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The Source for Freedom and Self-Reliant Information¹

Thomas Jefferson defined *rightful liberty* as “unobstructed action according to our will within limits drawn around us by the equal rights of others—I do not add ‘within the limits of the law,’ because law is often but the tyrant’s will, and always so when it violates the right of an individual.”

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“The Income Tax: Root of all Evil”²

Finally, Tax Day (4/18/2022) has passed! We all scurry to either file our return on time or estimate any balance due and extend this dreaded day until October 17, 2022. We do this each, and every year having been conditioned to do so without understanding the potential negative consequences to ourselves, to each other, and ultimately, to our great country, the United States of America. Yes, we have a great country... it’s our government that’s the problem!

When we sign and file Form 1040, under penalties of perjury, we voluntarily waive our 4th Amendment right to be secure in our papers and effects, and our 5th Amendment right not to be compelled to be a witness against ourselves.

For example, did you forget to include as income your gambling winnings (e.g., casino, private card games, bingo, online gaming) or crypto-currency gains? Did you forget to include barter income, i.e., work done for someone in exchange for other goods or services? Did you neglect to include cash payments received for work you had done? Did you overstate your deductions, or rather, you may not have kept proof for ALL the deductions taken on your return?

The tax laws are written in such a way so that the IRS can be weaponized and used against you. Remember, the Chicago mobster, Al Capone, was not convicted of murder, extortion, or any other heinous crime—witnesses tended to disappear or would not testify—he was convicted and sent to prison for tax evasion.

After the conviction of Al Capone for tax evasion, Congress realized the benefits that could be gained by granting extraordinary powers to the IRS so that they could use *Gestapo Tactics* to threaten and torment American Taxpayers, especially those who oppose the power-elites who control government.

They used the tax laws to put Paul Manafort in prison because he supported President Trump. Currently, they are considering charging Hunter Biden with tax fraud and money laundering. Why? With the passage of the money laundering statutes, as part of the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1986, tax evasion or tax fraud is NOW considered money laundering. Make a mistake on your tax return or take a position contrary to that of the IRS, the maximum punishment is \$500,000 or twice the amount of money laundered, whichever is greater, PLUS, up to 20 years in prison for each count. And remember, they can go back and audit at least 3-years and, most likely 7-years of your previously filed tax returns... the counts or years in prison add up quickly!

² Frank Chodorov, *The Income Tax: Root of all Evil*, The Devin-Adair Company New York (1954), online edition 2002 The Ludwig von Mises Institute, available Amazon.com.

Wouldn't it be ironic if both Hunter Biden and "the Big Guy" were charged with money laundering... after all, good old Joe was in the Senate when the money laundering statutes were passed! Then Senator Biden most likely supported the money laundering statutes, even though he had been laundering money throughout his entire political career and knew he would continue; after all, such laws don't apply to the power-elites that control government.

Unfortunately, Merrick Garland, the Attorney General, will not likely let the Hunter Biden case go to trial... a deal will be made, documents sealed, and the "lamestream media" will continue with their false narrative, "the Big Guy" did not know anything about his son's business dealings. Yah right...

By the way, I don't know about you, but I am so happy that Merrick Garland is NOT on the Supreme Court!

Our Founders did not anticipate an income or capitation or other direct taxes to be levied on citizens of the United States. According to Charles Adams, the real cause of the American Revolution can be traced back to the reasons immigrants came to America—they sought freedom from taxation as expressed by one Irishman writing home to Ulster in 1720:

"Tell all the poor folk of ye place that God has opened a door for their deliverance . . . all that a man works for is his own, and there are no revenue hounds [i.e., no IRS] to take it from us here; there is no one to take away yer Corn, yer Potatoes."

In addition to understanding that many immigrants fled Europe because of oppressive taxation, along with the fact that they were also tax evaders and rebels themselves, our Founders read baron de Montesquieu's book, *The Spirit of Laws*, published in English in 1751, in which he set forth his basic principles of taxation: Direct taxes (e.g., tax on the wages of labor) were dangerous and natural to slavery; indirect taxes or taxes on the sale of merchandise were more natural to liberty.

Because of this belief that an income tax on a person's labor was tantamount to slavery, there was no peacetime income tax for the first 118 years of our existence. Then in 1894 Congress passed the first peacetime income tax that exempted 98% of the population; the tax rate was 2% on 2% of the population; and it was progressive because it exempted most of the population, representing class legislation against the rich. The Supreme Court got immediately involved in probably one of the most celebrated cases at the time and ultimately ruled the income tax unconstitutional.

After the adoption of the 16th Amendment in 1913 and as the 19th Century came to a close, "the Court began abandoning its role as guardian of the Constitution so far as federal income

tax laws were concerned. As tax laws became increasingly abusive and even discriminatory, lacking even a semblance of uniformity, the Court washed its hands of them.”

The 16th Amendment says Congress may tax incomes without apportionment but, it does not state that the 16th Amendment is superior to any other amendments and all other provisions of the Constitution. Therefore, Congress and the IRS have no authority to require U.S. citizens and residents to waive their rights under the Constitution, e.g., the 4th and 5th Amendments. But this is exactly what is being done with respect to the administration and collection of income taxes. This is a fraud perpetrated against all of us.

