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## 2014 Market Returns (through 3/31/2014)

<u>Index</u>	<u>Q1 2014</u>
S&P 500	1.8%
Dow Jones Ind Avg	2.0%
Russell 2000	1.1%
MSCI EAFE (Int'l Stock Index)	0.7%
Cohen & Steers Real Estate Index	11.1%
Emerging Market Stock Index	-0.4%
Barclays Bond Aggregate Index	1.8%
Dow Jones UBS Commodity Index	7.0%

## Market Review & Outlook

### MARKET OUTLOOK

The Stock Market witnessed increased volatility during the first quarter of 2014. Corrections of 5% to 10% are a normal part of healthy bull markets. Our exposure to the more defensive sectors of the stock market has helped portfolios weather this volatility better than the market averages. In addition, our investment discipline involves owning securities outside of the stock market (bonds, tactical investments) which helps provide more stability.

While volatility has increased our firm continues to believe this is not the beginning of a bear market and the bullish up-trend is still intact. If, however, things were to deteriorate and new evidence emerged indicating significant downside risk we would begin to reposition portfolios. The bull market is, however, in its latter stages from an historical perspective so we will continue to remain defensive. This approach has proven time and time again as the best strategy to protect and grow our client's wealth.

## Market Review & Outlook (continued from page 1)

### ACTIVITY DURING THE FIRST QUARTER

During the past quarter we sold PIMCO Total return fund and replaced it with **Metropolitan West Total Return Bond fund (MWTRX)**. Both funds are similar in strategy and seek to outperform the general bond market. PIMCO has recently experienced significant management changes and weak relative performance. As a result the fund was sold and capital re-allocated to MWTRX. This change should improve the overall quality and performance of portfolios. MWTRX has an exceptional short, intermediate and long-term track record with a long history of stable management. Below is a chart which shows its long-term relative performance in its respective category:

### Trailing Total Returns MWTRX

Total Return % (04/10/2014)	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year	15-Year
MWTRX	1.33	5.88	9.31	6.45	6.53
Barclays US Agg Bond TR USD	0.20	4.11	4.98	4.68	5.38
Category (CI)	0.47	4.25	6.73	4.47	5.10
+/- Barclays US Agg Bond TR USD	1.13	1.77	4.33	1.77	1.15
+/- Category (CI)	0.87	1.63	2.58	1.98	1.43
Rank in Category	20	8	8	3	4

## ARS Wealth Advisors Portal

By now nearly all of our clients have received instructions on how to log on to the new client portal at ARS Wealth Advisors. We hope those of you that have established a username and password and have utilized the portal have found it to be simple, convenient and worthwhile. If you have not done so yet, please give the portal a try. It is the most safe and secure way we at ARS Wealth Advisors can share sensitive financial information with you.

If you have any concerns or had a problem getting started, please call our offices and someone will be happy to walk you through the process. We truly believe once you get comfortable using it, you will like it. Through the portal you can access a broad array of information that is updated daily about your account. You can see holdings, transactions and daily performance. Also, we can put documents in the portal that you can then retrieve and vice versa. Our clients who frequently travel find it very useful .

To log on to the portal simply go to the ARS Wealth Advisors website and choose the "Client Tools" option:

<http://www.arswealth.com/account-access/>

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## ARS Wealth Advisors Portal (continued from page 2)

Once on that page just click on the “Client Portal Access” link. Sign in using your email address and use the temporary password we emailed to you earlier. You will then be prompted to make a permanent password. Now you are all set to go.

## Client Appreciation Luncheons

We recently hosted our fourth client appreciation lunch; this one in Orlando. We are making our way throughout Florida in an effort to see as many of our clients as possible and to introduce them to our entire staff. Our next stop will be in the Ocala area in May, then Tampa/St. Petersburg and finally Daytona. In September we will start the cycle over again in the Jacksonville area. These are casual affairs with a short time for Q&A. Also, we plan on bringing a legal or accounting representative from one of our affiliates to answer any questions specific to those areas.

The ARS staff has a great time meeting with everyone and based on the feedback it seems our clients enjoy the lunches as well. Please remember these gatherings are not sales events or attempts to sell you some new latest/greatest investment product. We are there to simply say thank you and answer questions you might have. We hope to see you at the next appreciation luncheon in your area - when you receive an invitation feel free to RSVP for any family member and/or friend as well.

## 2014 Spring Cleaning Items

One of the favorite speakers at our luncheons is Rusty Spoor, a trust and estate attorney with whom we share office space. Rusty is both an attorney and a CPA and he has helped many of our clients set up trusts and plan for the transition of family assets between generations.

At every meeting Rusty emphasizes two things:

- 1) If you have not made plans for your assets post your passing, now is the time to do it. There are many opportunities currently available that can have a big impact on your legacy. For the sake of everyone involved you want to avoid probate.
- 2) If you haven't done so, ask your attorney to review your current trust documents. So much has changed in the past four years with respect to legislation affecting inheritance that even recently prepared documents from a few years ago may not achieve what you want them to in today's environment. The assets protected from inheritance tax is now almost \$5.5 million per person; just a few years ago it was only \$1.0 million.

We are happy to arrange a review of your documents at no charge. Please call us any time.

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# ARS Wealth Advisors

## Mission Statement

*To focus solely on meeting the unique needs of our clients and to help them prepare for life's most important financial decisions, by providing objective advice, free from conflicts of interest, based on time-tested, proven strategies. To give our clients peace of mind by placing their best interest first and always acting in a fiduciary capacity.*

## ARS Team

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If you would like a copy of the most recent version of our Form ADV Part II, one is always available to you upon written request

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