

Sun City Summerlin Computer Club

\$ Internet Investing SIG \$

Tom Burt

September 19, 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:

October 17, 2024
November 21, 2024
December 19, 2024
January 16, 2025
February 20, 2025
March 20, 2025

April 17, 2025
May 15, 2025
June 19, 2025
July 17, 2025
August 21, 2025
September 18, 2025

Fundamentals Review – September 18, 2024

- Dollar slightly weaker against foreign currencies / commodities.
 - Oil (WTI) – still priced in dollars – is around **\$70.23** / barrel.
 - Stock indexes have rebounded from recent dips and are at or near all-time highs.
 - Dow 30: **41,503** S&P 500: **5,618**, Nasdaq: **17,573**, Russell 2000: **2,206**, Gold: **\$2,582**, Silver: **\$30.41**, Bitcoin: **\$60,614**, EUR/USD: **\$1.112**
 - S&P PE ratio is **28.6** vs 17.9 long term median
(https://www.gurufocus.com/economic_indicators/57/pe-ratio-ttm-for-the-sp-500).
- Key interest rates have risen; short-term inversion (1 yr vs 10 yr) is still present
 - 1-year Treasury – about **3.96%**; 10-year Treasury - about **3.69%**; 30-year Treasury - about **4.01%**.
 - 30-year fixed mortgage – **6.50% Apr**; 15-year fixed mortgage – **5.63% Apr** ; Prime – **8.5%**
- Federal Reserve cut Fed Funds rate by .5% to 4.87% (4.75% – 5.0% range).
Next meeting is 11-07-24.
- Gov't BLS Claims August US Job Unemployment was **4.2%**.
 - <https://www.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/empsit.pdf>
 - This number has been improving, but many workers are still on government payments.
- Official 2024 Inflation Rates (YoY) for August were: Headline CPI **2.5%**, PPI **1.7%**
 - <https://www.usinflationcalculator.com/inflation/current-inflation-rates/>
 - LV Regular Gasoline (**\$3.57(.9)** at Costco, **\$4.10(.9)** at Chevron).

Fundamentals Review – August 14, 2024

- Dollar slightly weaker against foreign currencies / commodities.
 - Oil (WTI) – still priced in dollars – is around **\$83.10** / barrel.
 - Stock indexes have rebounded from recent dips and are at or near all-time highs.
 - Dow 30: **41,198** S&P 500: **5,588**, Nasdaq: **17,9997**, Russell 2000: **2,240**, Gold: **\$2,463**, Silver: **\$30.52**, Bitcoin: **\$64,188**, EUR/USD: **\$1.094**
 - S&P PE ratio is **29.6** vs 17.9 long term median
(https://www.gurufocus.com/economic_indicators/57/pe-ratio-ttm-for-the-sp-500).
- Key interest rates have risen; short-term inversion is still present
 - 1-year Treasury – about **4.85%**; 10-year Treasury - about **4.17%**; 30-year Treasury - about **4.36%**.
 - 30-year fixed mortgage – **6.78% Apr**; 15-year fixed mortgage – **6.28% Apr.** ; Prime – **8.5%**
- Federal Reserve held Fed Funds rate steady at about 5.33% (5.25% – 5.50% range). Next meeting is 07-30-24; Fed *might* make rate cuts in September.
- Gov't BLS Claims July US Job Unemployment was **4.1%**.
 - <https://www.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/empsit.pdf>
 - *This number has been improving, but many workers are still on government payments.*
- Official 2024 Inflation Rates (YoY) for July were: All Items CPI **3.0%**, PPI **2.65%**
 - <https://www.usinflationcalculator.com/inflation/current-inflation-rates/>
 - LV Regular Gasoline (**\$3.47(.9)** at Costco, **\$4.14(.9)** at Chevron).

