JAMES ALPHA ADVISORS INVESTMENT OUTLOOK

Market Commentary Newsletter
September 2016

Strategic Asset Allocation — James Alpha Advisors

For the month of September, the Fund closed out the third quarter with another strong performance, posting a gain of 1.58% versus the category benchmark return of 0.26% and the S&P 500 at 0.02%. This marked the eighth consecutive month of positive performance for the Fund, which is now up 5.79% year-to-date, outperforming the category benchmark by 566 basis points.

The third quarter was extremely quiet in comparison to the first six months of the year. Equity markets started the year with an aggressive sell off, dropping by more than 12% in the first three weeks of trading, only to see markets rebound and completely recoup those gains by the end of March. The second quarter ended in similar fashion, with Britain's vote to exit the European Union (EU) we saw equity markets plummet 6% in just two days of trading, only to completely recoup those losses three days later. The drop off in volatility and sideways trading we saw for most of the third quarter was a welcome respite. July did see some modest gains in equity markets as stocks continued their post-Brexit bounce, but mostly traded sideways in August and September. We saw a strong rally in the credit markets as well, pushing the yield on 10-year treasuries to historic lows, bottoming at 1.32% on July 6.

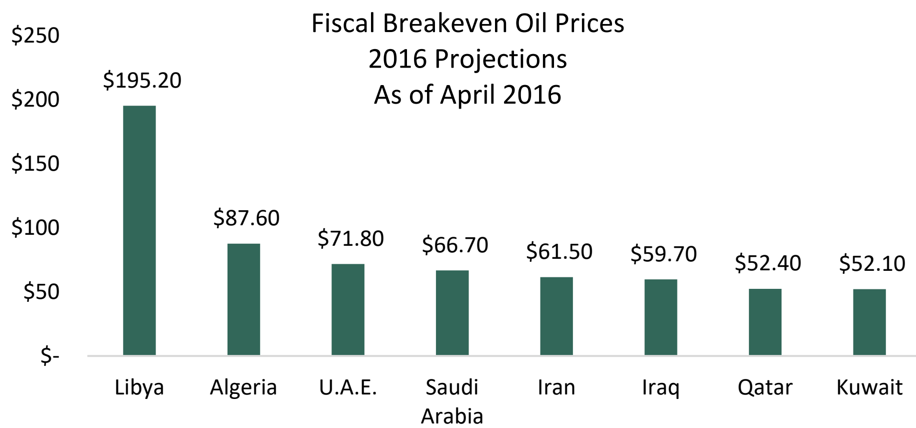
Manager selection and relative outperformance continues to drive returns in the Fund. The MLP exposure, managed by Yorkville Capital Management, has been leading the group for most of the year, gaining 9.13% in the third quarter alone. It is important to note that all of these returns represent pure alpha against the benchmark. Over the same period, both crude oil and the Alerian MLP Index were completely flat, down 0.19% and up 0.07%, respectively. The MLP exposure in the Fund is now up 19.9% year-to-date, outperforming the benchmark by more than 1,000 basis points.

The small cap equity, merger arbitrage, and James Alpha managed exposures in the Fund all posted strong returns in the third quarter as well, further enhancing year-to-date performance. We have seen rates begin to drift higher in recent weeks and remain cautious that this trend may continue as we near the final two Fed meetings of the year. With the next meeting scheduled for November 2, we expect the fed to hold its course and view the likelihood of a rate hike just days before the presidential election as extremely unlikely. We do, however, feel there is a much greater chance of a December rate hike and expect we could see rates continue to drift higher as the meeting approaches. Any pressure we may see on higher yielding assets from a move in rates we expect will be short lived and may provide attractive entry points to add to exposure in the Fund.

MLPs — Yorkville Capital Management

Despite mainstream media generally disregarding the "production freeze" talk from the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) members in recent months, the oil cartel came together and agreed to its first production quota since 2014 at its informal meeting in Algiers on September 28. While the finer details are yet to be ironed out, the net result is as follows: OPEC oil production is expected to be reduced to a range of 32.5 to 33.0 million barrels a day (mmb/d), a cut of approximately 240,000 to 740,000 barrels a day from its current level of 33.2 mmb/d. The production cut will be formalized by a special committee by the next formal OPEC meeting, scheduled for November 30.

Whereas U.S. oil and gas producers are run for profit by boards/shareholders, the state-run oil companies of OPEC have a different agenda – balancing national budgets. According to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) report "Regional Economic Outlook: Middle East and Central Asia" from April 2016, not a single OPEC member country could balance their budgets based on the average realized oil price for the first three quarters of 2016 of roughly $43. The chart below highlights the average oil price required by the selected countries to balance their respective budgets for fiscal year 2016. While Kuwait is projected to produce sufficient revenues to produce a fiscal year 2016 breakeven at an oil price of approximately $52 a barrel, the IMF projected that Libya would need oil prices as high as $195 to breakeven and the Saudi Arabia's fiscal breakeven price was estimated at $66.70.



Source: IMF, Yorkville Capital Management, LLC.

In addition to the IMF data, qualitative data points, such as Saudi wage cuts, Venezuelan civil unrest and sovereign credit rating downgrades support the notion that oil prices in the $25-$45 range do not work for OPEC economies. With that in mind, the current deal framework may not only be a smart short term decision, it may be necessary for these economies/nations to avoid further civil strife.