If the Supreme Court stepped up and began doing its job—to be watchful for the constitutional rights of the citizens and against any stealthy encroachments by Government—the income tax laws would be considered repugnant to the Constitution, a direct violation of the 4th and 5th Amendments; and accordingly, ruled null and void. Not likely to happen any time soon—probably never—without substantial motivation and backlash by the American people.

I have a Master of Laws (LL.M.) in taxation and a Certificate of Expertise in Anti-Money Laundering & Compliance, summa cum laude. My thesis, *The U.S. Individual Income Tax is Incompatible with a Free Society*, is available through our website or directly from Amazon.com. Buy a copy, pass it along, spread the word to family, friends, and associates! The more people that understand the fraud that has been perpetrated against them, the better our chances of restoring our economic freedom.

Tax Reform only lasts until the next election, maybe two if we are lucky... A Tax Revolution is imperative... We must repeal the 16th Amendment to take the ability away from Congress to tax incomes. To do this, we must mobilize all like-minded freedom-loving individuals and organizations in a grass-roots effort to obtain at least 38 State Legislatures to support such an Amendment. The purpose for the repeal is to restore power to State and local governments. Please consider signing our petition at [Abolish IRS — Jeffersonian Group | Financial Planning & independence](#).

The 13th Amendment was passed to get rid of chattel slavery. The passage of the 16th Amendment, along with its purposeful misinterpretation, has turned ALL of us into slaves to the power-elites that control government.

The 13th Amendment states, “Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude . . . shall exist within the United States. . .” Looks like another good constitutional argument against the income tax, a direct tax on the wages of labor!?! Did not consider this in my thesis... might have to update it!

By the way, the recent proposal to tax the wealth of billionaires,³ not their income, is unconstitutional... the elected politicians that entertain and support this unconstitutional tax have violated their oath to “preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States.” Please... vote these ignorant, power-hungry tyrants and scoundrels out of office!

Better yet, if we want to save this great country of ours from its worst enemy, the government,⁴ we should vote everyone out of office who wants to increase taxes, increase regulations, and who empowers the administrative state, e.g., appoints a lunatic far-left Czar to head-up an Orwellian Ministry of Truth in the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

Unbelievable, disinformation, misinformation, who decides? These people either have no idea what the Constitution says, i.e., “Congress shall make no law . . . abridging the freedom of speech . . .” or they just assume the average American is completely ignorant. Let’s prove them wrong this November!

Conspiracy Theories and Voter Fraud

The “lamestream media” started labeling anything they disagreed with as conspiracy theories during the Obama/Biden Administration, e.g., under Obamacare, Obama said your premiums would go down by \$2,500 and you could keep your doctor. It got so bad over those eight years that whatever the Liar & Chief said, the opposite was likely to be the truth.

What about the Steele Dossier pointing to a Trump-Russian connection? We now know that it was a complete fabrication paid for by the Clinton Campaign! The real conspiracy probably goes all the way up to Barrack Insane Obama!?!

Yet the Democrats persisted with their lies and bogus investigations spending over \$40 million in taxpayer money trying to tie Trump to the Russians; then trying to impeach Trump for a phone call to the Ukraine President. Now we find out that it is Hunter Biden and “the Big Guy” who are in the pockets of Ukraine, Russia, and China!

What about the Hunter Biden laptop? It was deemed Russian propaganda and buried by Big Tech and the “lamestream media” as Russian disinformation, signed off by 51 current and former U.S. intelligence agents, along with congressional members like Adam Shifty-Schiff.

³ If Congress were to get a wealth tax passed on billionaires, like the income tax, it will eventually apply to millionaires, then the entire middle-class; remember, the income tax started out covering just 2% of the population, now it applies to over 50% with the middle class being the hardest hit!

⁴ Richard J. Maybury, *Early Warning Report*, Apr-May 2022. “My periodic reminder: the government and the country are not the same thing. America is wonderful, but its government is its worst enemy.”

Even with the voter fraud that occurred in 2020, had the Hunter Biden laptop story NOT been buried, Donald J. Trump would still be President today instead of “the Big Guy” who is head of the Biden-5 crime family.⁵

And, of course, the “lamestream media” has continued to make statements like, “There has been no credible evidence of widespread voter fraud . . .” and “Top Republicans defend Trump on baseless voter fraud claims.” (CNN)

In our Newsletter, Issue 31-2021, dated 2/13/2021, we provided reasonable proof that “The 2020 Election was Stolen,” pages 12 through 16, available on our website.

NOW, on May 2, 2022, Dinesh D’Souza’s “stylish, chilling, maddening new documentary, *2,000 Mules*,” will be premiering in select U.S. cities. For those of you who do not live near these select cities, here is Deroy Murdock’s summary of the film:

“2,000 Mules is a compelling election integrity whodunit. Visually reminiscent of director Tony Scott’s thriller ‘Enemy of the State,’ this film uses state-of-the-art technology to prove that the 2020 presidential election was stained, if not fully stolen, through the lowest-tech means: stuffed ballot boxes. [“2,000 Mules” includes an appearance by Hans von Spakovsky, an election fraud expert at The Heritage Foundation, parent organization of The Daily Signal].”

“True the Vote researchers [Catherine] Engelbrecht and Gregg Phillips analyzed 10 trillion cellphone geo-tracking signals captured during the closing weeks of the 2020 general election campaign.”

