

**ARMCHAIR INVESTOR^(sm) MORNING
 MARKET NEWSLETTER**
 A TREND-FOLLOWING STRATEGY



[To open the FULL ARMCHAIR INVESTOR NEWSLETTER, click here](#)
 Then click on [CURRENT NEWSLETTER](#).

SELLING FOR MAXIMUM PROFIT WORKSHOP on Saturday 5/19 1 – 5 p.m. at
 Courtyard Fort Worth on University Drive (just down from Ol' South Pancake House).
 Pre-registration required \$195 including a 90+ page workbook with full color charts.

The market is in UPTREND

THURSDAY: After the Nasdaq recently rose almost 6% in a week and a half (5/3 to 5/14), I was excited about the possibility of this market finally taking off. The Nasdaq stalled over the last three days but held above the April high – good news! Some profit taking along the way is always expected. The lower volume over the last 2 days takes some of the sting out of that minor reversal.

DAILY MARKET ACTION

5/17/18	Index Close	Index % Change	Volume % Change	Volume vs 50-day Avg.	Accumulation or Distribution Day?	Recent Trend Gain/Loss from 4/10/2018 UPTREND SIGNAL
Nasdaq	7,382.47	-0.2%	-6.7%	-15.4%	Neither	+4.6%
S&P500	2,720.13	+0.1%	NYSE Volume		Neither	+2.9%
NYSE	12,747.83	+0.0%	+8.3%	+0.6%	Neither	+1.9%
DJIA	4,713.70	-0.2%			Minor distribution	-80.6%

PRIOR NOTES STILL RELEVANT:

David Saito-Chung made an interesting observation Wednesday in Investor's Business Daily's Big Picture. He said 40 of the 197 Industrial Groups (in a wide variety of industries) were UP today 1.6% or more. I like that broad show of strength. IBD's research has shown that it is hard (but not impossible) for an individual stock to make a big run without the co-incidence of the rise of its industry group and sector.

If you are a market direction trend trader, this wide support of the Uptrend should also encourage you. The broader the show of strength, the more likely the uptrend is to continue.

Read today's note and warning about Cheniere Energy (LGN) in the FULL newsletter. Two Fridays ago, LGN made a bold breakout of a cup base and has gained 4.5%.

NASDAQ NEAR ALL-TIME HIGH: The Nasdaq is less than 2% below its all-time high on March 13 of this year. The laggard S&P500 has more work to do to top its prior high (a 5% rise required). **Watch for market action around these prior highs. DOES THE MARKET HAVE THE OPTIMISM TO GO TO NEW HIGHS?**

LOTS OF GREEN ON "MARKET FACTORS, COUNTS AND RATINGS" TABLE: Yeah! See this table in the FULL newsletter (link at top of this newsletter).

The Nasdaq and S&P500 recently made their second "higher highs" and "higher lows." This is how a stock or market climbs out of a dip!

Download the full Armchair Investor newsletter to see the RISING support lines I have drawn in the daily and weekly charts of the Nasdaq and S&P500. Impressive. Now we need continued buying to push the Accumulation/ Distribution ratings back up to the B or A level to show broadening buying.

[To open the FULL ARMCHAIR INVESTOR NEWSLETTER, click here](#)

Then click on CURRENT NEWSLETTER.

The Market is in UPTREND

And..... We still need Volume!

Markets usually take off vigorously at the beginning of a new Uptrend in price AND volume but this one has NOT, yet. Without volume there is an underlying weakness to the market.

Some individual stocks have caught the Uptrend fever. They have price AND volume. I am buying full positions (through pyramiding in), of top stocks with strong breakouts.

ARMCHAIR INVESTOR TREND-FOLLOWING ACTION: With the market diagnosis as “Uptrend”, you have one Trend-following action:

- Hold an Uptrend ETF such as the QQQ, QLD and TQQQ.

