



**MADISON COVERED CALL &  
EQUITY STRATEGY FUND (MCN)**

Active Equity Management combined  
with a Covered Call Option Strategy



# Table of Contents

<b>Review of Period</b> .....	1
<b>Portfolio of Investments</b> .....	5
<b>Statement of Assets and Liabilities</b> .....	8
<b>Statement of Operations</b> .....	9
<b>Statements of Changes in Net Assets</b> .....	10
<b>Financial Highlights for a Share of Beneficial Interest Outstanding</b> .....	11
<b>Notes to Financial Statements (unaudited)</b> .....	12
<b>Other Information (unaudited)</b> .....	20
<b>Dividend Reinvestment Plan (unaudited)</b> .....	21

## Review of Period

### What happened in the market during the first half of 2023?

Since March of last year, the Federal Reserve (Fed) has raised its Fed Funds target rate 10 times from 0.25% to 5.25% representing the most aggressive tightening regime since the hyper inflationary early 1980's. While the last three hikes of 25 basis points appear to signal that we may be nearing the end of the rate hike cycle, there is little evidence yet to suggest that a "pivot" to lower rates is in the cards soon. Higher rates have certainly caused inflation to recede but not yet down to acceptable levels. The immediate impact of the aggressive Fed action on the equity market was to depress price/earnings multiples. Virtually all the market decline in 2022 can be attributed to compression of P/E multiples. However, the full economic impact of the rate hikes has yet to show its fangs. There is typically a 15-to-18-month lag from the beginning of Fed rate changes to their impact being felt in the real economy. We are now entering that period and are beginning to witness some of the negative repercussions. Employment has generally remained resilient, but layoff announcements have significantly increased in recent months. The weight of the highest mortgage rates in over 20 years has caused the real estate market to roll over. More recently, evidence of fractures in the banking system have come to light. Rate hikes have contributed to and exposed weaknesses in our economy and things are beginning to break. As we approach the point at which the impact of the severe tightening will bear its teeth, it is wishful thinking to believe that there will be no meaningful negative impact to economic growth and corporate revenue growth going forward. And, the reversal of tightening that had been widely hoped for has yet to transpire as the Federal Reserve has signaled that its interest rate policy will remain higher for longer.

Despite facing the potential of a meaningful economic slowdown or recession, the S&P 500's six month start to the year is its 2nd highest over the past 25 years. Granted, this comes on the heels of a significant downturn in 2022, but typically a sustainable market rebound occurs when the "all clear" has been sounded and an environment for a new bull market is in place. We do not believe that is the case right now. It has also been very evident that the strong returns year-to-date have been driven by relatively few mega-cap growth companies which have dominated performance as they did in the 2021 bull market run. Clearly, a "risk-on" market sentiment has been in vogue. The 2nd quarter of the year was actually plateauing through late May but surged sharply after Nvidia announced higher earnings expectations centered around their new generation of computer chips that targeted the artificial intelligence market . . . hence the "AI" boom began. It should be noted that "AI" is not a new phenomenon but appears to have provided the spark to a market that was looking to be distracted from the "recession" talk that was inconveniently dampening enthusiasm.

Can earning growth explain the strong market performance? S&P 500 earnings expectations have actually declined but only slightly over the past few months. Large growth company expectations have remained slightly positive while large value, mid-cap growth and value and small-cap growth and value companies are experiencing growth expectation declines. The market's overall performance is completely derived from the expansion of price to earnings multiples, not fundamental improvement. In other words, the market, particularly in the growth sectors such as technology and consumer discretionary, is almost as expensive as late 2021 while staring an economic slowdown/recession straight in the face. As the tightening lag becomes reality, earnings expectations will likely be revised much lower making valuations even more expensive unless they re-adjust lower. At some point, something must give.

## How did the Fund perform given the marketplace conditions during the first six months of 2023?

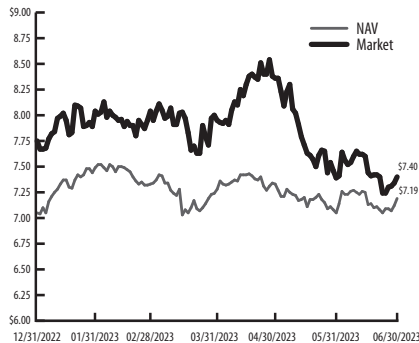
With the S&P 500 increasingly dominated by a handful of mega-cap growth stocks, the Fund was unable to keep up with the overall index during the first half of 2023 after very strong performance in 2022. Over the full six months ending June 30, 2023, the Fund's Net Asset Value (NAV) gained 7.1%, trailing the high-flying S&P 500's 16.9% gain. The Fund also trailed the CBOE S&P BuyWrite Index (BXM) return of 10.5%. The Fund's market price was conservatively flat as its premium to NAV narrowed from 9.9% at the beginning of the year to 2.9% on June 30.

The Fund entered the year defensively postured following a challenging year for the market in 2022. High option coverage and a high cash level combined to create the defensive positioning, which we believe is prudent in a slowing economic environment. While this partially limited upside in the first half of the year, it should help minimize fund drawdowns if the market pulls back or goes lower due to recession concerns.

At last year end, the Fund had 82.3% of its equity exposure covered by call options and remained significantly covered during most of the first half of the year. Despite a strong market rally in the first half, we remained concerned about the potential for renewed downside. At period end, the Fund was 86.7% covered. With respect to cash levels, the Fund began the period with 21% in cash and worked the level lower near the end of the period. At the end of June, the Fund's cash level was a little north of 18%. In such a strong market environment, both option coverage and cash levels were detractive to the Fund's relative performance.

During the period, sector allocation was a headwind while stock selection was additive to relative performance. In terms of sector allocation, an overweight position in Energy was detractive to results. We continue to maintain an overweight position with a favorable view of Energy sector prospects in the second half of the year and beyond. For stock selection, on the positive side, Energy deepwater drilling firm Transocean was the most additive stock in the portfolio. It benefitted from improving demand for its fleet of oil rigs. Within Technology, software company Adobe contributed nicely to results due to an improving earnings outlook. In Consumer Discretionary, retailer Nordstrom was an outperforming stock. Other notable outperforming stocks included airfreight and logistics firm FedEx in Industrials, and payment provider Fiserv in Financials. On the negative side, Energy exploration and production firm Apache was the most detractive stock in the portfolio following a strong year in 2022. Lower oil prices served as a short-term headwind. In Health Care, pharmacy retailer CVS Health trailed the market as it experienced slowing volume growth at its pharmacies. Within Utilities, power generation and utility service provider AES underperformed the index. Other notable underperforming stocks included Ciena in the Technology sector, along with tower owner and operator American Tower in Real Estate.

## SHARE PRICE AND NAV PERFORMANCE FOR MADISON COVERED CALL & EQUITY STRATEGY FUND



## Describe the Fund's portfolio equity and option structure:

As of June 30, 2023, the Fund held 38 equity securities and unexpired call options had been written against 86.6% of the Fund's stock holdings. It is the strategy of the Fund to write "out-of-the-money" call options, as of June 30, 85.4% of the Fund's call options (41 of 48 different options) remained "out-of-the-money." (Out-of-the-money means the stock price is below the strike price at which the shares could be called away by the option holder). On average, the Fund's call options had 43.3 days to expiration.

## Which sectors are prevalent in the Fund?

From a sector perspective, MCN's largest exposure as of June 30, 2023 was to the Health Care sector followed by the Energy, Financial, Consumer Discretionary, Consumer Staples, Technology and Materials sectors. This was followed by smaller exposures in the Utilities, Industrials, Communication Services and Real Estate sectors. The Fund also had a small exposure to an industry specific Exchange Traded Fund.