OPEC nations had two choices to improve revenues: 1) produce and sell more oil, or 2) sell the current oil production at higher prices (by cutting production). In reality, a closer inspection of production levels suggests that the recent decision to cut may have been the only option as most OPEC nations are producing at or near peak production levels. The most notable examples include Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, United Arab Emirates (UAE), and Iraq which are all producing at or within 4% of all-time highs. These four countries accounted for 63% of total OPEC production as of August 2016 data. OPEC as a whole, meanwhile, produced at its highest levels ever (33.3 mmb/d) in August 2016, according to the Energy Intelligence Group, which began tracking data in 1990.

OPEC Oil Production % of Peak As of August 2016			
OPEC Nation	Current Production (MMbpd)	Peak Production (MMbpd)	% Peak
Saudi Arabia	10,630	10,673	100%
Kuwait	2,987	3,000	100%
U.A.E.	3,154	3,181	99%
Ecuador	553	563	98%
Iraq	4,332	4,525	96%
Iran	3,680	4,000	92%
Angola	1,805	2,107	86%
Qatar	643	870	74%
Algeria	1,050	1,471	71%
Gabon	231	370	62%
Venezuela	1,970	3,450	57%
Nigeria	1,293	2,675	48%
Indonesia	646	1,500	43%
Libya	290	1,790	16%

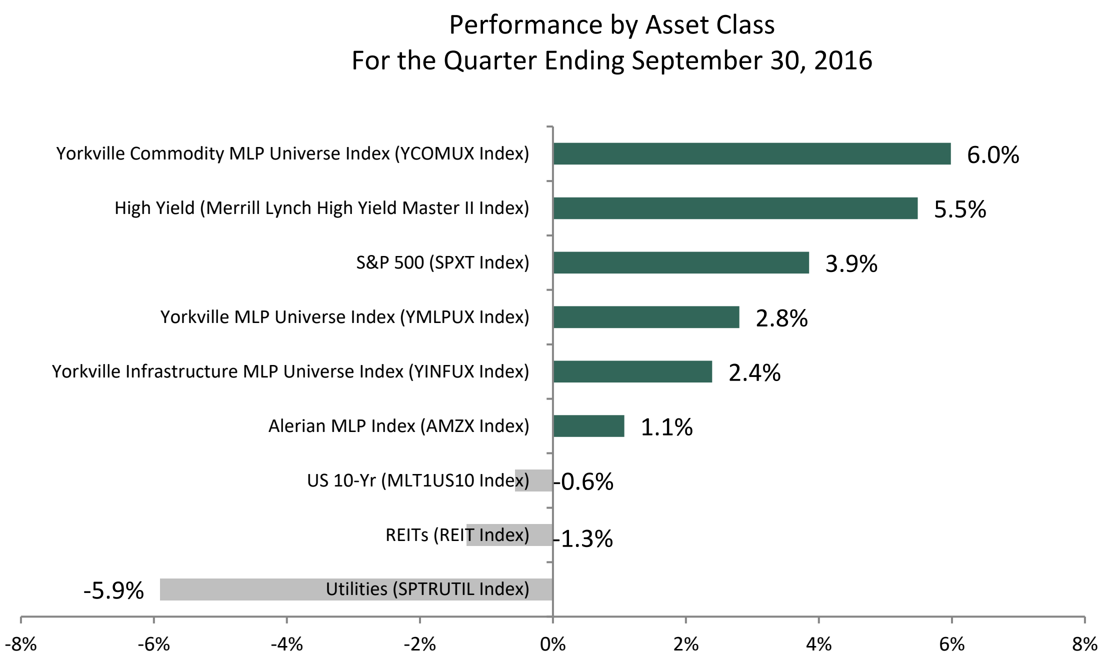
Source: Energy Intelligence Group, Yorkville Capital Management LLC, Bloomberg.

As part of the current deal, both Libya and Nigeria are exempt from production caps given their respective supply disruptions, and Iran will be permitted to increase by approximately 100,000 barrels a day to 3.7 mmb/d. While Iran was pushing for a four million barrel per day allowance prior to the meeting, it has been suggested that significant investment would need to be made for the country to reach those levels. The current freeze allows OPEC nations not producing near or at all-time highs to increase production, which increases the probability the deal is consummated.

In our opinion, the first OPEC quota agreement in two years creates a floor for oil prices (the OPEC "put"). In addition, the production cut accelerates the path towards a rebalancing of global supply and demand in the oil markets. This OPEC "put" coupled with surprise inventory draws in U.S. crude stockpiles and a multi-decade low in new oil discoveries, suggest that oil markets appear to have bottomed out with the potential for an undersupplied market as early as 2017. Importantly, the OPEC "put" establishes a new floor for oil tied to the estimated price needed for petro-economies to balance their budgets as opposed to the marginal cost of production.

