

ELLSWORTH FUND LTD  
Form N-CSR  
December 10, 2014

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM N-CSR

CERTIFIED SHAREHOLDER REPORT OF REGISTERED  
MANAGEMENT INVESTMENT COMPANIES

Investment Company Act file number 811-04656

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ELLSWORTH FUND LTD.

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(Exact name of registrant as specified in charter)

65 Madison Avenue, Morristown, New Jersey 07960-7308

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(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip code)

Thomas H. Dinsmore

ELLSWORTH FUND LTD.

65 Madison Avenue

Morristown, New Jersey 07960-7308

(Name and address of agent for service)

Copy to:

Steven B. King, Esq.

Ballard Spahr LLP

1735 Market Street, 51st Floor

Philadelphia, PA 19103-7599

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (973) 631-1177

Date of fiscal year end: September 30, 2014

Date of reporting period: September 30, 2014

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ITEM 1. REPORTS TO STOCKHOLDERS.

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ELLSWORTH FUND LTD.

2014 Annual Report

September 30, 2014

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*2014 Annual Report*  
*September 30, 2014*

Ellsworth Fund Ltd. operates as a closed-end, diversified management investment company and invests primarily in convertible and equity securities, with the objectives of providing income and the potential for capital appreciation; which objectives the Fund considers to be relatively equal, over the long-term, due to the nature of the securities in which it invests.

## *Highlights*

### Performance through September 30, 2014 with dividends reinvested

	Calendar YTD	1 Year	Annualized			10 Year Volatility
			3 Years	5 Years	10 Years	
Ellsworth net asset value	6.63	10.92	15.00	11.47	6.88	12.24
Convertibles Index	7.70	14.18	17.26	12.65	7.62	12.52
Convertibles Index	3.15	6.58	13.56	10.58	NA	NA

Bank of America Merrill Lynch All U.S. Convertibles Index and S&P 500® Index performance in the table above are from the Bloomberg L.P. pricing service. Barclays Balanced U.S. Convertibles Index performance is from Barclays Capital.

Ellsworth's net asset value performance in the table above has not been adjusted for expenses. Ten-year performance has not been adjusted for the fiscal 2004 rights offering; net asset value dilution was 2.21%. Performance data represents past results and does not reflect future performance.

Volatility is a measure of risk based on the standard deviation of the return. The greater the volatility, the greater the chance of a profit or risk of a loss.

### Quarterly History of NAV and Market Price (NYSE MKT symbol: ECF)

Qtr. Ended	Net Asset Value			Market Price		
	High	Low	Close	High	Low	Close
3/31/14	10.40	9.74	10.16	8.62	8.08	8.60
9/30/14	10.64	10.28	10.29	8.96	8.61	8.65

### Dividend Distributions (12 Months)

Record Date	Payment Date	Income	Capital Gains	Total	Corporate Deduction #

Record Date	Payment Date	Income	Capital Gains	Total	Corporate Deduction #
2/13/14	2/27/14	0.06		0.06	45
8/14/14	8/28/14	0.06		0.06	45

# Percentage of each ordinary income distribution qualifying for the corporate dividend received tax deduction.

ELLSWORTH FUND LTD. 2014 ANNUAL REPORT TO SHAREHOLDERS

## To Our Shareholders

November 17, 2014

We are delighted to share with you some very positive news about Ellsworth Fund Ltd. Year to date through September 30, 2014, the common stock portion of our portfolio had a total return that outperformed the portfolio as a whole. Furthermore, the volatility of our common stock holdings was actually lower than that of the portfolio as a whole as measured by standard deviation. So we were able to reduce Fund volatility while improving performance as a result of our increase in the share of common stock holdings in the portfolio. Our investment approach allowed us to beat all of our closed-end convertible fund peers as well as the Lipper Open-End Convertible Fund average over the nine months ended September 30, 2014.

Performance for Ellsworth's fourth fiscal quarter ended September 30, 2014 was enhanced by exposure to the Health Care and Information Technology sectors. Performance was held back, however, by the Fund's exposure to the Energy and Industrial sectors. The Fund's largest sector exposures as of September 30, 2014 were in Information Technology (23.5%), Financials (18.8%), and Health Care (18.4%).

The Fund places equal importance on income and capital gains and seeks returns with a lower volatility than that of the market as a whole. Traditionally, we have found balanced convertible securities to be the instruments of choice to satisfy these requirements. Nonetheless, during the past year or more, we have continued expanding our allocation of investments to dividend paying common stocks. We believe there are many undervalued stocks with a history of dividend growth that will have a positive impact on the Fund's yield without sacrificing capital gains potential or significantly increasing volatility. Our expectation is that this continuing strategy will give us a greater opportunity to achieve our investment objectives than would a lower allocation to dividend paying common stocks. We believe this conclusion to be true regardless of whether volatility increases or the equity market continues on an upward trajectory. We believe the performance for the nine months ended September 30, 2014 corroborates our investment thesis. It also affords us the opportunity to construct a portfolio with risk and return characteristics that are similar to those of traditional convertible securities, even if those characteristics become less common in the convertible market.

The portfolio of Ellsworth Fund Ltd. at September 30, 2014 consisted of 52.1% cash-pay convertible bonds and notes, 9.7% mandatory convertible issues, 9.5% convertible preferred stock, and 27.5% common stock. At that date, the bonds had an average current annual yield of 2.20%; the mandatory convertible securities, 5.53%; the preferred shares, 6.05%; and the common shares, 3.71%. The Fund's convertible securities holdings at September 30, 2014 had a median premium-to-conversion value of 22.3%. We calculate that equities and equity-sensitive convertible issues at that date made up 52% of the Fund's portfolio, with credit-sensitive issues accounting for 11% of the Fund's portfolio, and total-return convertible issues at 37%.

Moving from Fund specific information to the markets more generally, the September quarter saw an increase in volatility in the U.S. markets for a plethora of reasons ranging from geopolitical and health concerns to the end of the quantitative easing program by the Federal Reserve Board. In this type of environment we believe that proper securities selection can be the key to good performance, as certain companies are much less likely to be adversely affected by various externalities than others. We believe the Fund's investment approach as described above positions us to do so effectively.

*continued on the following page*

ELLSWORTH FUND LTD. 2014 ANNUAL REPORT TO SHAREHOLDERS

## To Our Shareholders (continued)

At its October meeting, the Board of Trustees of the Fund declared a distribution of \$0.35 per share. The distribution consists of \$0.038 undistributed net investment income, and net realized gains on investments of \$0.312. The distribution is payable on November 26, 2014 to shareholders of record on October 31, 2014. This is the largest single distribution by the Fund since calendar year 2007; furthermore, this year's total annual distribution is also the largest since 2007. The Board has adopted a 5% minimum dividend distribution policy and also authorized a share repurchase program of up to 3% of the outstanding shares as a way to address what the Trustees believe to be an undervaluation of the Fund's shares.

The 2015 annual meeting of shareholders will be held on February 9, 2015. Information about the location of the meeting will be included in the proxy statement, scheduled to be mailed to shareholders on December 29, 2014. All shareholders are welcome to attend and we hope to see you there.

Portfolio Managers:

Thomas H. Dinsmore  
Jane D. O'Keeffe  
James A. Dinsmore

Page 2

ELLSWORTH FUND LTD. 2014 ANNUAL REPORT TO SHAREHOLDERS

## Largest Investment Holdings by underlying common stock

	Value (Note 1)	% Total Net Assets
Gilead Sciences is a research-based biopharmaceutical company that discovers, develops and commercializes medicines. Gilead's primary areas of focus include human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)/AIDS, liver diseases, and cardiovascular/metabolic and respiratory conditions.		
AT&T Inc. is a holding company, and provides telecommunications services in the United States and worldwide. These services include wireless communications, local exchange services, long-distance services, data/broadband and Internet services, video services, managed networking, wholesale services and directory advertising and publishing.		
United Technologies provides high technology products and services to the building systems and aerospace industries worldwide.		
Micron is a global manufacturer and marketer of semiconductor devices, principally NAND Flash, DRAM and NOR Flash memory, as well as other memory technologies, packaging		

**Value  
(Note 1)**

**% Total  
Net Assets**

solutions and semiconductor systems for use in computing, consumer, networking, automotive, industrial, embedded and mobile products.

NextEra is an electric power company. The company has over 42,000 megawatts of generating capacity in 26 states in the United States and four provinces in Canada. It also purchases electric power for resale to its customers and provides risk management services related to power and gas consumption for a limited number of customers.

ConocoPhillips explores for, produces, transports and markets crude oil, natural gas, natural gas liquids, liquefied natural gas and bitumen on a worldwide basis.

EMC and its subsidiaries develop, deliver and support the information technology (IT) industry's range of information infrastructure technologies and solutions.

Priceline is an online travel company that offers its customers hotel room reservations at over 295,000 hotels worldwide through the Booking.com, priceline.com and Agoda brands. In the United States, it also offers its customers reservations for car rentals, airline tickets, vacation packages, destination services and cruises through the priceline.com brand.

Equinix provides core Internet exchange services to networks, Internet infrastructure companies, enterprises and content providers.

