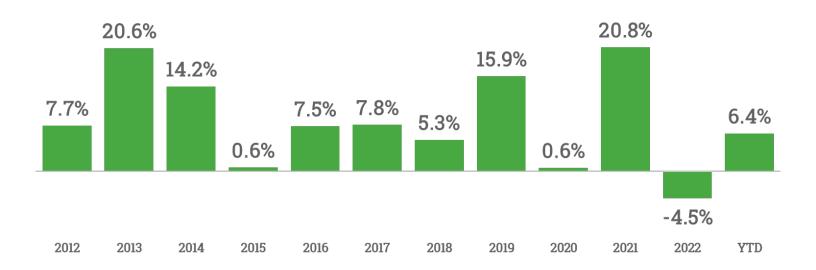


July 30, 2023

# **Skinny Pop**

The Value Fund was up +3.0% in Q2 and is up +6.4% year-to-date. The weakening US dollar lowered our returns by approximately -2.1% in H1. The broader markets are also up this year: S&P/TSX +5.7%, DJIA +2.7% and the S&P500 +14.4% (1)





Index returns are discussed ad nauseam but rarely analyzed. The current market rally has been a narrow one and merits a deeper dive.

Most broadly-followed market indices—including the S&P500—are capitalization-weighted indices. Under this methodology, companies with a larger market capitalization will receive a greater weighting in the index. As a result, the more expensive a stock becomes, *ceteris paribus*, the *greater* its weighting in the index.

(1) Index returns are for the total return indexes which include dividends and are measured in Canadian dollars, the Value Fund's reporting currency.



This quirk of most stock market indices is the exact *opposite* of our value investing approach. As a stock becomes more expensive, its future expected return decreases; it thus becomes riskier and less attractive. We would prefer to own less of it, not more.

Market-cap-weighted index construction can lead to extremes at times. For example, the Nasdag 100 Index is currently being reconstituted via a special rebalancing as its top five stocks (Microsoft (MSFT), Apple (AAPL), Nvidia (NVDA), Amazon (AMZN) and Tesla (TSLA)) combined now account for approximately 44% of the entire index. Hardly a diversified measure of the broader tech market.

The S&P500 is a little better (its top five constitute 22% of the index), but the market-cap weighting has led to the odd result that the index's year-to-date performance has been driven by only a handful of high-flying technology stocks. As the chart below illustrates, almost all the S&P500's gains year-todate can be attributed to just ten stocks. The remaining 490 stocks in the index are up a mere 1.4%.

Digging deeper, we highlight that four of these top contributing stocks-Amazon (AMZN), Nvidia (NVDA), **Tesla** (TSLA) and **Salesforce** (CRM)—sport trailing price-to-earnings (P/E) ratios over 100. These stocks may yet rally further (something that momentum investors are counting on). But the risk inherent in owning stocks that become untethered to fundamentals is that it only takes a minor hiccup or a change in the prevailing narrative to send them plunging. Our view is that owning them at their current valuations is imprudent.

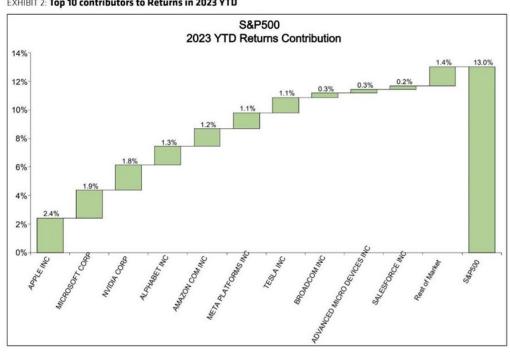


EXHIBIT 2: Top 10 contributors to Returns in 2023 YTD

S&P 500 Universe Source: Factset, CRSP, Bernstein Analysis

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Given our view that many of these stocks are overvalued—some absurdly so—it shouldn't surprise clients to know that we only own one of them: **Alphabet** (GOOG/GOOGL).

Over short periods, stock prices reflect their popularity with investors. At present, anything related to artificial intelligence (AI) is fueling another round of frenzied speculation. But over the long term, valuations are what determine stock prices.

As Benjamin Graham so beautifully put it, "Over the short-term, the market is a voting machine. Over the long term, it is a weighing machine".

