2nd Quarter ~ 2013

Announcing our new location!

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All email contact information remains the same.

After almost 15 years at One Church Street and over 20 years of sharing office space with FSA, the quarters simply couldn't grow enough to accommodate everyone's needs. In the meantime, Rick spotted a home nearby that had been neglected for decades. Since January we've been carefully bringing it back to life and are now delighted to welcome you to the new and improved home of Schaeffer Financial. Driving directions are now on our website and we'll be sure to remind you of the change when you schedule your next appointment.

Over 30 years ago, interest rates for mortgages and money market funds were at a catch-your-breath 15-17%. With nowhere to go but down, rates did just that…until now. The Feds have pronounced the low interest rate party is finally over and the ripple effect has begun, especially for bonds. For over a decade, bonds have been doing more than their fair share of keeping investors happy. What came to our rescue when the dot com bubble wiped out the stock market? Bonds. What hung in there playing the quiet, dependable sibling to those show off international and small company stocks? Bonds. And what became our beacon of hope as the economy tried to claw its way out of a recession? Yep, our best buddy bonds. It's been an amazing performance and we are indeed grateful, but we always knew the show would come to an end with rising interest rates and the Feds have spoken.

As bonds slink off center stage we bid adieu to steady, predictable income and say hello to volatility. Stocks certainly tried to grab the spotlight with an impressive start to the year, but after peaking in May, they've bounced around, playing the hero, then the villain, then the hero again – sometimes in very short order. It's never straightforward with these stocks. It they keep up momentum they can help convince investors that sustainable economic growth is underway and robust returns are there for the making. But can investors withstand the drama of a market that does a wild volatility dance? Anyone who purchased stocks because they were fed up with a practically zero return on cash could lead the stampede to the exits. That's always bad news for everybody else in the theater.

So we've arrived at the market transition act of 2013 and the future is as uncertain as ever. Fortunately we don't' drift with the whims of investor sentiment. Times of transition require patience and discipline – we know this drill. For now we are standing ready to make prudent decisions. We trust you are enjoying some of summer's sweet pleasures.

Please contact us with any questions or to schedule a review. We'd love to give you a tour of our new space.