

FALL 2022

SC PARKER LLC

A MESSAGE FROM JEFF

PLAN
INVEST
SUCCEED



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Jeffrey Hahn
President

As we go to press, the stock market is right near its lows for the year, with the Dow and S&P 500 indexes down around 20% and the NASDAQ Index down more than 30%. This is a “Bear Market” and the deepest stock market decline since 2008. Concurrently, the overall bond market is down around 15%. This represents one of the steepest declines on historical record. All of this started right around the first of the year when the stock market was at a record high.

When we invest in the stock market—whether it be with individual stocks, a managed mutual fund or an index fund—we are buying ownership of corporations. We are seeking growth in value of the invested asset. That is the purpose of the activity. But we know that risk is involved, that the value of the investments changes every day and can ultimately go down. For example: In July of 2016 General Electric (GE) was about \$250 per share. Today it is around \$65. During the same time frame, Apple (AAPL) went from about \$25 to around \$150 currently. Fluctuation, gain and loss are fundamental constants of stock market investments. There are tens of thousands of stocks and funds and they all change price every day.

Bonds are different. A bond is a loan for a specified period of time. When we loan money, the basic intent is to get paid back and earn some interest. Most of our bond investments are through bond mutual funds. This gives us a diversified portfolio and professional management of the fund. Our purpose for investing in bonds and bond funds is to preserve our assets and gain some income. The current declines in bond values, which are significant, are mainly related to inflation and rising interest rates.

Change in the markets is constant and unpredictable. It is also a constant in the economy and our society. It seems the last three years have seen a much higher than normal amount of change. The investment markets are reflective of current economic conditions. They are also reflective of a heightened level of uncertainty about the future.

Your financial planning that is based on your circumstances is unique to you. The purpose is to provide each of us with guidance that we can use to achieve our desired successes. Your investments are often a substantial part of that. That said, my professional position is that investment market movements should not have a significant effect on how you are living or your plans. If that is not the case, then adjustments to your portfolio and/or plan may be in order.

We are here to help you achieve success. It is our honor to do our work for you. The challenges of the current times only increase our sense of purpose. Please contact us with questions or concerns. You are always welcome to call or visit our office.

REMINDER:

Those over age 72 that have an IRA must take an annual Required Minimum Distribution by December 31st. Please call our office for further details & assistance.



OUR RESEARCH COMMITTEE MARKET UPDATE

Earlier this year we spoke about supply chain issues, inflation, the Fed tightening to combat inflation and geopolitical concerns such as Ukraine. Now we are concerned with pretty much the same things. The Ukraine war continues, quite sadly. China’s zero Covid policy has helped prolong the supply chain issues. The Fed is still aggressively tightening, and we have had 2 quarters of negative GDP growth, aka recession. All this has weighed heavily on the markets, putting us solidly into bear market territory, down 20 percent or more.

Bear markets can be specific to a market sector or widespread if they encompass the entire market. It’s good to keep in mind that the three most followed stock indices are very different in what they represent. The Dow is based on 30 large companies representing all sectors of the economy. The S&P 500 is the five hundred largest US companies. The NASDAQ Composite is based on 100 companies, including some based outside of the United States. It includes a large number of tech companies. As of this writing, all three indices are in bear market territory.

Now may be a good time to review your portfolio and your **long-term** investment goals. It is important to remind oneself that, as an investor, you are interested in the quality of your investments and the long-term trajectory of your assets rather than weekly, monthly or quarterly swings in the market. Patience is a virtue — nowhere more so than in investing. We are committed to helping you navigate these rough markets and continue along the path to achieving your financial goals. Try to remember, “It’s time in the market, not timing the market!”*

*Although the information has been gathered from sources believed to be reliable, it cannot be guaranteed and the accuracy of the information should be independently verified. This information is not intended to be a substitute for specific individualized tax, legal or investment planning advice.



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4TH ANNUAL SHRED EVENT

We are proud to announce our 4th Annual Free Shred Event was a huge success! Not only were we able to give our clients and community an opportunity to safely and securely shred their sensitive documents, but we are also able to provide FeedMore WNY with over 320 pounds of donated non-perishable food. The event continues to be a team favorite and we are already planning next year's event.



WHY IS AN ESTATE PLAN IMPORTANT?