## Management's Discussion of Fund Performance (unaudited)

ALLOCATION AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL INVESTMENTS AS OF 6/30/23		TOP TEN EQUITY HOLDINGS AS OF 6/30/23	
			% of Total Investments
Communication Services	4.2%	Las Vegas Sands Corp.	4.6%
Consumer Discretionary	8.5%	Transocean Ltd.	4.3%
Consumer Staples	7.2%	Adobe, Inc.	3.8%
Energy	13.6%	Baker Hughes Co.	3.5%
Equity Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs)	2.6%	T-Mobile U.S., Inc.	3.1%
Exchange Traded Funds	2.0%	Medtronic PLC	3.0%
Financials	10.7%	JPMorgan Chase & Co.	3.0%
Health Care	13.7%	CME Group, Inc.	2.8%
Industrials	4.4%	Elevance Health, Inc.	2.6%
Information Technology	5.9%	American Tower Corp., REIT	2.6%
Materials	4.9%		
Short Term Investments	17.7%		
Utilities	4.6%		

## Discuss the Fund's security and option selection process:

The Fund is managed by primarily focusing on active stock selection before adding the call option overlay utilizing individual equity call options rather than index options. We use Fundamental analysis to select solid companies with good growth prospects and attractive valuations. We then seek attractive call options to write on those stocks. It is our belief that this partnership of active management of the equity and option strategies provides investors with an innovative, risk-moderated approach to equity investing. The Fund's portfolio managers seek to invest in a portfolio of common stocks that have favorable "PEG" ratios (Price-Earnings ratio to Growth rate) as well as financial strength and industry leadership. As bottom-up investors, we focus on the Fundamental businesses of our companies. Our stock selection philosophy strays away from the "beat the street" mentality, as we seek companies that have sustainable competitive advantages, predictable cash flows, solid balance sheets and high-quality management teams. By concentrating on long-term prospects and circumventing the "instant gratification" school of thought, we believe we bring elements of consistency, stability and predictability to our shareholders.

Once we have selected attractive and solid names for the Fund, we employ our call writing strategy. This procedure entails selling calls that are primarily out-of-the-money, meaning that the strike price is higher than the common stock price, so that the Fund can participate in some stock appreciation. By receiving option premiums, the Fund receives a high level of investment income and adds an element of downside protection. Call options may be

written over a number of time periods and at differing strike prices in an effort to maximize the protective value to the strategy and spread income evenly throughout the year.

### **What is the management’s outlook for the market and Fund for the remainder of 2023?**

If we are correct in our assessment that the fiscal and monetary tightening that began in early 2022 will bear its teeth in the coming quarters, then our defensive stance is warranted, albeit, a little early. We continue to ask ourselves, “What is the market currently discounting?”. At present, the S&P 500 trades at valuations that are very near 2021 levels. That was a period when the massive post-Covid liquidity injections were having their peak effectiveness. We now are facing a distinctly different liquidity environment, yet the market doesn’t yet seem to care. Investors appear to be worried, but stocks keep going higher. If the market is discounting anything, it must be looking beyond the current wall of worry, toward a time when the Fed potentially re-adopts a near-zero interest rate policy and government spending continues to spike higher. We are concerned that in order to get to that point, a significant amount of pain must be exerted to the economy and markets. So, we wonder when investors will start to care more about historically tightening financial conditions, high interest rates, industrial production data in recessionary territory, weakening employment trends, weakening housing trends, recession, slowing corporate profits, and excessive market valuations. We do not believe the market is discounting any of these issues and we also believe that these issues are too onerous to simply look beyond. Missing a narrow “risk on” market rally is a small price to pay for protecting capital in an increasingly uncertain environment. We remain defensively postured.

## Portfolio of Investments (unaudited)

	Shares	Value (Note 2,3)		Shares	Value (Note 2,3)
<b>COMMON STOCKS - 81.9%</b>			<b>Information Technology - 6.0%</b>		
<b>Communication Services - 4.2%</b>			Adobe, Inc. * (A)	12,100	\$5,916,779
Comcast Corp., Class A (A)	31,500	\$1,308,825	Ciena Corp. * (A)	75,000	3,186,750
Lumen Technologies, Inc.	124,000	280,240			9,103,529
T-Mobile U.S., Inc. * (A)	34,500	4,792,050	<b>Materials - 4.9%</b>		
		6,381,115	Barrick Gold Corp.	233,500	3,953,155
<b>Consumer Discretionary - 8.5%</b>			Newmont Corp. (A)	80,000	3,412,800
Las Vegas Sands Corp. * (A)	123,900	7,186,200			7,365,955
Lowe's Cos., Inc. (A)	11,000	2,482,700	<b>Utilities - 4.7%</b>		
Nordstrom, Inc. (A)	156,000	3,193,320	AES Corp.	195,000	4,042,350
		12,862,220	NextEra Energy, Inc. (A)	42,000	3,116,400
<b>Consumer Staples - 7.4%</b>					7,158,750
Archer-Daniels-Midland Co. (A)	31,000	2,342,360	<b>Total Common Stocks</b>		
Colgate-Palmolive Co. (A)	30,000	2,311,200	( Cost \$144,058,821 )		123,878,517
Constellation Brands, Inc., Class A (A)	9,300	2,289,009	<b>EXCHANGE TRADED FUNDS - 2.1%</b>		
Keurig Dr Pepper, Inc. (A)	74,000	2,313,980	VanEck Gold Miners ETF (A)	104,000	3,131,440
Target Corp. (A)	14,500	1,912,550			
		11,169,099	<b>Total Exchange Traded Funds</b>		3,131,440
<b>Energy - 14.0%</b>			( Cost \$3,417,867 )		
APA Corp. (A)	117,000	3,997,890	<b>SHORT-TERM INVESTMENTS - 18.2%</b>		
Baker Hughes Co. (A)	171,000	5,405,310	State Street Institutional U.S.		
Diamondback Energy, Inc. (A)	20,500	2,692,880	Government Money Market Fund,		
EOG Resources, Inc.	21,000	2,403,240	Premier Class, (B), 5.03%	27,501,790	27,501,790
Transocean Ltd. * (A)	940,000	6,589,400			
		21,088,720	<b>Total Short-Term Investments</b>		27,501,790
<b>Equity Real Estate Investment</b>			( Cost \$27,501,790 )		
<b>Trusts (REITs) - 2.7%</b>			<b>TOTAL PUT OPTIONS PURCHASED -</b>		
American Tower Corp., REIT (A)	21,000	4,072,740	<b>0.6% (Cost \$1,234,700)</b>		839,550
<b>Financials - 10.9%</b>			<b>TOTAL INVESTMENTS - 102.8%</b>		
BlackRock, Inc. (A)	5,700	3,939,498	( Cost \$176,213,178** )		155,351,297
CME Group, Inc. (A)	23,800	4,409,902	<b>TOTAL CALL &amp; PUT OPTIONS</b>		
JPMorgan Chase & Co. (A)	31,700	4,610,448	<b>WRITTEN - (2.4%)</b>		(3,621,799)
PayPal Holdings, Inc. * (A)	53,800	3,590,074	<b>NET OTHER ASSETS AND LIABILITIES</b>		
		16,549,922	<b>-(0.4%)</b>		(554,326)
<b>Health Care - 14.1%</b>			<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS - 100.0%</b>		\$151,175,172
AmerisourceBergen Corp. (A)	13,500	2,597,805			
CVS Health Corp. (A)	48,500	3,352,805	* Non-income producing.		
Danaher Corp. (A)	16,000	3,840,000	** Aggregate cost for Federal tax purposes was \$176,745,799.		
Elevance Health, Inc. (A)	9,200	4,087,468	(A) All or a portion of these securities' positions, with a value of		
Medtronic PLC (A)	53,300	4,695,730	\$115,079,847, represent covers (directly or through conversion		
Pfizer, Inc. (A)	74,000	2,714,320	rights) for outstanding options written.		
		21,288,128	(B) 7-day yield.		
<b>Industrials - 4.5%</b>			ETF Exchange Traded Fund.		
3M Co.	12,500	1,251,125	PLC Public Limited Company.		
Fastenal Co. (A)	28,100	1,657,619	REIT Real Estate Investment Trust.		
Jacobs Solutions, Inc. (A)	13,000	1,545,570			
United Parcel Service, Inc., Class B (A)	13,300	2,384,025			
		6,838,339			

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.



