ELLSWORTH FUND LTD Form N-CSRS June 06, 2013

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

ELLSWORTH FUND LTD.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in charter)

65 Madison Avenue, Morristown, New Jersey 07960-7308

(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, 2013 | | | | |
| Date of reporting period: March 31, 2013 | | | | |
| ITEM 1. REPORTS TO STOCKHOLDERS. | | | | |

Ellsworth Fund Ltd.

2013 Semi-Annual Report

March 31, 2013

2013 Semi-Annual Report March 31, 2013

Ellsworth Fund Ltd. operates as a closed-end, diversified management investment company and invests primarily in convertible 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 March 31, 2013 with dividends reinvested

| | Calendar | | | Annualized | | 10 Year |
|-----------------------------------|----------|--------|---------|------------|----------|-----------------|
| | YTD | 1 Year | 3 Years | 5 Years | 10 Years | Volatility * |
| Ellsworth market price | 7.90% | 7.84% | 7.66% | 4.34% | 5.76% | 15.44% |
| Ellsworth net asset value | 7.17 | 10.13 | 8.80 | 5.40 | 6.45 | 12.27 |
| Bank of America Merrill Lynch All | | | | | | 12.44 |
| S&P 500® Index | 10.60 | 13.95 | 12.68 | 5.81 | 8.52 | 14.94 |

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.

Ellsworth s 10-year performance in the table above 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.

Quarterly History of NAV and Market Price

| | I | Net Asset Value | es | Market Price | s (NYSE MKT | symbol: ECF) |
|------------|--------|-----------------|--------|---------------------|-------------|--------------|
| Qtr. Ended | High | Low | Close | High | Low | Close |
| 6/30/12 | \$8.52 | \$7.80 | \$8.15 | \$7.40 | \$ 6.72 | \$7.03 |
| 9/30/12 | 8.57 | 8.06 | 8.48 | 7.35 | 7.00 | 7.35 |
| 12/31/12 | 8.56 | 8.10 | 8.44 | 7.42 | 6.81 | 7.14 |
| 3/31/13 | 8.97 | 8.55 | 8.97 | 7.66 | 7.28 | 7.64 |
| | | | | | | |

^{*} 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.

Dividend Distributions (12 Months)

| Record | Payment | | Capital | |
|----------|---------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| Date | Date | Income | Gains | Total |
| 5/16/12 | 5/30/12 | S 0.0625 | <u> </u> | \$ 0.0625 |
| 8/16/12 | 8/30/12 | 0.0625 | | 0.0625 |
| 10/26/12 | | | | 0.0750 |
| 2/13/13 | 2/27/13 | 0.0630 | | 0.0630 |
| | | \$ 0.2630 | \$ | \$ 0.2630 |

ELLSWORTH FUND LTD. 2013 SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT TO SHAREHOLDERS

To Our Shareholders

May 13, 2013

The goal of Ellsworth Fund Ltd. is to provide shareholders with income and the potential for capital gains. To achieve this goal, Ellsworth invests primarily in convertible securities and, to a lesser extent, in dividend paying common stocks. Management seeks a balanced portfolio of convertibles and other securities that provide a mix of income and equity sensitivity. The best performance in the convertible securities marketplace this calendar year has come from equity sensitive convertibles and the worst from fixed income (or credit sensitive) equivalent issues. The largest group of convertible issues held in the Ellsworth portfolio falls into the total return category (a middle category with some yield and some equity sensitivity); the portfolio is less represented by equity sensitive issues than the convertible indices are. This is also true in the case of many convertible mutual funds, so while Ellsworth was not able to beat the Bank of America Merrill Lynch All U.S. Convertibles Index (BAML Index) for the twelve months ended March 31, 2013, the Fund s performance did exceed that of the Lipper average of convertible mutual funds.

A convertible portfolio dominated by total return issues carries less risk of significant decline in an equity bear market than a convertible portfolio overweighted with equity sensitive securities. Further, the portfolio s common stocks are of a very high quality with good yields and have so far enhanced the Fund s returns. Consequently, we believe the current portfolio represents a mix of securities that can meet the Fund s objectives in all markets.

