



## Wealth Care LLC Monthly Commentary-October 2018

### Investment Thoughts

As US stocks remain strong, it is amusing to look back at what various stock market pundits were saying all the way up. Watching financial TV, reading articles with opinions on stock market direction, etc. is bad for your financial health. The majority of opinion is negative, as this catches our attention. The time to really worry is when everyone seems enthusiastic.

We are reviewing your accounts on a regular basis and making adjustments only when we think there is a very good reason to do so. We added Dimensional Funds to many accounts this year after a several month due diligence effort that reviewed and contrasted our existing fund choices.

The hardest aspect of being an advisor/investor this year has been the dominance of the US stock market gains when compared to just about anything else (Foreign markets, Fixed income). We see new highs in the US stock market regularly, but our portfolios don't go up as much. But, if we look closer, we can see that our US investments are doing as well as the US market in general and that the non US stock investments are a drag on our portfolios. This is diversification in action. It is (as writer Nick Murray says): "an asset allocation that will avoid you from making either a killing or being killed." We are always happy to discuss this individually with you, and are even fine with keeping most of your investments in the US. But, in the long run, we think that has been and will be a mistake.

Anyway, enjoy the chart below:



SSPX: S&P 500 Index @ OPRA (Weekly bars)  
www.TradeNavigator.com © 1999-2018

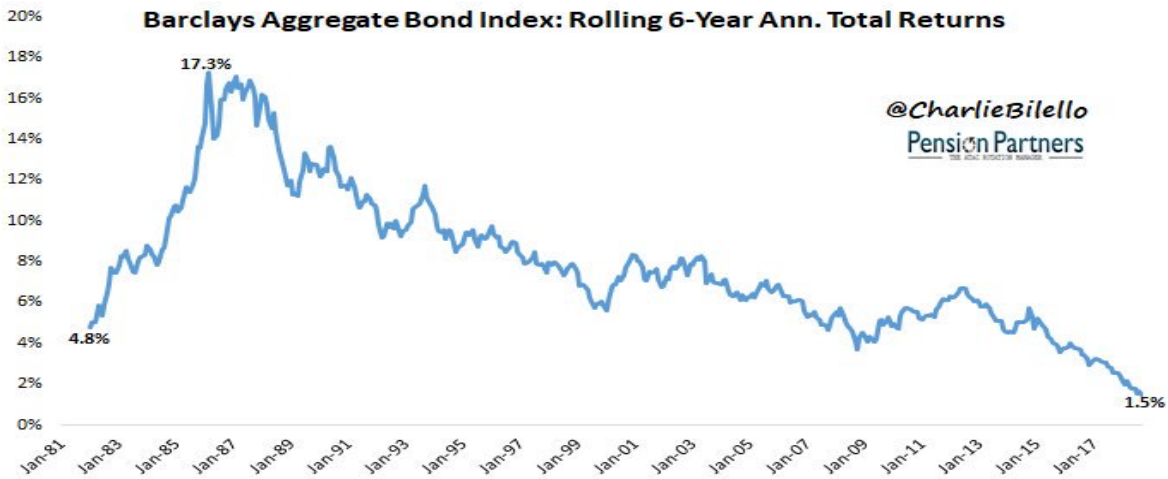
8/24/18 16:13 = 2874.69 (+24.56)