**Purchased Option Contracts Outstanding at June 30, 2023**

Description	Exercise Price	Expiration Date	Number of Contracts	Notional Amount	Market Value	Premiums Paid	Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation)
<b>Put Option Purchased</b>							
S&P 500 Index	\$ 4,300.00	8/18/23	290	\$ 124,700,000	\$ 839,550	\$ 1,234,700	\$ (395,150)
<b>Total Put Options Purchased</b>					<u>\$ 839,550</u>	<u>\$ 1,234,700</u>	<u>\$ (395,150)</u>

**Written Option Contracts Outstanding at June 30, 2023**

Description	Exercise Price	Expiration Date	Number of Contracts	Notional Amount	Market Value	Premiums (Received)	Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation)
<b>Call Options Written</b>							
Adobe, Inc.	\$ 400.00	7/21/23	(121)	\$ (4,840,000)	\$ (1,093,538)	\$ (105,145)	\$ (988,393)
American Tower Corp., REIT	200.00	7/21/23	(40)	(800,000)	(8,000)	(13,159)	5,159
American Tower Corp., REIT	200.00	8/18/23	(170)	(3,400,000)	(82,450)	(57,625)	(24,825)
AmerisourceBergen Corp.	175.00	7/21/23	(90)	(1,575,000)	(162,000)	(30,552)	(131,448)
AmerisourceBergen Corp.	175.00	8/18/23	(45)	(787,500)	(88,425)	(17,504)	(70,921)
APA Corp.	40.00	8/18/23	(613)	(2,452,000)	(23,907)	(27,567)	3,660
Archer-Daniels-Midland Co.	80.00	8/18/23	(310)	(2,480,000)	(26,350)	(43,081)	16,731
Baker Hughes Co.	32.00	7/21/23	(855)	(2,736,000)	(68,400)	(67,528)	(872)
Baker Hughes Co.	32.00	8/18/23	(400)	(1,280,000)	(48,000)	(33,588)	(14,412)
Baker Hughes Co.	34.00	10/20/23	(455)	(1,547,000)	(54,600)	(42,761)	(11,839)
BlackRock, Inc.	720.00	7/21/23	(57)	(4,104,000)	(32,775)	(78,524)	45,749
Ciena Corp.	50.00	7/21/23	(220)	(1,100,000)	—	(26,320)	26,320
Ciena Corp.	55.00	7/21/23	(530)	(2,915,000)	—	(104,804)	104,804
CME Group, Inc.	190.00	8/18/23	(135)	(2,565,000)	(39,825)	(44,224)	4,399
CME Group, Inc.	200.00	9/15/23	(103)	(2,060,000)	(11,072)	(41,122)	30,050
Colgate-Palmolive Co.	77.50	8/18/23	(300)	(2,325,000)	(45,000)	(26,691)	(18,309)
Comcast Corp., Class A	42.50	7/21/23	(315)	(1,338,750)	(7,087)	(25,124)	18,037
Constellation Brands, Inc., Class A	240.00	7/21/23	(60)	(1,440,000)	(47,700)	(29,940)	(17,760)
Constellation Brands, Inc., Class A	250.00	8/18/23	(33)	(825,000)	(14,025)	(19,106)	5,081
CVS Health Corp.	72.50	8/18/23	(245)	(1,776,250)	(25,725)	(34,893)	9,168
CVS Health Corp.	72.50	9/15/23	(240)	(1,740,000)	(36,360)	(36,953)	593
Danaher Corp.	250.00	8/18/23	(120)	(3,000,000)	(56,400)	(87,476)	31,076
Diamondback Energy, Inc.	145.00	7/21/23	(205)	(2,972,500)	(4,612)	(60,376)	55,764
Elevance Health, Inc.	480.00	7/21/23	(42)	(2,016,000)	(5,670)	(44,044)	38,374
Elevance Health, Inc.	460.00	8/18/23	(50)	(2,300,000)	(45,000)	(46,448)	1,448
Fastenal Co.	57.50	7/21/23	(281)	(1,615,750)	(66,035)	(30,654)	(35,381)
Jacobs Solutions, Inc.	120.00	7/21/23	(130)	(1,560,000)	(19,500)	(37,149)	17,649
JPMorgan Chase & Co.	145.00	7/21/23	(317)	(4,596,500)	(84,798)	(81,810)	(2,988)
Keurig Dr Pepper, Inc.	37.00	7/21/23	(225)	(832,500)	—	(16,643)	16,643
Las Vegas Sands Corp.	62.50	7/21/23	(600)	(3,750,000)	(27,300)	(89,754)	62,454
Las Vegas Sands Corp.	65.00	8/18/23	(639)	(4,153,500)	(38,340)	(106,557)	68,217
Lowe's Cos., Inc.	230.00	8/18/23	(110)	(2,530,000)	(49,775)	(46,086)	(3,689)
Medtronic PLC	90.00	8/18/23	(183)	(1,647,000)	(26,993)	(32,070)	5,077
Medtronic PLC	92.50	8/18/23	(205)	(1,896,250)	(13,837)	(50,387)	36,550
Medtronic PLC	90.00	9/15/23	(145)	(1,305,000)	(35,960)	(28,959)	(7,001)
Newmont Corp.	45.00	8/18/23	(800)	(3,600,000)	(82,400)	(96,092)	13,692
NextEra Energy, Inc.	77.50	7/21/23	(120)	(930,000)	(3,600)	(21,477)	17,877
NextEra Energy, Inc.	75.00	8/18/23	(300)	(2,250,000)	(63,000)	(56,691)	(6,309)
Nordstrom, Inc.	25.00	10/20/23	(1,560)	(3,900,000)	(103,740)	(84,334)	(19,406)
PayPal Holdings, Inc.	72.50	8/18/23	(538)	(3,900,500)	(97,647)	(123,185)	25,538

