

Technical Scoop eCommentary September 19, 2022

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Swoon trigger, increased rates, Dollar jump, silver divergence, golden poise, precarious DJI, preferred stocks

As we enjoy Victoria and environs we did manage to put together a short commentary.

Highlight of the week was the U.S. CPI that was higher than expected and that triggered another huge swoon in the stock market. However stocks such as Loblaw Companies Limited, paying a dividend and including a Retail segment providing grocery and pharmacy products, able to pass higher prices to its customers relatively quickly, may be able to outperform in a high inflationary environment and is held in the Canadian Conservative Growth Strategy.* Gold and oil also swooned while interest rates rose and the US\$ Index jumped higher. The DJI had another 1,200 point drop and gold fell to fresh 52-week lows. But a funny thing happened on the way to the forum. Silver rose on the week instead of falling. And the US\$ Index remains short of its previous highs. We hope this divergence holds as it could be favourable for gold and the precious metals going forward. We have a look at the Gold/HUI ratio, the Dow/Gold ratio and the Gold/Silver ratio as well. Gold stocks are cheap, gold looks poised to break in favour of gold over stocks, and, silver looks poised to to break in favour of silver. We also show a potentially disturbing chart of the DJI. A break of 30,000 on the DJI could trigger a larger sell-off.

The highlight this coming week is the FOMC on September 20-21 with the interest rate decision on the 21st. Expectations of a least 75 bp are built in but many are now expecting a 100 bp jump. That might shock. We continue to question when rising interest rates might trigger a major default. The housing market is already swooning. More pain is coming.

But we try to remain positive. And we'd rather own precious metals or recession proof stocks. Have a great week!

DC

* Reference to the Canadian Conservative Growth Strategy and its investments is added by Margaret Samuel, President, CEO and Portfolio Manager of Enriched Investing Incorporated, who can be reached at 416-203-3028 or msamuel@enrichedinvesting.com

“Unprecedented events occur with some regularity, so be prepared.”

—Seth Klarman, American billionaire investor, hedge fund manager, author, proponent of value investing, CEO and portfolio manager Baupost Group; b. 1957

“What we do know is that speculative episodes never come gently to an end. They wise, though for most the improbable, course is to assume the worst.”

—John Kenneth Galbraith, Canadian-American economist, diplomat, public official, intellectual, author of *The Affluent Society* (1958) + others; 1908–2006

“People who exit the market to avoid a decline are odds-on favourites to miss the next rally.”

—Peter Lynch, American investor, mutual fund manager, philanthropist, manager of the Magellan Fund at Fidelity Investments 1977-1990; b. 1944

DJI 2020–2022



We are still out here in Victoria, B.C., enjoying the mountains and the ocean. Tempting it is. But we thought we'd get out a short note on observations from what has been another bad week.

Here we have the Dow Jones Industrials (DJI) down 4.1% this past week, the third down week out of the last four. We are still in the grips of a bear market, thanks to the CPI that came in somewhat disappointingly higher than expected. The market had expected only 8.1% but instead they got 8.3%. At least that was down from the previous 8.5%. But that set off a storm and the DJI dropped 1,276 points, the eighth worst day on record. The reaction was typical as stocks, gold, and oil all swooned while the U.S. dollar rose as did interest rates with the 10-year U.S. treasury note jumping to 3.45%, just shy of the recent high of 3.50%. The spreads continue to be negative as the 2–10 spread is at negative 43 bp but now we note that the 2–30 spread is also negative at negative 36 bp. Recession is still in the works. But given strong job numbers and a few other economic numbers coming in positively few are loath to say we are officially in a recession. Monthly (long term) stock market trends are close to turning down (see markets and trends at the end), joining the daily (short term) and weekly (intermediate) trends to the downside. We haven't seen that since 2008.

U.S. CPI Rate 1997-2022



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Source: www.tradingeconomics.com

