Sun City Summerlin Computer Club

Internet Investing SIG

Tom Burt October 16, 2014

SIG Meeting Schedule

- Currently, I expect the Internet Investing SIG to meet every other "even" month on the third Thursday morning at 9 AM. The next six meetings will be:
 - October 16, 2014
 - December 18, 2014
 - February 19, 2015
 - April 16, 2015
 - June 18, 2015
 - August 20, 2015

A Perfect Storm

- Dollar has gained against foreign currencies.
 - Oil priced in dollars
 - Saudis and Iran are pumping and flooding the markets
 - Crude oil (now \$82) and many energy stocks have dropped.
 - Other commodity prices and stocks of producers down.
- ISIS in the middle east causing great concern.
 - "Flight to quality" (Selling stocks and buying US Govt. debt) has pushed bond yields down. 10 year Treasury note yield about 2%
- Ebola virus outbreak has investors worried about how it will affect the economy
 - Air and train travel
 - Cruises
 - Conventions
 - Movies and restaurants
- Obamacare policies kicking in more cancellations.
- General sense that the government doesn't know how to deal with these issues.

Recent Market Moves

- Let's Look at Recent Charts for Market Averages
 - Dow Jones Industrials Chart ^DJI
 - S&P 500 Chart ^GSPC
 - Nasdaq 100 Chart ^IXIC
 - Russell 2000 Chart ^RUT
- The markets have been dropping.
 - Dow has now about retreated to about 16,140 (down 450 intraday) after getting above 17,500. This is a 7.8% drop from the highs.
- What did YOU do (if anything) in the past two months?
 - Sell before? Or just hold?
 - Did you buy Puts? Sell covered Calls?
 - Did you or will you buy in near the bottom?
- What do YOU think will happen in the next 3-6 months?
- What's the best strategy to follow?

Exchange Traded Funds

- ETFs are mutual funds that trade all day like stocks
- ETFs typically track some index not actively managed
- ETFs have relatively low expenses (commonly < .5%)
- There are now thousands of ETFs to choose from
 - Sector ETFs
 - Broad index ETFs (S&P, Russell, Nasdaq, Dow 30, ...)
 - Look at SCHD as an example
- Let's do some research ...
 - Google Searches
 - iShares
 - Blackrock
 - Schwab

Open Discussion