Here are the Armchair Investor Strategy returns since the start of the current Uptrend just one month ago. **NICE 1-MONTH RETURNS.**

Uptrend ETFs	Armchair Investor Trend-following Returns for Current Uptrend			
5/17/18	Opening Price on 4/12/2018	Today's Price	ETF % Change Today	GAIN OR LOSS SINCE 4/10/2018 UPTREND SIGNAL
QQQ (1x)	160.2	168.27	-0.4%	+5.0%
QLD (2x)	76.02	83.36	-0.8%	+9.7%
TQQQ (3x)	142.6	162.8	-1.2%	+14.2%

The ETF QQQ is designed to move WITH the largest 100 stocks on the Nasdaq. QLD is designed to double the price move of the QQQ. The TQQQ is a more volatile Visit Proshares.com for more information.

REMEMBER:
THE MARKET CONTINUES IN THE DIRECTION IT'S GOING UNTIL IT DOESN'T.

THE ARMCHAIR INVESTOR strategy is SIMPLE and FAST to execute:

- Be in the market when it is going up.
- Be out or (or short) the market when it is going down.
- Protect yourself with an 8% stop.

>>>Download the FULL ARMCHAIR INVESTOR NEWSLETTER at:

www.ArmchairInvestor.com

Click on the [Current Newsletter](#) tab

No advice is ever given in this newsletter. It is provided for your education only.

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>>>Are you interested in learning more about this style of investing for individual stocks?

>>>>A survey was sent to all readers last Wednesday night! If you did not receive it and wish to learn more about participating in this online, weekly training, text Charlotte at 214-995-6702.

Survey Results: the vote is in! The first weekly online Armchair Investor classes will be on Sunday afternoons. Stay tuned!

MARKET ACTION 2018 YEAR-TO-DATE

5/17/18	2017 Closing Price	Current Price	Index % Change Year-to-Date
Nasdaq	6903.39	7382.47	+6.9%
S&P 500	2673.61	2720.13	+1.7%
NYSE Comp	12,808.84	12,747.83	-0.5%
DJIA	24,719.22	24,713.70	-0.0%

This yearly table is included for your reference. These returns have little relevance to trend-following returns since trend-followers do not hold during "Downtrends" and may lighten their holdings during "Uptrends under Pressure."

PROGRESS IN ACCUMULATION/DISTRIBUTION RATINGS

		A	B	C	D	E
4 weeks ago	4/19	10%	38%	21%	20%	8%
3 weeks ago	4/26	8%	32%	25%	24%	11%
2 weeks ago	5/3	8%	32%	25%	24%	11%
1 week ago	5/10	7%	35%	24%	22%	10%
Today	5/17	10%	37%	24%	20%	9%

Stocks with an A or B rating are under accumulation (being bought.)

Stocks with a D or E rating are under distribution (being sold).

"2 weeks ago" is 10 market days ago; "4 weeks ago" is 20. The ratings which are higher than two weeks prior are colored light GREEN. Lower ratings are PINK.

LAST WEEK'S MARKET ACTION

5/12/18	Weekly Index % Change	Weekly Volume % Change	Volume Above/ Below 10-week Avg	Type of Week
Nasdaq	+2.7%	+0.9%	-1.0%	Major Accumulation
S&P 500	+2.4%	+5.0%	+7.0%	Major Accumulation
NYSE	+2.1%			Major Accumulation
DJIA	+2.3%			Major Accumulation

The "TYPES OF WEEK" are:

ACCUMULATION WEEK PRICE RISES 0.2% or more and VOLUME RISES

DISTRIBUTION WEEK PRICE FALLS 0.2% or more and VOLUME RISES

Another type of DISTRIBUTION(*): WEEK PRICE FALLS 0.2% or more & VOLUME is 15% or more above average even without an increase in volume.

The NYSE volume is used for the S&P500 and NYSE Composite.

HOW CLOSE ARE THE INDEXES TO ALL-TIME HIGHS?