“The researchers focused on the commercially marketed ‘pings’ from mobile phones whose owners interacted with ballot drop boxes in five swing states. Democrats demanded the broad deployment of these boxes during the COVID-19 pandemic, due to the ‘dangers’ of in-person voting.”

“These digital sleuths then narrowed their search to people who approached 10 or more drop boxes and contemporaneously visited five or more pro-Biden nonprofits.”

“They then requested and acquired 4 million minutes of recordings of these drop boxes by government-security cameras. It would take seven years and eight months to watch all these images at normal speed.”

⁵ Peter Schweizer, *Profiles in Corruption*. See Newsletter Issue 31, dated 2/13/2021.

“This investigation’s results are staggering: Cameras capture one mule after another traveling from box to box to deposit successive fists full of ballots. One mule in Atlanta slid ballots into 28 different collection bins.”

“Most mules left just a few ballots in each box over several weeks, leaving eyebrows unraised. But in Gwinnett County, Georgia, 271 people visited one box on Oct. 12, 2020. That day, 1,962 ballots were inserted—10 times the normal number.”

“These mules were not just overzealous political operatives. Corrupt activist groups reportedly paid them per ballot delivered, which is universally illegal. The mules’ identities reveal that many have criminal records. Some were present during the George Floyd riots.”

“So, was there enough fraud to change the outcome? A mere 42,844 votes sprinkled among three swing states clinched the White House.”

“D’Souza and True the Vote discovered that 2,000 mules averaged 38 drop-box visits and—in each of these scenarios—left five illegal ballots per visit. This totals 380,000 fraudulent votes. Coming from heavily Democrat areas, these almost certainly were overwhelmingly pro-Biden ballots.”

“—In Arizona, 200 mules typically approached 20 boxes each. Disqualifying these 20,000 unlawful ballots would evaporate Biden’s 10,457-vote win in Arizona.”

“—In Georgia, 250 mules stopped at 24 boxes and inserted five ballots per encounter. Rejecting these 30,000 illegal votes would eliminate Biden’s victory margin of 11,779.”

“—In Pennsylvania, 1,100 mules in Philadelphia alone encountered 50 boxes. Vacating these 275,000 illegitimate votes would eradicate Biden’s 80,555-vote victory.”

“Undoing this evil would have removed these three states from Biden’s total. The Electoral College count would have shifted to 259 for Biden and 279 for Donald Trump. This would have earned Trump four more years as president.”

“This was an organized effort to subvert a free and fair election,” said True the Vote’s Phillips.

“This is organized crime [and] these criminals should be prosecuted at once.”⁶

We no longer have statesmen (men and women of “public virtue”), only “scoundrels” feeding at the public trough. Ben Franklin

⁶ Deroy Murdock, *Film ‘2,000 Mules’ Offers Vivid Proof of Voter Fraud*, DailySignal.com, April 29, 2022.

The Impact of the War in Ukraine

There are two sides to every story. As Richard Maybury has stated, “I do not see Putin as good or evil, so much as inevitable.” “Century after century, Russians have been overrun by invaders inflicting cruelties on them. . . Since 1800, Russians have been invaded *from the west* an average of every 33 years—almost every generation . . . Russia has been invaded by Ukrainians, Goths, Slavs, Huns, Avars, Khazars, Vikings, Mongols, Teutonic Knights, Lithuanians, Swedes, Poles, Cossacks, Japanese, Chinese and others.”⁷

Maybury continues, “If I were a Russian father, I’d awaken every morning, look at my children, and wonder what might be coming at us from just over the horizon. This fear is a mindset completely foreign to Americans who after 1814 have always been protected by their wide Atlantic and Pacific moats.”⁸

“Take a look at just two of the WWII clashes in Russia. Stalingrad was the worst battle in all of human history. More people were killed than the US has lost in all the wars it has ever fought. Leningrad was probably the worst siege in history. It lasted 872 days and killed more than a million. All of Russian children are taught this history, along with the admonishment, *never again!*”⁹

According to Maybury, “Russians admire Putin for the very reason Washington does not. He is coldblooded and hardnosed, a pit bull, who apparently no longer hesitates to push back against NATO. . . NATO is not an economic alliance like the EU, it is military. The tools of its trade are not cash registers and coins, they are tanks and bombers. NATO leaders promise they have no hostile intent toward Russia. Russian leaders might believe it, but the typical Russian surely says, we’ve heard that before, usually just prior to being massacred. . . given Russia’s history, if you were in Putin’s shoes, facing a NATO that has been slithering much closer since 1990 despite repeated warnings to stay back, what would you have done?”¹⁰

Maybury continues, “Power hungry NATO pushed Putin until he had no choice [but] to push back. His invasion of Georgia in 2008 was a warning. It didn’t work, so he drew the line at Ukraine. I am in no way saying anything good about Putin. He is a thug. The Ukrainian crisis is yet one more case of Washington poking sharp sticks at a rattlesnake and then howling when the snake does what snakes do.”

⁷ Richard J. Maybury’s Early Warning Report, Apr-May 2022, Henry Madison Research, Inc., richardjmaybury.com.