As of May 1, 2013 Barclay s research calculated the cumulative value of the 503 U.S. Convertible securities outstanding at \$219 billion with 78% of the issues in the form of cash-pay bonds. 44% of the market represented large capitalization issuers, 36% small capitalization, and 20% mid-capitalization issuers. The large capitalization issues in the BAML Index have achieved the best performance this year.

Issuance of new convertible securities in 2013 (through May 10) has improved over any period of comparable length in 2012. There have been 38 new issues with proceeds of \$13.7 billion and an average size of \$360 million. All of these statistics are up from last year and well ahead of all of 2012 s 68 issues with proceeds of \$21 billion and average issue size of \$306 million. This is a welcome change as the convertible securities market has been enduring reduced issuance since 2007.

Ellsworth s portfolio at quarter end consisted of 59.9% in cash-pay convertible bonds, 9.9% in mandatory convertible issues, 11.9% in preferred stock and 14.5% in dividend paying common stock. The bonds yielded an average of 2.74%, the mandatories yielded 6.04%, the preferred shares yielded 5.67%, and the common shares, 4.85%. The Fund s median to conversion value was 26.2%. Equity sensitive convertibles and common stock holdings made up 29.5% of the portfolio with credit sensitive issues accounting for 23.8% and total return issues at 46.7%.

Performance for Ellsworth s second fiscal quarter of 2013 ended March 31, 2013 was enhanced by exposure to the Health Care and Industrials sectors. Performance was held back, however, by the Fund s exposure to the Utility and Information Technology sectors. When adjusted for expenses and dilution to make performance comparable to the BAML Index, the Fund s net assets outperformed the index for the three- and ten-year periods, but underperformed for the three-month, and one- and five-year periods ended March 31, 2013. The Fund s market return also outperformed the BAML Index for the three-month period ended March 31, 2013.

Ellsworth invests in convertible securities to provide total returns to shareholders that compare favorably to those provided by equity markets, but with less volatility. We therefore note that the Fund s NAV was less volatile than the S&P 500® Index as measured by their 10-year standard deviations. Moreover, the Fund s NAV outperformed that common stock index over five years.

continued on the following page

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ELLSWORTH FUND LTD. 2013 SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT TO SHAREHOLDERS

To Our Shareholders (continued)

The results of the 2013 annual meeting of shareholders are shown in the Miscellaneous Notes section of this report. We thank you for your participation and support. At its April meeting, the Board of Trustees of the Fund declared a distribution of \$0.06 per share, consisting of undistributed net investment income. The distribution is payable on May 30, 2013, to shareholders of record on May 16, 2013.

Thomas H. Dinsmore Chairman of the Board

Verizon Communications Inc.

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ELLSWORTH FUND LTD. 2013 SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT TO SHAREHOLDERS

Largest Investment Holdings by underlying common stock

Value (Note 1)

2,949,000

% Total Net Assets

2.4

and commercializes medicines. Glead is primary areas of focus include human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)/AIDS, liver diseases, and cardiovascular/metabolic and respiratory conditions.

Verizon is a provider of communications services. The company has two segments: domestic wireless and wireline. Its domestic wireless communications products and services include wireless voice and data services and equipment sales, which are provided to consumer, business and government customers across the U.S. The wireline communications products and services include voice, Internet access, broadband video and data, Internet protocol network services and other services.



AT&T Inc. 2,568,300 2.1

AT&T is a provider of telecommunications services in the U.S. and worldwide. These include wireless communications, local exchange services, long-distance services,

data/broadband and Internet services, and video services. It operates in four segments: wireless, which provides both wireless voice and data communications services across the U.S. and in foreign countries; wireline, which provides landline voice and data communication services and managed networking to business customers; advertising solutions; and other, which provides results from customer information services and all corporate and other operations.

Intel Corp. 2,141,875 1.8

Intel is a semiconductor chip maker. The company is engaged in developing advanced integrated digital technology products, primarily integrated circuits, for industries such as computing and communications.

taMC and its subsidiaries develop, deliver and support the information technology (11) industry is range of information infrastructure technologies and solutions.

