# FLAHERTY & CRUMRINE/CLAYMORE TOTAL RETURN FUND INC

Form N-30B-2

April 27, 2012 Item 1. Schedule of Investments.

The Schedule(s) of Investment is attached herewith.

#### FLAHERTY & CRUMRINE/CLAYMORE TOTAL RETURN FUND

To the Shareholders of Flaherty & Crumrine/Claymore Total Return Fund:

The Fund is off to a strong start in the new fiscal year. During the three month period ending February  $29^{th}$ , total return<sup>1</sup> on net asset value of the Fund was +11.0%. Total return based on market price of Fund shares for the period was +10.2%. A portion of the Fund s NAV return in the quarter was recovery from the prior two quarters when total return was -3.7%. To provide context for return during the period, the comparable measure on the S&P 500 was +10.1%, and +2.0% for the Barclays Capital U.S. Aggregate Index.

A number of factors contributed to the strong performance. U.S. investor confidence turned positive after several months of decline. The labor picture is improving, corporate earnings have been rising, and the housing market is finally picking up. Europe appears to have stepped back from the precipice of economic disaster, as policy makers have flooded the continent with liquidity. Interest rates around the globe hover near historically low levels and are not expected to rise substantially anytime soon. All of this has stimulated demand for high-yielding assets, especially preferred securities.

Returns of this magnitude are rare, even in periods of above-average market volatility such as we ve experienced over the past several years. And while we enjoy double digit quarterly returns as much as the next shareholder, we know it is unlikely to be replicated.

With spring training in full swing it is hard to resist dusting off some baseball analogies. Your Fund is like a part of the lineup built to get singles and doubles and lead the league in on-base percentage. Other investments are intended to hit home runs, and we trust shareholders will determine if these also belong on their team. We ve tortured you with this to make a point investors shouldnet expect this type of quarterly Fund performance to be repeated.

Again, for several quarters we have seen signs of improvement in the U.S. economy, though the pace of growth has been well short of robust. The sovereign debt crisis in Europe appears to be moderating, although economic risks remain elevated in that region. Neither area is out of the woods and recovery could be easily derailed, but we believe the worst is behind us. Our Quarterly Economic Outlook can be viewed on the Fund s website.

We expect new bank capital guidelines to be issued by the Federal Reserve very soon. Patient readers will recall we have said this before, and eventually we will be right! With the new rules set to go into effect in January 2013, time is running out for the regulators. The new guidelines, when issued, will provide the final pieces of the regulatory capital overhaul which grew out of the financial crisis. We ve known for some time that most forms of trust preferred and hybrid preferred securities will eventually no longer count towards regulatory capital requirements. We re waiting to learn what can be used instead.

Even without clear guidelines from regulators, a handful of banks recently have issued new preferred stock with terms *expected* to conform to the new rules. These securities are all *perpetual*, *non-cumulative preferred stock*. This is the basic form of capital we believe will ultimately replace much of the bank preferred capital currently outstanding.

We don't think the transition will be immediate; nor is it likely that all of the older non-qualifying capital will be replaced with newer good. Tier 1 capital. We have tried to anticipate the shift and stay ahead of the pack by selling some securities which may be called in the near term and reinvesting in suitable replacements. This type of proactive management has always been part of our investment approach.

Following the methodology required by the SEC, total return assumes dividend reinvestment and includes income and principal change, plus the impact of the Fund s leverage and expenses.

Another fundamental part of our investment process is the hard work of credit analysis. The experience of the past few years has reinforced our commitment to rely on our own independent and objective research focused on the preferred level of the capital structure. The national rating agencies (Moody s, S&P, and Fitch) often seem to shoot where the rabbit was, especially when it comes to preferred securities.

Although we sometimes disagree with the agencies on their overall ratings of specific credits, we often disagree with their ratings on preferred securities. This divergence typically results from agencies mechanical notching of preferred securities down from a company s senior debt rating. In simplified terms, notching is the formulaic lowering of a security s rating by a predetermined number of rating categories simply based on where it fits in a company s capital structure. In our view, this methodology is arbitrary.

Our approach is to study every *issuer* to understand its business and financial condition, and every *issue* to understand its terms and conditions. Because we are investing in subordinated securities, it is essential that we understand the precise terms, many of which can be buried deep in the legal terms of the issue. With this knowledge we are better equipped to understand the full scope of risk associated with a specific security, and only then can we start to address questions of valuation.