Page 3

ELLSWORTH FUND LTD. 2014 ANNUAL REPORT TO SHAREHOLDERS

## Major Industry Exposure

	<b>% Total Net Assets</b>
Biotechnology	8.8
Semiconductors & Semiconductor Equipment	7.3
Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels	5.5
Diversified Telecommunications Services	3.7
Wireless Telecommunication Services	2.9

## Major Portfolio Changes by underlying common stock

Six months ended September 30, 2014

### ADDITIONS

American Tower Corp.

AmSurg Corp.

B&G Foods, Inc.

BlackRock Kelso Capital Corp.

Cepheid

Illumina, Inc.

Mentor Graphics Corp.

Roche Holdings Ltd.

SBA Communications Corp.

SolarCity Corp.

Spirit Realty Capital, Inc.

Strataysys Ltd.

SunEdison, Inc.

Tyson Foods, Inc.

Verint Systems Inc.

Vodafone Group Plc (ADR)

### REDUCTIONS

Bristol Myers Squibb Co.

Bristow Group Inc.

DFC Global Corp.

Gilead Sciences, Inc.

Goodrich Petroleum Corp.

Iconix Brand Group, Inc.

Intel Corp.

Ixia

Kaiser Aluminum Corp.

Layne Christensen Co.

Lexington Realty Trust

Merck & Co., Inc.

MetLife, Inc.

Nuance Communications, Inc.

Take-Two Interactive Software, Inc.

The Priceline Group Inc.

*Page 4*

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	Principal Amount	Identified Cost	Value (Note 1)
<b>Airlines 1.2%</b>			
<b>Automobiles 0.1%</b>			
<b>Biotechnology 8.0%</b>			
Cepheid, 1.25%, Due 2/1/21, (A) (1)	800,000	795,355	790,500
Emergent BioSolutions Inc., 2.875%, Due 1/15/21, (BBB)	800,000	810,253	806,000
Gilead Sciences, Inc., 1.625%, Due 5/1/16, (A)	900,000	934,524	4,204,130
Merrimack Pharmaceuticals, Inc., 4.50%, Due 7/15/20, (BB)	250,000	258,474	389,844
Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc., 1.875%, Due 10/1/16, (A)	250,000	247,877	1,069,219
<b>Capital Markets 0.8%</b>			
<b>Consumer Finance 1.3%</b>			
Portfolio Recovery Associates, Inc., 3.00%, Due 8/1/20, (A)	500,000	500,000	544,062
<b>Diversified Consumer Services 0.8%</b>			
<b>Diversified Telecommunications Services 0.6%</b>			
<b>Electrical Equipment 0.6%</b>			
SolarCity Corp., 1.625%, Due 11/1/19, (BBB) (1)	500,000	500,000	484,062
<b>Electronic Equipment Instruments 0.8%</b>			
<b>Energy Equipment &amp; Services 0.4%</b>			
<b>Food Products 0.5%</b>			



*See accompanying notes to financial statements*

ELLSWORTH FUND LTD. 2014 ANNUAL REPORT TO SHAREHOLDERS

## Portfolio of Investments September 30, 2014 (continued)

	Principal Amount	Identified Cost	Value (Note 1)
<b>Health Care Equipment &amp; Supplies 0.2%</b>			
<b>Health Care Providers &amp; Services 1.1%</b>			
<b>Hotels, Restaurants &amp; Leisure 0.5%</b>			
<b>Household Durables 1.1%</b>			
Jarden Corp., 1.125%, Due 3/15/34, (BB) (1)	750,000	760,214	751,406
<b>Insurance 0.6%</b>			
<b>Internet &amp; Catalog Retail 1.5%</b>			
<b>Internet Software &amp; Services 2.7%</b>			
Twitter, Inc., 1.00%, Due 9/15/21, (NR) (1)	500,000	498,011	491,562
		3,514,421	3,687,968
CSG Systems International, Inc., 3.00%, Due 3/1/17, (A)	900,000	914,682	1,131,188
Illumina, Inc., 0.25%, Due 3/15/16, (BBB)	500,000	542,170	994,378
		1,056,584	1,530,003

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	Principal Amount	Identified Cost	Value (Note 1)
Chart Industries, Inc., 2.00%, Due 8/1/18, (BB)	750,000	813,151	872,344
Liberty Media Corp., 1.375%, Due 10/15/23, (A)	750,000	757,960	737,812
A.M. Castle & Co., 7.00%, Due 12/15/17, (BB)	400,000	478,529	429,240
RTI International Metals, Inc., 3.00%, Due 12/1/15, (BBB)	600,000	607,101	618,000
		2,091,268	2,326,315

*See accompanying notes to financial statements*

Page 6

ELLSWORTH FUND LTD. 2014 ANNUAL REPORT TO SHAREHOLDERS

## Portfolio of Investments September 30, 2014 (continued)

	Principal Amount	Identified Cost	Value (Note 1)
<b>Oil, Gas &amp; Consumable Fuels 1.1%</b>			
Goodrich Petroleum Corp., 5.00%, Due 10/1/32, (CCC)	517,000	525,641	548,343
		1,530,233	1,526,468
Depomed, Inc., 2.50%, Due 9/1/21, (BBB)	300,000	314,826	317,438
Salix Pharmaceuticals, Ltd., 2.75%, Due 5/15/15, (B)	300,000	305,263	1,008,188
		1,580,022	3,763,376
American Realty Capital Properties, Inc., 3.00%, Due 8/1/18, (A)	1,000,000	996,089	995,000
Lexington Realty Trust, 6.00%, Due 1/15/30, (A)	300,000	300,000	433,500

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	Principal Amount	Identified Cost	Value (Note 1)
Spirit Realty Capital, Inc., 3.75%, Due 5/15/21, (AA)	500,000	500,000	486,252
<b>Real Estate Management 0.8%</b>			
<b>Semiconductors &amp; Semiconductor Equipment 6.5%</b>			
JinkoSolar Holding Co., Ltd., 4.00%, Due 2/1/19, (BB)	500,000	504,642	478,750
Photronics, Inc., 3.25%, Due 4/1/16, (A)	1,000,000	990,292	1,058,750
Spansion LLC, 2.00%, Due 9/1/20, (A)	500,000	500,000	875,312
SunEdison, Inc., 0.25%, Due 1/15/20, (BB) (1)	375,000	371,536	368,438
Xilinx, Inc., 2.625%, Due 6/15/17, (A)	500,000	588,015	742,812
<b>Software 8.1%</b>			
EnerNOC, Inc., 2.25%, Due 8/15/19, (A) (1)	500,000	501,231	470,000
MercadoLibre, Inc., 2.25%, Due 7/1/19, (A) (1)	500,000	506,885	544,062
Nuance Communications, Inc., 2.75%, Due 11/1/31, (BB)	1,500,000	1,492,722	1,486,875
Synchronoss Technologies, Inc., 0.75%, Due 8/15/19, (A)	750,000	780,839	829,219
TeleCommunication Systems, Inc., 7.75%, Due 6/30/18, (BBB)	1,000,000	983,350	990,000
Verint Systems Inc., 1.50%, Due 6/1/21, (B)	1,250,000	1,268,946	1,361,719

*See accompanying notes to financial statements*

*Page 7*

ELLSWORTH FUND LTD. 2014 ANNUAL REPORT TO SHAREHOLDERS

## Portfolio of Investments September 30, 2014 (continued)

	Principal Amount	Identified Cost	Value (Note 1)
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	Principal Amount	Identified Cost	Value (Note 1)
<b>Technology, Hardware &amp; Storage 0.4%</b>			
<b>Textiles, Apparel &amp; Luxury Goods 1.4%</b>			
Iconix Brand Group, Inc., 1.50%, Due 3/15/18, (A)	750,000	750,000	958,125
<b>Trading Companies &amp; Distributors 0.7%</b>			
<b>Total Convertible Bonds and Notes</b>		59,021,050	70,476,893
<b>Shares</b>			
Huntington Bancshares, Inc., 8.50%, (BB)	1,250	1,552,500	1,667,500
		2,304,712	2,870,010
Bank of America Corp., 7.25%, (BB)	1,600	1,390,555	1,834,400
Bunge Ltd., 4.875%, (BB)	7,500	669,375	815,625
Post Holdings, Inc., 2.50%, (B)	5,000	500,000	356,250
<b>Machinery 0.8%</b>			
<b>Oil, Gas &amp; Consumable Fuels 1.6%</b>			
Halcon Resources Corp., 5.75%, (CCC)	500	540,000	410,000
<b>Real Estate Investment Trusts 0.8%</b>			
<b>Specialty Retail 0.6%</b>			
Amerivon Holdings LLC, common equity units, (NR) (1,3,4)	272,728	0	16,364

	Principal Amount	Identified Cost	Value (Note 1)
<b>Thrift &amp; Mortgage Finance 0.9%</b>			
<b>Total Convertible Preferred Stock</b>		12,342,325	12,900,178