Bank of America Corp. 1,949,056 1.6

Bank of America is a bank holding company, a financial holding company, and a financial institution, serving individual consumers, small and middle market businesses, corporations and Governments with a range of banking, investing, asset management and other financial and risk management products and services.

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ELLSWORTH FUND LTD. 2013 SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT TO SHAREHOLDERS

Major Industry Exposure

| • • | % Total Net Assets |
|--|--------------------|
| Semiconductors & Semiconductor Equipment | 7.8% |
| Software | 6.9 |
| Pharmaceuticals | 6.8 |
| Diversified Telecommunications Services | 5.1 |
| Biotechnology | 5.0 |
| Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels | 5.0 |
| Commercial Banks | |
| Insurance | 4.3 |
| Metals & Mining | |
| Real Estate Investment Trusts | 3.6 |
| | |

Major Portfolio Changes by underlying common stock Six months ended March 31, 2013

REDUCTIONS ADDITIONS Bottomline Technologies, Inc. Amgen Inc. Bristow Group Inc. Chesapeake Energy Corp. Cliffs Natural Resources Inc. Cliffs Natural Resources Inc. DFC Global Corp. Endo Health Solutions Inc. Eli Lilly & Co. Intel Corp. Encore Capital Group, Inc. Interpublic Group of Companies, Inc. Huntington Bancshares, Inc. ISIS Pharmaceuticals, Inc. Invesco Mortgage Capital Inc. Linear Technology Corp. Iconix Brand Group, Inc. Medicis Pharmaceutical Corp. International Game Technology SBA Communications Corp. TIBCO Software Inc. Ixia Titan International, Inc. Lifepoint Hospitals, Inc. OPKO Health Inc. Trina Solar Ltd. Stillwater Mining Company Ultrapetrol Vertex Pharmaceuticals Inc. Volcano Corp.

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WellPoint, Inc.

ELLSWORTH FUND LTD. 2013 SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT TO SHAREHOLDERS

Portfolio of Investments March 31, 2013 (unaudited)

WellPoint, Inc.

Principal Value Amount (Note 1)

| ONVERTIBLE BONDS AND NOTES 59.9% | | |
|--|------------|-------------|
| irlines 1.2% | 81.375,000 | \$1.476.406 |
| iotechnology 5.0% | | |
| ilead Sciences, Inc., 1.00%, Due 5/1/14, (A) | 750,000 | 1,627,969 |
| PKO Health Inc., 3.00%, Due 2/1/33, (AA) (1) | 625,000 | 693,750 |
| neravance, Inc., 2.125%, Due 1/15/23, (BBB) | 500,000 | 550,312 |
| apital Markets 1.7% | | WW023017 |
| rospect Capital Corp., 5.75%, Due 3/15/18, (BBB) (1) | 1,500,000 | 1,562,812 |
| ommercial Services & Supplies 0.9% | Looper | 1116250 |
| ommunications Equipment 1.3% | | |
| ia, 3.00%, Due 12/15/15, (A) | 250,000 | 330,625 |
| lad ngdal, Inc. 230%. Due 3/15/16. (BBB) | 1.000000 | 1,574,609 |
| MC Corp., 1.75%, Due 12/1/13, (A) | 1,400,000 | 2,090,382 |
| anDisk Corp., 1.50%, Due 8/15/17, (BB) | 500,000 | 646,875 |
| onstruction Materials 0.8% | 250 000 | 000000 |
| onsumer Finance 1.1% | | |
| iversified Telecommunications Services 0.6% | 1.2803041 | 1.307.812 |
| ectrical Equipment 0.8% | 1,000,000 | |
| nergy Equipment & Services 1.8% | | |
| ornbeck Offshore Services, Inc., 1.50%, Due 9/1/19, (BB) (1) | 750,000 | 876,094 |

