

INVESTMENT FORUM AGENDA FOR WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2017 11:50AM,

LORD OF LIFE, FELLOWSHIP HALL

The Fall term runs through November 8, 2017

Market Perspective. Another good week, with there DOW up 1.6%; the S&P up 1.2%; and the NASDAQ up 1.4%. The markets are now 332 days without a 5% pullback, one day short of the all-time record of 333 days without a 5% pullback, set in 1994.

Low-Stress Investing. Paul Howard will discuss “low-stress investing,” using Vanguard and Fidelity newsletters. Unlike most of us, Paul and his wife do not have defined-benefit pensions, and must rely on their investment portfolios to live on.

DOW 22,000 sheet cake. We will celebrate DOW 22,000 at the end of class, with our customary sheet cake provided by Ed Swoboda. We will need a few volunteers to cut the cake and put slices on paper plates.

We better eat it fast. With the DOW at 22,774, we are one good trading day away from DOW 23,000. Our “sheet cake trigger” is the DOW ending the week at its new 1,000 point milestone.

Upcoming

On October 18, we will have up to four members discuss their “Lessons Learned.” Each member, a long-time investor, will talk about one to three important strategies, investment selection techniques, or advice from other “experts,” that have worked or not worked. The idea is to share your valuable experiences with newer or less experienced investors. Please let me know if you are willing to do this. I am looking for some “fresh faces” in addition to our regulars.

On October 25, Brenda Bloch-Young will be the Forum Moderator, and she will discuss the upcoming tax reform (or will it just be tax rate reductions), - whatever we know about them, and their likely impact.

At a date to be determined, we will have discussions from several members on useful sources of information. What services, websites, newsletters do you use and how do you use them? We will try pull them up on the screen, to see what they look like and what they have. Please let me know if you are willing to share your favorites.

Before the end of the Fall term, John Woods will comment on strategies for taking RMDs (Required Minimum Distributions) from IRAs. John, who is also our own (and only) farmer, will update us on the current state of agriculture and crop prices.

Buys and Sells (week ending 10/4/2017)

Buys

Buy to open Apple (AAPL) \$150 January 2020 Calls
Alibaba (BABA)

Sells

Sell to open Apple (AAPL) \$150 January 2020 Puts
Dominion Energy
Four Corners Property Trust (FCPT) - restaurant REIT
Pioneer Natural Resources (PXD)
Disney (DIS)

Thinking About . . .

BYD Company Ltd, ADR (BYDDY) - Chinese autos and batteries. MC: \$29B
General Electric (GE) - "will restructure work?"
Dominion Energy (D) - "good company but stock is expensive."

Investment Forum Website. The Investment Forum has its own website, www.olligmu.org/~finforum. Or from the OLLI website, www.olligmu.edu, 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.

Al Smuzynski
Investment Forum Moderator
asmuzynski@verizon.net