

**Sun City Summerlin Computer Club**

**\$ Internet Investing SIG \$**

**Tom Burt**

**March 19, 2026**

# SIG Meeting Schedule

- The Internet Investing SIG meets every month on the third Thursday morning at **9:30 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:

April 16, 2026  
May 21, 2026  
June 18, 2026  
July 16, 2026  
August 20, 2026  
September 17, 2026

October 15, 2026  
November 19, 2026  
December 17, 2026  
January 21, 2027  
February 18, 2027  
March 18, 2027

# Fundamentals Review – March 18, 2026

- Dollar slightly stronger against foreign currencies / commodities.
  - Oil (WTI) – still priced in dollars – is around **\$97.71** / barrel.
  - Stock indexes reached all-time highs in early January and have since faded.
  - Dow 30: **46,225** S&P 500: **6,625**, Nasdaq: **22,152** Russell 2000: **2,479**, Gold: **\$4,824**, Silver: **\$75.42**, Bitcoin: **\$71,359**, EUR/USD: **\$1.146**
  - S&P PE ratio (TTM) is **26.4** vs 16.20 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 risen slightly (bond prices have dropped).
  - 1-year Treasury – about **3.51%**; 10-year Treasury - about **4.26**; 30-year Treasury - about **4.88%**.
  - 30-year fixed mortgage – **6.23%**; 15-year fixed mortgage – **5.53%**. ; Prime – **6.75%**
- At its 03/17/2026 FOMC meeting, the Fed held FF rate steady at 3.63% (3.5% – 3.75% range). Next meeting is 04/28/2026.
- Gov't BLS Claims February 2026 US Job Unemployment was **4.4%**.
  - <https://www.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/empsit.pdf>
- Official Inflation Rates YoY for February 2026: CPI +2.4%, PPI +3.4%.
  - <https://www.usinflationcalculator.com/inflation/current-inflation-rates/>
  - LV Regular Gasoline (**\$4.219**) at Costco, **\$4.909** at Chevron).

# Fundamentals Review – February 18, 2026

- Dollar slightly stronger against foreign currencies / commodities.
  - Oil (WTI) – still priced in dollars – is around **\$65.23** / barrel.
  - Stock indexes reached all-time highs in early January and have since faded slightly.
  - Dow 30: **49,704** S&P 500: **6,888**, Nasdaq: **22,754** Russell 2000: **2,659**, Gold: **\$5,004**, Silver: **\$77.19**, Bitcoin: **\$66,294**, EUR/USD: **\$1.179**
  - S&P PE ratio is **28.6** vs 16.20 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 slightly (bond prices have risen).
  - 1-year Treasury – about **3.48%**; 10-year Treasury - about **4.08**; 30-year Treasury - about **4.71%**.
  - 30-year fixed mortgage – **6.03%**; 15-year fixed mortgage – **5.51%**. ; Prime – **6.75%**
- At 01/27/2026 FOMC meeting, the Fed held FF rate steady at 3.63% (3.5% – 3.75% range). Next meeting is 03/17/2026.
- Gov't BLS Claims January 2026 US Job Unemployment was **4.3%**.
  - <https://www.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/empsit.pdf>
- Official Inflation Rates YoY for January 2026: CPI +2.4%, PPI +3.0%.
  - <https://www.usinflationcalculator.com/inflation/current-inflation-rates/>
  - LV Regular Gasoline (**\$3.239**) at Costco, **\$3.909**) at Chevron).

# Fundamentals Review – January 14, 2026

- Dollar slightly stronger against foreign currencies / commodities.
  - Oil (WTI) – still priced in dollars – is around **\$60.78** / barrel.
  - Stock indexes reached all-time highs in early January and have since faded slightly.
  - Dow 30: **49,150** S&P 500: **6,927**, Nasdaq: **23,472**, Russell 2000: **2,652**, Gold: **\$4,615**, Silver: **\$91.48**, Bitcoin: **\$97,006**, EUR/USD: **\$1.165**
  - S&P PE ratio is **31.3** vs 16.20 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 slightly (bond prices have risen).
  - 1-year Treasury – about **3.50%**; 10-year Treasury - about **4.14**; 30-year Treasury - about **4.80%**.
  - 30-year fixed mortgage – **6.16%**; 15-year fixed mortgage – **5.49%**. ; Prime – **6.75%**
- Fed lowered FF rate by .25% to 3.63% (3.5% – 3.75% range). Next meeting is 01/27/2026.
- Gov't BLS Claims December US Job Unemployment was **4.4%**.
  - <https://www.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/empsit.pdf>
- Official Inflation Rates for December 2025: CPI 2.7%, PPI 3.0%.
  - <https://www.usinflationcalculator.com/inflation/current-inflation-rates/>
  - LV Regular Gasoline (**\$2.929**) at Costco, **\$3.709** at Chevron).

