

Sun City Summerlin Computer Club

\$ Internet Investing SIG \$

Tom Burt

August 21, 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
 - *Post:* SCSCCInvestingSIG@groups.io
- The upcoming session dates will be:

September 18, 2025	March 19, 2026
October 16, 2025	April 16, 2026
November 20, 2025	May 21, 2026
December 18, 2025	June 18, 2026
January 15, 2026	July 16, 2026
February 19, 2026	August 20, 2026

Fundamentals Review – August 20, 2025

- Dollar slightly weaker against foreign currencies / commodities.
 - Oil (WTI) – still priced in dollars – is around **\$62.89** / barrel.
 - Stock indexes have rebounded from recent dips.
 - Dow 30: **44,938** S&P 500: **6,396**, Nasdaq: **21,173**, Russell 2000: **2,269**, Gold: **\$3,394**, Silver: **\$37.91**, Bitcoin: **\$114,233**, EUR/USD: **\$1.165**
 - 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).
- Key interest rates have eased
 - 1-year Treasury – about **3.92%**; 10-year Treasury - about **4.30%**; 30-year Treasury - about **4.90%**.
 - 30-year fixed mortgage – **6.64%**; 15-year fixed mortgage – **5.86%**. ; Prime – **7.50%**
- Fed *held* rate unchanged at 4.37% (4.25% – 4.50% range). Next meeting is 09-16-25.
- Gov't BLS Claims July US Job Unemployment was **4.2%**.
 - <https://www.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/empsit.pdf>
- Official Inflation Rates for July 2025 were:
 - CPI: **+2.7% (YoY) +0.3% (MoM)**, PPI: **+3.3% (YoY) +0.9% (MoM)**
 - <https://www.usinflationcalculator.com/inflation/current-inflation-rates/>
 - LV Regular Gasoline (**\$3.249**) at Costco, **\$4.109**) at Chevron).

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).
- 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/empst.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).
- 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/empsit.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).

News Bits & Bytes

- **Bottom Line: Deciphering Wall Street Jargon**
 - <https://www.bottomlineinc.com/money/investing/deciphering-wall-street-jargon/>
- **ZeroHedge: Las Vegas Economy Tanking**
 - <https://www.zerohedge.com/personal-finance/another-canary-las-vegas-economy-tanking-just-it-did-2008-and-2009>
- **ZeroHedge: Tyson Foods Confirms Protein Switching**
 - <https://www.zerohedge.com/food/tyson-foods-confirms-protein-switching-underway-amid-record-high-beef-prices>
- **Fox Business: Open AI Releases Chat GPT 5**
 - <https://www.foxbusiness.com/technology/openai-gpt-5-here-company-unveils-phd-level-experts-your-pocket>
- **Fortune: AI Will Save \$1 Trillion / Year for S&P 500 Companies**
 - <https://finance.yahoo.com/news/ai-revolution-cut-nearly-1-162933183.html>
- **ZeroHedge: Big Price Increases**
 - <https://www.zerohedge.com/personal-finance/are-you-drowning-too-vegetables-are-389-coffee-25-and-electricity-prices-are>
- **Armstrong Economics: Chinese Industrial Robots**
 - <https://www.armstrongeconomics.com/world-news/technology-world-news/chinas-industrial-robots-are-changing-manufacturing/>

Tom's Recent (and Future) Financial Moves

- ***Disclaimer: These are not recommendations! Your financial situation and market circumstances are likely different.***
- **Trades**
 - *Bought another block of SWVXX (yield ~4.2%)*
 - *Still looking at longer term Treasuries (yield ~4.9%)*
 - *Also looking at adding to IBM position – stock has dropped a lot – AI & Quantum play*
- ***Bond yields 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.***
- ***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**

Inflation – A Deeper Look

- **Historical Inflation Statistics**
 - <https://www.bls.gov/cpi>
 - https://www.bls.gov/data/inflation_calculator.htm
 - *Let's look at spot Gold price history*
- **Gemini Question**
 - *"Inflation's Impact on U.S. Retirees"*
- **Excel Model & Graph**
 - *Plots increase in prices over 50 years at selectable inflation rate*

Open Discussion