5/17/2018	Nasdaq	S&P500	NYSE	DJIA
Date of Index All-time High	3/13/2018	1/26/2018	1/26/2018	1/26/2018
All-time High	7537.27	2872.87	13637.02	26616.71
Current Price	7382.47	2720.13	12747.83	24713.70
Below (-) or Above (+) Recent High (%)	-2.1%	-5.3%	-6.5%	-7.1%
Below (-) or Above (+) Recent High (#)	-154.80	-152.74	-889.19	-1903.01

MARKET FACTORS, COUNTS & RATINGS

5/17/2018

Type of DAY for <u>Nasdaq</u> Accumulation, Distribution or Neither	Neither	
Market Direction Uptrend, Under Pressure, Downtrend, or Attempted Uptrend	UPTREND	
All Nasdaq Accumulation & Distribution Days Nasdaq 20-day count	Accumulation Days 2	Distribution Days 4
Count of Up Days and Down Days Nasdaq last 10-days price movement only	Up Days 5	Down Days 1
Days that do not move at least 0.2% are not included in the Up/Down count which does not, therefore, add up to 10 days.		
Leaders Up/Down with High Volume Nasdaq 10-day ratio	2.2	
This indicator looks at leading stocks (high RS) and is, thus, biased to the upside. Uptrend indicator: 1.5 or higher. Neutral: 1.0 to 1.49. Downtrend: less than 1.0		
Market Accumulation/Distribution Ratings "A": heavy accumulation, "B": moderate accumulation, "C": neutral, "D": moderate distribution, "E": heavy distribution. Accumulation = Institutions are BUYING, Distribution = Inst are SELLING	Nasdaq D+	S&P 500 D
	DJIA D	
Are Major Indexes Above or Below Moving Averages? "At" is within 1% above or below the moving average.	50-Day	200-Day
Nasdaq	Above	Above
S&P 500	Above	Above
NYSE	Above	Above
DJIA	Above	Above

Nasdaq Daily chart, 3 months

The Nasdaq continues to rise above its 50-day moving average.
Notice the recent rising lows as show by the lower blue line.



Nasdaq Weekly chart, 1 year

The Nasdaq weekly also closed above 10-week m.a.s.
Notice the three higher lows over the last five weeks.



These charts are from StockCharts.com, a valuable site for investors with many free tools.

S&P500 Daily chart, 3 months

The S&P500 is above its 50-day moving average and above its 4/20 high. Notice the recent rising lows as show by the lower blue line.



S&P500 Weekly chart, 1 year

S&P500 weekly rallies to above its 10-week moving average last Friday. Notice the higher lows over the last five weeks.



These charts are from StockCharts.com, a valuable site for investors with many free tools

MARKET ACTION (Nasdaq) OVER THE LAST 20 DAYS

(For a full explanation of the terms in this table see end of this newsletter)

#	Date	Close	Index % Change	Volume % Change	Current Trend Day Count	Type of Day: Accumulation, Distribution or Neither (—)	CONSISTENT WITH: UPTREND or Downtrend?
THE COLOR OF THE "CURRENT TREND DAY COUNT" tells you the current market direction: Red = Downtrend, Yellow = Uptrend under Pressure, Green = Uptrend							
20	4/20/18	7146.13	-1.3%	-5.5%	9	—	UPTREND
19	4/23/18	7128.60	-0.3%	-9.7%	10	—	UPTREND
18	4/24/18	7007.35	-1.7%	+26.5%	11	Major Distribution day	DOWNTREND
17	4/25/18	7003.74	-0.05%	-5.0%	12	—	—
16	4/26/18	7118.68	+1.6%	+3.8%	13	Major Accumulation day	UPTREND
15	4/27/18	7119.80	+0.06%	-2.3%	14	—	—
14	4/30/18	7066.27	-0.8%	-4.3%	15	—	UPTREND
13	5/1/18	7130.70	+0.9%	-3.3%	16	—	DOWNTREND
12	5/2/18	7100.90	-0.4%	+11.8%	17	Minor distribution day	DOWNTREND
11	5/3/18	7088.15	-0.18%	+9.5%	18	—	—
10	5/4/18	7209.62	+1.7%	-12.7%	19	—	DOWNTREND
9	5/7/18	7265.21	+0.8%	-5.2%	20	—	DOWNTREND
8	5/8/18	7266.90	+0.03%	+5.5%	21	—	—
7	5/9/18	7339.91	+1.0%	+8.8%	22	Major Accumulation day	UPTREND
6	5/10/18	7404.97	+0.9%	-1.4%	23	—	DOWNTREND
5	5/11/18	7402.88	+0.03%	-6.6%	24	—	—
4	5/14/18	7411.43	+0.12%	-1.9%	25	—	—
3	5/15/18	7351.63	-0.8%	+0.9%	26	Minor distribution day	DOWNTREND
2	5/16/18	7398.30	+0.6%	-0.9%	27	—	DOWNTREND
1	5/17/18	7382.47	-0.2%	-6.7%	28	—	UPTREND

