

INVESTMENT FORUM AGENDA FOR WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25, 2018 11:50AM,

TALLWOOD, TA-1

The Spring Term runs through May 18

The Forum will meet on May 23 at 11:50AM at Lord of Life. We will meet on May 30, June 6 and June 13, at 10:30AM at Tallwood TA-1. The Forum Summer Term begins June 20, at 11:50AM at Lord of Life.

James Dann will be Forum Moderator this week.

Market Perspective. The week started well, reflecting strong first quarter earnings from early reporters, but ended with a thud. For the week, the DOW was up 0.4%; the S&P up 0.5%; and the NASDAQ up 0.6%. The impact of lower tax rates is showing up in corporate earnings.

Our thanks to Brenda Bloch-Young for her informative discussion of tax reform and what is ahead. She will periodically update us on rules that come out, that may add clarity to the law's impact on investors.

Investing Abroad. International stocks had a banner year in 2017. James Dann will review what's been happening thus far with them in 2018, and offer some thoughts on some specific international mutual funds, ETFs, and individual stocks. He'll also raise some of the cautions inherent in foreign investing, particularly currency risk.

Upcoming Topics.

May 2. Stock Buy-Backs. Many companies have been buying back their own stock since the recession. We will look at the basics of stock buy-backs and try to figure out who this benefits: existing shareholders, the company, insiders, or other stakeholders.

We will look under the hood of a closed-end-fund, Pimco Dynamic Credit and Mortgage Fund (PCI), which yields 8.6%. What kinds of risks are you taking to get that yield?

May 16. Stock Picking. Ingrid Hendershott, CFA, President of Hendershott Investments, will share her views on the market and stocks that she buys for her clients' portfolios. Ms. Hendershott has spoken to the Forum several times over the years.

Buys and Sells

Buys (week of 4/11/2018)

Dominion Energy (D)

Vanguard S&P 500 ETF (VOO)

First Dow Jones Internet ETF (FDN)

HP Inc (HPQ) - formerly Hewlett Packard. MC: \$36B

Target (TGT)

Vanguard Emerging Markets Government Bond ETF (VWOB)

Buys (week of 4/18/2018)

SPDR S&P Aerospace & Defense ETF (XAR)

Procter & Gamble (PG) - add to

Matthews Asia Growth Fund (MPACX)

PNC Financial Services Group (PNC) - add to

Sells (week of 4/11/2018)

Carnival Corporation (CCL)

Merck (MRK)

Gilead (GILD)

Sells (week of 4/18/2018)

Energy Transfer Partners (ETP)

Matthews Asia Growth and Income Fund (MACSX)

General Electric (GE) - tax loss. Possible buy back in 31 days

Thinking About . . .

Nvidia (NVDA)

Omnicom Group (OMC)

General Electric (GE)

Nvidia (NVDA)

“Doing nothing in the foreseeable”

AAll seminar. Mark Hulbert will present, “Lessons Learned from Four Decades of Tracking Advisers’ Returns,” on Saturday, 5/19/2018, 9AM to 11:30AM, at NOVA Annandale Campus. Cost is \$35. Register via the AAll website, aaiddcmetro.com.

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

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