"Plan your estate or the state will plan it for you." When no directive from the deceased exists, their property will enter a process known as probate. From here, state law will be applied to properly distribute property to our loved ones. However, without a proper plan in place, probate can become extremely lengthy, expensive and stressful for our loved ones.

- Draw Up a Last Will
- Discuss the Option of a Living Trust
- Draft a Medical Directive
- Re-examine Bank Account Registrations
- Give a Trusted Person Financial Power of Attorney
- Name a Beneficiary Wherever Possible
- Get a Life Insurance Policy
- Start a Funeral Cost Fund
- Educate Yourself About Estate Taxes
- Write Your Last Wishes

Last but certainly not least are your last wishes. These wishes can range from the pragmatic to the sentimental. Last wishes often cover subjects like organ donorship, burial/cremation preferences or even messages to loved ones. Last wishes are a great way to put a bow on the dreaded process of planning your estate.

Neither Cagaret Grant & Co. Inc. or its registered representatives or employees provide tax or legal services.

MAKE 2022 A POSITIVE YEAR FOR YOUR FINANCES

As we approach the end of the year, there are many financial issues that need to be addressed before the calendar flips to 2023. If your age is 72 or above, the IRS requires that you take a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD), before December 31st. Some employer plans have deadlines for changing deductions/withholding for the plans they administer. Health savings plans and other types of accounts that allow you to spend pre-tax dollars often have an expiration date for using the annual contributions. Often they allow these funds to be spent on over the counter merchandise or other health related items. Rather than lose the funds in these accounts, it may be beneficial to buy ahead.

As far as RMDs are concerned, many investors find it preferable to set up an automatic RMD payment so the withdrawal can be calculated and performed on a schedule convenient to him or her. This may be monthly, quarterly or annually. Simplifying this process is another way to streamlining financial obligations.

Year end planning may involve many aspects of your financial life. Tax considerations, benefit deductions and budgeting, especially in these times of rising costs, need attention now more than ever. Data has shown that people spend more time planning a vacation than they do organizing their finances. It's clear to see which activity can have longer lasting consequences. Having a plan in place makes it easy to make periodic adjustments to ensure reaching a goal.



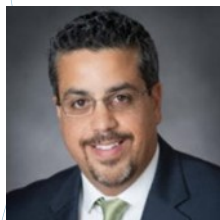
David Ivancic

Whether it's year end planning or portfolio review, we are always here to assist you. **Your** concerns are **our** concerns. Let us help you improve and simplify your finances.

VALUE IN ACTION

Hope you never stop learning. It is not always about the destination, it is more about the journey. Enjoy it.

PROFESSIONAL ADVANCEMENTS

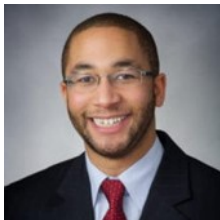


LOUIS RIVERA

Qualifying member of the Million Dollar Round Table*, a global independent association of the world's leading life insurance and financial services professionals.

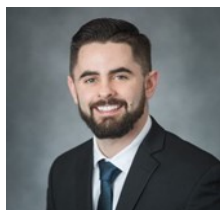
Also, Lou has received the Accredited Wealth Management Advisor (AWMA) designation from the College for Financial Planning which provides advisors with broad financial knowledge and strategies for high-net-worth clients.

*Qualifying membership in the MDRT is based on minimum commission and gross business generated within a year, and is not based upon performance or returns experienced by any client, or opinions of the advisor's clients or former clients. Third-party rankings and recognitions are no guarantee of future investment success and do not ensure that a client or prospective client will experience a higher level of performance or results.



EVAN BASKIN-EVANS

Evan has attained his Series 7 license, which allows him to recommend most types of individual securities including stocks, bonds, mutual funds and exchange traded funds to his clients.



MATTHEW SIVA

Matthew has acquired his Series 6 license enabling him to recommend mutual funds, variable annuities and unit investment trusts to his clients. Matthew is also on the path to attain his series 7 license.



STAY IN TOUCH

- ◆ Listen to us live on WECK Radio, Saturday at 7:30am

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Helpful Hint:

If your debit card is swallowed by an ATM or you suddenly find you've lost your wallet, you will probably want to cancel it quickly. Make sure you know the number of your bank or have it plugged into your mobile phone.



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