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

**Written Option Contracts Outstanding at June 30, 2023** - continued

<b>Description</b>	<b>Exercise Price</b>	<b>Expiration Date</b>	<b>Number of Contracts</b>	<b>Notional Amount</b>	<b>Market Value</b>	<b>Premiums (Received)</b>	<b>Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation)</b>
Pfizer, Inc.	40.00	7/21/23	(590)	(2,360,000)	(2,360)	(52,781)	50,421
Pfizer, Inc.	37.50	8/18/23	(150)	(562,500)	(10,500)	(9,600)	(900)
T-Mobile U.S., Inc.	140.00	8/18/23	(345)	(4,830,000)	(155,250)	(77,473)	(77,777)
Target Corp.	145.00	8/18/23	(145)	(2,102,500)	(31,030)	(42,788)	11,758
Transocean Ltd.	8.00	8/18/23	(9,400)	(7,520,000)	(225,600)	(225,325)	(275)
United Parcel Service, Inc., Class B	180.00	8/18/23	(133)	(2,394,000)	(89,443)	(67,294)	(22,149)
VanEck Gold Miners ETF	33.00	7/21/23	(840)	(2,772,000)	(6,720)	(69,695)	62,975
<b>Total Call Options Written</b>					<u>\$ (3,260,749)</u>	<u>\$ (2,591,359)</u>	<u>\$ (669,390)</u>
<b>Put Options Written</b>							
S&P 500 Index	\$ 4,100.00	8/18/23	(290)	\$(118,900,000)	\$ (361,050)	\$ (579,531)	\$ 218,481
<b>Total Options Written, at Value</b>					<u>\$ (3,621,799)</u>	<u>\$ (3,170,890)</u>	<u>\$ (450,909)</u>

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

## Statement of Assets and Liabilities as of June 30, 2023 (unaudited)

**Assets:**

Investments in unaffiliated securities, at fair value <sup>†</sup> .....	\$155,351,297
<b>Receivables:</b>	
Investments sold .....	345,893
Dividends and Interest .....	84,037
Total assets .....	<u>155,781,227</u>

**Liabilities:**

<b>Payables:</b>	
Investments purchased .....	853,256
Advisory agreement fees .....	98,975
Administrative services agreement fees .....	32,015
Dividends .....	10
Options written, at value (premium received \$3,170,890) .....	3,621,799
Total liabilities .....	<u>4,606,055</u>

**Net assets** .....

\$151,175,172

**Net assets consist of:**

**Common Stock/Shares:**

Paid-in capital in excess of par .....	\$173,677,965
Accumulated distributable earnings (loss) .....	<u>(22,502,793)</u>

**Net Assets** .....

\$151,175,172

**Capital Shares Issued and Outstanding** (Note 9) .....

21,035,499

**Net Asset Value** per share .....

\$ 7.19

† Cost of Investments in unaffiliated securities .....

\$176,213,178

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

## Statement of Operations for the Six Months Ended June 30, 2023 (unaudited)

<b>Investment Income:</b>	
Interest .....	\$ 779,407
<b>Dividends</b>	
Unaffiliated issuers .....	1,088,538
Less: Foreign taxes withheld/reclaimed .....	(7,005)
Income from securities lending .....	1,004
Total investment income .....	<u>1,861,944</u>
<b>Expenses (Note 4):</b>	
Advisory agreement fees .....	606,183
Administrative services agreement fees .....	197,009
Trustee fees .....	18,348
Other expenses .....	205
Total expenses .....	<u>821,745</u>
<b>Net Investment Income</b> .....	1,040,199
<b>Net Realized and Unrealized Gain (loss) on Investments</b>	
Net realized gain (loss) on investments (including net realized gain (loss) on foreign currency related transactions)	
Options purchased .....	(2,663,465)
Options written .....	7,419,924
Unaffiliated issuers .....	1,065,151
Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on investments (including net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on foreign currency related transactions)	
Options purchased .....	(395,150)
Options written .....	(1,252,173)
Unaffiliated issuers .....	5,232,391
<b>Net Realized and Unrealized Gain on Investments</b> .....	<u>9,406,678</u>
<b>Net Increase in Net Assets from Operations</b> .....	<u>\$10,446,877</u>

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

## Statement of Changes in Net Assets

	(unaudited) Six- Months Ended 6/30/23	Year Ended 12/31/22
<b>Net Assets at beginning of period</b> .....	<u>\$148,156,022</u>	<u>\$156,219,786</u>
<b>Increase (decrease) in net assets from operations:</b>		
Net investment income .....	1,040,199	1,160,216
Net realized gain .....	5,821,610	13,325,566
Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) .....	<u>3,585,068</u>	<u>(7,677,912)</u>
Net increase in net assets from operations .....	10,446,877	6,807,870
<b>Distributions to shareholders from:</b>		
Accumulated earnings (combined net investment income and net realized gains) .....	<u>(7,567,594)</u>	<u>(15,115,784)</u>
<b>Total distributions</b> .....	<u>(7,567,594)</u>	<u>(15,115,784)</u>
<b>Capital Stock transactions:</b>		
Newly issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions .....	139,867	244,150
<b>Increase from capital stock transactions</b> .....	<u>139,867</u>	<u>244,150</u>
<b>Total increase (decrease) in net assets</b> .....	<u>3,019,150</u>	<u>(8,063,764)</u>
<b>Net Assets at end of period</b> .....	<u>\$151,175,172</u>	<u>\$148,156,022</u>
<b>Capital Share transactions:</b>		
Newly issued shares reinvested .....	18,993	34,956
<b>Increase from capital shares transactions</b> .....	<u>18,993</u>	<u>34,956</u>

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

# Financial Highlights for a Share of Beneficial Interest Outstanding

	(unaudited)	Year Ended December 31,				
	Six-Months Ended 6/30/23	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
<b>Net Asset Value</b> at beginning of period .....	\$ 7.05	\$ 7.45	\$ 7.09	\$ 7.35	\$ 6.91	\$ 8.27
<b>Income from Investment Operations:</b>						
Net investment income .....	0.05	0.06	0.01	0.04	0.08	0.10
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments .....	0.45	0.26	1.07	0.42	1.08	(0.74)
Total from investment operations .....	0.50	0.32	1.08	0.46	1.16	(0.64)
<b>Less Distributions From:</b>						
Net investment income .....	(0.36)	(0.65)	(0.60)	(0.50)	(0.47)	(0.51)
Capital gains .....	—	(0.07)	—	—	—	—
Return of Capital .....	—	—	(0.12)	(0.22)	(0.25)	(0.21)
Total distributions .....	(0.36)	(0.72)	(0.72)	(0.72)	(0.72)	(0.72)
Net increase (decrease) in net asset value .....	0.14	(0.40)	0.36	(0.26)	0.44	(1.36)
<b>Net Asset Value</b> at end of period .....	\$ 7.19	\$ 7.05	\$ 7.45	\$ 7.09	\$ 7.35	\$ 6.91
<b>Market Value</b> at end of period .....	\$ 7.40	\$ 7.75	\$ 8.02	\$ 6.75	\$ 6.63	\$ 6.16
<b>Total Return</b>						
Net asset value (%) <sup>1</sup> .....	7.12 <sup>3</sup>	4.90	15.36	7.72	17.39	(8.37)
Market value (%) <sup>2</sup> .....	0.22 <sup>3</sup>	7.12	30.44	15.22	19.83	(11.79)
<b>Ratios/Supplemental Data:</b>						
Net Assets at end of period (in 000's) .....	\$ 151,175	\$ 148,156	\$ 156,220	\$ 148,475	\$ 153,963	\$ 144,686
Ratios of expenses to average net assets (%) .....	1.08 <sup>4</sup>	1.08	1.08	1.07	1.07 <sup>5</sup>	1.17 <sup>5</sup>
Ratio of net investment income to average net assets (%) .....	1.37 <sup>4</sup>	0.77	0.16	0.61	1.15	0.75
Portfolio turnover (%) .....	44 <sup>3</sup>	104	178	128	114	114

<sup>1</sup> Total net asset value return is calculated based on changes in the net asset value per share for the year reported on. Dividends and distributions, if any, are assumed, for purposes of this calculation, to be reinvested at the net asset value amount on the date of the distribution.

