



20,000,000 Shares

Reaves Utility Income Fund
Common Shares of Beneficial Interest
\$20.00 per share

Investment Objective. Reaves Utility Income Fund (the “Fund”) is a newly organized closed-end, non-diversified management investment company. The Fund’s investment objective is to provide a high level of after-tax income and total return consisting primarily of tax-advantaged dividend income and capital appreciation. The Fund intends to pursue this objective by investing at least 80% of its total assets in the securities of domestic and foreign companies involved to a significant extent in providing products, services or equipment for (i) the generation or distribution of electricity, gas or water, (ii) telecommunications activities or (iii) infrastructure operations, such as airports, toll roads and municipal services (“Utilities” or the “Utility Industry”). A company will be deemed to be involved in the Utility Industry to a significant extent if at least 50% of its assets, gross income or profits are committed to or derived from activities in the areas described above.

(continued on following page)

An investment in the Fund’s common shares involves certain risks. See “Risk Factors” beginning on page 29 of this prospectus. There can be no assurance that the Fund will achieve its investment objective.

	<u>Per Share</u>	<u>Total</u>
Public offering price	\$20.00	\$400,000,000
Sales load(1)	\$.90	\$18,000,000
Estimated offering expenses(2)(3)	\$.04	\$800,000
Proceeds, after expenses, to the Fund	\$19.06	\$381,200,000

- (1) For a description of other compensation paid to the underwriters, see “Underwriting.”
- (2) The Fund has agreed to pay the underwriters \$.0067 per common share as a partial reimbursement of expenses incurred in connection with the offering. See “Underwriting.”
- (3) In addition to the sales load, the Fund will pay offering expenses, which are estimated to total \$900,000. The Fund’s administrator has agreed to pay all organizational expenses of the Fund. The administrator has also agreed to pay those offering costs of the Fund (other than the sales load, but inclusive of the reimbursement of underwriter expenses of \$.0067 per common share) that exceed \$.04 per common share.

The underwriters may also purchase up to 3,000,000 additional common shares at the public offering price, less the sales load, within 45 days of the date of this prospectus to cover overallocments. If this option is exercised in full, the total sales load will be \$20,700,000 and the total proceeds to the Fund, after expenses, will be \$438,380,000.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

The common shares will be ready for delivery on or about February 27, 2004.

<p>A.G. Edwards & Sons, Inc. Advest, Inc. J.J.B. Hilliard, W.L. Lyons, Inc. McDonald Investments Inc.</p>	<p>Merrill Lynch & Co. RBC Capital Markets BB&T Capital Markets BNY Capital Markets, Inc.</p>	<p>Wachovia Securities Robert W. Baird & Co. Janney Montgomery Scott LLC Morgan Keegan & Company, Inc.</p>
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Portfolio Contents. The Fund intends to invest primarily in common and preferred stocks of Utilities that pay dividends qualifying for federal income taxation at rates applicable to long-term capital gains (“tax-advantaged dividends”). Initially the Fund expects to invest approximately 90% of its total assets in common stocks and the remaining 10% in preferred stocks. While the Fund has no current plans to invest in debt securities of Utilities or other companies, it reserves the right to do so if deemed advisable to increase income or total return or to reduce risk. Under normal market conditions, at least 80% of the Fund’s total assets will be invested in the Utility Industry, but the investment adviser retains broad discretion to allocate investments among common stocks, preferred stocks and debt securities in the manner it believes will best achieve the Fund’s investment objective.

Use of Leverage. The Fund expects to use leverage through the issuance of preferred shares and/or through borrowings, including the issuance of debt securities (the “leverage program”). The Fund intends to use leverage initially of up to 38% of its total assets (including the amount obtained from leverage). See “Effect of Leverage.”

No Prior Trading History. Because the Fund is newly organized, its shares have no history of public trading. Shares of closed-end investment companies frequently trade at a discount from their net asset value and initial offering prices. The risks associated with this characteristic of closed-end investment companies may be greater for investors expecting to sell their shares in a relatively short period after completion of the initial public offering. The Fund anticipates that its common shares will be approved for listing on the American Stock Exchange under the symbol “UTG.”

Investment Adviser. W.H. Reaves & Co., Inc. (“Reaves”) will act as the Fund’s investment adviser. See “Management of the Fund.” As of December 31, 2003, Reaves had approximately \$900 million of assets under management. Reaves’ address is 10 Exchange Place, Jersey City, New Jersey 07302.

You should read this prospectus, which contains important information about the Fund, before deciding whether to invest in the common shares and retain it for future reference. A Statement of Additional Information dated February 24, 2004 (the “Statement of Additional Information”), containing additional information about the Fund, has been filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission and is incorporated by reference in its entirety into this prospectus, which means that it is part of this prospectus for legal purposes. You may request a free copy of the Statement of Additional Information, the table of contents of which is on page 50 of this prospectus, by calling (800) 644-5571 (toll-free) or by writing to ALPS Mutual Funds Services, Inc., 1625 Broadway, Suite 2200, Denver, Colorado 80202, or obtain a copy (and other information regarding the Fund) from the Securities and Exchange Commission’s web site (<http://www.sec.gov>).

The Fund’s common shares do not represent a deposit or obligation of, and are not guaranteed or endorsed by, any bank or other insured depository institution, and are not federally insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Federal Reserve Board or any other government agency.

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You should rely only on the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus. The Fund has not, and the underwriters have not, authorized any other person to provide you with different information. If anyone provides you with different information or inconsistent information, you should not rely on it. The Fund is not, and the underwriters are not, making an offer to sell these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted. You should assume that the information contained or the representations made herein are accurate only as of the date on the cover page of this prospectus. The Fund's business, financial condition and prospects may have changed since that date.

PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

This is only a summary. This summary does not contain all of the information that you should consider before investing in the Fund's common shares. You should review the more detailed information contained in this prospectus and in the Statement of Additional Information, especially the information set forth under the heading "Risk Factors."

- The Fund** Reaves Utility Income Fund (the "Fund") is a newly organized, non-diversified, closed-end management investment company. See "The Fund."
- The offering** The Fund is offering 20,000,000 common shares of beneficial interest ("Common Shares") through a group of underwriters led by Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated ("Merrill Lynch"). You must purchase at least 100 Common Shares (\$2,000). The underwriters have been granted an option to purchase up to 3,000,000 additional Common Shares to cover overallocments. The initial public offering price is \$20.00 per share. The Fund's administrator has agreed to pay all organizational expenses of the Fund. The administrator has also agreed to pay those offering costs (other than the sales load) that exceed \$.04 per Common Share. See "Underwriting."
- Listing and symbol** The Fund's Common Shares have been approved for listing on the American Stock Exchange under the symbol "UTG."
- Investment objective and policies** The Fund's investment objective is to provide a high level of after-tax income and total return consisting primarily of tax-advantaged dividend income and capital appreciation. The Fund intends to pursue this objective by investing at least 80% of its total assets in the securities of domestic and foreign companies involved to a significant extent in providing products, services or equipment for (i) the generation or distribution of electricity, gas or water, (ii) telecommunications activities or (iii) infrastructure operations, such as airports, toll roads and municipal services ("Utilities" or the "Utility Industry"). A company will be deemed to be involved in the Utility Industry to a significant extent if at least 50% of its assets, gross income or profits are committed to or derived from activities in the areas described above. The remaining 20% of its assets may be invested in other securities including stocks, debt obligations and money market instruments, as well as certain derivative instruments in the utility industry or other industries. As used in the prospectus and the Statement of Additional Information, the terms "debt securities" and "debt obligations" refer to bonds, debentures and similar long and intermediate term debt investments and do not include short-term fixed income securities such as money market instruments in which the Fund may invest temporarily pending the closing of the offering of preferred shares and during periods of abnormal market conditions. The Fund may invest in preferred stocks and bonds of below investment grade quality.

Under normal market conditions, the Fund will invest at least 80% of its total assets in dividend-paying common and preferred stocks of companies in the Utility Industry. In pursuing its objective, the Fund intends to invest primarily in common and preferred stocks that pay dividends that qualify for federal income taxation at rates applicable to long-term capital gains (“tax-advantaged dividends”). Initially, the Fund expects to invest approximately 90% of its total assets in common stocks and the remaining 10% in preferred stocks. The Fund has no current plans to invest in debt securities, but reserves the right to do so if deemed advisable to increase income or total return or to reduce risk. The Fund’s investment adviser, Reaves, retains broad discretion to alter the allocation of the Fund’s investments among common stocks, preferred stocks and debt securities in a manner that it believes will best effectuate the Fund’s investment objective.

The Fund may invest in the securities of both domestic and foreign issuers. The Fund generally will not invest in issuers located in emerging market countries. As an alternative to holding foreign-traded securities, the Fund may invest in dollar-denominated securities of foreign companies that trade on U.S. exchanges or in the U.S. over-the-counter market (including depositary receipts, which evidence ownership in underlying foreign securities).

Investment Adviser W.H. Reaves & Co., Inc. (“Reaves”), the investment adviser of the Fund, is registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission as an investment adviser under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended. As of December 31, 2003, Reaves had approximately \$900 million of assets under management.

Reaves is entitled to receive a monthly fee at the annual rate of .575% of the Fund’s average daily total assets.

Administrator ALPS Mutual Funds Services, Inc. (“ALPS”), located at 1625 Broadway, Suite 2200, Denver, Colorado 80202, serves as administrator to the Fund. Under the Administration Agreement, ALPS is responsible for calculating the net asset value of the Common Shares, and generally managing the business affairs of the Fund. The Administration Agreement between the Fund and ALPS provides that ALPS will pay all expenses incurred by the Fund, with the exception of advisory fees, trustees’ fees, portfolio transactions expenses, litigation expenses, taxes, costs of preferred shares, expenses of conducting repurchase offers for the purpose of repurchasing Fund shares and extraordinary expenses. ALPS is entitled to receive a monthly fee at the annual rate of .265% of the Fund’s average daily total assets.

Effects of leverage The Fund expects to use leverage through the issuance of preferred shares and/or through borrowings, including the issuance of debt securities (the “leverage program”). The Fund intends to use leverage initially of up to 38% of its total assets (including the amount obtained from leverage). The Fund also may borrow money as a temporary measure for extraordinary or emergency purposes.

Leverage creates risks for holders of the Common Shares, including the likelihood of greater volatility of net asset value and market price of, and dividends paid on, the Common Shares. There is a risk that fluctuations in the dividend rates on any preferred shares issued by the Fund may adversely affect the return to the holders of the Common Shares. If the income from the securities purchased with such funds is not sufficient to cover the cost of leverage, the return on the Fund will be less than if leverage had not been used, and therefore the amount available for distribution to holders of the Common Shares (the “Common Shareholders”) as dividends and other distributions will be reduced.

Changes in the value of the Fund’s portfolio (including investments bought with the proceeds of the leverage program) will be borne entirely by the Common Shareholders. If there is a net decrease (or increase) in the value of the Fund’s investment portfolio, the leverage will decrease (or increase) the net asset value per share to a greater extent than if the Fund were not leveraged.

The issuance of a class of preferred shares or incurrence of borrowings having priority over the Fund’s Common Shares creates an opportunity for greater return per Common Share, but at the same time such leveraging is a speculative technique in that it will increase the Fund’s exposure to capital risk. Unless the income and appreciation, if any, on assets acquired with leverage proceeds exceed the associated costs of the leverage program (and other Fund expenses), the use of leverage will diminish the investment performance of the Fund’s Common Shares compared with what it would have been without leverage. The fees to be received by Reaves and ALPS are based on the total assets of the Fund, including assets represented by leverage. During periods in which the Fund is using leverage, the fees paid to Reaves for investment advisory services and to ALPS for administrative services will be higher than if the Fund did not use leverage because the fees paid will be calculated on the basis of the Fund’s total assets, including proceeds from borrowings and the issuance of preferred shares.

Under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, and the rules and regulations thereunder (the “1940 Act”), the Fund is not permitted to issue preferred shares unless immediately after such issuance the total asset value of the Fund’s portfolio is at least 200% of the liquidation value of the outstanding preferred shares (*i.e.*, such liquidation value may not exceed 50% of the Fund’s total assets). In addition, the Fund is not permitted to declare any cash dividend or other distribution on its Common Shares unless, at the time of such declaration, the net asset value of the Fund’s portfolio (determined after deducting the amount of such dividend or other distribution) is at least 200% of such liquidation value.

To qualify for federal income taxation as a “regulated investment company,” the Fund must satisfy certain requirements relating to sources of its income and diversification of its assets, and must distribute in each taxable year at least 90% of its net investment income (including net interest income and net short-term gain). The Fund also will be required to distribute annually substantially all of its income and capital gain, if any, to avoid imposition of a nondeductible 4% federal excise tax.

The Fund's willingness to issue new securities for investment purposes, and the amount the Fund will issue, will depend on many factors, the most important of which are market conditions and interest rates. There is no assurance that a leveraging strategy will be successful during any period in which it is employed.

Until the Fund issues preferred shares or makes borrowings, the Common Shares will not be leveraged, and the risks and special considerations related to leverage described in this prospectus will not apply. Such leveraging of the Common Shares cannot be achieved until the proceeds resulting from the use of leverage have been invested in accordance with the Fund's investment objective and policies.

Risks

Risk is inherent in all investing. Investing in any investment company security involves risk, including the risk that you may receive little or no return on your investment or even that you may lose part or all of your investment. Therefore, before investing you should consider carefully the following risks that you assume when you invest in the Fund's Common Shares:

No Operating History. The Fund is a closed-end investment company with no history of operations and is designed for long-term investors and not as a trading vehicle.

Investment and Market Risk. An investment in Common Shares is subject to investment risk, including the possible loss of the entire principal amount invested. An investment in Common Shares represents an indirect investment in the securities owned by the Fund, which are generally traded on a securities exchange or in the over-the-counter markets. The value of these securities, like other market investments, may move up or down, sometimes rapidly and unpredictably. The Common Shares at any point in time may be worth less than the original investment, even after taking into account any reinvestment of dividends and distributions.

Non-diversified Status. As a non-diversified investment company under the 1940 Act, the Fund may invest a greater portion of its assets in a more limited number of issuers than a diversified fund. An investment in the Fund may, under certain circumstances, present greater risk to an investor than an investment in a diversified company because changes in the financial condition or market assessment of a single issuer may cause greater fluctuations in the value of the Fund's Common Shares. The Fund intends to comply with the diversification requirements of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), applicable to regulated investment companies. See "Risk Factors—Non-Diversified Status." See also "Taxes" in the Statement of Additional Information.

Issuer Risk. The value of common and preferred stocks may decline for a number of reasons which directly relate to the issuer, such as management performance, financial leverage and reduced demand for the issuer's goods and services.

Income Risk. The income Common Shareholders receive from the Fund is based primarily on the dividends and interest it earns from its investments, which can vary widely over the short and long-term. If prevailing market interest rates drop, distribution rates of the Fund's preferred stock holdings and any bond holdings and Common Shareholder's income from the Fund could drop as well. The Fund's income also would likely be affected adversely when prevailing short-term interest rates increase and the Fund is utilizing leverage.

Tax Risk. The Fund's investment program and the tax treatment of Fund distributions may be affected by Internal Revenue Service ("IRS") interpretations of the Code, future changes in tax laws and regulations, including changes as a result of the "sunset" provisions that currently apply to the favorable tax treatment of tax-advantaged dividends. There can be no assurance that any portion of the Fund's income distributions will not be fully taxable as ordinary income. In order to avoid corporate income tax at the level of the Fund, it must qualify each year as a regulated investment company under the Code.

Sector/Industry Risk. The Fund will invest a significant portion of its assets in securities of issuers in the Utility Industry. This may make the Fund more susceptible to adverse economic, political, or regulatory occurrences affecting this sector. As concentration in a sector increases, so does the potential for fluctuation in the net asset value of Common Shares.

The Utility Industry generally includes companies involved in providing products, services or equipment for (i) the generation or distribution of electricity, gas or water, (ii) telecommunications activities or (iii) infrastructure operations, such as airports, toll roads and municipal services. Certain segments of this sector and individual companies within such segments may not perform as well as the sector as a whole. Many utility companies historically have been subject to risks of increases in fuel, purchased power and other operating costs, high interest costs on borrowings needed for capital improvement programs and costs associated with compliance with and changes in environmental and other governmental regulations.

Non-Investment Grade Securities Risk. The Fund's investments in preferred stocks and bonds of below investment grade quality, if any, are predominantly speculative because of the credit risk of their issuers. While offering a greater potential opportunity for capital appreciation and higher yields, preferred stocks and bonds of below investment grade quality entail greater potential price volatility and may be less liquid than higher-rated securities. Issuers of below investment grade quality preferred stocks and bonds are more likely to default on their payments of dividends/interest and liquidation value/principal owed to the Fund, and such defaults will reduce the Fund's net asset value and income distributions.

Interest Rate Risk. Interest rate risk is the risk that preferred stocks paying fixed dividend rates and fixed-rate debt securities will decline in value because of changes in market interest rates. When interest rates rise the market value of such securities generally will fall. The Fund's investment in preferred stocks and fixed-rate debt securities means that the net asset value and price of the Common Shares may decline if market interest rates rise. Interest rates are currently low relative to historic levels. During periods of declining interest rates, an issuer of preferred stock or fixed-rate debt securities may exercise its option to redeem securities prior to maturity, forcing the Fund to reinvest in lower yielding securities. During periods of rising interest rates, the average life of certain types of securities may be extended because of slower than expected payments. This may lock in a below market yield, increase the security's duration, and reduce the value of the security. The value of the Fund's common stock investments may also be influenced by changes in interest rates.

Derivatives Risk. The Fund may acquire put and call options, options on stock indices and enter into stock index futures contracts in connection with its equity investments. If the Fund also invests in debt securities, it may enter into related derivatives transactions such as interest rate futures, swaps and options thereon. Derivatives transactions of the types described above subject the Fund to increased risk of principal loss due to imperfect correlation or unexpected price or interest rate movements. The Fund also will be subject to credit risk with respect to the counterparties to the derivatives contracts purchased by the Fund. If a counterparty becomes bankrupt or otherwise fails to perform its obligations under a derivative contract due to financial difficulties, the Fund may experience significant delays in obtaining any recovery under the derivative contract in a bankruptcy or other reorganization proceeding. The Fund may obtain only a limited recovery or may obtain no recovery in such circumstances. As a general matter, dividends received on hedged stock positions are characterized as ordinary income and are not eligible for favorable tax treatment. In addition, use of derivatives may give rise to short-term capital gains and other income that would not qualify for payments by the Fund of tax-advantaged dividends.

Inflation Risk. Inflation risk is the risk that the purchasing power of assets or income from investment will be worth less in the future as inflation decreases the value of money. As inflation increases, the real value of the Common Shares and distributions thereon can decline. In addition, during any periods of rising inflation, dividend rates of preferred shares of the Fund would likely increase, which would tend to further reduce returns to Common Shareholders.

Market Price of Shares. The shares of closed-end management investment companies often trade at a discount from their net asset value, and the Fund's Common Shares may likewise trade at a discount from net asset value. The trading price of the Fund's Common Shares may be less than the public offering price. The returns earned by Common Shareholders who sell their Common Shares below net asset value will be reduced.

Management Risk. The Fund is subject to management risk because it is an actively managed portfolio. Reaves and the individual portfolio managers will apply investment techniques and risk analyses in making investment decisions for the Fund, but there can be no guarantee that these will produce the desired results. Additionally, Reaves does not have experience selecting and managing debt obligations.

Market Disruption Risk. The terrorist attacks in the United States on September 11, 2001 had a disruptive effect on the securities markets. The Fund cannot predict the effects of similar events in the future on the U.S. economy and securities markets. These terrorist attacks and related events, including the war in Iraq, have led to increased short-term market volatility and may have long-term effects on U.S. and world economies and markets. A similar disruption of the financial markets could impact interest rates, auctions, secondary trading, ratings, credit risk, inflation and other factors relating to the Common Shares.

Anti-takeover provisions . . .	The Fund's Agreement and Declaration of Trust, dated September 15, 2003 and filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware on September 15, 2003 (the "Declaration of Trust") includes provisions that could have the effect of inhibiting the Fund's possible conversion to open-end status and limiting the ability of other entities or persons to acquire control of the Fund's board of trustees ("Board of Trustees"). In certain circumstances, these provisions might also inhibit the ability of shareholders to sell their shares at a premium over prevailing market prices. See "Description of Capital Structure—Anti-Takeover Provisions in the Declaration of Trust."
Distributions	The Fund intends to make regular monthly cash distributions to Common Shareholders of the net investment income of the Fund, after payment of interest on any outstanding borrowings or dividends on any outstanding preferred shares. Common Shareholders who elect not to participate in the Fund's dividend reinvestment plan will receive all distributions in cash paid by check mailed directly to the shareholder of record (or, if the Common Shares are held in street or other nominee name, then to such nominee). The initial distribution is expected to be declared approximately 45 days and paid approximately 60 to 90 days after the completion of this offering, depending on market conditions. See "Distributions."
Dividend reinvestment plan	Common Shareholders may elect automatically to reinvest some or all of their distributions in additional Common Shares under the Fund's dividend reinvestment plan. Whenever the Fund declares a dividend or other distribution payable in cash, participants in the dividend reinvestment plan will receive the equivalent in Common Shares. See "Dividend Reinvestment Plan."
Stock purchases and tenders	The Fund's Board of Trustees currently contemplates that the Fund, at least once each year, may consider repurchasing Common Shares in the open market or in private transactions, or tendering for shares, in an attempt to reduce or eliminate a market value discount from net asset value, if one should occur.
Custodian and Transfer Agent	The Bank of New York serves as the Fund's custodian and transfer agent. See "Custodian and Transfer Agent."

SUMMARY OF FUND EXPENSES

The following table assumes the issuance of preferred shares in an amount equal to 38% of the Fund's capital (after issuance), assumes that the Fund issues approximately 20,000,000 Common Shares and shows Fund expenses as a percentage of net assets attributable to Common Shares. Footnote 3 to the table also shows Fund expenses as a percentage of net assets attributable to Common Shares, but assumes that no preferred shares are issued or outstanding (such as will be the case prior to the Fund's expected issuance of preferred shares).

Shareholder Transaction Expenses

Sales Load (as a percentage of offering price)	4.50%
Offering Expenses Borne by the Fund (as a percentage of offering price)(1)	0.20%
Dividend Reinvestment Plan Fees	None(2)

Percentage of Net Assets Attributable to Common Shares (assuming the issuance of preferred shares)(3)

Annual Expenses

Investment Advisory Fees	0.94%
Other Expenses	0.60%(4)
Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses	1.54%(1)

- (1) ALPS has agreed to pay all the Fund's organizational expenses. ALPS has also agreed to pay those offering costs of the Fund (other than the sales load) that exceed \$.04 per Common Share (0.20% of the offering price). The offering costs to be paid by the Fund are not included in the expenses shown in the table. Offering costs borne by Common Shareholders will result in a reduction of capital of the Fund attributable to the Common Shares. ALPS may engage certain third parties to market the Fund. ALPS will pay such parties out of the fees it receives from the Fund.
- (2) There will be no brokerage charges with respect to Common Shares issued directly by the Fund under the dividend reinvestment plan. You will pay brokerage charges in connection with open market purchases or if you direct the plan agent to sell your Common Shares held in a dividend reinvestment account.
- (3) The table presented below in this footnote estimates what the Fund's annual expenses would be stated as percentages of the Fund's net assets attributable to Common Shares but, unlike the table above, assumes that no preferred shares are issued or outstanding. This will be the case, for instance, prior to the Fund's expected issuance of preferred shares. In accordance with these assumptions, the Fund's expenses would be estimated to be as follows:

	Percentage of Net Assets Attributable to Common Shares (assuming no preferred shares are issued or outstanding)
Annual Expenses	
Investment Advisory Fees	0.58%
Other Expenses	0.27%
Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses	0.85%(1)

- (4) If the Fund offers preferred shares, costs of that offering, estimated to be approximately 1.18% of the total dollar amount of the preferred share offering (including the sales load paid to the underwriters for the preferred share offering), will be borne immediately by holders of Common Shares and result in a reduction of the net asset value of the Common Shares. Assuming the issuance of preferred shares in an amount equal to 38% of the Fund's capital (after their issuance)

these offering costs are estimated to be approximately \$2,752,788 or \$0.14 per Common Share (0.69% of the offering price). These offering costs are not included among the expenses shown in this table.

Example

The purpose of the following table is to help a holder of Common Shares understand the fees and expenses that such holder would bear directly or indirectly. The expenses shown in the table are based on estimated amounts for the Fund’s first year of operations, unless otherwise indicated, and assume that the Fund issues approximately 20,000,000 Common Shares. If the Fund issues fewer Common Shares, all other things being equal, these expenses would increase. See “Management of the Fund.”

As required by relevant Securities and Exchange Commission regulations, the following example illustrates the expenses (including the sales load of \$45.00, estimated offering expenses of this offering of \$2.00 and the estimated offering costs of issuing preferred shares, assuming the Fund issues preferred shares representing 38% of the Fund’s capital (after their issuance), of \$6.88) that you would pay on a \$1,000 investment in Common Shares, assuming (i) total annual expenses of 1.54% of net assets attributable to Common Shares and (ii) a 5% annual return*:

	<u>1 Year</u>	<u>3 Years</u>	<u>5 Years</u>	<u>10 Years</u>
Total Expenses Incurred	\$69	\$98	\$130	\$219

* **The example should not be considered a representation of future expenses. Actual expenses may be higher or lower than those shown.** The example assumes that the estimated “Other Expenses” set forth in the Annual Expenses table are accurate and that all dividends and distributions are reinvested at net asset value. Actual expenses may be greater or less than those assumed. Moreover, the Fund’s actual rate of return may be greater or less than the hypothetical 5% annual return shown in the example.

THE FUND

The Fund is a newly organized, closed-end, non-diversified management investment company registered under the 1940 Act. The Fund was organized as a Delaware statutory trust on September 15, 2003 pursuant to the Declaration of Trust governed by the laws of the state of Delaware and has no operating history. The Fund’s principal office is located at 1625 Broadway, Suite 2200, Denver, Colorado 80202 and its telephone number is (800) 644-5571 (toll-free).

USE OF PROCEEDS

The net proceeds of this offering of Common Shares will be approximately \$381,200,000 (\$438,380,000 if the underwriters exercise the overallotment option in full) after payment of the sales load and organizational and offering costs (other than the sales load) expected to be approximately \$.04 per Common Share. The net proceeds of the offering will be invested in accordance with the Fund’s investment objective and policies (as stated below) as soon as practicable after completion of the offering. The Fund currently anticipates being able to do so within three months after the completion of the offering. Pending investment of the net proceeds in accordance with the Fund’s investment objective and policies, the Fund will invest in money market securities or money market mutual funds. Investors should expect, therefore, that before the Fund has fully invested the proceeds of the offering in accordance with its investment objective and policies, the Fund’s yield would be somewhat lower, but that its net asset value would be subject to less fluctuation, than would be the case at such time as the Fund is fully invested.

INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE AND POLICIES

General

The Fund's investment objective is to provide a high level of after-tax income and total return consisting primarily of tax-advantaged dividend income and capital appreciation. The Fund intends to pursue this objective by investing at least 80% of its total assets in the securities of domestic and foreign companies involved to a significant extent in providing products, services or equipment for (i) the generation or distribution of electricity, gas or water, (ii) telecommunications activities or (iii) infrastructure operations, such as airport, toll roads and municipal services ("Utilities" or the "Utility Industry"). A company will be deemed to be involved in the Utility Industry to a significant extent if at least 50% of its assets, gross income or profits are committed to or derived from activities in the areas described above. The remaining 20% of the Fund's total assets may be invested in other securities including stocks, debt obligations, money market securities and money market mutual funds, as well as certain derivative instruments in the Utility Industry or other industries. Moreover, should extraordinary conditions affecting the Utility Industry or securities markets as a whole warrant, the Fund may temporarily be primarily invested in money market securities or money market mutual funds. When the Fund is invested in these instruments for temporary or defensive purposes, it may not achieve its investment objective.

Initially the Fund expects to invest 90% of its total assets in common stocks and the remaining 10% in preferred stocks. While the Fund has no current plans to invest in debt securities, it reserves the right to do so if deemed advisable to increase income or total return or reduce risk. Under normal market conditions at least 80% of the Fund's total assets will be invested in the Utility Industry but Reaves retains broad discretion to allocate investments among common stocks, preferred stocks and debt securities in the manner it believes will best achieve the Fund's investment objective. The Fund may invest in securities of both domestic and foreign issuers.

The Fund seeks dividend income that qualifies for favorable federal income tax treatment. Under federal income tax law enacted on May 28, 2003, tax-advantaged dividends received by individual shareholders are taxed at rates equivalent to long-term capital gain tax rates, which reach a maximum of 15%. Tax-advantaged dividends generally include dividends from domestic corporations and dividends from foreign corporations that meet certain specified criteria. The Fund generally can pass the tax treatment of tax-advantaged dividends it receives through to Common Shareholders. For the Fund to receive tax-advantaged dividend income, the Fund must hold stock paying an otherwise tax-advantaged dividend for more than 60 days during the 120-day period beginning 60 days before the ex-dividend date (or more than 90 days during the associated 180-day period, in the case of certain preferred stocks). In addition, the Fund cannot be obligated to make related payments (pursuant to a short sale or otherwise) with respect to substantially similar or related property. Similar provisions apply to each Common Shareholder's investment in the Fund. In order for otherwise tax-advantaged dividends from the Fund received by a Common Shareholder to be taxable at long-term capital gains rates, the Common Shareholder must hold his or her Fund shares for more than 60 days during the 120-day period surrounding the ex-dividend date. The provisions of the Code applicable to tax-advantaged dividends are effective through 2008. Thereafter, higher tax rates will apply unless further legislative action is taken.

In addition to investing in stocks that pay tax-advantaged dividends, the Fund may also invest a portion of its assets in stocks and other securities that generate fully taxable ordinary income. For any year, so long as the Fund's fully taxable ordinary income and net realized short-term gains are offset by expenses of the Fund, all of the Fund's income distributions would be characterized as tax-advantaged dividends. There can be no assurance as to what portion of the Fund's income distributions will be tax-advantaged.

The Fund may seek to enhance the level of tax-advantaged dividend income it receives by engaging in dividend capture trading. In a dividend capture trade, the Fund would sell a stock that it held past its ex-dividend date to purchase another stock paying a dividend before the next dividend of the stock being sold. By entering into such trades, the Fund could augment the amount of dividend income it receives over the course of a year. In order for dividends to qualify as tax-advantaged dividends, the Fund must comply with the holding period requirements described herein. The use of dividend capture strategies will expose the Fund to increased trading costs and potential for capital loss.

The investment policy of the Fund of investing at least 80% of the Fund's total assets in common and preferred stocks and debt instruments of companies involved to a substantial extent in the Utility Industry may be changed by the Board of Trustees without shareholder approval. Common Shareholders will, however, receive at least 60 days prior notice of any change in this policy.

Under normal circumstances the Fund may invest in securities of issuers located in countries other than the United States and may invest in such foreign securities without limitation. Investing in securities of foreign issuers, which generally are denominated in foreign currencies, may involve certain risk and opportunity considerations not typically associated with investing in domestic companies and could cause the Fund to be affected favorably or unfavorably by changes in currency exchange rates and revaluations of currencies.

Investment Strategy

The Fund will invest primarily in dividend-paying common and preferred stocks that are producing what Reaves considers to be attractive current levels of tax-advantaged dividend income. Common stock investments will also be made if Reaves believes there is potential for growth of income and capital appreciation over time. Preferred stock investments will also take into consideration Reaves' assessment of the interest rate sensitivity of the investments. While there are no current plans for the Fund to invest in debt securities, it may do so if Reaves determines that such investments are advisable to increase income or total return or to reduce risk. In that event, Reaves may retain or acquire additional debt securities expertise to supplement its expertise in equity investing.

Reaves' underlying investment belief is that stocks of companies with conservative capital structures, a solid balance sheet, a strong earnings outlook, secure and growing dividends and good relative market valuations will tend to outperform the market over the long term. A team of professionals at Reaves will apply this investment approach in managing the Fund's investment portfolio and allocating its investments among common and preferred stocks and other types of securities. Different groups within the team with specialized expertise in the Utility Industry and other market sectors will be assigned responsibility for day-to-day management of different portions of the portfolio.

In making investment decisions, the portfolio managers will utilize the expertise of and information provided by Reaves' staff of research analysts. The analysts screen the equity universe and apply quantitative and qualitative analysis to identify mid-cap and large cap companies in the Utility Industry and other market sectors that meet Reaves' general investment standards, provide critical products and services and pay above average dividends. The analysts also look for and evaluate informally on a daily basis and more formally at weekly meetings a variety of factors, including a company's earnings and cash flow capabilities, dividend prospects and tax treatment of dividends, strength of business franchises and estimates of net value. In selecting investments from among companies recommended by the analysts, the portfolio managers also consider positive catalysts that may unlock market value, such as industry consolidation, management and regulatory change and other developments that may result in future broad market recognition. Many of the considerations entering into the analysts' recommendations and the portfolio managers' decisions are subjective.

The Fund's portfolio will be actively managed and securities may be bought or sold on a daily basis. Investments are added to the portfolio if they satisfy value-based criteria or contribute to the portfolio's risk profile. Investments are removed from the portfolio if they exceed full value, add inefficient risk or the initial investment thesis fails. In general, stocks with lower than market volatility, correlation and similar characteristics are preferred in an equity investment process that focuses on bottom-up stock selection.

Securities of the Utility Industry

The Fund intends to invest at least 80% of its total assets in the securities of domestic and foreign companies involved to a significant extent in providing products, services or equipment for (i) the generation or distribution of electricity, gas or water, (ii) telecommunications activities or (iii) infrastructure operations, such as airports, toll roads and municipal services. Utilities securities are currently the highest yielding equity sector and have experienced less volatile historic returns relative to the broader stock market. For the twenty-five year period from December 31, 1978 to December 31, 2003, the average beta of utilities securities in the Dow Jones Utility Average was .37. Beta is a commonly used measurement of volatility relative to the broader stock market, which generally has a beta of 1. Because of their historically low correlation to the broader equity market, bond market and other types of investments, utilities securities can provide effective diversification to an overall investment portfolio.

Demand for electricity and gas energy is forecasted to increase. The Energy Information Administration, a division of the U.S. Department of Energy, estimates that demand for primary energy will increase 43% between 2001 and 2025.

Certain segments of the industry and individual companies within such segments may not perform as well as the industry as a whole. Many utility companies historically have been subject to risks of increases in fuel and other operating costs, high interest costs on borrowings needed for capital improvement programs and costs associated with compliance with and changes in environmental and other governmental regulations. In particular, regulatory changes with respect to nuclear and conventionally fueled power generating and transmission facilities could increase costs or impair the ability of the utility companies to operate and utilize such facilities, thus reducing the utility companies' earnings or resulting in losses. Rates of return on investment of certain utility companies are subject to review by government regulators. There can be no assurance that changes in regulatory policies or accounting standards will not negatively affect utility companies' earnings or dividends. Costs incurred by utilities, such as fuel and purchased power costs, often are subject to immediate market action resulting from such things as political or military forces operating in geographic regions where oil production is concentrated or global or regional weather conditions, such as droughts, while the rates of return of utility companies generally are subject to review and limitation by state public utility commissions, which results ordinarily in a lag or an absence of correlation between costs and return. It is also possible that costs may not be offset by return. Utilities have, in recent years, been affected by increased competition, which could adversely affect the profitability or viability of such utilities. Electric utilities may also be subject to increasing economic pressures due to deregulation of generation, transmission and other aspects of their business.

Portfolio Investments

Common Stocks

Common stock represents an equity ownership interest in an issuer. The Fund will have substantial exposure to common stocks. Although common stocks have historically generated higher average returns than fixed-income securities over the long term, common stocks also have experienced significantly more volatility in returns. An adverse event, such as an unfavorable earnings report, may

depress the value of a particular common stock held by the Fund. Also, the price of common stocks are sensitive to general movements in the stock market and a drop in the stock market may depress the price of common stocks to which the Fund has exposure. Common stock prices fluctuate for many reasons, including changes in investors' perceptions of the financial condition of an issuer or the general condition of the relevant stock market, or when political or economic events affecting the issuers occur. In addition, common stock prices may be sensitive to rising interest rates, as the costs of capital rise and borrowing costs increase.

Preferred Stocks

Preferred stock, like common stock, represents an equity ownership in an issuer. Generally, preferred stock has a priority of claim over common stock in dividend payments and upon liquidation of the issuer. Unlike common stock, preferred stock does not usually have voting rights. Preferred stock in some instances is convertible into common stock.

Although they are equity securities, preferred stocks have certain characteristics of both debt and common stock. They are debt-like in that their promised income is contractually fixed. They are common stock-like in that they do not have rights to precipitate bankruptcy proceedings or collection activities in the event of missed payments. Furthermore, they have many of the key characteristics of equity due to their subordinated position in an issuer's capital structure and because their quality and value are heavily dependent on the profitability of the issuer rather than on any legal claims to specific assets or cash flows.

In order to be payable, dividends on preferred stock must be declared by the issuer's board of directors or trustees. In addition, distributions on preferred stock may be subject to deferral and thus may not be automatically payable. Income payments on some preferred stocks are cumulative, causing dividends and distributions to accrue even if not declared by the board of directors or trustees or otherwise made payable. Other preferred stocks are non-cumulative, meaning that skipped dividends and distributions do not continue to accrue. There is no assurance that dividends on preferred stocks in which the Fund invests will be declared or otherwise made payable. The Fund may invest in non-cumulative preferred stock, although Reaves would consider, among other factors, their non-cumulative nature in making any decision to purchase or sell such securities.

Shares of preferred stock have a liquidation value that generally equals the original purchase price at the date of issuance. The market values of preferred stock may be affected by favorable and unfavorable changes impacting the issuers' industries or sectors. They may also be affected by actual and anticipated changes or ambiguities in the tax status of the security and by actual and anticipated changes or ambiguities in tax laws, such as changes in corporate and individual income tax rates and in the dividends received deduction or the characterization of dividends as tax-advantaged as described herein.

Because the claim on an issuer's earnings represented by preferred stock may become onerous when interest rates fall below the rate payable on the stock or for other reasons, the issuer may redeem preferred stock, generally after an initial period of call protection in which the stock is not redeemable. Thus, in declining interest rate environments in particular, the Fund's holdings of higher dividend-paying preferred stocks may be reduced and the Fund may be unable to acquire securities paying comparable rates with the redemption proceeds.

Corporate Bonds and Other Debt Securities

If deemed advisable by Reaves to increase income or total return or to reduce risk, the Fund may also invest in corporate bonds, debentures and other debt securities of companies in the Utility Industry or other industries and sectors. Debt securities in which the Fund may invest may pay fixed or variable rates of interest. Bonds and other debt securities generally are issued by corporations and

other issuers to borrow money from investors. The issuer pays the investor a fixed or variable rate of interest and normally must repay the amount borrowed on or before maturity. Certain debt securities are “perpetual” in that they have no maturity date.

The Fund will not invest more than 15% of its total assets in securities rated below investment grade. The foregoing credit quality policies apply only at the time a security is purchased, and the Fund is not required to dispose of securities already owned by the Fund in the event of a change in assessment of credit quality or the removal of a rating.

Warrants

The Fund may invest in equity and index warrants of domestic and international issuers. Equity warrants are securities that give the holder the right, but not the obligation, to subscribe for equity issues of the issuing company or a related company at a fixed price either on a certain date or during a set period. Changes in the value of a warrant do not necessarily correspond to changes in the value of its underlying security. The price of a warrant may be more volatile than the price of its underlying security, and a warrant may offer greater potential for capital appreciation as well as capital loss.

Warrants do not entitle a holder to dividends or voting rights with respect to the underlying security and do not represent any rights in the assets of the issuing company. A warrant ceases to have value if it is not exercised prior to its expiration date. These factors can make warrants more speculative than other types of investments.

Convertible Securities and Bonds with Warrants Attached

The Fund may invest in preferred stocks and fixed-income obligations that are convertible into common stocks of domestic and foreign issuers, and bonds issued as a unit with warrants to purchase equity or fixed income securities. Convertible securities in which the Fund may invest, comprised of both convertible debt and convertible preferred stock, may be converted at either a stated price or at a stated rate into underlying shares of common stock. Because of this feature, convertible securities generally enable an investor to benefit from increases in the market price of the underlying common stock. Convertible securities often provide higher yields than the underlying equity securities, but generally offer lower yields than non-convertible securities of similar quality. The value of convertible securities fluctuates in relation to changes in interest rates like bonds, and, in addition, fluctuates in relation to the underlying common stock.

Bonds with warrants attached to purchase equity securities have many characteristics of convertible bonds and their prices may, to some degree, reflect the performance of the underlying stock. Bonds may also be issued with warrants attached to purchase additional fixed income securities at the same coupon rate. A decline in interest rates would permit the Fund to buy additional bonds at a favorable rate or to sell the warrants at a profit. If interest rates rise, the warrants would generally expire with no value.

Investment Techniques

The Fund may from time to time employ a variety of investment techniques, including those described below, to hedge against fluctuations in the price of portfolio securities, to enhance total return or to provide a substitute for the purchase or sale of securities. Some of these techniques, such as purchases of put and call options, options on stock indices and stock index futures and entry into certain credit derivative transactions and short sales, are hedges against or substitutes for investments in equity investments. Other techniques such as the purchase of interest rate futures and entry into transactions involving interest rate swaps, options on interest rate swaps and certain credit derivatives are hedges against or substitutes for investments in debt securities. The Fund will not utilize the techniques related to investments in debt securities unless and until Reaves determines that such

investments are advisable to increase income or total return or to reduce risk, and, if appropriate, retains or acquires expertise in the use of such techniques. The Fund's ability to utilize any of the techniques described below may be limited by restrictions imposed on its operations in connection with obtaining and maintaining its qualification as a regulated investment company under the Code.

Options on Securities

In order to hedge against adverse market shifts, the Fund may utilize up to 5% of its total assets to purchase put and call options on securities. In addition, the Fund may seek to increase its income or may hedge a portion of its portfolio investments through writing (*i.e.*, selling) covered put and call options. A put option embodies the right of its purchaser to compel the writer of the option to purchase from the option holder an underlying security or its equivalent at a specified price at any time during the option period. In contrast, a call option gives the purchaser the right to buy the underlying security or its equivalent covered by the option or its equivalent from the writer of the option at the stated exercise price. Under interpretations of the Securities and Exchange Commission currently in effect, which may change from time to time, a "covered" call option means that so long as the Fund is obligated as the writer of the option, it will own (1) the underlying instruments subject to the option, (2) instruments convertible or exchangeable into the instruments subject to the option or (3) a call option on the relevant instruments with an exercise price no higher than the exercise price on the call option written.

Similarly, the Securities and Exchange Commission currently requires that, to support its obligation to purchase the underlying instruments if a put option written by the Fund is exercised, the Fund must (1) deposit with its custodian in a segregated account liquid securities having a value at least equal to the exercise price of the underlying securities, (2) continue to own an equivalent number of puts of the same "series" (that is, puts on the same underlying security having the same exercise prices and expiration dates as those written by the Fund), or an equivalent number of puts of the same "class" (that is, puts on the same underlying security) with exercise prices greater than those it has written (or, if the exercise prices of the puts it holds are less than the exercise prices of those it has written, it will deposit the difference with its custodian in a segregated account) or (3) sell short the securities underlying the put option at the same or a higher price than the exercise price on the put option written.

The Fund will receive a premium when it writes put and call options, which increases the Fund's return on the underlying security in the event the option expires unexercised or is closed out at a profit. By writing a call, the Fund will limit its opportunity to profit from an increase in the market value of the underlying security above the exercise price of the option for as long as the Fund's obligation as the writer of the option continues. Upon the exercise of a put option written by the Fund, the Fund may suffer an economic loss equal to the difference between the price at which the Fund is required to purchase the underlying security and its market value at the time of the option exercise, less the premium received for writing the option. Upon the exercise of a call option written by the Fund, the Fund may suffer an economic loss equal to an amount not less than the excess of the security's market value at the time of the option exercise over the Fund's acquisition cost of the security, less the sum of the premium received for writing the option and the difference, if any, between the call price paid to the Fund and the Fund's acquisition cost of the security. Thus, in some periods the Fund might receive less total return and in other periods greater total return from its hedged positions than it would have received from leaving its underlying securities unhedged.

The Fund may purchase and write options on securities that are listed on national securities exchanges or are traded over the counter, although it expects, under normal circumstances, to effect such transactions on national securities exchanges.

As a holder of a put option, the Fund will have the right to sell the securities underlying the option and as the holder of a call option, the Fund will have the right to purchase the securities underlying the option, in each case at their exercise price at any time prior to the option's expiration date. The Fund may choose to exercise the options it holds, permit them to expire or terminate them prior to their expiration by entering into closing sale transactions. In entering into a closing sale transaction, the Fund would sell an option of the same series as the one it has purchased. The ability of the Fund to enter into a closing sale transaction with respect to options purchased and to enter into a closing purchase transaction with respect to options sold depends on the existence of a liquid secondary market. There can be no assurance that a closing purchase or sale transaction can be effected when the Fund so desires. The Fund's ability to terminate option positions established in the over-the-counter market may be more limited than in the case of exchange-traded options and may also involve the risk that securities dealers participating in such transactions would fail to meet their obligations to the Fund.

In purchasing a put option, the Fund will seek to benefit from a decline in the market price of the underlying security, while in purchasing a call option, the Fund will seek to benefit from an increase in the market price of the underlying security. If an option purchased is not sold or exercised when it has remaining value, or if the market price of the underlying security remains equal to or greater than the exercise price, in the case of a put, or remains equal to or below the exercise price, in the case of a call, during the life of the option, the option will expire worthless. For the purchase of an option to be profitable, the market price of the underlying security must decline sufficiently below the exercise price, in the case of a put, and must increase sufficiently above the exercise price, in the case of a call, to cover the premium and transaction costs. Because option premiums paid by the Fund are small in relation to the market value of the instruments underlying the options, buying options can result in large amounts of leverage. The leverage offered by trading in options could cause the Fund's net asset value to be subject to more frequent and wider fluctuation than would be the case if the Fund did not invest in options.

Options on Stock Indices

The Fund may utilize up to 5% of its total assets to purchase put and call options on domestic stock indices to hedge against risks of market-wide price movements affecting its assets. In addition, the Fund may write covered put and call options on stock indices. A stock index measures the movement of a certain group of stocks by assigning relative values to the common stocks included in the index. Options on stock indices are similar to options on securities. Because no underlying security can be delivered, however, the option represents the holder's right to obtain from the writer, in cash, a fixed multiple of the amount by which the exercise price exceeds (in the case of a put) or is less than (in the case of a call) the closing value of the underlying index on the exercise date. The advisability of using stock index options to hedge against the risk of market-wide movements will depend on the extent of diversification of the Fund's investments and the sensitivity of its investments to factors influencing the underlying index. The effectiveness of purchasing or writing stock index options as a hedging technique will depend upon the extent to which price movements in the Fund's securities investments correlate with price movements in the stock index selected. In addition, successful use by the Fund of options on stock indices will be subject to the ability of Reaves to predict correctly changes in the relationship of the underlying index to the Fund's portfolio holdings. No assurance can be given that Reaves' judgment in this respect will be correct.

When the Fund writes an option on a stock index, it will establish a segregated account with its custodian in which the Fund will deposit liquid securities in an amount equal to the market value of the option, and will maintain the account while the option is open.

Short Sales

The Fund may sell a security short if it owns at least an equal amount of the security sold short or another security convertible or exchangeable for an equal amount of the security sold short without payment of further compensation (a short sale against-the-box). In a short sale against-the-box, the short seller is exposed to the risk of being forced to deliver stock that it holds to close the position if the borrowed stock is called in by the lender, which would cause gain or loss to be recognized on the delivered stock. The Fund expects normally to close its short sales against-the-box by delivering newly acquired stock.

The ability to use short sales against-the-box strategies as a tax-efficient management technique with respect to holdings of appreciated securities is limited to circumstances in which the hedging transaction is closed out within thirty days of the end of the Fund's taxable year and the underlying appreciated securities position is held unhedged for at least the next sixty days after the hedging transaction is closed. Not meeting these requirements would trigger the recognition of gain on the underlying appreciated securities position under the federal tax laws applicable to constructive sales. Dividends received on securities with respect to which the Fund is obligated to make related payments (pursuant to short sales or otherwise) will be treated as fully taxable ordinary income.

Futures Contracts and Options on Futures Contracts

The Fund may enter into interest rate and stock index futures contracts and may purchase and sell put and call options on such futures contracts. The Fund will enter into such transactions for hedging and other appropriate risk-management purposes or to increase return, in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC") and the Securities and Exchange Commission.

An interest rate futures contract is a standardized contract for the future delivery of a specified security (such as a U.S. Treasury Bond or U.S. Treasury Note) or its equivalent at a future date at a price set at the time of the contract. A stock index futures contract is an agreement to take or make delivery of an amount of cash equal to the difference between the value of the index at the beginning and at the end of the contract period. The Fund may only enter into futures contracts traded on regulated commodity exchanges.

Parties to a futures contract must make "initial margin" deposits to secure performance of the contract. There are also requirements to make "variation margin" deposits from time to time as the value of the futures contract fluctuates. Reaves has claimed an exclusion from the definition of commodity pool operator under the Commodity Exchange Act (the "CEA") and, therefore, Reaves is not subject to registration or regulation as a commodity pool operator under the CEA. The Fund reserves the right to engage in transactions involving futures and options thereon and in accordance with the Fund's policies. In addition, certain provisions of the Code may limit the extent to which the Fund may enter into futures contracts or engage in options transactions.

Under regulations of the SEC currently in effect, which may change from time to time, with respect to futures contracts to purchase securities or stock indices, call options on futures contracts purchased by the Fund and put options on futures contracts written by the Fund, the Fund will set aside in a segregated account liquid securities with a value at least equal to the value of instruments underlying such futures contracts less the amount of initial margin on deposit for such contracts. The current view of the staff of the Securities and Exchange Commission is that the Fund's long and short positions in futures contracts as well as put and call options on futures written by it must be collateralized with cash or certain liquid assets held in a segregated account or "covered" in a manner similar to that described below for covered options on securities (see "Investment Objectives and Policies—Investment Techniques—Options on Securities") in order to counter the impact of any potential leveraging.

The Fund may either accept or make delivery of cash or the underlying instrument specified at the expiration of an interest rate futures contract or cash at the expiration of a stock index futures contract or, prior to expiration, enter into a closing transaction involving the purchase or sale of an offsetting contract. Closing transactions with respect to futures contracts are effected on the exchange on which the contract was entered into (or a linked exchange).

The Fund may purchase and write put and call options on interest rate futures contracts and stock index futures contracts in order to hedge all or a portion of its investments and may enter into closing purchase transactions with respect to options written by the Fund in order to terminate existing positions. There is no guarantee that such closing transactions can be effected at any particular time or at all. In addition, daily limits on price fluctuations on exchanges on which the Fund conducts its futures and options transactions may prevent the prompt liquidation of positions at the optimal time, thus subjecting the Fund to the potential of greater losses.

An option on an interest rate futures contract or stock index futures contract, as contrasted with the direct investment in such a contract, gives the purchaser of the option the right, in return for the premium paid, to assume a position in a stock index futures contract or interest rate futures contract at a specified exercise price at any time on or before the expiration date of the option. Upon exercise of an option, the delivery of the futures position by the writer of the option to the holder of the option will be accompanied by delivery of the accumulated balance in the writer's futures margin account, which represents the amount by which the market price of the futures contract exceeds, in the case of a call, or is less than, in the case of a put, the exercise price of the option on the futures contract. The potential loss related to the purchase of an option on a futures contract is limited to the premium paid for the option (plus transaction costs).

With respect to options purchased by the Fund, there are no daily cash payments made by the Fund to reflect changes in the value of the underlying contract; however, the value of the option does change daily and that change would be reflected in the net asset value of the Fund.

While the Fund may enter into futures contracts and options on futures contracts for hedging purposes, the use of futures contracts and options on futures contracts might result in a poorer overall performance for the Fund than if it had not engaged in any such transactions. If, for example, the Fund had insufficient cash, it might have to sell a portion of its underlying portfolio of securities in order to meet daily variation margin requirements on its futures contracts or options on futures contracts at a time when it might be disadvantageous to do so. There may be an imperfect correlation between the Fund's portfolio holdings and futures contracts or options on futures contracts entered into by the Fund, which may prevent the Fund from achieving the intended hedge or expose the Fund to risk of loss. Further, the Fund's use of futures contracts and options on futures contracts to reduce risk involves costs and will be subject to Reaves' ability to predict correctly changes in interest rate relationships or other factors. No assurance can be given that Reaves' judgment in this respect will be correct.

When-Issued and Delayed Delivery Transactions

New issues of preferred and debt securities may be offered on a when-issued or delayed delivery basis, which means that delivery and payment for the security normally take place within 45 days after the date of the commitment to purchase. The payment obligation and the dividends that will be received on the security are fixed at the time the buyer enters into the commitment. The Fund will make commitments to purchase securities on a when-issued or delayed delivery basis only with the intention of acquiring the securities, but may sell these securities before the settlement date if Reaves deems it advisable. No additional when-issued or delayed delivery commitments will be made if more than 20% of the Fund's total assets would be so committed. Securities purchased on a when-issued or delayed delivery basis may be subject to changes in value based upon the public's perception of the

creditworthiness of the issuer and changes, real or anticipated, in the level of interest rates. Securities purchased or sold on a when-issued or delayed delivery basis may expose the Fund to risk because they may experience these fluctuations prior to their actual delivery. The Fund will not accrue income with respect to a debt security it has purchased on a when-issued or delayed delivery basis prior to its stated delivery date but will accrue income on a delayed delivery security it has sold. Purchasing or selling securities on a when-issued or delayed delivery basis can involve the additional risk that the yield available in the market when the delivery takes place actually may be higher than that obtained in the transaction itself. A segregated account of the Fund consisting of liquid securities equal at all times to the amount of the Fund's when-issued and delayed delivery purchase commitments will be established and maintained with the Fund's custodian. Placing securities rather than cash in the segregated account may have a leveraging effect on the Fund's net asset value per share; that is, to the extent that the Fund remains substantially fully invested in securities at the same time that it has committed to purchase securities on a when-issued or delayed delivery basis, greater fluctuations in its net asset value per share may occur than if it has set aside cash to satisfy its purchase commitments.

