

INVESTMENT FORUM AGENDA FOR DECEMBER 7, 2011, 10:00 AM

The Forum will meet December 14, and January 4, 11, and 18 at 10:00 AM

OLLI Winter Term. The Winter Catalogue is on-line. Registration begins December 12. The Investment Forum will meet at 11:45 AM from January 25 through February 15.

The Week that Was. Last week this space lamented the miserable market performance of the previous two weeks. Then, by our Wednesday discussion, we were in the midst of week with a 7.4% rise in the S&P, the biggest one week pop since 2008, on progress in resolving European debt, a drop in unemployment, and a strong start to the Xmas shopping season. Will this be a December to Remember??

Tom Crooker's Quote of the Week. Tom Crooker is still on the mend. Until he returns, I will share his thoughts. This week, he quotes Joe Rosenberg, from this weeks Barron's: "You can have cheap equity prices or good news, but you can't have both."

Gloria's technical indicators. Gloria Loew will show us charts of interest. And since she is just back from vacationing in Italy, perhaps she will have insights on those crazy Italians, who economy threatens the value of our portfolios.

Bruce Reinhart on Mutual Funds.

Bob Springer on Munis. Bob will do his personal introduction, plus talk about munis and Virginia bonds, buying them individually or through mutual funds or CEFs.

New ETFs (continued.) I have mentioned the continuous stream of new ETF products, that are increasingly specific by sector, leverage, index, and strategy, to scratch itches investors never knew they had. Those of you looking for more exposure to Nigeria (who isn't?) will be happy to know that Van Eck will soon launch a Nigeria ETF, with "exposure to Western Africa, a substantial part of this portfolio will be focused on Nigerian companies."

Seeking Alpha. I know that many of you subscribe to the Seeking Alpha newsletters. For those of you who do not, I recommend that you check out the website, www.SeekingAlpha.com. You can subscribe (free) to daily newsletters, according to your investment preferences (funds, stocks, fixed income, income generating investments, recent market actions, etc..) The daily newsletters become fairly easy to skim for content of interest.

Al Smuzynski
asmuzynski@verizon.net