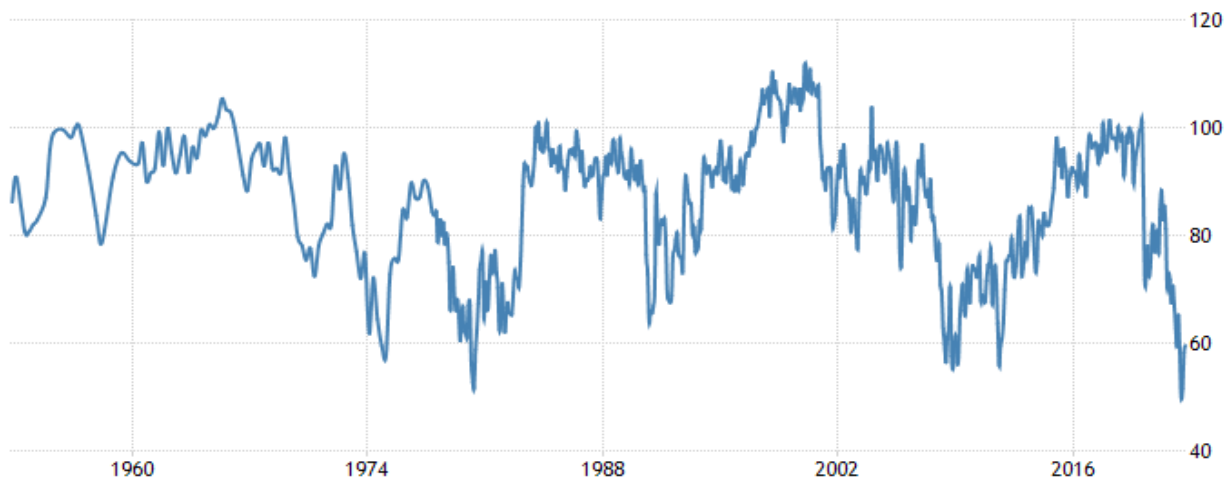
But what has become concerning here is the potential for the DJI, along with the other indices, to go into a bigger swoon. Thanks to Dagmar for bringing it to my attention. The three-year chart of the DJI appears as huge rounding top pattern. Rounding tops can develop over days, weeks, months, and even years. We have drawn the potential neckline of the pattern and that currently comes in around 30,000. What happens if that breaks?

The drop through that level could come large and swift. The rounding top pattern suggests a drop to potentially 19,000, a decline of 38% from current levels and 49% from the January high. Minimum targets would be around 27,000 with everything else in between. Volume could start to pick up as the decline progresses. At current levels we are not too far from that potential neckline. In 2008 the crack came at 11,000 and in no time the DJI had fallen to under 8,000 during the Lehman Brothers crash. One shouldn't be too complacent that this couldn't happen.

Complacency has always loomed large for markets prior to a crash. The Arab oil crisis and Watergate helped trigger the 1973-1975 crash; sharply higher interest rates and inflation helped trigger the 1980-1982 recession; sharply rising trade deficits were behind the 1987 stock market crash then coupled with rising inflation and interest rates the 1990-1991 recession was upon us helped in no small manner by the Iraq invasion of Kuwait; the collapse of the Russian economy led to the 1998 crash; the overblown, overvalued high tech/dot.com market coupled with 9/11 triggered the 2000-2002 collapse and recession; the sub-prime crisis triggered the 2007-2009 crash and recession spiked further with the collapse of Lehman Brothers; and, the pandemic triggered the March 2020 crash and brief but steep recession.

What will be the trigger? Well, next week the FOMC meets and now we hear rumours that the rate hike could be as high as 1.00%. Or something else? A huge unexpected default? And it is September—crash month. The Michigan Consumer Sentiment report that came in better than expected at 59.5 now does not seem so rosy. It's still the lowest seen in roughly 40 years.

Michigan Consumer Sentiment Index 1957-2022



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Source: www.tradingeconomics.com, www.umich.edu

Gold 2020–2022



But wither gold? Gold did not have a very good week either, falling at one point 3% on the week to fresh 52-week lows and briefly breaking the March 2021 low of \$1,673. Then we bounced on Friday, even as the stock markets swooned. The bearish sentiment for gold is very high. We have noted that the commercial COT for both gold and silver is the best we've seen in over two years. The last time the COT was this good it led to that big run-up in 2020, taking gold to a record \$2,089. Right now, we are sitting on crucial support at around that \$1,675 level, a level seen in March 2021, again in August 2021, and more recently in July 2022. The question is, will we crack? The low on the week was seen at \$1,662. Strangely there seemed to be a lack of stops under \$1,675 that might have triggered a larger decline. Is it a failed probe? We don't know yet.

