smuzynski
asmuzynski@verizon.net