

# The Gabelli Equity Income Fund

## Shareholder Commentary

March 31, 2018

### To Our Shareholders,

For the quarter ended March 31, 2018, the net asset value (“NAV”) per Class AAA Share of The Gabelli Equity Income Fund decreased 2.3% compared with a decrease of 0.8% for the Standard & Poor’s (“S&P”) 500 Index. Other classes of shares are available. See page 2 for performance information for all classes.

### In Review

In stock market terms, the first quarter of 2018 was a little bit different from recent quarters. Previously, the U.S. stock market had been going up for many quarters in a row. In the first quarter, however, the stock market was actually down slightly; something we are not used to seeing. Another difference was that volatility has come back to the stock market. One way to measure volatility is to look at the number of days when the stock market, as measured by the S&P 500, was up or down by at least 1% in one trading day. During all of 2017, the S&P 500 only had eight such trading days, a very low number. During the first quarter of 2018, however, there were 23 daily moves of at least 1%. So volatility is back, and as long term investors know well, the stock market does not always go up in the short term.

Absolute returns in (y)our portfolio were strong in 2017, and we look forward to an acceleration in earning growth and deal activity in 2018. We expect volatility, as mentioned above, to stay with us. Market corrections and economic recessions are inevitable, and indeed necessary, for the proper functioning of our capitalist system. We remain alert and prepared for most eventualities and believe our PMV with a Catalyst™ approach will continue to deliver superior risk-adjusted results over the long term.

### Monthly Distributions – \$0.10 per share

The Gabelli Equity Income Fund has a \$0.10 per share monthly distribution policy in place. For more specific dividend and tax information, please visit our website at [www.gabelli.com](http://www.gabelli.com) or call 800-GABELLI (800-422-3554). **Shareholders should be aware that a portion of the distribution may represent a non-taxable return of capital.** Such distributions will reduce the cost basis of your shares if you hold them in a taxable account. The distributions should not be confused with the yield or total return of the Fund.

## Comparative Results

### Average Annual Returns through March 31, 2018 (a) (b) (Unaudited)

	Quarter	1 Year	5 Year	10 Year	15 Year	Since Inception (1/2/92)
<b>Class AAA (GABEX)</b> .....	(2.30)%	7.93%	8.00%	7.33%	9.41%	9.87%
S&P 500 Index .....	(0.76)	13.99	13.31	9.49	10.10	9.48(c)
Nasdaq Composite Index .....	2.59	20.90	18.13	13.31	12.96	9.94(c)
Lipper Equity Income Fund Average .....	(2.63)	8.98	10.14	7.64	9.09	8.47
<b>Class A (GCAEX)</b> .....	(2.31)	7.88	7.99	7.33	9.41	9.87
With sales charge (d) .....	(7.93)	1.68	6.72	6.70	8.97	9.62
<b>Class C (GCCEX)</b> .....	(2.50)	7.10	7.19	6.53	8.64	9.43
With contingent deferred sales charge (e) .....	(3.47)	6.10	7.19	6.53	8.64	9.43
<b>Class I (GCIEX)</b> .....	(2.21)	8.20	8.27	7.60	9.61	9.98
<b>Class T (GCTEX)</b> .....	(2.26)	7.93	7.99	7.33	9.41	9.87
With sales charge (f) .....	(4.70)	5.23	7.45	7.06	9.23	9.70

**In the current prospectuses dated January 26, 2018, the expense ratios for Class AAA, A, C, I, and T Shares are 1.39%, 1.39%, 2.14%, 1.14%, and 1.39%, respectively. Class AAA and Class I Shares do not have a sales charge. The maximum sales charge for Class A Shares, Class C Shares, and Class T Shares is 5.75%, 1.00%, and 2.50%, respectively.**