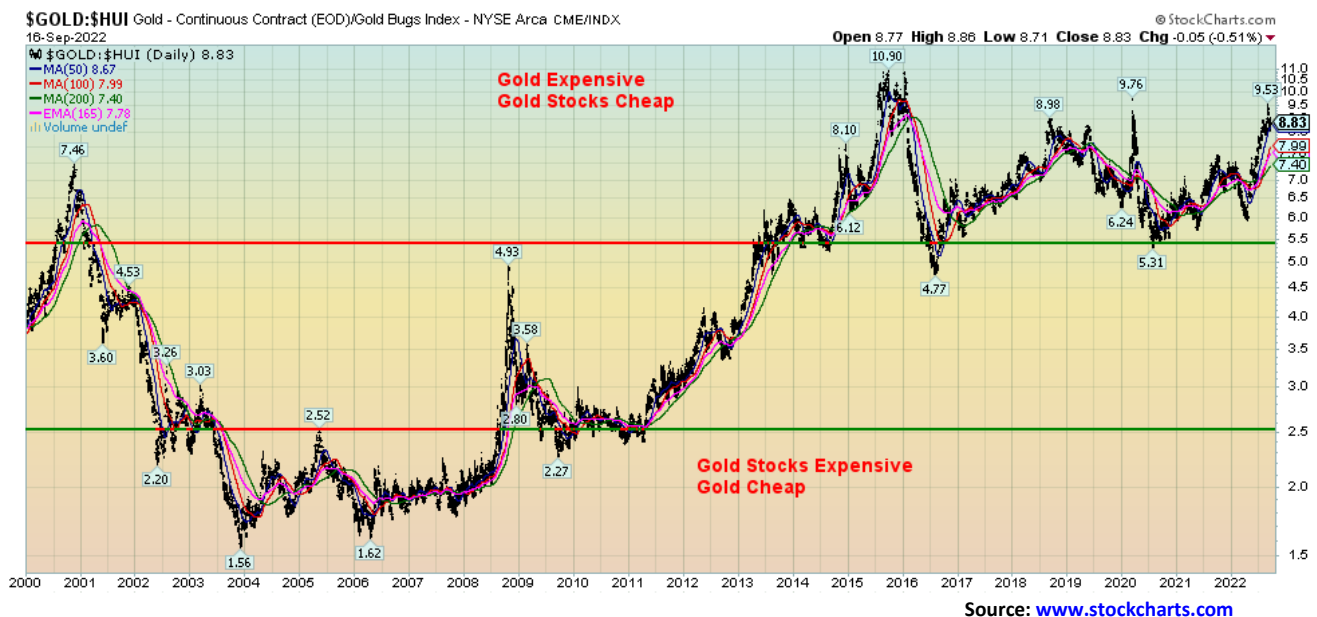
In testing there this past week we note that gold was falling to new lows; however, silver, platinum and the gold stocks represented by the Gold Bugs Index (HUI) and the TSX Gold Index (TGD), did not see new lows. Nor was the US\$ Index making new highs. In July it was the reverse. Gold didn't make new lows but silver, the HUI, and the TGD did at the time and the US\$ Index was at new highs. A divergence? Ideally, we'd like to view all of this as positive going forward. The alternative is a

breakdown under the \$1,675 and we get a 2013 wash out that could take gold as low as \$1,250 and silver to \$12. No surprise that we are currently seeing a lot of bearish forecasts for gold and the precious metals. Gold is trash according to many.

We look back at periods of previous crashes in the stock market and we note that in 1987, 2002, 2008, and 2020 gold and the PMs turned up before the stock market turned up. That's one reason we were buoyed on Friday seeing gold slightly higher, even as the stock market turned lower once again. Our resistance zones remain the same. Gold must clear above \$1,740 and then above \$1,780/\$1,800 and \$1,820/\$1,830 to help confirm a low. Meanwhile, any probe under \$1,675 has to remain on low volume. However, if there are a lot of stops there, the pros will find them and take them out.

The sentiment for the gold stocks as represented by the Gold Miners Bullish Percent Index (BPGDM) is at the lowest levels seen since the March 2020 crash. It also remains above the levels seen in 2013 and 2015 and 2016 but not by much. The Gold/HUI ratio at 8.83 remains deep in gold expensive, gold stocks cheap territory. Indeed, it has been in that territory mostly since 2013. As much as we would like to say that this can't last forever it keeps on lasting. It seems we have been forming that huge symmetrical triangle top forever. It will shift in favour of the gold stocks. However, even we question when. We do see ongoing accumulation in the gold stocks.

Gold/HUI Ratio 2000-2022



But it is also no surprise that we are seeing a shift potentially towards favouring gold over stocks. Our chart below of the Dow Gold Ratio shows a possible topping head and shoulders pattern. A break under 18 could trigger a sell off with potential targets down to 16.75.