**SSPX vs Pundits  
2012-2018**



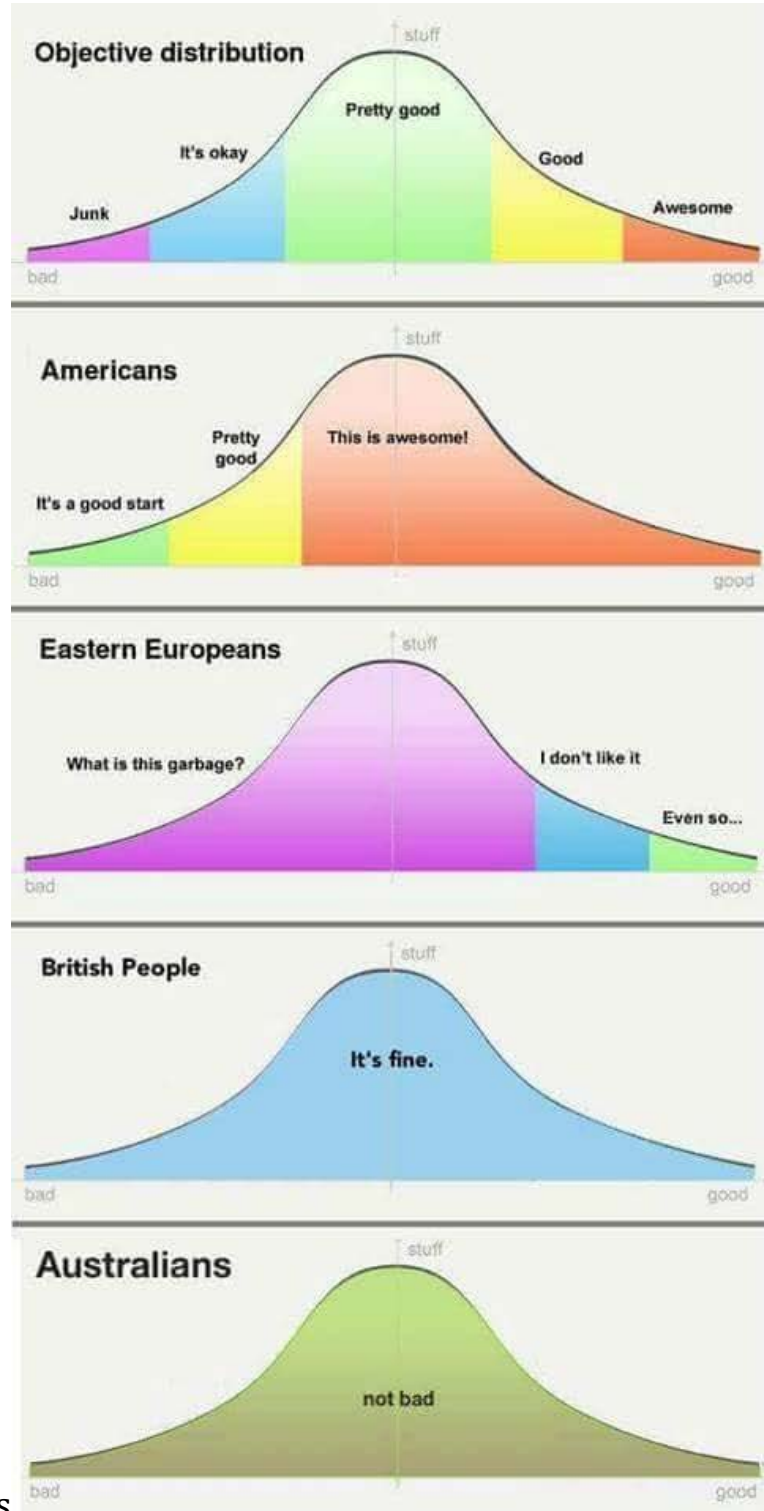


Expanding on the above theme, over the last 6 years, US bonds have gained 1.5% per year, their lowest 6-yr return in history (Barclays Aggregate Total Return).





Miscellaneous



Different Cultural Attitudes

[www.WealthCareLLC.com](http://www.WealthCareLLC.com) | F. 815.301.3777

Steven Podnos MD, MBA, CFP® P. 321.543.1099 E. Steven@wealthcarellc.com • Rachel Podnos J.D., CFP® P. 321-505-7592 E.

Rachel@wealthcarellc.com

Lauren Podnos, CFP® P. 321-537-7502 E. Lauren@wealthcarellc.com



## Easy flight delay compensation

(from a travel blog) My International flight to Los Angeles was delayed for 10 hours. The airline didn't tell me I was eligible for compensation, but a friend told me about an app called [AirHelp](#). I entered my name and confirmation number. Instantly, AirHelp told me the airline was obligated to pay me about \$700. AirHelp did all the work, and about a week later I got the money, minus a 25% commission for AirHelp, which was a small price to pay for not having to do anything. — MF

<http://www.openculture.com/> a tremendous compilation of entertainment and education, all free

## Credit Freeze

I've discussed here in the past about freezing your credit with the agencies that monitor it. Doing so makes it much harder for someone to open a bank account, a Paypal account or a credit card unbeknownst to you. It is now a free process:

How to "freeze" your credit report

Placing a freeze should be fast and relatively easy, although you will have to sign up for separate ones at each of the three credit bureaus.

Step 1: Go to the credit bureau websites and locate the "security freeze" link.

For Equifax: [www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services/](http://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services/)

For Experian: [www.experian.com/freeze](http://www.experian.com/freeze)

For TransUnion: [www.transunion.com/credit-freeze](http://www.transunion.com/credit-freeze)



Type in your name, address, social security number and date of birth. (Note: You can also submit a credit freeze request via phone or in writing.) You may be asked to provide a previous address if you have lived at your current one for less than two years.

You also may need to answer a few questions about your background, including loans you've taken out, credit cards you hold or previous addresses to confirm your identity.

Step 2: Select the security freeze option. (Or if you already have a freeze in place, select whether you want to temporarily “unfreeze” it or remove the freeze permanently)

Step 3: Jot down your PIN number, as you will need it to change the status of your freeze, like when you want to “thaw” or unfreeze it to get a loan for a new car or apply for a mortgage.

If the credit bureaus cannot sufficiently verify your identity based on the information you've provided, you may need to mail in copies of your driver's license, utility bills or other supporting documentation to validate your identity and execute a freeze.

"We want to make it as simple as possible to access that freeze, but we want to protect you at the same time," Experian's Griffin said. "We need to strike that balance."

## Random Notes

Spending money to show people how much money you have is the surest way to have less money.-Morgan Housel

The market doesn't care how you feel about a stock or what price you paid for it.-Ben Carlson

If we all threw our problems in a pile and saw everyone else's, we'd grab ours back.



“I’ve crunched the numbers in your retirement account. It’s time to figure out who will be wearing the mask and who will be driving the getaway car.”

**Steven Podnos MD CFP® for Wealth Care LLC 10-1-2018**

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Steven Podnos MD, MBA, CFP® P. 321.543.1099 E. [Steven@wealthcarellc.com](mailto:Steven@wealthcarellc.com) • Rachel Podnos J.D., CFP® P. 321-505-7592 E.

[Rachel@wealthcarellc.com](mailto:Rachel@wealthcarellc.com)

Lauren Podnos, CFP® P. 321-537-7502 E. [Lauren@wealthcarellc.com](mailto:Lauren@wealthcarellc.com)