The voting machine is currently running hot, and we are being cautious. We will remain disciplined and continue scouring the investment universe for high-quality businesses trading at levels that are more likely to deliver attractive long-term returns.

## **Portfolio Update**

The most significant contributor to the portfolio in H1 was our position in **Alphabet** (GOOG/GOOGL) +36.3%. Last year's selloff related to the launch of AI-powered chatbot ChatGPT is now in the rearview mirror. The company delivered decent Q2 results; as we suspected, its search dominance remains intact.

**Berkshire Hathaway** (BRK.A/B) +10.4% was the second-largest contributor YTD. Its collection of diversified businesses will continue to throw off a growing stream of cashflows for decades to come. We are in good hands.

Our third-largest winner YTD was **Fiserv** (FI) +24.8%. The company recently delivered another solid quarter and raised its full-year guidance. Competitor **Fidelity National** (FIS) continues to struggle and recently announced a sale of a majority stake in its merchant services business to private equity. This may create an opportunity for Fiserv to take market share from a distracted competitor.

The biggest detractor from the portfolio in H1 was **Elevance Health** (ELV) -13.4%. Investors are less interested in defensive sectors like healthcare at the moment. Trading at a low teens forward earnings multiple and consistently delivering double-digit earnings growth, we are happy to own Elevance at these prices.

We made no significant portfolio moves in H1, only adding one new position after the quarter end. Our top-ten holdings remain unchanged. Additional portfolio disclosures, including performance statistics, can be found on the pages immediately following this letter.

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Top 10 Holdings *	Sector
Alphabet Inc.	Technology
American Express	Financial Services
Berkshire Hathaway Inc.	Insurance
Elevance Health	Healthcare & Pharma
Fiserv Inc.	Technology
Intercontinental Exchange, Inc.	Financial Services
Merck & Co., Inc.	Healthcare & Pharma
S&P Global Inc.	Technology
Vertex Pharmaceuticals	Healthcare & Pharma
Visa Inc.	Technology

<sup>\*</sup> As of June 30, 2023. The Value Fund's holdings are subject to change and are not recommendations to buy or sell any security.

# Firm Update

It has been a busy quarter. I recently did a podcast with Scott Reardon of Dakota Value Funds, where we discussed the Berkshire Hathaway annual meeting, running an investment firm and many other topics. Links to the podcast can be found <a href="https://example.com/here/berkshire/">here</a>.

After a brief trip to Omaha in May, we hosted over 40 people at GreensKeeper's Annual Meeting in June. The research team is currently hard at work updating our models as reporting season is in full swing. We are constantly analyzing hundreds of companies, trying to uncover mispriced bargains.

For firm clients, our Six-Month report will be distributed next month after the finalization of our financial statements by our fund administrator.

Each of our employees has their entire investment portfolio invested at GreensKeeper. In my case, it represents the bulk of my household's net worth. We invest in the same stocks as our clients, and our approach is one of partnership. If you could use some help with your investments, please give us a call.

Michael P. McCloskey

President, Founder & Chief Investment Officer









June 30, 2023

Fund Details						
	Class A	Class F*	Class G**			
Fund Codes	GRN 101	GRN 105	GRN 107			
NAV	\$20.71	\$22.19	\$17.83			
MER (%)	1.8%	1.8% 1.3% < 1.8%				
Min. Initial Investment	\$150,000 \$150,000 \$1 million					
Load Structure	No Load					
Performance Fee		20% over 6.0% annual hurdle. High-water mark (perpetual).				
Registered Plan Status	100% Eligible (RRSPs, TFSAs, RESPs, RDSPs, LIRAs, RIFs, etc.)					
Inception Date	November 1, 2011					
Type of Fund	Long equity, Long-term capital appreciation					
Fund Category	Global Equity					
Currency	CAD					
Valuations	Monthly					
Redemptions	Monthly on 30 days' notice					
Distribution Frequency	Annually (December)					
Fund Distributions - \$/Unit (Class A)						
2012 - \$0.2318	2 - \$0.2318 2016 - \$0.5416 2020 - \$0.0000					