<sup>2</sup> Total market value return is calculated assuming a purchase of a share of common stock at the market price on the first day and a sale of a share of common stock at the market price on the last day of each period reported. Dividends and distributions, if any, are assumed, for purposes of this calculation, to be reinvested at prices obtained under the dividend reinvestment plan. Total market value return does not reflect brokerage commissions or sales charges in connection with the purchase or sale of Fund stock.

<sup>3</sup> Not annualized.

<sup>4</sup> Annualized

<sup>5</sup> Includes Board-approved expenses related to special and annual meetings that took place during the year.

# Notes to Financial Statements (unaudited)

## 1. ORGANIZATION

Madison Covered Call & Equity Strategy Fund (the “Fund”) was organized as a Delaware statutory trust on May 6, 2004. The Fund is registered as a diversified, closed-end management investment company under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (“1940 Act”), as amended, and the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

The Fund’s primary investment objective is to provide a high level of current income and current gains, with a secondary objective of long-term capital appreciation. The Fund will pursue its investment objectives by investing primarily in large and mid-capitalization common stocks that are, in the view of Madison Asset Management, LLC, the Fund’s investment adviser (the “Adviser”), selling at a reasonable price in relation to their long-term earnings growth rates. Under normal market conditions, the Fund will seek to generate current earnings from option premiums by writing (selling) covered call options on a substantial portion of its portfolio securities. There can be no assurance that the Fund will achieve its investment objectives. The Fund’s investment objectives are considered fundamental and may not be changed without shareholder approval.

## 2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The Fund is an investment company that applies the accounting and reporting guidance in the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Accounting Standards Codification Topic 946, Financial Services - Investment Companies (ASC 946). The following is a summary of significant accounting policies consistently followed by the Fund in the preparation of its financial statements.

**Use of Estimates:** The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions. Such estimates affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and reported amounts of increases and decreases in net assets from operations during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

**Portfolio Valuation:** Securities traded on a national securities exchange are valued at their closing sale price, except for securities traded on the National Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotation System (“NASDAQ”), which are valued at the NASDAQ official closing price (“NOCP”). If no sale occurs, equities traded on a U.S. exchange or on NASDAQ are valued at the bid price. Options are valued at the mean between the best bid and best ask price across all option exchanges. Debt securities are valued on the basis of the last available bid prices or current market quotations provided by dealers or pricing services approved by the Fund. Mutual funds are valued at their net asset value (“NAV”). Securities for which market quotations are not readily available are valued at their fair value as determined in good faith under procedures approved by the Board of Trustees.

At times, the Fund maintains cash balances at financial institutions in excess of federally insured limits. The Fund monitors this credit risk and has not experienced any losses related to this risk.

**Investment Transactions and Investment Income:** Investment transactions are recorded on a trade date basis. The cost of investments sold is determined on the identified cost basis for financial statement and federal income tax purposes. Dividend income is recorded on the ex-dividend date and interest income is recorded on an accrual basis.

**Covered Call and Put Options:** An option on a security is a contract that gives the holder of the option, in return for a premium, the right to buy from (in the case of a call) or sell to (in the case of a put) the writer of the option the security underlying the option at a specified exercise or “strike” price. The writer of an option on a security has

an obligation upon exercise of the option to deliver the underlying security upon payment of the exercise price (in the case of a call) or pay the exercise price upon delivery of the underlying security (in the case of a put).

The number of call options the Fund can write (sell) is limited by the amount of equity securities the Fund holds in its portfolio. The Fund will not write (sell) "naked" or uncovered call options. The Fund seeks to produce a high level of current income and gains generated from option writing premiums and, to a lesser extent, from dividends.

Options on securities indices are designed to reflect price fluctuations in a group of securities or segment of the securities market rather than price fluctuations in a single security and are similar to options on single securities, except that the exercise of securities index options requires cash settlement payments and does not involve the actual purchase or sale of securities.

When an option is written, a liability is recorded equal to the premium received. This liability for options written is marked-to-market on a daily basis to reflect the current market value of the option written. These liabilities are reflected as options written in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. Premiums received from writing options that expire unexercised are recorded on the expiration date as a realized gain. The difference between the premium received and the amount paid on effecting a closing purchase transaction, including brokerage commissions, is also treated as a realized gain, or if the premium is less than the amount paid for the closing purchase transactions, as a realized loss. If a call option is exercised, the premium is added to the proceeds from the sale of the underlying security in determining whether there has been a realized gain or loss.

**Distributions to Shareholders:** The Fund declares and pays quarterly distributions to shareholders. Distributions to shareholders are recorded on the ex-dividend date. The amount and timing of distributions are determined in accordance with federal income tax regulations, which may differ from Generally Accepted Accounting Principles ("GAAP"). These distributions consist of investment company taxable income, which generally includes qualified dividend income, ordinary income and short-term capital gains, including premiums received on written options. Distributions may also include a return of capital. Any net realized long-term capital gains are distributed annually to shareholders. The character of the distributions are determined annually in accordance with federal income tax regulations.

**Recently Issued Accounting Pronouncements:** In June 2022, the FASB issued Accounting Standards Update ("ASU") No. 2022-03, Fair Value Measurement (Topic 820); Fair Value Measurement of Equity Securities Subject to Contractual Sale Restrictions, which provides clarifying guidance that a contractual restriction on the sale of an equity security is not considered part of the unit of account of the equity security and, therefore, is not considered in measuring fair value. The ASU is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2023, and interim periods within those fiscal years. The Trust expects the ASU will not have a material impact on the Funds' financial statements.

### 3. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

The Fund has adopted FASB applicable guidance on fair value measurements. Fair value is defined as the price that the fund would receive upon selling an investment in a timely transaction to an independent buyer in the principal or most advantageous market of the investment. A three-tier hierarchy is used to maximize the use of observable market data "inputs" and minimize the use of unobservable "inputs" and to establish classification of fair value measurements for disclosure purposes. Inputs refer broadly to the assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability, including assumptions about risk (for example, the risk inherent in a particular valuation technique used to measure fair value including such a pricing model and/or the risk inherent in the inputs to the valuation technique). Inputs may be observable or unobservable.



Observable inputs are inputs that reflect the assumptions market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability developed based on market data obtained from sources independent of the reporting entity.

Unobservable inputs are inputs that reflect the reporting entity's own assumptions about the assumptions market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability developed based on the best information available under the circumstances. The three-tier hierarchy of inputs is summarized in the three broad Levels listed below:

- Level 1 - unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical investments
- Level 2 - other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar investments, interest rate volatilities, prepayment speeds, credit risk, benchmark yields, transactions, bids, offers, new issues, spreads and other relationships observed in the markets among comparable securities, underlying equity of the issuer; and proprietary pricing models such as yield measures calculated using factors such as cash flows, financial or collateral performance and other reference data, etc.)
- Level 3 - significant unobservable inputs (including the Fund's own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments).

The valuation techniques used by the Fund to measure fair value for the period ended June 30, 2023, maximized the use of observable inputs and minimized the use of unobservable inputs.

There were no transfers between classifications levels during the period ended June 30, 2023. As of and during the period ended June 30, 2023, the Fund did not hold securities deemed as a Level 3.

The following is a summary of the inputs used as of June 30, 2023, in valuing the Fund's investments carried at fair value:

Description	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Value at 6/30/22
<b>Assets:<sup>1</sup></b>				
Common Stocks	\$123,878,517	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 123,878,517
Exchange Traded Funds	3,131,440	—	—	3,131,440
Options Purchased	839,550	—	—	839,550
Short-Term Investments	27,501,790	—	—	27,501,790
	<u>\$ 155,351,297</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ 155,351,297</u>
<b>Liabilities:<sup>1</sup></b>				
Options Written	<u>\$ (3,621,799)</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ (3,621,799)</u>

<sup>1</sup> Please see the Portfolio of Investments for a listing of all securities within each category.

