

## Fridays with Friends for November

November 6, 12 Noon, The **Current Events Group**, CADE 207: Will review and discuss the major issues and events of the past month including:

- The Healthcare reform bills are nearing the end game. What has been the reaction to the insurance industries recent warnings about healthcare costs? What is congress's reaction? What is the status of the public option?
- The administration is still developing a new policy for Afghanistan. The recent election in Afghanistan has been found to be fraudulent and is being rerun this week. What should we do? Send more troops? How many? What should our strategy be, counter-insurgency or counter-terrorism? Or is it time to cut our losses? What about NATO? How will the latest Pakistani offensive against the Taliban affect our decisions?
- We will look at the latest nuclear stand-off with Iran. What are the results of the current talks? Will there be an agreement? What will it look like?
- The stock market appears to be gaining. Is the economy recovering? Is the recession over? Why is the dollar so weak?
- We will take a look at the upcoming December climate change summit meeting in Copenhagen and the climate change bills that are pending in Congress.

November 6, 2:15 PM, **Investment Group**, CALT 111: The group has a very full agenda:

- Fred Lebert and Bill Daney will provide our portfolio status.
- Jim Hearn will provide a fact finding insight on "fraud & abuse charges and early warning signs of trouble" for the stock symbol SAY.
- Kathy Daly will provide her International Information talk.
- Mary Ann Webster will provide a presentation on 529 Mutual Fund investing.
- Art Smookler will provide a new portfolio that consist of about a half dozen aggressive mutual funds with a relatively high Beta that will attempt to "Ride the Recovery." His presentation will explain the strategy behind his selection criteria. This particular portfolio is much more speculative than the Coffee House Portfolio. It should provide an interesting glimpse of the possibilities (and perils) of market timing, Beta selection, and momentum investing.
- Open classroom presentation: each (willing) member will select one stock of their choice, and present: why it was chosen, selection method, long term growth returns, etc. These selections will then be tracked by the class. Due to the large number of members, each presentation will be kept brief (about 5 to 10 minutes).

November 13, 12 Noon, **Science and Technology Group**, CADE 207: Randy Pack will lead a discussion of the discovery of the structure of DNA. He will show the NOVA film, "DNA: Secret of Photo 51," about the often overlooked and uncredited role of Rosalind Franklin in the discovery, and the unauthorized use of her work by Watson and Crick, who won the Nobel Prize for it. This presentation will also provide background for the Book Group's selection for the following week: James Watson's "The Double Helix."

November 13, 2:15 PM, **History Group**, CADE 207: PLP member Emily Kutler will speak about the early history of St. Mary's City. Emily worked with historians and archeologists on the St. Mary's City Commission, which was responsible for the research and on-going discovery of the original St. Mary's City. This presentation and discussion will be very timely, as November marks the 375th anniversary of the founding of the City, the first capital of the Maryland colony, by Leonard Calvert and his fellow Ark and Dove adventurers.

November 20, 12 Noon, **The Book Group**, CALT 134: The Book Group will discuss James D. Watson's classic, **THE DOUBLE HELIX: a Personal Account of the Discovery of the Structure of DNA** under the leadership of Randy Pack. This selection goes along with the Nov 13 meeting of the Sci/Tech interest group, so read it early in preparation for that session.

November 20, 2:15 PM, **The Book Group**, CALT 134: We will have a second meeting of the Book Group during which we will read aloud the Oscar Wilde play, **THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST**. Let Herman Urbach know if you would like to read a part. His e-mail address is: [hmjurbach@comcast.net](mailto:hmjurbach@comcast.net) . Nine players are needed.

November 27, **Travel Group**: No meeting. AACC is closed. Happy Thanksgiving!