Food Products 0.5%

| Edgar Filing: ELLSWORTH FUND LTD - Form N- | | 642,250 |
|--|---------------------|-------------------|
| Health Care Equipment & Supplies 2.0% | | |
| nsulet Corp., 3.75%, Due 6/15/16, (A) | 750,000 | 889,688 |
| Monto Comp. 1.75% Due 17/147.4A) | 500.000 | 2,366,469 |
| maille Carre Providence & Services 1975 | 1 000 000 | 1,005,625 |
| fepoint Hospitals, Inc., 3.50%, Due 5/15/14, (B) | 1,000,000 | 1,095,625 |
| | | 1,598,125 |
| nternational Game Technology, 3.25%, Due 5/1/14, (BBB) (1) | 500,000 | 540,312 |
| Iorgans Hotel Group Co., 2.375%, Due 10/15/14, (BB) | 1,000,000 | 947,500 |
| | | 2,575,937 |
| - 5 - | | |
| | | |
| LLSWORTH FUND LTD. 2013 SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT TO SHAREHOL | DERS | |
| Portfolio of Investments March 31, 2013 (continued) | | |
| | Principal Amount | Value (Note 1) |
| ONVERTIBLE BONDS AND NOTES CONTINUED | | |
| Tousehold Durables 1.2% | | |
| rden Corp., 1.875%. Due 9/15/18. (B) (1) | s 1.250,000 | \$1,430,469 |
| nsurance 3.3% | | |

| Household Durables 1.2% | \$1.250,000 | \$ 1410.469 |
|--|-------------|-------------|
| Insurance 3.3% | | |
| AmTrust Financial Services, Inc., 5.50%, Due 12/15/21, (AAA) | 1,250,000 | 1,775,000 |
| National Financial Partners Corp., 4.00%, Due 6/15/17, (AAA) | 500,000 | 926,562 |
| Fower Group, Inc., 5:00%, Due 9/15/14. (A) | 1,250,000 | 1,319,531 |
| | | 4,021,093 |
| nternet & Catalog Retnil 1.3% | | |
| Priceline.com Inc., 1.25%, Due 3/15/15, (BBB) | 450,000 | 1,025,156 |
| Priceline com Inc., 1,00%. Due 3/15/18, (BBB) | 500,000 | 554,050 |
| | | 1,579,206 |
| nternet Software & Services 2.1% | | |
| Digital River, Inc., 2.00%, Due 11/1/30, (BBB) | 1,100,000 | 1,082,125 |
| Equinix, Inc., 3.00%, Due 10/15/14. (B) | 750,000 | 1,509,375 |
| | | 2,591,500 |

| CSG Systems International, Inc., 3.00%, Due 3/1/17, (A) | 650,000 | 731,250 |
|--|-----------|-----------|
| Chart Industries, Inc., 2.00%, Due 8/1/18, (B) | 750,000 | 1,019,062 |
| Annie V. Minima II 66 | | |
| A.M. Castle & Co., 7.00%, Due 12/15/17, (BBB) | 250,000 | 466,250 |
| Northgate Minerals Corp., 3.50%, Due 10/1/16, (NR) (convertible into AuRico Gold Inc. common stock) | 600,000 | 620,625 |
| Stillwater Mining Company, 1.75%, Due 10/15/32, (B) | 500,000 | 598,750 |
| musi Siales Sider Corp., 3 0000, 1700 5913/14, 0000 | 3001111 | 4,307,432 |
| Goodrich Petroleum Corp., 5.00%, Due 10/1/29, (CCC) | 1,000,000 | 999,375 |
| thip Primance International Ltd., 3.25%, Due 2/1/18, (B) | 500,000 | 1,514,687 |
| Mylan Inc., 3.75%, Due 9/15/15, (BBB) | 750,000 | 1,665,469 |
| Salts Pharmicenticals Eth. 2.78% Due 5/15/15. (A) | 600,000 | 2,442,469 |
| Appaly Conital Management Inc. 4 00%, Dua 2/15/15 (DD) | 750,000 | 027 072 |
| Annaly Capital Management, Inc., 4.00%, Due 2/15/15, (BB) | 750,000 | 937,972 |
| IAS Operating Partnership LP, 5.00%, Due 3/15/18, (NR) (1) (exchangeable for Invesco Mortgage Capital Inc. common stock) | 1,000,000 | 1,004,375 |
| LEXTINUTE RESIDENCE DUE LE SERVE LE SERVE | юши | 3,773,441 |
| GT Advanced Technologies, Inc., 3.00%, Due 10/1/17, (B) | 750,000 | 577,031 |
| JinkoSolar Holding Co. Ltd., 4.00%, Due 5/15/16, (NR) | 250,000 | 156,250 |
| Micron Technology, Inc., 1.50%, Due 8/1/31, (BB) | 625,000 | 728,125 |
| Photronics, Inc., 3.25%, Due 4/1/16, (BBB) | 1,000,000 | 1,056,875 |
| Rudolph Technologies Inc., 3.75%, Due 7/15/16, (A) | 500,000 | 587,500 |
| SunPower Corp., 4.50%, Due 3/15/15, (BB) | 1,250,000 | 1,258,594 |
| | | 8,951,801 |