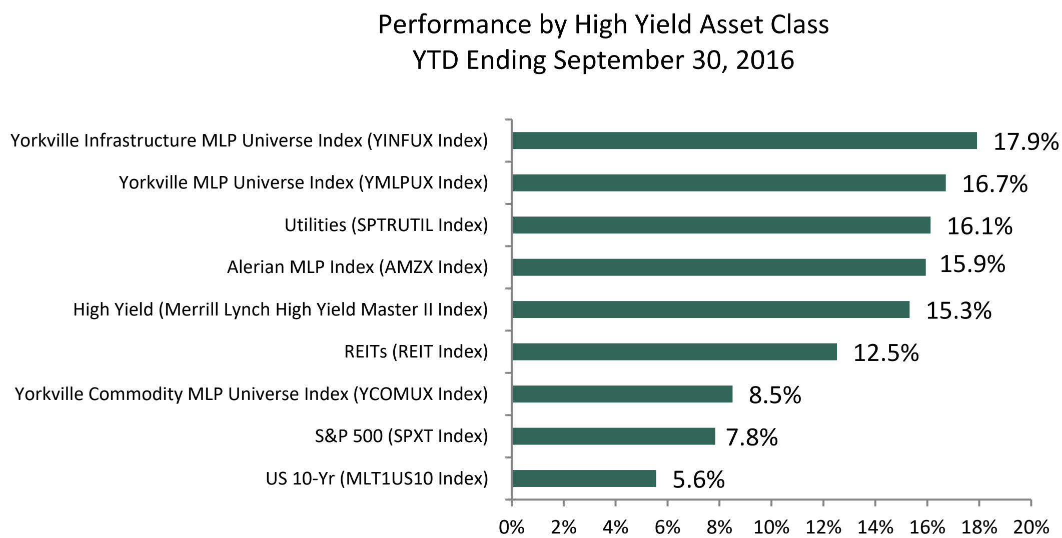
MLP Composite Performance & Yields vs. Other Asset Classes

After an extremely volatile and loss making first quarter, the Yorkville MLP Universe Index (YMLPUX Index) put together its second straight positive quarter in Q3 2016, finishing up 2.8% to bring year-to-date gains to 16.7%. Meanwhile, Utilities (SPTRUTIL Index) and REITs (REIT Index) both stumbled, losing 5.9% and 1.3%, respectively, as conditions appeared to become more supportive of a rate hike by the Fed later in the year.



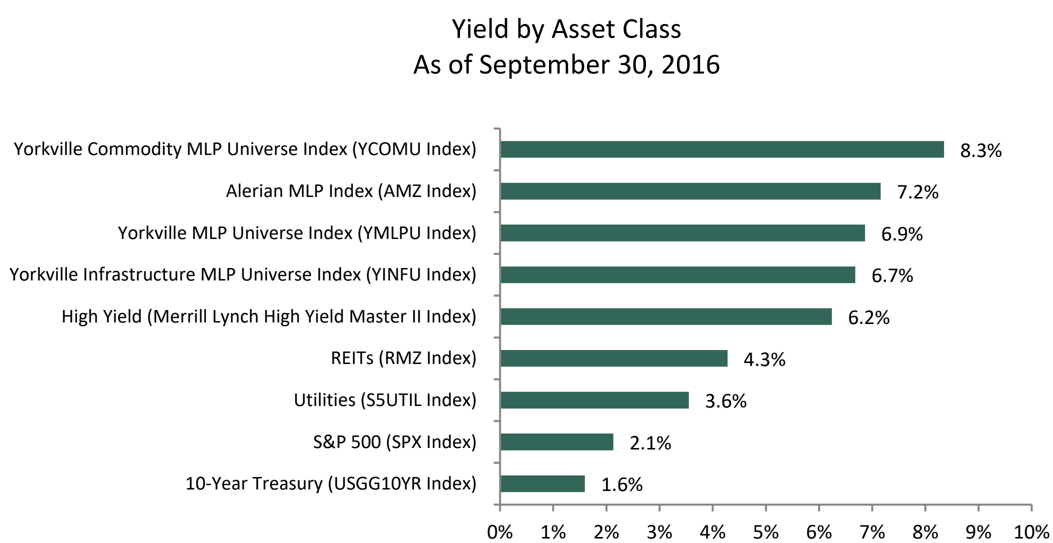
Source: Yorkville Capital Management, LLC, Bloomberg.

Following the outperformance by MLPs in the third quarter, the Yorkville MLP Universe Index (+16.7%) is now outperforming both Utilities (SPTRUTIL Index) and REITs (REIT Index) on a year-to-date basis. As of September 30, 2016, the Yorkville MLP Universe Index produced more than double the performance of the S&P 500 (SPXT Index +7.8%) year-to-date. While the Yorkville MLP Commodity Universe Index (YCOMUX Index) outperformed the Yorkville MLP Infrastructure Universe Index (YINFUX Index) this quarter, the latter remains well ahead year-to-date, with a gain of 17.9% versus 8.5% for the former. After another strong quarter (+5.5%), high yield corporate bonds, as represented by the Merrill Lynch High Yield Master II Index, are up 15.3% year-to-date, including coupons.



Source: Yorkville Capital Management, LLC, Bloomberg.

The Yorkville MLP Universe Index (YMLPU Index) yielded 6.9% as of September 30, approximately 530 basis points above the 10-year treasury, indicating an attractive relative valuation for the asset class. The index also appears attractive when compared to other yield-oriented equities including REITs (RMZ Index) at 4.3% and Utilities (S5UTIL Index) at 3.6%. At quarter end, the Yorkville MLP Commodity Universe Index (YCOMU Index) yielded 8.3%, while the Yorkville MLP Infrastructure Universe Index (YINFU Index) yielded 6.9%, for a segment spread of 140 basis points.