*See accompanying notes to financial statements*

Page 8

ELLSWORTH FUND LTD. 2014 ANNUAL REPORT TO SHAREHOLDERS

## Portfolio of Investments September 30, 2014 (continued)

	Shares	Identified Cost	Value (Note 1)
<b>Aerospace &amp; Defense 1.8%</b>			
<b>Biotechnology 0.8%</b>			
<b>Electric Utilities 1.7%</b>			
NextEra Energy, Inc., 5.889%, Due 9/1/15, (BBB)	10,000	503,300	599,100
<b>Food Products 0.5%</b>			
Tyson Foods, Inc., 4.75%, Due 7/15/17, (A)	10,000	496,248	503,600
<b>Insurance 0.7%</b>			
<b>Multi-Utilities 1.0%</b>			
Dominion Resources, Inc., 6.00%, Due 7/1/16, (BBB)	12,500	624,692	703,125
<b>Real Estate Investment Trusts 2.3%</b>			
Crown Castle International Corp., 4.50%, Due 11/1/16, (B)	12,500	1,251,875	1,314,750

	Shares	Identified Cost	Value (Note 1)
		2,917,600	3,076,375
Genesee & Wyoming, Inc., 5.00%, Due 10/1/15, (NR)	10,000	1,048,515	1,237,000
<b>Common Stock 27.5%</b>			
Ford Motor Co.	100,000	1,498,550	1,479,000
BlackRock Kelso Capital Corp.	131,034	1,245,744	1,119,030
Wells Fargo & Co.	22,200	1,104,926	1,151,514

*See accompanying notes to financial statements*

*Page 9*

ELLSWORTH FUND LTD. 2014 ANNUAL REPORT TO SHAREHOLDERS

## Portfolio of Investments September 30, 2014 (continued)

	Shares	Identified Cost	Value (Note 1)
<b>Diversified Financial Services 0.8%</b>			
<b>Diversified Telecommunications Services 3.1%</b>			
Verizon Communications Inc.	35,260	1,184,050	1,762,647
<b>Food Products 1.6%</b>			
ConAgra Foods, Inc.	45,000	1,458,225	1,486,800

	Shares	Identified Cost	Value (Note 1)
<b>Household Products 1.0%</b>			
<b>Industrial Conglomerates 0.9%</b>			
<b>Insurance 0.6%</b>			
<b>Media 1.0%</b>			
<b>Oil, Gas &amp; Consumable Fuels 2.8%</b>			
Halcon Resources Corp.	2,774	14,617	10,985
		3,244,474	3,785,644
AbbVie Inc.	25,000	963,829	1,444,000
Merck & Co., Inc.	22,651	839,335	1,342,751
Roche Holdings Ltd.	22,500	839,318	832,275
<b>Real Estate Investment Trusts 1.5%</b>			
Invesco Mortgage Capital Inc.	58,700	1,005,202	922,764
<b>Semiconductors &amp; Semiconductor Equipment 0.8%</b>			

*See accompanying notes to financial statements*

*Page 10*

ELLSWORTH FUND LTD. 2014 ANNUAL REPORT TO SHAREHOLDERS

## Portfolio of Investments September 30, 2014 (continued)

	Shares	Identified Cost	Value (Note 1)
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	Shares	Identified Cost	Value (Note 1)
<b>Software 1.0%</b>			
<b>Technology, Hardware &amp; Storage 2.4%</b>			
Stratasys Ltd. (6)	10,000	1,111,528	1,207,800
<b>Wireless Telecommunication Services 2.9%</b>			
Vodafone Group Plc (ADR)	50,909	1,906,142	1,674,397
<b>Total Common Stock</b>		31,657,190	37,129,433
<b>Total Convertible Preferred Stock 9.5%</b>		12,342,325	12,900,178
<b>Total Common Stock 27.5%</b>		31,657,190	37,129,433
<b>Other Assets and Liabilities, Net 1.2%</b>			1,631,324

- (1) Security not registered under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act") (e.g., the security was purchased in a Rule 144A or a Regulation D transaction). The security may be resold only pursuant to an exemption from registration under the Securities Act, typically to qualified institutional buyers. The Fund generally has no rights to demand registration of such securities. The aggregate market value of these unregistered securities at September 30, 2014 was \$7,689,219, which represented 5.7% of the Fund's net assets.
- (2) On October 6, 2014, the company filed for bankruptcy and went into default.
- (3) Investment is valued at fair value as determined in good faith pursuant to procedures adopted by the Board of Trustees. It is possible that the estimated value may differ significantly from the amount that might ultimately be realized in the near term, and the difference could be material. The fair value of these securities amounted to \$779,969 at September 30, 2014, which represented 0.6% of the Fund's net assets.
- (4) Restricted securities include securities that have not been registered under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and securities that are subject to restrictions on resale. The Fund may invest in restricted securities that are consistent with the Fund's investment objective and investment strategies. In some cases, the issuer of restricted securities has agreed to register such securities for resale, at the issuer's expense either upon demand by the Fund or in connection with another registered offering of the securities. Investments in restricted securities are valued at fair value as determined in good faith in accordance with procedures adopted by the Board of Trustees. It is possible that the estimated value may differ significantly from the amount that might ultimately be realized in the near term, and the difference could be material. As of September 30, 2014, the Fund was invested in the following restricted securities:

Security	Acquisition Date	Shares	Cost	Price per Share	Value	% Net Assets



Security	Acquisition Date	Shares	Cost	Price per Share	Value	% Net Assets
Amerivon Holdings LLC common equity units	April 1, 2010	272,728	0	0.060	16,364	0.0%

(5) Mandatory Convertible Securities are required to be converted on the dates listed; they generally may be converted prior to these dates at the option of the holder. See Note 1(i) of the Notes to Financial Statements.

(6) Non-income producing.

ADR = American Depositary Receipt.

continued

*See accompanying notes to financial statements*

## Portfolio of Investments September 30, 2014 (continued)

Portfolio Ratings (unaudited):	Summary of Portfolio Ratings *	% of Portfolio
Where a security is rated by Standard & Poor's (S&P), such rating appears in parentheses next to such security (but without any applicable + or - that might apply).	AAA	0
Where a security is rated by S&P and at least one other rating agency and the Fund believes the ratings to be functionally equivalent to one another, the S&P rating appears in parentheses next to such security (but without any applicable + or - that might apply).	AA A BBB	3 28 30
Where a security is rated by S&P and at least one other rating agency and the Fund believes the ratings not to be functionally equivalent to one another, the Fund puts in parentheses next to such security the S&P rating which it believes approximates the average of all such ratings (but without any applicable + or - that might apply).	BB B CCC & below	21 12 2
Where a security is not rated by S&P, but is rated by at least one other rating agency, the Fund puts in parentheses next to such security the S&P rating which it believes approximates the average of all such ratings (but without any applicable + or - that might apply). NR is used whenever a rating is unavailable.	Not Rated	4

\* Excludes equity securities and cash.

*See accompanying notes to financial statements*

ELLSWORTH FUND LTD. 2014 ANNUAL REPORT TO SHAREHOLDERS

## Statement of Assets and Liabilities

	September 30, 2014
Investments at value (cost \$115,450,475) (Note 1)	\$ 133,635,791
Receivable for securities sold	1,237,500
Prepaid insurance	18,071
<b>Liabilities:</b>	
Accrued management fee (Note 2)	9,844
Total liabilities	332,932
<b>Net Assets consist of:</b>	
Additional paid-in capital	115,031,953
Accumulated net realized gain from investment transactions	4,971,390
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ 135,267,115</b>

## Statement of Operations

*For the Year Ended September 30, 2014*

*See accompanying notes to financial statements*

*Page 13*

ELLSWORTH FUND LTD. 2014 ANNUAL REPORT TO SHAREHOLDERS

## Statements of Changes in Net Assets

*For the Years Ended October 31, 2014 and 2013*

	2014	2013
Net investment income	\$ 1,851,887	\$ 2,340,873
Net change in unrealized appreciation of investments	(3,015,876)	12,871,535
<b>Distributions to shareholders from:</b>		
Net realized gain on investments		
<b>Capital share transactions (Note 3):</b>		
Cost of shares purchased	(3,343,583)	
<b>Change in net assets</b>	<b>6,452,847</b>	<b>14,660,375</b>
<b>Net assets at end of year</b>	<b>\$ 135,267,115</b>	<b>\$ 128,814,268</b>

## Financial Highlights *Selected data for a share of beneficial interest outstanding:*

	Years Ended September 30,				
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Net asset value, beginning of year	\$ 9.54	\$ 8.48	\$ 7.46	\$ 7.95	\$ 7.15
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	0.80	1.15	1.08	(0.46)	0.84
<b>Less Distributions:</b>					
Distributions from realized gains					
<b>Capital Share Transactions:</b>					
Dilutive effect of dividend reinvestment		(0.01)		(b)	(b)
Market value, end of year	\$ 8.65	\$ 7.87	\$ 7.35	\$ 6.43	\$ 7.17
Market Value Return (%)	13.03	10.84	18.41	(7.13)	21.9
<b>Ratios/Supplemental Data:</b>					

Years Ended September 30,

Ratio of expenses to average net assets (%)	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1
Portfolio turnover rate (%)	48	48	39	47	62

(a) Market value total return is calculated assuming a purchase of Fund shares on the opening of the first business day and a sale on the closing of the last business day of each period reported. Dividends and distributions are assumed for the purposes of this calculation to be reinvested at prices obtained under the Fund's Automatic Dividend Investment and Cash Payment Plan. Net asset value total return is calculated on the same basis, except that the Fund's net asset value is used on the purchase and sale dates instead of market value.

