

**INVESTMENT FORUM AGENDA FOR WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2017
10:30AM,
TALLWOOD, TA-1**

The Fall Term will begin on Wednesday, September 20, at 11:50AM, at Lord of Life.

Market Perspective. Markets were down for the week: the DOW down 0.9%; the S&P down 0.6%; and the NASDAQ down 1.2%. Attention was on natural disasters - hurricanes and earthquakes. The debt ceiling concern was moved out a few months.

Interest rates have moved lower once again, confounding central bankers and economic forecasters, and bank stocks. The dollar has declined, improving US investors holdings of foreign equities.

Because the DOW finished the week of August 4 above 22,000, we will celebrate “DOW 22,000” sometime after the beginning of the Fall term, with our traditional sheet cake, courtesy of Ed Swoboda.

Buy/Sell Lists. Going forward, please send me an e-mail, if you see a stock or fund on the Buy/Sell list, that you would like to see a brief discussion.

Insurance Company Stocks. Seems like a timely discussion, to talk about property and casualty insurers and reinsurers, and how their stocks hold up in face of natural disasters.

International Stock Funds. There are many ways to buy international stock funds. Developed markets or emerging markets or frontier markets. Funds that focus on Europe, Asia, or concentrations in certain nations. Currency hedged or currency exposed. Large, medium, or small caps. We will take a look at three ETFs that have appeared on the Buy/Sell list recently: iShares Edge MSCI Minimum Volatility EAFE ETF (EFAV); Vanguard FTSE Emerging Markets ETF (VWO); and Vanguard FTSE Pacific ETF (VPL).

DowDupont (DWDP). Let’s take a look at the new DowDupont (DWDP) after the merger of Dow and Dupont on September 1. These two familiar names will split up into three companies by 2019. What is that about? Will it be good or bad for shareholders?

Buys and Sells

Buys

Altria (MO)

Tanger Factory Outlet Center (SKT)

General Electric (GE)

Vanguard Emerging Markets ETF (VWO)

Sells

25% of holdings in Boeing (BA), BB&T (BBT), Johnson & Johnson (JNJ) - rebalancing
Brighthouse Financial (BHF)

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