- (a) Returns represent past performance and do not guarantee future results. Total returns and average annual returns reflect changes in share price, reinvestment of distributions, and are net of expenses. Investment returns and the principal value of an investment will fluctuate. When shares are redeemed, they may be worth more or less than their original cost. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data presented. Visit [www.gabelli.com](http://www.gabelli.com) for performance information as of the most recent month end. The Fund imposes a 2% redemption fee on shares sold or exchanged within seven days of purchase. Performance returns for periods of less than one year are not annualized. Investors should carefully consider the investment objectives, risks, charges, and expenses of the Fund before investing. The prospectuses contain information about these and other matters and should be read carefully before investing. To obtain a prospectus, please visit our website at [www.gabelli.com](http://www.gabelli.com). The Class AAA Share NAVs are used to calculate performance for the periods prior to the issuance of Class A Shares and Class C Shares on December 31, 2003, Class I Shares on January 11, 2008, and Class T Shares on July 5, 2017. The actual performance of the Class A Shares, Class C Shares, and Class T Shares would have been lower due to the additional fees and expenses associated with these classes of shares. The actual performance of the Class I Shares would have been higher due to lower expenses related to this class of shares. The S&P 500 Index is a market capitalization weighted index of 500 large capitalization stocks commonly used to represent the U.S. equity market. The Nasdaq Composite Index is an unmanaged indicator of stock market performance. The Lipper Equity Income Fund Average includes the 30 largest equity funds in this category tracked by Lipper, Inc. Dividends are considered reinvested, except for the Nasdaq Composite Index. You cannot invest directly in an index.
- (b) The Fund's fiscal year ends September 30.
- (c) S&P 500 Index and Nasdaq Composite Index since inception performance are as of December 31, 1991.
- (d) Performance results include the effect of the maximum 5.75% sales charge at the beginning of the period.
- (e) Assuming payment of the 1% maximum contingent deferred sales charge imposed on redemptions made within one year of purchase.
- (f) Performance results include the effect of the maximum 2.50% sales charge at the beginning of the period.

We have separated the portfolio manager's commentary from the financial statements and investment portfolio due to corporate governance regulations stipulated by the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. We have done this to ensure that the content of the portfolio manager's commentary is unrestricted. The financial statements and investment portfolio are mailed separately from the commentary. Both the commentary and the financial statements, including the portfolio of investments, are available on our website at [www.gabelli.com](http://www.gabelli.com).

## **The Economy**

The U.S. economy grew at an impressive rate of about 3.0%, in real terms, during 2017, and we expect that the economy will continue to grow by that same 3.0 % rate during the current year of 2018. Inflation has started to move up ever so slightly, and we expect this metric, as measured by the Consumer Price Index, will hover just above 2% for 2018, a level that central bankers should be comfortable with as they gradually raise short term rates. The unemployment rate, at approximately 4%, stands at a ten year low. Housing starts of about 1.3 million units continue their steady increase, but remain comfortably below the prior peak of 2.2 million units.

The U.S. economic expansion has been going on since June 2009, according to the National Bureau of Economic Research. That means we are about to enter the second longest economic expansion in the U.S., beating the 106 month expansion of the 1960s. The longest economic expansion was from 1991-2001, and we will have to wait another year to see if we can beat that record, to become the longest economic expansion in U.S. recorded history, which goes back to before the Civil War.

## **The State of Washington**

Since late 2017, a rising stock market was based on a “Trump Bump,” consisting of (a) tax reform (b) deregulation, and (c) fiscal stimulus. To date, the Trump administration has delivered on the first two objectives. Fiscal stimulus could become part of the picture in 2018 if an infrastructure bill gets passed, and military spending goes up, both of which the administration would like to do. The new tax bill, which lowers the Federal corporate tax rate to 21%, will make U.S. corporate taxes very competitive with other OECD countries, which is a major positive for the U.S. economy and the U.S. stock market. We believe (y)our portfolio is well positioned to capture the benefits of the lower corporate taxes, as it includes a disproportionate weighting of smaller and mid-size U.S. firms, who are currently paying higher effective rates and whose revenues are centered on domestic operations. Many individuals will see lower taxes with reduced rates and an increased standard deduction, but higher income households in higher state and local tax (SALT) geographies could see an increase. Deregulation in the energy, financial, and media/telecom sectors has already unleashed corporate animal spirits. We expect more deregulation to come from this administration.

