

Sun City Summerlin Computer Club

\$ Internet Investing SIG \$

Tom Burt

May 16, 2024

SIG Meeting Schedule

- The Internet Investing SIG meets every month on the third Thursday morning at **10 AM**.
- Investing SIG Chat Line
 - *Subscribe:* [SCSCCInvestingSIG+subscribe@groups.io](https://groups.io/join/SCSCCInvestingSIG+subscribe)
 - *Post:* [SCSCCInvestingSIG@groups.io](https://groups.io/g/SCSCCInvestingSIG)
- The upcoming session dates will be:

June 20, 2024
July 18, 2024
August 15, 2024
September 19, 2024
October 17, 2024
November 21, 2024

December 19, 2024
January 16, 2025
February 20, 2025
March 20, 2025
April 17, 2025
May 15, 2025

Fundamentals Review – May 15, 2024

- Dollar slightly weaker against foreign currencies / commodities.
 - Oil (WTI) – still priced in dollars – is around **\$78.87** / barrel.
 - Stock indexes have rebounded from recent dips and are at or near all-time highs.
 - Dow 30: **39,908** S&P 500: **5,308**, Nasdaq: **16,742**, Russell 2000: **2,109**, Gold: **\$2,392**, Silver: **\$29.92**, Bitcoin: **\$66,114**, EUR/USD: **\$1.088**
 - S&P PE ratio is **24.8** vs 16.1 long term average (<https://www.multpl.com/s-p-500-pe-ratio>).
- Key interest rates have risen; short-term inversion is still present
 - 1-year Treasury – about **5.16%**; 10-year Treasury - about **4.36%**; 30-year Treasury - about **4.64%**.
 - 30-year fixed mortgage – **7.033% Apr**; 15-year fixed mortgage – **6.15% Apr.** ; Prime – **8.5%**
- Federal Reserve held Fed Funds rate steady at 5.5% (5.25% – 5.50% range).
Next meeting is 06-11-24; Fed may no longer make rate cuts before 2024 election.
- Gov't BLS Claims April US Job Unemployment was **3.9%**.
 - <https://www.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/empst.pdf>
 - This number has been improving, but many workers are still on government payments.
- Official 2024 Inflation Rates (YoY) for April were: CPI **3.4%**, PPI **2.2%**
 - <https://www.usinflationcalculator.com/inflation/current-inflation-rates/>
 - LV Regular Gasoline (**\$3.99(.9)** at Costco, **\$4.50(.9)** at Chevron).

Fundamentals Review – April 16, 2024

- Dollar slightly stronger against foreign currencies / commodities.
 - Oil (WTI) – still priced in dollars – is around **\$82.88** / barrel.
 - Stock indexes have been easing and are down a few percent from recent all-time highs.
 - Dow 30: **37,753** S&P 500: **5,022**, Nasdaq: **15,683**, Russell 2000: **1,948**, Gold: **\$2,388**, Silver: **\$28.36**, Bitcoin: **\$61,294**, EUR/USD: **\$1.067**
 - S&P PE ratio is **27.3** vs 16.1 long term average (<https://www.multpl.com/s-p-500-pe-ratio>).
- Key interest rates have risen; short-term inversion is still present
 - 1-year Treasury – about **5.18%**; 10-year Treasury - about **4.59%**; 30-year Treasury - about **4.70%**.
 - 30-year fixed mortgage – **7.43% Apr**; 15-year fixed mortgage – **6.48% Apr.** ; Prime – **8.5%**
- Federal Reserve held Fed Funds rate steady at 5.5% (5.25% – 5.50% range).
Next meeting is 04-30-24; Fed hints at 3 rate cuts in 2024.
- Gov't BLS Claims March US Job Unemployment was **3.8%**.
 - <https://www.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/empst.pdf>
 - This number has been improving, but many workers are still on government payments.
- Official 2024 Inflation Rates (YoY) for March were: CPI **3.5%**, PPI **2.0%**
 - <https://www.usinflationcalculator.com/inflation/current-inflation-rates/>
 - LV Regular Gasoline (**\$4.29** at Costco, **\$4.86** at Chevron).

