

# The Gabelli Dividend Growth Fund

## Shareholder Commentary December 31, 2017

(Y)our Portfolio Management Team



Sarah Donnelly



Robert Leininger, CFA



Justin Bergner, CFA

### To Our Shareholders,

For the quarter ended December 31, 2017, the net asset value (“NAV”) per Class AAA Share of The Gabelli Dividend Growth Fund increased 2.4% compared with an increase of 6.6% for the Standard & Poor’s (“S&P”) 500 Index. See page 2 for additional performance information.

### In Review

In 2017, a year marred by acts of man and acts of nature, the prices for assets, including equities, real estate, art, and cryptocurrencies marched to record highs. This growth in U.S. equities has been accompanied by surprisingly little drama, or without even a 5% correction, for over fourteen months. On the surface, it would appear the world suffers from a severe case of cognitive dissonance. However, a closer look at the global economic data – low unemployment, improving trade, housing, and consumer trends, and rising corporate profits – would suggest that optimism is not misplaced. Although not always efficient, the market is an effective discounting machine capable of separating meaningful signals from distracting noise. Our job is similar- to identify securities that are improperly reflecting future prospects and trading with a Margin of Safety relative to Private Market Value (PMV).

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. Volatility, while present in many industrial stocks, but absent in the general market, will at some point return, driven by real or imagined noise. 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.

## Comparative Results

### Average Annual Returns through December 31, 2017 (a) (Unaudited)

	Quarter	1 Year	5 Year	10 Year	15 Year	Since Inception (8/26/99)
<b>Class AAA (GABBX)</b> .....	2.40%	12.11%	10.46%	5.95%	8.95%	5.88%
S&P 500 Index .....	6.64	21.83	15.79	8.50	9.92	5.76
Lipper Large Cap Value Fund Average .....	5.68	16.06	13.99	6.86	8.88	5.61
<b>Class A (GBCAX)</b> .....	2.42	12.15	10.47	5.96	8.98	5.91
With sales charge (b) .....	(3.47)	5.70	9.17	5.34	8.55	5.56
<b>Class C (GBCCX)</b> .....	2.24	11.32	9.65	5.16	8.20	5.29
With contingent deferred sales charge (c) ..	1.24	10.32	9.65	5.16	8.20	5.29
<b>Class I (GBCIX)</b> .....	2.71	13.26	10.96	6.32	9.28	6.14

**In the current prospectuses dated April 28, 2017, the expense ratios for Class AAA, A, C, and I Shares are 2.00%, 2.00%, 2.75%, and 1.75% respectively, and the net expense ratios for these share classes after contractual reimbursements by Gabelli Funds, LLC, (the "Adviser") are 2.00%, 2.00%, 2.75%, and 1.00%, respectively. Class AAA and Class I Shares do not have a sales charge. The maximum Sales Charge for Class A Shares and Class C Shares is 5.75% and 1.00%, 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. Returns would have been lower had the Adviser not reimbursed certain expenses of the Fund. 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 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 Lipper Large Cap Value Fund Average reflects the average performance of mutual funds classified in this particular category. Dividends are considered reinvested. You cannot invest directly in an index. 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 and the Class I Shares on June 30, 2004. The actual performance of the Class A and Class C Shares would have been lower due to the additional fees and expenses associated with these classes of shares. The actual performance for the Class I Shares would have been higher due to the lower expenses related to this class of shares.*
- (b) Performance results include the effect of the maximum 5.75% sales charge at the beginning of the period.
- (c) Assuming payment of the 1% maximum contingent deferred sales charge imposed on redemptions made within one year of purchase.

We have separated the portfolio managers' 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 managers' 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**

After a sluggish start to the year, the U.S. economy grew at a faster than anticipated 3.1% and 3.3% during the second and third quarters, respectively. At 4.1%, unemployment stands at a ten-year low, while consumer wealth of nearly \$97 trillion is at an all-time high. Housing starts of 1.3 million units continue their steady increase, but remain comfortably below the prior peak of 2.2 million units. The U.S. is in its ninth year of economic expansion; at 101 months, this is the third longest expansion, trailing only 1961-1969 and 1991-2001, which were 106 and 120 months, respectively. Perhaps as important, the global economy is in synchronized expansion. For all of 2017, the eurozone is set to grow 2.2%, its fastest since 2007, while Japan has accelerated to 1.5%, and China (by design), is likely to post growth of 6.7%. All of this bodes well for U.S. exporters and their employees.