⁸ *Id.*

⁹ *Id.*

¹⁰ *Id.*

“Washington is the most powerful military force ever seen on earth. Its participation in NATO makes any sane Russian fearful. A lot of military operations are secret, but an unnamed ‘Pentagon official’ recently told the Wall Street Journal that ‘American troops are operating or are based’ in virtually all countries. So, when Russians look west, they are reminded of the Germans, Vikings, Goths, Poles, Swedes, and everyone else who ever attacked them. They want a ruthless, powerful government shielding them.”¹¹

Maybury believes, “If Washington would divorce NATO, then NATO would not be so scary. In a few generations the Russians might feel safer.”¹²

Biden and his cabal either do not know or understand Russian history; or they personify the first fundamental lesson of history: “We do not learn from history.”¹³ Either way, the Biden Administration will most likely continue to conduct foreign policy and interfere in the Ukraine-Russia War to the detriment of the American people.

According to Jim Richard’s, *Strategic Intelligence*, “Ukraine has been a huge source of cash to Democratic politicians and foundations, as illustrated by the millions of dollars paid to Hunter Biden as a way to cultivate influence with Joe Biden.”

The Biden Administration could easily eliminate the “global energy shortage,” and ultimately start bringing down inflation just by reinstating the Trump-era policies that they immediately reversed when they came into office, i.e., finish the Keystone XL pipeline, authorize new drilling on federal lands, open-up fracking capacity, allow Alaska to start new drilling projects, get rid of the Green New Deal energy regulations that stifle fossil fuel production, and either expedite or eliminate the burdensome regulatory permitting requirements. In other words, just get out of the way so that the United States can become energy independent again!

Unfortunately, “the dirty little secret among White House policymakers is that they like high energy prices because it helps to promote the Green New Deal (really the Green New Scam) goals of wind and solar power to replace oil and gas. The more expensive gas is, the more feasible alternatives become. That represents the triumph of ideology over common sense. There is a role for wind and solar, but even if you favor it, one has to recognize that it’s non-scalable, intermittent and cannot come online fast enough to close the gap between existing energy supplies and growing demand for energy.”¹⁴

¹¹ *Id.*

¹² *Id.*

¹³ Professor J. Rufus Fears, *The Wisdom of History*, The Great Courses, The Teaching Company (2007).

¹⁴ Jim Rickard, *Strategic Intelligence*, March 2022, Paradigm Press.

“[We] should expect persistent energy shortages and much higher prices. These trends were under way before the War in Ukraine, but they are greatly exacerbated by the war.”¹⁵

With the War in Ukraine and the embargos placed on Russia, we should also expect food shortages, along with the cutoff of neon gas supplies, which is required for the production of semiconductors. In addition, “Russia has a chokehold on many of the most critical strategic metals in the world.”¹⁶

As Jim Richard’s states, “The food shock coming from the War in Ukraine could be as severe as the oil shock coming from the Middle East in the 1970s.” I remember waiting in line for an hour just to get to the fuel pump for a few gallons; many times, there was no gasoline left.

Be prepared for much higher prices at the pump, and in the grocery store. Expect shortages and the inability to get certain products. For example, we have been waiting eight months to get parts to repair our SUV... we are still waiting! Ordered chicken wings last night as an appetizer, they were out!

Keep your gas tanks full; get a few extra propane tanks for your grill; buy and freeze your favorite meats, or order from Allen Brothers, Kansas City Steaks, Butcher Box, etc.; stock up on canned foods, soups, and nuts, etc.; grow your own fruits and vegetables; and make sure you have enough basic necessities, including paper products, on hand.

To conclude: (1) Stay liquid; (2) have enough food, water & supplies on hand for each family member for at least three months; (3) be able to defend yourself (weapons and ammo); and (4) continue to invest in DRIPs. We don’t know for sure what will happen tomorrow, next year, or five years from now.

Be prepared for the worst but, live your lives to the fullest. Keep investing in DRIPs so you can become financially independent or stay financially independent; financial freedom provides you many more options if your life gets turned upside down. For example, if you live in or near a major city and the crime spills into your neighborhood, you can afford to bug-out to a much safer place in the country or in the free state of Florida.

¹⁵ *Id.*

¹⁶ *Id.*

DRIP SUCCESS STORIES

For new readers, please go to our website and read Newsletter Issue 36-2022, dated March 6, 2022, beginning on page 4 at the bottom (**Here's what you should do**) and continue through page 5. This may help you understand why you should stay liquid but, still invest regularly in DRIPs.

We have been so indoctrinated by Wall Street and the financial planning community to invest certain ways by constantly buying & selling investments, based on what is happening in the world and the resulting impact to the stock & bond markets, to include paying them exorbitant commissions on every trade. This paradigm is difficult to throw-off, so for those new to the DRIP investing strategy, here are five examples of ordinary people that became financially independent ignoring Wall Street propaganda:

Grace Groner amassed a \$7 million fortune working as a secretary for Abbott Labs (ABT). In 1935, after working for four years, she acquired three shares of Abbott stock for \$60 per share, holding them for 75 years and reinvesting the dividends. When she passed away in 2010, her estate was worth \$7 million. The 3 shares she purchased for \$180 grew to \$7 million when she passed away.

Earl Crawley amassed a portfolio worth \$500,000 with a wife and 3 children and he never made more than \$20,000 per year. Mr. Crawley “started out investing in stamps, then bonds, then mutual funds, and then blue-chip dividend stocks like IBM and Coca-Cola (KO).” He explained one of the steps included in *The Best Kept Secret to Financial Freedom* (available at Amazon.com): “Instead of taking the dividends and pocketing it, let it reinvest itself, and increase my shares. The more shares I had, the more dividends I had, and eventually the more money I have down the road.”