## **The State of the Federal Reserve**

Notwithstanding excitement about potential tax windfalls, the most powerful market force coming out of Washington during the past few years has come from the Federal Reserve. Through open market activity and three rounds of quantitative easing (QE), the Federal Reserve slashed short term interest rates from 4.5% before the 2008-2009 financial crisis, to nearly zero, lifting assets prices everywhere. The Federal Reserve began tapping the brakes by tapering QE in October 2014, and has now raised rates six times, the latest of which took the Federal Reserve Funds rate to a range of 1.50% – 1.75%. The Federal Reserve started shrinking its balance sheet, with current expectations for two additional increases in 2018, and maybe three in 2019, which would ratchet the Federal Reserve Funds rate to 3.0%. Newly appointed Federal Reserve Chair Jerome H. (“Jay”) Powell, a centrist and former banker, will likely continue this path.

Over the long term, the Federal Reserve's "normalization" of rates is healthy for the economy, but the timing of this process has been the subject of debate given a lack of inflation. The last two rate hike cycles ended in market dislocations in 2001 and 2007, but the circumstances in each were very different from today. A future recession may be unavoidable, but it need not be triggered by the Federal Reserve anytime soon. What is clear, however, is that monetary policy has gone from being a tailwind to being a headwind for the economy and the market.

## **Dividends**

Dividends are an important element in the historical returns of stocks. They provide current income and a growing income stream over time. During the first quarter of 2018, U.S. companies continued to increase their dividends. At the end of the quarter, the dividend yield on the S&P 500 was just below 2.0%, and 26% of the stocks in the S&P 500 had dividend yields greater than the 10-year U.S. Treasury

## **Investment Scorecard**

During the first quarter of 2018, the S&P 500 was down about 1% on a total return basis and all of the eleven sectors that make up the S&P 500 index were down, with the exception of two sectors. Information Technology was up 3.5% in the quarter and Consumer Discretionary was up 3.1%. The worst performing sector during the quarter was Telecom (down by 7.5%), followed by Consumer Staples (down by 7.1%).

Some of the stocks that helped performance the most in the Fund during the first quarter were Dr. Pepper Snapple (0.4% of net assets as of March 31, 2018), Hewlett Packard Enterprise (0.4%), and Mastercard (1.3%), all of which were up over 10%.

Dr. Pepper Snapple is a beverage company and in late January the company agreed to be acquired by Keurig Green Mountain. As part of the deal, shareholders in Dr. Pepper Snapple receive 13% ownership in the combined company and \$103.75 per share in a special cash dividend. Hewlett Packard Enterprise reported strong earnings during the quarter and the stock hit an all-time high as a result. Likewise, Mastercard (1.3%), the credit card company, reported good earnings with purchase volume up by 13%.

A few of the worst performing stocks in the Fund during the first quarter were General Mills (0.7%), CVS (1.1%), and General Electric (0.5%). These three stocks were each down over 10%.

General Mills, the manufacturer and marketer of branded consumer foods, reported disappointing earnings in the quarter, as cost pressures led to a lowering of full year earnings guidance. CVS is still on track to acquire AETNA (0.4%) in 2018, but they may have to divest some business lines in order for the deal to receive anti-trust approval. General Electric, under the new leadership of CEO John Flannery, has increased charges related to GE Capital's insurance portfolio.