Source: Yorkville Capital Management, LLC, Bloomberg.

10-year treasury yields (USGG10YR Index) continue to remain in the spotlight, sitting at just 1.6% despite continued expectations for a 25 basis point rate hike following the elections.

Investment Performance

	As of 9/30/16			
Share Class	**Q3 2016**	**Year-to-Date**	**1-Year**	**Since Inception (03/31/15)**
I Shares	8.94%	18.19%	13.97%	-18.19%
A Shares (NAV)	8.72%	17.83%	13.56%	-18.42%
A Shares (5.75% Max Load)	2.54%	11.09%	7.03%	-21.58%

Performance data quoted above is historical. Past performance does not guarantee future results and current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted. The investment return and principal value of an investment will fluctuate, so that shares when redeemed may be worth more or less than their original cost. The Fund's management has contractually waived a portion of its managed fees until March 31, 2017. The performance shown reflects the waivers without which the performance would have been lower. Total annual operating expenses after the expense reimbursement are 2.75% for A Shares, 2.50% for I Shares and 3.50% for C Shares; total annual operating expenses before the expense reimbursement are 4.16% for A Shares, 3.91% for I Shares and 4.91% for C Shares. The maximum sales charge on purchases of A Shares is 5.75%. A redemption fee of 2% will be levied on shares held 30 days or less. For more performance data please call 888.814.8180.

Small Cap Equity — Bullseye Asset Management

The U.S. economy continues its string of good, but not great performance. Non-farm payrolls increased by 156,000 during September, below expectations of 175,000 jobs and the unemployment rate ticked up a fraction to 5.0% from 4.9%. Two months ago the Atlanta Fed's GDPNow economic model predicted a rebound in economic activity to 3.75% growth in the third quarter. This has now decreased to a modest 2.1%; good but not great.

These economic data points provided the backdrop for the Federal Reserve Bank's September meeting. The question remained whether interest rates would be raised following much public agonizing. At the end of the Fed's two-day meeting, it was announced that rates would not be raised. However, the Fed indicated it would likely increase rates in December. That would mark a full year since the last interest rate increase. This, of course, also conveniently keeps the Fed clear of the presidential election.

The two presidential candidates in this year's election are massively unpopular and divisive. As investors, we are more focused on the performance of the U.S. economy and stock market as opposed to the ideological stripes of the new president. The table to the right, courtesy of Bespoke and Business Insider, details the stock market performance by president and by party affiliation. Somewhat surprisingly, the stock market has performed quite a bit better during the average Democratic administration than under a supposedly business-friendly Republican one.

DJIA Returns Under US Presidents Since 1900

President	Start	End	DJIA Percent Change (%) Change as President	Annualized Return
T Roosevelt	9/14/1901	3/4/1909	21.6	2.7
Taft	3/4/1909	3/4/1913	-1.3	-0.3
Wilson	3/4/1913	3/4/1921	-6.9	-0.9
Harding	3/4/1921	8/2/1923	17.4	6.9
Coolidge	8/2/1923	3/4/1929	255.9	25.5
Hoover	3/4/1929	3/4/1933	-82.8	-35.6
FDR	3/4/1933	4/12/1945	194.4	9.3
Truman	4/12/1945	1/20/1953	81.7	8.0
Eisenhower	1/20/1953	1/20/1961	120.3	10.4
JFK	1/20/1961	11/22/1963	12.2	4.1
Johnson	11/22/1963	1/20/1969	30.9	5.3
Nixon	1/20/1969	8/9/1974	-16.5	-3.2
Ford	8/9/1974	1/20/1977	23.4	8.9
Carter	1/20/1977	1/20/1981	-0.9	-0.2
Reagan	1/20/1981	1/20/1989	135.1	11.3
Bush I	1/20/1989	1/20/1993	45.0	9.7
Clinton	1/20/1993	1/20/2001	226.6	15.9
Bush II	1/20/2001	1/20/2009	-24.9	-3.5
Obama	1/20/2009	12/31/2014	124.1	14.5
Average			**60.8**	**4.7**
Average Republican			**44.8**	**3.0**
Average Democratic			**82.7**	**7.0**

Source: Bespoke and Business Insider, 2016.

Quarterly earnings reporting season has just kicked off, and the results across Corporate America have been mixed. Alcoa and Caterpillar reported disappointing earnings, while a number of banks unveiled good operating results. Consumer discretionary companies appear to be facing a difficult business environment with Under Armour being the latest casualty. We expect a number of technology firms to perform well due to the secular drivers propelling their businesses.

Merger Arbitrage — Kellner Private Fund Management

Performance this quarter was largely driven by developments in the Alere/Abbott deal, the merger of SABMiller and Anheuser-Busch Inbev nearing completion, as well as the unwinding of the Pfizer/Allergan position. The outlook for the Alere/Abott deal improved over the course of the quarter as Alere finalized its financials and filed the definitive proxy for the deal. In addition, the court compelled Abbott to act in good faith with regards to obtaining regulatory approval for the deal. Meanwhile, public statements by Abbott have been less confrontational and we continue to believe the most prudent course of action is for both parties to renegotiate the price and move toward closing.

