

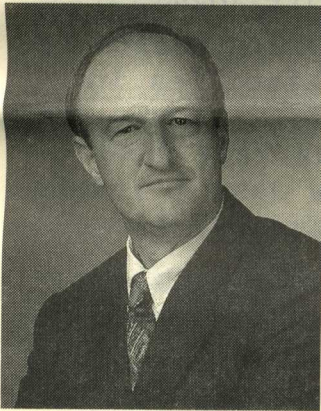


# The Billionaires' Secret

The World's #1 Investment Vehicle Makes Money

Whether the Market Goes Up or Down...

(Yet 98% of Investors Don't Have a Clue)



Dear Fellow Investor,

Over the past few years, an elite group of investors has earned blockbuster returns, turning many of them into millionaires, multi-millionaires and, yes, even billionaires.

Take the Trophy Fund, for example. This fund rose 437% over the past three years, while the S&P 500 has only eked out a small gain.

Other funds, like JB Investments Fund, did even better. Shareholders of this fund enjoyed a 631.5% return over the same period.

Then there's the Prosperity Quest. This fund skyrocketed 1,587% through the most savage bear market since the Great Depression.

Most investors find these results astonishing. Yet not one investor in ten thousand owns -- or even knows about -- these funds. Why?

Because they're not mutual funds. They are highly sophisticated hedge funds. Many are secretive and offshore. And while the rich have been using them for decades to get considerably richer, the vast majority of investors have been left out in the cold.

Until now...

I'm about to show you how you can simply and easily capture the same fabulous returns of world-class hedge funds, without any of the hassle, red tape or high minimums required to own these funds.

That means you can look forward to:

(over, please)

- Big profits in both up and down markets.
- Gains generated independent of what the broad market is doing.
- Sudden volatility helping -- instead of hurting -- your portfolio.
- Double- and triple-digit returns in a matter of weeks... and sometimes days.
- And, best of all, keeping all these big-time profits for yourself, because you won't pay a dime to any money manager, hedge fund, or full-service broker.

In the process, you'll build a legacy of lasting wealth -- safely and securely -- just like the richest families in America.

### When Opportunity Knocks...

My name is Mark Skousen.

As you may know, I've been the editor of the highly regarded investment letter **Forecasts & Strategies** for 25 years. I've also worked as an economist with the CIA, appeared frequently at national investment conferences and on television, received a Ph.D. in economics, and been described as "Washington's #1 Financial Insider."

You may have read one of my more than two dozen books on finance and investing. Or you may have heard about my classes on free-market economics at major universities.

If so, you know I've spent three decades writing, speaking, and advising individual investors on the shortest, most direct route to financial independence.

In the process, I've made my followers millions of dollars in individual stocks, junk bonds, closed-end funds, precious metals, and dozens of special situations.

In short, after more than 30 years in the investment advisory business, I've had more than my fair share of success.

But -- quite frankly -- never in my long career have I seen an opportunity better than the one I'm about to share with you today.

It's the chance for you to take advantage of a smorgasbord of some of the world's fastest-moving -- and most profitable -- trading opportunities.

The same kind the world's top hedge fund managers are exploiting every day.

But let me be frank. **This is not for everyone.**

If you tend to be a conservative, buy-and-hold investor, this service is not for you. But it is for you if you are willing to monitor your positions regularly, and are comfortable with short-term trading.

It's for those of you willing to set aside some money for the **sole objective of beating the market by the widest margin** in the shortest period of time. While the risks may be higher, the rewards can be spectacular.

### **How the Rich Get Richer**

Each year as I travel around the country and around the globe, I meet with hundreds of individual investors. Many of them are probably like you.

They want the financial freedom to enjoy life. They want to take care of the people they love... preferably, with a bit of style. They'd like to leave a legacy of wealth to their children and grandchildren... or to their favorite charity.

These are fine sentiments, I tell them, and worthy goals. But how do you get there? **My answer is you get there by using a proven system for generating great wealth.**

You generally won't find that talking to traditional stockbrokers or reading investment magazines. Such secrets have always been closely guarded. The ultra-rich have been using them for years to build seven- and eight-figure fortunes. And I'm about to **share these secrets with you today.**

I know the immensely profitable world of hedge funds appears exotic and mysterious to some investors... and is often misunderstood. But, as you'll soon see, you don't need to actually invest in an offshore hedge fund to enjoy these fabulous short-term profits. (In fact, as I'll show you, investing in a hedge fund may actually be counter-productive.)