ELLSWORTH FUND LTD. 2013 SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT TO SHAREHOLDERS

| Portfolio of Investments March 31, 2013 (continued) | Principal | Value |
|--|------------|------------|
| _ | Amount | (Note 1) |
| CONVERTIBLE BONDS AND NOTES CONTINUED | | |
| Bottomline Technologies, Inc., 1.50%, Due 12/1/17, (A) | \$ 750,000 | \$ 877,500 |
| Mentor Graphics Corp., 4.00%, Due 4/1/31, (A) | 500,000 | 589,688 |
| Rovi Corp., 2.625%, Due 2/15/40, (BB) | 1,000,000 | 1,021,875 |
| CeleCommunications Systems, Inc., 4.50%, Due 11/1/14, (BB) | 1,000,000 | 970,000 |
| Textiles, Apparel & Luxury Goods 1.6% | | |
| conix Brand Group, Inc., 1.50%, Due 3/15/18, (A) (1) | 750,000 | 811,875 |
| Trading Companies & Distributors 1.3% | | |
| itan Machinery Inc., 3.75%, Due 5/1/19, (BB) (1) | 1,000,000 | 1,010,625 |
| Wireless Telecommunications 1.2% | 600.000 | 1.433.625 |
| TOTAL CONVERTIBLE BONDS AND NOTES | | 72,628,134 |
| ONVERTIBLE PREFERRED STOCKS 11.9% | | |
| Commercial Banks 4.6% | Shares | |
| Juntington Bancshares, Inc., 8.50%, (BBB) | 1,000 | 1,275,000 |
| | 2,000 | 5,572,700 |
| Sank of America Corp., 7.25%, (BB) | 1,600 | 1,949,056 |
| ood Products 1.1% | | |
| Post Holdings, Inc., 3.75%, (B) (1) | 5,000 | 542,500 |

| | 7.500 | 798 750 |
|--|-----------|-----------|
| | | 1,341,250 |
| lachinery 1.0% | | |
| ranley Black & Decker, Inc., 4.75%, (BBB) | 10,000 | 1,265,900 |
| hesapeake Energy Corp., 5.75%, (B) | 1,550 | 1,588,750 |
| ealth Care REIT, Inc., 5.50%, (BB) | 10,000 | 621,100 |
| merivon Holdings LLC, 4.00%, (NR) (1,3,4) | 610,778 | 886,850 |
| inerivon Holdings LLC, 4.00%, (NR) (1,3,4) | 010,778 | 919,577 |
| New York Community Capital Trust V, 6.00%, (BB) | 24,000 | 1,179,600 |
| Tork Community Capital Trust V, 0.00 %, (BB) | 24,000 | 1,179,000 |
| IANDATORY CONVERTIBLE SECURITIES 9.9% (5) | | |
| nited Technologies Corp., 7.50%, Due 8/1/22, (BBB) | 40,000 | 2,394,000 |
| -7- | | |
| | | |
| LLSWORTH FUND LTD. 2013 SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT TO SHAREHOI | L D E R S | |
| Portfolio of Investments March 31, 2013 (continued) | | |
| | | Value |

| MANDATORY CONVERTIBLE SECURITIES CONTINUED | | |
|---|--------|------------|
| Automobiles 1.4% | 40,000 | 8 1717 600 |
| Electric Utilities 2.4% | | |
| NextEra Energy, Inc., 5.889%, Due 9/1/18, (BBB) | 20,000 | 1,093,200 |
| PPL:Corp., 8.75%. Due 5/1/19. (NR) | 25,000 | 2,898,025 |
| | | |