Fundamentals Review – March 20, 2024

- Dollar slightly stronger against foreign currencies / commodities.
 - Oil (WTI) – still priced in dollars – is off recent lows to around **\$81.84** / barrel.
 - Stock indexes have been rising and are near all-time highs.
 - Dow 30: **39,512** S&P 500: **5,225**, Nasdaq: **16,369**, Russell 2000: **2,075**, Gold: **\$2,208**, Silver: **\$25.86**, Bitcoin: **\$67,862**, EUR/USD: **\$1.094**
 - S&P PE ratio is **28.4** vs 16.1 long term average (<https://www.multpl.com/s-p-500-pe-ratio>).
- Key interest rates have risen; short-term inversion is still present
 - 1-year Treasury – about **5.06%**; 10-year Treasury - about **4.27%**; 30-year Treasury - about **4.46%**.
 - 30-year fixed mortgage – **7.13% Apr**; 15-year fixed mortgage – **6.50% Apr.** ; Prime – **8.5%**
- Federal Reserve held Fed Funds rate steady at 5.5% (5.25% – 5.50% range).
Next meeting is 04-30-24; Fed hints at 3 rate cuts in 2024.
- Gov't BLS Claims February US Job Unemployment was **3.9%**.
 - <https://www.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/empst.pdf>
 - This number has been improving, but many workers are still on government payments.
- Official 2024 Inflation Rates (YoY) for February were: CPI **3.2%**, PPI **1.6%**
 - <https://www.usinflationcalculator.com/inflation/current-inflation-rates/>
 - LV Regular Gasoline (**\$3.85** at Costco, **\$4.56** at Chevron).

News Bits & Bytes

- **Biden Admin Hikes Tariffs on Chinese EVs**
 - <https://www.zerohedge.com/geopolitical/biden-administration-quadruples-tariffs-chinese-evs>
- **Copper Thieves Target Tesla Super Chargers**
 - <https://www.zerohedge.com/commodities/copper-scrappers-target-tesla-superchargers-metal-prices-soar>
- **April PPI Comes in Hot – Inflation Surging Again**
 - <https://www.breitbart.com/economy/2024/05/14/inflation-inferno-producer-price-index-show-prices-rising-much-more-than-expected/>
- **Google's Veo – AI - Generated Video**
 - <https://finance.yahoo.com/news/google-gets-serious-ai-generated-180200987.html>
- **Inflation – Collapse of the Roman Empire**
 - <https://www.zerohedge.com/economics/does-inflation-lead-civilizational-collapse-look-rome>
- **Watch Out for Capital Gains Tax on Sale of Home**
 - <https://www.cnbc.com/2024/05/13/calculate-capital-gains-taxes-when-selling-a-home.html>

Paid Stock Picking & Analysis Services

- Review: <https://stockanalysis.com/article/best-stock-picking-services/>
- Review: <https://www.wallstreetzen.com/blog/best-stock-picking-service/>
- Most Brokerage Firms Offer AI-based Trading Tools (We've discussed previously)
- Various Stock Picking Services / Websites (Some with Free Tiers or free trials)
Most have lots of analysis, stock screeners, historical data.
- Pay someone else to do the research and analysis; you make the buy/sell trades.
 - *The Motley Fool* <https://www.fool.com/> \$99 / year (1st year)
 - *Morningstar* <https://www.morningstar.com/> \$249 / year
 - *Seeking Alpha* <https://seekingalpha.com/> \$239 / year
 - *Wall Street Zen* <https://www.wallstreetzen.com/> \$234 / year
 - *Zacks* <https://www.zacks.com/> \$249 / year
 - *Yahoo Finance Premium* <https://finance.yahoo.com/about/plans/select-plan/> \$95.40 / year & up
 - *CNBC Investing Club* <https://www.cnbc.com/investingclub/> (Cramer) \$400 / year
- If you sign up, expect to get a LOT of email.

Tom's Recent (and Future) Financial Moves

- ***Disclaimer: These are not recommendations! Your financial situation and market circumstances are likely different.***
- **Trades**
 - ***Sold 42 BSV @75.946 – Cleaning house, raising cash in Roth***
- ***Bond yields have been fluctuating (i.e. bond prices rising & falling)***
Yields on preferred stock ETFs, bank CDs, money market funds have rebounded.
Fixed income assets prices likely steady until after 2024 election. May want to lock in yields.
- ***EV car makers' problems are apparent, but government mandates will continue.***
Hybrids are likely a better bet for consumers for next few years.
- ***Still Looking at Utilities, Uranium miners, Copper, Robotics / Automation / AI***
 - ***No way to meet demand with renewables (wind, solar), so nuclear should see a resurgence.***
 - ***Flight from high-tax northern blue states to the south will increase demand for power there.***
 - ***Electric vehicles and utility transmission lines require lots of copper, rare earth metals, lithium.***
- **Let's look at Tom's "Hot List"**

Open Discussion