

INVESTMENT FORUM AGENDA FOR WEDNESDAY, April 30, 2014, 11:50AM, TA-1

The Forum will meet at 11:50AM through May 14.

Market Perspective. The markets were down slightly (DOW down 0.3%; S&P down 0.1%; and NASDAQ down 0.5%) after Friday's big sell-off. Turmoil in Russia and the Ukraine, and its economic impact on Russia, were blamed. First quarter earnings are coming in generally strong, with some notable exceptions, like Amazon (AMZN.)

Utilities (which are up 10% YTD!), healthcare, and basic materials are the sectors leading the market so far. My guess is that most Forum members are seeing better performance in their portfolios, than the broader market.

Panel on Energy Investing. We will look at slides on US energy production, which has increased dramatically, leading to lower US energy prices and increased competitiveness for manufacturing. Then, Alan Glenn, Tom Crooker, and Ed Swoboda will give their perspectives on energy investments.

Steve Pearlstein, Bear Prediction. Steve Pearlstein, Washington Post columnist and "Robinson Professor" of Public Affairs at GMU, wrote in his Sunday column, that credit markets are in a bubble. "For investors, I think the better strategy is to take your gains now, put most of you savings in cash, and wait for the market correction to play itself out."

Apple (AAPL.) Did anybody buy Apple last Wednesday afternoon after Sy Sherman's Forum presentation? Anybody who did is smiling with Apple's earnings' beat after close of trading on Wednesday, and big rise on Thursday. You 'da man, Sy!

Forum Moderator needed for May 7. Got something you particularly want to discuss? This is your opportunity! I will distribute the agenda and can help prepare it.

Future Forum Topics

Investing with Grandchildren. On May 14, Burgess Levin will lead a panel on investing with

grandchildren. Among the questions addressed will be: how to make the process fun; how much money is needed to make the process meaningful; how to involve the parents; how do do it with grandchildren who live outside the area; and how to embed the process and turn grandchildren into investors for life.

If you invest with your grandchildren and are willing to share your experiences, please advise Burgess (burgess.levin@live.com) or me.

Buys and Sells (week ending 4/23/2014)

Buys

Blackstone Group, LP (BX)
Facebook (FB)
Global X Social Media Index ETF (SOCL)
Market Vectors Russia ETF (RSX)
First Trust ISE Cloud Computing Index ETF (SKYY)
Under Armour (UA)
BreitBurn Energy Partners LP (BBEP)
(EEG) - ?
Vanguard Long-Term Corporate Bond Index ETF (VCLT)

Sells

Cliffs Natural Resources (CLF)
International Business Machine (IBM)
Pimco Investment Grade Corporate Bond Fund (PIGIX)
Suncor Energy (SU)
Williams Sonoma (WSM) call option

Thinking About . . .

Noodles and Company (NDLS)
Wells Fargo (WFC)

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