Interest Rate Swaps and Options Thereon ("Swaptions")

The Fund may enter into interest rate swap agreements and may purchase and sell put and call options on such swap agreements, commonly referred to as swaptions. The Fund will enter into such transactions for hedging some or all of its interest rate exposure in its holdings of preferred securities and debt securities. Interest rate swap agreements and swaptions are highly specialized investments and are not traded on or regulated by any securities exchange or regulated by the CFTC or the Securities and Exchange Commission.

An interest rate swap is an agreement between two parties where one party agrees to pay a contractually stated fixed income stream, usually denoted as a fixed percentage of an underlying "notional" amount, in exchange for receiving a variable income stream, usually based on the London Interbank Offered Rate, and denoted as a percentage of the underlying notional amount. From the perspective of a fixed rate payer, if interest rates rise, the payer will expect a rising level of income since the payer is a receiver of floating rate income. This would cause the value of the swap contract to rise in value, from the payer's perspective, because the discounted present value of its obligatory payment stream is diminished at higher interest rates, all at the same time it is receiving higher income. Alternatively, if interest rates fall, the reverse occurs and it simultaneously faces the prospects of both a diminished floating rate income stream and a higher discounted present value of his fixed rate payment obligation. For purposes of completing the analysis, these value changes all work in reverse from the perspective of a fixed rate receiver.

A swaption is an agreement between two parties where one party purchases the right from the other party to enter into an interest rate swap at a specified date and for a specified "fixed rate" yield (or "exercise" yield). In a pay-fixed swaption, the holder of the swaption has the right to enter into an interest rate swap as a payer of fixed rate and receiver of variable rate, while the writer of the swaption has the obligation to enter into the other side of the interest rate swap. In a receive-fixed swaption, the holder of the swaption has the right to enter into an interest rate swap as a receiver of fixed rate and a payer of variable rate, while the writer of the swaption has the obligation to enter into the opposite side of the interest rate swap.

A pay-fixed swaption is analogous to a put option on Treasury securities in that it rises in value as interest rate swap yields rise. A receive-fixed swaption is analogous to a call option on Treasury securities in that it rises in value as interest rate swap yields decline. As with other options on securities, indices, or futures contracts, the price of any swaption will reflect both an intrinsic value component, which may be zero, and a time premium component. The intrinsic value component represents what the value of the swaption would be if it were immediately exercisable into the underlying interest rate swap. The intrinsic value component measures the degree to which an option is in-the-money, if at all. The time premium represents the difference between the actual price of the swaption and the intrinsic value.

It is customary market practice for swaptions to be “cash settled” rather than an actual position in an interest rate swap being established at the time of swaption expiration. For reasons set forth more fully below, Reaves expects to enter strictly into cash settled swaptions, *i.e.*, where the exercise value of the swaption is determined by reference to the market for interest rate swaps then prevailing.

Credit Derivatives

The Fund may enter into credit derivative transactions, either to hedge credit exposure or to gain exposure to an issuer or group of issuers more economically than can be achieved by investing directly in preferred or debt securities. Credit derivatives fall into two broad categories: credit default swaps and market spread swaps, both of which can reference either a single issuer or obligor or a portfolio of preferred and/or debt securities. In a credit default swap, which is the most common form of credit derivative, the purchaser of credit protection makes a periodic payment to the seller (swap counterparty) in exchange for a payment by the seller should a referenced security or loan, or a specified portion of a portfolio of such instruments, default during the life of the swap agreement. If there were a default event as specified in the swap agreement, the buyer either (i) would receive from the seller the difference between the par (or other agreed-upon) value of the referenced instrument(s) and the then-current market value of the instrument(s) or (ii) have the right to make delivery of the reference instrument to the counterparty. If there were no default, the buyer of credit protection would have spent the stream of payments and received no benefit from the contract. Market spread swaps are based on relative changes in market rates, such as the yield spread between a preferred security and a benchmark Treasury security, rather than default events.

In a market spread swap, two counterparties agree to exchange payments at future dates based on the spread between a reference security (or index) and a benchmark security (or index). The buyer (fixed-spread payer) would receive from the seller (fixed-spread receiver) the difference between the market rate and the reference rate at each payment date, if the market rate were above the reference rate. If the market rate were below the reference rate, then the buyer would pay to the seller the difference between the reference rate and the market rate. The Fund may utilize market spread swaps to “lock in” the yield (or price) of a security or index without having to purchase the reference security or index. Market spread swaps may also be used to mitigate the risk associated with a widening of the spread between the yield or price of a security in the Fund’s portfolio relative to a benchmark Treasury security. Market spread options, which are analogous to swaptions, give the buyer the right but not the obligation to buy (in the case of a call) or sell (in the case of a put) the referenced market spread at a fixed price from the seller. Similarly, the seller of a market spread option has the obligation to sell (in the case of a call) or buy (in the case of a put) the referenced market spread at a fixed price from the buyer. Credit derivatives are highly specialized investments and are not traded on or regulated by any securities exchange or regulated by the CFTC or the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Interest Rate Swaps, Swaptions, and Credit Derivatives (General)

The pricing and valuation terms of interest rate swaps, swaptions and credit derivatives are not standardized and there is no clearinghouse whereby a party to the agreement can enter into an offsetting position to close out a contract. Interest rate swaps, swaptions, and credit derivatives are usually (1) between an institutional investor and a broker-dealer firm or bank or (2) between institutional investors. In addition, substantially all swaps are entered into subject to the standards set forth by the International Swaps & Derivatives Association (“ISDA”). ISDA represents participants in the privately negotiated derivatives industry. It helps formulate the investment industry’s position on regulatory and legislative issues, develops international contractual standards, and offers arbitration on disputes concerning market practice.

Under the rating agency guidelines imposed in connection with the intended issuance of preferred shares by the Fund, it is expected that the Fund will be authorized to enter into swaptions and to

purchase credit default swaps without limitation but will be subject to limitation on entering into interest rate swap agreements or selling credit protection. Certain rating agency guidelines may be changed from time to time and it is expected that those relating to interest rate swaps, swaptions, and credit derivatives would be able to be revised by the Board of Trustees, without shareholder vote of the Common Shares or the Fund's preferred shares, so long as the relevant rating agency(ies) has given written notice that such revisions would not adversely affect the rating of the Fund's preferred shares then in effect.

The Board of Trustees will limit the Fund's use of interest rate and credit swaps and swaptions as follows: (1) swaps and swaptions must be U.S. dollar denominated and used for hedging purposes only; (2) no more than 5% of the Fund's total assets, at the time of purchase, may be invested in time premiums paid for swaptions; (3) swaps and swaptions must conform to the standards of the ISDA Master Agreement; and (4) the counterparty must be a bank or broker-dealer firm regulated under the laws of the United States of America that is (a) on a list approved by the Board of Trustees, (b) with capital of at least \$100 million, and (c) which is rated investment grade by both Moody's Investors Service, Inc. and Standard & Poor's Ratings Group, a Division of The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. These criteria can be modified by the Board of Trustees at any time in its discretion.

The market value of the Fund's investments in credit derivatives and/or premiums paid therefor as a buyer of credit protection will not exceed 10% of the Fund's total assets and the notional value of the credit exposure to which the Fund is subject when it sells credit derivatives sold by the Fund will not exceed 33⅓% of the Fund's total assets.

Reaves expects that the Fund will be subject to the initial and subsequent mark-to-market collateral requirements that are standard among ISDA participants. These requirements help insure that the party who is a net obligor at current market value has pledged for safekeeping, to the counterparty or its agent, sufficient collateral to cover any losses should the obligor become incapable, for whatever reason, of fulfilling its commitments under the swap or swaption agreements. This is analogous, in many respects, to the collateral requirements in place on regular futures and options exchanges. The Fund will be responsible for monitoring the market value of all derivative transactions to insure that they are properly collateralized.

If Reaves determines it is advisable for the Fund to enter into such transactions, the Fund will institute procedures for valuing interest rate swap, swaption, or credit derivative positions to which it is party. Interest rate swaps, swaptions, and credit derivatives will be valued by the counterparty to the swap or swaption in question. Such valuation will then be compared with the valuation provided by a broker-dealer or bank that is not a party to the contract. In the event of material discrepancies, the Fund has procedures in place for valuing the swap or swaption, subject to the direction of the Board of Trustees, which include reference to (1) third-party information services, such as Bloomberg, and (2) comparison with Reaves' valuation models.

The use of interest rate swaps, swaptions, and credit derivatives, as the foregoing discussion suggests, are subject to risks and complexities beyond what might be encountered in standardized, exchange traded options and futures contracts. Such risks include operational risks, valuation risks, credit risks, and/or counterparty risk (*i.e.*, the risk that the counterparty cannot or will not perform its obligations under the agreement). In addition, at the time the interest rate swap, swaption, or credit derivative reaches its scheduled termination date, there is a risk that the Fund will not be able to obtain a replacement transaction or that the terms of the replacement will not be as favorable as on the expiring transaction. If this occurs, it could have a negative impact on the performance of the Fund.

While the Fund may utilize interest rate swaps, swaptions, and credit derivatives for hedging purposes or to enhance total return, their use might result in poorer overall performance for the Fund than if it had not engaged in any such transactions. If, for example, the Fund had insufficient cash, it might have to sell or pledge a portion of its underlying portfolio of securities in order to meet daily

mark-to-market collateralization requirements at a time when it might be disadvantageous to do so. There may be an imperfect correlation between the Fund's portfolio holdings and swaps, swaptions, or credit derivatives entered into by the Fund, which may prevent the Fund from achieving the intended hedge or expose the Fund to risk of loss. Further, the Fund's use of swaps, swaptions, and credit derivatives to reduce risk involves costs and will be subject to Reaves' ability to predict correctly changes in interest rate relationships, volatility, credit quality or other factors. No assurance can be given that Reaves' judgment in this respect will be correct.

Temporary Investments

During unusual market circumstances, the Fund may invest temporarily in cash, money market securities, money market mutual funds or cash equivalents, which may be inconsistent with the Fund's investment objective. Cash equivalents are highly liquid, short-term securities such as commercial paper, time deposits, certificates of deposit, short-term notes and short-term U.S. Government obligations.

Portfolio Turnover

As noted above, Reaves may sell securities to realize capital losses that can be used to offset capital gains (but not tax-advantaged dividends or other ordinary income) or in connection with dividend recapture strategies. Use of these strategies will increase portfolio turnover. Although the Fund cannot accurately predict its portfolio turnover rate, it may exceed 100% (excluding turnover of securities having a maturity of one year or less). A high turnover rate (100% or more) necessarily involves greater expenses to the Fund and may result in realization of net short-term capital gains.

Foreign Currency Transactions

The value of foreign assets as measured in U.S. dollars may be affected favorably or unfavorably by changes in foreign currency rates and exchange control regulations. Currency exchange rates can also be affected unpredictably by intervention by U.S. or foreign governments or central banks, or the failure to intervene, or by currency controls or political developments in the United States or abroad. Foreign currency exchange transactions may be conducted on a spot (*i.e.*, cash) basis at the spot rate prevailing in the foreign currency exchange market or through entering into derivative currency transactions. Currency futures contracts are exchange-traded and change in value to reflect movements of a currency or a basket of currencies. Settlement must be made in a designated currency.

Forward foreign currency exchange contracts are individually negotiated and privately traded so they are dependent upon the creditworthiness of the counterparty. Such contracts may be used when a security denominated in a foreign currency is purchased or sold, or when the Fund anticipates receipt in a foreign currency of dividend or interest payments on such a security. A forward contract can then "lock in" the U.S. dollar price of the security or the U.S. dollar equivalent of such dividend or interest payment, as the case may be. Additionally, when Reaves believes that the currency of a particular foreign country may suffer a substantial decline against the U.S. dollar, it may enter into a forward contract to sell, for a fixed amount of dollars, the amount of foreign currency approximating the value of some or all of the securities held that are denominated in such foreign currency. The precise matching of the forward contract amounts and the value of the securities involved will not generally be possible. In addition, it may not be possible to hedge against long-term currency changes. The Fund may engage in cross-hedging by using forward contracts in one currency (or basket of currencies) to hedge against fluctuations in the value of securities denominated in a different currency if Reaves determines that there is an established historical pattern of correlation between the two currencies (or the basket of currencies and the underlying currency). Use of a different foreign currency magnifies exposure to foreign currency exchange rate fluctuations. The Fund may use forward contracts to shift exposure to foreign currency exchange rate changes from one currency to another. Short-term hedging provides a means of fixing the dollar value of only a portion of portfolio assets.

Currency transactions are subject to the risk of a number of complex political and economic factors applicable to the countries issuing the underlying currencies. Furthermore, unlike trading in most other types of instruments, there is no systematic reporting of last sale information with respect to the foreign currencies underlying the derivative currency transactions. As a result, available information may not be complete. In an over-the-counter trading environment, there are no daily price fluctuation limits. There may be no liquid secondary market to close out options purchased or written, or forward contracts entered into, until their exercise, expiration or maturity. There is also the risk of default by, or the bankruptcy of, the financial institution serving as a counterparty.

Illiquid Securities

The Fund may invest in securities for which there is no readily available trading market or are otherwise illiquid. Illiquid securities include securities legally restricted as to resale, such as commercial paper issued pursuant to Section 4(2) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the “Securities Act”), and securities eligible for resale pursuant to Rule 144A thereunder. Section 4(2) and Rule 144A securities may, however, be treated as liquid by Reaves pursuant to procedures adopted by the Board of Trustees, which require consideration of factors such as trading activity, availability of market quotations and number of dealers willing to purchase the security. If the Fund invests in Rule 144A securities, the level of portfolio illiquidity may be increased to the extent that eligible buyers become uninterested in purchasing such securities.

It may be difficult to sell such securities at a price representing their fair value until such time as such securities may be sold publicly. Where registration is required, a considerable period may elapse between a decision to sell the securities and the time when it would be permitted to sell. Thus, the Fund may not be able to obtain as favorable a price as that prevailing at the time of the decision to sell. The Fund may also acquire securities through private placements under which it may agree to contractual restrictions on the resale of such securities. Such restrictions might prevent their sale at a time when such sale would otherwise be desirable.

Reverse Repurchase Agreements

The Fund may enter into reverse repurchase agreements. Under a reverse repurchase agreement, the Fund temporarily transfers possession of a portfolio instrument to another party, such as a bank or broker-dealer, in return for cash. At the same time, the Fund agrees to repurchase the instrument at an agreed upon time (normally within seven days) and price, which reflects an interest payment. The Fund may enter into such agreements when it is able to invest the cash acquired at a rate higher than the cost of the agreement, which would increase earned income.

When the Fund enters into a reverse repurchase agreement, any fluctuations in the market value of either the securities transferred to another party or the securities in which the proceeds may be invested would affect the market value of the Fund’s assets. As a result, such transactions may increase fluctuations in the market value of the Fund’s assets. While there is a risk that large fluctuations in the market value of the Fund’s assets could affect net asset value, this risk is not significantly increased by entering into reverse repurchase agreements, in the opinion of Reaves. Because reverse repurchase agreements may be considered to be the practical equivalent of borrowing funds, they constitute a form of leverage. Such agreements will be treated as subject to investment restrictions regarding “borrowings.” If the Fund reinvests the proceeds of a reverse repurchase agreement at a rate lower than the cost of the agreement, entering into the agreement will lower the Fund’s yield.

EFFECT OF LEVERAGE

The Fund expects to use leverage through the issuance of preferred shares and/or through borrowings, including the issuance of debt securities. The Fund intends to use leverage initially of up to 38% of its total assets (including the amount obtained from leverage). The Fund generally will not use

leverage if Reaves anticipates that it would result in a lower return to Common Shareholders for any significant amount of time. The Fund also may borrow money as a temporary measure for extraordinary or emergency purposes, including the payment of dividends and the settlement of securities transactions, which otherwise might require untimely dispositions of Fund securities.

Leverage creates risks for holders of the Common Shares, including the likelihood of greater volatility of net asset value and market price of the Common Shares. There is a risk that fluctuations in the dividend rates on any preferred shares may adversely affect the return to the holders of the Common Shares. If the income from the securities purchased with such funds is not sufficient to cover the cost of leverage, the return on the Fund will be less than if leverage had not been used, and therefore the amount available for distribution to Common Shareholders as dividends and other distributions will be reduced. Reaves in its best judgment nevertheless may determine to maintain the Fund's leveraged position if it deems such action to be appropriate in the circumstances.

Changes in the value of the Fund's portfolio (including investments bought with the proceeds of the preferred shares offering or borrowing program) will be borne entirely by the Common Shareholders. If there is a net decrease (or increase) in the value of the Fund's investment portfolio, the leverage will decrease (or increase) the net asset value per share to a greater extent than if the Fund were not leveraged. During periods in which the Fund is using leverage, the fees paid to Reaves for investment advisory services and to ALPS for administrative services will be higher than if the Fund did not use leverage because the fees paid will be calculated on the basis of the Fund's total assets, including proceeds from borrowings and the issuance of preferred shares. As discussed under "Description of Capital Structure—Preferred Shares," the Fund's issuance of preferred shares may alter the voting power of Common Shareholders.

Capital raised through leverage will be subject to dividend or interest payments, which may exceed the income and appreciation on the assets purchased. The issuance of preferred shares or entering into a borrowing program involves expenses and other costs and may limit the Fund's freedom to pay dividends on Common Shares or to engage in other activities. The issuance of a class of preferred shares or incurrence of borrowings having priority over the Fund's Common Shares creates an opportunity for greater return per Common Share, but at the same time such leveraging is a speculative technique in that it will increase the Fund's exposure to capital risk. Unless the income and appreciation, if any, on assets acquired with leverage proceeds exceed the associated costs of such preferred shares or borrowings (and other Fund expenses), the use of leverage will diminish the investment performance of the Fund's Common Shares compared with what it would have been without leverage.

The Fund may be subject to certain restrictions on investments imposed by guidelines of one or more rating agencies that may issue ratings for any preferred shares issued by the Fund and by borrowing program covenants. These guidelines and covenants may impose asset coverage or Fund composition requirements that are more stringent than those imposed on the Fund by the 1940 Act. It is not anticipated that these covenants or guidelines will significantly impede Reaves from managing the Fund's portfolio in accordance with the Fund's investment objective and policies.

Under the 1940 Act, the Fund is not permitted to issue preferred shares unless immediately after such issuance the total asset value of the Fund's portfolio is at least 200% of the liquidation value of the outstanding preferred shares (*i.e.*, such liquidation value may not exceed 50% of the Fund's total assets). In addition, the Fund is not permitted to declare any cash dividend or other distribution on its Common Shares unless, at the time of such declaration, the net asset value of the Fund's portfolio (determined after deducting the amount of such dividend or other distribution) is at least 200% of such liquidation value. If preferred shares are issued, the Fund intends, to the extent possible, to purchase or redeem preferred shares, from time to time, to maintain coverage of any preferred shares of at least 200%. Though the Fund may issue preferred shares amounting to 50% leverage, it does not intend to

exceed 38% leverage, at which point there will be an asset coverage of 263%. Initially, holders of the Common Shares will elect each of the six Trustees of The Fund. If the Fund issues preferred shares, the holders of the preferred shares will elect two of the Trustees of the Fund. In the event the Fund failed to pay dividends on its preferred shares for two years, preferred shareholders would be entitled to elect a majority of the Trustees until the dividends are paid.

To qualify for federal income taxation as a “regulated investment company,” the Fund must distribute in each taxable year at least 90% of its net investment income (including net interest income and net short-term gain). The Fund also will be required to distribute annually substantially all of its income and capital gain, if any, to avoid imposition of a nondeductible 4% federal excise tax.

The Fund’s willingness to issue new securities for investment purposes, and the amount the Fund will issue, will depend on many factors, the most important of which are market conditions and interest rates. Successful use of a leveraging strategy may depend on Reaves’ ability to predict correctly interest rates and market movements, and there is no assurance that a leveraging strategy will be successful during any period in which it is employed.

Assuming the utilization of leverage in the amount of 38% of the Fund’s total assets and an annual dividend rate on preferred shares of 1.1% payable on such leverage based on market rates as of the date of this prospectus, the additional income that the Fund must earn (net of expenses) in order to cover such dividend payments is .51%. The Fund’s actual cost of leverage will be based on market rates at the time the Fund undertakes a leveraging strategy, and such actual cost of leverage may be higher or lower than that assumed in the previous example.

The following table is designed to illustrate the effect on the return to a holder of the Fund’s Common Shares of leverage in the amount of approximately 38% of the Fund’s total assets, assuming hypothetical annual returns of the Fund’s portfolio of minus 10% to plus 10%. As the table shows, leverage generally increases the return to Common Shareholders when portfolio return is positive and greater than the cost of leverage and decreases the return when the portfolio return is negative or less than the cost of leverage. The figures appearing in the table are hypothetical and actual returns may be greater or less than those appearing in the table.

Assumed portfolio return (net of expenses)	(10)%	(5)%	0%	5%	10%
Corresponding Common Share return	(17)%	(9)%	(1)%	7%	15%

In addition to the issuance of preferred shares, the Fund may use a variety of additional strategies that would be viewed as potentially adding leverage to the portfolio, subject to rating agency limitations. These include the sale of credit default swap contracts and the use of other derivative instruments and, prior to the issuance of preferred shares, reverse repurchase agreements. By adding additional leverage, these strategies have the potential to increase returns to Common Shareholders, but also involve additional risks. Additional leverage will increase the volatility of the Fund’s investment portfolio and could result in larger losses than if the strategies were not used. However, to the extent that the Fund enters into offsetting transactions or owns positions covering its obligations, the leveraging effect is expected to be minimized or eliminated.

During the time in which the Fund is utilizing leverage, the fees paid to Reaves and the Administrator for services will be higher than if the Fund did not utilize leverage because the fees paid will be calculated based on the Fund’s total assets. Only the Fund’s holders of Common Shares bear the cost of the Fund’s fees and expenses.

Until the Fund issues preferred shares or incurs borrowings, the Common Shares will not be leveraged, and the risks and special considerations related to leverage described in this prospectus will not apply. Such leveraging of the Common Shares cannot be achieved until the proceeds resulting from the use of leverage have been invested in accordance with the Fund’s investment objective and policies.

RISK FACTORS

Investing in the Fund involves risk, including the risk that you may receive little or no return on your investment or that you may lose part or all of your investment. Therefore, before investing you should consider carefully the following risks before investing in the Fund.

No Operating History

The Fund is a closed-end investment company with no history of operations and is designed for long-term investors and not as a trading vehicle.

Investment and Market Risk

An investment in Common Shares is subject to investment risk, including the possible loss of the entire principal amount invested. An investment in Common Shares represents an indirect investment in the securities owned by the Fund, which are generally traded on a securities exchange or in the over-the-counter markets. The value of these securities, like other market investments, may move up or down, sometimes rapidly and unpredictably. The Common Shares at any point in time may be worth less than the original investment, even after taking into account any reinvestment of dividends and distributions.

Non-Diversified Status

As a non-diversified investment company under the 1940 Act, the Fund is not limited in the proportion of its assets that may be invested in securities of a single issuer, and accordingly, may invest a greater portion of its assets in a more limited number of issuers than a diversified fund. However, the Fund intends to conduct its operations so as to qualify as a regulated investment company for purposes of the Code, which generally will relieve the Fund of any liability for federal income tax to the extent its earnings are distributed to shareholders. See “Taxes” in the Statement of Additional Information. To so qualify, among other requirements, the Fund will limit its investments so that at the end of each quarter of each taxable year (a) at least 50% of the market value of the Fund’s total assets is represented by cash and cash items, U.S. government securities, the securities of other regulated investment companies and other securities, with such other securities limited, in respect of any one issuer, to an amount not greater than 5% of the value of the Fund’s total assets and not more than 10% of the outstanding voting securities of such issuer, and (b) not more than 25% of the market value of the Fund’s total assets is invested in the securities of any issuer (other than U.S. government securities and the securities of other regulated investment companies) or of any two or more issuers that the Fund controls and that are determined to be engaged in the same business or similar or related trades or businesses. Because the Fund, as a non-diversified investment company, may invest in a smaller number of individual issuers than a diversified investment company, an investment in the Fund may, under certain circumstances, present greater risk to an investor than an investment in a diversified company because changes in the financial condition or market assessment of a single issuer may cause greater fluctuations in the value of the Fund’s Common Shares.

Issuer Risk

The value of common and preferred stocks may decline for a number of reasons, which directly relate to the issuer, such as management performance, financial leverage and reduced demand for the issuer’s goods and services.

Income Risk

The income Common Shareholders receive from the Fund is based primarily on the dividends and interest it earns from its investments, which can vary widely over the short and long-term. If prevailing

market interest rates drop, distribution rates of the Fund's preferred stock holdings and any bond holdings and Common Shareholder's income from the Fund could drop as well. The Fund's income also would likely be affected adversely when prevailing short-term interest rates increase and the Fund is utilizing leverage.

Tax Risk

The Fund's investment program and the tax treatment of Fund distributions may be affected by IRS interpretations of the Code, future changes in tax laws and regulations, including changes as a result of the "sunset" provisions that currently apply to the favorable tax treatment of tax-advantaged dividends. There can be no assurance that any portion of the Fund's income distributions will not be fully taxable as ordinary income.

Sector/Industry Risk

The Fund will invest a significant portion of its assets of issuers in the Utility Industry. This may make the Fund more susceptible to adverse economic, political, or regulatory occurrences affecting this sector. As concentration in a sector increases, so does the potential for fluctuation in the net asset value of Common Shares.

The Utility Industry generally includes companies involved in providing products, services or equipment for (i) the generation or distribution of electricity, gas or water, (ii) telecommunications services or (iii) infrastructure operations, such as airports, toll roads and municipal services. Certain segments of the Utility Industry and individual companies within such segments may not perform as well as the Utility Industry as a whole. Many utility companies historically have been subject to risks of increases in fuel, purchased power and other operating costs, high interest costs on borrowings needed for capital improvement programs and costs associated with compliance with and changes in environmental and other governmental regulations. In particular, changes to, or a repeal of, the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935, as has been proposed by certain members of Congress, could negatively impact companies in the Utility Industry. Further, regulatory changes with respect to nuclear and conventionally fueled power generating and transmission facilities could increase costs or impair the ability of the utility companies to operate and utilize such facilities, thus reducing the utility companies' earnings or resulting in losses. Rates of return on investment of certain utility companies are subject to review by government regulators. There can be no assurance that changes in regulatory policies or accounting standards will not negatively affect utility companies' earnings or dividends. Costs incurred by utilities, such as fuel and purchased power costs, often are subject to immediate market action resulting from such things as political or military forces operating in geographic regions where oil production is concentrated or global or regional weather conditions, such as droughts, while the rate of return of utility companies generally are subject to review and limitation by state public utility commissions, which often results in a lag or an absence of correlation between costs and return. It is also possible that costs may not be offset by return. Utilities have, in recent years, been affected by increased competition, which could adversely affect the profitability or viability of such utilities. Electric utilities may also be subject to increasing economic pressures due to deregulation of generation, transmission and other aspects of their business.