#### 4. ADVISORY, ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES AND OTHER EXPENSES

Pursuant to an Investment Advisory Agreement with the Fund, the Adviser, under the supervision of the Fund's Board of Trustees, provides a continuous investment program for the Fund's portfolio; provides investment research and makes and executes recommendations for the purchase and sale of securities; and provides certain facilities and personnel, including officers required for the Fund's administrative management and compensation of all officers and interested trustees of the Fund. For these services, the Fund pays the Adviser an advisory fee, payable monthly, in an amount equal to an annualized rate of 0.80% of the Fund's average daily net assets.

Under a separate Administrative Services Agreement, the Adviser also provides or arranges to have a third party provide the Fund with such services as it may require in the ordinary course of its business. Services to the Fund include: compliance services, custodial services, Fund administration services, Fund accounting services, and such other services necessary to conduct the Fund's business. In addition, the Adviser shall arrange and pay for independent public accounting services for audit and tax purposes, legal services, a fidelity bond, and directors and officers/errors and omissions insurance. In exchange for these services, the Fund pays the Adviser a service fee, payable monthly, equal to an annualized rate of 0.26% of the Fund's average daily net assets. Not included in

this fee and, therefore, the responsibility of the Fund are “excluded expenses” and “transitional expenses.” Excluded expenses consist of (i) any fees and expenses relating to portfolio holdings (e.g., brokerage commissions, interest on loans, etc.); (ii) extraordinary and non-recurring fees and expenses (e.g., costs relating to any borrowing costs, overdrafts or taxes the Fund may owe, etc.); (iii) the costs associated with investment by the Fund in other investment companies (i.e., acquired fund fees and expenses); and (iv) Independent Trustees compensation, including Lead Independent Trustee compensation.

Certain officers and Trustees of the Fund may also be officers, directors and/or employees of the Adviser or its affiliates. The Fund does not compensate its officers or Trustees who are officers, directors and/or employees of the Adviser or its affiliates.

## 5. SECURITIES LENDING

The Board of Trustees has authorized the Fund to engage in securities lending with State Street Bank and Trust Company as securities lending agent pursuant to a Securities Lending Authorization Agreement (the “Agreement”) and subject to the Fund’s securities lending policies and procedures. Under the terms of the Agreement, and subject to the policies and procedures, the Fund may lend portfolio securities to qualified borrowers in order to generate additional income, while managing risk associated with the securities lending program. The Agreement requires that loans are collateralized at all times by cash or U.S. government securities, initially equal to at least 102% of the value of the domestic securities and 105% of non-domestic securities, based upon the prior days market value for securities loaned. The loaned securities and collateral are marked to market daily to maintain collateral at 102% of the total loaned portfolio. Amounts earned as interest on investments of cash collateral, net of rebates and fees, if any, are included in the Statement of Operations. The primary risk associated with securities lending is loss associated with investment of cash and non-cash collateral. A secondary risk is if the borrower defaults on its obligation to return the securities loaned because of insolvency or other reasons. The Fund could experience delays and costs in recovering securities loaned or in gaining access to the collateral. Under the Agreement, the securities lending agent has provided a limited indemnification in the event of a borrower default. The Fund does not have a master netting agreement.

Cash collateral received for securities on loan are reinvested into the State Street Navigator Securities Lending Government Money Market Portfolio. Non-cash collateral is invested in U.S. treasuries or government securities. As of June 30, 2023, the Fund did not have any securities on loan to brokers/dealers.

## 6. DERIVATIVES

The FASB issued guidance intended to enhance financial statement disclosure for derivative instruments and enable investors to understand: a) how and why a fund uses derivative investments, b) how derivative instruments are accounted for, and c) how derivative instruments affect a fund’s financial position, and results of operations.

In addition, in November 2020, the SEC adopted Rule 18f-4 under the 1940 Act to govern the use of derivatives and certain related instruments by registered investment companies. Rule 18f-4, which had a compliance date of August 19, 2022, replaced existing SEC and staff guidance with a new framework for the use of derivatives by registered investment companies. Unless a fund qualifies as a “limited derivatives user,” as defined in Rule 18f-4, Rule 18f-4 requires registered investment companies that trade derivatives and other instruments that create future payment or delivery obligations to adopt a value at-risk leverage limit and implement a derivatives risk management program. Because the Fund’s strategy involves investing in derivatives, and the Fund’s use of such derivatives does not meet the conditions applicable to the “limited user exception” in Rule 18f-4, the Fund has adopted a derivatives program that complies with the requirements of the rule. As part of this, certain officers of the Investment Adviser and the Fund serve as the “derivatives risk manager” for the Fund.

The following table presents the types of derivatives in the fund by location and as presented on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities as of June 30, 2023.

Underlying Risk	Statement of Asset & Liability Presentation of Fair Values of Derivative Instruments			
	Asset Derivatives		Liability Derivatives	
	Statement of Assets and Liabilities Location	Fair Value	Statement of Assets and Liabilities Location	Fair Value
Equity	Options purchased	\$ 839,550	Options written	\$ (3,621,799)

The following table presents the effect of derivative instruments on the Statement of Operations for the period ended June 30, 2023.

Statement of Operations	Underlying Risk	Realized Gain (Loss) on Derivatives	Change in Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation) on Derivatives
Options Purchased	Equity	\$ (2,663,465)	\$ (395,150)
Options Written	Equity	7,419,924	(1,252,173)
		<u>\$ 4,756,459</u>	<u>\$ (1,647,323)</u>

The average volume (based on the open positions at each month-end) of derivative activity during the period ended June 30, 2023.

	Options Purchased Contracts <sup>(1)</sup>	Options Written Contracts <sup>(1)</sup>
Madison Covered Call & Equity Strategy Fund	136	8,584

(1) Number of Contracts

## 7. FEDERAL INCOME TAX INFORMATION

No provision is made for federal income taxes since it is the intention of the Fund to comply with the provisions of Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 as amended, applicable to regulated investment companies and to make the requisite distribution to shareholders of taxable income, which will be sufficient to relieve it from all or substantially all federal income taxes.

At June 30, 2023, the aggregate gross unrealized appreciation (depreciation) and net unrealized depreciation for all securities, as computed on a federal income tax basis for the fund were as follows:

Cost	\$ 176,745,799
Gross appreciation	4,481,942
Gross depreciation	(26,327,353)
Net depreciation	<u>\$ (21,845,411)</u>

Net realized gains or losses may differ for financial reporting and tax purposes primarily as a result of the deferral of losses relating to wash sale transactions and certain market-to-market investments.

## 8. INVESTMENT TRANSACTIONS

During the period ended June 30, 2023, the cost of purchases and proceeds from sales of investments, excluding short-term investments, were \$56,650,817 and \$53,067,165 respectively. No long-term U.S. government securities were purchased or sold during the period.

## 9. CAPITAL

The Fund has an unlimited amount of common shares, \$0.01 par value, authorized and 21,035,499 shares issued and outstanding as of June 30, 2023. During the period ended June 30, 2023, and the year ended December 31,

2022, 18,993 and 34,956 shares were issued and reinvested, respectively, per the Dividend Reinvestment Plan, since the Fund was trading at a premium.