There were $2.3 trillion of deals announced globally in the first three quarters of 2016, 22% below last year's record volume. While deals valued at more than $5 billion decreased 40% year-over-year, overall deal flow is still quite strong. One hundred forty deals valued at more than $1 billion were announced this quarter, in line with the average over the last ten quarters, substantiating the fact that despite a reduction in overall dollar volumes, deal announcements continued at a healthy pace. The U.S. continues to lead the way with $1 trillion in announced deals this year. The U.K. continues to struggle, accounting for just 8% of total global volumes, below the 10%-20% it has represented historically. Despite Brexit and weak deal volume in Europe, there were more than $900 billion of cross-border deals, representing approximately 40% of the deals announced so far this year.

Deal announcements were spread across all industries in the third quarter, the largest transaction being Bayer AG's $65 billion cross-border deal for Monsanto. This deal will encounter a long regulatory review in 30 jurisdictions and will extend into 2017. Energy infrastructure company Enbridge Inc. will purchase Spectra Energy Corp. for $43 billion. Two deals announced and completed during the quarter were "winners" for the Fund: Japan's SoftBank Group's $30 billion acquisition of ARM Holdings and Pfizer Inc.'s $14 billion deal for Medivation Inc. Other notable deals include Danone SA's $12 billion acquisition of WhiteWave Foods and Oracle Corp.'s minority buy-in of NetSuite for $8.7 billion.

We continue to focus on highly strategic transactions. We believe this approach has helped us historically deliver the strategy with low volatility and uncorrelated returns. We continue to attempt to mitigate risk in the portfolio through strict position sizing, and we are being patient and opportunistic in investing capital. Approximately 75% of the deals in the portfolio are scheduled to close by the end of the year, which we believe should make for a solid quarter. Deal volume remains strong as anemic growth rates continue to plague companies globally and cheap financing encourages risk taking. We expect deal flow to remain consistent going forward.

Global Real Estate — Ascent Investment Advisors

Global real estate stocks advanced in the third quarter, with gains from Europe and Asia Pacific more than countering a modest decline in the U.S. The big news for global real estate in the quarter was its much-anticipated move into its own Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS) sector. While it's essentially a reclassification that removes real estate stocks from the financials sector where they've been buried since inception, real estate now stands alone as the eleventh GICS sector. The most important consequence of this move, in our view, is the heightened awareness expected from generalist equity managers and pension funds, who have been chronically underweight in the sector for years. While somewhat obscured up until now, that sort of positioning will be glaringly obvious going forward, and much more difficult to defend given real estate's historically strong performance. Already, there is abundant anecdotal evidence of elevated interest from generalist investors and institutions, and the strong flows into the sector over the last six months suggest that many were making an effort to better position their portfolios ahead of the official move on September 1. We believe it will prove beneficial over the long term, now that real estate is firmly established in the mainstream where it has long belonged.

Around the world, central banks remained highly accommodative. The Bank of Japan introduced a new yield-targeting policy (including an effort to maintain a 0% yield on the 10-year government bond) and reiterated its pledge to continue monetary easing until a sustainable 2% inflation rate is reached. On the economic front, China saw some positive surprises, including better-than-expected industrial production data and a stabilization in GDP growth. Europe's overall growth remained subdued, but manufacturing activity in the region picked up in September. The U.S. expansion continued at a modest pace, driven largely by consumer spending. In the U.S., concerns over the potential for near-term monetary tightening by the Federal Reserve pressured REITs after their strong year-to-date performance through July.

Returns varied by property type for the quarter. The self-storage sector had a sizable decline on concerns that strong cash flow growth may be decelerating due to rising supply in certain markets. Data center REITs, which continued to see strong demand for their services, fell back after posting very strong year-to-date gains. Apartments were lackluster on the prospect of softer fundamentals. Industrial REITs rallied on strength in demand from e-commerce tenants. The office sector also outperformed.

European markets were mostly positive. U.K. real estate stocks gained back some of the sharp losses they posted in the days following the Brexit decision in late June. The country's economy so far has appeared resilient to Brexit, and demand for U.K. commercial properties has remained generally healthy at both the tenant and direct investment levels. On the retail front, the significant decline in the U.K. pound since the vote has aided consumer spending, thanks in part to increased foreign tourism.

Good performers in Germany included residential landlords, which continued to benefit from solid fundamentals. Germany's real estate stocks struggled in September, however, with sentiment toward lending activity hindered by news surrounding Deutsche Bank. News circulated that the U.S. Department of Justice (DoJ) would seek a $14.5 billion fine to settle litigation related to the bank's residential mortgage securities business. The DoJ quickly lowered expectations as to the possible size of the payment. France saw signs that occupancies were slowly improving, benefiting rent growth. Italy was hampered by concerns that the country's banking sector will continue to struggle indefinitely.

Asia Pacific had mixed performance. Hong Kong rallied on stabilizing growth in mainland China. Residential developers saw some encouraging trends; September unit sales were strong in the primary market, exceeding an already solid August, while secondary market volume edged up.

In Japan, developers declined on signs of continued economic weakness and a lack of confidence in ongoing stimulus programs. However, several J-REITs benefited from demand for reliable income. Their appeal seemed to increase following the Bank of Japan's announcement of its yield-targeting strategy, which lowered the chances for an interest rate hike in the near term. Australia underperformed. In August, the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) cut the official interest rate by 25 basis points to 1.5%, a record low, after also cutting earlier this year in May. The RBA pointed to a softer inflation outlook as the key consideration underpinning the cut. Singapore performed well despite a supply overhang — available space has been rising in most property sectors in the country.

