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April 2015

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Investing 101 – Dollar Cost Averaging

In this installment of Investing 101 we will discuss dollar cost averaging, a technique of investing the same amount of money into an investment on a regular schedule regardless of whether the market is trending upward or downward. Dollar cost averaging has several benefits for an investor. First, it can help you take advantage of changing market conditions. When the price of an asset falls, it allows you to purchase more shares with the same amount of money. For example, suppose you invest $1,000 per month into a mutual fund. Notice that when the price falls from $50 to $40, you are able to purchase more shares and when the price increases from $40 to $60, you are able to purchase fewer shares.

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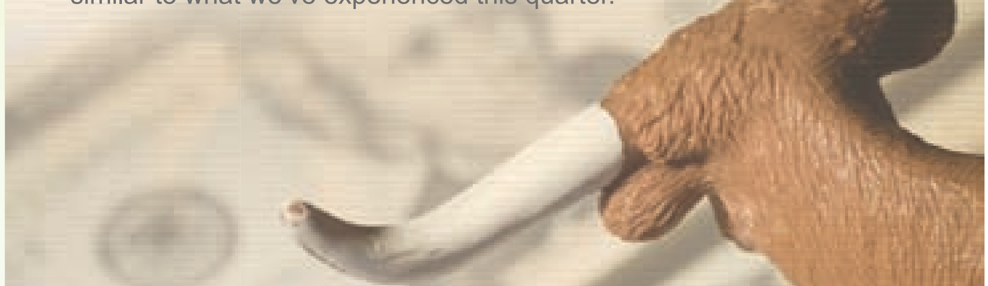
Q1 2015 in Review

The bull market continued in the first quarter of 2015. The large cap US equity market returned 0.95% while the small cap US equity market returned 4.32%, as measured by the S&P 500 Index and the Russell 2000 Index respectively.

After falling almost 5% in 2014, international developed equity markets started the year strong returning 4.88%, as measured by the MSCI EAFE Index. Likewise, emerging market stocks, as measured by the MSCI EM Index, increased 2.24% after falling over 2% in 2014.

Fixed income, as measured by the Barclays Aggregate Bond Index, continued its trend of positive gains after earning 1.61% this quarter. The future for bonds remains uncertain as the market waits for the Federal Reserve to begin raising short term interest rates toward the mid to late stages of 2015. We expect that this will contribute to a volatile environment throughout the year, similar to what we’ve experienced this quarter.



Index	Q1 2015 Return	Index Description
S&P 500	0.95%	Tracks 500 leading large cap companies in the U.S.
Russell 2000	4.32%	Tracks 2000 of the smallest companies in the U.S.
MSCI EAFE	4.88%	Tracks 21 developed international equity markets including France, Germany, Spain, the U.K. & Japan
MSCI EM	2.24%	Tracks 23 emerging market counties including China, India, Brazil, Mexico, Russia, Turkey & Greece
Barclays Aggregate Bond	1.61%	Tracks investment grade bonds trading in the U.S.

Investing 101 – Dollar Cost Averaging *continued*

Purchase Date	Amount Invested	Price Per Share	Shares Purchased
1/5/2015	$1,000	$50	20
2/5/2015	$1,000	$40	25
3/5/2015	$1,000	$60	16.67
TOTALS	**$3,000**		**61.67**

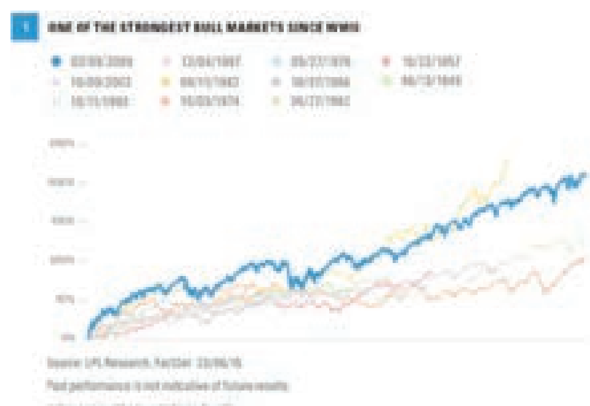
Dollar cost averaging can lower your average cost per share. In our example, the total amount of money you invested was $3,000 which purchased 61.67 shares. The average price at which the shares were purchased was $50. However, you were able to purchase the shares at an average cost of $48.65! This means you were able to avoid paying an additional $1.35 per share simply by investing regularly and using the power of dollar cost averaging!