The CURRENT TREND column colors: **Green:** Uptrend. **Yellow:** Uptrend under Pressure. **Red:** Downtrend.

FOR INVESTORS IN INDIVIDUAL STOCKS

More detailed comments on market direction and technical analysis for individual stocks

THURSDAY

There are several stocks breaking out of good bases or in buy zones. **Using Investors.com's MarketSmith is the fastest way I know to find these stocks.** Each week, the MarketSmith team puts all their screens together (the IBD 50, Week in Review, Top Big Cap stock, plus dozens more) and create one list of top stocks – **the MarketSmith250**. This is the list the O'Neil portfolio managers are sent home with each weekend. Now you and I can get that same list to study.

From that list, are other automated lists in MarketSmith such as:

- “stocks breaking out today”,
- “stocks near buy points”, and
- “recent breakouts”.

These lists are updated in real time during the week! I am always excited to see the stock breaking out today list! It is my first, go to list! If interested, you can take a low cost trial of MarketSmith and get live coaching on how to use it. After hours, their videos about how to use MS are excellent!

If you take a MarketSmith trial, please mention the Dallas and Fort Worth Meetup leader as your source. This helps us get occasional guest speakers from IBD!

This newsletter is NOT designed to recommend stocks to watch or buy. But occasionally I get in the mood to talk about a few stocks that are breaking out or near breakout points. Today I draw your attention to:

- **Cheniere Energy (LNG)** which operates the Sabine Pass LNG receiving terminal. Its ratings are acceptable considering that Oil & Gas companies fluctuate between good years and bad years – it's just part of the business. IBD's EPS calculation would like to see steady growing earnings and has no way to account for the faster swings of this industry group. What you can do is look for recent return to profitability with more expected which fits LNG to a tee.

- **LNG broke out on last Friday with a 6% pop in price and volume of 125% above average. Price held at that attractive level on.**

Monday and Tuesday: It is not unexpected that LNG's volume declined with some profit taking after the big rise on Friday.

Wednesday: This was the 4th day in a row that LNG closed almost unchanged, after the recent breakout. **THAT IS SUPPORT:** Someone is buying all offered at about 62.50.

Thursday: LNG fell 0.7% but its daily volume was the lightest since the breakout last Friday. There may have been a little profit taken, but it was not a distribution day since the volume was lighter than yesterday.

Friday: LNG rose 0.4% and is just 7 cents below the close of last Friday's breakout day. That tells me the breakout is holding nicely about 4% above the base's pivot (buy) point with only modest profit taking as expected when a stock hits a new high.

Monday: LNG rose 0.5% on higher volume for a minor accumulation day! Price ended the day at a new high close.

Tuesday & Wednesday: LNG continues to hang around the end-of-day price from when it broke out last week. A good breakout is commonly stalled (as LNG is) when there is some profit taking. The drying up of LNG's selling is visible in the declining volume over the last two weeks. This week's below-average volume is a hint that the selling may be near an end. LNG inched up Monday and Wednesday to all-time closing highs.

Thursday: LNG took its FIRST minor distribution day today dropping 0.6% on higher volume (but below average volume). My concern is that LNG has now languished for 8 days after its powerful breakout on 5/4 (UP 5.9% with volume of 125% above average). If you caught LNG as it broke out, my question is: "Is it time to take at least some of your profit off the table?"

If you bought LNG at the end of the breakout day, you have a small loss. You may look at the 2 weeks of no gains and decide to protect your holding with a stop at the lowest price since the breakout (61.42).