Non-Investment Grade Securities Risk

The Fund's investments in preferred stocks and bonds of below investment grade quality, if any, are predominantly speculative because of the credit risk of their issuers. While offering a greater potential opportunity for capital appreciation and higher yields, preferred stocks and bonds of below investment grade quality entail greater potential price volatility and may be less liquid than higher-rated securities. Issuers of below investment grade quality preferred stocks and bonds are more likely to default on their payments of dividends/interest and liquidation value/principal owed to the Fund, and

such defaults will reduce the Fund's net asset value and income distributions. The prices of these lower quality preferred stocks and bonds are more sensitive to negative developments than higher rated securities. Adverse business conditions, such as a decline in the issuer's revenues or an economic downturn, generally lead to a higher non-payment rate. In addition, such a security may lose significant value before a default occurs as the market adjusts to expected higher non-payment rates. The Fund will not invest more than 15% of its total assets in securities rated below investment grade. The foregoing credit quality policies apply only at the time a security is purchased, and the Fund is not required to dispose of securities already owned by the Fund in the event of a change in assessment of credit quality or the removal of a rating.

Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that preferred stocks paying fixed dividend rates and fixed-rate debt securities will decline in value because of changes in market interest rates. When interest rates rise the market value of such securities generally will fall. The Fund's investment in preferred stocks and fixed-rate debt securities means that the net asset value and price of the Common Shares may decline if market interest rates rise. Interest rates are currently low relative to historic levels. During periods of declining interest rates, an issuer of preferred stock or fixed-rate debt securities may exercise its option to redeem securities prior to maturity, forcing the Fund to reinvest in lower yielding securities. This is known as call risk. During periods of rising interest rates, the average life of certain types of securities may be extended because of slower than expected payments. This may lock in a below market yield, increase the security's duration, and reduce the value of the security. This is known as extension risk. The value of the Fund's common stock investments may also be influenced by changes in interest rates.

Hedging Strategy Risk

Certain of the investment techniques that the Fund may employ for hedging or, under certain circumstances, to increase income or total return will expose the Fund to risks. In addition to the hedging techniques described elsewhere, i.e., positions in Treasury Bond or Treasury Note futures contracts, use of options on these positions, positions in interest rate swaps, options thereon ("swaptions"), and credit derivatives, such investment techniques may include entering into interest rate and stock index futures contracts and options on interest rate and stock index futures contracts, purchasing and selling put and call options on securities and stock indices, purchasing and selling securities on a when-issued or delayed delivery basis, entering into repurchase agreements, lending portfolio securities and making short sales of securities "against the box." The Fund intends to comply with regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission involving "covering" or segregating assets in connection with the Fund's use of options and futures contracts.

There are economic costs of hedging reflected in the pricing of futures, swaps, options, and swaption contracts which can be significant, particularly when long-term interest rates are substantially above short-term interest rates, as is the case at present. The desirability of moderating these hedging costs will be a factor in Reaves' choice of hedging strategies, although costs will not be the exclusive consideration in selecting hedge instruments. In addition, the Fund may select individual investments based upon their potential for appreciation without regard to the effect on current income, in an attempt to mitigate the impact on the Fund's assets of the expected normal cost of hedging.

There may be an imperfect correlation between changes in the value of the Fund's portfolio holdings and hedging positions entered into by the Fund, which may prevent the Fund from achieving the intended hedge or expose the Fund to risk of loss. In addition, the Fund's success in using hedge instruments is subject to Reaves' ability to predict correctly changes in the relationships of such hedge instruments to the Fund's portfolio holdings, and there can be no assurance that Reaves' judgment in this respect will be accurate. Consequently, the use of hedging transactions might result in a poorer

overall performance for the Fund, whether or not adjusted for risk, than if the Fund had not hedged its portfolio holdings.

Credit Risk

Credit risk is the risk that an issuer of a preferred or debt security will become unable to meet its obligation to make dividend, interest and principal payments. In general, lower rated preferred or debt securities carry a greater degree of credit risk. If rating agencies lower their ratings of preferred or debt securities in the Fund's portfolio, the value of those obligations could decline, which could jeopardize the rating agencies' ratings of the Fund's preferred shares. In addition, the underlying revenue source for a preferred or debt security may be insufficient to pay dividends, interest or principal in a timely manner. Because the primary source of income for the Fund is the dividend, interest and principal payments on the preferred or debt securities in which it invests, any default by an issuer of a preferred or debt security could have a negative impact on the Fund's ability to pay dividends on Common Shares. Even if the issuer does not actually default, adverse changes in the issuer's financial condition may negatively affect its credit rating or presumed creditworthiness. These developments would adversely affect the market value of the issuer's obligations or the value of credit derivatives if the Fund has sold credit protection.

Derivatives Risk

Derivative transactions (such as futures contracts and options thereon, options, swaps and short sales) subject the Fund to increased risk of principal loss due to imperfect correlation or unexpected price or interest rate movements. The Fund also will be subject to credit risk with respect to the counterparties to the derivatives contracts purchased by the Fund. If a counterparty becomes bankrupt or otherwise fails to perform its obligations under a derivative contract due to financial difficulties, the Fund may experience significant delays in obtaining any recovery under the derivative contract in a bankruptcy or other reorganization proceeding. The Fund may obtain only a limited recovery or may obtain no recovery in such circumstances. As a general matter, dividends received on hedged stock positions are characterized as ordinary income and are not eligible for favorable tax treatment. In addition, use of derivatives may give rise to short-term capital gains and other income that would not qualify for payments by the Fund of tax-advantaged dividends.

Preferred Securities Risk

In addition to credit risk, investment in preferred securities carries certain risks including:

- **Deferral Risk**—Fully taxable or hybrid preferred securities typically contain provisions that allow an issuer, at its discretion, to defer distributions for up to 20 consecutive quarters. Traditional preferreds also contain provisions that allow an issuer, under certain conditions to skip (in the case of "noncumulative" preferreds) or defer (in the case of "cumulative preferreds"), dividend payments. If the Fund owns a preferred security that is deferring its distributions, the Fund may be required to report income for tax purposes while it is not receiving any income.
- **Redemption Risk**—Preferred securities typically contain provisions that allow for redemption in the event of tax or security law changes in addition to call features at the option of the issuer. In the event of a redemption, the Fund may not be able to reinvest the proceeds at comparable rates of return.
- **Limited Voting Rights**—Preferred securities typically do not provide any voting rights, except in cases when dividends are in arrears beyond a certain time period, which varies by issue.

- Subordination—Preferred securities are subordinated to bonds and other debt instruments in a company’s capital structure in terms of priority to corporate income and liquidation payments, and therefore will be subject to greater credit risk than those debt instruments.
- Liquidity—Preferred securities may be substantially less liquid than many other securities, such as U.S. government securities, corporate debt, or common stocks.

Debt Securities Risk

In addition to credit risk, investment in debt securities carries certain risks including:

- Redemption Risk—Debt securities sometimes contain provisions that allow for redemption in the event of tax or security law changes in addition to call features at the option of the issuer. In the event of a redemption, the Fund may not be able to reinvest the proceeds at comparable rates of return.
- Limited Voting Rights—Debt securities typically do not provide any voting rights, except in cases when interest payments have not been made and the issuer is in default.
- Liquidity—Certain debt securities may be substantially less liquid than many other securities, such as U.S. government securities or common stocks.

Inflation Risk

Inflation risk is the risk that the purchasing power of assets or income from investment will be worth less in the future as inflation decreases the value of money. As inflation increases, the real value of the Common Shares and distributions thereon can decline. In addition, during any periods of rising inflation, dividend rates of preferred shares of the Fund would likely increase, which would tend to further reduce returns to Common Shareholders.

Market Price of Shares

The shares of closed-end management investment companies often trade at a discount from their net asset value, and the Fund’s Common Shares may likewise trade at a discount from net asset value. The trading price of the Fund’s Common Shares may be less than the public offering price. The returns earned by Common Shareholders who sell their Common Shares below net asset value will be reduced.

Management Risk

The Fund is subject to management risk because it is an actively managed portfolio. Reaves and the individual portfolio managers will apply investment techniques and risk analyses in making investment decisions for the Fund, but there can be no guarantee that these will produce the desired results.

Market Disruption

The terrorist attacks in the United States on September 11, 2001 had a disruptive effect on the securities markets. The Fund cannot predict the effects of similar events in the future on the U.S. economy and securities markets. These terrorist attacks and related events, including the war in Iraq, have led to increased short-term market volatility and may have long-term effects on U.S. and world economies and markets. A similar disruption of the financial markets could impact interest rates, auctions, secondary trading, ratings, credit risk, inflation and other factors relating to the Common Shares.

Anti-Takeover Provisions

The Fund's Declaration of Trust includes provisions that could have the effect of inhibiting the Fund's possible conversion to open-end status and limiting the ability of other entities or persons to acquire control of the Fund or the Board of Trustees. In certain circumstances, these provisions might also inhibit the ability of shareholders to sell their shares at a premium over prevailing market prices. See "Description of Capital Structure—Anti-Takeover Provisions in the Declaration of Trust."

Portfolio Turnover Risk

The techniques and strategies contemplated by the Fund might result in a high degree of portfolio turnover. The Fund cannot accurately predict its securities portfolio turnover rate, but anticipates that its annual portfolio turnover rate will not exceed 100% under normal market conditions, although it could be materially higher under certain conditions. Higher portfolio turnover rates could result in corresponding increases in brokerage commissions and generate short-term capital gains taxable as ordinary income.

MANAGEMENT OF THE FUND

Trustees And Officers

The Board of Trustees is responsible for the overall management of the Fund, including supervision of the duties performed by Reaves. There are six trustees of the Fund. Two of the trustees are "interested persons" (as defined in the 1940 Act). The name and business address of the trustees and officers of the Fund and their principal occupations and other affiliations during the past five years are set forth under "Management of the Fund" in the Statement of Additional Information.

Investment Adviser

W.H. Reaves & Co., Inc., located at 10 Exchange Place, Jersey City, New Jersey 07302, serves as investment adviser to the Fund.

Reaves is registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission as an investment adviser under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended. Reaves is also a broker-dealer, registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission, and a member firm of the New York Stock Exchange and NASD, Inc. Reaves began conducting business in 1961 and had approximately \$900 million under management as of December 31, 2003. Since 1977, its principal advisory business has been providing investment management services to institutional investors such as corporations, corporate pension funds, employee savings plans, foundations, and endowments. In the course of its business as a registered broker-dealer, Reaves regularly effects transactions in equity securities for its investment advisory clients. While Reaves generally will not act as executing broker for the Fund, it may execute trades for the Fund's account from time to time. Reaves is currently the investment subadviser for both the Strong Dividend Income Fund and the Strong Advisor Utilities and Energy Fund, two funds in a family of mutual funds managed by Strong Capital Management, Inc. ("Strong"). In September, October and November 2003, seven separate class action complaints were filed in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Wisconsin against Strong, several business entities related to Strong, numerous mutual funds managed by Strong, including the Strong Dividend Income Fund, and several individuals participating in the management of these funds, including William H. Reaves and William A. Ferer, the portfolio managers of the Fund. The complaints allege violations of the federal securities laws involving late trading and market timing in shares of Strong mutual funds. Reaves believes that the allegations contained in the complaints that pertain to Mr. Reaves and Mr. Ferer are without merit.

Pursuant to the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement, Reaves has agreed to provide a continuous investment program for the Fund, including investment research and management with

respect to the assets of the Fund. Reaves is entitled to receive management fees of 0.575% of the average daily total assets of the Fund.

The Senior Utility Strategist at Reaves is Mark Luftig. Mr. Luftig has been with Reaves since 1995 as a portfolio manager and analyst. From 1992 to 1995, Mr. Luftig was Director of Equity Research and the senior electric utility analyst at Kemper Securities (now Wachovia Securities). Prior to that, Mr. Luftig was Vice President at National Economic Research Associates, Director-Research at Salomon Brothers, Inc. and General Attorney at the New York Telephone Company.

The following individuals are the Fund's portfolio managers.

William H. Reaves

William H. Reaves has been chief investment officer, portfolio manager, and utilities analyst of Reaves since 1961. Mr. Reaves was President of Reaves from 1961 to February 2003; he became Chairman of Reaves in February 2003. He has worked as a utilities analyst since 1946.

William A. Ferer

William A. Ferer has been a portfolio manager and analyst for Reaves since 1987. He was a Vice President of Reaves from 1987 to November 1997, an Executive Vice President of Reaves from November 1997 to February 2003, and has been President of Reaves since February 2003. He has worked as a securities analyst since 1971.

Ronald J. Sorenson

Ronald J. Sorenson was a Vice President of Reaves from 1991 to November 2002 and has been Executive Vice President of Reaves since November 2002. He has been a portfolio manager of Reaves since 1991. For three years prior to 1991, he was a partner and portfolio manager of PVF Inc., an investment advisory firm. For two years prior to that, Mr. Sorenson was the Chairman of the Board and chairman of the investment committee of The American Life Insurance Company of New York. Mr. Sorenson has acted as President of RWS Energy Services, Chief Financial Officer of Emerging Market Services A.G., Controller of Triad Holding Corporation S.A., and was a CPA for Arthur Young & Co. (an accounting firm).

Administrator

ALPS, located at 1625 Broadway, Suite 2200, Denver, Colorado 80202, serves as administrator to the Fund. Under the Administration Agreement, ALPS is responsible for calculating the net asset value of the Common Shares, and generally managing the business affairs of the Fund. The Administration Agreement between the Fund and ALPS provides that ALPS will pay all expenses incurred by the Fund, with the exception of advisory fees, trustees' fees, portfolio transactions expenses, litigation expenses, taxes, costs of preferred shares, expenses of conducting repurchase offers for the purpose of repurchasing Fund shares and extraordinary expenses. ALPS is entitled to receive a monthly fee at the annual rate of .265% of the Fund's average daily total assets.

Estimated Expenses

Reaves and ALPS are each obligated to pay expenses associated with providing the services contemplated by the agreements to which they are parties, including compensation of and office space for their respective officers and employees connected with investment and economic research, trading and investment management and administration of the Fund. Reaves and ALPS are each obligated to pay the fees of any Director of the Fund who is affiliated with it. ALPS will pay all expenses incurred by the Fund, with the exception of advisory fees, trustees' fees, portfolio transactions expenses, litigation expenses, taxes, costs of preferred shares, expenses of conducting repurchase offers for the

purpose of repurchasing Fund shares and extraordinary expenses. The fees and expenses incident to the offering and issuance of Common Shares to be issued by the Fund (which include certain marketing expenses of the underwriters, Reaves and ALPS) will be recorded as a reduction of capital of the Fund attributable to the Common Shares.

On the basis of the anticipated size of the Fund immediately following the offering, assuming no exercise of the over-allotment option, ALPS estimates that the Fund's annual operating expenses will be approximately \$3,240,200. No assurance can be given, in light of the Fund's investment objectives and policies, however, that actual annual operating expenses will not be substantially more or less than this estimate.

Costs incurred in connection with the organization of the Fund, estimated at \$35,000, will be borne by ALPS. Offering expenses relating to the Fund's Common Shares (other than the sales load, but inclusive of the reimbursement of underwriter expenses of \$.0067 per Common Share), estimated at \$900,000, that do not exceed \$.04 per Common Share (the "Reimbursement Cap") will be payable upon completion of the offering of Common Shares and will be charged to capital upon the commencement of investment operations of the Fund.

The Advisory Agreement authorizes Reaves to select brokers or dealers (including affiliates) to arrange for the purchase and sale of Fund securities, including principal transactions. Any commission, fee or other remuneration paid to an affiliated broker or dealer is paid in compliance with the Fund's procedures adopted in accordance with Rule 17e-1 of the 1940 Act.

NET ASSET VALUE

The net asset value per Common Share of the Fund is determined no less frequently than daily, on each day that the American Stock Exchange (the "Exchange") is open for trading, as of the close of regular trading on the Exchange (normally 4:00 p.m. New York time). ALPS calculates the Fund's net asset value per Common Share by dividing the value of the Fund's total assets (the value of the securities the Fund holds plus cash or other assets, including interest accrued but not yet received), less accrued expenses of the Fund, less the Fund's other liabilities (including dividends payable, any borrowings and the liquidation preference of any preferred shares issued by the Fund) and less the liquidation value of any outstanding preferred shares by the total number of Common Shares outstanding. Valuations of many securities expected to be in the Fund's portfolio may be made by a third party pricing service.

For purposes of determining the net asset value of the Fund, readily marketable portfolio securities listed on the New York Stock Exchange are valued, except as indicated below, at the last sale price reflected on the consolidated tape at the close of the New York Stock Exchange on the business day as of which such value is being determined. If there has been no sale on such day, the securities are valued at the mean of the closing bid and asked prices on such day. If no bid or asked prices are quoted on such day, then the security is valued by such method as the Board of Trustees shall determine in good faith to reflect its fair market value. Readily marketable securities not listed on the New York Stock Exchange but listed on other domestic or foreign securities exchanges are valued in a like manner. Portfolio securities traded on more than one securities exchange are valued at the last sale price on the business day as of which such value is being determined as reflected on the consolidated tape at the close of the exchange representing the principal market for such securities. Securities trading on the National Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotations, Inc. ("NASDAQ") are valued at the NASDAQ official closing price.

Readily marketable securities traded in the over-the-counter market, including listed securities whose primary market is believed by Reaves to be over-the-counter, but excluding securities admitted to trading on the NASDAQ National List, are valued at the mean of the current bid and asked prices as reported by NASDAQ or, in the case of securities not quoted by NASDAQ, the National Quotation Bureau or such other comparable source as the trustees deem appropriate to reflect their fair market

value. However, certain fixed-income securities may be valued on the basis of prices provided by a pricing service when such prices are believed by the Board of Trustees to reflect the fair market value of such securities. The prices provided by a pricing service take into account institutional size trading in similar groups of securities and any developments related to specific securities. Where securities are traded on more than one exchange and also over-the-counter, the securities will generally be valued using the quotations the Board of Trustees believes reflect most closely the value of such securities.

DISTRIBUTIONS

The Fund intends to make regular monthly cash distributions to Common Shareholders of the net investment income of the Fund, after payment of interest on any outstanding borrowings or dividends on any outstanding preferred shares. A significant portion of the Fund's distributed income is expected to consist of tax-advantaged dividends. A portion of the Fund's distributed income may also be fully taxable. Any such income distributions, as well as any distributions by the Fund of net realized short-term capital gains, will be taxed as ordinary income. Distributions to Common Shareholders cannot be assured, and the amount of each monthly distribution will vary depending on a number of factors, including dividends payable on the preferred shares of the Fund or other costs of financial leverage. As portfolio and market conditions change, the rate of dividends on the Common Shares and the Fund's dividend policy could change. Over time, the Fund will distribute all of its net investment income (after it pays accrued dividends on any outstanding preferred shares or other costs of financial leverage). In addition, at least annually, the Fund intends to distribute any net short-term capital gain and any net capital gain (which is the excess of net long-term capital gain over short-term capital loss). The initial distribution is expected to be declared approximately 45 days and paid approximately 60 to 90 days after the completion of this offering, depending on market conditions. Common Shareholders may elect automatically to reinvest some or all of their distributions in additional Common Shares under the Fund's dividend reinvestment plan. See "Dividend Reinvestment Plan." While there are any borrowings or preferred shares outstanding, the Fund may not be permitted to declare any cash dividend or other distribution on its Common Shares in certain circumstances. See "Description of Capital Structure."

DIVIDEND REINVESTMENT PLAN

Unless the registered owner of Common Shares elects to receive cash by contacting The Bank of New York (the "Plan Administrator"), all dividends declared on Common Shares will be automatically reinvested by the Plan Administrator for shareholders in the Fund's Dividend Reinvestment Plan (the "Plan"), in additional Common Shares. Shareholders who elect not to participate in the Plan will receive all dividends and other distributions in cash paid by check mailed directly to the shareholder of record (or, if the Common Shares are held in street or other nominee name, then to such nominee) by The Bank of New York as dividend disbursing agent. You may elect not to participate in the Plan and to receive all dividends in cash by contacting The Bank of New York, as dividend disbursing agent, at the address set forth below. Participation in the Plan is completely voluntary and may be terminated or resumed at any time without penalty by notice if received and processed by the Plan Administrator prior to the dividend record date; otherwise such termination or resumption will be effective with respect to any subsequently declared dividend or other distribution. Some brokers may automatically elect to receive cash on your behalf and may re-invest that cash in additional Common Shares for you. If you wish for all dividends declared on your Common Shares to be automatically reinvested pursuant to the Plan, please contact your broker.

The Plan Administrator will open an account for each Common Shareholder under the Plan in the same name in which such Common Shareholder's Common Shares are registered. Whenever the Fund declares a dividend or other distribution (together, a "Dividend") payable in cash, non-participants in the Plan will receive cash and participants in the Plan will receive the equivalent in Common Shares. The Common Shares will be acquired by the Plan Administrator for the participants' accounts,

depending upon the circumstances described below, either (i) through receipt of additional unissued but authorized Common Shares from the Fund (“Newly Issued Common Shares”) or (ii) by purchase of outstanding Common Shares on the open market (“Open-Market Purchases”) on the American Stock Exchange or elsewhere. If, on the payment date for any Dividend, the closing market price plus estimated brokerage commissions per Common Share is equal to or greater than the net asset value per Common Share, the Plan Administrator will invest the Dividend amount in Newly Issued Common Shares on behalf of the participants. The number of Newly Issued Common Shares to be credited to each participant’s account will be determined by dividing the dollar amount of the Dividend by the net asset value per Common Share on the payment date; provided that, if the net asset value is less than or equal to 95% of the closing market value on the payment date, the dollar amount of the Dividend will be divided by 95% of the closing market price per Common Share on the payment date. If, on the payment date for any Dividend, the net asset value per Common Share is greater than the closing market value plus estimated brokerage commissions, the Plan Administrator will invest the Dividend amount in Common Shares acquired on behalf of the participants in Open-Market Purchases. In the event of a market discount on the payment date for any Dividend, the Plan Administrator will have until the last business day before the next date on which the Common Shares trade on an “ex-dividend” basis or 30 days after the payment date for such Dividend, whichever is sooner (the “Last Purchase Date”), to invest the Dividend amount in Common Shares acquired in Open-Market Purchases. It is contemplated that the Fund will pay monthly income Dividends. Therefore, the period during which Open-Market Purchases can be made will exist only from the payment date of each Dividend through the date before the next “ex-dividend” date which typically will be approximately ten days. If, before the Plan Administrator has completed its Open-Market Purchases, the market price per Common Share exceeds the net asset value per Common Share, the average per Common Share purchase price paid by the Plan Administrator may exceed the net asset value of the Common Shares, resulting in the acquisition of fewer Common Shares than if the Dividend had been paid in Newly Issued Common Shares on the Dividend payment date. Because of the foregoing difficulty with respect to Open-Market Purchases, the Plan provides that if the Plan Administrator is unable to invest the full Dividend amount in Open-Market Purchases during the purchase period or if the market discount shifts to a market premium during the purchase period, the Plan Administrator may cease making Open-Market Purchases and may invest the uninvested portion of the Dividend amount in Newly Issued Common Shares at the net asset value per Common Share at the close of business on the Last Purchase Date provided that, if the net asset value is less than or equal to 95% of the then current market price per Common Share; the dollar amount of the Dividend will be divided by 95% of the market price on the payment date.

The Plan Administrator maintains all shareholders’ accounts in the Plan and furnishes written confirmation of all transactions in the accounts, including information needed by shareholders for tax records. Common Shares in the account of each Plan participant will be held by the Plan Administrator on behalf of the Plan participant, and each shareholder proxy will include those shares purchased or received pursuant to the Plan. The Plan Administrator will forward all proxy solicitation materials to participants and vote proxies for shares held under the Plan in accordance with the instructions of the participants.

In the case of Common Shareholders such as banks, brokers or nominees which hold shares for others who are the beneficial owners, the Plan Administrator will administer the Plan on the basis of the number of Common Shares certified from time to time by the record shareholder’s name and held for the account of beneficial owners who participate in the Plan.

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

Dividends. See “Federal Income Tax Matters.” Participants that request a sale of Common Shares through the Plan Administrator are subject to brokerage commissions.

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

All correspondence or questions concerning the Plan should be directed to the Plan Administrator, The Bank of New York, 101 Barclay Street, New York, New York 10286, 20th Floor, Transfer Agent Services, (800) 433-8191.

FEDERAL INCOME TAX MATTERS

The following is a summary discussion of certain U.S. federal income tax consequences that may be relevant to a Common Shareholder that acquires, holds and/or disposes of common shares of the Fund, and reflects provisions of the Code, existing Treasury regulations, rulings published by the IRS, and other applicable authority, as of the date of this prospectus. These authorities are subject to change by legislative or administrative action, possibly with retroactive effect. The following discussion is only a summary of some of the important tax considerations generally applicable to investments in the Fund. For more detailed information regarding tax considerations, see the Statement of Additional Information. There may be other tax considerations applicable to particular investors. In addition, income earned through an investment in the Fund may be subject to state, local and foreign taxes.

The Fund intends to elect to be treated and to qualify each year for taxation as a regulated investment company eligible for treatment under the provisions of Subchapter M of the Code. In order for the Fund to qualify as a regulated investment company, it must meet an income and asset diversification test each year. If the Fund so qualifies and satisfies certain distribution requirements, the Fund will not be subject to federal income tax on income distributed in a timely manner to its shareholders in the form of dividends or capital gain distributions.

The Fund intends to make monthly distributions of net investment income after payment of dividends on any outstanding preferred shares or interest on any outstanding borrowings. The Fund intends to distribute annually any net short-term capital gain (which are taxable as ordinary income) and any net capital gain. Unless a shareholder is ineligible to participate or elects otherwise, all distributions will be automatically reinvested in additional Common Shares of the Fund pursuant to the Dividend Reinvestment Plan (the “Plan”). For U.S. federal income tax purposes, all dividends are generally taxable whether a shareholder takes them in cash or they are reinvested pursuant to the Plan in additional shares of the Fund. Distributions of the Fund’s net capital gains (“capital gain dividends”), if any, are taxable to Common Shareholders as long-term capital gains, regardless of the length of time Common Shares have been held by Common Shareholders. Distributions, if any, in excess of the Fund’s earnings and profits will first reduce the adjusted tax basis of a holder’s Common Shares and, after that basis has been reduced to zero, will constitute capital gains to the Common Shareholder (assuming the Common Shares are held as a capital asset). See below for a summary of the maximum tax rates applicable to capital gains (including capital gain dividends). A corporation that owns Fund shares generally will not be entitled to the dividends received deduction with respect to all the dividends it receives from the Fund. Fund dividend payments that are attributable to qualifying dividends received by the Fund from certain domestic corporations may be designated by the Fund as being eligible for the dividends received deduction.