Lastly, dollar cost averaging can help take the emotion out of investing, especially when the market falls quickly or becomes volatile. Most investors hesitate to invest new money in a declining market for fear that it will continue to decline. This fear causes them to try to time the market to determine the best time to invest. A systematic purchase plan helps to avoid the poor decisions investors often make when trying to time the market which is a difficult, if not impossible, task.

To take advantage of dollar cost averaging, an investor must be willing to stick to the strategy during good times and bad. It does not ensure a profit or protect against a loss. However, it is a sound and prudent strategy that allows investors to take advantage of market movements and may lower your average cost per share over time.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY BULL MARKET

The current bull market, one of the most powerful in the S&P 500's history, celebrated its sixth birthday on March 9th, 2015. During the six year run, the S&P 500 has more than tripled since the financial crisis closing low on March 9, 2009, achieving a cumulative return (including dividends) of 244% or 22.8% annualized. Since World War II, just three other bull markets have reached their sixth birthday, and only one (1982 – 1987) produced bigger gains ahead of its sixth birthday as shown below.



CALLING ALL TINCAPS FANS!

TIN CAPS
FORT WAYNE

Are you interested in attending a Fort Wayne TinCaps game this season?

Dekko Investment Services has four season tickets for the Fort Wayne TinCaps that we enjoy sharing with our clients and friends. If you would like to go to a game, please email Alisha at alisha.norris@lpl.com with the date that you'd like and if that date is still available, the 4 tickets are yours! You can view the Fort Wayne Tincaps schedule online at www.tincaps.com.

Wishing you a Happy & Healthy 2015,

Erica D. Dekko, CFP®

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April 2015

The opinions voiced in this material are for general information only and are not intended to provide specific advice or recommendations for any individual. To determine which investment(s) may be appropriate for you, consult your financial advisor prior to investing. All performance reference is historical and is no guarantee of future results. All indices are unmanaged and cannot be invested into directly. Unmanaged index returns do not reflect fees, expenses, or sales charges. Index performance is not indicative of the performance of any investment. Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

The economic forecasts set forth in the presentation may not develop as predicted and there can be no guarantee that strategies promoted will be successful.

Stock investing involves risk including loss of principal.

There is no guarantee that a diversified portfolio will enhance overall returns or outperform a non-diversified portfolio. Diversification does not protect against market risk.

Any examples are hypothetical in nature and are not representative of any specific investment.

Bonds are subject to market and interest rate risk if sold prior to maturity. Bond values and yields will decline as interest rates rise and bonds are subject to availability and change in price.

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The Standard & Poor's 500 Index is a capitalization-weighted index of 500 stocks designed to measure performance of the broad domestic economy through changes in the aggregate market value of 500 stocks representing all major industries.

The Morgan Stanley Capital International ('MSCI') Europe, Australia, Far East Index ('EAFE') is an unmanaged index of over 900 companies, and is a generally accepted benchmark for major overseas markets. Index weightings represent the relative capitalizations of the major overseas markets included in the index on a U.S. dollar adjusted basis. The index is calculated separately: without dividends, with gross dividends reinvested and estimated tax withheld, and with gross dividends reinvested, in both U.S. dollars and local currency.

The Morgan Stanley Capital International ('MSCI') Emerging Markets Index adjusts the market capitalization of index constituents for free float and targets for index inclusion 85% of free float-adjusted market capitalization in each industry group, in global emerging markets countries. As of June 2007, the MSCI Emerging Markets Index consisted of the following 25 emerging market country indexes: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, China, Colombia, Czech Republic, Egypt, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Israel, Jordan, Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Russia, South Africa, Taiwan, Thailand, and Turkey.

The Barclays Capital U.S. Aggregate Index is comprised of the U.S. investment-grade, fixed-rate bond market.

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