2012 - \$0.2318	2016 - \$0.5416	2020 - \$0.0000
2013 - \$0.2147	2017 - \$0.0000	2021 - \$0.0000
2014 - \$0.6542	2018 - \$0.5752	2022 - \$0.1440
2015 - \$0.2939	2019 - \$0.5626	

### **Service Providers**

Investment Manager	Greenskeeper
Administrator and Registrar	SGGG FUND SERVICES INC.
Auditor	MNP
Custodian	NATIONAL BANK INDEPENDENT NETWORK

Legal Counsel

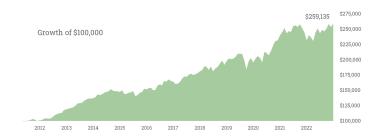
### **Investment Objective**

To deliver absolute returns to unitholders (net of all fees) in excess of both the S&P/TSX Index and the S&P500 Index (measured in Canadian dollars) over the long term. The Fund seeks to accomplish its set objective through investments in a concentrated portfolio, primarily in equities from any sector and market capitalization.

### **Investment Eligibility**

Accredited Investors including Investment Advisors (IAs) with long-term time horizons seeking to better protect and diversify their clients' equity portfolios.

### Portfolio Performance (Class A)





			Annualized				
Compound Returns <sup>(1)(2)</sup>	1M0	YTD	1 YR	3 YR	5 YR	10 YR	Inception
Value Fund	2.3%	6.4%	11.9%	9.9%	7.4%	8.1%	8.5%

### **Portfolio Allocations**

Asset Mix *		Sector	
U.S. Equities	80.9%	Technology	28.9%
Cash	12.5%	Healthcare & Pharma	17.9%
EMEA Equities	3.3%	Financial Services	16.4%
Canadian Equities	3.3%	Insurance	15.7%
		Cash & Equivalents	12.5%
* Based on corporate domicile.		Industrial	5.6%
		Communication & Media	3.1%



#### **Leadership Team**



Michael McCloskey B Sc, JD, MBA, CIM, AR Founder, President & Chief Investment Officer 905.827.1179 michael@greenskeeper.ca



James McCloskey BA, CSC, DR Senior Vice President -Sales 416.996.9970 james@greenskeeper.ca

#### Statistical Analysis (3)

	Value Fund	lue Fund S&P/TSX	S&P500
	varue i unu	JQF/1JA	(CAD\$)
Fund Beta vs. Selected Index	n/a	0.53	0.59
Standard Deviation	8.4%	11.9%	11.9%
Sharpe Ratio	0.89	0.60	1.24
Best Month	8.7%	10.8%	11.6%
Worst Month	-7.1%	-17.4%	-8.1%
Percentage Positive Months	67.9%	65.0%	70.7%
Maximum Drawdown	-12.3%	-22.3%	-18.5%
CAGR Since Inception	8.5%	7.6%	16.5%

### **Investment Philosophy**

We follow a time-tested value investing process and conduct bottom-up fundamental research to identify attractive and underpriced equity investments for the portfolio. GreensKeeper believes in buying an interest in a quality business for less than its true worth or *intrinsic value*. That discount provides us with our *margin of safety* to safeguard our clients' investments.



**Aversion to Leverage** 

Aversion To Leverage: We avoid the use of leverage. As a result, we are never forced to sell when market conditions are difficult (and stocks are undervalued).



**Our Best Ideas** 

Only our best ~20 ideas find their way into the Value Fund. We prefer to assume shorter term volatility in exchange for what we expect will be longer-term outperformance.



How We View Risk

We reject the premise that volatility is the proper way to define and measure risk.

Instead we believe that risk is best defined as the risk of a permanent loss of our clients' capital.

#### **Disclosures**

(1) All returns are as at June 30, 2023, for Class A Units. (2) GreensKeeper Asset Management Inc. (GKAM) assumed the investment management responsibilities of the Value Fund on January 17, 2014. Prior to that date, the Value Fund was managed by Lightwater Partners Ltd. while Mr. McCloskey was employed by that firm. (3) Where applicable, all figures are annualized and based on Class A monthly returns since inception. Risk-free rate calculated using 90-day CDN T-bill rate. Class F Units are available to purchasers who participate in fee-based programs through eligible registered dealers. \*\* Class G Units are for purchasers who have greater than \$1 million managed by GreensKeeper and who enter into a Class G Agreement with us. Class G Units are not charged a management fee or performance fee by the Fund as Fees are paid directly to the Manager pursuant to the Class G Agreement.