But you do have to think like a hedge fund manager and -- at times -- invest like one.

So let me start at the beginning.

### **How to Gain an Unfair Advantage**

Hedge funds are like mutual funds in some respects.

Investors pool their money to be managed by an investment professional. And their shares can be redeemed on demand.

But that's where the similarities end.

Hedge funds are almost infinitely flexible and -- as you'll see -- can do things mutual fund managers can only dream about. They can buy stocks... or bonds... or commodities... or real estate trusts... or precious metals... or follow any trend.

And here's another big difference. **Hedge funds go after high absolute returns.** Mutual funds, on the other hand, seek high relative returns.

The difference is crucial. And it explains why the average investor often feels like his mutual funds are moving in slow motion.

For example, if the stock market drops 20% one year and your mutual fund falls only 15%, the fund company will often boast of their high "relative returns."

But all they really have is... a lot of nerve. If you invested \$100,000 in such a fund, you've now lost \$15,000. Yet while you're licking your wounds, the fund company is sending the manager a big bonus and a bouquet of roses for "beating the market."

Billionaires and other wealthy hedge fund shareholders will stand for none of this nonsense. Hedge funds describe success only one way: high absolute returns. That means you must have more money than when you started.

Here's just a few examples. The Aggressive Appreciation 100 Fund recently rose 63% in a single month. The Zazove Aggressive Growth Fund rose 148.7% in a 12-month period when the S&P 500 was down. And the Welch Life Sciences Fund rose 311.5% during the recent 3-year bear market.

Hedge funds like these can generate these returns because they're **designed to profit in any type of market:** up, down or sideways.

That's because a hedge fund manager can bet on share prices either rising or falling. If a stock drops 50%, for instance, he can take a 50% profit. (Or a 500% profit, if he's using leverage.)

And, as we all know, stocks go down a lot faster than they go up. So when the profits from shorting stocks come,

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they often come very quickly.

Think about how quickly Enron plummeted. Or Worldcom. Hedge funds made fortunes on stocks like these... while the average investor was left holding the bag.

A hedge trader can also invest in anything: stocks, bonds, currencies, real estate trusts, or precious metals. He can seek out special situations like takeover targets or potential merger candidates.

It's this endless flexibility -- and the profitability that comes with it -- that has always attracted the world's richest, most well-heeled investors. And it's this ability to profit from virtually anything, trending up or down, that allows unique trading opportunities.

### **The World Is Now Your Oyster**

Hedge funds are also free to invest in any market anywhere in the world. That's important. Because while bull markets and bear markets are a fact of life, there's always a bull market happening somewhere.

And often when the market here is moving down or sideways, markets overseas are just taking off. That means you can look forward to capital gains and currency appreciation, as well.

Hedge funds are quick to capitalize on that. They can buy shares wherever the best returns are occurring. Maybe that's in Japan. Or Britain. Or Australia. Or Hong Kong.

And maybe it's right here at home.

It really doesn't matter. Because a hedge fund has no geographical restrictions.

And since more than two-thirds of the world's stock market opportunities exist outside the U.S., there are plenty of great possibilities from which a hedge trader can choose.

### **Another Hedge Fund Advantage**

Hedge fund managers also have an unfair advantage over mutual funds by taking highly concentrated positions. That means they don't have to diversify into dozens or hundreds of investments, just to satisfy some requirement in their prospectus.

If a hedge fund manager sees only 5 great opportunities

at a given time, he needn't invest beyond those 5.

He can keep the rest of your money safe in cash.

But a mutual fund manager who was caught with only 5 positions in his fund would get hauled off to the hoosegow. Most mutual funds are required by law to diversify broadly. And that's why their returns often suffer by comparison.

Don't get me wrong. Diversification can be a good thing. But if a fund has dozens or hundreds of individual stocks, it's very hard to post great numbers. Especially after deducting management fees and other annual expenses.

Overdiversification -- combined with layers of fees -- is why 3 out of 4 mutual funds cannot beat an unmanaged index like the S&P 500.

As Wall Street legend Gerald Loeb once said in his classic book *The Battle for Investment Survival*:

"Diversification is a necessity for the beginner. On the other hand, the really great fortunes were made by concentration."