Under the recently enacted “Jobs and Growth Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2003” (the “Tax Act”), certain income distributions paid by the Fund to individual taxpayers are taxed at rates equal to those applicable to net long-term capital gains (15%, or 5% for individuals in the 10% or 15% tax brackets). This tax treatment applies only if certain holding period requirements are satisfied by the Common Shareholder and the dividends are attributable to qualified dividends received by the Fund itself. For this purpose, “qualified dividends” means dividends received by the Fund from United States

corporations and qualifying foreign corporations, provided that the Fund satisfies certain holding period and other requirements in respect of the stock of such corporations. In the case of securities lending transactions, payments in lieu of dividends are not qualified dividends. Dividends received by the Fund from REITs are qualified dividends eligible for this lower tax rate only in limited circumstances. These special rules relating to the taxation of ordinary income dividends from regulated investment companies generally apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2002 and beginning before January 1, 2009. Thereafter, the Fund's dividends, other than capital gain dividends, will be fully taxable at ordinary income tax rates unless further Congressional legislative action is taken.

A dividend paid by the Fund to a Common Shareholder will not be treated as qualified dividend income of the Common Shareholder if (1) the dividend is received with respect to any share held for fewer than 61 days during the 120-day period beginning on the date which is 60 days before the date on which such share becomes ex-dividend with respect to such dividend, (2) to the extent that the recipient is under an obligation (whether pursuant to a short sale or otherwise) to make related payments with respect to positions in substantially similar or related property or (3) if the recipient elects to have the dividend treated as investment income for purposes of the limitation on deductibility of investment interest.

The Fund will inform Common Shareholders of the source and tax status of all distributions promptly after the close of each calendar year.

Selling Common Shareholders will generally recognize gain or loss in an amount equal to the difference between the Common Shareholder's adjusted tax basis in the Common Shares sold and the amount received. If the Common Shares are held as a capital asset, the gain or loss will be a capital gain or loss. The maximum tax rate applicable to net capital gains recognized by individuals and other non-corporate taxpayers is (i) the same as the maximum ordinary income tax rate for gains recognized on the sale of capital assets held for one year or less or (ii) 15% for gains recognized on the sale of capital assets held for more than one year (as well as certain capital gain dividends) (5% for individuals in the 10% or 15% tax brackets). Any loss on a disposition of Common Shares held for six months or less will be treated as a long-term capital loss to the extent of any capital gain dividends received with respect to those Common Shares. For purposes of determining whether Common Shares have been held for six months or less, the holding period is suspended for any periods during which the Common Shareholder's risk of loss is diminished as a result of holding one or more other positions in substantially similar or related property, or through certain options or short sales. Any loss realized on a sale or exchange of Common Shares will be disallowed to the extent those Common Shares are replaced by other Common Shares within a period of 61 days beginning 30 days before and ending 30 days after the date of disposition of the Common Shares (whether through the reinvestment of distributions, which could occur, for example, if the Common Shareholder is a participant in the Plan (as defined below) or otherwise). In that event, the basis of the replacement Common Shares will be adjusted to reflect the disallowed loss.

An investor should be aware that, if Common Shares are purchased shortly before the record date for any taxable dividend (including a capital gain dividend), the purchase price likely will reflect the value of the dividend and the investor then would receive a taxable distribution likely to reduce the trading value of such Common Shares, in effect resulting in a taxable return of some of the purchase price. Taxable distributions to individuals and certain other non-corporate Common Shareholders, including those who have not provided their correct taxpayer identification number and other required certifications, may be subject to "backup" federal income tax withholding at the fourth lowest rate of tax applicable to a single individual (in 2003, 28%).

An investor should also be aware that the benefits of the reduced tax rate applicable to long-term capital gains and qualified dividend income may be impacted by the application of the alternative minimum tax to individual shareholders.

The foregoing briefly summarizes some of the important federal income tax consequences to Common Shareholders of investing in Common Shares, reflects the federal tax law as of the date of this prospectus, and does not address special tax rules applicable to certain types of investors, such as corporate and foreign investors. Investors should consult their tax advisers regarding other federal, state or local tax considerations that may be applicable in their particular circumstances, as well as any proposed tax law changes.

DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STRUCTURE

The Fund is an unincorporated statutory trust established under the laws of the state of Delaware by an Agreement and Declaration of Trust dated September 15, 2003 and filed with the Secretary of State of Delaware on September 15, 2003. The Declaration of Trust provides that the Trustees of the Fund may authorize separate classes of shares of beneficial interest. The Trustees have authorized an unlimited number of Common Shares. The Fund intends to hold annual meetings of Common Shareholders in compliance with the requirements of the American Stock Exchange.

Common Shares

The Declaration of Trust permits the Fund to issue an unlimited number of full and fractional Common Shares of beneficial interest, no par value. Each Common Share represents an equal proportionate interest in the assets of the Fund with each other Common Share in the Fund. Holders of Common Shares will be entitled to the payment of dividends when, as and if declared by the Board of Trustees. The 1940 Act or the terms of any borrowings or preferred shares may limit the payment of dividends to the holders of Common Shares. Each whole Common Share shall be entitled to one vote as to matters on which it is entitled to vote pursuant to the terms of the Declaration of Trust on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Upon liquidation of the Fund, after paying or adequately providing for the payment of all liabilities of the Fund and the liquidation preference with respect to any outstanding preferred shares, and upon receipt of such releases, indemnities and refunding agreements as they deem necessary for their protection, the Trustees may distribute the remaining assets of the Fund among the holders of the Common Shares. The Declaration of Trust provides that Common Shareholders are not liable for any liabilities of the Fund. Although shareholders of an unincorporated statutory trust established under Delaware law, in certain limited circumstances, may be held personally liable for the obligations of the Fund as though they were general partners, the provisions of the Declaration of Trust described in the foregoing sentence make the likelihood of such personal liability remote.

While there are any borrowings or preferred shares outstanding, the Fund may not be permitted to declare any cash dividend or other distribution on its Common Shares, unless at the time of such declaration, (i) all accrued dividends on preferred shares or accrued interest on borrowings have been paid and (ii) the value of the Fund's total assets (determined after deducting the amount of such dividend or other distribution), less all liabilities and indebtedness of the Fund not represented by senior securities, is at least 300% of the aggregate amount of such securities representing indebtedness and at least 200% of the aggregate amount of securities representing indebtedness plus the aggregate liquidation value of the outstanding preferred shares (expected to equal the aggregate original purchase price of the outstanding preferred shares plus redemption premium, if any, together with any accrued and unpaid dividends thereon, whether or not earned or declared and on a cumulative basis). In addition to the requirements of the 1940 Act, the Fund may be required to comply with other asset coverage requirements as a condition of the Fund obtaining a rating of the preferred shares from a rating agency. These requirements may include an asset coverage test more stringent than under the 1940 Act. This limitation on the Fund's ability to make distributions on its Common Shares could in certain circumstances impair the ability of the Fund to maintain its qualification for taxation as a regulated investment company for federal income tax purposes. The Fund intends, however, to the extent possible to purchase or redeem preferred shares or reduce borrowings from time to time to

maintain compliance with such asset coverage requirements and may pay special dividends to the holders of the preferred shares in certain circumstances in connection with any such impairment of the Fund's status as a regulated investment company. Depending on the timing of any such redemption or repayment, the Fund may be required to pay a premium in addition to the liquidation preference of the preferred shares to the holders thereof.

The Fund has no present intention of offering additional Common Shares, except as described herein. Other offerings of its Common Shares, if made, will require approval of the Board. Any additional offering will not be sold at a price per Common Share below the then current net asset value (exclusive of underwriting discounts and commissions) except in connection with an offering to existing Common Shareholders or with the consent of a majority of the Fund's outstanding Common Shares. The Common Shares have no preemptive rights.

The Fund generally will not issue Common Share certificates. However, upon written request to the Fund's transfer agent, a share certificate will be issued for any or all of the full Common Shares credited to an investor's account. Common Share certificates that have been issued to an investor may be returned at any time.

Preferred Shares

The Declaration of Trust authorizes the issuance of an unlimited number of shares of beneficial interest with preference rights, including preferred shares (the "preferred shares"), having no par value, in one or more series, with rights as determined by the Board of Trustees, by action of the Board of Trustees without the approval of the Common Shareholders.

Under the requirements of the 1940 Act, the Fund must, immediately after the issuance of any preferred shares, have an "asset coverage" of at least 200%. Asset coverage means the ratio which the value of the total assets of the Fund, less all liability and indebtedness not represented by senior securities (as defined in the 1940 Act), bears to the aggregate amount of senior securities representing indebtedness of the Fund, if any, plus the aggregate liquidation preference of the preferred shares. If the Fund seeks a rating of the preferred shares, asset coverage requirements, in addition to those set forth in the 1940 Act, may be imposed. The liquidation value of the preferred shares is expected to equal their aggregate original purchase price plus redemption premium, if any, together with any accrued and unpaid dividends thereon (on a cumulative basis), whether or not earned or declared. The terms of the preferred shares, including their dividend rate, voting rights, liquidation preference and redemption provisions, will be determined by the Board of Trustees (subject to applicable law and the Fund's Declaration of Trust) if and when it authorizes the preferred shares. The Fund may issue preferred shares that provide for the periodic redetermination of the dividend rate at relatively short intervals through an auction or remarketing procedure, although the terms of the preferred shares may also enable the Fund to lengthen such intervals. At times, the dividend rate as redetermined on the Fund's preferred shares may approach or exceed the Fund's return after expenses on the investment of proceeds from the preferred shares and the Fund's leverage structure would result in a lower rate of return to Common Shareholders than if the Fund were not so structured.

In the event of any voluntary or involuntary liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the Fund, the terms of any preferred shares may entitle the holders of preferred shares to receive a preferential liquidating distribution (expected to equal the original purchase price per share plus redemption premium, if any, together with accrued and unpaid dividends, whether or not earned or declared and on a cumulative basis) before any distribution of assets is made to holders of Common Shares. After payment of the full amount of the liquidating distribution to which they are entitled, the preferred shareholders would not be entitled to any further participation in any distribution of assets by the Fund.

Holders of preferred shares, when issued, shall be entitled to elect two of the Fund's Trustees, voting as a class. Under the 1940 Act, if at any time dividends on the preferred shares are unpaid in an

amount equal to two full years' dividends thereon, the holders of all outstanding preferred shares, voting as a class, will be allowed to elect a majority of the Fund's Trustees until all dividends in default have been paid or declared and set apart for payment. In addition, if required by the rating agency rating the preferred shares or if the Board of Trustees determines it to be in the best interests of the Common Shareholders, issuance of the preferred shares may result in more restrictive provisions than required by the 1940 Act being imposed. In this regard, holders of the preferred shares may be entitled to elect a majority of the Board of Trustees in other circumstances, for example, if one payment on the preferred shares is in arrears.

The Fund currently intends to seek a AAA credit rating for the preferred shares from a rating agency. The Fund intends that, as long as preferred shares are outstanding, the composition of its portfolio will reflect guidelines established by such rating agency. Although, as of the date hereof, no such rating agency has established guidelines relating to the preferred shares, based on previous guidelines established by such rating agencies for the securities of other issuers, the Fund anticipates that the guidelines with respect to the preferred shares will establish a set of tests for portfolio composition and asset coverage that supplement (and in some cases are more restrictive than) the applicable requirements under the 1940 Act. Although, at this time, no assurance can be given as to the nature or extent of the guidelines which may be imposed in connection with obtaining a rating of the preferred shares, the Fund currently anticipates that such guidelines will include asset coverage requirements, which are more restrictive than those under the 1940 Act, restrictions on certain portfolio investments and investment practices, requirements that the Fund maintain a portion of its assets in short-term, high-quality, fixed-income securities and certain mandatory redemption requirements relating to the preferred shares. No assurance can be given that the guidelines actually imposed with respect to the preferred shares by such rating agency will be more or less restrictive than as described in this prospectus.

Credit Facility

In the event the Fund leverages through borrowings, the Fund may enter into definitive agreements with respect to a credit facility. The Fund may negotiate with commercial banks to arrange a credit facility pursuant to which the Fund would expect to be entitled to borrow an amount equal to approximately one-third of the Fund's total assets (inclusive of the amount borrowed) as of the closing of the offer and sale of the Common Shares offered hereby. Any such borrowings would constitute financial leverage. Such a facility is not expected to be convertible into any other securities of the Fund, outstanding amounts are expected to be prepayable by the Fund prior to final maturity without significant penalty and there are not expected to be any sinking fund or mandatory retirement provisions. Outstanding amounts would be payable at maturity or such earlier times as required by the agreement. The Fund may be required to prepay outstanding amounts under the facility or incur a penalty rate of interest in the event of the occurrence of certain events of default. The Fund would be expected to indemnify the lenders under the facility against liabilities they may incur in connection with the facility.

In addition, the Fund expects that such a credit facility would contain covenants that, among other things, likely will limit the Fund's ability to pay dividends in certain circumstances, incur additional debt, change its fundamental investment policies and engage in certain transactions, including mergers and consolidations, and may require asset coverage ratios in addition to those required by the 1940 Act. The Fund may be required to pledge its assets and to maintain a portion of its assets in cash or high-grade securities as a reserve against interest or principal payments and expenses. The Fund expects that any credit facility would have customary covenant, negative covenant and default provisions. There can be no assurance that the Fund will enter into an agreement for a credit facility on terms and conditions representative of the foregoing, or that additional material terms will not apply. In addition, if entered into, any such credit facility may in the future be replaced or refinanced

by one or more credit facilities having substantially different terms or by the issuance of preferred shares or debt securities.

Repurchase of Shares And Other Discount Measures

Because shares of closed-end management investment companies frequently trade at a discount to their net asset values, the Board of Trustees has determined that from time to time it may be in the interest of Common Shareholders for the Fund to take corrective actions. The Board of Trustees, in consultation with Reaves and ALPS, will review at least annually the possibility of open market repurchases and/or tender offers for the Common Shares and will consider such factors as the market price of the Common Shares, the net asset value of the Common Shares, the liquidity of the assets of the Fund, effect on the Fund's expenses, whether such transactions would impair the Fund's status as a regulated investment company or result in a failure to comply with applicable asset coverage requirements, general economic conditions and such other events or conditions, which may have a material effect on the Fund's ability to consummate such transactions. There are no assurances that the Board of Trustees will, in fact, decide to undertake either of these actions or if undertaken, that such actions will result in the Fund's Common Shares trading at a price, which is equal to or approximates their net asset value. In recognition of the possibility that the Common Shares might trade at a discount to net asset value and that any such discount may not be in the interest of Common Shareholders, the Board of Trustees, in consultation with Reaves, from time to time may review possible actions to reduce any such discount.

Anti-Takeover Provisions in the Declaration of Trust

The Declaration of Trust includes provisions that could have the effect of limiting the ability of other entities or persons to acquire control of the Fund or to change the composition of the Board of Trustees, and could have the effect of depriving Common Shareholders of an opportunity to sell their Common Shares at a premium over prevailing market prices by discouraging a third party from seeking to obtain control of the Fund. These provisions may have the effect of discouraging attempts to acquire control of the Fund, which attempts could have the effect of increasing the expenses of the Fund and interfering with the normal operation of the Fund. The Board of Trustees is divided into three classes, with the term of one class expiring at each annual meeting of Common Shareholders. At each annual meeting, one class of Trustees is elected to a three-year term. This provision could delay for up to two years the replacement of a majority of the Board of Trustees. A Trustee may be removed from office without cause only by a written instrument signed or adopted by two-thirds of the remaining Trustees or by a vote of the holders of at least two-thirds of the class of shares of the Fund that elected such Trustee and are entitled to vote on the matter.

The Fund's Declaration of Trust provides that the Fund may not merge with another entity, or sell, lease or exchange all or substantially all of its assets without the approval of at least two-thirds of the Trustees and 75% of the affected shareholders.

In addition, the Declaration of Trust requires the favorable vote of the holders of at least 80% of the outstanding shares of each class of the Fund, voting as a class, then entitled to vote to approve, adopt or authorize certain transactions with 5%-or-greater holders of the Trust's outstanding shares and their affiliates or associates, unless two-thirds of the Board of Trustees have approved by resolution a memorandum of understanding with such holders, in which case normal voting requirements would be in effect. For purposes of these provisions, a 5%-or-greater holder of outstanding shares (a "Principal Shareholder") refers to any person who, whether directly or indirectly and whether alone or together with its affiliates and associates, beneficially owns 5% or more of the outstanding shares of beneficial interest of the Fund. The transactions subject to these special approval requirements are: (i) the merger or consolidation of the Fund or any subsidiary of the Fund with or into any Principal Shareholder; (ii) the issuance of any securities of the Fund to any Principal Shareholder for cash (other than pursuant to any automatic dividend reinvestment plan or pursuant to any offering in which such

Principal Shareholder acquires securities that represent no greater a percentage of any class or series of securities being offered than the percentage of any class of shares beneficially owned by such Principal Shareholder immediately prior to such offering or, in the case of securities, offered in respect of another class or series, the percentage of such other class or series beneficially owned by such Principal Shareholder immediately prior to such offering); (iii) the sale, lease or exchange of all or any substantial part of the assets of the Fund to any Principal Shareholder (except assets having an aggregate fair market value of less than \$1,000,000, aggregating for the purpose of such computation all assets sold, leased or exchanged in any series of similar transactions within a twelve-month period); (iv) the sale, lease or exchange to the Fund or any subsidiary thereof, in exchange for securities of the Fund, of any assets of any Principal Shareholder (except assets having an aggregate fair market value of less than \$1,000,000, aggregating for the purposes of such computation all assets sold, leased or exchanged in any series of similar transactions within a twelve-month period) or (v) the purchase by the Fund, or any entity controlled by the Fund, of any Common Shares from any Principal Shareholder or any person to whom any Principal Shareholder transferred Common Shares.

The Board of Trustees has determined that provisions with respect to the Board of Trustees and the 80% voting requirements described above, which voting requirements are greater than the minimum requirements under Delaware law or the 1940 Act, are in the best interest of Common Shareholders generally. Reference should be made to the Declaration of Trust on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission for the full text of these provisions.

Conversion to Open-End Fund

The Fund may be converted to an open-end management investment company at any time if approved by each of the following: (i) a majority of the Trustees then in office, (ii) the holders of not less than 75% of the Trust's outstanding shares entitled to vote thereon and (iii) by such vote or votes of the holders of any class or classes or series of shares as may be required by the 1940 Act. The composition of the Fund's portfolio likely would prohibit the Fund from complying with regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission applicable to open-end management investment companies. Accordingly, conversion likely would require significant changes in the Fund's investment policies and liquidation of a substantial portion of the relatively illiquid portion of its portfolio. Conversion of the Fund to an open-end management investment company also would require the redemption of any outstanding preferred shares and could require the repayment of borrowings, which would eliminate the leveraged capital structure of the Fund with respect to the Common Shares. In the event of conversion, the Common Shares would cease to be listed on the American Stock Exchange or other national securities exchange or market system. The Board of Trustees believes, however, that the closed-end structure is desirable, given the Fund's investment objective and policies. Investors should assume, therefore, that it is unlikely that the Board of Trustees would vote to convert the Fund to an open-end management investment company. Shareholders of an open-end management investment company may require the company to redeem their shares at any time (except in certain circumstances as authorized by or under the 1940 Act) at their net asset value, less such redemption charge, if any, as might be in effect at the time of a redemption. The Fund expects to pay all such redemption requests in cash, but intends to reserve the right to pay redemption requests in a combination of cash or securities. If such partial payment in securities were made, investors may incur brokerage costs in converting such securities to cash. If the Fund were converted to an open-end fund, it is likely that new Common Shares would be sold at net asset value plus a sales load.

UNDERWRITING

Subject to the terms and conditions stated in a purchase agreement dated February 24, 2004, each underwriter named below, for which Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated is acting as representative, has severally agreed to purchase, and the Fund has agreed to sell to such underwriter, the number of Common Shares set forth opposite the name of such underwriter.

<u>Underwriter</u>	<u>Number of Common Shares</u>
Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated	10,830,000
A.G. Edwards & Sons, Inc.	1,750,000
RBC Capital Markets Corporation	450,000
Wachovia Capital Markets, LLC	3,400,000
Advest, Inc.	200,000
BB&T Capital Markets, a division of Scott & Stringfellow, Inc.	200,000
Robert W. Baird & Co. Incorporated	350,000
J.J.B. Hilliard, W.L. Lyons, Inc.	200,000
Janney Montgomery Scott LLC	350,000
McDonald Investments Inc., a KeyCorp Company	200,000
Morgan Keegan & Company, Inc.	200,000
BNY Capital Markets, Inc.	200,000
Deutsche Bank Securities Inc.	85,000
Harris Nesbitt Corp.	85,000
Oppenheimer & Co. Inc.	85,000
Piper Jaffray & Co.	85,000
William Blair & Company, L.L.C.	55,000
Crowell, Weedon & Co.	55,000
D.A. Davidson & Co.	55,000
Doft & Co., Inc.	55,000
Ferris, Baker Watts, Incorporated	55,000
Parker/Hunter Incorporated	55,000
Quick & Reilly, Inc.	55,000
Stephens Inc.	55,000
Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Incorporated	55,000
TD Waterhouse Investor Services, Inc.	55,000
Wedbush Morgan Securities	55,000
Brean Murray & Co., Inc.	25,000
C.E. Unterberg, Towbin	25,000
CMG Institutional Trading, LLC	25,000
Chatsworth Securities LLC	25,000
Dominick & Dominick LLC	25,000
First Southwest Company	25,000
Gilford Securities Incorporated	25,000
Howe Barnes Investments, Inc.	25,000
Huntleigh Securities Corporation	25,000
Johnston, Lemon & Co. Incorporated	25,000
LaSalle St. Securities, LLC	25,000
Maxim Group LLC	25,000
McGinn, Smith & Co., Inc.	25,000
Mesirow Financial, Inc.	25,000
NatCity Investments, Inc.	25,000
National Securities Corporation	25,000
Needham & Company, Inc.	25,000
Northeast Securities, Inc.	25,000
David A. Noyes & Company	25,000
Nutmeg Securities, Ltd.	25,000
Ormes Capital Markets, Inc.	25,000

<u>Underwriter</u>	<u>Number of Common Shares</u>
Paulson Investment Company, Inc.	25,000
Peacock, Hislop, Staley & Given, Inc.	25,000
Sanders Morris Harris Inc.	25,000
Sands Brothers & Co., Ltd.	25,000
Source Capital Group Inc.	25,000
Southwest Securities, Inc.	25,000
Sterling Financial Investment Group, Inc.	25,000
Torrey Pines Securities, Inc.	25,000
Total	<u>20,000,000</u>

The purchase agreement provides that the obligations of the underwriters to purchase the shares included in this offering are subject to the approval of certain legal matters by counsel and to certain other conditions. The underwriters are obligated to purchase all the Common Shares sold under the purchase agreement if any of the Common Shares are purchased. In the purchase agreement, the Fund and Reaves have agreed to indemnify the underwriters against certain liabilities, including liabilities arising under the Securities Act, or to contribute payments the underwriters may be required to make for any of those liabilities.

Commissions and Discounts

The underwriters propose to initially offer some of the Common Shares directly to the public at the public offering price set forth on the cover page of this prospectus and some of the Common Shares to certain dealers at the public offering price less a concession not in excess of \$.60 per share. The sales load the Fund will pay of \$.90 per share is equal to 4.5% of the initial offering price. The underwriters may allow, and the dealers may reallow, a discount not in excess of \$.10 per share on sales to other dealers. After the initial public offering, the public offering price, concession and discount may be changed. Investors must pay for any Common Shares purchased on or before February 27, 2004.

The following table shows the public offering price, estimated organizational and offering expenses, sales load and proceeds to the Fund. The information assumes either no exercise or full exercise by the underwriters of their overallotment option.

	<u>Per Share</u>	<u>Without Option</u>	<u>With Option</u>
Public offering price	\$20.00	\$400,000,000	\$460,000,000
Sales load	\$.90	\$18,000,000	\$20,700,000
Estimated offering expenses	\$.04	\$800,000	\$920,000
Proceeds, after expenses, to the Fund	\$19.06	\$381,200,000	\$438,380,000

The expenses of the offering are estimated at \$900,000. The Fund has agreed to pay the underwriters \$.0067 per Common Share as a partial reimbursement of expenses incurred in connection with the offering. The amount paid by the Fund as this partial reimbursement to the underwriters will not exceed .0335% of the total price to the public of the Common Securities sold in this offering. ALPS has agreed to pay (i) the amount by which the Fund's offering costs (other than the sales load, but inclusive of the reimbursement of underwriter expenses of \$.0067 per Common Share) exceed \$.04 per Common Share and (ii) all of the Fund's organizational expenses.

Overallotment Option

The Fund has granted the underwriters an option to purchase up to 3,000,000 additional Common Shares at the public offering price, less the sales load, within 45 days from the date of this prospectus solely to cover any overallotments. If the underwriters exercise this option, each will be obligated,

subject to conditions contained in the purchase agreement, to purchase a number of additional shares proportionate to that underwriter's initial amount reflected in the above table.

Price Stabilization, Short Positions and Penalty Bids

Until the distribution of the Common Shares is complete, Securities and Exchange Commission rules may limit underwriters and selling group members from bidding for and purchasing the Fund's Common Shares. However, the representatives may engage in transactions that stabilize the price of the Common Shares, such as bids or purchases to peg, fix or maintain that price.

If the underwriters create a short position in the Common Shares in connection with the offering, *i.e.*, if they sell more Common Shares than are listed on the cover of this prospectus, the representatives may reduce that short position by purchasing Common Shares in the open market. The representatives may also elect to reduce any short position by exercising all or part of the overallotment option described above. The underwriters also may impose a penalty bid, whereby selling concessions allowed to syndicate members or other broker-dealers in respect of the Common Shares sold in this offering for their account may be reclaimed by the syndicate if such Common Shares are repurchased by the syndicate in stabilizing or covering transactions. Purchases of the Common Shares to stabilize the price or to reduce a short position may cause the price of the Common Shares to be higher than it might be in the absence of such purchases.

Neither the Fund nor any of the underwriters makes any representation or prediction as to the direction or magnitude of any effect that the transaction described above may have on the price of the Common Shares. In addition, neither the Fund nor any of the underwriters makes any representation that the representatives will engage in these transactions or that these transactions, once commenced, will not be discontinued without notice.

The Fund has agreed not to offer or sell any additional Common Shares for a period of 180 days after the date of the purchase agreement without the prior written consent of the underwriters, except for the sale of the Common Shares to the underwriters pursuant to the purchase agreement and certain transactions relating to the Fund's Dividend Reinvestment Plan.

The Fund anticipates that the underwriters may from time to time act as brokers or, after they have ceased to be underwriters, dealers in executing the Fund's portfolio transactions. The underwriters are active underwriters of, and dealers in, securities and act as market makers in a number of such securities, and therefore can be expected to engage in portfolio transactions with the Fund.

The Common Shares will be sold to ensure that American Stock Exchange distribution standards (*i.e.*, round lots, public shares and aggregate market value) will be met.

Other Relationships

Reaves has also agreed to pay from its own assets additional compensation to Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated. This additional compensation will be payable quarterly at the annual rate of .15% of the Fund's average weekly total assets (including any assets attributable to any preferred shares that may be outstanding or otherwise attributable to the use of leverage) during the continuance of the Investment Advisory and Management agreement between Reaves and the Fund or other subsequent advisory agreement between Reaves and the Fund. Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated has agreed to, among other things, provide certain after-market support services to Reaves as requested by Reaves, including services designed to maintain the visibility of the Fund on an ongoing basis and to provide, as requested by Reaves, relevant information, studies or reports regarding the Fund and the closed-end investment company industry. The total amount of these additional compensation payments to Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated will not exceed 4.4665% of the total price to the public of the Common Shares sold in this offering.