Ronald Read amassed a portfolio worth nearly \$8 million; he was a janitor who was frugal, lived to age 92, and invested directly in blue-chip stocks like Wells Fargo (WFC), Proctor & Gamble (PG), and Colgate-Palmolive (CL); he continued to reinvest the dividends back into the stocks he bought.

Stephanie Mucha, known as “The Oracle of Buffalo,” donated \$5 million to charity when she passed away at age 101 in 2018. She worked for 44 years and earned \$23,000 per year when she retired in 1994. Her husband was much older and made \$6,000 per year as a machinist and retired in 1958. Mrs. Mucha amassed a fortune of \$7.5 million without using financial advisors, as a proponent of long-term, buy and hold strategies; one of her best long-term holdings was Medtronic (MDT).

Last, but not least, Ann Scheiber, an IRS Auditor, turned \$5,000 into \$22 million when she passed away in 1995 at the age of 101. She acquired stocks of companies like Coca-Cola (KO) and reinvested the dividends for decades.

As the success stories above illustrate, you too can use the DRIP strategy to become a multi-millionaire. For example, if you put \$10,000 in a DRIP yielding 5% and the company grows its dividend by 10% each year, you would have over \$5,000,000 at the end of 30-years. And this does not even factor in the potential growth in share price!

What are you waiting for... get going... read on!

Great Businesses to Buy Now

To become and STAY financially independent, you only need to do three things: (1) Pay yourself first; (2) live below your means; and (3) invest in DRIPs using *Einstein's Theory of Compound Interest*. Even if you became a multi-millionaire speculating in crypto-currencies and other speculative ventures like "blue gas" technology, statistically, you would be bankrupt within 5-years, if you did not follow the three principles outlined above. For further details, please read *The Best Kept Secret to Financial Freedom* and *Unlock The 4-Doors to Financial Independence*; both are available through our website, www.jeffersoniangroup.com and Amazon.com. **For all of you who purchased our books, we thank you; and would appreciate a review!**

In January 2016 we identified twelve Great Businesses (DRIP Stocks) that should be in everyone's portfolio; with the release of *The Best Kept Secret to Financial Freedom* in 2017, we increased our recommendations to twenty-six (26) Great Businesses. Today, we are monitoring a total of 44 Great Businesses (DRIP Stocks), deleting one, adding one, and considering an addition of 7 more; down from 9 in our previous newsletter.

In our last newsletter Issue 36-2022, dated March 6, 2022, we identified 19 DRIP's that met our acquisition requirements and were current buys. With this newsletter, approximately 2 months later, we added only one DRIP to our current buys. Even with the declining stock market, 19 of the DRIPs we follow increased in price; 22 declined in value; and 3 stayed the same, i.e., within pennies from the last evaluation. **This proves that each newsletter we issue, even 2-to-4 months apart, stays relevant, i.e., you do not have to wait until the next newsletter comes out to start or continue to invest.** In addition, you can also look up the Dividend Champions,

Contenders, and Challengers yourself, which is now available and updated every Friday afternoon at Dividend Radar, <https://www.portfolio-insight.com/dividend-radar>.¹⁷

Of the 12 Great Businesses that we believe should be in everyone's portfolio, the following *U.S. Dividend Champion/Aristocrat* (paid and raised dividends for at least 25-years) and *Challenger* meet our parameters and are a current buy:

- Exxon Mobil Corp (XOM) - \$85.50, yield = 4.04%, Paid & Raised Dividends for 38-years
- Intel Corporation (INTC) - \$43.78, yield = 3.12%, Paid Dividends for 28-years; Increased Annual Dividends for 8-years

The Coca-Cola Company (KO) increased in price since our last newsletter resulting in a dividend yield of 2.66% and the Intel Corporation (INTC) dropped in price, resulting in a dividend yield greater than 3%, replacing KO as a current buy as of our previous March 6, 2022 Newsletter.

The following additional *U.S. Dividend Champions* are also good buys right now:

1. Weyco Group Inc (WEYS) - \$24.75, yield = 3.85%, Paid & Raised Dividends 39-years
2. Kimberly-Clark Corp (KMB) - \$138.74, yield = 3.27%, Paid & Raised Dividends 49-years
3. **Enbridge, Inc (ENB)** - \$43.76, **yield = 6.05%**, Paid & Raised Dividends 25-years
4. Walgreen Boots Alliance (WBA) - \$42.60, yield = 4.29%, Paid & Raised 45-years
5. **International Business Machines (IBM)** - \$132.60, yield = 4.86%, **Paid & Raised 25-years**
6. **3M Company (MMM)** - \$144.50, yield = 4.05%, **Paid & Raised 62-years**
7. VF Corp (VFC) - \$52.00, yield = 3.76%, Paid & Raised 48-years
8. Clorox Company (CLX) - \$144.12, yield = 3.13%, Paid & Raised 43-years

This list has stayed the same since our last newsletter, even during a declining stock market. Three on this list increased in value; 4 went down in value and became better buys; and one stayed the same, the Clorox Company (CLX).

Enbridge, Inc. (ENB) was just added to our list in June 2021. Over the past 10-years, ENB has increased its annual dividend, on average, by 11.3%.