MARKET OUTLOOK

We maintain a cautiously positive view of the U.S. property market based on healthy operating fundamentals that reflect muted levels of new supply in most markets and the steady growth of the U.S. economy. However, after strong performance from February's lows, valuations are not as compelling as they were, and we are harvesting gains to redeploy the capital into non-U.S. markets. Cash flows generally should continue to grow at a moderate pace, although some property types, particularly apartments, hotels and self-storage, are facing increased new supply, which may lead to lower rent and occupancy growth rates. Interest rates remain near historically low levels, and we believe the Fed will be reluctant to raise rates until after November's U.S. presidential election at the earliest (with only a small increase when it does hike). Low rates should continue to support property valuations. In this environment, we generally favor U.S. property sectors that offer an attractive combination of growth and value, as well as specialty REITs trading at attractive valuations, based on their higher growth rates.

We remain cautious toward London office and residential companies, due to their potential vulnerability to Brexit consequences, and we have virtually no exposure to those sectors. Instead, we favor U.K. companies that we believe exhibit more defensive or structural growth characteristics. These include landlords in sectors such as logistics, student housing and healthcare. The logistics sector in the U.K. has seen rising demand driven by the growth of e-commerce, which is in secular expansion. The student housing market is economically insensitive and experiencing steadily greater demand for space. Further, the weakening of the British pound will likely strengthen demand from non-U.K. students. And healthcare property owners should benefit from relatively steady, economically defensive cash flow growth, owing to the fact that rents are essentially guaranteed by the National Health Service, an arm of the U.K. government.

On the continent, Brexit has raised political risks, as the Leave vote might encourage other European countries to consider their own exits. The interim negotiations between the U.K. and the EU will be watched closely for potential consequences. In this light, we expect the European Central Bank (ECB) to at least maintain recent levels of quantitative easing (QE), given the bank's aim to protect the region from external shocks, including threats related to this new development. While we are monitoring events closely, for now we maintain a generally constructive view of Europe's property markets, particularly dominant shopping centers in major city centers that offer the opportunity to benefit from a recovery in retail spending. We are also positive on the medium-term growth potential for German residential properties, particularly in major cities like Berlin, where demand currently exceeds supply.

Valuations remain undemanding in Asia Pacific. In Hong Kong, overall retail sales are likely to stabilize in coming months, following a two-year period of sharp declines due to a slowdown in tourist spending, supported by signs of a bottoming in tourist arrivals. The non-discretionary retail landlords have continued to perform well as their best-in-class operations have delivered strong cash flow growth. Office fundamentals in Hong Kong's core central business district have been supported by low vacancies and strong demand from Chinese companies. In our view, the large-cap diversified property companies that own some of the most dominant office and mall properties offer attractive valuations, and have dividends that are supported by growing rental income.

In Japan, developers continue to trade at attractive valuations, even as most of them reported solid earnings in their latest results announcements. We remain positive on selective J-REITs and developers that we believe may offer attractive valuation and dividend yields and/or earnings growth. The dividend growth prospects for some leading J-REITs appear to be improving, backed by rent increases and lower interest costs. Australia's economy has stabilized in recent months at a modest rate of growth. This has driven healthy retail spending at shopping centers in major cities, a trend that has been accelerated by the country's weak currency, which has encouraged residents to spend at home rather than abroad. In other sectors, we are particularly encouraged by the Sydney office market, which has exhibited strong net occupancy and rental growth, and we believe these trends should continue. In Singapore, we prefer quality retail landlords that may be able to deliver resilient earnings in the lackluster economic environment. We remain cautious toward Singapore office REITs, as the strong pipeline of new supply continues to pressure market rents.

Going forward, Brexit uncertainty, currency wars, and a worldwide epidemic of negative interest rates will be key economic drivers. Economic growth in the four largest economies (Eurozone, U.S., China, and Japan) is expected to slow somewhat in 2016 but remain above recessionary levels.

On balance, our outlook for the remainder of 2016 and into 2017 is for a continuation of the bull market in global REITs, predicated on:

1. Continued strong industry fundamentals;
2. Long-term rates remaining a tailwind (10-Year Treasury yield below 3.5% and likely to stay below 3% as Fed tightening acts to tap on the brakes and slow an already-weak economy, reducing the marginal demand for (and cost of) capital;
3. Muted supply, as additions from development have recently declined and are still tracking below the rate of demolition of old, obsolete space; and,
4. Geographically, non-U.S. will outperform U.S. as the major foreign central banks (ECB, BoJ, PBoC, RBA) are still in an easing cycle.

With global central bankers still willing to provide support until job creation broadens and growth becomes self-sustaining, we believe the bull case for global REITs remains intact. Despite the length of the current bull market, we remain focused on the truism that bull markets don't die of old age, they die of excesses. For real estate, that means excess new supply from development, which continues to be muted. Gains will be tougher to come by which means that selectivity and stock-picking have become increasingly important.