(b) Amount less than \$0.01.

*See accompanying notes to financial statements*

Page 14

ELLSWORTH FUND LTD. 2014 ANNUAL REPORT TO SHAREHOLDERS

## Notes to Financial Statements

### NOTE 1 ORGANIZATION AND SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

**(a) Organization** Ellsworth Fund Ltd. (the Fund), is registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, as a diversified, closed-end management investment company.

**(b) Indemnification** Under the Fund's organizational documents, each trustee, officer or other agent of the Fund (including the Fund's investment adviser) is indemnified against certain liabilities that may arise out of performance of their duties to the Fund. Additionally, in the normal course of business, the Fund enters into contracts that contain a variety of indemnification clauses. The Fund's maximum exposure under these arrangements is unknown, as this would involve future claims that may be made against the Fund that have not yet occurred. The risk of material loss as a result of such indemnification is considered remote.

**(c) Security Valuation** Investments in securities traded on a national securities exchange are valued at market using the last reported sales price, supplied by an independent pricing service, as of the close of regular trading. Listed securities, for which no sales were reported, are valued at the mean between closing reported bid and asked prices as of the close of regular trading. Unlisted securities traded in the over-the-counter market are valued using an evaluated quote provided by the independent pricing service, or, if an evaluated quote is unavailable, such securities are valued using prices received from dealers, provided that if the dealer supplies both bid and asked prices, the price to be used is the mean of the bid and asked prices. The independent pricing service derives an evaluated quote by obtaining dealer quotes, analyzing the listed markets, reviewing trade execution data and employing sensitivity analysis. Evaluated quotes may also reflect appropriate factors such as individual characteristics of the issue, communications with broker-dealers, and other market data. Securities for which quotations are not readily available, restricted securities and other assets are valued at fair value as determined in good faith pursuant to procedures approved by the Board of Trustees. Short-term debt securities with original maturities of 60 days or less are valued at amortized cost.

The Fund has adopted authoritative fair valuation accounting standards which establish an authoritative definition of fair value and set out a hierarchy for measuring fair value. These standards require additional disclosures about the various inputs and valuation techniques used to develop the measurements of fair value and a discussion of changes in valuation techniques and related inputs during the period. These inputs are summarized in the three broad levels listed below:

Level 1 Quoted unadjusted prices for identical instruments in active markets.

Level 2 Quoted prices for similar instruments in active markets; quoted prices for identical or similar instruments in markets that are not active; and model-driven valuation in which all significant inputs and significant value drivers are observable in active markets. Level 2 inputs are those in markets for which there are few transactions, the prices are not current, little public information exists or instances where prices vary substantially over time or among brokered market makers, and those received from an independent pricing service.

Level 3 Model derived valuations in which one or more significant inputs or significant value drivers are unobservable. Unobservable inputs are those inputs that reflect the Fund's own assumptions that market participants would use to price an asset or liability based on the best available information.

The availability of observable inputs can vary from security to security and is affected by a wide variety of factors, including, for example, the type of security, whether the security is new and not yet established in the marketplace, the liquidity of the markets, and other characteristics particular to the security. To the extent that valuation is based on models or inputs that are less observable or unobservable in the market, the determination of fair value requires more judgment. Accordingly, the degree of judgment exercised in determining fair value is greatest for instruments categorized in Level 3.

The net change in unrealized depreciation from Level 3 investments held as of September 30, 2014 was (\$2,970) and is included in net unrealized appreciation of investments on the Statement of Operations. Transfers into, or out of, Level 3 are valued utilizing values as of the end of the period. Transfers into Level 3 were due to a decline in market activity (e.g., frequency of trades), which resulted in a lack of available market inputs to determine price.

ELLSWORTH FUND LTD. 2014 ANNUAL REPORT TO SHAREHOLDERS

## Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

### NOTE 1 ORGANIZATION AND SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

The following is a summary of the inputs used to value the net assets of Ellsworth Fund Ltd. as of September 30, 2014:

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
<b>Common Stock:</b>				
Consumer Staples	3,578,750			3,578,750
Financials	6,091,223			6,091,223
Industrials	2,760,000			2,760,000
Telecommunication Services	8,177,294			8,177,294
<b>Convertible Bonds and Notes:</b>				
Consumer Staples		703,500		703,500
Financials		8,244,752		8,244,752
Industrials		4,906,562		4,906,562
Materials		2,326,315		2,326,315

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	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
<b>Total Convertible Bonds and Notes</b>		70,476,893		70,476,893
Consumer Discretionary			779,969	779,969
Energy		2,115,000		2,115,000
Industrials		1,121,000		1,121,000
Mandatory Convertible Securities:				
Financials		4,077,625		4,077,625
Industrials		3,592,600		3,592,600
<b>Total Mandatory Convertible Securities</b>		13,129,287		13,129,287

Refer to the Fund's Portfolio of Investments for a detailed breakdown of Common Stock, Convertible Bonds and Notes, Convertible Preferred Stock and Mandatory Convertible Securities. Transfers between levels are recognized at September 30, 2014, the end of the reporting period. The Fund recognized no transfers to or from levels 1 and 2.

The following is a reconciliation of assets for which Level 3 inputs were used in determining value:

Description	Investments in Securities
Proceeds from sales	
Change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) <sup>(1)</sup>	2,970
<b>Balance as of September 30, 2014</b>	<b>\$ 779,969</b>

(1) Included in the net change of unrealized appreciation on investments in the Statement of Operations.

Page 16

ELLSWORTH FUND LTD. 2014 ANNUAL REPORT TO SHAREHOLDERS

## Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

### NOTE 1 ORGANIZATION AND SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

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The following table presents additional information about valuation methodologies and inputs used for investments that are measured at fair value and categorized within Level 3 as of September 30, 2014:

	Fair Value September 30, 2014	Valuation Methodologies	Unobservable Input <sup>(1)</sup>	Impact to Valuation from an Increase in Input <sup>(2)</sup>
[REDACTED]				

(1) In determining certain of these inputs, management evaluates a variety of factors including economic conditions, industry and market developments, market valuations of comparable companies and company specific developments.

(2) This column represents the directional change in the fair value of the Level 3 investments that would result from an increase to the corresponding unobservable input. A decrease to the unobservable input would have the opposite effect.

**(d) Federal Income Taxes** The Fund's policy is to distribute substantially all of its taxable income within the prescribed time and to otherwise comply with the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code applicable to regulated investment companies. Therefore, no provision for federal income or excise taxes is believed necessary.

The Fund recognizes the tax benefits of uncertain tax positions only where the position is more-likely-than-not to be sustained assuming examination by taxing authorities. Management of the Fund has analyzed the Fund's tax positions, and has concluded that no liability for unrecognized tax benefits should be recorded related to uncertain tax positions taken on returns filed for open tax years (2011-2013), or expected to be taken in the Fund's 2014 tax returns. The major tax authority for the Fund is the Internal Revenue Service. The Fund is not aware of any tax positions for which it is reasonably likely that the total amounts of unrecognized tax benefits will significantly change in the next twelve months.

**(e) Securities Transactions and Related Investment Income** Securities transactions are accounted for on the trade date (the date the order to buy or sell is executed) with gain or loss on the sale of securities being determined based upon identified cost. Dividend income is recorded on the ex-dividend date and interest income is recorded on the accrual basis, including accretion of discounts and amortization of non-equity premium. For certain securities, known as contingent payment debt instruments, Federal tax regulations require the Fund to record non-cash, contingent interest income in addition to interest income actually received. Contingent interest income amounted to approximately \$0.003 per share for the twelve months ended September 30, 2014.

**(f) Distributions to Shareholders** Distributions to shareholders from net investment income are recorded by the Fund on the ex-dividend date. Distributions from capital gains, if any, are recorded on the ex-dividend date and paid annually.

The amount and character of income and capital gains to be distributed are determined in accordance with income tax regulations, which may differ from generally accepted accounting principles. The tax character of distributions paid during the fiscal years ended September 30, 2014 and 2013 were as follows:

	2014	2013
[REDACTED]		
Net realized gain on investments	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

At September 30, 2014, the components of distributable earnings and federal tax cost were as follows:

Unrealized depreciation	(3,527,633)
Undistributed ordinary income	490,531
Total distributable net earnings	2,894,948
Cost for federal income tax purposes	\$ 116,426,984

ELLSWORTH FUND LTD. 2014 ANNUAL REPORT TO SHAREHOLDERS

## Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

### NOTE 1 ORGANIZATION AND SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

The differences between book-basis and tax-basis unrealized appreciation/depreciation is attributable to differing methods of recognizing interest and ordinary income on bonds for tax purposes.

To the extent the Fund's net realized capital gains, if any, can be offset by capital loss carryforwards, it is the policy of the Fund not to distribute such gains. As determined at September 30, 2014, the Fund utilized \$9,203,598 of its capital loss carryforwards and had no Post October losses.

