

**Sun City Summerlin Computer Club**

**\$ Internet Investing SIG \$**

**Tom Burt**

**July 17, 2025**

# 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](mailto:SCSCCInvestingSIG+subscribe@groups.io)
  - *Post:* [SCSCCInvestingSIG@groups.io](mailto:SCSCCInvestingSIG@groups.io)
- The upcoming session dates will be:

August 21, 2025  
September 18, 2025  
October 16, 2025  
November 20, 2025  
December 18, 2025  
January 15, 2026

February 19, 2026  
March 19, 2026  
April 16, 2026  
May 21, 2026  
June 18, 2026  
July 16, 2026

# Fundamentals Review – July 16, 2025

- Dollar slightly weaker against foreign currencies / commodities.
  - Oil (WTI) – still priced in dollars – is around **\$66.63** / barrel.
  - Stock indexes have rebounded from recent dips.
  - Dow 30: **44,255** S&P 500: **6,264**, Nasdaq: **20,730**, Russell 2000: **2,227**, Gold: **\$3,354**, Silver: **\$38.13**, Bitcoin: **\$120,000**, EUR/USD: **\$1.164**
  - S&P PE ratio is **25.90** vs 16.1 long term mean  
([https://www.gurufocus.com/economic\\_indicators/57/pe-ratio-ttm-for-the-sp-500](https://www.gurufocus.com/economic_indicators/57/pe-ratio-ttm-for-the-sp-500)).
- Key interest rates have eased
  - 1-year Treasury – about **4.09%**; 10-year Treasury - about **4.46%**; 30-year Treasury - about **5.01%**.
  - 30-year fixed mortgage – **6.793%**; 15-year fixed mortgage – **6.05%**. ; Prime – **7.50%**
- Fed *held* rate unchanged at 4.37% (4.25% – 4.50% range). Next meeting is 07-28-25.
- Gov't BLS Claims June US Job Unemployment was **4.1%**.
  - <https://www.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/empsit.pdf>
- Official Inflation Rates for June 2025 were:
  - CPI: **+2.7% (YoY) +0.3% (MoM)**, PPI: **+2.2% (YoY) 0.1% (MoM)**
  - <https://www.usinflationcalculator.com/inflation/current-inflation-rates/>
  - LV Regular Gasoline (**\$3.189**) at Costco, **\$3.709** at Chevron).

# Fundamentals Review – June 18, 2025

- Dollar slightly weaker against foreign currencies / commodities.
  - Oil (WTI) – still priced in dollars – is around **\$75.07** / barrel.
  - Stock indexes have rebounded from recent dips.
  - Dow 30: **42,172** S&P 500: **5,981**, Nasdaq: **19,546**, Russell 2000: **2,113**, Gold: **\$3,392**, Silver: **\$36.78**, Bitcoin: **\$104,896**, EUR/USD: **\$1.148**
  - S&P PE ratio is **27.99** vs 16.1 long term mean  
([https://www.gurufocus.com/economic\\_indicators/57/pe-ratio-ttm-for-the-sp-500](https://www.gurufocus.com/economic_indicators/57/pe-ratio-ttm-for-the-sp-500)).
- Key interest rates have eased
  - 1-year Treasury – about **4.10%**; 10-year Treasury - about **4.40%**; 30-year Treasury - about **4.90%**.
  - 30-year fixed mortgage – **6.93% Apr**; 15-year fixed mortgage – **6.17% Apr.** ; Prime – **7.50%**
- Fed *held* rate unchanged at 4.37% (4.25% – 4.50% range). Next meeting is 07-28-25.
- Gov't BLS Claims May US Job Unemployment was **4.2%**.
  - <https://www.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/empisit.pdf>
- Official Inflation Rates for May 2025 were:
  - CPI: **+2.4% (YoY) +0.1% (MoM)**, PPI: **+2.65% (YoY) 0.13% (MoM)**
  - <https://www.usinflationcalculator.com/inflation/current-inflation-rates/>
  - LV Regular Gasoline (**\$3.299**) at Costco, **\$4.109**) at Chevron).

# Fundamentals Review – May 14, 2025

- Dollar slightly weaker against foreign currencies / commodities.
  - Oil (WTI) – still priced in dollars – is around **\$62.79** / barrel.
  - Stock indexes have rebounded from recent dips.
  - Dow 30: **42,051** S&P 500: **5,893**, Nasdaq: **19,147**, Russell 2000: **2,084**, Gold: **\$3,184**, Silver: **\$32.34**, Bitcoin: **\$103,420**, EUR/USD: **\$1.117**
  - S&P PE ratio is **27.99** vs 16.1 long term mean  
([https://www.gurufocus.com/economic\\_indicators/57/pe-ratio-ttm-for-the-sp-500](https://www.gurufocus.com/economic_indicators/57/pe-ratio-ttm-for-the-sp-500)).
- Key interest rates have eased
  - 1-year Treasury – about **4.05%**; 10-year Treasury - about **4.53%**; 30-year Treasury - about **4.96%**.
  - 30-year fixed mortgage – **7.02% Apr**; 15-year fixed mortgage – **6.08% Apr.** ; Prime – **7.50%**
- Fed *held* rate unchanged at 4.37% (4.25% – 4.50% range). Next meeting is 06-17-25.
- Gov't BLS Claims April US Job Unemployment was **4.2%**.
  - <https://www.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/empsit.pdf>
- Official Inflation Rates for April 2025 were:
  - Core CPI: **+2.3% (YoY) +0.2% (MoM)**, PPI: **+2.7% (YoY) -0.4% (MoM)**
  - <https://www.usinflationcalculator.com/inflation/current-inflation-rates/>
  - LV Regular Gasoline (**\$3.39(.9)** at Costco, **\$4.30(.9)** at Chevron).

