



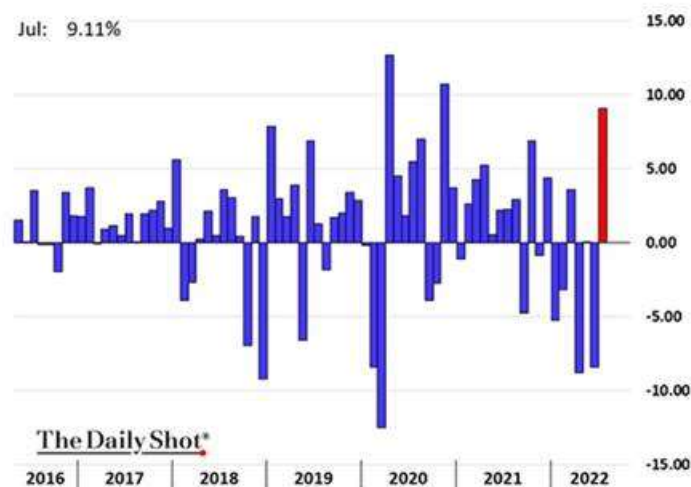
faith . discipline . patience

# skv three things



A few thoughts about the “R” word....it has become a foregone conclusion that we are headed, or maybe even in a recession. *Run for your lives!!!!* But seriously, I have observed and urged in these musings---maybe, maybe not? And if so, so what. If the Fed’s raising of rates and shrinking their balance sheet to curb inflation causes a *temporary* economic slowdown---this seems to be an instance in which the cure is not worse than the disease. Besides, what is the big deal? Recessions occur every 7-8 years or so. We have had 6 since January 1980...that is over 500 months ago...and we’ve been in a recession about 60 of those months. So, we are in expansion months nearly 90% of the time? (Check my math) The S&P 500 was just over 100 in 1980....nearly 4000 today. The S&P 500 dividend was around \$6 then, over \$60 today. I believe to be a successful investor....once has to concede that the economy cannot be consistently forecasted, and the equity market cannot be timed. Therefore, the only way to capture the permanent return of stocks is to ride out the sometimes significant but always temporary market declines. ***If you spend more than 13 minutes analyzing economic and market forecasts, you’ve wasted 10 minute,*** Peter Lynch.

S&P 500 Monthly % Changes



1405 Rolkin Ct., Suite 202  
 Charlottesville, VA 22911  
 tel 434.328.8030 fax 434.234.3789  
 toll free 844.391.3610  
 www.skvgrp.net  
 jorgen.vik@skvgrp.net



I know it didn't feel like it—which is worth remembering—but July was super good. Historically so. The S&P 500 was up over 9% last month. There have only been six months with a 9% or more gain since WWII according to Carson Group, and on average a year later the market went up over 17%. The strong July, bodes well historically for August and September too..” *when July is up over 5%, the S&P 500 was up 77% in August, and 69% of the time in September.*” Bank of America reports *“July 2022 marks the best July ever during a the midterm year of a President Cycle. A positive July bodes well for August and September in the midterm year.”* So....we got all that going for us. Nothing scientific here—but “good juju”. (yes that is a technical term)



Temporarily higher inflation does raise those social security checks nicely! This month marks the 88<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the signing of the Social Security Act in 1935. A study from United Income found ***“only 4 percent of retirees claim Social Security benefits at the financially optimal time”***. They calculate retirees lose an *“average of around \$110,000”* per household by claiming too early. *“If you start benefits early [at age 62], your benefits are reduced a fraction of a percent for each month before your full retirement age,”* the SSA says. Keep in mind, no matter when you decide to take benefits, Social Security is income for the rest of your life—that is the great news. And remember, not only is my partner Jorgen Vik the second handsomest advisor at SKV, but he’s pretty smart on this SS stuff. Put him to work!



*There is talk that the cost-of-living increase for social security benefits might approach 8% or more in 2023. That increase would represent the biggest “COLA” since 1981. According to SSA, the average monthly Social Security check is about \$1,658, which means beneficiaries could see an increase of around \$132 per month in early 2023, bringing the average check to about \$1,800. The annual increase amount is released in October, and recipients are notified in December.*

As always, I’m honored and humbled you have given me the opportunity to serve as your financial advisor. I am lucky to be in the foxhole with the greatest clients in all the land. We hope you view us as your ***friendly, knowledgeable, and reassuring source of financial guidance.***



faith . discipline . patience

FAITH

DISCIPLINE

PATIENCE

The opinions expressed in this report are those of the author(s) and are not necessarily those of Wells Fargo Advisors Financial Network or its affiliates. The material has been prepared or is distributed solely for information purposes and is not a solicitation or an offer to buy any security or instrument or to participate in any trading strategy. S&P 500 Index: The S&P 500 Index consists of 500 stocks chosen for market size, liquidity, and industry group representation. It is a market value weighted index with each stock's weight in the Index proportionate to its market value. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Wells Fargo Advisors Financial Network is not a legal or tax advisor. Be sure to consult your own tax advisor and investment professional before taking any action that may involve tax consequences. Index returns are not fund returns. An index is unmanaged and not available for direct investment. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Asset allocation and diversification are investment methods used to help manage risk. They do not guarantee investment returns or eliminate risk of loss including in a declining market.

**Michael H. Kaminski, CFP®**

*President*

SKV Group, LLC

1405 Rolkin Court, Suite 202  
Charlottesville, Va 22911

FAITH. DISCIPLINE. PATIENCE

Ph 434.328.8040

[www.skvgrp.net](http://www.skvgrp.net)

1405 Rolkin Ct., Suite 202  
Charlottesville, VA 22911  
tel 434.328.8030 fax 434.234.3789  
toll free 844.391.3610  
[www.skvgrp.net](http://www.skvgrp.net)  
[jorgen.vik@skvgrp.net](mailto:jorgen.vik@skvgrp.net)

Investment products and services are offered through Wells Fargo Advisors Financial Network, LLC (WFAFN). SKV Group is a separate entity from WFAFN. 0822-00462