**(g) Use of Estimates** The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

**(h) Regulated Investment Company Modernization Act** On December 22, 2010, the Regulated Investment Company Modernization Act of 2010 (the Modernization Act) was signed into law. The Modernization Act modernizes several of the federal income and excise tax provisions related to regulated investment companies (RICs).

New capital losses may now be carried forward indefinitely and retain the character of the original loss. Under pre-enactment law, capital losses could be carried forward for eight years, and carried forward as short-term capital losses, irrespective of the character of the original loss. As a transition rule, the Act requires that post-enactment net capital losses be used before pre-enactment net capital losses.

**(i) Market Risk** It is the Fund's policy to invest at least 65% of its assets in convertible securities. Although convertible securities do derive part of their value from that of the securities into which they are convertible, they are not considered derivative financial instruments. However, the Fund's mandatory convertible securities include features which render them more sensitive to price changes of their underlying securities. Thus they expose the Fund to greater downside risk than traditional convertible securities, but generally less than that of the underlying common stock. The market value of those securities was \$13,129,287 at September 30, 2014, representing approximately 9.7% of net assets.

**(j) Reclassification of Capital Accounts** Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States require that certain components of net assets relating to permanent differences be reclassified between financial and tax reporting. These reclassifications have no effect on net assets or net asset value per share. At September 30, 2014 the Fund increased undistributed net investment loss by \$10,103 and increased accumulated net realized gain on investments by \$10,103.

### NOTE 2 MANAGEMENT FEE AND OTHER TRANSACTIONS WITH AFFILIATES



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The Fund has entered into an investment advisory agreement with Dinsmore Capital Management Co. ( Dinsmore Capital ). Pursuant to the investment advisory agreement, Dinsmore Capital provides the Fund with investment advice, office space and facilities. Under the terms of the investment advisory agreement, the Fund pays Dinsmore Capital on the last day of each month an advisory fee for such month computed at an annual rate of 0.75% of the first \$100,000,000 and 0.50% of the excess over \$100,000,000 of the Fund's net asset value in such month.

The Fund, pursuant to an administrative services agreement with Dinsmore Capital, has agreed to pay Dinsmore Capital for certain accounting and other administrative services provided to the Fund. Under the administrative services agreement, the Fund pays Dinsmore Capital on the last day of each month a fee for such month computed at an annual rate of 0.05% of the Fund's net asset value in such month.

Certain officers and trustees of the Fund are officers and directors of Dinsmore Capital.

### **NOTE 3 PORTFOLIO ACTIVITY**

At September 30, 2014, there were 13,140,692 shares of beneficial interest outstanding, with a par value of \$0.01 per share. During the twelve months ended September 30, 2014, 38,046 shares were issued in connection with reinvestment of dividends from net investment income, resulting in an increase in paid-in capital of \$305,503.

During the twelve months ended September 30, 2014 the Fund repurchased 405,236 capital shares in the open market at a cost of \$3,343,583. The weighted average discount of these purchases comparing the average purchase price to net asset value was 16.65%.

Purchases and sales of investments, exclusive of corporate short-term notes, aggregated \$64,052,395 and \$64,778,078, respectively, for the twelve months ended September 30, 2014.

*Page 18*

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ELLSWORTH FUND LTD. 2014 ANNUAL REPORT TO SHAREHOLDERS

## Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

### **NOTE 4 NEW ACCOUNTING PRONOUNCEMENT**

In June 2013, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued guidance that creates a two-tiered approach to assess whether an entity is an investment company. The guidance will also require an investment company to measure non-controlling ownership interest in other investment companies at fair value and will require additional disclosures relating to investment company status, any changes thereto and information about financial support provided or contractually required to be provided to any of the investment company's investees. The guidance is effective for financial statements with fiscal years beginning on or after December 15, 2013 and interim periods within those fiscal years. Management is evaluating the impact of this guidance on the Funds' financial statement disclosures.

In June 2014, FASB issued ASU No. 2014-11, Transfers and Servicing (Topic 860), Repurchase-to-Maturity Transactions, Repurchase Financings, and Disclosures. The ASU changes the accounting for certain repurchase agreements and expands disclosure requirements related to repurchase agreements, securities lending, repurchase-to-maturity and similar transactions. The ASU is effective for interim and annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2014. Management is currently evaluating the impact, if any, of applying this provision.

### **NOTE 5 SUBSEQUENT EVENTS**

In preparing the financial statements as of September 30, 2014, management considered the impact of subsequent events for potential recognition or disclosure in these financial statements. GT Advanced Technologies Inc. (GT) announced on October 6, 2014 that the company had filed for bankruptcy court protection under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of New Hampshire. GT expects the court will authorize the company to continue to conduct business as usual while it devotes renewed efforts to resolve its current issues and develops a reorganization plan. GT and Apple have reached a settlement agreement under which GT will wind down its sapphire materials production in the company's Mesa, AZ and Salem, MA locations. The company indicated that it will exit from the market as a producer of sapphire materials and will refocus its business as an equipment supplier, manufacturing and developing sapphire growth systems and processes. In addition to these sapphire businesses, GT also has photo voltaic and poly silicon solar segments. The effect on the Fund's net asset value on October 6, 2014 was \$0.055 per share.

On November 17, 2014 the Board of Trustees of the Fund adopted a new minimum distribution policy. Pursuant to the new minimum distribution policy, the Fund anticipates making a cumulative annual distribution at a rate equal to at least 5% of the Fund's trailing 12-month average month-end market price. This amount may be adjusted from time to time depending on current market conditions and the projected performance of the Fund. The distribution policy will be subject to regular review by the Board of Trustees. There can be no assurance that the amount of the quarterly distributions will be maintained at levels implemented under the policy or that the new distribution policy will not be discontinued or substantially modified in the future. Implementation of the new minimum distribution policy is subject to completion of any regulatory requirements.

Distributions may consist of net investment income, net realized capital gains (although capital gains distributions, if any, will only be made once per year) and/or a return of capital for federal income tax purposes. The Form 1099-DIV that your broker or agent will make available to you by the IRS mailing deadline will specify the taxability of our distributions, and will tell you how to report these distributions for federal income tax purposes.

On November 17, 2014 the Trustees authorized a plan to repurchase up to 3% of the Fund's outstanding shares (up to approximately 394,000 shares). This repurchase program follows a prior 3% buyback authorization, adopted in 2013 and completed in 2014.

*Page 19*

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ELLSWORTH FUND LTD. 2014 ANNUAL REPORT TO SHAREHOLDERS

## Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

To the Shareholders and Board of Trustees of  
Ellsworth Fund Ltd.

We have audited the accompanying statement of assets and liabilities, including the portfolio of investments of Ellsworth Fund Ltd. (the Fund) as of September 30, 2014, and the related statement of operations for the year then ended, the statements of changes in net assets for each of the two years in the period then ended, and the financial highlights for each of the five years in the period then ended. These financial statements and financial highlights are the responsibility of the Fund's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements and financial highlights based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements and financial highlights are free of material misstatement. The Fund is not required to have, nor were we engaged to perform an audit of the Fund's internal control over financial reporting. Our audits included consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Fund's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. Our procedures included confirmation of securities owned as of September 30, 2014, by correspondence with the custodian and brokers or by other appropriate auditing procedures where replies from brokers were not received. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements and financial highlights referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Ellsworth Fund Ltd. as of September 30, 2014, the results of its operations for the year then ended, the changes in its net assets for each of the two years in the period then ended and its financial highlights for each of the five years in the period then ended, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

TAIT, WELLER & BAKER LLP

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
November 20, 2014

*Page 20*

## Miscellaneous Notes (unaudited)

### Automatic Dividend Investment and Cash Payment Plan

The Fund has an Automatic Dividend Investment and Cash Payment Plan (the Plan). Any shareholder may elect to join the Plan by sending an application to American Stock Transfer & Trust Company, P.O. Box 922, Wall Street Station, New York, NY 10269-0560 (the Plan Agent). You may also obtain information about the Plan, as well as the Plan application, by calling the Plan Agent toll free at (888) 888-0314. If your shares are held by a broker or other nominee, you should instruct the nominee to join the Plan on your behalf. Some brokers may require that your shares be taken out of the broker's street name and re-registered in your own name. Shareholders should also contact their broker to determine whether shares acquired through participation in the Plan can be transferred to another broker and thereafter, whether the shareholder can continue to participate in the Plan.

Under the Plan, all dividends and distributions are automatically invested in additional Fund shares. Depending on the circumstances, shares may either be issued by the Fund or acquired through open market purchases at the current market price or net asset value, whichever is lower (but not less than 95% of market price). For shareholder distributions made with respect to income earned during each of the first three fiscal quarters, when the market price of a share of Fund beneficial shares is lower than such share's net asset value, the Plan Agent will combine the distributions of all Plan participants and purchase shares in the open market, thereby taking advantage of the lower commissions on larger purchases. There is no other charge for this service. For shareholder distributions made with respect to capital gains realized during the fiscal year and income earned during the fourth fiscal quarter, when the market price of a share of Fund shares is lower than such share's net asset value, the Fund will issue shares at the market price.