## Let's Talk Stocks

The following are stock specifics on selected holdings of our Fund. Favorable earnings prospects do not necessarily translate into higher stock prices, but they do express a positive trend that we believe will develop over time. Individual securities mentioned are not necessarily representative of the entire portfolio. For the following holdings, the share prices are listed first in United States dollars (USD) and second in the local currency, where applicable, and are presented as of March 31, 2018.

*Bank of New York Mellon Corp. (2.9% of net assets as of March 31, 2018) (BK – \$51.53 – NYSE)* is a global leader in providing financial services to institutions and individuals. The company operates in more than one hundred markets worldwide and strives to be the global provider of choice for investment management and investment services. As of December 31, 2017, the firm had \$33.3 trillion in assets under custody and \$1.9 trillion in assets under management. Going forward, we expect BK to benefit from rising global incomes and the cross border movement of financial transactions. We believe BK is also well positioned to grow earnings in a rising interest rate environment, given its large customer cash deposits and significant loan book.

*Bristol-Myers Squibb (1.5%) (BMY – \$63.25 – NYSE)* has revolutionized the treatment of many types of cancer by harnessing the body's own immune system to fight malignancies. The company's lead drug, Opdivo, can be used alone and in combination with other drugs to treat a broad range of cancers. While the immuno-oncology space is highly competitive, Bristol-Myers is willing to partner its drug with any and all peers to find the most effective course of treatment for each tumor type. Bristol-Myers also has a very successful blood thinning medication, Eliquis, that is winning significant market share from peers. The company continues to invest heavily in research and development to sustain its strong growth prospects while remaining committed to paying a healthy dividend to shareholders.

*Brown-Forman Corp. (1.6%) (BF/A / BF/B – \$53.33/54.40 – NYSE)* is a leading global distilled spirits producer. Spirits is an advantaged category that enjoys high margins, low capital requirements, strong free cash flow generation and good pricing power. The company's global brands include Jack Daniel's Tennessee whiskey, Finlandia vodka, Woodford Reserve bourbon, and el Jimador and Herradura tequilas. Jack Daniel's is one of the world's most valuable spirits brands, enjoying strong growth both in the U.S. and internationally as consumers increasingly choose to drink American whiskies. The company has also successfully expanded the brand into the fast growing flavored whiskey category. While Brown-Forman does face some near term headwinds from negative foreign currency exposure, emerging market sales have returned to growth, and the company is positioned to grow revenues and profits substantially over the next several years, and has significant balance sheet flexibility. While the company is family controlled, we believe that if it ever became available for sale it would be highly coveted by other large global spirits players. This was evidenced recently when the stock rose on news that Constellation Brands made an overture for the company, which was rejected by Brown-Forman's board.

*CBS Corp. (1.4%) (CBS – \$51.68 – NYSE)* operates the CBS television network and the premium cable network Showtime. It also owns 29 local television stations and 130 radio stations. We believe that CBS has a number of opportunities to generate incremental non-advertising revenue from the sale of existing content through its OTT platforms, online video distributors and retransmission agreements with traditional distributors. In addition, we expect a continued recovery in advertising to contribute to earnings growth. Finally, we believe a combination with Viacom could act as a catalyst for shares.

*Citigroup Inc. (1.3%) (C – \$67.50 – NYSE)* is a leading global bank, with approximately 100 million customer accounts. The firm conducts business in more than 100 countries and jurisdictions. Citigroup provides consumers, corporations, governments, and institutions with a broad range of financial products and services, including consumer banking and credit, corporate and investment banking, securities brokerage, transaction services, and wealth management. The firm is well positioned to capitalize on the growth of global personal wealth.

*Genuine Parts Co. (2.0%) (GPC – \$89.84 – NYSE)* is an Atlanta, Georgia-based distributor of automotive and industrial replacement parts, and electrical and electronic components. We expect GPC's well known NAPA Auto Parts group to benefit as an aged vehicle population, which includes the highest percentage of off warranty vehicles in history, helps drive sales of automotive aftermarket products over the next several years. Additionally, economic indicators remain supportive of the company's industrial and electrical parts distribution businesses amid steady economic expansion. Finally, GPC's management has shown consistent dedication to shareholder value via share repurchases and dividend increases, and most recently announced its intention to spin its Office Products division and merge it with Essendant in a Reverse Morris Trust transaction.