# News Bits & Bytes

- **ZeroHedge : One in Five CA Home Sales Cancelled – Unaffordable Insurance**
  - <https://www.zerohedge.com/personal-finance/one-five-california-home-sales-canceled-due-unaffordable-insurance>
- **Bottom Line: How Does the SALT Tax Deduction Work**
  - <https://www.bottomlineinc.com/money/taxes/what-is-the-salt-tax/>
- **Bottom Line: Pros and Cons of a Roth IRA**
  - <https://www.bottomlineinc.com/money/retirement-planning/retirement-accounts/pros-and-cons-of-a-roth-ira/>
- **Bottom Line: Future of Social Security**
  - <https://www.bottomlineinc.com/money/retirement-planning/social-security/why-are-people-worried-about-the-future-of-social-security/>
- **Yahoo Finance: Washington State Passes 9.9% Income Tax on Millionaires**
  - <https://finance.yahoo.com/news/93-years-25-hour-filibuster-113300503.html>
- **CA LAO: Summary of CA 5% Wealth tax Proposal (Net Worth > \$1 billion)**
  - <https://lao.ca.gov/BallotAnalysis/Initiative/2025-024>
- **Yahoo Finance: High Yield ETFs Not What They Seem**
  - <https://finance.yahoo.com/news/48-dividend-mirage-why-retirees-113121810.html>
- **Fox Business: U.S. National Debt Tracker – Nearing \$39 billion**
  - <https://www.foxbusiness.com/economy/us-national-debt-tracker>

# Tom's Recent (and Future) Financial Moves

- **Disclaimer: These are not recommendations! Your financial situation and market circumstances are likely different.**
- **Trades:**
  - Sold 200 CEG @ \$325.21 – rebalancing, taking profits, raising cash
  - Still looking at longer term Treasuries (yield ~4.83%)
- **Bond yields up (prices down). Dollar has strengthened slightly. Yields on preferred stock ETFs, bank CDs, money market funds are 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. May see more flight from NYC as Mayor Zohran Mamdani wants to lower estate tax exemption to \$750,000.
  - Electric vehicles and utility transmission lines require lots of copper, rare earth metals, lithium.
- **Boomers are Getting Older – Need More Health Care**
  - Weight loss drugs in high demand. Doctors are pushing them. Oral forms becoming available. Costs should come down.

# Buying the Dip (1)

- **Market cliches**
  - *“It’s a stock pickers’ market”*
  - *“Buy low, sell high”*
  - *“Don’t catch a falling knife”*
  - *“You can’t time the market”*
- **Is it a dip or the start of a major correction or bear market?**
  - *Equity prices oscillate around a broader trend*
  - *Look at moving averages (20-day, 50-day, 200-day) to smooth out the jiggles*
  - *Look at how sharp the price drop is*
  - *Don’t buy in too soon, just to watch the price keep falling*
  - *Don’t wait too long and miss the rally*
  - *Often, it’s not easy to tell*
  - *Look at fundamentals and news about the equity, markets in general, the economy, politics*
- **Decide whether you want to buy or not**
  - *“Sometimes the best trade is the one you don’t make”*
  - *Consider potential ROI vs opportunity cost*

# Buying the Dip (2)

- **Technical Indicators**

- *Bollinger Bands: 20-day moving average + & - second standard deviations (let's look at a few)*
- *Moving averages: 20-day, 50-day, 100-day, 200 day (business days)*
- *Relative Strength Indicator: > 70 indicates overbought, < 30 indicates oversold, 50 is neutral*
- *Let's ask Gemini: What are some good technical indicators if you want to "buy the dip"?*

- **Fundamental Indicators**

- *PE Ratios (TTM, Future): TTM is actual data, Future is analyst estimates and guidance*
- *Debt: Heavy debt can be a drain on earnings, especially if rates are high or rising.*
- *Free Cash Flow: Important indicator of whether dividends are safe, how much cash a company has to spend on growth. Reported profits may be affected by depreciation in capital-intensive companies like utilities. Profits may also reflect "receivables" which is debt owed to the company.*

# Buying the Dip (3)

- **What to buy?**
  - *Consider broad trends in business, economy, society.*
  - *Funds vs stocks vs bonds – mix of all three types.*
  - *Index ETFs are inexpensive, broadly diversified, track market sectors or major indexes like the S&P 500, Russell 2000, Dow 30. Passive way to invest, easy to follow and understand.*
- **How much to buy?**
  - *Seniors normally need a mix of relatively safe “value” investments along with some growth*
  - *Ideally want to live off the income stream without selling off too much of the asset base.*
  - *Depends on your financial situation.*
- **What about dollar cost averaging and DRIPs?**
  - *Invest a set amount every month so you buy more when the price is low, less when the price is high.*
  - *DRIPS automatically reinvest dividends in more shares of the same company or fund.*
  - *Can work for small investors with lots of time before retirement.*

# **Open Discussion**