

**INVESTMENT FORUM AGENDA FOR WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2018
10:30AM,**

TALLWOOD, TA-1

We will meet as a “club” at 10:30AM, Tallwood TA-1, until the start of the Fall Term on September 19. No registration is needed for “club” meetings, and guests are welcome.

The Fall Term begins on September 19, 11:50AM, Lord of Life, Fellowship Hall

Market Perspective. Markets were down for the week, with the drop caused by tech and “momentum” stocks - which have been the big winners lately. For the week, the DOW was down 0.2%; the S&P down 1.0%; and the NASDAQ down 2.6%. Is this a short-lived blip for tech stocks, or reversion to the mean?

The flattening yield curve got a bit less flat, with the 2-10 spread rising to .24%. Still very flat, but less flat than the .19% two weeks ago.

10th Anniversary of Lehman. This week’s Barron’s, Saturday’s Wall Street Journal, and Sunday’s Washington Post, all had special reports on the 10th anniversary of the collapse of Lehman Bros, which kicked the Great Recession into high gear. All have insightful articles and are good reads, with interesting comments on the causes of the recession from a ten-year look back, how it impacted investors and a “lost generation” of investors, and what is now lurking that might bring on the next downturn.

Searching for Yield. The 8/22/2018 Buy and Sell list had a buy, AGNC Investment Corp (AGNC), a mortgage REIT, with a yield of 11.4%. We will talk about mortgage REITS, and the risks investors take to get such lofty yields.

DOW 25,000 sheet cake. We will celebrate DOW 25,000, which happened some time ago, this Wednesday at the end of class.

Garrett Ruhl comments. Starting this week and continuing in the Fall term, Garrett Ruhl will discuss the use of ValueLine to select and analyze stocks, and portfolio construction and financial planning for investors without pensions, or who are funding significant living expenses from their portfolios.

Upcoming

Charitable Trusts. During the Fall term, John Woods will discuss charitable trusts, their tax advantages and flexibility of donations, and use of RMDs as a funding source.

Buys and Sells

Buys (week ending 9/5/2018)

Magellan Midstream Partners (MMP)

Ford (F)

NovoCure (NVCR) - Cancer treatment. MC: \$4.5B. Spill it, buyer!

Enterprise Products Partners (EPD)

Baron Real Estate Retail Fund (BREFX) - MC: \$895M

Matthews Asia Growth Investor Fund (MPACX)

IShares Russell 2000 Value ETF (IWN)

Tandem Diabetes (TNDM)

Financial Select Sector SPDR ETF (XLF) - add to

Sells (week ending 9/5/2018)

General Electric (GE)

Western Gas Partners LP (WES)

PharmaCyte Biotech (EFY)

Teucrium Corn ETF (CORN)

Thinking About . . .

Box, Inc (BOX) - cloud technology. MC: \$3.5B

Omnicom Group (OMC)

IBM (IBM)

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

Al Smuzynski
Investment Forum Moderator
asmuzynski@verizon.net