The sum of the total amount of the additional compensation payable to Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated and the expense reimbursement of \$.0067 per Common Share payable by the Fund to the underwriters will not exceed 4.5% of the total price to the public of the Common Shares sold in this offering. The sum total of all compensation to or reimbursement of underwriters in connection with this public offering of Common Shares, including sales load and all forms of additional compensation to underwriters, will be limited to 9.0% of the total price to the public of the Common Shares sold in this offering.

The address of Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated is 4 World Financial Center, New York, New York 10080.

CUSTODIAN AND TRANSFER AGENT

The Bank of New York is the custodian of the Fund and will maintain custody of the securities and cash of the Fund. ALPS maintains the Fund's general ledger and computes net asset value per share daily.

The Bank of New York also serves as the transfer agent of the Fund.

LEGAL MATTERS

Certain legal matters in connection with the Common Shares will be passed upon for the Fund by Mayer, Brown, Rowe & Maw LLP, Chicago, Illinois, and for the Underwriters by Clifford Chance US LLP, New York, New York. Clifford Chance US LLP may rely as to certain matters of Delaware law on the opinion of Richards, Layton & Finger, P.A.

REPORTS TO SHAREHOLDERS

The Fund will send to Common Shareholders unaudited semi-annual and audited annual reports, including a list of investments held.

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP are the independent accountants for the Fund and will audit the Fund's financial statements.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The prospectus and the Statement of Additional Information do not contain all of the information set forth in the Registration Statement that the Fund has filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The complete Registration Statement may be obtained from the Securities and Exchange Commission upon payment of the fee prescribed by its rules and regulations. The Statement of Additional Information can be obtained without charge by calling (800) 644-5571.

Statements contained in this prospectus as to the contents of any contract or other documents referred to are not necessarily complete, and, in each instance, reference is made to the copy of such contract or other document filed as an exhibit to the Registration Statement of which this prospectus forms a part, each such statement being qualified in all respects by such reference.

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THE FUND'S PRIVACY POLICY

The Fund is committed to ensuring your financial privacy. This notice is being sent to comply with privacy regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission. The Fund has in effect the following policy with respect to nonpublic personal information about its customers:

- Only such information received from you, through application forms or otherwise, and information about your Fund transactions will be collected.
- None of such information about you (or former customers) will be disclosed to anyone, except as permitted by law (which includes disclosure to employees necessary to service your account).
- Policies and procedures (including physical, electronic and procedural safeguards) are in place that are designed to protect the confidentiality of such information.

For more information about the Fund's privacy policies call (800) 644-5571 (toll-free).

Until March 20, 2004 (25 days after the date of this prospectus), all dealers that buy, sell or trade the Common Shares, whether or not participating in this offering, may be required to deliver a prospectus. This is in addition to the dealer's obligation to deliver a prospectus when acting as an underwriter and with respect to unsold allotments or subscriptions.



20,000,000 Shares

Reaves Utility Income Fund

**Common Shares of Beneficial Interest
\$20.00 per share**

PROSPECTUS

**Merrill Lynch & Co.
A.G. Edwards & Sons, Inc.
RBC Capital Markets
Wachovia Securities
Advest, Inc.
BB&T Capital Markets
Robert W. Baird & Co.
J.J.B. Hilliard, W.L. Lyons, Inc.
Janney Montgomery Scott LLC
McDonald Investments Inc.
Morgan Keegan & Company, Inc.
BNY Capital Markets, Inc.**

February 24, 2004

STATEMENT OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
February 24, 2004

Reaves Utility Income Fund
1625 Broadway, Suite 2200
Denver, Colorado 80202
(800) 644-5571

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This Statement of Additional Information (“SAI”) is not a prospectus and is authorized for distribution to prospective investors only if preceded or accompanied by the prospectus of the Reaves Utility Income Fund (the “Fund”) dated February 24, 2004, as supplemented from time to time, which is incorporated herein by reference. This SAI should be read in conjunction with such prospectus, a copy of which may be obtained without charge by contacting your financial intermediary or calling the Fund at (800) 644-5571.

Capitalized terms used in this SAI and not otherwise defined have the meanings given them in the Fund’s prospectus.

ADDITIONAL INVESTMENT INFORMATION AND RESTRICTIONS

Primary investment strategies are described in the prospectus. The following is a description of the various investment policies that may be engaged in, whether as a primary or secondary strategy, and a summary of certain attendant risks. Reaves may not buy any of the following instruments or use any of the following techniques unless it believes that doing so will help to achieve the Fund's investment objectives.

Equity Investments

The Fund invests primarily in dividend-paying common stocks and preferred stocks, warrants and other securities and instruments. The Fund may also invest in debt securities if deemed advisable by Reaves to increase income and total return or to reduce risk.

Derivative Instruments

Derivative instruments (which are instruments that derive their value from another instrument, security, index or currency) may be purchased or sold to enhance return (which may be considered speculative), to hedge against fluctuations in securities prices, market conditions or currency exchange rates, or as a substitute for the purchase or sale of securities or currencies. Such transactions may be in the U.S. or abroad and may include the purchase or sale of futures contracts on indices and options on stock index futures, the purchase of put options and the sale of call options on securities held, equity swaps and the purchase and sale of currency futures and forward foreign currency exchange contracts. Transactions in derivative instruments involve a risk of loss or depreciation due to: unanticipated adverse changes in securities prices, interest rates, indices, the other financial instruments' prices or currency exchange rates; the inability to close out a position; default by the counterparty; imperfect correlation between a position and the desired hedge; tax constraints on closing out positions; and portfolio management constraints on securities subject to such transactions. The loss on derivative instruments (other than purchased options) may substantially exceed an investment in these instruments. In addition, the entire premium paid for purchased options may be lost before than can be profitably exercised. Transaction costs are incurred in opening and closing positions. Derivative instruments may sometimes increase or leverage exposure to a particular market risk, thereby increasing price volatility. Over-the-counter ("OTC") derivative instruments, equity swaps and forward sales of stocks involve an enhanced risk that the issuer or counterparty will fail to perform its contractual obligations. Some derivative instruments are not readily marketable or may become illiquid under adverse market conditions. In addition, during periods of market volatility, a commodity exchange may suspend or limit trading in an exchange-traded derivative instrument, which may make the contract temporarily illiquid and difficult to price. Commodity exchanges may also establish daily limits on the amount that the price of a futures contract or futures option can vary from the previous day's settlement price. Once the daily limit is reached, no trades may be made that day at a price beyond the limit. This may prevent the closing out of positions to limit losses. The staff of the Securities and Exchange Commission takes the position that certain purchased OTC options, and assets used as cover for written OTC options, are illiquid. The ability to terminate OTC derivative instruments may depend on the cooperation of the counterparties to such contracts. For thinly traded derivative instruments, the only source of price quotations may be the selling dealer or counterparty. In addition, certain provisions of the Code limit the use of derivative instruments. There can be no assurance that the use of derivative instruments will be advantageous.

Foreign exchange traded futures contracts and options thereon may be used only if Reaves determines that trading on such foreign exchange does not entail risks, including credit and liquidity risks, that are materially greater than the risks associated with trading on CFTC-regulated exchanges.

A put option on a security may be written only if Reaves intends to acquire the security. Call options written on securities will be covered by ownership of the securities subject to the call option or an offsetting option.

Corporate Bonds And Other Debt Securities

The Fund may invest in corporate bonds including below investment grade quality, commonly known as “junk bonds” (“Non-Investment Grade Bonds”). Investments in Non-Investment Grade Bonds generally provide greater income and increased opportunity for capital appreciation than investments in higher quality securities, but they also typically entail greater price volatility and principal and income risk, including the possibility of issuer default and bankruptcy. Non-Investment Grade Bonds are regarded as predominantly speculative with respect to the issuer’s continuing ability to meet principal and interest payments. Debt securities in the lowest investment grade category also may be considered to possess some speculative characteristics by certain rating agencies. In addition, analysis of the creditworthiness of issuers of Non-Investment Grade Bonds may be more complex than for issuers of higher quality securities.

Non-Investment Grade Bonds may be more susceptible to real or perceived adverse economic and competitive industry conditions than investment grade securities. A projection of an economic downturn or of a period of rising interest rates, for example, could cause a decline in Non-Investment Grade Bond prices because the advent of recession could lessen the ability of an issuer to make principal and interest payments on its debt obligations. If an issuer of Non-Investment Grade Bonds defaults, in addition to risking payment of all or a portion of interest and principal, the Fund may incur additional expenses to seek recovery. In the case of Non-Investment Grade Bonds structured as zero-coupon, step-up or payment-in-kind securities, their market prices will normally be affected to a greater extent by interest rate changes, and therefore tend to be more volatile than securities which pay interest currently and in cash. Reaves seeks to reduce these risks through diversification, credit analysis and attention to current developments in both the economy and financial markets.

The secondary market on which Non-Investment Grade Bonds are traded may be less liquid than the market for investment grade securities. Less liquidity in the secondary trading market could adversely affect the net asset value of the Shares. Adverse publicity and investor perceptions, whether or not based on fundamental analysis, may decrease the values and liquidity of Non-Investment Grade Bonds, especially in a thinly traded market. When secondary markets for Non-Investment Grade Bonds are less liquid than the market for investment grade securities, it may be more difficult to value the securities because such valuation may require more research, and elements of judgment may play a greater role in the valuation because there is no reliable, objective data available. During periods of thin trading in these markets, the spread between bid and asked prices is likely to increase significantly and the Fund may have greater difficulty selling these securities. The Fund will be more dependent on Reaves’ research and analysis when investing in Non-Investment Grade Bonds. Reaves seeks to minimize the risks of investing in all securities through in-depth credit analysis and attention to current developments in interest rate and market conditions.

A general description of the ratings of securities by Standard & Poor’s Ratings Group, a Division of The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. (“S&P”), Fitch Ratings (“Fitch”) and Moody’s Investors Service, Inc. (“Moody’s”) is set forth in Appendix A to this SAI. Such ratings represent these rating organizations’ opinions as to the quality of the securities they rate. It should be emphasized, however, that ratings are general and are not absolute standards of quality. Consequently, debt obligations with the same maturity, coupon and rating may have different yields while obligations with the same maturity and coupon may have the same yield. For these reasons, the use of credit ratings as the sole method of evaluating Non-Investment Grade Bonds can involve certain risks. For example, credit ratings evaluate the safety or principal and interest payments, not the market value risk of Non-Investment Grade Bonds. Also, credit rating agencies may fail to change credit ratings in a timely

fashion to reflect events since the security was last rated. Reaves does not rely solely on credit ratings when selecting securities for the Fund, and develops its own independent analysis of issuer credit quality.

In the event that a rating agency or Reaves downgrades its assessment of the credit characteristics of a particular issue, the Fund is not required to dispose of such security. In determining whether to retain or sell a downgraded security, Reaves may consider such factors as Reaves' assessment of the credit quality of the issuer of such security, the price at which such security could be sold and the rating, if any, assigned to such security by other rating agencies. However, analysis of the creditworthiness of issuers of Non-Investment Grade Bonds may be more complex than for issuers of high quality debt securities.

Short Sales

The Fund may sell a security short if it owns at least an equal amount of the security sold short or another security convertible or exchangeable for an equal amount of the security sold short without payment of further compensation (a short sale against-the-box). In a short sale against-the-box, the short seller is exposed to the risk of being forced to deliver stock that it holds to close the position if the borrowed stock is called in by the lender, which would cause gain or loss to be recognized on the delivered stock. The Fund expects normally to close its short sales against-the-box by delivering newly-acquired stock.

The ability to use short sales against-the-box, certain equity swaps and certain equity collar strategies as a tax-efficient management technique with respect to holdings of appreciated securities is limited to circumstances in which the hedging transaction is closed out within thirty days of the end of the Fund's taxable year and the underlying appreciated securities position is held unhedged for at least the next sixty days after the hedging transaction is closed. Not meeting these requirements would trigger the recognition of gain on the underlying appreciated securities position under the federal tax laws applicable to constructive sales.

Purchasing securities to close out the short position can itself cause the price of the securities to rise further, thereby exacerbating the loss. Short-selling exposes the Fund to unlimited risk with respect to that security due to the lack of an upper limit on the price to which an instrument can rise. Although the Fund reserves the right to utilize short sales, Reaves is under no obligation to utilize short sales at all.

Temporary Investments

The Fund will invest temporarily in cash, money market funds or cash equivalents. Cash equivalents are highly liquid, short-term securities such as commercial paper, certificates of deposit, short-term notes and short-term U.S. Government obligations.

Foreign Securities

Under normal circumstances the Fund may invest in securities of issuers located in countries other than the United States and may invest in such foreign securities without limitation. The Fund generally will not invest in issuers located in emerging market countries. The value of foreign securities is affected by changes in currency rates, foreign tax laws (including withholding tax), government policies (in this country or abroad), relations between nations and trading, settlement, custodial and other operational risks. In addition, the costs of investing abroad are generally higher than in the United States, and foreign securities markets may be less liquid, more volatile and less subject to governmental supervision than markets in the United States. As an alternative to holding foreign-traded securities, the Fund may invest in dollar-denominated securities of foreign companies that trade on U.S.

exchanges or in the U.S. over-the-counter market (including depositary receipts, which evidence ownership in underlying foreign securities).

Because foreign companies are not subject to uniform accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards, practices and requirements comparable to those applicable to U.S. companies, there may be less publicly available information about a foreign company than about a domestic company. Volume and liquidity in most foreign debt markets is less than in the United States and securities of some foreign companies are less liquid and more volatile than securities of comparable U.S. companies. There is generally less government supervision and regulation of securities exchanges, broker-dealers and listed companies than in the United States. Mail service between the United States and foreign countries may be slower or less reliable than within the United States, thus increasing the risk of delayed settlements of portfolio transactions or loss of certificates for portfolio securities. Payment for securities before delivery may be required. In addition, with respect to certain foreign countries, there is the possibility of expropriation or confiscatory taxation, political or social instability, or diplomatic developments, which could affect investments in those countries. Moreover, individual foreign economies may differ favorably or unfavorably from the U.S. economy in such respects as growth of gross national product, rate of inflation, capital reinvestment, resource self-sufficiency and balance of payments position. Foreign securities markets, while growing in volume and sophistication, are generally not as developed as those in the United States, and securities of some foreign issuers (particularly those located in developing countries) may be less liquid and more volatile than securities of comparable U.S. companies.

The Fund may purchase American Depositary Receipts (“ADRs”), European Depositary Receipts (“EDRs”) and Global Depositary Receipts (“GDRs”). ADRs, EDRs and GDRs are certificates evidencing ownership of shares of foreign issuers and are alternatives to purchasing directly the underlying foreign securities in their national markets and currencies. However, they continue to be subject to many of the risks associated with investing directly in foreign securities. These risks include foreign exchange risk as well as the political and economic risks of the underlying issuer’s country. ADRs, EDRs and GDRs may be sponsored or unsponsored. Unsponsored receipts are established without the participation of the issuer. Unsponsored receipts may involve higher expenses, they may not pass-through voting or other shareholder rights, and they may be less liquid.

Investment Restrictions

The following investment restrictions of the Fund are designated as fundamental policies and as such cannot be changed without the approval of the holders of a majority of the Fund’s outstanding voting securities, which as used in this SAI means the lesser of (a) 67% of the shares of the Fund present or represented by proxy at a meeting if the holders of more than 50% of the outstanding shares are present or represented at the meeting or (b) more than 50% of outstanding shares of the Fund. As a matter of fundamental policy the Fund may not:

- (1) Borrow money, except as permitted by the 1940 Act. The 1940 Act currently requires that any indebtedness incurred by a closed-end investment company have an asset coverage of at least 300%;
- (2) Issue senior securities, as defined in the 1940 Act, other than (a) preferred shares which immediately after issuance will have asset coverage of at least 200%, (b) indebtedness which immediately after issuance will have asset coverage of at least 300% or (c) the borrowings permitted by investment restriction (1) above. The 1940 Act currently defines “senior security” as any bond, debenture, note or similar obligation or instrument constituting a security and evidencing indebtedness, and any stock of a class having priority over any other class as to distribution of assets or payment of dividends. Debt and equity securities issued by a closed-end

investment company meeting the foregoing asset coverage provisions are excluded from the general 1940 Act prohibition on the issuance of senior securities;

- (3) Purchase securities on margin (but the Fund may obtain such short-term credits as may be necessary for the clearance of purchases and sales of securities). The purchase of investment assets with the proceeds of a permitted borrowing or securities offering will not be deemed to be the purchase of securities on margin;
- (4) Underwrite securities issued by other persons, except insofar as it may technically be deemed to be an underwriter under the Securities Act in selling or disposing of a portfolio investment;
- (5) Make loans to other persons, except by (a) the acquisition of loan interests, debt securities and other obligations in which the Fund is authorized to invest in accordance with its investment objectives and policies, (b) entering into repurchase agreements and (c) lending its portfolio securities;
- (6) Purchase or sell real estate, although it may purchase and sell securities which are secured by interests in real estate and securities of issuers which invest or deal in real estate. The Fund reserves the freedom of action to hold and to sell real estate acquired as a result of the ownership of securities; and
- (7) Purchase or sell physical commodities or contracts for the purchase or sale of physical commodities. Physical commodities do not include futures contracts with respect to securities, securities indices, currencies, interest or other financial instruments.

The Fund may borrow money as a temporary measure for extraordinary or emergency purposes, including the payment of dividends and the settlement of securities transactions which otherwise might require untimely dispositions of Fund securities. The 1940 Act currently requires that the Fund have 300% asset coverage with respect to all borrowings other than temporary borrowings.

The Fund has adopted the following nonfundamental investment policy which may be changed by the Board of Trustees without approval of the Fund's shareholders. As a matter of nonfundamental policy, the Fund may not make short sales of securities or maintain a short position, unless at all times when a short position is open it either owns an equal amount of such securities or owns securities convertible into or exchangeable, without payment of any further consideration, for securities of the same issue as, and equal in amount to, the securities sold short.

The Fund may invest in the securities of other investment companies to the extent that such an investment would be consistent with the requirements of the 1940 Act and the rules thereunder. Investments in the securities of other investment companies may involve duplication of advisory fees and certain other expenses. By investing in another investment company, the Fund becomes a shareholder of that investment company. As a result, the Fund's shareholders indirectly bear the Fund's proportionate share of the fees and expenses paid by the shareholders of the other investment company, in addition to the fees and expenses Fund shareholders directly bear in connection with the Fund's own operations.

Whenever an investment policy or investment restriction set forth in the prospectus or this SAI states a maximum percentage of assets that may be invested in any security or other assets or describes a policy regarding quality standards, such percentage limitation or standard shall be determined immediately after and as a result of the Fund's acquisition of such security or asset. Accordingly, any later increase or decrease resulting from a change in values, assets or other circumstances or any subsequent rating change made by a rating service (or as determined by Reaves if the security is not rated by a rating agency) will not compel the Fund to dispose of such security or other asset. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Fund must always be in compliance with the borrowing policies set forth above.

ADDITIONAL RISK FACTOR

Foreign Securities Risk

The Fund may invest in foreign securities. If the Fund invests in securities of foreign issuers, it may be subject to risks not usually associated with owning securities of U.S. issuers. These risks can include fluctuations in foreign currencies, foreign currency exchange controls, social, political and economic instability, differences in securities regulation and trading, expropriation or nationalization of assets, and foreign taxation issues. In addition, changes in government administrations or economic or monetary policies in the United States or abroad could result in appreciation or depreciation of the Fund's securities. It may also be more difficult to obtain and enforce a judgment against a foreign issuer. Any foreign investments made by the Fund must be made in compliance with U.S. and foreign currency restrictions and tax laws restricting the amounts and types of foreign investments.

TRUSTEES AND OFFICERS

The Trustees of the Fund are responsible for the overall management and supervision of the affairs of the Fund. The Trustees and officers of the Fund are listed below. Except as indicated, each individual has held the office shown or other offices in the same company for the last five years. The "noninterested Trustees" consist of those Trustees who are not "interested persons" of the Fund, as that term is defined under the 1940 Act.

INTERESTED TRUSTEES AND OFFICERS

<u>Name, Address & Age</u>	<u>Position(s) Held with Funds</u>	<u>Term of Office and Length of Time Served</u>	<u>Principal Occupation(s) During Past 5 Years* and Other Directorships Held by Trustee</u>	<u>Number of Portfolios in Fund Complex Overseen by Trustee</u>
W. Robert Alexander , age 76, 1625 Broadway, Suite 2200 Denver, Colorado 80202	Trustee and Chairman	Less than three months.	Mr. Alexander is the Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of ALPS. Mr. Alexander was Vice Chairman of First Interstate Bank of Denver, responsible for Trust, Private Banking, Retail Banking, Cash Management Services and Marketing. Mr. Alexander is currently a member of the Board of Trustees of the Hunter and Hughes Trusts as well as Financial Investors Trust and Financial Investors Variable Insurance Trust. Because of his affiliation with ALPS, Mr. Alexander is considered an "interested" Trustee of the Fund.	1
Edmund J. Burke , age 43 1625 Broadway, Suite 2200 Denver, Colorado 80202	President	Less than three months.	Mr. Burke is President and a Director of ALPS. Mr. Burke joined ALPS in 1991 as Vice President and National Sales Manager. Because of his position with ALPS, Mr. Burke is deemed an affiliate of the Trust as defined under the 1940 Act.	

<u>Name, Address & Age</u>	<u>Position(s) Held with Funds</u>	<u>Term of Office and Length of Time Served</u>	<u>Principal Occupation(s) During Past 5 Years* and Other Directorships Held by Trustee</u>	<u>Number of Portfolios in Fund Complex Overseen by Trustee</u>
Jeremy O. May , age 33, 1625 Broadway, Suite 2200 Denver, Colorado 80202	Treasurer	Less than three months.	Mr. May is Senior Vice President and a Director of ALPS. Mr. May joined ALPS in 1995 as a Controller. Because of his position with ALPS, Mr. May is deemed an affiliate of the Trust as defined under the 1940 Act. Mr. May is currently the Treasurer of Financial Investors Trust, Financial Investors Variable Insurance Trust and First Funds.	
Everett L. Morris , age 75 1625 Broadway, Suite 2200 Denver, CO 80202	Trustee	Less than three months.	Mr. Morris was a Vice President and Director of Reaves from 1993 to 2003. Mr. Morris is currently a Director/Trustee of the Phoenix Funds, a Director of the Duff & Phelps Utilities Tax-Free Income Fund, and a Director of the Duff & Phelps Utilities Income Fund.	1
Traci A. Thelen , age 31, 1625 Broadway, Suite 2200 Denver, Colorado 80202	Secretary	Less than three months.	Ms. Thelen is the General Counsel of ALPS. Ms. Thelen joined ALPS in October 1999 as Associate Counsel. Because of her position with ALPS, Ms. Thelen is deemed an affiliate of the Trust as defined under the 1940 Act. Ms. Thelen is currently the Secretary of Financial Investors Trust, Financial Investors Variable Insurance Trust, First Funds and Westcore Trust.	

INDEPENDENT TRUSTEES

<u>Name, Address & Age</u>	<u>Position(s) Held with Funds</u>	<u>Term of Office and Length of Time Served</u>	<u>Principal Occupation(s) During Past 5 Years* and Other Directorships Held by Trustee</u>	<u>Number of Portfolios in Fund Complex Overseen by Trustee</u>
Mary K. Anstine , age 63, 1625 Broadway, Suite 2200 Denver, CO 80202	Trustee	Less than three months.	Ms. Anstine is the President/Chief Executive Officer of HealthONE, Denver, Colorado, and former Executive Vice President of First Interstate Bank of Denver. Ms. Anstine is also a Trustee/Director of the following: Denver Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America; Colorado Uplift Board; AV Hunter Trust; P/SL Auxiliary Board; Financial Investors Trust; Financial Investors Variable Trust; and a member of the Advisory Boards for the Girl Scouts Mile Hi Council. Ms. Anstine was a Director of: the Northern Trust Bank of Colorado from February 1998 until February 2002; HealthONE; a member of the American Bankers Association Trust Executive Committee; and Director of the Center for Dispute Resolution.	1
Michael F. Holland , age 59 375 Park Avenue New York, NY 10152	Trustee	Less than three months.	Mr. Holland is Chairman of Holland & Company. Mr. Holland is currently a Director and Chairman of the Board, President and Treasurer of the Holland Series Fund, Inc. Mr. Holland is also a Trustee of State Street Master Funds, Vanguard Charitable Endowment Program, and the China Fund, Inc.	1
Robert E. Lee , age 68, 10510 Lakeview Drive Hayden Lake, Idaho 83835	Trustee	Less than three months.	Mr. Lee was a commercial bank executive of First Interstate Bank of Denver from 1980 through 1989. He is currently a Director of the following: Storage Technology Corporation; ING Financial Services — North America; Meredith Corporation; and Emeritus Executive Director — The Denver Foundation. Mr. Lee is also a Trustee of Financial Investors Trust and Financial Investors Variable Insurance Trust.	1

<u>Name, Address & Age</u>	<u>Position(s) Held with Funds</u>	<u>Term of Office and Length of Time Served</u>	<u>Principal Occupation(s) During Past 5 Years* and Other Directorships Held by Trustee</u>	<u>Number of Portfolios in Fund Complex Overseen by Trustee</u>
Larry W. Papasan, age 62, 2670 Union Avenue Extended Suite 700 Memphis, TN 38112	Trustee	Less than three months.	Mr. Papasan is the former Chairman of Smith & Nephew, Inc. (orthopedic division). Mr. Papasan is a former Director of First American National Bank of Memphis and The West Tennessee Board of First American National Bank (1988-1991) and was President of Memphis Light Gas and Water Division of the city of Memphis (1984-1991). Mr. Papasan is a member of the Board of the Plough Foundation, a non-profit trust, a Trustee of First Funds, a mutual fund complex, and a Trustee of Smith Seckman Reid, Inc., an engineering services company. Mr. Papasan is also Chairman of the Board of the University of Memphis Board of Visitors and Foundation, Chairman of the Board of LeBonheur Children's Hospital Foundation, President of the Board of the Biblical Resource Center and Museum, and a Board Member of the Memphis Biotechnology Group, a non-profit organization.	1

* Except as otherwise indicated, each individual has held the office shown or other offices in the same company for the last five year.

The Audit Committee of the Board of Trustees (“Audit Committee”) is comprised of the noninterested Trustees. The Audit Committee’s functions include making recommendations to the Trustees regarding the selection and performance of the independent accountants, and reviewing matters relative to accounting and auditing practices and procedures, accounting records, and the internal accounting controls, of the Fund, and certain service providers.

The noninterested Trustees meet separately to consider, evaluate and make recommendations to the full Board of Trustees concerning (i) all contractual arrangements with service providers to the Fund, including investment advisory, administrative, transfer agency, custodial and distribution services, and (ii) all other matters in which Reaves, ALPS, or either of their respective affiliates has any actual or potential conflict of interest with the Fund.

As of the date of this SAI, the Audit Committee and non-interested members of the Board of Trustees had each held one meeting.