As always, we encourage you to visit the Fund s website <u>www.fcclaymore.com</u> for a more in-depth discussion of conditions in both preferred markets and the broader economy.

Sincerely,

Donald F. Crumrine Chairman

Robert M. Ettinger President

April 16, 2012

2

## PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW

February 29, 2012 (Unaudited)

Fund Statistics		
Net Asset Value	\$	18.45
Market Price	\$	19.43
Premium		5.31%
Yield on Market Price		8.62%
Common Stock Shares Outstanding	9	843 064

Moody s Ratings	% of Net Assets
A	7.5%
BBB	70.0%
ВВ	17.5%
Below BB	1.9%
Not Rated*	0.5%
Below Investment Grade**	10.4%

<sup>\*</sup> Does not include net other assets and liabilities of 2.6%.

Industry Categories % of Net Assets

Top 10 Holdings by Issuer	% of Net Assets
Liberty Mutual Group	5.2%
Banco Santander, S.A.	4.6%
Metlife	4.1%
Capital One Financial	3.9%
Goldman Sachs Group	3.2%
Georgia Power	2.9%
Enbridge Energy Partners	2.8%
HSBC PLC	2.8%
Unum Group	2.8%
Bank of America	2.5%
Unum Group	2.8%

	% of Net Assets***
Holdings Generating Qualified Dividend Income (QDI) for Individuals	32%
Holdings Generating Income Eligible for the Corporate Dividend Received Deduction (DRD)	21%

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> This does not reflect year-end results or actual tax categorization of Fund distributions. These percentages can, and do, change, perhaps significantly, depending on market conditions. Investors should consult their tax advisor regarding their personal situation. Net Assets includes assets attributable to the use of leverage.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Below investment grade by all of Moody s, S&P and Fitch.

# PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS

Shares/\$ Par		Value
Preferred Secu	nrities 88.3%	
	<b>Banking</b> 35.1%	
	Astoria Financial:	
\$ 4,850,000	Astoria Capital Trust I, 9.75% 11/01/29, Series B	\$ 5,048,962(1)(2)
	Banco Bilbao Vizcaya Argentaria, S.A.:	
\$ 2,050,000	BBVA International Preferred, 5.919%	1,598,338**(1)(2)(3)
	Banco Santander, S.A.:	
439,755	Banco Santander, 10.50% Pfd., Series 10	12,498,936**(1)(3)
	Bank of America:	
26,160	Bank of America Corporation, 8.625% Pfd.	666,557*
\$ 825,000	BankAmerica Capital II, 8.00% 12/15/26	832,219
\$ 1,000,000	BankAmerica Institutional, Series A, 8.07% 12/31/26, 144A****	1,008,750
25,000	Countrywide Capital V, 7.00% Pfd. 11/01/36	602,313
\$ 500,000	Fleet Capital Trust II, 7.92% 12/11/26	498,125
\$ 965,000	MBNA Capital, 8.278% 12/01/26, Series A	980,778
\$ 2,325,000	NB Capital Trust IV, 8.25% 04/15/27	2,368,594
	Barclays Bank PLC:	
\$ 3,600,000	Barclays Bank PLC, 6.278%	2,912,627**(1)(3)
8,800	Barclays Bank PLC, 7.75% Pfd., Series 4	221,320**(3)
120,000	Barclays Bank PLC, 8.125% Pfd., Series 5	3,066,000**(1)(3)
	BNP Paribas:	
\$ 3,000,000	BNP Paribas, 7.195%, 144A****	2,655,000**(1)(3)
	Capital One Financial:	
\$ 8,250,000	Capital One Capital III, 7.686% 08/15/36	8,425,313 <sup>(1)</sup>
\$ 500,000	Capital One Capital V, 10.25% 08/15/39	523,750 <sup>(1)</sup>
\$ 1,643,000	Capital One Capital VI, 8.875% 05/15/40	$1,706,157^{(1)(2)}$
	Citigroup:	
23,050	Citigroup Capital XII, 8.50% Pfd. 03/30/40	600,741
83,300	Citigroup Capital XIII, 7.875% Pfd. 10/30/40	$2,258,388^{(1)(2)}$
	Colonial BancGroup:	
\$ 10,000,000	Colonial BancGroup, 7.114%, 144A****	$20,000^{(4)(5)}$
	FBOP Corp.:	
7,000	FBOP Corporation, Adj. Rate Pfd., 144A****	3,500*(4)(5)
	Fifth Third Bancorp.:	
\$ 2,150,000	Fifth Third Capital Trust IV, 6.50% 04/15/37	$2,144,625^{(1)}$
13,150	Fifth Third Capital Trust V, 7.25% Pfd. 08/15/67	333,484
133,051	Fifth Third Capital Trust VI, 7.25% Pfd. 11/15/67	$3,396,965^{(1)(2)}$
	First Horizon:	
3,900	First Tennessee Bank, Adj. Rate Pfd., 3.75% <sup>(6)</sup> , 144A****	2,660,531*
3	FT Real Estate Securities Company, 9.50% Pfd., 144A****	2,865,000

# PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS (Continued)

Shares/\$ Par		Value
Preferred Sec	curities (Continued)	
	Banking (Continued)	
	First Niagara Financial Group:	
138,000	First Niagara Financial Group, Inc., 8.625% Pfd.	\$ 3,824,187*
	First Republic Bank:	
12,005	First Republic Bank, 6.70% Pfd.	309,399*
	Goldman Sachs Group:	
\$ 2,250,000	Goldman Sachs, Capital I, 6.345% 02/15/34	$2,112,912^{(1)(2)}$
\$ 881,000	Goldman Sachs, Capital II, 5.793%	614,498 <sup>(1)(2)</sup>
1,500	STRIPES Custodial Receipts, Adj. Rate, 10.70%, Pvt. (6)	727,500*(4)(5)
	HSBC PLC:	
172,000	HSBC Holdings PLC, 8.00% Pfd., Series 2	4,670,230**(1)(3)
\$ 1,000,000	HSBC USA Capital Trust II, 8.38% 05/15/27, 144A****	$1,017,750^{(1)(2)}$
1,828	HSBC USA, Inc., \$2.8575 Pfd.	86,830*
25,189	HSBC USA, Inc., 6.50% Pfd., Series H	638,831*(1)
	ING Groep NV:	
28,700	ING Groep NV, 7.05% Pfd.	668,466**(3)
12,475	ING Groep NV, 7.375% Pfd.	302,644**(3)
	JPMorgan Chase:	
\$ 505,000	JPMorgan Chase Capital XVIII, 6.95% 08/17/36, Series R	516,161 <sup>(1)</sup>
\$ 500,000	JPMorgan Chase Capital XXVII, 7.00% 11/01/39, Series AA	512,500 <sup>(1)(2)</sup>
	KeyCorp:	
72,900	Keycorp Capital X, 8.00% Pfd. 03/15/68	$1,909,980^{(1)(2)}$
	Lloyds Banking Group PLC:	
\$ 1,000,000	Lloyds Banking Group PLC, 6.657%, 144A****	695,000**(3)
	PNC Financial Services:	
\$ 1,676,000	National City Preferred Capital Trust I, 12.00%	1,807,095
39,995	PNC Financial Services, 9.875% Pfd., Series L	$1,104,722^{*(1)}$
\$ 1,000,000	PNC Preferred Funding Trust III, 8.70%, 144A***	$1,035,309^{(1)(2)}$
	Sovereign Bancorp:	
3,000	Sovereign REIT, 12.00% Pfd., Series A, 144A****	3,449,739
	SunTrust Banks:	
8,100	SunTrust Capital IX, 7.875% Pfd. 03/15/68	207,563
	US Bancorp:	
22,575	US Bancorp, 6.50% Pfd.	610,236*
	Webster Financial:	
\$ 2,800,000	Webster Capital Trust IV, 7.65% 06/15/37	2,809,677

# PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS (Continued)

Shares/\$ Par		Value
Preferred Sec	urities (Continued)	
	Banking (Continued)	
	Wells Fargo:	
\$ 600,000	First Union Capital II, 7.95% 11/15/29	\$ 622,700(1)(2)
\$ 1,500,000	Wachovia Capital Trust III, Adj. Rate, 5.56975% <sup>(6)</sup>	1,380,000*(1)
14,493	Wachovia Preferred Funding, 7.25% Pfd., Series A	381,927 <sup>(1)</sup>
2,325	Wells Fargo & Company, 7.50% Pfd., Series L	2,546,456*(1)
50,000	Wells Fargo & Company, 8.00% Pfd., Series J	1,462,500*
		95,921,785
	Financial Services 2.0%	
	Ameriprise Financial:	
\$ 250,000	Ameriprise Financial, Inc., 7.518% 06/01/66	272,500
,	Charles Schwab:	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
\$ 400,000	Charles Schwab Corporation, 7.00%	418,076*
	Credit Suisse Group:	
\$ 1,300,000	Claudius, Ltd Credit Suisse AG, 7.875%, Series B	$1,332,500^{(3)}$
	Gulf Stream-Compass CLO:	
\$ 3,000,000	Gulf Stream-Compass CLO 2005 Composite Notes, 144A****	$2,179,230^{(4)(5)}$
	HSBC PLC:	
45,011	HSBC Finance Corporation, 6.36% Pfd., Series B	1,123,542*
	Lehman Brothers:	
20,000	Lehman Brothers Holdings, Inc., 5.67% Pfd., Series D	5,600*
85,000	Lehman Brothers Holdings, Inc., 7.95% Pfd.	425*
		5,331,873
		3,331,073
	Insurance 20.4% Ace Ltd.:	
\$ 1,550,000	Ace Capital Trust II, 9.70% 04/01/30	$2,088,021^{(1)(2)(3)}$
\$ 1,550,000	Aon Corporation:	2,000,021
\$ 1,775,000	AON Corp, 8.205% 01/01/27	2,084,258(1)
Ψ 1,773,000	Arch Capital Group:	2,001,230
12,150	Arch Capital Group Ltd., 7.875% Pfd., Series B	310,205**(1)(3)
12,130	AXA SA:	310,203
\$ 1,316,000	AXA SA, 6.379%, 144A****	1,065,960**(1)(2)(3)
,010,000	Axis Capital:	2,000,200
71,500	Axis Capital Holdings, 7.50% Pfd., Series B	$6,758,988^{(1)(2)(3)}$
,- 00	Delphi Financial:	5,. 2 5,, 2 5
160,000	Delphi Financial Group, 7.376% Pfd. 05/15/37	$4,065,008^{(1)(2)}$
	Everest Re Group:	,,,,,,,
\$ 5,760,000	Everest Re Holdings, 6.60% 05/15/37	$5,450,400^{(1)(2)}$

# PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS (Continued)

Shares/\$ Par		Value
Preferred So	ecurities (Continued)	
	Insurance (Continued)	
	Liberty Mutual Group:	
\$ 8,300,000	Liberty Mutual Group, 10.75% 06/15/58, 144A****	\$ 10,914,500(1)
	MetLife:	
\$ 2,250,000	MetLife, Inc., 10.75% 08/01/39	3,214,607 <sup>(1)(2)</sup>
\$ 1,700,000	MetLife Capital Trust IV, 7.875% 12/15/37, 144A****	$1,878,500^{(1)(2)}$
\$ 4,900,000	MetLife Capital Trust X, 9.25% 04/08/38, 144A****	$6,051,500^{(1)(2)}$
	Principal Financial:	
12,000	Principal Financial Group, 5.563% Pfd., Series A	1,133,250*
68,867	Principal Financial Group, 6.518% Pfd., Series B	1,777,629*(1)
	StanCorp Financial Group:	
\$ 1,750,000	Stancorp Financial Group, 6.90% 06/01/67	$1,636,250^{(1)}$
	The Travelers Companies:	
\$ 3,615,000	USF&G Capital, 8.312% 07/01/46, 144A****	4,361,335(1)(2)
	XL Group PLC:	
\$ 3,578,000	XL Capital Ltd., 6.50%, Series E	3,068,135(1)(3)
	•	
		55,858,546
		23,030,510
	Utilities 23.7%	
	Alabama Power:	
7,450	Alabama Power Company, 6.45% Pfd.	206,505*(1)
	Baltimore Gas & Electric:	
33,700	Baltimore Gas & Electric Company, 6.70% Pfd., Series 1993	3,431,081*(1)
	Commonwealth Edison:	
\$ 3,160,000	COMED Financing III, 6.35% 03/15/33	$3,161,008^{(1)(2)}$
	Constellation Energy:	
20,170	Constellation Energy Group, 8.625% Pfd. 06/15/63, Series A	550,843 <sup>(1)</sup>
	Dominion Resources:	
\$ 2,500,000	Dominion Resources Capital Trust I, 7.83% 12/01/27	$2,525,293^{(1)(2)}$
\$ 3,500,000	Dominion Resources, Inc., 7.50% 06/30/66	$3,704,656^{(1)(2)}$
	DTE Energy:	
38,500	DTE Energy Company, 6.50%, Pfd.	1,056,344
	Entergy Arkansas:	
83,000	Entergy Arkansas, Inc., 6.45% Pfd.	2,090,563*(1)
	Entergy Louisiana:	
57,000	Entergy Louisiana, Inc., 6.95% Pfd.	5,680,409*(1)
	Georgia Power:	
72,297	Georgia Power Company, 6.50% Pfd., Series 2007A	7,979,781*(1)
	Gulf Power:	
5,000	Gulf Power Company, 6.45% Pfd., Series 2007A	533,420*

# PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS (Continued)

Shares/\$ Par		Value
Preferred Sec	curities (Continued)	
	Utilities (Continued)	
	Indianapolis Power & Light:	
30,445	Indianapolis Power & Light Company, 5.65% Pfd.	\$ 2,974,096*(1)
	Integrys Energy Group:	
\$ 2,640,000	WPS Resources Corporation, 6.11% 12/01/66	$2,622,990^{(1)(2)}$
	Interstate Power & Light:	
94,721	Interstate Power & Light Company, 8.375% Pfd., Series B	2,696,944*(1)
	Nextera Energy:	
\$ 4,197,000	FPL Group Capital, Inc., 6.65% 06/15/67	$4,254,146^{(1)(2)}$
\$ 1,975,000	FPL Group Capital, Inc., 7.30% 09/01/67, Series D	$2,081,032^{(1)(2)}$
	Peco Energy:	
\$ 4,000,000	PECO Energy Capital Trust IV, 5.75% 06/15/33	3,467,492(1)(2)
	PPL Corp.:	
\$ 3,700,000	PPL Capital Funding, 6.70% 03/30/67, Series A	$3,648,355^{(1)}$
6,078	PPL Electric Utilities Corporation, 6.25% Pfd.	155,178*
	Puget Energy:	
\$ 5,175,000	Puget Sound Energy, Inc., 6.974% 06/01/67	5,182,461 <sup>(1)</sup>
	Southern California Edison:	
17,750	Southern California Edison, 6.00% Pfd., Series C	1,763,905*(1)
1,650	Southern California Edison, 6.125% Pfd., Series B	165,308*
46,460	Southern California Edison, 6.50% Pfd., Series D	4,828,935*(1)
		64,760,745
	T	
	Energy 5.0%	
A = 0.50 000	Enbridge Energy Partners:	= < 10, 2 =0(1)(2)
\$ 7,050,000	Enbridge Energy Partners LP, 8.05% 10/01/37	$7,649,250^{(1)(2)}$
Φ. 5.550.000	Enterprise Products Partners:	( 012 475(1)
\$ 5,550,000	Enterprise Products Partners, 8.375% 08/01/66, Series A	$6,013,475^{(1)}$
		13,662,725
		, ,
	Real Estate Investment Trust (REIT) 0.1%	
	PS Business Parks:	
10,000	PS Business Parks, Inc., 6.875% Pfd., Series R	266,000
		266,000
	Miscellaneous Industries 2.0%	
	Ocean Spray Cranberries:	
37,400	Ocean Spray Cranberries, Inc., 6.25% Pfd., 144A****	3,337,950*(1)
57,400	Ocean opray Cranocines, inc., 0.23 /0 11u., 144A	3,331,730

# PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS (Continued)

		Value	
Preferred Sec	urities (Continued)		
	Miscellaneous Industries (Continued)		
	Textron, Inc.:		
\$ 2,850,000	Textron Financial Corporation, 6.00% 02/15/67, 144A****	\$ 2,180,250	
		5,518,200	,
	Total Preferred Securities		
	(Cost \$242,254,944)	241,319,874	
Corporate De	bt Securities 9.1%		
	Banking 2.7%		
	First Niagara Financial Group:		
\$ 300,000	First Niagara Financial Group, Inc., 7.25% 12/15/21	317,118	
	Goldman Sachs Group:		
\$ 5,175,000	Goldman Sachs Group, 6.75% 10/01/37, Sub Notes	5,201,682(1	(1)(2)
	Regions Financial:		
\$ 1,990,000	Regions Financial Corporation, 7.375% 12/10/37, Sub Notes	1,835,775	
		7,354,575	
	Financial Services 0.4%		
	Lehman Brothers:		
\$ 4,726,012	Lehman Brothers, Guaranteed Note, Variable Rate, 5.843% 12/16/16, 144A****	940,004(4	(4)(5)
		940,004	
	Insurance 3.9%		
	Liberty Mutual Group:		
\$ 3,400,000	Liberty Mutual Insurance, 7.697% 10/15/97, 144A****	3,208,012(1	(1)(2)
	Unum Group:		(4) (2)
\$ 7,000,000	UnumProvident Corporation, 7.25% 03/15/28	7,524,083(1	(1)(2)
		10,732,095	
	Utilities 1.1%		
	Southern Union:		
\$ 1,000,000	Southern Union Company, 7.60% 02/01/24	1,191,100(1	
\$ 1,600,000	Southern Union Company, 8.25% 11/15/29	1,928,387(1	(1)(2)
		3,119,487	

## PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS (Continued)

hares/\$ Par			Value
Corporate D	ebt Securities (Continued)		
	Miscellaneous Industries 1.0%		
	Pulte Group Inc.:		
25,844	Pulte Homes, Inc., 7.375% 06/01/46		\$ 635,052
2,160,000	Pulte Homes, Inc., 7.875% 06/15/32		1,998,000
			2,633,052
	Total Comparete Daht Securities		
	Total Corporate Debt Securities (Cost \$27,056,070)		24,779,213
	(2001, 427, 400, 670)		2 1,777,218
Common Sto	ock 0.5%		
	Banking 0.2%		
	CIT Group:		
13,500	CIT Group, Inc.		549,585
			549,585
	Utilities 0.3%		
	Exelon Corp.:		
11,750	Exelon Corporation		459,073
	PPL Corp.:		
11,653	PPL Corporation		332,693
			701.766
			791,766
	Total Common Stock		
	(Cost \$3,318,243)		1,341,351
Money Mark	set Fund 0.8%		
2 265 255	BlackRock Liquidity Funds:		2 265 255
2,365,355	T-Fund		2,365,355
	Total Money Market Fund		
	(Cost \$ 2,365,355)		2,365,355
Total Invest	nents (Cost \$274,994,612***)	98.7%	269,805,793
	And Liabilities (Net)	1.3%	3,438,322
	,		i i
Total Manag	ed Assets	100.0%	\$ 273,244,115
Loan Princip	pal Balance		(91,600,000
Total Net As	sets Available To Common Stock		\$ 181,644,115

<sup>\*</sup> Securities eligible for the Dividends Received Deduction and distributing Qualified Dividend Income.

- \*\* Securities distributing Qualified Dividend Income only.
- \*\*\* Aggregate cost of securities held.

## PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS (Continued)

February 29, 2012 (Unaudited)

- \*\*\*\* Securities exempt from registration under Rule 144A of the Securities Act of 1933. These securities may be resold in transactions exempt from registration to qualified institutional buyers. At February 29, 2012, these securities amounted to \$51,527,820 or 18.9% of total managed assets.
- (1) All or a portion of this security is pledged as collateral for the Fund s loan. The total value of such securities was \$183,633,642 at February 29, 2012.
- All or a portion of this security has been rehypothecated. The total value of such securities was \$86,641,691 at February 29, 2012.
- (3) Foreign Issuer.
- (4) Illiquid
- <sup>(5)</sup> Valued at fair value as determined in good faith by or under the direction of the Board of Directors as of February 29, 2012.
- (6) Represents the rate in effect as of the reporting date.

Non-income producing.

The issuer has filed for bankruptcy protection. As a result, the Fund may not be able to recover the principal invested and also does not expect to receive income on this security going forward.

The percentage shown for each investment category is the total value of that category as a percentage of total managed assets.