## **The State of Washington**

During 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 appears to be delivering on the first two objectives, with an infrastructure bill planned for early 2018. 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. 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) locations 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 levitating force from Washington over the last decade did not originate from the White House or the Capital, but from the Eccles Building, home to 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 asset prices everywhere. The Federal Reserve began tapping the brakes by tapering QE in October, 2014, and has now raised rates five times, the latest move in December, 2017, which took the Federal Reserve Funds rate to a range of 1.25% - 1.50%. Current expectations are for three additional increases in each of 2018 and 2019, which would ratchet the Fed Funds rate to 3.0%. Newly appointed Federal Reserve Chair, Jerome H. (“Jay”) Powell, a centrist and former banker, will likely continue on 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 fourth quarter of 2017, U.S. companies continued to increase their dividends. At the end of the quarter, the dividend yield on the S&P 500 was approximately 1.9%, which was below the yield on the 10-year U.S. Treasury, which was closer to 2.5%.

## Investment Scorecard

During the fourth quarter of 2017, the S&P 500 was up over 6% on a total return basis and all of the eleven sectors that make up the S&P 500 index were also up. The best performing sectors were consumer discretionary (up about 10%) and information technology (up about 9%). The worst performing sector was the utility sector (barely up at all) as rising interest rates hurt the attractiveness of utility stocks, which usually have above average current returns. The next worst performing sector was health care (up just over 1%).

Some of the stocks that helped performance the most in the Gabelli Dividend Growth Fund during the fourth quarter were Twenty-First Century Fox (0.7% of net assets as of December 31, 2017), and JP Morgan (5.0%). Twenty-First Century Fox is a global media company, and in December the Walt Disney Company announced it plans to purchase a substantial part of Twenty-First Century Fox's assets. This pending deal was the primary reason the stock performed so well during the fourth quarter. JP Morgan, the large bank, has an exceptionally strong balance sheet and is benefitting from less onerous government regulation of the banking industry.

A couple of the worst performing stocks in the Fund during the fourth quarter were Allergan (2.1%) and General Electric (2.8%). These two stocks were each down over 10%. Allergan, the maker of Botox and other pharmaceutical products, has struggled with some product issues, but we feel they are short term issues, which will be worked out by the company. General Electric recently hired a new CEO, who has cut the dividend and lowered profit forecasts for the company. We expect the new CEO will begin the process of beating these new lower profit expectations over the years ahead.

## 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 December 31, 2017.

*American International Group Inc. (5.1% of net assets as of December 31, 2017) (AIG – \$59.58 – NYSE)* is a multi-line insurance company offering property and casualty and life insurance, and serving customers in more than 130 countries and jurisdictions. The company should be well positioned as it has excess capital, sophisticated products, and broad global distribution. In addition, the company is committed to returning capital to shareholders with dividends and share buybacks. We believe it can increase these capital returns to shareholders, given greater stability of the business lines.

*Apple, Inc. (2.5%) (AAPL – \$169.23 – NASDAQ)* continues to remain the world's most valuable corporation and could become the first business enterprise to capture a value of \$1 trillion. Apple dominates the global smartphone market with its iPhone line of handsets that combine the functionality of powerful computers and powerful cameras. The devices have stimulated a virtuous circle of entrepreneurship around applications (apps) and services, many of which are owned and/or developed by Apple but all of which pay hefty tolls for trafficking in its ecosystem. These software services have fostered a wave of innovation and greatly enhanced human productivity. Apple also owns and operates the world's most profitable retailer in its Apple stores, many of which are located in iconic global locations. Apple has elected, under tax reform, to pay an exit toll of over \$38 billion to the U.S. government and will probably return the rest of its significant overseas cash hoard to shareholders. Viewed in its totality, Apple is an unparalleled free cash flow machine since it has little actually invested in conventional plant and equipment and generates high operating margins from its hardware and software services. We believe Apple remains modestly valued in the market in light of these extremely strong business characteristics.

*Citigroup Inc. (5.7%) (C – \$74.41 – 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 should be well positioned to capitalize on the growth of global personal wealth.