When considering approval of the Investment Advisory and Management Agreement (the “Advisory Agreement”) between the Fund and Reaves, the Board of Trustees considered, among other things, the following:

- The economic outlook and the general investment outlook in the relevant investment markets;

- The history, investment process and procedures, results and financial condition and the overall organization of Reaves;
- Arrangements regarding the distribution of Fund shares;
- The procedures used to determine the fair value of the Fund's assets;
- The allocation of brokerage, including allocations to soft dollar brokerage and allocations to firms that sell Fund shares;
- Information on the relevant peer group(s) of funds;
- The economic outlook and the general investment outlook in the relevant investment markets;
- Investment management staffing;
- Operating expenses (including transfer agency expenses) to be paid to third parties; and
- Information to be provided to investors, including the Fund's shareholders.

The Board of Trustees and noninterested Trustees did not consider any single factor as controlling in determining whether or not to approve the Advisory Agreement. Nor are the items described herein all encompassing of the matters considered.

Based on their consideration of all factors that they deemed material, the Board of Trustees, and the noninterested Trustees voting separately as a group, assisted by the advice of its independent counsel, each concluded that the approval of the Advisory Agreement, including the fee structure (described herein) is in the interests of shareholders.

Share Ownership

Set forth in the table below is the dollar range of equity securities owned by each Trustee as of the date of this Statement of Additional Information in the Fund:

<u>Name of Trustee</u>	<u>Dollar Range of Equity Securities in the Fund</u>	<u>Aggregate Dollar Range of Equity Securities in All Registered Investment Companies Overseen by Trustee in Family of Investment Companies</u>
W. Robert Alexander	none	none
Mary K. Anstine	none	none
Michael F. Holland	none	none
Robert E. Lee	none	none
Everett L. Morris	none	none
Larry W. Papasan	none	none

Compensation of Officers and Trustees

The Fund pays no salaries or compensation to any of its interested Trustees or Officers. The noninterested Trustees of the Fund receive a quarterly retainer of \$3,500 and an additional \$1,500 for attending each meeting of the Board of Trustees. The noninterested Trustees are also reimbursed for all reasonable out-of-pocket expenses relating to attendance at meetings of the Board of Trustees.

The following table sets forth certain information regarding the estimated compensation of the Fund's noninterested Trustees for the calendar year ending December 31, 2004.

	Aggregate Compensation From The Fund(1)	Pension Or Retirement Benefits Accrued As Part of Fund Expenses	Estimated Annual Benefits Upon Retirement	Aggregate Compensation From The Fund And Fund Complex Paid To Trustees(1)
Mary K. Anstine, Trustee	\$20,000	\$0	\$0	\$20,000
Michael F. Holland, Trustee	\$20,000	\$0	\$0	\$20,000
Robert E. Lee, Trustee	\$20,000	\$0	\$0	\$20,000
Larry W. Papasan, Trustee	\$20,000	\$0	\$0	\$20,000

(1) Estimated compensation for period beginning February 20, 2004 to December 31, 2004.

Code of Ethics

Reaves and the Fund have adopted a code of ethics governing personal securities transactions. Under the code of ethics, Reaves employees may purchase and sell securities (including securities held or eligible for purchase by the Fund) subject to certain pre-clearance and reporting requirements and other procedures.

The code of ethics can be reviewed and copied at the Securities and Exchange Commission's public reference room in Washington, DC (call 1-202-942-8090 for information on the operation of the public reference room); on the EDGAR Database on the Securities and Exchange Commission's Internet site (<http://www.sec.gov>); or, upon payment of copying fees, by writing the Securities and Exchange Commission's public reference section, Washington, DC 20549-0102, or by electronic mail at publicinfo@sec.gov.

Proxy Voting Policy

Subject to the right of a majority of the Fund's disinterested Trustees to give Reaves written instructions as to the voting or non-voting of proxies on any specific matter, including a matter presenting an actual or potential conflict of interest as described below, the Fund has delegated the voting of proxies with respect to securities owned by it to Reaves. In the absence of such written instructions, Reaves will vote proxies in a manner that it deems to be in the best interests of the Fund. Reaves will consider only those factors that relate to the Fund's investment in the securities to be voted, including how the vote will economically impact and affect the value of the Fund's investment in such securities (keeping in mind that, after conducting an appropriate cost/benefit analysis, not voting at all on a particular matter may be in the best interest of the Fund). In general, Reaves believes that voting proxies in accordance with the policies described below will be in the best interests of the Fund.

Reaves will generally vote to support management recommendations relating to routine matters such as the election of directors (where no corporate governance issues are implicated), the selection of independent auditors, an increase in or reclassification of common stock, the addition or amendment of indemnification provisions in the company's charter or by-laws, changes in the board of directors and compensation of outside directors. Reaves will generally vote in favor of management or shareholder proposals that Reaves believes will maintain or strengthen the shared interests of shareholders and management, increase shareholder value, maintain or increase shareholder influence over the company's board of directors and management and maintain or increase the rights of shareholders.

On non-routine matters, Reaves will generally vote in favor of management proposals for merger or reorganization if the transaction appears to offer fair value, against shareholder proposals that consider only non-financial impacts of mergers or reorganizations and against anti-greenmail provisions.

If a proxy includes a routine matter that implicates corporate governance changes, a non-routine matter to which none of the specific policies described above is applicable or a matter involving an actual or potential conflict of interest as described below, Reaves may engage an independent third party to determine whether and how the proxy should be voted.

In exercising its voting discretion, Reaves and its employees will seek to avoid any direct or indirect conflict of interest presented by the voting decision. If any substantive aspect or foreseeable result of the matter to be voted on presents an actual or potential conflict of interest involving Reaves (or an affiliate of Reaves), any issuer of a security for which Reaves (or an affiliate of Reaves) acts as sponsor, advisor, manager, custodian, distributor, underwriter, broker or other similar capacity or any person with whom Reaves (or an affiliate of Reaves) has an existing material contract or business relationship not entered into in the ordinary course of business (Reaves and such other persons having an interest in the matter being called "Interested Persons"), Reaves will make written disclosure of the conflict to the disinterested Trustees of the Fund indicating how Reaves proposes to vote on the matter and its reasons for doing so. If Reaves does not receive timely written instructions as to voting or non-voting on the matter from the Fund's disinterested Trustees, Reaves may take any of the following actions which it deems to be in the best interests of the Fund: (i) engage an independent third party to determine whether and how the proxy should be voted and vote or refrain from voting on the matter as determined by the third party; (ii) vote on the matter in the manner proposed to the disinterested Trustees if the vote is against the interests of all Interested Persons; or (iii) refrain from voting on the matter.

INVESTMENT ADVISORY AND OTHER SERVICES

Reaves has been managing assets of investment companies since 1993. Reaves maintains a staff of experienced investment professionals to service the needs of its clients.

Except as provided in the Administration Agreement, the Fund will be responsible for all of its costs and expenses not expressly stated to be payable by Reaves under the Advisory Agreement or ALPS under the Administration Agreement. Such costs and expenses to be borne by the Fund include, without limitation: advisory fees, administration fees, trustees' fees, portfolio transaction expenses, litigation expenses, taxes, costs of preferred shares, expenses of conducting repurchase offers for the purpose of repurchasing Fund shares and extraordinary expenses.

The Advisory Agreement with Reaves continues in effect to February 23, 2006 and from year to year so long as such continuance is approved at least annually (i) by the vote of a majority of the noninterested Trustees of the Fund or of Reaves cast in person at a meeting specifically called for the purpose of voting on such approval and (ii) by the Board of Trustees or by vote of a majority of the outstanding Shares of the Fund. The agreement may be terminated at any time without penalty on sixty (60) days' written notice by the Trustees of the Fund or Reaves, as applicable, or by vote of the majority of the outstanding shares of the Fund. The agreement will terminate automatically in the event of its assignment. The agreement provides that, in the absence of willful misfeasance, bad faith, gross negligence or reckless disregard of its obligations or duties to the Fund under such agreements on the part of Reaves, or a loss resulting from a breach of fiduciary duty by Reaves with respect to the receipt of compensation for services (in which case damages shall be limited by the 1940 Act), Reaves shall not be liable to the Fund or any shareholder for any loss incurred, to the extent not covered by insurance.

Reaves is an employee-owned corporation organized under the laws of Delaware. It is registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission as an investment adviser under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended. As of December 31, 2003, Reaves had approximately \$900 million in assets under management.

Investment Advisory Services

Under the general supervision of the Board of Trustees, Reaves will carry out the investment and reinvestment of the assets of the Fund, will furnish continuously an investment program with respect to the Fund, will determine which securities should be purchased, sold or exchanged, and will implement such determinations. Reaves will furnish to the Fund investment advice and provide related office facilities and personnel for servicing the investments of the Fund. Reaves will compensate all Trustees and officers of the Fund who are members of the Reaves organization and who render investment services to the Fund, and will also compensate all other Reaves personnel who provide research and investment services to the Fund.

Administrative Services

Under the Administration Agreement, ALPS Mutual Funds Services, Inc. (“ALPS”) is responsible for calculating the net asset value of the Common Shares, and generally managing the business affairs of the Fund, subject to the supervision of the Board of Trustees. ALPS will furnish to the Fund all office facilities, equipment and personnel for administering the affairs of the Fund. ALPS will compensate all Trustees and officers of the Fund who are members of the ALPS organization and who render executive and administrative services to the Fund, and will also compensate all other ALPS personnel who perform management and administrative services for the Fund. ALPS’ administrative services include, preparation and filing of documents required to comply with federal and state securities laws, supervising the activities of the Fund’s custodian and transfer agent, providing assistance in connection with the Trustees and shareholders’ meetings, providing services in connection with repurchase offers, if any, and other administrative services necessary to conduct the Fund’s business. Under the Administration Agreement, ALPS is also obligated to pay all expenses incurred by the Fund, with the exception of advisory fees, portfolio transaction expenses, trustees’ fees, litigation expenses, taxes, costs of preferred shares, expenses of conducting repurchase offers for the purpose of repurchasing Fund shares and extraordinary expenses.

DETERMINATION OF NET ASSET VALUE

The net asset value per Share of the Fund is determined no less frequently than daily, on each day that the American Stock Exchange (the “Exchange”) is open for trading, as of the close of regular trading on the Exchange (normally 4:00 p.m. New York time). ALPS calculates the Fund’s net asset value per Common Share by dividing the value of the Fund’s total assets (the value of the securities the Fund holds plus cash or other assets, including interest accrued but not yet received), less accrued expenses of the Fund, less the Fund’s other liabilities (including dividends payable, any borrowings and the liquidation preference of any preferred shares issued by the Fund) and less the liquidation value of any outstanding preferred shares by the total number of Common Shares outstanding. Valuations of many securities expected to be in the Fund’s portfolio may be made by a third party pricing service.

For purposes of determining the net asset value of the Fund, readily marketable portfolio securities listed on the New York Stock Exchange are valued, except as indicated below, at the last sale price reflected on the consolidated tape at the close of the New York Stock Exchange on the business day as of which such value is being determined. If there has been no sale on such day, the securities are valued at the mean of the closing bid and asked prices on such day. If no bid or asked prices are quoted on such day, then the security is valued by such method as the Board of Trustees shall determine in good faith to reflect its fair market value. Readily marketable securities not listed on the New York Stock Exchange but listed on other domestic or foreign securities exchanges are valued in a like manner. Portfolio securities traded on more than one securities exchange are valued at the last sale price on the business day as of which such value is being determined as reflected on the consolidated tape at the close of the exchange representing the principal market for such securities. Securities

trading on the National Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotations, Inc. (“NASDAQ”) are valued at the NASDAQ official closing price.

Readily marketable securities traded in the over-the-counter market, including listed securities whose primary market is believed by Reaves to be over-the-counter, but excluding securities admitted to trading on the NASDAQ National List, are valued at the mean of the current bid and asked prices as reported by NASDAQ or, in the case of securities not quoted by NASDAQ, the National Quotation Bureau or such other comparable source as the trustees deem appropriate to reflect their fair market value.

An option is valued at the last sale price as quoted on the principal exchange or board of trade on which such option or contract is traded, or in the absence of a sale, at the mean between the last bid and asked prices.

The Valuation Committee may implement new pricing methodologies or expand mark-to-market valuation of debt securities whose market prices are not readily available in the future, which may result in a change in the Fund’s net asset value per share. The Fund’s net asset value per share will also be affected by fair value pricing decisions and by changes in the market for such debt securities. The Fund has adopted Fair Valuation Procedures to determine the fair value of a debt security. These Fair Valuation Procedures consider relevant factors, data, and information, including: (i) the characteristics of and fundamental analytical data relating to the debt security, including the cost, size, current interest rate, period until next interest rate reset, maturity and base lending rate of the debt security, the terms and conditions of the debt security and any related agreements, and the position of the debt security in the borrower’s debt structure; (ii) the nature, adequacy and value of the collateral, including the Fund’s rights, remedies and interests with respect to the collateral; (iii) the creditworthiness of the borrower, based on an evaluation of its financial condition, financial statements and information about the borrower’s business, cash flows, capital structure and future prospects; (iv) information relating to the market for the debt security, including price quotations for and trading in the debt security and interests in similar debt security and the market environment and investor attitudes towards the debt security and interests in similar debt securities; (v) the experience, reputation, stability and financial condition of the Agent and any intermediate participants in the debt security and (vi) general economic and market conditions affecting the fair value of the debt security. The fair value of each debt security is reviewed and approved by the Valuation Committee and the Fund’s Trustees.

Debt securities for which the over-the-counter market is the primary market are normally valued on the basis of prices furnished by one or more pricing services at the mean between the latest available bid and asked prices. OTC options are valued at the mean between the bid and asked prices provided by dealers. Financial futures contracts listed on commodity exchanges and exchange-traded options are valued at closing settlement prices. Short-term obligations having remaining maturities of less than 60 days are valued at amortized cost, which approximates value, unless the Trustees determine that under particular circumstances such method does not result in fair value. As authorized by the Trustees, debt securities (other than short-term obligations) may be valued on the basis of valuations furnished by a pricing service which determines valuations based upon market transactions for normal, institutional-size trading units of such securities. Securities for which there is no such quotation or valuation and all other assets are valued at fair value as determined in good faith by or at the direction of the Fund’s Trustees.

All other securities are valued at fair value as determined in good faith by or at the direction of the Trustees.

Generally, trading in the foreign securities owned by the Fund is substantially completed each day at various times prior to the close of the Exchange. The values of these securities used in determining the net asset value of the Fund generally are computed as of such times. Occasionally, events affecting

the value of foreign securities may occur between such times and the close of the Exchange which will not be reflected in the computation of the Fund's net asset value (unless the Fund deems that such events would materially affect its net asset value, in which case an adjustment would be made and reflected in such computation). Foreign securities and currency held by the Fund will be valued in U.S. dollars; such values will be computed by the custodian based on foreign currency exchange rate quotations supplied by an independent quotation service.

PORTFOLIO TRADING

Decisions concerning the execution of portfolio security transactions, including the selection of the market and the executing firm, are made by Reaves. Reaves is also responsible for the execution of transactions for all other accounts managed by it. Reaves places the portfolio security transactions of the Fund and of all other accounts managed by it for execution with many firms. While Reaves, as a registered broker-dealer, regularly acts as executing broker in equity securities transactions for other clients, it generally will not act as executing broker for the Fund. Whether Reaves acts as executing broker or places transactions for execution with other firms, Reaves uses its best efforts to obtain execution of portfolio security transactions at prices which are advantageous to the Fund and at reasonably competitive spreads or (when a disclosed commission is being charged) at reasonably competitive commission rates. In seeking such execution, Reaves will use its best judgment in evaluating the terms of a transaction, and will give consideration to various relevant factors, including without limitation the full range and quality of the executing firm's services, the value of the brokerage and research services provided, the responsiveness of the firm to Reaves, the size and type of the transaction, the nature and character of the market for the security, the confidentiality, speed and certainty of effective execution required for the transaction, the general execution and operational capabilities of the executing firm, the reputation, reliability, experience and financial condition of the firm, the value and quality of the services rendered by the firm in this and other transactions, and the reasonableness of the spread or commission, if any.

Transactions on stock exchanges and other agency transactions involve the payment of negotiated brokerage commissions. Such commissions vary among different broker-dealer firms, and a particular broker-dealer may charge different commissions according to such factors as the difficulty and size of the transaction and the volume of business done with such broker-dealer. Transactions in foreign securities often involve the payment of brokerage commissions, which may be higher than those in the United States. There is generally no stated commission in the case of securities traded in the over-the-counter markets, but the price paid or received usually includes an undisclosed dealer markup or markdown. In an underwritten offering the price paid often includes a disclosed fixed commission or discount retained by the underwriter or dealer.

Fixed income obligations which may be purchased and sold by the Fund are generally traded in the over-the-counter market on a net basis (*i.e.*, without commission) through broker-dealers or banks acting for their own account rather than as brokers, or otherwise involve transactions directly with the issuers of such obligations. The Fund may also purchase fixed income and other securities from underwriters, the cost of which may include undisclosed fees and concessions to the underwriters.

Although spreads or commissions paid on portfolio security transactions will, in the judgment of Reaves, be reasonable in relation to the value of the services provided, commissions exceeding those which another firm might charge may be paid to broker-dealers who were selected to execute transactions on behalf of Reaves' clients in part for providing brokerage and research services to Reaves.

As authorized in Section 28(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, a broker or dealer who executes a portfolio transaction on behalf of the Fund may receive a commission which is in excess of the amount of commission another broker or dealer would have charged for effecting that

transaction. Reaves generally does not use brokers or dealers that provide additional brokerage or research services but charge commissions in excess of other brokers or dealers (soft dollar arrangements), but may if it determines in good faith that such compensation was reasonable in relation to the value of the brokerage and research services provided. This determination may be made on the basis of that particular transaction or on the basis of overall responsibilities which Reaves and its affiliates have for accounts over which they exercise investment discretion. In making any such determination, Reaves will not attempt to place a specific dollar value on the brokerage and research services provided or to determine what portion of the commission should be related to such services. Brokerage and research services may include advice as to the value of securities, the advisability of investing in, purchasing, or selling securities, and the availability of securities or purchasers or sellers of securities; furnishing analyses and reports concerning issuers, industries, securities, economic factors and trends, portfolio strategy and the performance of accounts; effecting securities transactions and performing functions incidental thereto (such as clearance and settlement); and the “Research Services” referred to in the next paragraph.

It is a common practice of the investment advisory industry and of the advisers of investment companies, institutions and other investors to receive research, analytical, statistical and quotation services, data, information and other services, products and materials which assist such advisers in the performance of their investment responsibilities (“Research Services”) from broker-dealer firms which execute portfolio transactions for the clients of such advisers and from third parties with which such broker-dealers have arrangements. Consistent with this practice, Reaves receives Research Services from many broker-dealer firms with which Reaves places the Fund’s transactions and from third parties with which these broker-dealers have arrangements. These Research Services include such matters as general economic, political, business and market information, industry and company reviews, evaluations of securities and portfolio strategies and transactions, proxy voting data and analysis services, technical analysis of various aspects of the securities market, recommendations as to the purchase and sale of securities and other portfolio transactions, financial, industry and trade publications, news and information services, pricing and quotation equipment and services, and research oriented computer hardware, software, data bases and services. Any particular Research Service obtained through a broker-dealer may be used by Reaves in connection with client accounts other than those accounts which pay commissions to such broker-dealer. Any such Research Service may be broadly useful and of value to Reaves in rendering investment advisory services to all or a significant portion of its clients, or may be relevant and useful for the management of only one client’s account or of a few clients’ accounts, or may be useful for the management of merely a segment of certain clients’ accounts, regardless of whether any such account or accounts paid commissions to the broker-dealer through which such Research Service was obtained. The advisory fee paid by the Fund is not reduced because Reaves receives such Research Services. Reaves evaluates the nature and quality of the various Research Services obtained through broker-dealer firms and attempts to allocate sufficient portfolio security transactions to such firms to ensure the continued receipt of Research Services which Reaves believes are useful or of value to it in rendering investment advisory services to its clients.

The Fund and Reaves may also receive Research Services from underwriters and dealers in fixed-price offerings, which Research Services are reviewed and evaluated by Reaves in connection with its investment responsibilities. The investment companies sponsored by Reaves or its affiliates may allocate trades in such offerings to acquire information relating to the performance, fees and expenses of such companies and other mutual funds, which information is used by the Trustees of such companies to fulfill their responsibility to oversee the quality of the services provided by various entities, including Reaves, to such companies. Such companies may also pay cash for such information.

Subject to the requirement that Reaves shall use its best efforts to seek and execute portfolio security transactions at advantageous prices and at reasonably competitive spreads or commission rates, Reaves is authorized to consider as a factor in the selection of any broker-dealer firm with whom

portfolio orders may be placed the fact that such firm has sold or is selling shares of the Fund or of other investment companies sponsored by Reaves. This policy is not inconsistent with a rule of the NASD, which provides that no firm which is a member of the NASD shall favor or disfavor the distribution of shares of any particular investment company or group of investment companies on the basis of brokerage commissions received or expected by such firm from any source.

Securities considered as investments for the Fund may also be appropriate for other investment accounts managed by Reaves or its affiliates. Whenever decisions are made to buy or sell securities by the Fund and one or more of such other accounts simultaneously, Reaves will allocate the security transactions (including “hot” issues) in a manner which it believes to be equitable under the circumstances. As a result of such allocations, there may be instances where the Fund will not participate in a transaction that is allocated among other accounts. Additionally, trades executed by different firms, including Reaves, will not be aggregated and allocated as to price; thus, there may be instances where the Fund does not pay or receive the same price as other investment accounts managed by Reaves. While these aggregation and allocation policies could have a detrimental effect on the price or amount of the securities available to the Fund from time to time, it is the opinion of the Trustees of the Fund that the benefits received from Reaves’ organization outweigh any disadvantage that may arise from exposure to simultaneous transactions.

TAXES

The Fund intends to elect to be treated and to qualify each year as a regulated investment company (a “RIC”) under the Code. Accordingly, the Fund must, among other things, (i) derive in each taxable year at least 90% of its gross income (including tax-exempt interest) from dividends, interest, payments with respect to certain securities loans, and gains from the sale or other disposition of stock, securities or foreign currencies, or other income (including but not limited to gain from options, futures and forward contracts) derived with respect to its business of investing in such stock, securities or currencies; (ii) diversify its holdings so that, at the end of each quarter of each taxable year (a) at least 50% of the market value of the Fund’s total assets is represented by cash and cash items, U.S. government securities, the securities of other regulated investment companies and other securities, with such other securities limited, in respect of any one issuer, to an amount not greater than 5% of the value of the Fund’s total assets and not more than 10% of the outstanding voting securities of such issuer and (b) not more than 25% of the market value of the Fund’s total assets is invested in the securities of any issuer (other than U.S. government securities and the securities of other regulated investment companies) or of any two or more issuers that the Fund controls and that are determined to be engaged in the same business or similar or related trades or businesses and (iii) distribute substantially all of its net income and net short-term and long-term capital gains (after reduction by any available capital loss carryforwards) in accordance with the timing requirements imposed by the Code, so as to maintain its RIC status and to avoid paying any federal income or excise tax. To the extent it qualifies for treatment as a RIC and satisfies the above-mentioned distribution requirements, the Fund will not be subject to federal income tax on income paid to its shareholders in the form of dividends or capital gain distributions.

In order to avoid incurring a federal excise tax obligation, the Code requires that the Fund distribute (or be deemed to have distributed) by December 31 of each calendar year an amount at least equal to the sum of (i) 98% of its ordinary income for such year and (ii) 98% of its capital gain net income (which is the excess of its realized net long-term capital gain over its realized net short-term capital loss), generally computed on the basis of the one-year period ending on October 31 of such year, after reduction by any available capital loss carryforwards, plus (iii) 100% of any ordinary income and capital gain net income from the prior year (as previously computed) that were not paid out during such year and on which the Fund paid no federal income tax. Under current law, provided that the

Fund qualifies as a RIC for federal income tax purposes, the Fund should not be liable for any income, corporate excise or franchise tax in the state of Delaware.

If the Fund does not qualify as a RIC for any taxable year, the Fund's taxable income will be subject to corporate income taxes, and all distributions from earnings and profits, including distributions of net capital gain (if any), will be taxable to the shareholder as ordinary income. Such distributions generally will be eligible (i) for the dividends received deduction in the case of corporate shareholders and (ii) for treatment as "qualified dividends" in the case of individual shareholders. In addition, in order to requalify for taxation as a RIC, the Fund may be required to recognize unrealized gains, pay substantial taxes and interest, and make certain distributions.

Distributions from the Fund generally will be taxable to Common Shareholders as dividend income to the extent derived from investment income and net short-term capital gains, as described below. Distributions of net capital gains (that is, the excess of net gains from the sale of capital assets held more than one year over net losses from the sale of capital assets held for not more than one year) properly designated as capital gain dividends ("Capital Gain Dividends") will be taxable to Common Shareholders as long-term capital gain, regardless of how long a Common Shareholder has held the shares in the Fund.

If a Common Shareholder's distributions are automatically reinvested pursuant to the Plan and the Plan Administrator invests the distribution in shares acquired on behalf of the shareholder in open-market purchases, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, the Common Shareholder will generally be treated as having received a taxable distribution in the amount of the cash dividend that the Common Shareholder would have received if the shareholder had elected to receive cash. If a Common Shareholder's distributions are automatically reinvested pursuant to the Plan and the Plan Administrator invests the distribution in newly issued shares of the Fund, the Common Shareholder will generally be treated as receiving a taxable distribution equal to the fair market value of the stock the Common Shareholder receives.

Under the recently enacted "Jobs and Growth Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2003" (the "Tax Act"), certain income distributions paid by the Fund to individual taxpayers are taxed at rates equal to those applicable to net long-term capital gains (15%, or 5% for individuals in the 10% or 15% tax brackets). This tax treatment applies only if certain holding period requirements and other requirements are satisfied by the Common Shareholder and the dividends are attributable to qualified dividends received by the Fund itself. For this purpose, "qualified dividends" means dividends received by the Fund from United States corporations and qualifying foreign corporations, provided that the Fund satisfies certain holding period and other requirements in respect of the stock of such corporations. In the case of securities lending transactions, payments in lieu of dividends are not qualified dividends. Dividends received by the Fund from REITs are qualified dividends eligible for this lower tax rate only in limited circumstances. These special rules relating to the taxation of ordinary income dividends from regulated investment companies generally apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2002 and beginning before January 1, 2009. Thereafter, the Fund's dividends, other than capital gain dividends, will be fully taxable at ordinary income tax rates unless further Congressional legislature action is taken.

A dividend will not be treated as qualified dividend income (whether received by the Fund or paid by the Fund to a shareholder) if (1) the dividend is received with respect to any share held for fewer than 61 days during the 120-day period beginning on the date which is 60 days before the date on which such share becomes ex-dividend with respect to such dividend, (2) to the extent that the recipient is under an obligation (whether pursuant to a short sale or otherwise) to make related payments with respect to positions in substantially similar or related property or (3) if the recipient elects to have the dividend treated as investment income for purposes of the limitation on deductibility of investment interest. Distributions of income by the Fund other than qualified dividend income and distributions of

net realized short-term gains (on stocks held for one year or less) are taxed as ordinary income, at rates currently up to 35%.

