

**INVESTMENT FORUM AGENDA FOR WEDNESDAY, MAY 6, 2015, 11:50AM,
Fellowship Hall, Lord of Life Lutheran Church**

Market Perspective. The markets continue to trade in a narrow range, as they have for several months. For the week, the DOW was down 0.3%; the S&P was down 0.4%; and the NASDAQ was down 1.7%, after Thursday's drop and Friday's rally. Both the price of oil and interest rates have firmed up, and the dollar is off its highs. Corporate earnings seem to be coming in about as expected. If anybody has particular insights on what is going on, please share them!

DuPont (DD.) Hank Wolf will talk about this familiar name (and DJIA member) which is involved in a nasty proxy fight with Trian Fund, which wants four board seats and significant business plan changes.

"Robo Advisers." The Saturday, 4/25/2015 Wall Street Journal, had an article "Putting Robo Advisers to the Test." The article discussed computerized portfolio management services and featured a chart comparing 15 on-line advisory services, including costs. This article fits well with our recent discussions on financial managers and advisory services. I will display the chart in the article, and let's discuss.

International Stocks and Funds. Last week, I looked at international stock ETFs, using etfdb.com. It was suggested that a discussion of why to invest in international stocks should precede how to find them. We will have that discussion. Tom Crooker will share his views

This week, I will look at ETFs that invest in European equities.

Stock of the Week. Biogen (BIIB,) from the Buy/Sell list. A biotech, with promising multiple sclerosis and cancer drugs in its pipeline.

Buys and Sells (week of April 29)

Buys

Plains All-American Pipeline (PAA)

Mark West Energy (MWE)

Biogen (BIIB)

Intrexon (XON) - gene technology biotech. MC: \$4.2B.

Merck (MRK)

Vanguard FTSE Europe ETF (VGK)

Sells

Johnson and Johnson (JNJ)

Royal Dutch Shell (RDSB)

American Capital Agency Corp (AGNC)

Forum Resources

Investment Forum Website. The Investment Forum has its own website, www.olligmu.org/~finforum. Or the OLLI website, www.olligmu.org, and from the Main Menu, click on “Clubs, Group Blogs, and Ongoing Activities,” and then “Investment Forum.” The current agenda and previous agendas are posted, as well as articles in the financial press that members recommend.

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