

Week Ended November 15, 2013

US Economy and Credit Markets							
Yields and Weekly Changes:							
3 Mo. T-Bill:	0.07 (+02 bps)	GNMA (30 Yr) 6% Coupon:	110-23/32 (2.23%)				
6 Mo. T-Bill:	0.09 (unch.)	Duration:	3.62 years				
1 Yr. T-Bill:	0.12 (+02 bps)	30-Year Insured Revs:	140.2% of 30 Yr. T-Bond				
2 Yr. T-Note:	0.29 (-02 bps)	Bond Buyer 40 Yield:	5.09 (-02 bps)				
3 Yr. T-Note:	0.57 (-02 bps)	Crude Oil Futures:	93.65 (-0.95)				
5 Yr. T-Note:	1.34 (-07 bps)	Gold Futures:	1,288.80 (+4.20)				
10 Yr. T-Note:	2.71 (-04 bps)	Merrill Lynch High Yield Indices	5:				
30 Yr. T-Bond:	3.80 (-05 bps)	U.S. High Yield:	6.42% (-03 bps)				
		BB:	5.10% (-02 bps)				
		B:	6.44% (-04 bps)				

Following the bond market's closure on Monday for Veteran's Day, Treasury yields declined through the rest of week amid mixed economic data and doveish comments from Fed Chairman nominee, Janet Yellen. On Tuesday, fueled by a better than expected jobs report from the previous Friday, treasuries fell as investors speculated that the Federal Reserve would curtail its monthly bond buying sooner than expected. Strong quarterly results from US retailers on Wednesday lifted equities and Treasuries alike while markets anticipated commentary from Janet Yellen regarding the Federal Reserve's quantitative easing program. Her commentary the next day set a bullish tone for Treasuries which rallied as she stated she did want to maintain stimulus until the market improves. Additionally on Thursday, reports showed that 3Q Nonfarm Productivity grew only 1.9% against expectations for a 2.2% rise and the September Trade Balance was reported at -\$41.8B. On Friday, November Empire Manufacturing declined -2.21 vs. +5.00 expectations, Oct. Industrial Production fell -.1% MoM, and Capacity Utilization was in-line with expectations at 78.1%. Despite these mixed economic numbers, the commentary from Yellen pushed treasuries higher to close out the week. Major economic reports (and related consensus forecasts) for next week include: Tuesday: Q3 Employment Cost Index (.5%); Wednesday: Oct. Advance Retail Sales and Sales Ex-Autos (0% MoM and .1%, respectively), Oct. CPI (1% YoY), and Oct. Existing Home Sales (5.15M/-2.7% MoM); Thursday: Oct. PPI MoM (-.2%) and PPI Ex-Food/Energy (.1% MoM).

US Equities						
	Weekly Index Performance:		Market Indicators:			
	DJIA:	15,961.70 (1.37%)	Strong Sectors:	Consumer Discretionary, Health Care, Cons Staples		
	S&P 500:	1,798.18 (1.61%)	Weak Sectors:	•		
	S&P Midcap:	1,311.77 (2.05%)		Telecom Services, Utilities, Info Tech		
	S&P Smallcap:	640.92 (1.32%)	NYSE Advance/Decline:	2,049/ 1,140		
	NASDAQ Comp:	3,985.97 (1.74%)	NYSE New Highs/New Lows:			
	Russell 2000:	1,116.20 (1.51%)	AAII Bulls/Bears:	39.2% / 27.5%		

Last week the S&P 500 Index closed up with a 1.61% return continuing the trend of positive performance for the sixth straight week. The index has already increased 2.52% half way through the month of November and is up 28.45% YTD through November 15, 2013. With a little more than a month remaining in 2013, it is currently the best year since the 28.67% return in 2003 for the S&P 500 index. With no economic data released and the bond markets closed for Veterans Day, Monday showed a flat day to start the trading week. The index pulled back on Tuesday with speculation of tapering after the President of the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas said the Fed stimulus couldn't continue forever. Stocks had their best day of the week with a 0.84% return on Wednesday led by the consumer discretionary sector. Stocks advanced 0.50% more on Thursday as Janet Yellen indicated she would continue the stimulus to strengthen the economy. US initial jobless claims were 339K, which was higher than expected. Claims increased from the previous week's number of 336K and were higher than the consensus estimate of 330K. Friday trended up for the day closing with a 0.42% return and a new high on the S&P 500 Index of 1798.18. All ten of the economic sectors had positive performance for the week. The consumer discretionary sector was the best performing sector with a 2.56% return. Health care and consumer staples sectors followed with 2.14% and 1.72% returns, respectively. Telecommunications services' 0.78% return was the worst performance of all the sectors and was followed by utilities and information technology which returned 1.04% and 1.30%, respectively. Pitney Bowes Inc., a technology solutions company which sells and services integrated mail and document management systems, turned in the best performance in the S&P 500 Index with a 12.17% gain. The next two best performers were Iron Mountain Inc. and Macy's Inc. with returns of 12.00% and 10.63% respectively. This week will bring earnings news from companies such as The Home Depot Inc., Medtronic Inc., Lowe's Cos Inc., TJX Cos Inc., Target Corp., Salesforce.com Inc., Deere & Co., The Gap Inc., Best Buy Co. Inc., Staples Inc. and many more.