# Fundamentals Review – April 16, 2025

- Dollar slightly weaker against foreign currencies / commodities.
  - Oil (WTI) – still priced in dollars – is around **\$62.60** / barrel.
  - Stock indexes have rebounded from recent dips and are at or near all-time highs.
  - Dow 30: **39,669** S&P 500: **5,276**, Nasdaq: **16,307**, Russell 2000: **1,863**, Gold: **\$3,358**, Silver: **\$32.76**, Bitcoin: **\$84,572**, EUR/USD: **\$1.140**
  - S&P PE ratio is **26.25** vs 16.1 long term mean  
([https://www.gurufocus.com/economic\\_indicators/57/pe-ratio-ttm-for-the-sp-500](https://www.gurufocus.com/economic_indicators/57/pe-ratio-ttm-for-the-sp-500)).
- Key interest rates have eased
  - 1-year Treasury – about **3.99%**; 10-year Treasury - about **4.28%**; 30-year Treasury - about **4.75%**.
  - 30-year fixed mortgage – **7.00% Apr**; 15-year fixed mortgage – **6.13% Apr.** ; Prime – **7.50%**
- Fed *held* rate unchanged at 4.37% (4.25% – 4.50% range). Next meeting is 05-07-25.
- Gov't BLS Claims March US Job Unemployment was **4.2%**.
  - <https://www.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/empsit.pdf>
- Official Inflation Rates for March 2025 were:
  - Core CPI: **+2.8% (YoY) +0.1% (MoM)**, PPI: **+2.7% (YoY) -0.4% (MoM)**
  - <https://www.usinflationcalculator.com/inflation/current-inflation-rates/>
  - LV Regular Gasoline (**\$3.49(.9)** at Costco, **\$4.26(.9)** at Chevron).

# News Bits & Bytes

- **Bottom Line: Recession-Proof Your Stock Portfolio**
  - <https://www.bottomlineinc.com/money/investing/stocks/recession-proof-your-stock-portfolio/>
- **Horn News: USPS First Class Postage Increased From \$.73 to \$.78**
  - <https://thehornnews.com/big-changes-coming-to-usps-and-your-mail/>
- **ZeroHedge: AI Workers Deployed at Major Banks**
  - <https://www.zerohedge.com/technology/next-level-ai-powered-digital-workers-deployed-major-bank-work-alongside-humans>
- **Axios: Managers Using AI for HR Decisions**
  - <https://www.axios.com/2025/07/02/managers-chatgpt-gemini-copilot-promotion-firing>
- **ZDNet: AI – Anthropic’s Claude as a Financial Analyst**
  - <https://www.zdnet.com/article/anthropics-claude-dives-into-financial-analysis-heres-whats-new/>
- **Yahoo Finance: AI - Zuckerberg Seeking “Personal Super-Intelligence”**
  - <https://finance.yahoo.com/news/zuckerberg-is-pouring-billions-into-plans-for-personal-superintelligence-193923036.html>
- **Public.com (online brokerage): <https://public.com>**

# Tom's Recent (and Future) Financial Moves

- ***Disclaimer: These are not recommendations! Your financial situation and market circumstances are likely different.***
- **Trades**
  - *No moves this month. Waiting for tariffs to settle down. May buy some 30-year Treasuries (~5%)*
- ***Bond yields have eased up (i.e. bond prices Falling). Dollar has risen slightly. Yields on preferred stock ETFs, bank CDs, money market funds still fairly good. Fixed income assets prices holding. May want to lock in yields.***
- ***EV car makers' problems are apparent. Batteries & range improving. Profits hard to earn.***
  - *Federal EV subsidies discontinued via the BBB.*
- ***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. Recent hurricanes may dissuade some from moving.*
  - *Electric vehicles and utility transmission lines require lots of copper, rare earth metals, lithium.*
- **Boomers are Getting Older – Need More Health Care**

# What's in the Big Beautiful Bill?

- **Links:**

- <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-bill/1/text> (870 pages)
- <https://www.stinson.com/newsroom-publications-one-big-beautiful-bill-explained>
- <https://www.bhfs.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/OBBBA-Summary-and-Analysis.pdf>
- <https://finance.yahoo.com/news/how-the-big-new-tax-law-affects-your-money-154623431.html>
- <https://taxfoundation.org/blog/one-big-beautiful-bill-pros-cons/>

- **Key Provisions:**

- *Makes permanent the provisions of the 2017 tax cut bill*
- *Permanent 100% bonus depreciation for business investments*
- *Ends or phases out many energy tax credits*
- *Makes expanded estate tax exemptions permanent (\$15 / \$30 million)*
- *\$1000 tax deferred accounts for minors born 2025-2028; \$5000 pre-tax contributions allowed*
- *Charitable deductions restored \$1000 / \$2000*
- *Taxes on tips eliminated up to \$25,000 (phaseout at MAGI of \$150,000 / \$300,000); thru 2028*
- *Taxes on OT eliminated up to \$12,500 (phaseout at MAGI of \$150,000 / \$300,000); thru 2028*
- *SALT tax deduction increased to \$40,000 (sunsets after 2030, has phaseouts)*
- *Seniors get extra \$6,000 standard deduction; phaseout at MAGI of \$75,000 / \$150,000*

# Open Discussion