*Mondelēz International Inc. (1.8%) (MDLZ – \$41.73 – NASDAQ)* headquartered in Deerfield, Illinois, is the renamed Kraft Foods Inc. following the tax-free spin-off to shareholders of the North American grocery business on October 1, 2012. On July 2, 2015 Mondelēz combined its coffee business with D.E Master Blenders 1753 to form a new coffee company, Jacobs Douwe Egberts. Subsequently, MDLZ exchanged part of its stake in this coffee joint venture for 24% ownership in Keurig Green Mountain, which was acquired by an investor group led by JAB Holding Co. in March 2016. This narrows the company's product focus, as nearly 85% of Mondelēz's \$26 billion of revenue is derived from snacking, including leading brands such as Oreo, LU and Ritz biscuits, Trident gum, and Cadbury and Milka chocolates. The company continues to execute against its plan to accelerate growth and to improve margins, targeting 17% in 2018. In November, CEO Irene Rosenfeld was succeeded by Dirk Van de Put, who joined the company after eight years as CEO of McCain Foods.

*State Street Corp. (1.1%) (STT – \$99.73 – NYSE)* is a global custodian and asset manager with a history that dates back over one hundred years. The firm has over \$33.1 trillion in assets under custody and \$2.8 trillion in assets under management. Although headquartered in the U.S., State Street continues to expand globally and has over 29,000 employees worldwide. As a leader in many aspects of financial services, it is well positioned to capture a greater share of managed assets.

*Verizon Communications Inc. (1.0%) (VZ – \$47.82 – NYSE)* is one of the world's leading telecommunications services companies. Its wholly-owned subsidiary, Verizon Wireless (VZW), is the largest mobile operator in the United States with over 116 million retail customers. In January 2018, Verizon reported stronger than expected 4Q revenues and in-line adjusted EBITDA. The highlight of the quarter were stronger than expected wireless retail postpaid net additions (at approximately 1.2 million, including over 430,000 postpaid phone net adds). The company is a beneficiary of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. VZ estimates savings from tax reform to generate net \$3.5-\$4.0 billion uplift to cash flow from operations. The incremental cash flow will be used primarily to strengthen the company's balance sheet. In late November 2017, VZ announced that it plans to launch 5G residential broadband services (via fixed wireless) in up to five markets in 2018 (expected to be followed by a broader rollout in 2019). The first commercial launch is planned to be in Sacramento, CA in 2H'18. The above commercial launch will be powered by millimeter-wave spectrum. Verizon estimates the market opportunity for initial 5G residential broadband services to be ~30 million households. Verizon expects its capital expenditures for 2018 to be in the range of \$17.0-\$17.8 billion, including the commercial launch of 5G.

*National Fuel Gas Co. (0.8%) (NFG – \$51.45 – NYSE)* is a diversified natural gas company. NFG owns a regulated gas utility serving the region around Buffalo, New York, gas pipelines that move gas between the Midwest and Canada and from the Marcellus to the Northeast, gathering and processing systems, and an oil and gas exploration and production business. NFG's regulated utility and pipeline businesses, as well as its California oil production business, provide stable earnings and cash flows to support the dividend, while the natural gas production business offers significant upside potential. Natural gas prices have been depressed over the past few years, but NFG's net ownership of 785,000 acres in the Marcellus Shale, holds enormous natural gas reserve potential and the company has proven to be among the lower cost producers. We continue to expect above average long term earnings and cash flow growth from improving gas prices, growing gas production and strategically located pipeline expansion. The company has increased its dividend for 46 consecutive years.