*DowDuPont Inc. (6.5%) (DWDP – \$71.22 – NYSE)* is the newly formed company following the merger of Dow Chemical (DOW) and DuPont de Nemours (DD). After being postponed three times, the merger closed on August 31 and the new company, DowDuPont, started trading on September 1 under the ticker DWDP at around \$67/share. The combined entity expects to generate \$3 billion in cost synergies, \$1 billion in growth synergies, and will pursue a tax-free separation into three independent companies somewhere between March and September 2019. The proposed portfolio for each entity should enhance the competitive advantage, value creation, and growth (for the Specialty Products division in particular). The Agriculture Division, with 2016 revenues of \$14 billion and EBITDA of \$2.1 billion (a 15% margin), will focus on Seeds and Digital Solutions as well as Crop Protection Solutions. The Materials Science Division, with revenues of \$40 billion and EBITDA of \$8 billion (a 20% margin), is back-integrated into technology-driven raw materials and focuses on Packaging & Specialty Plastics, Industrial Intermediates, and Performance Materials & Coatings; it is the most cyclical business of the three. The Specialty Products Division, with revenues of \$21 billion and EBITDA of \$5.2 billion (a 25% margin), is comprised of four separate platforms with highly differentiated and innovation-driven businesses: Electronics & Imaging, Transportation & Advanced Polymers, Safety & Construction, and Nutrition & Biosciences. In our opinion, these segments of similar size (following bolt-on acquisitions) could, in the future, become independent companies. During DWDP's third quarter conference call CEO Ed Breen summarized the actions taken since the merger: 1) DowDuPont is executing on top priorities and in delivering on its operating and financial targets (Q3 sales +8%; volume+4%; EBITDA +7%; EPS +10%); 2) work has begun in order to achieve synergies on target; 3) the process of separating and spinning the three new companies has begun; and 4) while the separation is more complex (after adjusting the final portfolios), management is assessing options to accelerate the time line. The company will report its fourth quarter, ended December 31 on February 1, 2018.

*Merck & Company, Inc. (4.1%) (MRK – \$56.27 – NYSE)*, headquartered in Whitehouse Station, New Jersey, is a major international drug and pharmaceutical manufacturing company with global revenue of \$39.8 billion in 2016. The company’s product portfolio includes seven blockbuster drugs with over \$1 billion of annual sales each and is led by Keytruda, a breakthrough cancer drug in the emerging field of immuno-oncology. Merck is also a leading player in the markets for vaccines, diabetes treatments, and animal healthcare.

## Conclusion

Our process tends to be very respectful of risk – we look down before we look up. A list of things that could go wrong in the larger economy is easy to compose, but, short of a hot war, major terrorist attack or social unrest, the two biggest risks to the U.S. economy would seem to be an inflationary spike and a Federal Reserve that raises rates too fast because it finds itself behind the curve, and/or a 1930s-style trade war. A little inflation might be good for the economy and (y)our portfolio, as we tend to own companies with pricing power. The impact of a collapse of NAFTA or an escalation of tensions with China and Europe (who are not happy with the new tax plan) is difficult to gauge, and the fallout for most companies would be hard to avoid. One would hope that good sense prevails on the topic.

A different kind of risk in underestimating what could go right. What if deregulation and changes to the tax code really do spur renewed investment, while inflation is kept at bay by technology and globalization - basically, the goldilocks scenario of the last year? Ultimately, the health of the U.S. economy is not reliant upon who occupies the White House; the stock market is not the President’s report card. Growth and markets are driven by the collective efforts of entrepreneurs and hardworking individuals, and we remain as bullish as ever on those factors. We also remain confident in our time-tested investment process and methodology.

Thank you for entrusting part of your assets with us. Please accept our sincere wishes for a happy and healthy New Year.

January 26, 2018

**Top Ten Holdings (Percent of Net Assets)**  
**December 31, 2017**

DowDuPont Inc.	6.5%	Merck & Co Inc.	4.1%
Citigroup Inc.	5.7%	Microsoft Corp.	3.6%
American International Group	5.1%	Honeywell International Inc.	3.3%
JPMorgan Chase & Co.	5.0%	Phillips 66	3.2%
Pfizer Inc.	4.3%	American Express Co	3.2%

**Note:** The views expressed in this Shareholder Commentary reflect those of the Portfolio Managers only through the end of the period stated in this Shareholder Commentary. The Portfolio Managers' views are subject to change at any time based on market and other conditions. The information in this Portfolio Managers' Shareholder Commentary represents the opinions of the individual Portfolio Managers 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 Managers 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**

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 and Class C 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.



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## **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 Management Team Biographies

**Sarah Donnelly** joined Gabelli in 1999 as a junior research analyst working with the consumer staples and media analysts. Currently she is a Senior Vice President and the Food, Household and Personal Care products research analyst at Gabelli & Company and a portfolio manager for Gabelli Funds, LLC and the Fund. In 2013, she was named the Health & Wellness research platform leader. Ms. Donnelly received a B.S. in Business Administration with a concentration in Finance and minor in History from Fordham University.