#### ABBREVIATIONS:

**Pfd.** Preferred Securities

Pvt. Private Placement Securities
REIT Real Estate Investment Trust

STRIPES Structured Residual Interest Preferred Enhanced Securities

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE TO COMMON STOCK $^{(1)}$

For the period from December 1, 2011 through February 29, 2012 (Unaudited)

		Value
OPERATIONS:		
Net investment income	\$	4,094,216
Net realized gain/(loss) on investments sold during the period		(674,689)
Change in net unrealized appreciation/depreciation of investments		14,960,039
Net increase in net assets resulting from operations		18,379,566
DISTRIBUTIONS:		
Dividends paid from net investment income to Common Stock Shareholders <sup>(2)</sup>		(4,658,718)
Total Distributions to Common Stock Shareholders FUND SHARE TRANSACTIONS:		(4,658,718)
Increase from shares issued under the Dividend Reinvestment and Cash Purchase Plan		195,300
Net increase in net assets available to Common Stock resulting from Fund share transactions		195,300
NET INCREASE IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE TO COMMON STOCK FOR THE PERIOD	\$	13,916,148
NET ASSETS AVAILABLE TO COMMON STOCK:		
Beginning of period	\$ 1	67,727,967
Net increase in net assets during the period		13,916,148
End of period	\$ 1	81,644,115

These tables summarize the three months ended February 29, 2012 and should be read in conjunction with the Fund s audited financial statements, including footnotes, in its Annual Report dated November 30, 2011.

<sup>(2)</sup> May include income earned, but not paid out, in prior fiscal year.

#### FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS(1)

## For the period from December 1, 2011 through February 29, 2012 (Unaudited)

## For a Common Stock share outstanding throughout the period

PER SHARE OPERATING PERFORMANCE:		
Net asset value, beginning of period	\$	17.06
INVESTMENT OPERATIONS:		
Net investment income		0.42
Net realized and unrealized gain/(loss) on investments		1.44
T-t-1 form: investment and investment		1.06
Total from investment operations		1.86
DISTRIBUTIONS TO COMMON STOCK SHAREHOLDERS:		
From net investment income		(0.47)
		(0.45)
Total distributions to Common Stock Shareholders		(0.47)
Net asset value, end of period	\$	18.45
The most value, one of period	Ψ	101.10
Market value, end of period	\$	19.43
	_	
Common Stock shares outstanding, end of period	9	,843,064
RATIOS TO AVERAGE NET ASSETS AVAILABLE TO COMMON STOCK SHAREHOLDERS:		
Net investment income		9.47%*
Operating expenses including interest expense		2.07%*
Operating expenses excluding interest expense		1.41%*
SUPPLEMENTAL DATA:		
Portfolio turnover rate		6%**
Total managed assets, end of period (in 000 s)	\$	273,244
Ratio of operating expenses including interest expense to total managed assets		1.36%*
Ratio of operating expenses excluding interest expense to total managed assets		0.93%*

These tables summarize the three months ended February 29, 2012 and should be read in conjunction with the Funds audited financial statements, including footnotes, in its Annual Report dated November 30, 2011.

<sup>\*</sup> Annualized.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Not annualized.

The net investment income ratios reflect income net of operating expenses, including interest expense. Information presented under heading Supplemental Data includes loan principal balance.

Flaherty & Crumrine/Claymore Total Return Fund Incorporated

## FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS (Continued)

Per Share of Common Stock (Unaudited)

	Total Dividends Paid	Net Asset Value	NYSE Closing Price	Dividend Reinvestment Price (1)	
December 30, 2011	\$ 0.1945	\$ 17.34	\$ 18.70	\$ 17.77	
January 31, 2012	0.1395	18.03	19.20	18.24	
February 29, 2012	0.1395	18.45	19.43	18.46	

Whenever the net asset value per share of the Fund s Common Stock is less than or equal to the market price per share on the reinvestment date, new shares issued will be valued at the higher of net asset value or 95% of the then current market price. Otherwise, the reinvestment shares of Common Stock will be purchased in the open market.

## **NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited)**

#### 1. Aggregate Information for Federal Income Tax Purposes

At February 29, 2012, the aggregate cost of securities for federal income tax purposes was \$275,337,868, the aggregate gross unrealized appreciation for all securities in which there is an excess of value over tax cost was \$22,690,943 and the aggregate gross unrealized depreciation for all securities in which there is an excess of tax cost over value was \$28,223,018.