*Johnson & Johnson (0.6%) (JNJ – \$128.15 – NYSE)* is the world's largest and most diversified healthcare company. The company's pharmaceutical business is one of the fastest growing in the industry, driven by multiple new oncology products and the recent acquisition of Swiss biotech company Actelion. The consumer division is benefiting from an improving economy but must continue to innovate and reformulate its products to meet consumer demands for natural and organic products. While the medical device business has been losing some market share, management has been working to improve the business mix by divesting several declining or low-growth businesses. Johnson & Johnson will be a significant beneficiary of tax reform, gaining global access to its prodigious cash flow and likely increasing the dividend significantly later this year.

## Conclusion

While change is constant, the fundamental underpinnings of common stock value investing remain unchanged. Our stock selection process is based on the investment principles first articulated in 1934 by the fathers of security analysis, Benjamin Graham and David Dodd. Their work provided the framework for value investing. Our firm contributed to the academic and empirical research on value investing by introducing the concept of Private Market Value (PMV) with a Catalyst™. This is our proprietary research methodology that focuses on individual stock selection by identifying stocks of firms selling at a discount to intrinsic value per share with a reasonable probability of realizing their PMVs. We define PMV as the price a strategic acquirer would likely be willing to pay for the entire enterprise. Catalysts are specific events or circumstances with varying time horizons that can trigger a narrowing of the difference between the market price of a stock and its estimated PMV per share. Price appreciation can occur instantly, as in the case in an announced takeover, or more gradually over time. There are a variety of catalysts that can cause change. Some general categories include: company specific, industry, regulatory, demographic, political and economic. We continue to find good value in many companies that have some combination of long term growth prospects, strong cash flow generation, good balance sheets as well as shareholder friendly management teams. We thank you for your investment in the Fund and we look forward to serving you in the future.

May 2, 2018

<b>Top Ten Holdings (Percent of Net Assets)</b>			
<b><u>March 31, 2018</u></b>			
Swedish Match AB	3.0%	Wells Fargo & Co.	1.6%
Bank of New York Mellon Corp.	2.9%	Marsh & McLennan Co.	1.5%
Genuine Parts Co.	2.0%	M&T Bank Corp.	1.5%
Mondelēz International Inc.	1.8%	Bristol – Myers Squibb Corp.	1.5%
Brown-Forman Corp.	1.6%	CBS Corp.	1.4%

**Note:** The views expressed in this Shareholder Commentary reflect those of the Portfolio Manager only through the end of the period stated in this Shareholder Commentary. The Portfolio Manager's views are subject to change at any time based on market and other conditions. The information in this Portfolio Manager's Shareholder Commentary represents the opinions of the individual Portfolio Manager and is not intended to be a forecast of future events, a guarantee of future results, or investment advice. Views expressed are those of the Portfolio Manager and may differ from those of other portfolio managers or of the Firm as a whole. This Shareholder Commentary does not constitute an offer of any transaction in any securities. Any recommendation contained herein may not be suitable for all investors. Information contained in this Shareholder Commentary has been obtained from sources we believe to be reliable, but cannot be guaranteed.

## **Minimum Initial Investment – \$1,000**

The Fund's minimum initial investment for regular accounts is \$1,000. There are no subsequent investment minimums. No initial minimum is required for those establishing an Automatic Investment Plan. Additionally, the Fund and other Gabelli/GAMCO Funds are available through the no-transaction fee programs at many major brokerage firms. The Fund imposes a 2% redemption fee on shares sold or exchanged within seven days after the date of purchase. See the prospectuses for more details.

## **[www.gabelli.com](http://www.gabelli.com)**

Please visit us on the Internet. Our homepage at [www.gabelli.com](http://www.gabelli.com) contains information about GAMCO Investors, Inc., the Gabelli/GAMCO Mutual Funds, IRAs, 401(k)s, current and historical quarterly reports, closing prices, and other current news. We welcome your comments and questions via e-mail at [info@gabelli.com](mailto:info@gabelli.com).