I AM STILL CAREFULLY BUYING INDIVIDUAL STOCKS which are breaking out of good bases with high volume on the breakout day. Volume is the factor which is hard to find right now but I can wait! With the current weakness in the market, I am buying smaller first bites. If you are having trouble finding enough good stocks to buy, consider adding the QQQ or another Uptrend-Index ETF. This is one place I put some of my money when I can't find the right stock at a buy point.

Remember:

CASH IS A POSITION.

The market diagnosis is UPTREND.

REMEMBER:

YOU ARE NOT SMARTER THAN THE MARKET

THE MARKET AND STOCKS CONTINUE IN THE DIRECTION THEY ARE GOING..... UNTIL THEY DON'T.

PROTECT YOUR PORTFOLIO WITH AN 8% STOP

CHOOSE YOUR STOP & LIVE BY IT – NO EXCUSES!

And you don't have to wait for your stock to fall to the stop. A concentration of distribution days is always a reason for me to get out wherever it happens!

What to do now:

1. **WATCH YOUR INVESTMENTS CLOSELY:** Add positions in top stocks at buy or add-on points. Sell stalling and falling stocks quickly.
2. Do a quick **review of each stock you own every night.** Look for strength and weakness signals in the price-volume action, especially watching for distribution (signs of institutional selling)
3. **DON'T LOSE YOUR GAINS:** Sell any stock that is showing a concentration of distribution days. I sell more quickly in a Downtrend

If this newsletter no longer suits your needs, you may unsubscribe here:

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ARMCHAIR INVESTOR WEEKLY CLASS SCHEDULE

NO DALLAS ARMCHAIR INVESTOR CLASSES THIS WEEK (5/14 – 16.)

Join us for the ARMCHAIR INVESTOR classes NEXT WEEK!

Be my guest (FREE) if you have not visited in the last six months (guest seating limited, please be sure to register through the Meetup site listed below or a text or call to Charlotte.

Please register on the Meetup site so I will have a handout for you (25 pages of articles and [Link to registering for the Armchair Investor Meetup- CLICK HERE](#)

The 2018 ARMCHAIR INVESTOR classes schedule.

Pre-register please! Schedules change! See phone number below:

Mondays 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Barnes & Noble at Royal & Preston (northeast corner), Dallas
Tuesdays 3:30 – 5:30 p.m. Barnes & Noble at Royal & Preston (northeast corner), Dallas
Wednesdays 10:00 am – noon, Barnes & Noble, on Beltline just east of Montfort, Addison

- **Guest attendance** is limited to ensure class members get their full value. -
- **Be sure to call to confirm we are having a class** (we are occasionally on vacation) and have an open chair.

Call or text me at 214-995-6702 to schedule your FREE visit (new visitors only) to an ARMCHAIR INVESTOR class.

TO REGISTER FOR THE COMPREHENSIVE, SINGLE SUBJECT
ARMCHAIR INVESTOR WORKSHOPS
OR TO VISIT AN ARMCHAIR INVESTOR CLASS:

CALL OR TEXT CHARLOTTE HUDGIN AT 214-995-6702

Wishing you "Many Happy Returns,"
Charlotte Hudgin, 214-995-6702, Editor, the Armchair Investor

DISCLAIMER, "Buyer Beware" WARNING:

This newsletter shares the ideas I use in my investing. It is not investing advice but should be taken as education only. Your investment decisions are your responsibility as are the results. If you are not comfortable with or do not understand a strategy completely, I recommend that you paper-trade until you are successful and can sleep at night.

Questions may be submitted to: Editor@ArmchairInvestor.com
Some of your questions will be used in future newsletters.

Additional notes follow:

EXPLANATION OF TERMS FOR THE

MARKET ACTION OVER THE LAST 20 DAYS

Four weeks of price and volume action reveal much about the direction of the market and the strength of that movement.