(Note 1)

Shares

| MetLife, Inc., 5.00%, Due 10/8/14, (BBB) | 25,000 | 1,235,000 |
|--|--------|------------------------|
| Unisys Corp., 6.25%, Due 3/1/14, (B) | 10,000 | 652,100 |
| | | , |
| Apache Corp., 6.00%, Due 8/1/13, (A) | 30,000 | 1,336,200 |
| Genesee & Wyoming, Inc., 5.00%, Due 10/1/15, (NR) | 10,000 | 1,290,400 |
| 010 Swift Mandatory Common Exchange Security Trust, 6.00%, thus 12/31/13. (NR) | 30,000 | 1,674,307 |
| TOTAL MANDATORY CONVERTIBLE SECURITIES (5) | | 1,071,307 |
| COMMON STOCKS 14.5% | | |
| Citigroup Inc. | 19,546 | 864,715 |
| AT &T Inc. | 70,000 | 2.549.200 |
| AT&T Inc. | 70,000 | 2,568,300 5,517,300 |
| No. 415 - 1170 | | |
| Walt Disney Co. | 15,000 | 852,000 |
| Newmont Mining Corp. | 18,000 | 754,020 |
| ConocoPhillips | 26,782 | 1,609,598 |
| Abbott Laboratories | 18,000 | 635,760 |
| Bristol Myers Squibb Co. | 30,000 | 1,235,700 |
| Merck & Co., Inc. | 32,651 | 1,444,154 |
| | | 5,771,954 |
| Intel Corp. | 25,000 | 546,250 |
| Microsoft Corp. | 58,600 | 1,676,546 |
| TOTAL COMMON STOCKS | | 17.592.382 |

ELLSWORTH FUND LTD. 2013 SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT TO SHAREHOLDERS

Portfolio of Investments March 31, 2013 (continued)

Value (Note 1)

| | (Note 1) |
|---|---------------|
| otal Convertible Bonds and Notes 59.9% | 8 72,628,134 |
| Total Convertible Preferred Stocks 11.9% | 14,437,933 |
| Cotal Mandatory Convertible Securities 9.9% | 11.907.232 |
| Total Common Stocks 14.5% | 17,592,383 |
| Cotal Investments 96.2% | 116.565.682 |
| Other Assets and Liabilites, Net 3.8% | 4,661,246 |
| Cotal Net Assets 100.0% | \$121,226,928 |

- (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 March 31, 2013 was \$12,406,452, which represented 10.2% of the Fund s net assets.
- (2) Contingent payment debt instrument which accrues contingent interest. See Note 1(e).
- (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 \$919,577 at March 31, 2013, which represented 0.8% of the Fund s net assets. See Note 1(c).
- (4) Restricted securities include securities that have not been registered under the Securities Act, 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 March 31, 2013, the Fund was invested in the following restricted securities:

| Security | Acquisition Date | Shares | Cost | Price per Share | Value | % Net Assets |
|-----------------------|------------------|---------|--------------|--------------------|------------|--------------|
| Amerivon Holdings LLC | A : 1 1 2010 | 610.779 | \$ 1.500.000 | 0 1 452 | \$ 997 95A | 0.72 % |
| Amerivon Holdings LLC | <u> </u> | 010,776 | \$ 1,300,000 | 5 1.432 | 3 00U.0UU | U. I D. 70 |
| common equity units | April 1, 2010 | 272,728 | 0 | 0.010 | 32,727 | 0.03 % |

(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(h).