Dow Gold Ratio 2021-2022



Source: www.stockcharts.com

Finally, this week's rally in silver, likely due to a short squeeze, has shifted the gold/silver ratio slightly in favour of silver. Like gold vs. the gold stocks the gold/silver ratio has been overwhelming in favour of gold over silver. This week's rally for silver against the backdrop of gold making new 52-week lows is encouraging for silver. Still the gold/silver ratio still must break under 65 to really shift the conversation to silver over gold. But at this stage we'd rather be long silver.

The deleveraging in the markets continues. And that includes housing which is still in the early throes of its overdue (painful) correction. But pain is what bear markets are all about and out of it comes change. Hopefully positive change. But as confidence in the economy swoons gold usually shines.

Chart on next page

Gold Silver Ratio 1990-2022



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Markets & Trends

% Gains (Losses)

Trends

	Close Dec 31/21	Close Sep 16/22	Week	YTD	Daily (Short Term)	Weekly (Intermediate)	Monthly (Long Term)
Stock Market Indices							
S&P 500	4,766.18	3,873.33	(4.8)%	(18.7)%	down	down	up (weak)
Dow Jones Industrials	36,333.30	30,822.42	(4.1)%	(15.2)%	down	down	neutral
Dow Jones Transports	16,478.26	12,825.34	(8.8)%	(22.2)%	down	down	neutral
NASDAQ	15,644.97	11,448.40	(5.5)%	(22.6)%	down	down	neutral
S&P/TSX Composite	21,222.84	19,385.88	(2.0)%	(8.9)%	down	down	up (weak)
S&P/TSX Venture (CDNX)	939.18	630.06	(2.4)%	(32.9)%	down	down	down
S&P 600	1,401.71	1,144.98	(4.1)%	(18.3)%	down	down	neutral
MSCI World Index	2,354.17	1,848.80	0.3%	(21.5)%	down	down	down
Bitcoin	47,907.71	19,650.17	(3.5)%	(59.0)%	down	down	down
Gold Mining Stock Indices							
Gold Bugs Index (HUI)	258.87	190.75	(4.1)%	(26.3)%	down	down	down
TSX Gold Index (TGD)	292.16	229.91	(2.3)%	(21.3)%	down	down	down
%							
U.S. 10-Year Treasury Bond yield	1.52%	3.45%	3.9%	127.0%			
Cdn. 10-Year Bond CGB yield	1.43%	3.15%	0.6%	120.3%			
Recession Watch Spreads							
U.S. 2-year 10-year Treasury spread	0.79%	(0.43)%	(79.2)%	(154.4)%			
Cdn 2-year 10-year CGB spread	0.48%	(0.66)%	(112.9)%	(237.5)%			
Currencies							
US\$ Index	95.59	109.74	0.2%	14.8%	up	up	up
Canadian \$.7905	0.7527 (new lows)	(1.9)%	(4.8)%	down	down	down (weak)
Euro	113.74	100.15	(0.3)%	(12.0)%	down	down	down
Swiss Franc	109.77	103.63	(0.5)%	(5.6)%	down (weak)	down	down
British Pound	135.45	114.23 (new lows)	(1.5)%	(15.7)%	down	down	down
Japanese Yen	86.85	69.96	(0.2)%	(19.5)%	down	down	down
Precious Metals							
Gold	1,828.60	1,683.50 (new lows)	(2.6)%	(7.9)%	down	down	neutral
Silver	23.35	19.38	3.3%	(17.0)%	neutral	down	down
Platinum	966.20	901.00	2.8%	(6.8)%	neutral	down	down
Base Metals							
Palladium	1,912.10	2,112.70	(3.0)%	10.5%	neutral	neutral	down (weak)
Copper	4.46	3.52	(1.4)%	(21.2)%	down (weak)	down	neutral
Energy							
WTI Oil	75.21	84.76	(2.3)%	12.7%	down	down	up
Nat Gas	3.73	7.76	(3.0)%	108%	down	up	up

Source: www.stockcharts.com

Note: For an explanation of the trends, see the glossary at the end of this article.
New highs/lows refer to new 52-week highs/lows and, in some cases, all-time highs.

GLOSSARY

Trends

Daily – Short-term trend (For swing traders)

Weekly – Intermediate-term trend (For long-term trend followers)

Monthly – Long-term secular trend (For long-term trend followers)

Up – The trend is up.

Down – The trend is down

Neutral – Indicators are mostly neutral. A trend change might be in the offing.

Weak – The trend is still up or down but it is weakening. It is also a sign that the trend might change.

Topping – Indicators are suggesting that while the trend remains up there are considerable signs that suggest that the market is topping.

Bottoming – Indicators are suggesting that while the trend is down there are considerable signs that suggest that the market is bottoming.

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