We all know this to be true. Take Bill Gates, for instance. He never rushed to sell his shares of Microsoft and diversify into other stocks. Rather he became the world's richest man precisely because he didn't.

Hedge fund managers know that taking a few successful positions beats overdiversifying any day of the week.

### **\$1 Billion in Profits in 1 Day!**

Hedge funds have yet another advantage as well. They are able to use "leverage" to magnify their returns. And this can make a tremendous difference when your investments are winners.

Let me give you just one very famous example:

Back in 1992, Britain's currency was a part of the European Exchange Rate Mechanism (ERM), along with the German mark, the French franc, the Italian lira, and others. That means it was only allowed to fluctuate against these currencies within prescribed limits.

However good this idea seemed in theory, it was a disaster in practice. Because different economies in Europe were experiencing different levels of growth, inflation and

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unemployment, their currencies could not move in unison.

Realistically, these national economies were simply too diverse to be lumped together. Top hedge fund manager George Soros realized this. And he positioned his hedge fund, the Quantum Fund, to take maximum advantage of it.

He did this by selling short the British currency, the pound. (In effect, betting the pound would fall.) At first, Britain raised interest rates to fend off his attacks. But eventually, they realized the folly of their policy... and the pound was forced out of the ERM, crashing in value.

The end result? Soros made his hedge fund \$1 billion in a single day! Imagine how his shareholders felt.

When was the last time a U.S. mutual fund manager -- or a stockbroker -- made his clients a billion dollars in one day? The very question is laughable. It's never happened... and there's no reason to think it ever will.

Only the flexibility and sophisticated trading techniques used by top hedge fund managers make these enormous short-term returns possible.

### **The Good, the Bad, and the Amazingly Profitable**

By now, you're probably thinking you'd like to share in the excitement and breathtaking short-term gains I've described. And you can... very simply, easily and cost-effectively.

But you won't be sending money off to a hedge fund to do it. For all their advantages, hedge funds have their drawbacks too.

Let's start with the fact that unless you're already rich, Uncle Sam won't even let you in the door.

You see, hedge funds don't register with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), so the U.S. government prevents you from investing in them unless you can prove you're an "accredited investor." (That means you must have a net worth of more than \$1.5 million, or income in excess of \$200,000 in each of the last two years.)

And even if you meet these requirements, there are still other hoops to jump through...

Like the trouble and expense of opening an offshore account, and dealing with a voice on the phone in



Switzerland, the Cayman Islands, or the Isle of Man.

Most hedge funds also have a six-figure investment minimum. And for some of the good ones, it's \$1 million or more. Even if you're already rich, it can be tough to free up this kind of cash.

Hedge funds don't have daily liquidity, either. Most allow you to withdraw your money only once each quarter... or only once a year. Not good if you need cash in a pinch.

And not all of these funds are reputable. For example, the managers at one Connecticut hedge fund, Bayou Management, recently pleaded guilty to fraud -- after losing more than \$300 million of shareholders' money.

And, finally, there are fees. Lots of them. Most hedge funds charge shareholders 1% to 2% a year in management fees. But there's more.

Most hedge fund managers also take 20% of the net profits. That's right -- 20%!

It's called an "incentive bonus." The idea is that you attract the most talented managers by coughing up 20% of your winnings in addition to the annual management fee.

What if the fund suffers a short-term loss? Rest assured, a hedge fund manager shares in none of that.

It seems unfair, I know, but these are simply the rules of the hedge fund game.

### The Skousen Solution

«Dr. Skousen,

I am a fairly new subscriber and have been allocating \$20,000 per pick with the recommended options.

Currently my total profit is over \$104,000. I'm very impressed with the service and wanted to express my gratitude to you and your excellent research."

Clay Munson  
Federal Way, WA

That's why I'm excited to tell you a much better alternative to hedge funds now exists. And while it may make you a multi-millionaire, you don't have to be one to get started.

It's a fast-paced trading service I launched over two years ago that invests in the same opportunities, and uses many of the same trading techniques, as the world's top hedge funds.

However, there are no minimum investment levels here. Nor do you need to open an offshore account. Your own discount broker is fine.

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There are no net-worth requirements. And there's no illiquidity either. (You can cash in your investments whenever you want.)

Furthermore, you won't pay a management fee to anyone or be required to share even one dime of your profits.