Portfolio Ratings:

Summary of Portfolio Ratings *

| | | % of |
|--|-------------|-----------|
| Where a security is rated by Standard & Poor s (S&P), such ratin | • | Portfolio |
| appears in parentheses next to such security (but without any applicable + or - that might apply). | AAA | 4 |
| Where a security is rated by S&P and at least one other rating agency | | 3 |
| and the Fund believes the ratings to be functionally equivalent to one another, the S&P rating appears in parentheses next to such security | A | 20 |
| (but without any applicable + or - that might apply). | BBB | 23 |
| Where a security is rated by S&P and at least one other rating agency | BB | 24 |
| and the Fund believes the ratings not to be functionally equivalent to one another, the Fund puts in parentheses next to such security the | D | 14 |
| S&P rating which it believes approximates the average of all such ratings (but without any applicable + or - that might apply). | CCC & below | 1 |
| Where a security is not rated by S&P, but is rated by at least one | | 11 |
| 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. | cash. | tock and |

See accompanying notes to financial statements

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ELLSWORTH FUND LTD. 2013 SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT TO SHAREHOLDERS

Statement of Assets and Liabilities (unaudited)

Undistributed net investment income

| Statement of Hosets and Elastificos (mananca) | |
|---|----------------|
| | March 31, 2013 |
| | |
| Assets: | |
| Investments at value (cost \$100,719,728) (Note 1) | \$116,565,682 |
| Cash | 2.936.156 |
| Receivable for securities sold | 1,172,576 |
| Dividends and interest receivable | 650,156 |
| Other assets | 2,352 |
| l'otal assets | 121,326,922 |
| Liabilities: | |
| Accrued management fee (Note 2) | 76,253 |
| Other liabilities | 23,741 |
| Total liabilities | 99,994 |
| | |
| Net Assets | \$121,226,928 |
| | , , , |
| Net assets consist of: | |
| Capital shares (unlimited shares of \$0.01 par value authorized) (Note 3) | \$ 135,079 |
| Additional paid-in capital | 118,066,361 |
| | |

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(822,006)

March 31, 2013

| Unrealized appreciation on investments | 15, | 845,954 |
|---|-------|---------|
| Net Assets | \$121 | 226.928 |
| Net asset value per share (\$121,226,928 ÷ 13,507,882 outstanding shares) | \$ | 8.97 |

Statement of Operations(unaudited)

For the Six Months Ended March 31, 2013

| Investment Income | (Note 1) |): |
|--------------------------|----------|----|
|--------------------------|----------|----|

| Interest | \$ 921,427 |
|--|-------------|
| Dividends | 1,185,500 |
| Total income | 2,106,927 |
| Expenses (Note 2): | |
| Management fee | 414,770 |
| Custodian | 6,038 |
| Transfer agent | 15,983 |
| Legal fees | 48,739 |
| Audit fees | 21,165 |
| Trustees fees | 52,416 |
| Administrative services fees | 30,342 |
| Reports to shareholders | 26,603 |
| Insurance | 14,088 |
| Other | 31,414 |
| Total expenses | 661,558 |
| Net Investment Income | 1,445,369 |
| Realized and Unrealized Gain on Investments: | |
| Net realized loss from investment transactions | (402,463) |
| Net unrealized appreciation of investments | 7,516,297 |
| Net gain on investments | 7,113,834 |
| Net Increase in Net Assets Resulting from Operations | \$8,559,203 |

See accompanying notes to financial statements

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ELLSWORTH FUND LTD. 2013 SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT TO SHAREHOLDERS

Statement of Changes in Net Assets

Six Months Ended March 31, 2013(a)