We note that the only scenario wherein the Fed would begin to tighten is a scenario of sustainable economic growth — which is also inherently bullish for commercial real estate fundamentals, thus offsetting much of the negative impact of higher interest rates. We expect there will be occasional corrections as equities adjust to higher rates, but we intend to use those pullbacks to add to growth-oriented REITs, particularly in Europe and Asia-Pac.

DEFINITION OF TERMS

10-Year Treasury: An index based on the auctions of U.S. Treasury bills, or on the U.S. Treasury's daily yield curve. It is commonly used in determining mortgage rates for mortgages with an unfixed component and as a performance benchmark for investors in the capital markets as it represents a rate of return that investors would be able to get from almost any bank, with minimal effort.

Alerian MLP Index: the leading gauge of large- and mid-cap energy Master Limited Partnerships (MLPs). The float adjusted, capitalization-weighted index, which includes 50 prominent companies and captures approximately 75% of available market capitalization, is disseminated real-time on a price return basis (AMZ) and on total-return basis (AMZX).

Alpha: The excess return of the fund relative to the return of the benchmark index.

Bank of Japan (BoJ): The Bank of Japan is the Japanese central bank. The bank is responsible for issuing and handling currency and treasury securities, implementing monetary policy, maintaining the stability of the Japanese financial system, and providing settling and clearing services.

Brexit: An abbreviation of "British exit" that mirrors the term Grexit, refers to the possibility of Britain's withdrawal from the European Union.

European Central Bank (ECB): The central bank of the euro and administers monetary policy of the Eurozone, which consists of 19 EU member states and is one of the largest currency areas in the world.

Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS): A standardized classification system for equities developed jointly by Morgan Stanley Capital International (MSCI) and Standard & Poor's. The GICS methodology is used by the MSCI indexes, which include domestic and international stocks, as well as by a large portion of the professional investment management community.

Gross Domestic Product (GDP): The monetary value of all the finished goods and services produced within a country's borders in a specific time period.

International Monetary Fund (IMF): The IMF plays three major roles in the global monetary system. The Fund surveys and monitors economic and financial developments, lends funds to countries with balance-of-payment difficulties, and provides technical assistance and training for countries requesting it.

Merrill Lynch US High Yield Master II Index: The Merrill Lynch US High Yield Master II Index (H0A0) is a commonly used benchmark index for high-yield corporate bonds. It is administered by Merrill Lynch. The Master II is a measure of the broad high yield market, unlike the Merrill Lynch BB/B Index, which excludes lower-rated securities.

MSCI U.S. REIT Index: A free float-adjusted market capitalization weighted index that is comprised of equity REITs that are included in the MSCI US Investable Market 2500 Index, with the exception of specialty equity REITs that do not generate a majority of their revenue and income from real estate rental and leasing operations. The index represents approximately 85% of the US REIT universe.

Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC): An organization consisting of the world's major oil-exporting nations. OPEC was founded in 1960 to coordinate the petroleum policies of its members, and to provide member states with technical and economic aid. OPEC is a cartel that aims to manage the supply of oil in an effort to set the price of oil on the world market, in order to avoid fluctuations that might affect the economies of both producing and purchasing countries.

People's Bank of China (PBoC): The central bank of the People's Republic of China with the power to control monetary policy and regulate financial institutions in mainland China. The PBoC has more financial assets than any single public institution, and is second only to the Federal Reserve System of the United States in terms of overall central bank assets.

Quantitative Easing (QE): An unconventional monetary policy in which a central bank purchases government securities or other securities from the market in order to lower interest rates and increase money supply.

Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA): The Reserve Bank of Australia is Australia's central bank and its main responsibility is to be involved in Australia's monetary policy. In addition, the RBA is also involved in banking and registry services for federal agencies and some international central banks. The RBA is tasked with contributing to three objectives: a) The stability of Australia's currency, b) Maintenance of full employment in Australia and c) The economic prosperity of the people of Australia.

S&P 500 Index: An index of 500 stocks chosen for market size, liquidity and industry grouping, among other factors. The S&P 500 is designed to be a leading indicator of U.S. equities and is meant to reflect the risk/return characteristics of the large cap universe.

S&P 500 Utilities Index: The S&P 500 Utilities Index (S5UTIL) comprises those companies included in the S&P 500 that are classified as members of the GICS utilities sector.

Yorkville MLP Commodity Universe Index: The Yorkville MLP Commodity Universe Index (YCOMU) is a market capitalization weighted index, consisting of the entire universe of MLPs in the following main business segments: Exploration & Production, Natural Resources, Marine Transportation, Downstream, Energy Services and General Partners.

Yorkville Infrastructure MLP Universe Index: The Yorkville MLP Infrastructure Universe Index (YINFU) is a market capitalization weighted index, consisting of the entire universe of MLPs in the following main business segments: Refined Product Pipelines, Gathering & Processing, Natural Gas Pipelines, Crude Oil Pipelines and General Partners.

Yorkville MLP Commodity Universe Index: The Yorkville MLP Commodity Universe Index (YCOMU) is a market capitalization weighted index, consisting of the entire universe of MLPs in the following main business segments: Exploration & Production, Natural Resources, Marine Transportation, Downstream, Energy Services and General Partners.

Yorkville MLP Universe Index: The Yorkville MLP Universe Index (YMLPU) is a market capitalization weighted index, consisting of the entire universe of MLPs.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

James Alpha Advisors

Michael J. Montague

Michael is James Alpha Advisors' Chief Operating Officer, and is responsible for daily operations of James Alpha Advisors as well as independent risk monitoring for our funds.