### **Having Your Cake... And Eating It Too**

If enjoying all the benefits of hedge fund ownership without any of the costs, hassles or drawbacks sounds like a pipe dream, I understand. But I head up an elite group of traders who are doing exactly that.

Instead of shouldering the burdens of becoming a hedge fund shareholder, I'm going to share my best and most timely ideas with you, so you can execute these trades in your own brokerage account.

In effect, you'll be creating your own custom-made, private hedge fund!

Imagine... you'll be profiting in both bull and bear markets, using the same proven techniques as the world's top hedgers.

We'll take advantage of short-term profit opportunities anywhere in the world, enjoying both capital gains and currency gains. And I'll show you how to use options -- if you choose -- to leverage your returns even more.

And I'll stick to just a few concentrated positions at a time -- so you get more bang for your buck.

With my investment experience and economic background -- and my proven trading techniques -- I'll help you build short-term profits and long-term wealth.

### **The Proof Is in the Pudding**

Regardless how good an investment system sounds, the proof is in the pudding. And my subscribers have had much to celebrate.

While the market has stalled over the past couple years, we've been locking in double and triple-digit gains with almost monotonous regularity.

And we've been using a whole arsenal of weapons to cap-

"...I belong to both the Hedge Fund Trader and the High-Income Alert and I am extremely pleased with both of them. These two services are the best out there, bar none! I got beat up pretty bad in the stock market in 2000, but thanks to [you], I am recovering everything that I lost and then some. I will be a faithful subscriber forever. Thanks again."

George Andre  
Palm Beach Gardens, FL

ture the market's very best profits. For example, when Apple conquered the digital music world with its iPod music player, we were there -- and locked in a 155% profit in just over five months.

"Dear Dr. Skousen,  
Thank you for helping me profit in the stock market. Your in-depth analysis of the companies' stocks and your profit protective "stop limits" were invaluable... I couldn't have done this without you."

Sincerely,  
J. J. Turk  
Smithtown, NY

Last June, I sent a special alert to my subscribers, telling them "MBNA, in my opinion, is a prime takeover candidate. It needs the wider product platform of a bank or major financial services company to become competitive again." I told them to buy both the stock and the December \$25 calls.

Just three weeks later the stock soared on news of a buyout by Bank of America. And our options really took off. In fact, we locked in a 322% profit in just seventeen days!

This was no fluke. Within a matter of days, we did it again.

I sent a special alert to subscribers telling them to expect a buy-out of Canadian oil and gas producer, PetroKazakhstan. The next month I sold our shares on news of a buyout. Our gain? 42% in just six weeks and 223% on the calls.

We've had plenty of other successes, as well. And many of our returns are nothing short of spectacular. We've locked in gains of 146% in 7 days, 182% in 2 weeks, 213% in 10 weeks, 328% in nine days, 360% in 3 months, 420% in 5 weeks, 422% in 10 weeks, and 510% in 3 months.

Not all of our trades have been winners, of course. But we cut short any losses immediately. (My #1 rule is "never let a small loss turn into an unacceptably large loss.") And we have consistently beaten the market over time -- and by a substantial margin.

How have we done it? By going both long and short. Buying growth and value. Investing here and abroad. In short, by taking smart, calculated risks and ignoring Wall Street's mainstream advice.

Yes, our numbers are huge. This, quite frankly, is how millionaires and billionaires are made.

And now you can join them... by becoming a subscriber to my new fast-moving trading service, the **Skousen Hedge Fund Trader™**.

I'm committed to bringing you my very best trading ideas every week -- by e-mail or fax -- so that you can both reduce the risk in your portfolio and enjoy the same fabulous short-term results as the world's top hedge funds.

No one will know my next trading move before you do -- my recommendations will be sent directly to you via e-mail or fax immediately after making the decision.

More importantly, with every pick you'll have both a conservative way and an aggressive way to take advantage of the opportunity. You can enjoy safe high returns... or spectacular higher-risk returns. The choice is yours.

### In Life... Timing Is Everything

Here's how it works. Whenever I see a fast-moving opportunity that promises big profit potential, I immediately write it up and send a trading alert to you by e-mail or fax (your choice).

Each recommendation will include the facts behind each trade as well as explicit instructions to read to your broker or enter online. (I recommend using a deep-discount broker to maximize your returns.)

There is no exact timetable for these trading alerts. Sometimes ideas will come fast and furious. Other times the opportunities may be more scarce. But you will always receive at least one trading alert per week from me, either detailing a new trading opportunity or updating you on my existing ones.