The Fund's daily NAVs are available in the financial press and each evening after 7:00 PM (Eastern Time) by calling 800-GABELLI (800-422-3554). Please call us during the business day, between 8:00 AM – 7:00 PM (Eastern Time), for further information.

You may sign up for our e-mail alerts at [www.gabelli.com](http://www.gabelli.com) and receive early notice of quarterly report availability, news events, media sightings, and mutual fund prices and performance.

## **e-delivery**

We are pleased to offer electronic delivery of Gabelli fund documents. Direct shareholders of our mutual funds can elect to receive their Annual and Semiannual Reports, Manager Commentaries, and Prospectuses via e-delivery. For more information or to sign up for e-delivery, please visit our website at [www.gabelli.com](http://www.gabelli.com).

## **Multi-Class Shares**

Class AAA Shares are no-load shares offered directly through selected broker/dealers. Class A, Class C, and Class T Shares are targeted to the needs of investors who seek advice through financial consultants. Class I Shares are available directly through the Fund's distributor or brokers that have entered into selling agreements specifically with respect to Class I Shares. The Board of Trustees determined that expanding the types of Fund shares available through various distribution options will enhance the ability of the Fund to attract additional investors.

## **Gabelli/GAMCO Funds and Your Personal Privacy**

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### **Who are we?**

The Gabelli/GAMCO Funds are investment companies registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission under the Investment Company Act of 1940. We are managed by Gabelli Funds, LLC and GAMCO Asset Management Inc., which are affiliated with GAMCO Investors, Inc. GAMCO Investors, Inc. is a publicly held company that has subsidiaries and affiliates that provide investment advisory services for a variety of clients.

### **What kind of non-public information do we collect about you if you become a fund shareholder?**

If you apply to open an account directly with us, you will be giving us some non-public information about yourself. The non-public information we collect about you is:

- *Information you give us on your application form.* This could include your name, address, telephone number, social security number, bank account number, and other information.
- *Information about your transactions with us, any transactions with our affiliates, and transactions with the entities we hire to provide services to you.* This would include information about the shares that you buy or redeem. If we hire someone else to provide services—like a transfer agent—we will also have information about the transactions that you conduct through them.

### **What information do we disclose and to whom do we disclose it?**

We do not disclose any non-public personal information about our customers or former customers to anyone other than our affiliates, our service providers who need to know such information, and as otherwise permitted by law. If you want to find out what the law permits, you can read the privacy rules adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission. They are in volume 17 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 248. The Commission often posts information about its regulations on its website, [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov).

### **What do we do to protect your personal information?**

We restrict access to non-public personal information about you to the people who need to know that information in order to provide services to you or the fund and to ensure that we are complying with the laws governing the securities business. We maintain physical, electronic, and procedural safeguards to keep your personal information confidential.

## Portfolio Manager Biography

**Mario J. Gabelli, CFA**, is Chairman, Chief Executive Officer, and Chief Investment Officer – Value Portfolios of GAMCO Investors, Inc. that he founded in 1977, and Chief Investment Officer – Value Portfolios of Gabelli Funds, LLC and GAMCO Asset Management Inc. He is also Executive Chairman of the Board of Directors of Associated Capital Group, Inc. Mr. Gabelli is a summa cum laude graduate of Fordham University and holds an MBA degree from Columbia Business School, and Honorary Doctorates from Fordham University and Roger Williams University.

**Gabelli Equity Series Funds, Inc.**  
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Net Asset Value per share available daily  
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**GABELLI**  
FUNDS

# THE GABELLI EQUITY INCOME FUND

*Shareholder Commentary*  
*March 31, 2018*

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This report is submitted for the general information of the shareholders of The Gabelli Equity Income Fund. It is not authorized for distribution to prospective investors unless preceded or accompanied by an effective prospectus.

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