

**INVESTMENT FORUM AGENDA FOR WEDNESDAY,
MARCH 17, 2021 10:30AM**

We will meet as a “club” through March 24, at 10:30AM. The Spring Term begins March 31 and ends May 19, at 11:50AM.

The Zoom link for this week is 861 1181 9898, Passcode 468 378. Watch for the daily notices from OLLI of the Zoom links and use those if different from this one.

Markets. An up week, but with value stocks and small caps outperforming growth and tech - something we have seen for several months. For the week, the DOW was up 4.1% (up 7.1% YTD;) the S&P up 2.6% (up 5.0% YTD;) the NASDAQ up 3.1% (up 3.4% YTD;) and the Russell 2000 up 7.3% (up 21% YTD.) Interest rates are driving growth stocks, with rising rates hurting growth stock prices. Otherwise, the stimulus and end of the pandemic are creating much bullishness for stocks.

Topics This Week.

Survey on Forum topics.

Our survey on Forum topics will have to wait, since Lou and Brenda, our Zoom gurus, are not with us this week.

Bitcoin and cryptocurrencies. I posted on the Forum website, an OLLI class, from Summer 2020, on cryptocurrencies. It is a little over an hour, and talks about the history of payment systems, and Bitcoin and cryptocurrencies. It may not answer all of your questions on Bitcoin, though.

Forum topics I am seeking input. Cutting edge technologies and high growth. SPACs, green energy, space, social media, new companies with P/Es over 200. We will always devote time to this, mainly via the Buy/Sell list, but are we shortchanging the large cap stocks, and funds of all kinds, that comprise the bulk of our investments? Should we devote more or less time to these, or are we hitting it about right?

Bob Baker will look at the Buy/Sell list.

Buys and Sells

Buys (week ending 3/12/2021)

Hercules Capital (HTGC) - business development company

Gilead (GILD) - add

Medical Properties Trust (MPW) - add

Pfizer (PFE) - add

National Storage Affiliates Trust (NSAPRA)

Oracle (ORCL) - add

Global X US Infrastructure ETF (PAVE)

Safety Insurance Group (SAFT)

VIR Biotech (VIR)

Roblox (RBLX)

GameStop (GME)

Bitcoin

Etherium

General Electric (GE)

Sells (week ending 3/12/2021)

Cracker Barrel (CBRL)

Store Capital (STOR)

Ford (F) - trim

Abbott (ABT)

Bristol Myers (BMY)

Roche (RHHBY)

iShares Asia 50 ETF (AIA)

iShares Core MSCI Total International Stock ETF (IXUS)

Invesco WilderHill Clean Energy ETF (PBW)

AstraZeneca (AZN)

Oracle (ORC)

Thinking About . . .

Boeing (BA)

Upcoming Topics.

Options (continued). The discussion of “synthetic long” of Apple shares, may have left your head spinning. I will sell a covered call option on Apple. The simplest, easiest to understand options trade. One with little risk, looking to increase the yield on shares you own.

Mutual Funds. Over the next few months, Jim Dann will look at managed mutual funds investing in Asian stocks; and low-cost mutual fund families that are not well known.

Investment Forum Website. The Investment Forum website may be accessed at oli.gmu.edu, then pressing the “Clubs & Activities” link in the center of the home page of the home page, followed by the “Inve\$tment Forum” link on the dropdown list. Please contact Jim Coile, the Webmaster with any presentation contributions, article suggestion, or improvements by email, ctj444@icloud.com The website has current and past agendas and buy/sell list presentations.

Al Smuzynski
Investment Forum Moderator
asmuzynski@verizon.net