Let me remind you this service is not for everyone. If you're one of the many conservative investors who prefer to generally buy-and-hold, this is not for you.

But if you like short-term trading -- and the fun, excitement and potential big profits that come with running your own private "hedge fund" -- don't let this opportunity pass you by.

I'm able to offer this exciting trading service to you -- for a limited time -- at the charter rate of just \$995 for a year's subscription. (Quarterly billing is available if you prefer.) Soon subscriptions will be offered only at the regular rate of \$1,250.

"Mark,

I am a 25 year old guy who just wants to update you on how happy I am with your service. I really enjoy the succinct, get-to-the-point updates and recommendations. I don't see any annoying fluffy language... Keep up the good work and thanks."

Sam Bingaman

## A Profitable Beginning

As you've seen, this exciting new service has been very profitable. A good hedge fund manager expects to see his long positions going up and his short positions going down, regardless of what the market is doing. This is exactly what we're seeing in our current portfolio.

### Strictly Limited Membership

Subscriptions to this service are limited to 2,000 members this year, since too many traders could potentially move the market with some special situations. And we are within a few hundred subscribers of reaching our cap.

We accept subscribers on a first-come, first-served basis. (We will, however, maintain an active waiting list.)

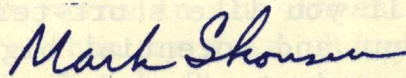
Join us now, while space is still available and you'll be receiving my next trading alert -- and the potential profits that come with it.

Chances are, you've never seen an opportunity like this before... nor are you likely to again.

Reserve your membership in the **Skousen Hedge Fund Trader™** now by calling our toll-free number at 1-888-219-4750 or returning the enclosed order form. And you receive my 100% no-risk guarantee -- try the service for 60 days. If you are not satisfied... we will refund you every penny.

I look forward to welcoming you aboard!

Sincerely,



Mark Skousen

P.S. The enormous profits that were once just the province of the super-rich now can be yours for the taking. With the **Skousen Hedge Fund Trader™**, life-changing results are just a phone call away.

"Dr. Skousen,  
I have spent thousands on advisory newsletters. Never have I had a service that produced any kind of return on my investment until I found your **Skousen Hedge Fund Trader™**. Thank you, Thank you, Thank you. I do not make a move until you tell me to—and it is paying off many times over."

W. Chihak  
Costa Mesa, CA

## Praise for Mark Skousen...

“...Mark Skousen is the only one who seems to consistently spot money-making trends before they start.” — Chuck Bigley, Pennsylvania

“No other financial guru seems to have your ability to separate the chaff from the grain.” — Jim Johnson, Minnesota

“Mark’s specific recommendations are right on target. He has an eye for value and the ability to uncover new investments before they soar.” — Peter A. Costantini, Maryland

## 100% NO-RISK GUARANTEE!

You can try the Skousen Hedge Fund Trader™ completely risk free. If you are not satisfied — for any reason — just let us know within the first 60 days and we will cheerfully refund every penny you paid. And even after the 60-day trial period you’re still covered... should you ever become dissatisfied with the Skousen Hedge Fund Trader™, we will promptly refund the unused portion of your subscription.

# STRICTLY LIMITED MEMBERSHIP

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Reserve your membership in the





**Skousen Hedge Fund Trader™ TODAY!**

**YES**, Please accept my application for membership as a Charter Subscriber to the Skousen Hedge Fund Trader™. I want the opportunity to cash in on the potential lucrative profits of having my own custom-made, private hedge fund!

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- GREAT DEAL!** 1 year for ~~\$1250~~ — \$995 I save almost 20% off the regular price.
- BEST DEAL!** 2 years for ~~\$2500~~ — \$1,695 I save almost 30% off the regular price.
- CONVENIENT QUARTERLY BILLING:** Rather than pay all up front, please charge my credit card \$275 quarterly until I notify you otherwise. I will, of course, enjoy the same risk-free guarantee of satisfaction.

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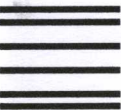
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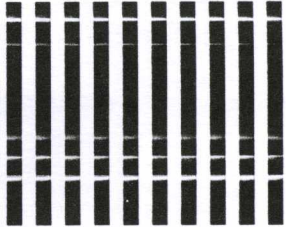
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