All dividends and distributions made by the Fund (including capital gain dividends and dividends designated as qualified dividend income, which are eligible for taxation at lower rates) remain taxable to Plan participants, regardless of whether such dividends and distributions are reinvested in additional shares of the Fund through open market purchases or through the issuance of new shares. Plan participants will be treated as receiving the cash used to purchase shares on the open market and, in the case of any dividend or distribution made in the form of newly issued shares, will be treated as receiving an amount equal to the fair market value of such shares as of the reinvestment date. Accordingly, a shareholder may incur a tax liability even though such shareholder has not received a cash distribution with which to pay the tax.

Plan participants may also voluntarily send cash payments of \$100 to \$10,000 per month to the Plan Agent, to be combined with other Plan monies, for purchase of additional Fund shares in the open market. You pay only a bank service charge of \$1.25 per transaction, plus your proportionate share of the brokerage commission. All shares and fractional shares purchased will be held by the Plan Agent in your dividend reinvestment account. You may deposit with the Plan Agent any Fund share certificates you hold, for a one-time fee of \$7.50.

At any time, a Plan participant may instruct the Plan Agent to liquidate all or any portion of such Plan participant's account. To do so, a Plan participant must deliver written notice to the Plan Agent prior to the record date of any dividend or distribution requesting either liquidation or a share certificate. The Plan Agent will combine all liquidation requests it receives from Plan participants on a particular day and will then sell shares of the Fund that are subject to liquidation requests in the open market. The amount of proceeds a Plan participant will receive shall be determined by the average sales price per share, after deducting brokerage commissions, of all shares sold by the Plan Agent for all Plan participants who have given the Plan Agent liquidation requests.

The Plan Agent or the Fund may terminate the Plan for any reason at any time by sending written notice addressed to the Plan participant's address as shown on the Plan Agent's records. Following the date of termination, the Plan Agent shall send the Plan participant either the proceeds of liquidation, or a share certificate or certificates for the full shares held by the Plan Agent in the Plan participant's account. Additionally, a check will be sent for the value of any fractional interest in the Plan participant's account based on the market price of the Fund's shares on that date.

## Miscellaneous Notes (unaudited) (continued)

### Notice of Privacy Policy

The Fund has adopted a privacy policy in order to protect the confidentiality of nonpublic personal information that we have about you. We receive personal information, such as your name, address and account balances, when transactions occur in Fund shares registered in your name.

We may disclose this information to companies that perform services for the Fund, such as the Fund's transfer agent or proxy solicitors. These companies may only use this information in connection with the services they provide to the Fund, and not for any other purpose. We will not otherwise disclose any nonpublic personal information about our shareholders or former shareholders to anyone else, except as required by law.

Access to nonpublic information about you is restricted to our employees and service providers who need that information in order to provide services to you. We maintain physical, electronic and procedural safeguards that comply with federal standards to guard your nonpublic personal information.

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### For More Information About Portfolio Holdings

In addition to the semi-annual and annual reports that Ellsworth delivers to shareholders and makes available through the Fund's public website, the Fund files a complete schedule of portfolio holdings with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) for the Fund's first and third fiscal quarters on Form N-Q. Ellsworth does not deliver the schedule of portfolio holdings for the first and third fiscal quarters to shareholders, however, the schedules are available without charge, upon request, by calling (800) 914-1177 or at the Fund's public website, [www.ellsworthfund.com](http://www.ellsworthfund.com). You may obtain the Form N-Q filings by accessing the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov). You may also review and copy them at the SEC's Public Reference Room in Washington, DC. Information on the operation of the SEC's Public Reference Room may be obtained by calling the SEC at (800) SEC-0330.

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### Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures / Proxy Voting Record

The Fund's policies and procedures with respect to the voting of proxies relating to the Fund's portfolio securities is available without charge, upon request, by calling (800) 914-1177, or on the Fund's website at [www.ellsworthfund.com](http://www.ellsworthfund.com). In addition, information on how the Fund voted such proxies relating to portfolio securities during the most recent twelve-month period ended June 30, is available without charge at the above sources. This information is also available on the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov).

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### Declared Distribution

A distribution of \$0.35 per share was declared on October 20, 2014, payable November 26, 2014 to shareholders of record at the close of business October 31, 2014. The distribution consists of \$0.038 undistributed net investment income, and net realized long-term gains on investments of \$0.312.

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The Fund is a member of the Closed-End Fund Association (CEFA), a non-profit national trade association ([www.cefa.com](http://www.cefa.com)). Thomas H. Dinsmore, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Fund, is on its executive board.

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Pursuant to Section 23 of the Investment Company Act of 1940, notice is hereby given that the Fund may in the future purchase beneficial shares of the Fund from time to time, at such times, and in such amounts, as may be deemed advantageous to the Fund. Nothing herein shall be considered a commitment to purchase such shares.

## Trustees

Each trustee is also a trustee of Bancroft Fund Ltd. (Bancroft) (a closed-end management investment company). Dinsmore Capital Management Co. (Dinsmore Capital) is the Fund's investment adviser and is also the investment adviser to Bancroft. Because of this connection, the Fund and Bancroft make up a Fund Complex. Therefore, each trustee oversees two investment companies in the Fund Complex.

**Personal Information**

**Principal Occupation(s) During Past Five Years; Other Directorship(s)**

Kinchen C. Bizzell, CFA  
65 Madison Avenue, Suite 550  
Morristown, NJ 07960  
Term expires 2015  
Trustee since 2008 Born 1954

Since August 2013, Managing Director of CAVU Securities (an institutional securities broker-dealer). Formerly Senior Counselor with Burson-Marsteller (a global public relations and communications firm) (2004 to 2013); Trustee of Bancroft.

Daniel D. Harding, CFA  
65 Madison Avenue, Suite 550  
Morristown, NJ 07960  
Term expires 2017  
Trustee since 2007 Born 1952

Since 2008, managing partner of a private investment fund. Prior to 2008, Senior Advisor with Harding Loevner Management LP (an investment advisory firm); director of Tax Receivables Corp., a private asset management company; and a general partner of Latitude Capital Partners, LLC, a private investment firm (2010 to 2012); Trustee of Bancroft.

**INTERESTED TRUSTEES**

Jane D. O'Keeffe<sup>(1)</sup>  
65 Madison Avenue, Suite 550  
Morristown, NJ 07960  
Term expires 2015  
Trustee since 1995 Born 1955

Executive Vice President of the Fund; President of Bancroft and Dinsmore Capital; Trustee of Bancroft and Director of Dinsmore Capital.

(1) Mr. Dinsmore and Ms. O'Keeffe are considered interested persons because they are officers and directors of Dinsmore Capital. They are brother and sister.

## Principal Officers

The business address of each officer is 65 Madison Avenue, Suite 550, Morristown, NJ 07960. Officers are elected by and serve at the pleasure of the Board of Trustees. Each officer holds office until the annual meeting to be held in 2015, and thereafter until his or her respective successor is duly elected and qualified.

**Personal Information**

**Principal Occupation(s) During Past Five Years**



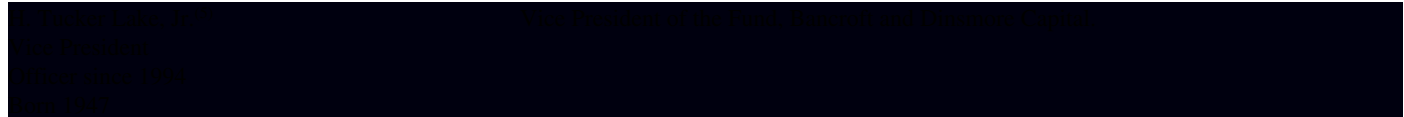
James A. Dinsmore, CFA<sup>(2,3)</sup>  
 President  
 Officer since 2007  
 Born 1982

President of the Fund since February 2014. Executive Vice President of the Fund from January 2013 until February 2014. Executive Vice President of Bancroft Fund and Dinsmore Capital since January 2013. Vice President of the Fund, Bancroft Fund and Dinsmore Capital from 2009 through 2012.



Gary I. Levine<sup>(4)</sup>  
 Executive Vice President,  
 Chief Financial Officer and  
 Secretary  
 Officer since 1986  
 Born 1957

Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Secretary of the Fund, Bancroft and Dinsmore Capital.



Germaine M. Ortiz<sup>(4)</sup>  
 Vice President  
 Officer since 1998  
 Born 1969

Vice President of the Fund, Bancroft and Dinsmore Capital.



- (1) Mr. Thomas Dinsmore and Ms. O Keefe are brother and sister.
- (2) Mr. Thomas Dinsmore is the father of Mr. James Dinsmore.
- (3) Ms. O Keefe is the aunt of Mr. James Dinsmore.
- (4) Ms. Ortiz is the first cousin of Mr. Levine s wife.
- (5) Mr. Lake is the first cousin of Mr. Thomas Dinsmore and Ms. O Keefe.