We first recommended IBM in 2017 when it was a *Contender* and had paid & raised its dividend for 21-years. It continued to pay & raise its dividend throughout 2020 during COVID-19 and became a *U.S. Dividend Champion*!

¹⁷ The spreadsheet for the Dividend Champions was created in 2008 by Dave Fish who passed away in 2018; it used to be available at The Dividend Investing Resource Center; if you go to <https://www.dripinvesting.org/tools/tools.asp>, which is the source in my book, make sure you click-on Dividend Radar, NOT Dividend Champions Excel Spreadsheet, which is from September 2021.

3M Company (MMM) has been overpriced for a while but became a good buy with our last newsletter, dated March 6, 2022. It has paid and raised its dividend for 62-years; for the past 3-years, the average increase has been 20.2%.

Contenders are companies that have paid and raised their dividends for 10-to-24 years. The following *Contenders* are priced right for acquisition:

1. Omega Healthcare Investors (OHI) - \$28.30, yield = 9.53%, Paid & Raised 18-years
2. Enterprise Products Partners (EPD) - \$25.43, yield = 7.43%, Paid & Raised 24-years
3. Cardinal Health Inc (CAH) - \$54.00, yield = 3.65%, Paid & Raised 24-years
4. Lazard Limited (LAZ) - \$33.73, yield = 5.39%, Paid & Raised 13-years
5. ONEOK Inc (OKE) - \$68.42, yield = 5.52%, Paid & Raised 18-years
6. Prudential Financial Inc (PRU) - \$106.43, yield = 4.38%, Paid & Raised 12-years
7. Main Street Capital Corp (MAIN) - \$42.70, yield = 5.95%, Paid & Raised 10-years
8. Cisco Systems Inc (CSCO) - \$49.12, yield = 3.00%, Paid & Raised 10-years

Cisco Systems Inc (CSCO) dropped in price and is now a good buy with a dividend yield of 3%.

MAIN became a *Contender*, continuing to pay & raise dividends for 10-years throughout 2020 during the China Virus/COVID-19 lockdowns, as did ALL the other *Contenders* listed above.

The next category of dividend payers are *Challengers*, which have paid and raised their dividends for 5-to-9 years. In today's market, we like the following companies:

- AbbVie Inc (ABBV) - \$146.00, yield = 3.61%, Paid & Raised 9-years on average 15.5%
- NextEra Energy Partners (NEP) - \$67.08, yield = 4.32%, Paid & Raised 8-years; 5-yrs on average 60%; last 3-yrs on average 14.9% per year

ABBV increased in value since our last newsletter and NEP declined in value.

ABBV is a spinoff of another company that paid dividends for over 25-years and has continued to pay & raise its dividend since spinoff, now 9-years. **ABBV is still a current buy, however, 5 ½ months ago the dividend yield was 4.8%!**

Another important criterion used to select our stocks is the average annual increase in the dividends paid each year, i.e., it is not enough that a Dividend Aristocrat—an S&P 500 Company that has paid and raised its dividend for at least 25-years—has consistently paid and raised its annual dividend, ideally, **it should also have raised it by 8%-to-10% or more per year**. For example, if a Dividend Champion/Aristocrat is paying a current dividend of over 5% but, its average annual increase has only been about 4%, rather than 8%-to-10% or more, we would most likely not recommend the DRIP stock.

Here's why: In 25-years, a stock that yields 3% and increases its dividend by 10% per year, will have an annual dividend greater than the original investment of approximately 350%, whereas a DRIP stock acquired with a yield of 5.42%, which increases by just 4% per year, would only have a dividend payable of much less than the original investment equal to about 21%.

To take full advantage of *Einstein's Theory of Compound Interest* and become financially independent in 10-to-15 years, you must acquire DRIPs that raise their annual dividends by 8%-to-10% or more per year. Our portfolio of DRIPs, on average, increase their annual dividends by more than 10% each year.

How to Implement This Program:

Our recommended portfolio now includes over 40 DRIP stocks. As of today, only 20 meet our criteria, i.e., 3% or greater yield when acquired. If you have investment capital of \$200,000 or more, it would be appropriate to purchase 100 shares of each of these 20 stocks which would cost about \$147,000.

If you have at least 100 shares of the 38-to-44 DRIP stocks recommended prior to this newsletter, you can add any or all the 20 stocks listed above that you may like.

By the time you get this newsletter, the prices will have changed but, you should buy the companies you desire, assuming the dividend yield at the time of your purchase is 3.00% or greater.

Some of you may already own many of these stocks; feel free to add to them. First purchase the stocks you own less of. Some of you may not own any of these great businesses. Some of you may have \$100,000 to invest while others may only have \$1,000. Using a discount broker (e.g., E*TRADE, Schwab, TD Ameritrade, Fidelity, etc.), whether you buy 10 shares or 1,000 shares, the brokerage fees will be less than ten dollars! In addition, **once you acquire any of these DRIPs, you should instruct your discount broker to automatically reinvest the dividends.** The reinvested dividends should be done with no additional cost.

If you are just starting this investment program, focus on the *U.S. Dividend Champions* listed above. The order of our listing has nothing to do with one company being better than the others; they are all great businesses! If you have enough investment capital to purchase 20-to-100 shares of several companies, then you should consider doing so. Your goal might be to acquire 100 shares of each *U.S. Dividend Champion* before moving on to any of the other recommendations.