Most recently Michael worked as a Portfolio Manager for a global macro fund primarily responsible for commodity research and trading. Michael previously served as a Portfolio Manager for Chapin Hill Advisors, Inc., overseeing asset allocation, trading, and investment activity. Prior to Chapin Hill Advisors, Mike served as a Portfolio Manager for the Cayuga MBA Fund LLC, a long/short equity hedge fund. He began his career with Schlumberger where he spent six years working as a Senior Geophysicist in Schlumberger's Oilfield Services division.

Michael holds a BS degree in Geophysics from Pennsylvania State University and a MBA degree from Cornell University.

Bullseye Capital Management

Jakob V. Holm, CFA:

Jakob Holm serves as Co-Portfolio Manager of the Bullseye Disciplined Long Short Fund LP. He previously served as the Portfolio Manager at Janus Capital Management where he was responsible for the Janus Adviser Small Company Value Fund, Janus Aspen Small Company Value Fund and separately managed portfolios in the Small Company Value discipline. Prior to joining Janus in July 2005, Mr. Holm spent five years at Bay Isle Financial in Oakland, California, managing small-cap value portfolios since March 2002. In addition, he spent four years with Sand Hill Advisors in Menlo Park, California as a Research Analyst, covering a wide variety of industries including communications, financials, REITs, and technology.

Mr. Holm received a Master's degree from Thunderbird School of Global Management in international management, focusing on finance and earned a Bachelor's degree in economics from Augustana College, where he graduated cum laude. He holds the Chartered Financial Analyst designation and is a member of the CFA Institute and the CFA Society of Colorado. Mr. Holm has 16 years of professional investment experience.

Yorkville Capital Management

Darren R. Schuringa

Mr. Schuringa is a globally recognized authority on investing in U.S. energy infrastructure and U.S. energy assets through the MLP structure. He makes regular appearances on CNBC, Bloomberg, Fox, and BNN and is often quoted by major financial publications as an expert on the asset class.

Prior to founding Yorkville Capital Management, Mr. Schuringa was a Partner with the energy-focused investment firm of Estabrook Capital Management. Mr. Schuringa was co-portfolio manager of an energy-centric mutual fund and he managed over $1.0B in institutional fund structures and managed accounts. His clients included some of world's largest pension funds and institutional investors.

Mr. Schuringa received a BA in Finance from the University of Western Ontario and an MBA in Finance from the Crummer School of Business at Rollins College. He is also a Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA), a member of New York Society of Security Analysts (NYSSA), and a member of National Association of Publicly Traded Partnerships (NAPTP).

Ascent Investment Advisors
Andrew J. Duffy, CFA:

Andrew Duffy is the Senior Portfolio Manager of the Global Real Estate Investments Fund (JAREX / JACRX / JARIX), a mutual fund that invests in publicly traded global REIT securities. Mr. Duffy has more than 18 years of global real estate securities investment experience.

Prior to joining Ascent Investment Advisors, Mr. Duffy was a Managing Director with Citigroup Principal Strategies, where he managed a long/short portfolio of global real estate securities. From February 2005 until January 2008 he was with Hunter Global Investors, L.P. where he was the Co-Portfolio Manager of the Hunter Global Real Estate Fund, LP. Before that he was a portfolio manager at TIAA-CREF for over six years, during which time he was directly responsible for managing over $3 billion in global real estate equity and debt securities. Between 1993 and 1999, Mr. Duffy was a Senior Research Analyst at Eagle Asset Management, where he launched and managed a dedicated real estate securities investment program.

Prior to his career in investments, Mr. Duffy served for five years as an officer in the United States Army, where his assignments included serving in the 7th Special Forces Group and the 82nd Airborne Division. Mr. Duffy received a BS from the United States Military Academy at West Point in 1979 as a Distinguished Graduate (top 5% of class) and an MBA from Harvard Business School in 1986. He earned the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) designation in 1996.

IMPORTANT DISCLOSURES

Past performance is not a guarantee or a reliable indicator of future results. As with any investment, there are risks. There is no assurance that the portfolio will achieve its investment objective. Mutual funds involve risk, including possible loss of principal. Saratoga Capital Management, LLC, James Alpha Advisors, LLC, Bullseye Asset Management, LLC, Yorkville Capital Management, LLC, Kellner Private Fund Management, LLC and Ascent Investment Advisors, LLC are not affiliated with Northern Lights Distributors, LLC member FINRA/SIPC. The Saratoga Advantage Trust's Funds are distributed by Northern Lights Distributors, LLC, member FINRA/SIPC. Certain associates of James Alpha Advisors are securities registered with FDX Capital LLC, member FINRA/SIPC.

Investors should carefully consider the investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses of the Fund. This and other information about the Fund is contained in the prospectus, which can be obtained by calling 888.814.8180 and should be read carefully before investing. Additional Fund literature may be obtained by visiting www.SaratogaCap.com or www.JamesAlphaAdvisors.com.

As with any investment, there are multiple risks associated with REITs. Risks include declines from deteriorating economic conditions, changes in the value of the underlying property, and defaults by borrowers, to name a few. Please see the prospectus for a full disclosure of all risks and fees.