

INVESTMENT FORUM AGENDA FOR WEDNESDAY, May 7, 2014, 11:50AM, TA-1

We need a Moderator for this Session! Neither Tom Crooker nor I are available. Most of the time is filled, but the Moderator can still take some time to talk about whatever topics you want to discuss. Please e-mail me if you are willing to be the Moderator this week.

Market Perspective. After the usual Friday swoon, markets were still up for the week: the Dow up 0.93% the S&P up 0.95%; and the NASDAQ up 1.19%. Markets shrugged off the low first quarter GDP growth numbers (impact of the cold winter . . . you heard that at the Forum first!) but markets were down Friday, after strong job's numbers (but due to shrinkage of the labor market.)

Other news - interest rates have fallen to their lowest levels of the year, and acquisition activity seems to be up. (Companies using their pricey stocks to buy other companies' equally pricey stocks?)

Energy. Continuing our discussion from last week, Ed Swoboda will discuss a number of energy topics and energy investments he favors. (My crystal ball thinks Master Limited Partnerships and an update on their prospects may be one of Ed's topics.)

Energy is a very wide sector with investments that cover the risk spectrum. There is much to be said about it, and we will give energy investments (including funds) much discussion over time.

Berkshire Hathaway (BRKB) had its widely followed Annual Meeting, where the Oracle of Omaha dispenses his pearls of wisdom. One matter noted, is the new name, Berkshire Hathaway Energy, which will house Berkshires energy investments. More capital will be allocated to energy, in particular renewables and regulated utilities.

Future Forum Topics

Investing with Grandchildren. On **May 14,** Burgess Levin will lead a panel on investing with grandchildren. Among the questions addressed will be: how to make the process fun; how much money is needed to make the process meaningful; how to involve the parents; how do do it with grandchildren who live outside the area; and how to embed the process and turn grandchildren into investors for life.

If you invest with your grandchildren and are willing to share your experiences, please advise Burgess (burgess.levin@live.com) or me.

Buys and Sells (week ending 4/30/2014)

Buys

Apple (AAPL)
Yahoo (YHOO)
Amazon (AMZN)
UnderArmour (UA)
Starbucks (SBUX)
First Trust Senior Floating Rate Income Fund II (FRT)

Sells

Female Health Co (FHCO) - manufactures the female condom, Market cap: \$210M.
Stratasys Ltd. (SSYS) - 3D printers. Market cap: \$4.8B
Texas Roadhouse, Inc. (TXRH) - restaurants. Market cap: \$1.8B

Thinking About . . .

General Electric (GE)

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