Fundamentals Review – July 17, 2024

- Dollar slightly weaker against foreign currencies / commodities.
 - Oil (WTI) – still priced in dollars – is around **\$83.10** / barrel.
 - Stock indexes have rebounded from recent dips and are at or near all-time highs.
 - Dow 30: **41,198** S&P 500: **5,588**, Nasdaq: **17,9997**, Russell 2000: **2,240**, Gold: **\$2,463**, Silver: **\$30.52**, Bitcoin: **\$64,188**, EUR/USD: **\$1.094**
 - S&P PE ratio is **29.6** vs 17.9 long term median
(https://www.gurufocus.com/economic_indicators/57/pe-ratio-ttm-for-the-sp-500).
- Key interest rates have risen; short-term inversion is still present
 - 1-year Treasury – about **4.85%**; 10-year Treasury - about **4.17%**; 30-year Treasury - about **4.36%**.
 - 30-year fixed mortgage – **6.78% Apr**; 15-year fixed mortgage – **6.28% Apr.** ; Prime – **8.5%**
- Federal Reserve held Fed Funds rate steady at about 5.33% (5.25% – 5.50% range).
Next meeting is 07-30-24; Fed *might* make rate cuts in September.
- Gov't BLS Claims June US Job Unemployment was **4.1%**.
 - <https://www.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/empsit.pdf>
 - *This number has been improving, but many workers are still on government payments.*
- Official 2024 Inflation Rates (YoY) for June were: All Items CPI **3.0%**, PPI **2.65%**
 - <https://www.usinflationcalculator.com/inflation/current-inflation-rates/>
 - LV Regular Gasoline (**\$3.47(.9)** at Costco, **\$4.14(.9)** at Chevron).

News Bits & Bytes

- **Toyota Phasing Out Gasoline-only Cars**
 - <https://www.benzinga.com/markets/equities/24/08/40402158/toyotas-bold-move-gasoline-cars-may-be-phased-out-as-hybrids-take-over>
- **Financial Planning for Aging Singles**
 - <https://www.bottomlineinc.com/money/financial-planning/aging-alone-financial-planning-for-singles>
- **Forge Battery EV Batteries Charge in 10 min & offer 300 WH/Kg**
 - <https://electrek.co/2024/08/05/forge-battery-21700-ev-batteries/>
- **James Earl Jones Signed Over Voice to AI**
 - <https://thehornnews.com/james-earl-jones-signed-over-voice-to-a-i-before-passing/>
- **BurgerFi / Anthony's Wood-fired Pizza Files Chapter 11**
 - <https://www.foxbusiness.com/markets/another-restaurant-chain-files-chapter-11-bankruptcy>
- **Should a Retiree Take More Than the Required Minimum from an IRA Account?**
 - <https://finance.yahoo.com/news/84-retirees-rmd-mistake-130022029.html>

Economic Indicators

- Here are links to three articles ...
 - <https://www.census.gov/economic-indicators/>
 - https://www.investopedia.com/terms/e/economic_indicator.asp
 - <https://tradingeconomics.com/indicators> (*List by Category*)
- Broadly – the idea is that when the economy is doing well, business profits will rise and when the economy is not doing well, business profits will fall.
- In practice, leading economic indicators are often contradictory and depend on data that is fuzzy and subject to revision. So, they're not necessarily great at forecasting what will happen to the economy.

Stock Market Indicators

- <https://www.investopedia.com/top-7-technical-analysis-tools-4773275>
- Four key indicators that are easy to get at are:
 - *Bollinger Bands*
 - *Moving Averages (20-day, 50-day, 200-day)*
 - *Relative Strength Index (RSI)*
 - *Moving Average Convergence / Divergence (MACD)*
- Let's try these indicators on a few Stocks and ETFs ...

Tom's Recent (and Future) Financial Moves

- ***Disclaimer: These are not recommendations! Your financial situation and market circumstances are likely different.***
- **Trades**
 - *Bought 500 ARR 8/29/24 @ \$20.39 ~14% yield – Putting cash to work*
 - *Bought 200 CVX 9/6/24 @ \$139.47 ~4.5% yield – Putting cash to work*
- ***Bond yields have been easing down (i.e. bond prices rising & falling)
Yields on preferred stock ETFs, bank CDs, money market funds still good.
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. Batteries improving.***
- ***Still Looking at Utilities, Uranium miners, Copper, Robotics / Automation / AI***
 - *No way to meet future power demand with renewables (wind, solar); nuclear seeing 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