The benefits of the reduced tax rates applicable to long-term capital gains and qualified dividend income may be impacted by the application of the alternative minimum tax to individual shareholders.

The Fund's investment in zero coupon and certain other securities will cause it to realize income prior to the receipt of cash payments with respect to these securities. Such income will be accrued daily by the Fund and, in order to avoid a tax payable by the Fund, the Fund may be required to liquidate securities that it might otherwise have continued to hold in order to generate cash so that the Fund may make required distributions to its shareholders.

Investments in lower rated or unrated securities may present special tax issues for the Fund to the extent that the issuers of these securities default on their obligations pertaining thereto. The Code is not entirely clear regarding the federal income tax consequences of the Fund's taking certain positions in connection with ownership of such distressed securities.

Any recognized gain or income attributable to market discount on long-term debt obligations (*i.e.*, obligations with a term of more than one year except to the extent of a portion of the discount attributable to original issue discount) purchased by the Fund is taxable as ordinary income. A long-term debt obligation is generally treated as acquired at a market discount if purchased after its original issue at a price less than (i) the stated principal amount payable at maturity, in the case of an obligation that does not have original issue discount or (ii) in the case of an obligation that does have original issue discount, the sum of the issue price and any original issue discount that accrued before the obligation was purchased, subject to a *de minimis* exclusion.

The Fund's investments in options, futures contracts, hedging transactions, forward contracts (to the extent permitted) and certain other transactions will be subject to special tax rules (including mark-to-market, constructive sale, straddle, wash sale, short sale and other rules), the effect of which may be to accelerate income to the Fund, defer Fund losses, cause adjustments in the holding periods of securities held by the Fund, convert capital gain into ordinary income and convert short-term capital losses into long-term capital losses. These rules could therefore affect the amount, timing and character of distributions to shareholders. The Fund may be required to limit its activities in options and futures contracts in order to enable it to maintain its RIC status.

The Fund's transactions in foreign currencies, foreign currency-denominated debt obligations and certain foreign currency options, futures contracts and forward contracts (and similar instruments) may give rise to ordinary income or loss to the extent such income or loss results from fluctuations in the value of the foreign currency concerned.

Income received by the Fund from sources within foreign countries may be subject to withholding and other taxes imposed by such countries. Tax conventions between certain countries and the U.S. may reduce or eliminate such taxes. Common Shareholders generally will not be entitled to claim a credit or deduction with respect to foreign taxes.

If the Fund acquires any equity interest in certain foreign corporations that receive at least 75% of their annual gross income from passive sources (such as interest, dividends, certain rents and royalties, or capital gains) or that hold at least 50% of their assets in investments producing such passive income ("passive foreign investment companies"), the Fund could be subject to U.S. federal income tax and additional interest charges on "excess distributions" received from such companies or on gain from the sale of stock in such companies, even if all income or gain actually received by the Fund is timely distributed to its shareholders. The Fund would not be able to pass through to its shareholders any credit or deduction for such a tax. An election may generally be available that would ameliorate these adverse tax consequences, but any such election could require the Fund to recognize taxable income or gain (subject to tax distribution requirements) without the concurrent receipt of cash. These

investments could also result in the treatment of associated capital gains as ordinary income. The Fund may limit and/or manage its holdings in passive foreign investment companies to limit its tax liability or maximize its return from these investments.

The sale, exchange or redemption of Fund shares may give rise to a gain or loss. In general, any gain or loss realized upon a taxable disposition of shares will be treated as long-term capital gain or loss if the shares have been held for more than twelve months. Otherwise, the gain or loss on the taxable disposition of Fund shares will be treated as short-term capital gain or loss. Long-term capital gain rates applicable to individuals have been reduced, in general, to 15% (or 5% for individuals in the 10% or 15% rate brackets); however, such rates are set to expire after December 31, 2008 absent further regulation. Any loss realized upon the sale or exchange of Fund shares with a holding period of 6 months or less will be treated as a long-term capital loss to the extent of any capital gain distributions received with respect to such shares. In addition, all or a portion of a loss realized on a redemption or other disposition of Fund shares may be disallowed under “wash sale” rules to the extent the shareholder acquires other shares of the same Fund (whether through the reinvestment of distributions or otherwise) within the period beginning 30 days before the redemption of the loss shares and ending 30 days after such date. Any disallowed loss will result in an adjustment to the shareholder’s tax basis in some or all of the other shares acquired.

Sales charges paid upon a purchase of shares cannot be taken into account for purposes of determining gain or loss on a sale of the shares before the 91st day after their purchase to the extent a sales charge is reduced or eliminated in a subsequent acquisition of shares of the Fund (or of another fund) pursuant to the reinvestment or exchange privilege. Any disregarded amounts will result in an adjustment to the shareholder’s tax basis in some or all of any other shares acquired.

Dividends and distributions on the Fund’s shares are generally subject to federal income tax as described herein to the extent they do not exceed the Fund’s realized income and gains, even though such dividends and distributions may economically represent a return of a particular shareholder’s investment. Such distributions are likely to occur in respect of shares purchased at a time when the Fund’s net asset value reflects gains that are either unrealized, or realized but not distributed. Such realized gains may be required to be distributed even when the Fund’s net asset value also reflects unrealized losses. Certain distributions declared in October, November or December and paid in the following January will be taxed to shareholders as if received on December 31 of the year in which they were declared. In addition, certain other distributions made after the close of a taxable year of the Fund may be “spilled back” and treated as paid by the Fund (except for purposes of the 4% excise tax) during such taxable year. In such case, Shareholders will be treated as having received such dividends in the taxable year in which the distributions were actually made.

Amounts paid by the Fund to individuals and certain other shareholders who have not provided the Fund with their correct taxpayer identification number (“TIN”) and certain certifications required by the Internal Revenue Service (the “IRS”) as well as shareholders with respect to whom the Fund has received certain information from the IRS or a broker may be subject to “backup” withholding of federal income tax arising from the Fund’s taxable dividends and other distributions as well as the gross proceeds of sales of shares, at a rate equal to the fourth highest rate of tax applicable to a single individual (in 2003, 28%). An individual’s TIN is generally his or her social security number. Backup withholding is not an additional tax. Any amounts withheld under the backup withholding rules from payments made to a Shareholder may be refunded or credited against such Shareholder’s U.S. federal income tax liability, if any, provided that the required information is furnished to the IRS.

Under recently promulgated Treasury regulations, if a shareholder recognizes a loss on disposition of the Fund’s shares of \$2 million or more for an individual shareholder or \$10 million or more for a corporate shareholder, the shareholder must file with the Internal Revenue Service a disclosure statement on Form 8886. Direct shareholders of portfolio securities are in many cases excepted from

this reporting requirement, but under current guidance, shareholders of a regulated investment company are not excepted. Future guidance may extend the current exception from this reporting requirement to shareholders of most or all regulated investment companies. The fact that a loss is reportable under these regulations does not affect the legal determination of whether the taxpayer's treatment of the loss is proper. Shareholders should consult their tax advisers to determine the applicability of these regulations in light of their individual circumstances.

The foregoing discussion does not address the special tax rules applicable to certain classes of investors, such as tax-exempt entities, foreign investors, insurance companies and financial institutions. Shareholders should consult their own tax advisers with respect to special tax rules that may apply in their particular situations, as well as the state, local, and, where applicable, foreign tax consequences of investing in the Fund.

The Fund will inform Shareholders of the source and tax status of all distributions promptly after the close of each calendar year. The IRS has taken the position that if a RIC has more than one class of shares, it may designate distributions made to each class in any year as consisting of no more than that class's proportionate share of particular types of income for that year, including ordinary income and net capital gain. A class's proportionate share of a particular type of income for a year is determined according to the percentage of total dividends paid by the RIC during that year to the class. Accordingly, the Fund intends to designate a portion of its distributions in capital gain dividends in accordance with the IRS position.

Although the matter is not free from doubt, due to the absence of direct regulatory or judicial authority, under current law the manner in which the Fund intends to allocate items of ordinary income and net capital gain among the Fund's Common Shares and auction preferred shares is likely to be respected for federal income tax purposes. It is possible that the IRS could disagree with counsel's opinion and attempt to reallocate the Fund's net capital gain or other taxable income.

State and Local Taxes

Shareholders should consult their own tax advisers as to the state or local tax consequences of investing in the Fund.

OTHER INFORMATION

The Fund is an organization of the type commonly known as a "Delaware statutory trust." Under Delaware law, shareholders of such a trust may, in certain circumstances, be held personally liable as partners for the obligations of the trust. The Declaration of Trust contains an express disclaimer of shareholder liability in connection with the Fund property or the acts, obligations or affairs of the Fund. The Declaration of Trust also provides for indemnification out of the Fund property of any shareholder held personally liable for the claims and liabilities to which a shareholder may become subject by reason of being or having been a shareholder. Thus, the risk of a shareholder incurring financial loss on account of shareholder liability is limited to circumstances in which the Fund itself is unable to meet its obligations. The Fund has been advised by its counsel that the risk of any shareholder incurring any liability for the obligations of the Fund is remote.

The Declaration of Trust provides that the Trustees will not be liable for actions taken in good faith in the reasonable belief that such actions were in the best interests of the Fund or, in the case of any criminal proceeding, as to which a Trustee did not have reasonable cause to believe that such actions were unlawful; but nothing in the Declaration of Trust protects a Trustee against any liability to the Fund or its shareholders to which he would otherwise be subject by reason of willful misfeasance, bad faith, gross negligence, or reckless disregard of the duties involved in the conduct of his office. Voting rights are not cumulative, which means that the holders of more than 50% of the shares voting

for the election of Trustees can elect 100% of the Trustees and, in such event, the holders of the remaining less than 50% of the shares voting on the matter will not be able to elect any Trustees.

The Declaration of Trust provides that no person shall serve as a Trustee if shareholders holding two-thirds of the outstanding shares have removed him from that office either by a written declaration filed with the Fund's custodian or by votes cast at a meeting called for that purpose.

The Fund's prospectus and this SAI do not contain all of the information set forth in the Registration Statement that the Fund has filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The complete Registration Statement may be obtained from the Securities and Exchange Commission upon payment of the fee prescribed by its rules and regulations.

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP are the independent accountants for the Fund, providing audit services, tax return preparation, and assistance and consultation with respect to the preparation of filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT AUDITORS

To the Trustees and Shareholder of Reaves Utility Income Fund

In our opinion, the accompanying statement of assets and liabilities presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Reaves Utility Income Fund (the "Fund") at February 23, 2004, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. This financial statement is the responsibility of the Fund's management; our responsibility is to express an opinion on this financial statement based on our audit. We conducted our audit of this financial statement in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statement is free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statement, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, and evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

February 23, 2004
Boulder, Colorado

REAVES UTILITY INCOME FUND
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
February 23, 2004

ASSETS:	
Cash	\$ 100,000
LIABILITIES	—
NET ASSETS	<u>\$ 100,000</u>
 COMPONENTS OF NET ASSETS:	
Paid in capital	\$ 100,000
NET ASSETS	<u>\$ 100,000</u>
Shares of beneficial interest outstanding, no par value, unlimited shares authorized	5,235.602
Net asset value per investor share	<u>\$19.10</u>

See accompanying notes to statement of assets and liabilities.

REAVES UTILITY INCOME FUND
NOTES TO STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

NOTE 1—ORGANIZATION AND REGISTRATION

Reaves Utility Income Fund is a closed-end management investment company (the “Fund”) that was organized under the laws of the state of Delaware by an Agreement and Declaration of Trust dated September 15, 2003. The Fund is a non-diversified series with an investment objective to provide a high level of after-tax income and total return consisting primarily of tax-advantaged dividend income and capital appreciation. The Declaration of Trust provides that the Trustees may authorize separate classes of shares of beneficial interest.

On February 12, 2004, ALPS Distributors, Inc. (“ADI”) purchased 5,235.602 shares of beneficial interest in the Fund at a net asset value of \$19.10 per share.

ALPS Mutual Funds Services, Inc. (“ALPS”), the Fund’s Administrator, has agreed to pay all organizational expenses and to pay all offering costs (other than sales load) that exceed \$.04 per Common Share.

NOTE 2—Significant Accounting Policies

The Fund’s financial statement is prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. This requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statement. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

NOTE 3—INVESTMENT ADVISORY AND OTHER AGREEMENTS

W.H. Reaves & Co., Inc. (“Reaves”) will serve as the Fund’s investment adviser pursuant to an Investment Advisory Agreement with the Fund. As compensation for its services to the Fund, Reaves receives an annual investment advisory fee of 0.575% based on the Fund’s average daily total assets. The Fund’s Board of Trustees approved the Investment Advisory Agreement at its February 20, 2004 meeting.

**APPENDIX A
RATINGS**

MOODY'S INVESTORS SERVICE, INC.

Long-Term Debt Securities and Preferred Stock Ratings

AAA: Bonds and preferred stock which are rated Aaa are judged to be of the best quality. They carry the smallest degree of investment risk and are generally referred to as "gilt edged." Interest payments are protected by a large or by an exceptionally stable margin and principal is secure. While the various protective elements are likely to change, such changes as can be visualized are most unlikely to impair the fundamentally strong position of such issues.

AA: Bonds and preferred stock which are rated Aa are judged to be of high quality by all standards. Together with the Aaa group they comprise what are generally known as high grade bonds. They are rated lower than the best bonds because margins of protection may not be as large as in Aaa securities or fluctuation of protective elements may be of greater amplitude or there may be other elements present which make the long term risk appear somewhat larger than the Aaa securities.

A: Bonds and preferred stock which are rated A possess many favorable investment attributes and are to be considered as upper-medium-grade obligations. Factors giving security to principal and interest are considered adequate, but elements may be present which suggest a susceptibility to impairment sometime in the future.

BAA: Bonds and preferred stock which are rated Baa are considered as medium-grade obligations (i.e., they are neither highly protected nor poorly secured). Interest payments and principal security appear adequate for the present but certain protective elements may be lacking or may be characteristically unreliable over any great length of time. Such bonds and preferred stock lack outstanding investment characteristics and in fact have speculative characteristics as well.

BA: Bonds and preferred stock which are rated Ba are judged to have speculative elements; their future cannot be considered as well-assured. Often the protection of interest and principal payments may be very moderate and thereby not well safeguarded during other good and bad times over the future. Uncertainty of position characterizes bonds in this class.

B: Bonds and preferred stock which are rated B generally lack characteristics of the desirable investment. Assurance of interest and principal payments or of maintenance of other terms of the contract over any long period of time may be small.

CAA: Bonds and preferred stock which are rated Caa are of poor standing. Such issues may be in default or there may be present elements of danger with respect to principal or interest.

CA: Bonds and preferred stock which are rated Ca represent obligations which are speculative in a high degree. Such issues are often in default or have other marked shortcomings.

C: Bonds and preferred stock which are rated C are the lowest rated class of bonds, and issues so rated can be regarded as having extremely poor prospects of ever attaining any real investment standing.

The ratings indicated herein are believed to be the most recent ratings available at the date of this SAI for the securities listed. Ratings are generally given to securities at the time of issuance. While the rating agencies may from time to time revise such ratings, they undertake no obligation to do so, and the ratings indicated do not necessarily represent ratings which would be given to these securities on the date of the Fund's fiscal year end.

Absence of Rating: Where no rating has been assigned or where a rating has been suspended or withdrawn, it may be for reasons unrelated to the quality of the issue.

Should no rating be assigned, the reason may be one of the following:

1. An application for rating was not received or accepted.
2. The issue or issuer belongs to a group of securities or companies that are not rated as a matter of policy.
3. There is a lack of essential data pertaining to the issue or issuer.
4. The issue was privately placed, in which case the rating is not published in Moody's publications.

Suspension or withdrawal may occur if new and material circumstances arise, the effects of which preclude satisfactory analysis; if there is no longer available reasonable up-to-date data to permit a judgment to be formed; if a bond is called for redemption; or for other reasons.

Note: Moody's applies numerical modifiers, 1, 2 and 3 in each generic rating classification from Aa through B in its bond rating system. The modifier 1 indicates that the security ranks in the higher end of its generic rating category; the modifier 2 indicates a mid-range ranking; and the modifier 3 indicates that the issue ranks in the lower end of its generic rating category.

Short-Term Debt Securities Ratings

Moody's short-term debt ratings are opinions of the ability of issuers to repay punctually senior debt obligations. These obligations have an original maturity not exceeding one year, unless explicitly noted.

Moody's employs the following three designations, all judged to be investment grade, to indicate the relative repayment ability of rated issuers:

PRIME-1: Issuers rated Prime-1 (or supporting institutions) have a superior ability for repayment of senior short-term debt obligations. Prime-1 repayment ability will often be evidenced by many of the following characteristics: leading market positions in well-established industries; high rates of return on funds employed; conservative capitalization structure with moderate reliance on debt and ample asset protection; broad margins in earnings coverage of fixed financial charges and high internal cash generation; and well-established access to a range of financial markets and assured sources of alternate liquidity.

PRIME-2: Issuers rated Prime-2 (or supporting institutions) have a strong ability for repayment of senior short-term debt obligations. This will normally be evidenced by many of the characteristics cited above but to a lesser degree. Earnings trends and coverage ratios, while sound, may be more subject to variation. Capitalization characteristics, while still appropriate, may be more affected by external conditions. Ample alternate liquidity is maintained.

PRIME-3: Issuers rated Prime-3 (or supporting institutions) have an acceptable ability for repayment of senior short-term obligations. The effect of industry characteristics and market compositions may be more pronounced. Variability in earnings and profitability may result in changes in the level of debt protection measurements and may require relatively high financial leverage. Adequate alternate liquidity is maintained.

NOT PRIME: Issuers rated Not Prime do not fall within any of the Prime rating categories.

STANDARD & POOR'S RATINGS GROUP

Investment Grade

AAA: Debt and preferred stock rated AAA have the highest rating assigned by S&P. Capacity to pay interest and repay principal is extremely strong.

AA: Debt rated AA have a very strong capacity to pay interest and repay principal and differs from the highest rated issues only in small degree.

A: Debt and preferred stock rated A have a strong capacity to pay interest and repay principal although it is somewhat more susceptible to the adverse effects of changes in circumstances and economic conditions than debt in higher rated categories.

BBB: Debt and preferred stock rated BBB are regarded as having an adequate capacity to pay interest and repay principal. Whereas it normally exhibit adequate protection parameters, adverse economic conditions or changing circumstances are more likely to lead to a weakened capacity to pay interest and repay principal for debt in this category than in higher rated categories.

Speculative Grade

Debt and preferred stock rated BB, B, CCC, CC and C are regarded as having predominantly speculative characteristics with respect to capacity to pay interest and repay principal. BB indicates the least degree of speculation and C the highest. While such debt will likely have some quality and protective characteristics, these are outweighed by large uncertainties or major exposures to adverse conditions.

BB: Debt and preferred stock rated BB have less near-term vulnerability to default than other speculative issues. However, it faces major ongoing uncertainties or exposure to adverse business, financial, or economic conditions which could lead to inadequate capacity to meet timely interest and principal payments. The BB rating category is also used for debt subordinated to senior debt that is assigned an actual or implied BBB- rating.

B: Debt and preferred stock rated B have a greater vulnerability to default but currently has the capacity to meet interest payments and principal repayments. Adverse business, financial, or economic conditions will likely impair capacity or willingness to pay interest and repay principal. The B rating category is also used for debt subordinated to senior debt that is assigned an actual or implied BB or BB- rating.

CCC: Debt and preferred stock rated CCC have a currently identifiable vulnerability to default, and is dependent upon favorable business, financial, and economic conditions to meet timely payment of interest and repayment of principal. In the event of adverse business, financial, or economic conditions, it is not likely to have the capacity to pay interest and repay principal. The CCC rating category is also used for debt subordinated to senior debt that is assigned an actual or implied B or B- rating.

CC: The rating CC is typically applied to debt subordinated to senior debt and preferred stock which is assigned an actual or implied CCC debt rating.

C: The rating C is typically applied to debt subordinated to senior debt and preferred stock which is assigned an actual or implied CCC- debt rating. The C rating may be used to cover a situation where a bankruptcy petition has been filed, but debt service payments are continued.

C1: The Rating C1 is reserved for income bonds on which no interest is being paid.

D: Debt and preferred stock rated D is in payment default. The D rating category is used when interest payments or principal payments are not made on the date due even if the applicable grace period has not expired, unless S&P believes that such payments will be made during such grace period.

The D rating also will be used upon the filing of a bankruptcy petition if debt service payments are jeopardized.

PLUS (+) OR MINUS (-): The ratings from AA to CCC may be modified by the addition of a plus or minus sign to show relative standing within the major rating categories.

P: The letter “p” indicates that the rating is provisional. A provisional rating assumes the successful completion of the project being financed by the debt being rated and indicates that payment of debt service requirements is largely or entirely dependent upon the successful and timely completion of the project. This rating, however, while addressing credit quality subsequent to completion of the project, makes no comment on the likelihood of, or the risk of default upon failure of such completion. The investor should exercise his own judgment with respect to such likelihood and risk.

L: The letter “L” indicates that the rating pertains to the principal amount of those bonds to the extent that the underlying deposit collateral is insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. and interest is adequately collateralized. In the case of certificates of deposit, the letter “L” indicates that the deposit, combined with other deposits being held in the same right and capacity, will be honored for principal and accrued pre-default interest up to the federal insurance limits within 30 days after closing of the insured institution or, in the event that the deposit is assumed by a successor insured institution, upon maturity.

NR: NR indicates no rating has been requested, that there is insufficient information on which to base a rating, or that S&P does not rate a particular type of obligation as a matter of policy.

Commercial Paper Rating Definitions

A S&P’s commercial paper rating is a current assessment of the likelihood of timely payment of debt having an original maturity of no more than 365 days. Ratings are graded into several categories, ranging from A for the highest quality obligations to D for the lowest. These categories are as follows:

A-1: A short-term obligation rated A-1 is rated in the highest category by S&P. The obligor’s capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation is strong. Within this category, certain obligations are designated with a plus sign (+). This indicates that the obligor’s capacity to meet its financial commitment on these obligations is extremely strong.

A-2: A short-term obligation rated A-2 is somewhat more susceptible to the adverse effects of changes in circumstances and economic conditions than obligations in higher rating categories. However, the obligor’s capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation is satisfactory.

A-3: A short-term obligation rated A-3 exhibits adequate protection parameters. However, adverse economic conditions or changing circumstances are more likely to lead to a weakened capacity of the obligor to meet its financial commitment on the obligation.

B: A short-term obligation rated B is regarded as having significant speculative characteristics. The obligor currently has the capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation; however, it faces major ongoing uncertainties which could lead to the obligor’s inadequate capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation.

C: A short-term obligation rated C is currently vulnerable to nonpayment and is dependent upon favorable business, financial, and economic conditions for the obligor to meet its financial commitment on the obligation.

D: A short-term obligation rated D is in payment default. The D rating category is used when payments on an obligation are not made on the date due even if the applicable grace period has not expired, unless S&P believes that such payments will be made during such grace period. The D rating also will be used upon the filing of a bankruptcy petition or the taking of a similar action if payments on an obligation are jeopardized.

A commercial paper rating is not a recommendation to purchase, sell or hold a security inasmuch as it does not comment as to market price or suitability for a particular investor. The ratings are based on current information furnished to S&P by the issuer or obtained from other sources it considers reliable. S&P does not perform an audit in connection with any rating and may, on occasion, rely on

unaudited financial information. The ratings may be changed, suspended, or withdrawn as a result of changes in or unavailability of such information.

FITCH RATINGS

Investment Grade Ratings

AAA: Bonds and preferred stocks are considered to be investment grade and of the highest credit quality. The obligor has an exceptionally strong ability to pay interest and repay principal, which is unlikely to be affected by reasonably foreseeable events.

AA: Bonds and preferred stocks are considered to be investment grade and of very high credit quality. The obligor's ability to pay interest and repay principal is very strong, although not quite as strong as bonds rated 'AAA'. Because bonds rated in the 'AAA' and 'AA' categories are not significantly vulnerable to foreseeable future developments, short-term debt of these issuers is generally rated 'F-1+'.

A: Bonds and preferred stocks are considered to be investment grade and of high credit quality. The obligor's ability to pay interest and repay principal is considered to be strong, but may be more vulnerable to adverse changes in economic conditions and circumstances than bonds with higher ratings.

BBB: Bonds and preferred stocks are considered to be investment grade and of satisfactory credit quality. The obligor's ability to pay interest and repay principal is considered to be adequate. Adverse changes in economic conditions and circumstances, however, are more likely to have adverse impact on these bonds, and therefore, impair timely payment. The likelihood that the ratings of these bonds will fall below investment grade is higher than for bonds with higher ratings.

Below Investment Grade Ratings

BB: Bonds and preferred stocks are considered speculative. The obligor's ability to pay interest and repay principal may be affected over time by adverse economic changes. However, business and financial alternatives can be identified that could assist the obligor in satisfying its debt service requirements.

B: Bonds and preferred stocks are considered highly speculative. While bonds in this class are currently meeting debt service requirements, the probability of continued timely payment of principal and interest reflects the obligor's limited margin of safety and the need for reasonable business and economic activity throughout the life of the issue.

CCC: Bonds and preferred stocks have certain identifiable characteristics which, if not remedied, may lead to default. The ability to meet obligations requires an advantageous business and economic environment.

CC: Bonds and preferred stocks are minimally protected. Default in payment of interest and/or principal seems probable over time.

C: Bonds and preferred stocks are in imminent default in payment of interest or principal.

DDD, DD AND D: Bonds and preferred stocks are in default on interest and/or principal payments. Such bonds are extremely speculative and should be valued on the basis of their ultimate recovery value in liquidation or reorganization of the obligor. 'DDD' represents the highest potential for recovery on these bonds, and 'D' represents the lowest potential for recovery.

PLUS (+) OR MINUS (-): The ratings from AA to C may be modified by the addition of a plus or minus sign to indicate the relative position of a credit within the rating category.

NR: Indicates that Fitch does not rate the specific issue.

CONDITIONAL: A conditional rating is premised on the successful completion of a project or the occurrence of a specific event.

Investment Grade Short-Term Ratings

Fitch's short-term ratings apply to debt obligations that are payable on demand or have original maturities of generally up to three years, including commercial paper, certificates of deposit, medium-term notes, and municipal and investment notes.

F-1+: Exceptionally Strong Credit Quality. Issues assigned this rating are regarded as having the strongest degree of assurance for timely payment.

F-1: Very Strong Credit Quality. Issues assigned this rating reflect an assurance of timely payment only slightly less in degree than issues rated 'F-1+'.

F-2: Good Credit Quality. Issues carrying this rating have a satisfactory degree of assurance for timely payment, but the margin of safety is not as great as the 'F-1+' and 'F-1' categories.

F-3: Fair Credit Quality. Issues carrying this rating have characteristics suggesting that the degree of assurance for timely payment is adequate, however, near-term adverse change could cause these securities to be rated below investment grade.

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Notes: Bonds which are unrated expose the investor to risks with respect to capacity to pay interest or repay principal which are similar to the risks of lower-rated speculative bonds. The Fund is dependent on the Adviser's judgment, analysis and experience in the evaluation of such bonds.

Investors should note that the assignment of a rating to a bond by a rating service may not reflect the effect of recent developments on the issuer's ability to make interest and principal payments.