		Price		Volume	
Healthy Uptrend Price-Volume Movement	Strong Action	Up	↑	↑	Up
	Weaker Action	Down	↓	↓	Down
Healthy Downtrend Price-Volume- Movement	Strong Action	Down	↓	↑	Up
	Weaker Action	Up	↑	↓	Down

The chart below identifies the **market direction** indicated by the Nasdaq's price and volume action for the last 20 days at two levels of significance.

ACCUMULATION/DISTRIBUTION COLUMN - TELLS YOU WHERE THE BIG MONEY IS GOING

The listing includes: the date, Nasdaq closing price and percent change of the Nasdaq price and volume.

- The next column identifies days that were **Major Accumulation** (serious UPTREND indicator) or **Major Distribution** (serious Downtrend indicator) using the 1% minimum rise or fall with higher volume.
- **Minor accumulation** and **minor distribution days** are also identified – days that moved 0.2% or more but less than 1%.

“CONSISTENT WITH”– THE SUBTLE, BUT TELLING MOVES

The last column is an UPTREND /Downtrend indicator.

Think of a healthy Uptrend. It will have many days where the index rises with increased volume.

But even in the most robust Uptrend, * not every day will be up. In any Uptrend, there will be some down days. If they have higher volume, then the day becomes a distribution day but if the volume is lighter (as frequently happens in an Uptrend), then the down day is NOT a distribution day. In fact, a drop on lighter 4747.62 volume says they market is NOT selling off heavily – good news and consistent with the Uptrend.

Using the Healthy UPTREND/Downtrend price and volume movement listed above.

- For example, if the Nasdaq closing price rose 0.7% and the volume rose 2% (up and up), that movement is “consistent with” the price-volume action of a Healthy UPTREND.
- If the price drops 0.5% and the volume rises 1.2% (down and up), that movement is “consistent with” the price-volume action of a Healthy Downtrend as indicated in the table above.
- Any index change less than + or – 0.2% or volume change less than + or – 1% has no “consistent with” notation. Price and volume movements that small is not strong enough to tell us about the market movement.

EXAMPLE OF ACCUMULATION AND DISTRIBUTION WITH EXPANDED EXPLANATION OF TERMS:

Today's Market Action with explanation						
2/5/16	Index Close	Index % Change	Volume % Change	Volume vs 50-day Avg	Accumulation or Distribution Day?	Current Trend: DOWNTREND Began 1/4/2015
Index	4363.14	-3.2%	+13.8%	+21.8%	Major Distribution	+11.3%
S&P500	1879.92	-1.9%	NYSE Volume		Neither	+6.6%
NYSE	9,390.33	-1.5%	-5.3%	+15.0%	Neither	+6.2%
DJIA	16,204.62	-1.3%			Neither	+5.5%
<p>A Major Accumulation Day: Price RISES 1.0% or more and higher Volume than the day before A Minor accumulation Day: Price RISES 0.2% or more and Volume is strong (either higher volume or is well-above average volume)</p> <p>A Major Distribution Day: Price FALLS 1.0% or more and higher Volume than the day before. A Minor distribution Day: Price FALLS 0.2% or more, Volume is strong (either higher volume or is well-above average volume)</p> <p>A Stalling minor distribution Day: Only in an up-trending index or stock, price is FLAT or DOWN slightly compared to the day before, closing in the <u>bottom half of the day's range</u> and <u>volume is heavier or about equal to</u> the day before or strong compared to the past market. It's the <u>price closing low in the day's range</u> after an <u>uptrend</u> that is the key for this designation. Price close to flat and higher or consistent volume indicates the big money (institutions: mutual funds, banks, etc.) are gently selling, trying to sneak out so you won't notice.</p>						
<p>** The "CURRENT TREND" column calculates how far each index has moved in the current trend assuming you purchased the index (which is not buyable) at the opening price on the day after the trend change signal.</p> <p>• When this column is GREEN, the index has moved in the direction of the market trend.</p> <p>• HOWEVER, when this column is RED, the index change has fallen into negative territory (which could be a rise during a Downtrend)</p>						
<p>An ACCUMULATION day points at heavy buying by institutional money managers - the mutual funds, pension funds, banks, etc. A DISTRIBUTION day points at heavy selling by institutional money managers.</p>						