Year Ended September 30, 2012

| | | | | | | onths End h 31, 2013 | | | ear Ended mber 30, 2012 |
|---|------------------------------------|---------------|----------------------|--|-------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------|--|
| Net investment income | is: | | | | \$ | 1,445,369 | | \$ | 2,571,950 |
| Net change in unrealized appreciation | (depreciation) | of investn | nents | | | 7,516,297 | | | 16,769,222 |
| Dividends to shareholders from: | - | | | | | 1 860 030 | | | 3340636 |
| Capital share transactions (Note 3) | | | | | | 373,862 | | | 293,079 |
| | | | | | 11 | 4 152 002 | | 10 | 00 007 792 |
| et assets at beginning of period | | | | | \$ 12 | 4,153,893 | | 811 | 00,007,782 |
| Indistributed net investment income | at end of period | l | | | \$ | (822,006 |) | \$ | (407,345) |
| | Six Mont Ended March 3 | 1, — | | Years | Ended | Septemb | er 30, | | |
| | 2013(a) |) <u> </u> | 2012 | 2011 | | 2010 | 2009 | | 2008 |
| | \$ 8.48 | | | 7.95 | \$ | 7.15 | \$ 7.18 | | 2008 \$ 10.27 |
| eriod et realized and unrealized gain oss) | _ | 4 | | | | | | 3 | |
| et realized and unrealized gain oss) otal from investment | \$ 8.48 | \$ | 5 7.46 | 7.95 | | 7.15 | \$ 7.18 | 1) | \$ 10.27 |
| eriod et realized and unrealized gain coss) otal from investment cerations | \$ 8.48 0.52 | \$ | 5 7.46 1.08 | 7.95 | | 7.15 | \$ 7.18 | 1) | \$ 10.27 |
| eriod et realized and unrealized gain oss) otal from investment oerations istributions from realized gains | \$ 8.48 0.52 | 4 | 7.46 1.08 1.27 | 7.95 | | 7.15 | \$ 7.18 | 4)) | \$ 10.27 (2.24) (1.93) |
| et realized and unrealized gain coss) cotal from investment cerations distributions from realized gains et asset value, end of period cotal Market Value Return | \$ 8.48 0.52 0.63 | 4 | 7.46 1.08 1.27 | \$ 7.95 (0.46) (0.24) | \$ | 7.15 0.84 1.10 | \$ 7.18 (0.04 0.29 | 1) | \$ 10.27 (2.24) (1.93) |
| et asset value, beginning of eriod et realized and unrealized gain obss) otal from investment oberations istributions from realized gains et asset value, end of period otal Market Value Return (b)(b) | \$ 8.48 0.52 0.63 \$ 8.97 | 4 | 1.08 1.27 | \$ 7.95 (0.46) (0.24) 7.46 | \$ | 7.15 0.84 1.10 | \$ 7.18 (0.04 0.29 \$ 7.15 | 1) | \$ 10.27 (2.24) (1.93) (0.83) |

1.1(c)

1.1

1.1

1.1

1.2

assets (%)

1.1

| | Six Months Ended March 31, | | Years En | ded September (| 30, | |
|---|----------------------------------|-----|----------|-----------------|-----|-----|
| Ratio of net investment income o average net assets (%) | 2.5(6) | 2.3 | 2.6 | 3.5 | 5.5 | 3,6 |
| Portfolio turnover rate (%) | 23 | 39 | 47 | 62 | 71 | 61 |

- (a) Unaudited.
- (b) 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.
- (c) Annualized.

See accompanying notes to financial statements

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ELLSWORTH FUND LTD. 2013 SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT TO SHAREHOLDERS

Notes to Financial Statements (unaudited)

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 the 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 price 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 in 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 appreciation from Level 3 investments held as of March 31, 2013 was \$1,181 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.

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ELLSWORTH FUND LTD. 2013 SEMI-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 March 31, 2013:

| | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 | Total |
|--|--------------|--------------|-----------|---------------|
| Investments in Securities: | | | | |
| Common Stock: | | | | |
| Diversified Financial Services | \$ 864,715 | \$ | \$ | \$ 864,715 |
| Diversified Telecommunication Services | 5,517,300 | | | 5,517,300 |
| Media | 852,000 | | | 852,000 |
| Metals & Mining | 754,020 | | | 754,020 |
| Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels | 1,609,598 | | | 1,609,598 |
| Pharmaceuticals | 5,771,954 | | | 5,771,954 |
| semiconductors & Semiconductor Equipment | 546,250 | | | 546,250 |
| Software | 1,676,546 | | | 1,676,546 |
| Hotal Common Stocks | 17.592.383 | | | 17.592.383 |
| Convertible Bonds and Notes | | 72,628,134 | | 72,628,134 |
| Convertible Preferred Stock | | 13,518,356 | 919,577 | 14,437,933 |
| Mandatory Convertible Securities | | 11.907.232 | | 11.907.232 |
| Total Investments | \$17,592,383 | \$98,053,722 | \$919,577 | \$116,565,682 |

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

| Convertible | |
|-------------|-------|
| Preferred | |
| Stock | Total |