***Board of Trustees***

KINCHEM C. BIZZELL, CFA  
ELIZABETH C. BOGAN, Ph.D.  
THOMAS H. DINSMORE, CFA  
DANIEL D. HARDING, CFA  
JANE D. O KEEFFE  
NICOLAS W. PLATT

***Officers***

THOMAS H. DINSMORE, CFA  
*Chairman of the Board  
and Chief Executive Officer*

JAMES A. DINSMORE, CFA  
*President*

JANE D. O KEEFFE  
*Executive Vice President*

GARY I. LEVINE  
*Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer  
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*Assistant Vice President and Assistant Secretary*

JOANN VENEZIA  
*Assistant Vice President*

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Dinsmore Capital Management Co.  
65 Madison Avenue, Suite 550  
Morristown, NJ 07960  
(973) 631-1177

***Custodian of Securities***

Brown Brothers Harriman & Co.

***Beneficial Share Listing***

NYSE MKT Exchange Symbol: ECF

***Legal Counsel***

Ballard Spahr LLP

***Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm***

Tait, Weller & Baker LLP

ELLSWORTH FUND LTD.  
 65 MADISON AVENUE, SUITE 550  
 MORRISTOWN, NEW JERSEY 07960  
 www.ellsworthfund.com

ITEM 2. CODE OF ETHICS.

On April 16, 2007, the Board of Trustees of Ellsworth Fund Ltd. (the Fund ) adopted a code of ethics that applies to the Fund s principal executive officer (the PEO ) and principal financial officer (the PFO ). The code of ethics is available on the Fund s website at www.ellsworthfund.com. Since the code of ethics was adopted, there have been no amendments to it nor have any waivers from any of its provisions been granted.

ITEM 3. AUDIT COMMITTEE FINANCIAL EXPERT.

The Board of Trustees of the Fund has determined that Trustee and Audit Committee Chair, Daniel D. Harding, who is independent as such term is used in Form N-CSR, possesses the attributes required to be considered an audit committee financial expert under applicable federal securities laws.

ITEM 4. PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTANT FEES AND SERVICES.

Set forth in the table below are the aggregate fees billed to the Fund by its principal accountant, Tait, Weller & Baker LLP ( Tait Weller ), for professional services rendered to the Fund during the Fund s last two fiscal years ended September 30, 2013 and 2014.

Fiscal Year-End	Audit	Audit-Related		All Other
September 30	Fees (1)	Fees (2)	Tax Fees (3)	Fees
2013	\$ 37,500	\$ 0	\$ 3,500	\$ 0
2014	\$ 38,500	\$ 0	\$ 3,600	\$ 0



- (1) The Fund's Audit Committee pre-approves all Audit Fees, without exception.

- (2) The Fund's Audit Committee pre-approves all Audit-Related Fees, with exceptions. For the Fund's last two fiscal years ended September 30, 2013 and 2014, no Audit-Related Fees were approved by the Fund's Audit Committee pursuant to Rule 2-01(c)(7)(i)(C) of Regulation S-X, which waives the pre-approval requirement for certain *de minimis* fees.

- (3) Tax Fees include those fees billed by Tait Weller in connection with its review of the Fund's income tax returns for fiscal years 2013 and 2014. The Fund's Audit Committee pre-approves all Tax Fees, with exceptions. For the Fund's last two fiscal years ended September 30, 2013 and 2014, no Tax Fees were approved by the Fund's Audit Committee pursuant to Rule 2-01(c)(7)(i)(C) of Regulation S-X, which waives the pre-approval requirement for certain *de minimis* fees.

#### Non-Audit Services

During each of the last two fiscal years ended September 30, 2013 and 2014, Tait Weller did not provide any non-audit services to the Fund, with the exception of the services for which the Fund paid the Tax Fees noted above. Tait Weller did not provide any non-audit services to the Fund's investment adviser, Dinsmore Capital Management Co. (Dinsmore Capital) or its affiliates or otherwise bill the Fund or Dinsmore Capital or its affiliates for any such non-audit services.

#### Audit Committee Pre-Approval Policies and Procedures

The Audit Committee pre-approves all audit and permissible non-audit services that are proposed to be provided to the Fund by its independent registered public accountant before they are provided to the Fund. Such pre-approval also includes the proposed fees to be charged by the independent registered public accountant for such services. The Audit Committee may delegate the pre-approval of audit and permissible non-audit services and related fees to one or more members of the Audit Committee who are independent, as such term is used in Form N-CSR. Any such member's decision to pre-approve audit and/or non-audit services and related fees is presented to the full Audit Committee, solely for informational purposes, at its next scheduled meeting.

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The Audit Committee also pre-approves non-audit services to be provided by the Fund's independent registered public accountant to the Fund's investment adviser if the engagement relates directly to the operations and financial reporting of the Fund and if the Fund's independent registered public accountant is the same as, or affiliated with, the investment

adviser's independent registered public accountant.

ITEM 5. AUDIT COMMITTEE OF LISTED REGISTRANTS.

(a) The Fund has a separately-designated standing Audit Committee established in accordance with Section 3(a)(58)(A) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act), and the members of such committee are:

KINCHEN C. BIZZELL

ELIZABETH C. BOGAN, PH.D.

DANIEL D. HARDING (Chair)

(b) Not applicable.

ITEM 6. INVESTMENTS.

The Schedule of Investments in securities of unaffiliated issuers as of September 30, 2014 is included as part of the report to shareholders, filed under Item 1 of this certified shareholder report on Form N-CSR.

ITEM 7. DISCLOSURE OF PROXY VOTING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR CLOSED-END MANAGEMENT INVESTMENT COMPANIES.

Bancroft Fund Ltd.

Ellsworth Fund Ltd.

Dinsmore Capital Management Co.

Proxy Voting Guidelines

(Amended July 19, 2012)

These proxy voting guidelines have been adopted by the Boards of Trustees of Bancroft Fund Ltd. and Ellsworth Fund Ltd. (collectively, the Funds ), as well as by the Board of Directors of Dinsmore Capital Management Co. ( Dinsmore ).

The Boards of Trustees of the Funds have delegated to Dinsmore responsibility for voting proxies received by the Funds in their capacities as shareholders of various companies. The Boards recognize that, due to the nature of the Funds investments, the Funds do not receive proxies on many of their holdings.

Dinsmore exercises its voting responsibility with the overall goal of maximizing the value of the Funds investments. The portfolio managers at Dinsmore oversee the voting policies and decisions for the Funds. In evaluating voting issues, the portfolio managers may consider information from many sources, including management of a company presenting a proposal, shareholder groups, research analysts, and independent proxy research services.

Set forth below are the proxy voting guidelines:

**A.**

**Matters Related to the Board of Directors**

1.

The Funds generally will support the election of nominees recommended by management for election as directors. In determining whether to support a particular nominee, Dinsmore will consider whether the election of such nominee will cause the board of directors of such nominee s company to have less than a majority of independent directors.

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2.

The Funds generally will support proposals to de-classify boards of directors if fewer than 66 2/3% of the directors are independent, and will generally vote against proposals to classify boards of directors.

3.

The Funds generally will withhold a vote in favor of a director who has served on a committee which has approved excessive compensation arrangements or proposed equity-based compensation plans that unduly dilute the ownership interests of stockholders.

**B.**

**Matters Related to Independent Auditors**

1.

The Funds generally will vote in favor of independent accountants approved by an issuer. Prior to such vote, however, Dinsmore will take into consideration whether non-audit fees make up more than 50 to 75% of the total fees paid by such issuer to the independent auditors, and the nature of the non-audit services provided.

**C.**

**Corporate Governance Matters**

1.

Except as provided in Section E.1, as a general rule, the Funds will vote against proposals recommended by management of a company that are being made primarily to implement anti-takeover measures, and will vote in favor of proposals to eliminate policies that are primarily intended to act as anti-takeover measures.

2.

Subject to the other provisions of these guidelines, including without limitation provision C.1. above, the Funds generally will vote in accordance with management's recommendations regarding routine matters, including the following:

a.

Fixing number of directors;

b.

Stock splits; and

c.

Change of state of incorporation for specific corporate purposes.

**D.**

**Matters Related to Equity-Based Compensation Plans**

1.

The Fund generally will vote in favor of broad-based stock option plans for executives, employees or directors which would not increase the aggregate number of shares of stock available for grant under all currently active plans to over 10% of the total number of shares outstanding.

2.

The Funds generally will vote in favor of employee stock purchase plans and employee stock ownership plans permitting purchase of company stock at 85% or more of fair market value.

**E.**

**Other Matters**

1.

Contested situations will be evaluated on a case by case basis by the portfolio manager or analyst at Dinsmore principally responsible for the particular portfolio security.

2.

The Funds may, in their discretion, abstain from voting shares that have been recently sold.

3.

The Funds generally will abstain from voting on issues relating to social and/or political responsibility.

4.

Proposals that are not covered by the above-stated guidelines will be evaluated on a case by case basis by the portfolio manager or analyst at Dinsmore principally responsible for the particular portfolio security.

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**F.**

**Material Conflicts of Interest**

1.

Conflicts of interest may arise from time to time between Dinsmore and the Funds. Examples of conflicts of interests include:

a.

Dinsmore may manage a pension plan, administer employee benefit plans, or provide services to a company whose management is soliciting proxies;

b.

Dinsmore or its officers or directors may have a business or personal relationship with corporate directors, candidates for directorships, or participants in proxy contests;

c.