## 2. Additional Accounting Standards

Fair Value Measurement: The inputs and valuation techniques used to measure fair value of the Fund s investments are summarized into three levels as described in the hierarchy below:

Level 1 quoted prices in active markets for identical securities

Level 2 other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speeds, credit risk, etc.)

Level 3 significant unobservable inputs (including the Funds own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments)
The inputs or methodology used for valuing securities are not necessarily an indication of the risk associated with investing in those securities.
Transfers in and out of levels are recognized at market value at the end of the period. A summary of the inputs used to value the Funds investments as of February 29, 2012 is as follows:

	Fel	Total Level 1 Sign Value at Quoted Obs		Level 2 Significant Observable Inputs	Level 3 Significant Unobservable Inputs	
Preferred Securities						
Banking	\$	95,921,785	\$ 66,189,186	\$ 29,709,099	\$ 23,500	
Financial Services		5,331,873	1,541,618	1,611,025	2,179,230	
Insurance		55,858,546	31,280,084	24,578,462		
Utilities		64,760,745	20,615,310	44,145,435		
Energy		13,662,725	13,662,725			
Real Estate Investment Trust (REIT)		266,000	266,000			
Miscellaneous Industries		5,518,200		5,518,200		
Corporate Debt Securities		24,779,213	5,836,734	18,002,475	940,004	
Common Stock						
Banking		549,585	549,585			
Utilities		791,766	791,766			
Money Market Fund		2,365,355	2,365,355			
Total Investments	\$	269,805,793	\$ 143,098,363	\$ 123,564,696	\$ 3,142,734	

The Fund did not have any significant transfers in and out of Level 1 and Level 2 during the period.

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited) (Continued)

The Fund s investments in Level 2 and Level 3 are based primarily on market information, where available. This includes, but is not limited to, prices provided by third-party providers, observable trading activity (including the recency, depth, and consistency of such information with quoted levels), and the depth and consistency of broker-quoted prices. In the event market information is not directly available, comparable information may be observed for securities that are similar in many respects to those being valued. The Fund may employ an income approach for certain securities that also takes into account credit risk, interest rate risk, and potential recovery prospects.

The following is a reconciliation of Level 3 investments for which significant unobservable inputs were used to determine fair value:

			Preferred Securities			
	Tota	l Investments	Banking	Financial Services	,	porate Debt ecurities
Balance as of 11/30/11	\$	3,354,693	\$ 303,500	\$ 2,151,360	\$	899,833
Accrued discounts/premiums						
Realized gain/(loss)						
Change in unrealized appreciation/(depreciation)		(211,959)	(280,000)	27,870		40,171
Purchases						
Sales						
Transfers in						
Transfers out						
Balance as of 2/29/12	\$	3,142,734	\$ 23,500	\$ 2,179,230	\$	940,004

For the period ended February 29, 2012, total change in unrealized gain/(loss) on Level 3 securities still held at period-end and included in the change in net assets was \$(211,959).

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Directors	
Donald F. Crumrine, CFA	
Chairman of the Board	
David Gale	Quarterly
Morgan Gust	Report
Karen H. Hogan	Report
Robert F. Wulf, CFA	
	February 29, 2012
Officers	
Donald F. Crumrine, CFA	
Chief Executive Officer	
Robert M. Ettinger, CFA	www.fcclaymore.com
President	
R. Eric Chadwick, CFA	
Chief Financial Officer,	
Vice President and Treasurer	
Chad C. Conwell	
Chief Compliance Officer,	
Vice President and Secretary	
Bradford S. Stone	
Vice President and	
Assistant Treasurer	
Laurie C. Lodolo	
Assistant Compliance Officer,	
Assistant Treasurer and	
Assistant Secretary	
Linda M. Puchalski	

Assistant Treasurer		

#### **Investment Adviser**

Flaherty & Crumrine Incorporated

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## **Servicing Agent**

Guggenheim Funds Distributors, Inc.

1-866-233-4001

## Questions concerning your shares of Flaherty &

## Crumrine/Claymore Total Return Fund?

If your shares are held in a Brokerage

Account, contact your Broker.

If you have physical possession of your shares

in certificate form, contact the Fund s Transfer

Agent

BNY Mellon Investment Servicing

(US) Inc.

P.O. Box 358035

Pittsburgh, PA 15252-8035

1-866-351-7446

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