

July 2018

Dear Clients & Friends:

WELCOME PARKER PERKINS!

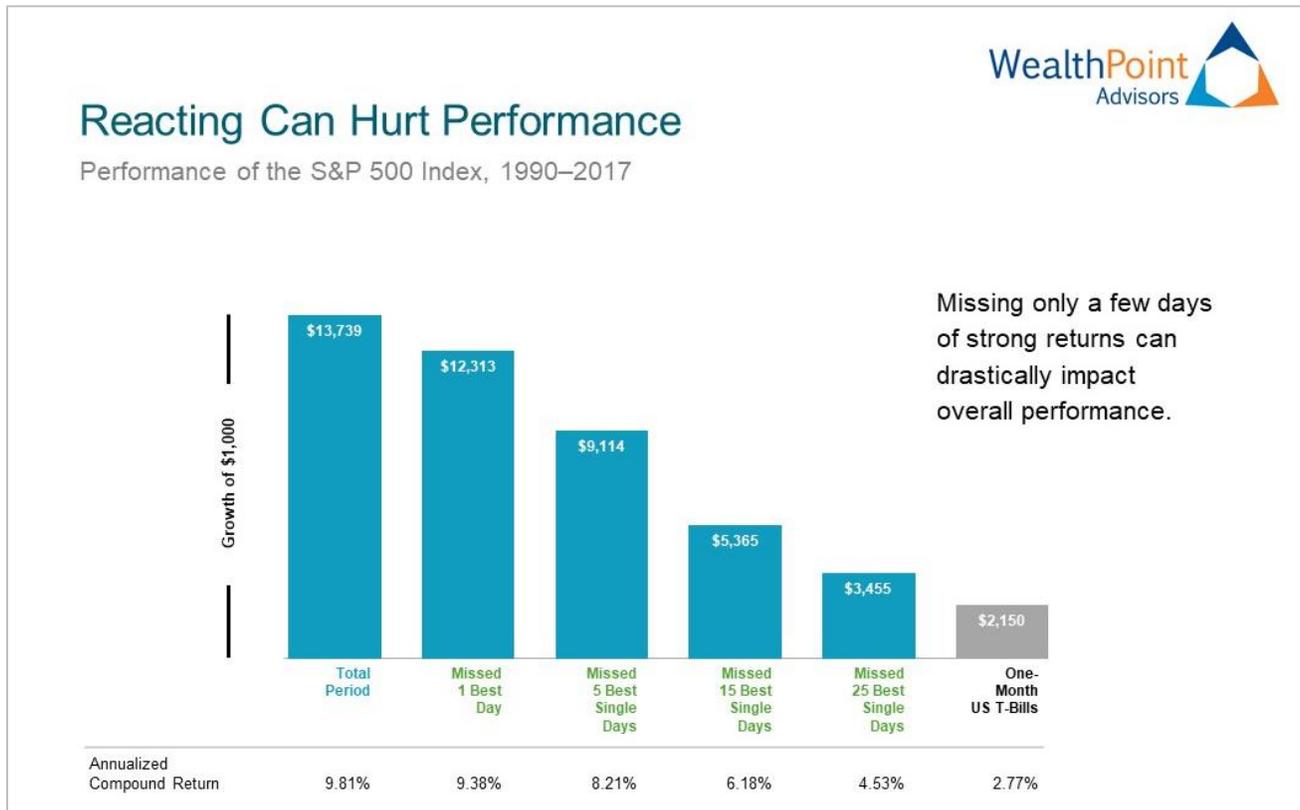
There is a new addition to the WealthPoint family, as Alex Perkins and his wife, Kaycee, welcomed a baby boy in May. Parker was born on May 1, 2018. Both he and parents are doing great, although his parents are getting used to a little less sleep. Since this is their first child, Lynn and I have been giving them advice and have informed them that their lack of sleep should only last about 20 years.



Congratulations to Alex and Kaycee!

IT IS HARD TO TIME THE MARKET

After a great 2017, the first half of 2018 has been up and down and has ended about where we started the year. With not much to show for the volatility, with talk of tariffs, immigration battles, and inflammatory tweets from our President, it becomes easy to believe that the post 2009 recovery is out of steam and to be tempted to get out or greatly reduce stock exposure. Don't fall for that temptation IF your investment plan calls for stocks, you have the proper amount, and are diversified. The chart below is a great lesson on why:



Since 1990 there have been 7,028 trading days in the market, and you can see the impact of missing just 25 of them! Those who think they are reducing their risk by getting out of the market, then getting in later when it is “safer” are incorrect. They have actually added more risk to the mix, the risk of market timing. Just think, if you had the poor fortune of missing the best 25 days but being invested the rest, you had 28 years of the ups and downs of stocks without a great payoff. Or said another way, all the risk with half the return. Warren Buffet has said that “the stock market is a device for transferring money from the impatient to the patient”. He is correct, and the wise investor will patiently follow their plan instead of reacting to the winds of the news and the market.



THOUGHTS FROM THE RECLINER by Mike Skehan

RETIREMENT ACTIVITIES

Since my legs and my balance seemed to have retired when I retired, I decided to take up some new, less strenuous activities. Some of my friends, or former friends, suggested I try bridge. Like a fool, I thought since I was a superior euchre player, that bridge would come easy. First, I bought a book, [Learn To Play Bridge with Pictures](#). Whatever I paid for it was wasted. I would have enjoyed it more if the pictures were Playmates. After the first one

hundred pages, I could tell you honestly, there are too many rules in bridge.

Keeping score is a challenge even for a CPA. They count different points for tricks depending on the suit the bidder is in, and if no trump is bid, the count is different. On top of that you get extra for a partial and more points if vulnerable which depends on where the bidder is sitting. All these rules apply if you are playing Chicago style and you are armed.

Bidding is the most important thing about bridge. You are trying to tell your partner what you have and your partner is trying to tell you why you aren't going to make it. It would be far easier if you just exchanged hands for a minute or so. In most card games, it is your opponents that you get mad at, but in bridge, it's usually your partner because one of you bid wrong.

The people I have been playing with are always telling me that I am getting better and they will probably keep saying that as long as I still have money. If I don't get any better by year end, I am going to quit and take up golf. I am thinking that will not be as expensive as bridge, right?

All of us at WealthPoint appreciate the privilege of working with you, and we hope you and your family have a wonderful summer.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brent M. Walker". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Brent M. Walker, CFP®