Dinsmore may hold a position in a security contrary to shareholder interests.

2.

If a conflict of interest arises with respect to a proxy voting matter, the portfolio manager will promptly notify the Funds Audit Committee and counsel for independent trustees and the proxies will be voted in accordance with

direction received from the Audit Committee.

**G.**

**Amendments**

1.

Any proposed material amendment to these Guidelines shall be submitted for review and approval to:

a.

the Funds' Board of Trustees, including a majority of the disinterested trustees; and

b.

the Adviser's Board of Directors.

2.

Non-material amendments to these Guidelines may be made by the Chair of the Funds, upon consultation with counsel to the Funds and the Funds' Chief Compliance Officer, and will be reported to the Funds' Board of Trustees at their next scheduled in-person meeting.

**ITEM 8. PORTFOLIO MANAGERS OF CLOSED-END MANAGEMENT INVESTMENT COMPANIES.**

(a) (1) As of December 10, 2014, Mr. Thomas H. Dinsmore, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Mr. James A. Dinsmore, President and Ms. Jane D. O'Keefe, Executive Vice President, comprise the three-person portfolio management team of the Fund. Mr. Thomas H. Dinsmore has served as portfolio manager since 1996. Mr. James Dinsmore and Ms. O'Keefe have served as portfolio managers since 2011. Mr. Thomas H. Dinsmore is the lead member of the portfolio management team.

Since February 2014, Mr. James A. Dinsmore has served as President of the Fund and of Dinsmore Capital (the Advisor). He served as Executive Vice President of the Fund and of the Advisor from January 2013 until February 2014. Prior to this he served as Vice President of the Fund and the Advisor from 2009 through 2012. He had also been

a research analyst for the Advisor beginning in 2004.

Since February 2014, Ms. O'Keefe has served as Executive Vice President of the Fund and of the Advisor, as well as Managing Director of Research for the Advisor. She served as President of the Fund and of the Advisor from 1996 until February 2014. Messrs. Thomas H. Dinsmore and James A. Dinsmore and Ms. O'Keefe receive investment recommendations from a team of research analysts prior to making investment decisions about transactions in the portfolio. Generally, the co-portfolio managers make decisions jointly about any transactions in the Fund's portfolio, but each co-portfolio manager may do so independently as well.

(2) The portfolio management team comprised of Mr. Thomas H. Dinsmore, Mr. James A. Dinsmore and Ms. Jane D. O'Keefe is also primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of one registered investment company, Bancroft Fund Ltd. (Bancroft), with total assets of \$122,402,165 as of November 30, 2014. The portfolio management team does not manage any accounts or assets with performance-based advisory fees. Mr. Thomas Dinsmore is Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Ms. O'Keefe is President

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and Mr. James Dinsmore is Executive Vice President of Bancroft. This information is as of December 10, 2014. The Fund and Bancroft have similar investment objectives and strategies. As a result, material conflicts of interest may arise between the two funds if a security is not available in a sufficient amount to fill open orders for both funds. To deal with these situations, Trade Allocation Procedures (the Allocation Procedures) have been adopted by the investment adviser for the Fund and Bancroft. The Allocation Procedures set forth a method to allocate a partially filled order among the funds. Pursuant to the method, the amount of shares that each fund purchases is allocated *pro rata* based on the dollar amount of each fund's intended trade or, if the order is subject to a minimum lot size, as closely as possible to such an allocation.

The Allocation Procedures permit Dinsmore Capital to allocate an order in a way that is different from the method set forth above if (i) each fund is treated fairly and equitably and neither fund is given preferential treatment, and (ii) the allocation is reviewed by the chief compliance officer of Dinsmore Capital.

(3) This information is as of December 10, 2014. The Portfolio Management team is compensated by Dinsmore Capital through a three-component plan, consisting of a fixed base salary, annual cash bonus, and benefit retirement plan. Their compensation is reviewed and approved by Dinsmore Capital's Board of Directors annually. Their compensation may be adjusted from year to year based on the perception of Dinsmore Capital's Board of Directors of the team's overall performance and their management responsibilities. Their compensation is not based on (i) a formula specifically tied to the performance of the Fund or Bancroft, including performance against an index or (ii) the value of assets held in the Fund's portfolio.



(4) As of December 10, 2014, Mr. Thomas Dinsmore's beneficial ownership in the Fund's shares was in the range of \$500,001-\$1,000,000. Mr. James Dinsmore's beneficial ownership in the Fund's shares was in the range of \$10,001-\$50,000. Ms. O'Keefe's beneficial ownership in the Fund's shares was in the range of \$100,001-\$500,000.

ITEM 9.

PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES BY CLOSED-END MANAGEMENT INVESTMENT COMPANY AND AFFILIATED PURCHASERS.

During the period covered by this report, the following purchases were made by or on behalf of the Fund as defined in Rule 10b-18(a)(3) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.10b-18(a)(3)), of shares or other units of any class of the Fund's equity securities registered by the Fund pursuant to Section 12 of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. 78l):

REGISTRANT PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES

Period	(a) Total number of shares purchased	(b) Average price paid per share	(c) Total number of shares purchased as part of publicly announced plans or programs*	(d) Maximum number of shares that may yet be purchased under the plans or programs*
October 1 through October 31, 2013	15,836	\$8.09	15,836	389,400
November 1 through November 30, 2013	84,349	\$8.07	84,349	305,051
December 1 through December 31, 2013	71,796	\$8.05	71,796	233,255
January 1 through January 31, 2014	143,056	\$8.28	143,056	90,199
February 1 through February 28, 2014	35,386	\$8.48	35,386	54,813
March 1 through March 31, 2014	54,813	\$8.60	54,813	—
Total	405,236	\$8.26	405,236	—

\* On October 21, 2013, the Board of Trustees approved a share repurchase plan (the Repurchase Plan). Under the Repurchase Plan, the Fund may purchase, in the open market, up to 3% of its outstanding shares (up to 405,236 shares, based on shares of beneficial interest outstanding as of October 21, 2013).

ITEM 10. SUBMISSION OF MATTERS TO A VOTE OF SECURITY HOLDERS.

There have been no material changes to the procedures by which shareholders may recommend nominees to the Fund's Board of Trustees since those procedures were last disclosed in response to the requirements of Item 407(c)(2)(iv) of Regulation S-K (17 CFR 229.407) (as required by Item 22(b)(15) of Schedule 14A (17 CFR 240.14a-101)), or Item 10 of this Form N-CSR.

#### ITEM 11. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES.

Conclusions of principal officers concerning the effectiveness of controls and procedures:

(a) As of December 10, 2014, an evaluation was performed under the supervision and with the participation of the officers of the Fund, including the PEO and the PFO, to assess the effectiveness of the Fund's disclosure controls and procedures, as that term is defined in Rule 30a-3(c) (17 CFR 270.30a-3(c)) under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the Act). Based on that evaluation, as required by Rule 30a-3(b) under the Act (17 CFR 270.30a-3(b)) and Rules 13a-15(b) or 15d-15(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13a-15(b) or 240.15d-15(b)), the Fund's officers, including the PEO and PFO, concluded that, as of December 6, 2013, the Fund's disclosure controls and procedures were reasonably designed so as to ensure: (1) that information required to be disclosed by the Fund on Form N-CSR is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified by the rules and forms of the Securities and Exchange Commission and (2) that material information relating to the Fund is made known to the PEO and PFO as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

(b) There have been no changes in the Fund's internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rule 30a-3(d) under the Act (17 CFR 270.30a-3(d))) that occurred during the second fiscal quarter of the period covered by this report that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the Fund's internal control over financial reporting.

#### ITEM 12. EXHIBITS.

(a)(1) Not applicable. See the Fund's response to Item 2, above.

(a)(2) Certifications of the principal executive officer and the principal financial officer pursuant to Rule 30a-2(a) under the Act (17 CFR 270.30a-2(a)), are attached hereto.

(a)(3) There were no written solicitations to purchase securities under Rule 23c-1 under the Act (17 CFR 270.23c-1) sent or given during the period covered by the report by or on behalf of the Fund to ten or more persons.

(b) Certifications of the principal executive officer and the principal financial officer, as required by Rule 30a-2(b) under the Act (17 CFR 270.30a-2(b)), Rule 13a-14(b) or Rule 15d-14(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13a-14(b) or 240.15d-14(b)), and Section 1350 of Chapter 63 of Title 18 of the United States Code (18 U.S.C. 1350) are attached hereto.

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SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Investment Company Act of 1940, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

Ellsworth Fund Ltd.

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By: /s/ Thomas H. Dinsmore

Thomas H. Dinsmore

Chairman of the Board and

Chief Executive Officer

(Principal Executive Officer)

Date: December 10, 2014

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Investment Company Act of 1940, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

By: /s/ Thomas H. Dinsmore

Thomas H. Dinsmore

Chairman of the Board and

Chief Executive Officer

(Principal Executive Officer)

Date: December 10, 2014

By: /s/ Gary I. Levine

Gary I. Levine

Chief Financial Officer

(Principal Financial Officer)

Date: December 10, 2014

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