If, for example, you only have \$1,000 to invest, buy 15-to-40 shares of either The Coca-Cola Company (KO)—yes, I still recommend KO¹⁸ even with a yield of 2.66% when you are just starting out—or Weyco Group Inc (WEYS) or Walgreen Boots Alliance Inc (WBA); then buy more shares the next month until you have at least 100 shares. Then look at another U.S. Dividend Champion/Aristocrat like Exxon Mobil Corp (XOM), McDonald’s Corp (MCD), Johnson & Johnson (JNJ).

Another option for younger first-time investors might be to invest \$100 per week or \$400 per month. There is nothing wrong with just buying 5-to-10 shares of several stocks per week. Also, if you can only afford \$50 per week, invest the accumulated amount of \$200 every 4-weeks.

Start investing in these great businesses... NOW!

Remember, the only way to become financially independent—assuming you do not win the lottery or strike it rich speculating in crypto-currencies or blue gas technology—is to acquire assets (e.g., DRIPs) that pay you enough passive income to cover and exceed your lifestyle expenses. Even if you are lucky and become a multi-millionaire overnight, you will need to invest in DRIPs to maintain your financial independence.

When you buy a DRIP, you are buying it for life. At some point in the future, you will no longer reinvest ALL the dividends; you will live off the dividends.

The Crypto Corner

Please go to our website, <https://jeffersoniangroup.com> and access our free newsletter, Issue 35-2021, dated November 24, 2021, for detailed information about our approach to this speculative market.

If you visit CoinMarketCap (<https://coinmarketcap.com/>), there are over 19,000 cryptocurrencies, which continues to increase almost daily. A great majority of these coins/tokens can be purchased for less than One Dollar (\$1.00) per coin/token. So, **for \$200-to-\$1,000, an average person can participate in an opportunity that may come around but once in a lifetime.** Such opportunities are normally reserved for accredited investors who are willing to fund such speculative ventures with \$10,000-to-\$100,000 or more; and, once the accredited investors put up the money, they no longer have any control over it, unlike the cryptocurrency market.

¹⁸ If you buy my book, *The Best Kept Secret to Financial Freedom*, you can see how well KO did when it was acquired with a dividend yield of only 1.53%, pages 21-22.

If you have not already done so, we would encourage everyone to take advantage of one of the greatest opportunities that has come around in our lifetime, which can be done with as little as \$200-to-\$1,000 by opening an account with Coinbase (www.coinbase.com). Although not as easy as opening an online brokerage account, it has become much easier to open and fund a cryptocurrency account; just follow the instructions.

Please understand that a purchase of one or more cryptocurrencies is not an investment; it is pure speculation. Therefore, you should only pursue this opportunity with funds that you are willing to lose. However, nothing ventured, nothing gained...

COVID Update

On Friday, April 22, 2022, Karen and I attended the “Save A Generation Florida Tour” in Tallahassee. The speakers included: Dr. Peter McCullough, Dr. Ryan Cole, and Dr. Carrie Madej; Dr. Judy A. Mikovits, a PhD in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, who has co-authored papers in immunology, natural products chemistry, epigenetics, and HIV/AIDS drug development; and Attorney Jeff Childers, who publishes a free daily newsletter called, Coffee & Covid with Jeff Childers. Go to <https://www.coffeeandcovid.com> to sign up for his newsletter, which is not only up-to-date and informative, but also entertaining!

Many of these speakers have been “cancelled” and banned from social media sites for suggesting that the COVID jabs are experimental; that the vaccines have caused death; the jabs may damage your immune system; that the risks of adverse effects far outweigh any benefits; and each additional jab or booster increases the risk of adverse effects, even death.

Among other things, Dr. McCullough mentioned that a Judge recently scrapped the 75-year FDA requested timeline to release the Pfizer vaccine safety data, giving the agency eight months. Within the last document dump of about 55,000 pages, over 1,000 individuals died during the testing stage before the FDA approved the Pfizer vaccine for distribution and use. According to Dr. McCullough, if 50 individuals died from any drug or vaccine, it was pulled from the shelf. In this case, with over 1,000 deaths during the trial stage, the Pfizer vaccine should have never been approved and released in the first place!

Here's some information straight from Coffee & Covid with Jeff Childers: “The greatest long-term risk we are now aware of is the vaccine’s potential ability to damage, or ‘suppress,’ the body’s immune system. A suppressed immune system leaves the body vulnerable to all kinds of random nasty outcomes like breakthroughs, repeat covid infections, cancer, and increased susceptibility to common bugs like shingles, HPV, and measles. In the words of one recent

study, elevated post-vaccine risks include neurodegenerative disease, myocarditis, immune thrombocytopenia, liver disease, impaired adaptive immunity, impaired DNA damage response and tumorigenesis. A suppressed immune system has the same effect produced by the AIDS virus, which is why you see a lot of chatter about 'VAIDS,' or vaccine-induced acquired immune deficiency syndrome."

Jeff Childers continued: "The public health establishment has a duty to produce evidence that the jabs are safe and effective, as they claim. Exactly how long does the enhanced mRNA stay in the body making spike protein? Exactly where can the LNPs go?¹⁹ Do the jabs damage the body's immune response? If so, to what extent? And for exactly how long?"

