

INVESTMENT NEWSLETTER—OCTOBER, 2017  
**THE UP TREND CONTINUES**



The last three months have continued the upward trend of this past year, albeit at somewhat less torrid pace. In this quarter, stock funds increased by **6.0%**, led by large cap funds. However, results varied considerably by investment style; health care, real estate and International funds averaged **3-4%**. Once again (as I commented upon in past newsletters) fixed yield funds are lackluster with an average growth of **0.6%**. Your returns should be within these parameters.

It has been a year since Donald Trump was elected President. As we all know, stocks briefly plunged the night of the election, then rose and continue to rise. Why is this? All I can come up with is that investors (1) are encouraged by the likelihood of tax reform and (2) see economic gains from regulatory roll backs. It certainly cannot be from his domestic or international policies (which have been fraught with failure) or his leadership (evidenced by record low ratings). Like him or hate him, the effect has been positive for the investment markets. Will this continue? In the short run, I do believe that the answer might be yes. Tax reform has broader based support than other domestic issues. It seems likely that some measure of tax reform might pass. Regulatory roll backs continue to happen, although largely out of the public glare. If my speculating (and that is all it is!) is anywhere near right, then it would indicate that being invested is appropriate for now. We will need to be sensitive to what happens if either if these factors encounter serious setbacks.

Well that is enough of speculating. Whether you agree or disagree, do please call me any time that I can be of assistance,

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