This document is intended for informational purposes and should not be construed as an offering or the solicitation of an offer to purchase an interest in the GreensKeeper Value Fund or any other GreensKeeper Funds (collectively, the "Funds"). Any such offer or solicitation will be made to qualified investors only by means of an offering memorandum and only in those jurisdictions where permitted by law. GKAM is registered in Ontario, Canada under the categories of Portfolio Manager, Investment Fund Manager, and Exempt Market Dealer. An investment in the GreensKeeper Value Fund is speculative and involves a high degree of risk. Opportunities for withdrawal, redemption and transferability of interests are restricted, so investors may not have access to capital when it is needed. There is no secondary market for the interests, and none is expected to develop. Investments should be evaluated relative to an individual's investment objectives. The information contained in this document is not, and should not be construed as, legal, accounting, investment or tax advice. You should not act or rely on the information contained in this document without seeking the advice of an appropriate professional advisor. Please read the Fund offering memorandum before investing.

The Funds are offered by GKAM and distributed through authorized dealers. Trailing commissions, management fees, performance fees and expenses all may be associated with an investment in the Funds. The fees and expenses charged in connection with this investment may be higher than the fees and expenses of other investment alternatives and may reduce returns. There is no guarantee that the investment objective will be achieved. Past performance should not be mistaken for, and should not be construed as, an indicator of future performance. The performance figures for the GreensKeeper Value Fund include actual or estimated performance or management fees and are presented for information purposes only. This document has been compiled by GKAM from sources believed to be reliable, but no representations or warranty, express or implied, are made as to its accuracy, completeness or correctness. All opinions and estimates constitute GKAM's judgment as of the date of this document, are subject to change without notice. GKAM assumes no responsibility for any losses, whether direct, special or consequential, that arise out of the use of this information. Certain statements contained in this presentation are based on, inter alia, forward looking information that are subject to risks and uncertainties. All statements herein, other than statements of historical fact, are to be considered forward looking. Such forward-looking information and statements are based on current expectations, estimates and projections about global and regional economic conditions. There can be no assurance that such statements will prove accurate and, therefore, readers are advised to rely on their own evaluation of such uncertainties. Further, to the best of GKAM's knowledge the information throughout the presentation is current as of the date of the presentation, but we specifically disclaim any duty to update any forward-looking information. The GreensKeeper Value Fund.





# **Disciplined**

Value Investing is simple, but not easy. At GreensKeeper we put in the work and have the proper temperament to succeed in the stock market.

### **Alignment of Interests**

Our founder is among our largest investors and has over 70% of his family's net worth invested alongside our clients. Does your investment manager have <u>any</u> of his/her own money invested alongside yours?

### Owner Managed

Our clients deal directly with the people actually making the investment decisions. Do you know who is managing your money?

#DemandMore



#### **Testimonials**

Don't just take our word for it. See what our clients are saying:

"My family has known Michael for over 20 years and we have invested in the Value Fund. He has a track record of success and we sleep soundly at night knowing that he is growing our investments safely."

Dr. Erin Ray,

Anesthesiologist Royal Victoria Hospital

"I have known Michael for over 15 years and consider him a valued and trusted adviser. His prudent investment approach for the long term that ignores the short term market volatility is the reason we have invested much of our long term savings with him."

#### Erik de Witte

Entrepreneur, Former President TD Financing Services

"I originally invested with GreensKeeper because I trusted Michael, felt that his strategy was right for me and his fee structure was very appropriate. The results to date have more than validated this decision."

> **Gary Webb** client since 2015

"We began investing with GreensKeeper in A large portion of our three grandchildren's education money is quided by Michael McCloskey and his patient advice. We have a long-term view towards investing and trust in the fund's risk aversion strategy for preservation of capital. I recommend GreensKeeper to my friends and family."

> Timothy A. Brown President & CEO **ROI** Corporation

The foregoing testimonials are from existing GreensKeeper client families and may not be representative of the views of all people or investors. Certain testimonials were provided unsolicited and others were provided by request.