## 10. INDEMNIFICATIONS

In the normal course of business, the Fund enters into contracts that provide general indemnifications. The Fund's maximum exposure under these arrangements is dependent upon claims that may be made against the Fund in the future and therefore cannot be estimated; however, the Fund considers the risk of material loss from such claims as remote.

## 11. DISCUSSION OF RISKS

**Equity Risk:** The value of the securities held by the Fund may decline due to general market and economic conditions, perceptions regarding the industries in which the issuers of securities held by the Fund participate, or factors relating to specific companies in which the Fund invests.

**Option Risk:** There are several risks associated with transactions in options on securities. For example, there are significant differences between the securities and options markets that could result in an imperfect correlation between these markets, causing a given transaction not to achieve its objectives. A decision as to whether, when and how to use options involves the exercise of skill and judgment, and even a well-conceived transaction may be unsuccessful to some degree because of market behavior or unexpected events.

As the writer of a covered call option, the Fund forgoes, during the option's life, the opportunity to profit from increases in the market value of the security covering the call option above the sum of the premium and the strike price of the call, but retains the risk of loss should the price of the underlying security decline. The writer of an option has no control over the time when it may be required to fulfill its obligation as a writer of the option. Once an option writer has received an exercise notice, it cannot effect a closing purchase transaction in order to terminate its obligation under the option and must deliver the underlying security at the exercise price.

When the Fund writes covered put options, it bears the risk of loss if the value of the underlying stock declines below the exercise price. If the option is exercised, the Fund could incur a loss if it is required to purchase the stock underlying the put option at a price greater than the market price of the stock at the time of exercise. While the Fund's potential gain in writing a covered put option is limited to the interest earned on the liquid assets securing the put option plus the premium received from the purchaser of the put option, the Fund risks a loss equal to the entire value of the stock.

**Derivatives Risk:** The risk that loss may result from investments in options, forwards, futures, swaps and other derivatives instruments. These instruments may be illiquid, difficult to price and leveraged so that small changes in the value of the underlying instruments may produce disproportionate losses to the fund. Derivatives are also subject to counterparty risk, which is the risk that the other party to the transaction will not fulfill its contractual obligations.

**Industry Concentration Risk:** To the extent that the Fund makes substantial investments in a single industry, the Fund will be more susceptible to adverse economic or regulatory occurrences affecting those sectors.

**Fund Distribution Risk:** In order to make regular quarterly distributions on its common shares, the Fund may have to sell a portion of its investment portfolio at a time when independent investment judgment may not dictate such action. In addition, the Fund's ability to make distributions more frequently than annually from any net realized capital gains by the Fund is subject to the Fund obtaining exemptive relief from the SEC, which cannot be assured. To the extent the total quarterly distributions for a year exceed the Fund's net investment company

income and net realized capital gain for that year, the excess will generally constitute a return of the Fund's capital to its common shareholders. Such return of capital distributions generally are tax-free up to the amount of a common shareholder's tax basis in the common shares (generally, the amount paid for the common shares). In addition, such excess distributions will decrease the Fund's total assets and may increase the Fund's expense ratio.

**Cybersecurity Risk:** The Fund is also subject to cybersecurity risk, which includes the risks associated with computer systems, networks and devices to carry out routine business operations. These systems, networks and devices employ a variety of protections that are designed to prevent cyberattacks. Despite the various cyber protections utilized by the Fund, the Adviser, and other service providers, their systems, networks, or devices could potentially be breached. The Fund, its shareholders, and the Adviser could be negatively impacted as a result of a cybersecurity breach. The Fund cannot control the cybersecurity plans and systems put in place by service providers or any other third parties whose operations may affect the Fund.

**Foreign Investment Risk:** Investing in non-U.S. issuers may involve unique risks such as currency, political, and economic risks, as well as lower market liquidity, generally greater market volatility and less complete financial information than for U.S. issuers.

**Mid-Cap Company Risk:** Mid-Cap companies often are newer or less established companies than larger companies. Investments in mid-cap companies carry additional risks because earnings of these companies tend to be less predictable; they often have limited product lines, markets, distribution channels or financial resources; and the management of such companies may be dependent upon one or a few key people. The market movements of equity securities of mid-cap companies may be more abrupt or erratic than the market movements of equity securities of larger, more established companies or the stock market in general.

**Financial Leverage Risk:** The Fund is authorized to utilize leverage through the issuance of preferred shares and/or the Fund may borrow or issue debt securities for financial leveraging purposes and for temporary purposes such as settlement of transactions. Although the use of any financial leverage by the Fund may create an opportunity for increased net income, gains and capital appreciation for common shares, it also results in additional risks and can magnify the effect of any losses. If the income and gains earned on securities purchased with financial leverage proceeds are greater than the cost of financial leverage, the Fund's return will be greater than if financial leverage had not been used. Conversely, if the income or gain from the securities purchased with such proceeds does not cover the cost of financial leverage, the return to the Fund will be less than if financial leverage had not been used. Financial leverage also increases the likelihood of greater volatility of the NAV and market price of, and dividends on, the common shares than a comparable portfolio without leverage.

U.S. and international markets have experienced and may continue to experience significant periods of volatility in recent years and months due to a number of economic, political and global macro factors including rising inflation, uncertainty regarding central banks' interest rate increases, the possibility of a national or global recession, trade tensions, political events, the war between Russia and Ukraine and the impact of the coronavirus (COVID-19) global pandemic. As a result of continuing political tensions and armed conflicts, including the war between Ukraine and Russia, the U.S. and the European Union imposed sanctions on certain Russian individuals and companies, including certain financial institutions, and have limited certain exports and imports to and from Russia. These developments, as well as other events, could result in further market volatility and negatively affect financial asset prices, the liquidity of certain securities and the normal operations of securities exchanges and other markets, despite government efforts to address market disruptions.

**Additional Risks:** While investments in securities have been keystones in wealth building and management, at times these investments have produced surprises. Those who enjoyed growth and income of their investments

generally were rewarded for the risks they took by investing in the markets. Although the Adviser seeks to appropriately address and manage the risks identified and disclosed to you in connection with the management of the securities in the Fund, you should understand that the very nature of the securities markets includes the possibility that there may be additional risks of which we are not aware. We certainly seek to identify all applicable risks and then appropriately address them, take appropriate action to reasonably manage them and to make you aware of them so you can determine if they exceed your risk tolerance. Nevertheless, the often volatile nature of the securities markets and the global economy in which we work suggests that the risk of the unknown is something to consider in connection with an investment in securities. Unforeseen events could under certain circumstances produce a material loss of the value of some or all of the securities we manage for you in the Fund.

## **12. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS**

Management has evaluated all subsequent events through the date the financial statements were available for issue. No events have taken place that meet the definition of a subsequent event that requires adjustment to, or disclosure in the financial statements.

## Other Information (unaudited)

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Notice is hereby given in accordance with Section 23(c) of the 1940 Act that from time to time, the Fund may purchase shares of its common stock in the open market at prevailing market prices.

This report is sent to shareholders of the Fund for their information. It is not a prospectus, circular or representation intended for use in the purchase or sale of shares of the Fund or any securities mentioned in this report.

### **AVAILABILITY OF QUARTERLY PORTFOLIO SCHEDULES**

The funds file their complete schedule of portfolio holdings with the SEC for the first and third quarters of each fiscal year on Form NPORT-P. Form NPORT-P is available upon request to shareholders on the ...SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov) and on our website. Form NPORT-P may also be reviewed and copied at the SEC's Public Reference Room in Washington, DC. More information on the operation of the Public Reference Room may be obtained by calling 1-800-SEC-0330.