Jeff Childers concluded: "The good news is, the more we understand about HOW the vaccines cause injury, the easier it will be to treat or even reverse these types of injuries. So, we're making progress, and I expect this trend will only accelerate. But the best news is that the secret embargo on vaccine-injury studies appears to have now been lifted, so we can at least talk about it and the researchers can learn from each other."

What about masks? "For all of modern medicine, it's been known that surgical masks do not block viruses. That's not why they're used. They're used during surgery and other medical procedures to prevent the transfer of bacteria-laden saliva to vulnerable patients and open wounds." Respiratory viruses, like COVID, "are airborne and so tiny they flow through most barriers. If you can breathe, the virus will slip through."

Study after study has shown that "mask mandates have no discernible benefit," which makes sense because the China COVID VIRUS is just that, a virus!

We need to remember what it was like in 2018-2019 and get back to normal... no more masks, no more lockdowns, no more mandatory jabs, and no more vaccine passports to work or travel or enter a business or government building! Let's regain some of our freedom!

The End of Democracy – We Can Only Hope!

Elon Musk's \$44 billion offer to buy Twitter—approved by Twitter's Board of Directors—and take it private has "many prominent left-leaning individuals [pledging] to leave the platform."

¹⁹ LNPs are lipid nanoparticles, teeny-tiny globs of artificial fat that help stabilize and hold the mRNA, and help the mRNA get into your cells so it can start making spike protein. Originally, Pfizer and Moderna said that the LNPs would stay in the shoulder at the injection site and would NOT migrate into other places in the body. But Dr. Urso, who has a background in drug design and has previously worked with LNPs in other drugs, said it was well-known that LNPs "go everywhere" in the body. Coffee & Covid, Monday, May 2, 2022, HARMS ROUNDUP

Except for FOX News and Newsmax, the “lamestream media” is clearly upset with Musk’s acquisition because they may not be able to censor or block negative news stories about their left-leaning candidates, as they did during the 2020 national election with Hunter Biden’s laptop.

Among many others, Senator Elizabeth Pocahontas Warren called Elon Musk’s acquisition of Twitter “dangerous for our democracy.” Contrary to popular opinion, the United States of America is NOT supposed to be a democracy! In fact, the U.S. Constitution, properly understood, protects minorities and everyone from the whims of the majority.

Americans “pledge allegiance to the flag, and to the Republic for which it stands,” not to the Democracy for which it stands! The word democracy cannot be found anywhere in the U.S. Constitution. Our Founders despised democracy and in Article IV, Section 4 of the Constitution wrote, “The United States shall guarantee to every State in the Union a Republican Form of Government.”

Aristotle described Democracy as tyranny by the many and said that it represented a perverted form of government. Inspired by Thomas Jefferson and Ben Franklin, an example of Democracy is two wolves and a lamb deciding what’s for dinner, while freedom is a well-armed lamb contesting the vote.

Dr. Will Durant stated, “[Democracy is now taking] its turn in the misgovernment of mankind.”²⁰

“After more than a century of compulsory democracy, the predictable results are before our very eyes. The tax load imposed on property owners and producers makes the economic burden even of slaves and serfs seem moderate in comparison.”²¹

Over the past 75-to-100 years, the Supreme Court has allowed our Constitutional Republic, with a limited government, to be converted to a Democracy, with an omnipotent government. Under our unconstitutional Democracy, some Americans have been granted positive rights. To be more accurate, special privileges have been carved out for blacks, gays, women, the disabled, the poor, unions, the rich, ad infinitum. In addition, property and the “fruit of labor” of certain individuals and groups are taken away and redistributed to those groups and individuals granted special privileges.

Under the original Constitutional Republic of the United States, individuals had the same unalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness or property; negative rights or the right to pursue, without any guarantees. The taking of property (e.g., wages of labor) from

²⁰ Will & Ariel Durant, *The Lessons of History* (1968).

²¹ Hans-Hermann Hoppe, *Democracy, The God That Failed* (2007).

one group to give to other groups was clearly unconstitutional, i.e., the Constitution does not grant Congress the power to take taxpayer money and give it to the charity of their choosing. Rather than take property (e.g., wages of labor) and redistribute it—picking winners & losers—the United States government was supposed to protect private property rights and other unalienable rights from the whims of the majority and energetic minorities. Under the original Constitution—which still exists today—it would not matter who was elected to office because their power was limited.

Today, under American Democracy, those that control government have the ability and power to enslave the masses, which they have been doing; most recently, lockdowns, mask mandates, vaccine mandates, vaccine passports. Any special privileges granted to one group can easily be taken away. As a result, elections do matter and impact all of us because, according to H.L. Mencken, “government is a broker of pillage, and every election is a sort of advanced auction sale of stolen goods.”

When Ben Franklin left Independence Hall on the final day of the Convention, he was asked by a woman, “Well Doctor, what have we got?” Franklin replied, “A Republic, if you can keep it.”

We can only hope that Pocahontas is right, that Elon Musk’s acquisition of Twitter is not only dangerous to Democracy but, it will be the beginning of the end of American Democracy!

Dum Spiro Spero—While I breathe, I hope.

Slainte mhath,

Robert G. Beard Jr., C.P.A., C.G.M.A., J.D., LL.M.