### **PROXY VOTING POLICIES, PROCEDURES AND RECORDS**

A description of the policies and procedures used by the funds to vote proxies related to portfolio securities is available to shareholders on the funds' website at [www.madisonfunds.com](http://www.madisonfunds.com). The proxy voting records for the funds for the most recent twelve-month period ended June 30 are available to shareholders on the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov).

### **FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENT DISCLOSURE**

One of our most important responsibilities as investment company managers is to communicate with shareholders in an open and direct manner. Some of our comments in the "Management's Discussion of Fund Performance" are based on current management expectations and are considered "forward-looking statements." Actual future results, however, may prove to be different from our expectations. You can identify forward-looking statements by words such as estimate, may, will, expect, believe, plan and other similar terms. We cannot promise future returns. Our opinions are a reflection of our best judgment at the time this report is compiled, and we disclaim any obligation to update or alter forward-looking statements as a result of new information, future events, or otherwise.

## Dividend Reinvestment Plan (unaudited)

Unless the registered owner of common shares elects to receive cash by contacting Computershare Trust Company, Inc. (the “Plan Administrator”), all distributions declared on common shares of the Fund will be automatically reinvested by the Plan Administrator in the Fund’s Dividend Reinvestment Plan (the “Plan”) in additional common shares of the Fund. Participation in the Plan is completely voluntary and may be terminated or resumed at any time without penalty by notice if received and processed by the Plan Administrator prior to the distribution record date; otherwise such termination or resumption will be effective with respect to any subsequently declared dividend or other distribution. Some brokers may automatically elect to receive cash on your behalf and may re-invest that cash in additional common shares of the Fund for you. If you wish for all distributions declared on your common shares of the Fund to be automatically reinvested pursuant to the Plan, please contact your broker.

The Plan Administrator will open an account for each common shareholder under the Plan in the same name in which such common shareholder’s common shares are registered. Whenever the Fund declares a dividend or other distribution (together, a “Distribution”) payable in cash, non-participants in the Plan will receive cash and participants in the Plan will receive the equivalent in common shares. The common shares will be acquired by the Plan Administrator for the participants’ accounts, depending upon the circumstances described below, either (i) through receipt of additional unissued but authorized common shares from the Fund (“Newly Issued Common Shares”) or (ii) by purchase of outstanding common shares on the open market (“Open-Market Purchases”) on the New York Stock Exchange or elsewhere. If, on the payment date for any Distribution, the closing market price plus estimated brokerage commission per common share is equal to or greater than the net asset value per common share, the Plan Administrator will invest the Distribution amount in Newly Issued Common Shares on behalf of the participants. The number of Newly Issued Common Shares to be credited to each participant’s account will be determined by dividing the dollar amount of the Distribution by the net asset value per common share on the payment date; provided that, if the net asset value is less than or equal to 95% of the closing market value on the payment date, the dollar amount of the Distribution will be divided by 95% of the closing market price per common share on the payment date. If, on the payment date for any Distribution, the net asset value per common share is greater than the closing market value plus estimated brokerage commission, the Plan Administrator will invest the Distribution amount in common shares acquired on behalf of the participants in Open-Market Purchases.

If, before the Plan Administrator has completed its Open-Market Purchases, the market price per common share exceeds the net asset value per common share, the average per common share purchase price paid by the Plan Administrator may exceed the net asset value of the common shares, resulting in the acquisition of fewer common shares than if the Distribution had been paid in Newly Issued Common Shares on the Distribution payment date. Because of the foregoing difficulty with respect to Open-Market Purchases, the Plan provides that if the Plan Administrator is unable to invest the full Distribution amount in Open-Market Purchases during the purchase period or if the market discount shifts to a market premium during the purchase period, the Plan Administrator may cease making Open-Market Purchases and may invest the uninvested portion of the Distribution amount in Newly Issued Common Shares at net asset value per common share at the close of business on the Last Purchase Date provided that, if the net asset value is less than or equal to 95% of the then current market price per common share; the dollar amount of the Distribution will be divided by 95% of the market price on the payment date.

The Plan Administrator maintains all shareholders’ accounts in the Plan and furnishes written confirmation of all transactions in the accounts, including information needed by shareholders for tax records. Common shares in the account of each Plan participant will be held by the Plan Administrator on behalf of the Plan participant, and each



shareholder proxy will include those shares purchased or received pursuant to the Plan. The Plan Administrator will forward all proxy solicitation materials to participants and vote proxies for shares held under the Plan in accordance with the instruction of the participants.

There will be no brokerage charges with respect to common shares issued directly by the Fund. However, each participant will pay a pro rata share of brokerage commission incurred in connection with Open-Market Purchases. The automatic reinvestment of Distributions will not relieve participants of any Federal, state or local income tax that may be payable (or required to be withheld) on such Distributions.

The Fund reserves the right to amend or terminate the Plan. There is no direct service charge to participants with regard to purchases in the Plan; however, the Fund reserves the right to amend the Plan to include a service charge payable by the participants

All correspondence or questions concerning the Plan should be directed to the Plan Administrator, Computershare Trust Company, N.A., P.O. Box 505000, Louisville, KY 40233, Phone Number: 1-781-575-4523.

**Board of Trustees**

Richard E. Struthers  
Scott C. Jones  
Steven P. Riege

Holly S. Baggot  
*Secretary and  
Assistant Treasurer*

Steven J. Fredricks  
*Chief Compliance  
Officer & Assistant  
Secretary*

**Officers**

Patrick F. Ryan  
*President*

Paul A. Lefurgey  
*Interested Trustee  
and Vice President*

Terri Wilhelm  
*Assistant  
Secretary*

Greg D. Hoppe  
*Vice President and  
Chief Financial  
Officer*

**Investment Adviser  
and Administrator**

Madison Asset  
Management, LLC  
550 Science Drive  
Madison, WI 53711

**Custodian**

State Street Bank  
Kansas City, Missouri

**Transfer Agent**

Computershare Investor  
Services, LLC  
Canton, Massachusetts

**Independent Registered  
Public Accounting Firm**

Deloitte & Touche LLP  
Chicago, Illinois

**Question concerning your shares of Madison Covered Call & Equity Strategy Fund?**

- If your shares are held in a Brokerage Account, contact your Broker
- If you have physical possession of your shares in certificate form, contact the Fund's Transfer Agent:  
*Computershare Trust Company, N.A., P.O. Box 505000, Louisville, KY 40233*

This report is sent to shareholders of Madison Covered Call & Equity Strategy Fund for their information. It is not a Prospectus, circular or representation intended for use in the purchase or sale of shares of the Fund or of any securities mentioned in this report.

A description of the Fund's proxy voting policies and procedures related to portfolio securities is available without charge, upon request, by calling the Fund at (800) 368-3195 and is available on the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov).

Information regarding how the Fund voted proxies for portfolio securities, if applicable, during the most recent 12-month period ended June 30, is also available, without charge and upon request by calling the Fund at (800) 368-3195 or by accessing the Fund's Form N-PX on the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov).

In September 2022, the Fund submitted a CEO annual certification to the NYSE in which the Fund's principal executive officer certified that he was not aware, as of the date of the certification, of any violation by the Fund of the NYSE's Corporate Governance listing standards. In addition, as required by Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 and related SEC rules, the Fund's principal executive and principal financial officers have made quarterly certifications, including in filings with the SEC on forms N-CSR and N-PORT, relating to, among other things, the Fund's disclosure controls and procedures and internal control over financial reporting.

This page intentionally left blank.



550 Science Drive  
Madison, WI 53711  
800.368.3195