**Robert D. Leininger, CFA**, joined GAMCO Investors, Inc. in 1993 as an equity analyst. Subsequently, he was a partner and portfolio manager at Rorer Asset Management before rejoining GAMCO in 2010 where he currently serves as a portfolio manager of Gabelli Funds, LLC. Mr. Leininger is a magna cum laude graduate of Amherst College with a degree in Economics and holds an MBA from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania.

**Justin Bergner, CFA**, is currently a Vice President at Gabelli & Company and a portfolio manager for Gabelli Funds, LLC, having rejoined Gabelli & Company in June 2013 as a research analyst covering Diversified Industrials, Home Improvement, and Transport companies. He began his investment career at Gabelli & Company in 2005 as a metals and mining analyst, and subsequently spent five years at Axiom International Investors as a senior analyst focused on industrial and healthcare stocks. Mr. Bergner graduated cum laude from Yale University with a B.A. in Economics & Mathematics and received an MBA in Finance and Accounting from Wharton Business School.

## THE GABELLI DIVIDEND GROWTH FUND

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Net Asset Value per share available daily  
by calling 800-GABELLI after 7:00 P.M.

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

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GABELLI  
FUNDS

# THE GABELLI DIVIDEND GROWTH FUND

*Shareholder Commentary*  
*December 31, 2017*

# The Gabelli Dividend Growth Fund

## Annual Report — December 31, 2017

### To Our Shareholders,

For the year ended December 31, 2017, the net asset value (“NAV”) per Class AAA Share of The Gabelli Dividend Growth Fund increased 12.1% compared with an increase of 21.8% for the Standard & Poor’s (“S&P”) 500 Index. Other classes of shares are available. See page 2 for performance information for all classes of shares.

Enclosed are the financial statements, including the schedule of investments, as of December 31, 2017.

### Performance Discussion (Unaudited)

The Fund’s primary investment objective is to provide long term growth of capital. Current income is a secondary objective of the Fund.

The Fund’s strategy is to invest at least 80% of its net assets in dividend paying stocks. In addition to seeking out stocks that pay a dividend, the Fund will focus on stocks that the portfolio manager believes are well positioned to increase their dividend over the long term. In selecting investments, the portfolio manager will consider, among other things, the market price of the issuer’s securities, earnings expectations, dividend paying and other earnings and price histories, balance sheet characteristics, and perceived management skills. The portfolio manager will also consider changes in economic and political outlooks as well as individual corporate developments.

After a sluggish start to the year, the U.S. economy grew at a faster than anticipated 3.1% and 3.3% in the second and third quarters, respectively. At 4.1%, unemployment stands at a ten-year low while consumers’ wealth of nearly \$97 trillion is at an all-time high. Housing starts of 1.3 million units continue their steady increase, but remain comfortably below the prior peak of 2.2 million units. The U.S. is in its ninth year of economic expansion, making this the third longest expansion at 101 months, trailing only 1961-1969 and 1991-2001 (those expansions were 106 and 120 months, respectively). Perhaps as important, the global economy is in synchronized expansion. For all of 2017, the Eurozone is set to grow 2.2%, its fastest since 2007, while Japan has accelerated to 1.5%; China is likely to post growth of 6.7%. The stock market rose in the latter half of the year, following President Trump’s agenda on tax reform, deregulation, and fiscal stimulus, benefiting the Fund. The Federal Reserve raised the Federal Funds rate for the fifth time since October of 2014, now ranging from 1.25%-1.50%.

Dividends are an important element in the historical returns of stocks. They provide current income and a growing income stream over time. During the fourth quarter of 2017, U.S. companies continued to increase their dividends. At the end of the quarter, the dividend yield on the S&P 500 was approximately 1.9%, which was below the yield on the 10-year US Treasury, which was closer to 2.5%.

Among the better performing stocks for the fiscal year were PayPal Holdings Inc. (2.1% of net assets as of December 31, 2017), who sold its credit portfolio to Synchrony Financial and then acquired Swift Financial and TIO Networks, Apple Inc. (2.5%) who announced a cash dividend of \$0.63 per share of common stock, which paid out on November 16, and Aptiv Plc. (1.8%) which is the name of the electronics company left after Delphi Automotive spun off its automotive powertrain operations in September 2017.

Some of our weaker performers were Allergan Plc. (2.1%), a pharmaceutical company who had massive negative earnings reported in 2017, American International Group (5.1%), or AIG, a multinational insurance company whose stock underperformed in 2017, and Kraft Heinz Co. (2.2%) the fifth-largest food and beverage company in the world.

Thank you for your investment in The Gabelli Dividend Growth Fund.

We appreciate your confidence and trust.

**Comparative Results**

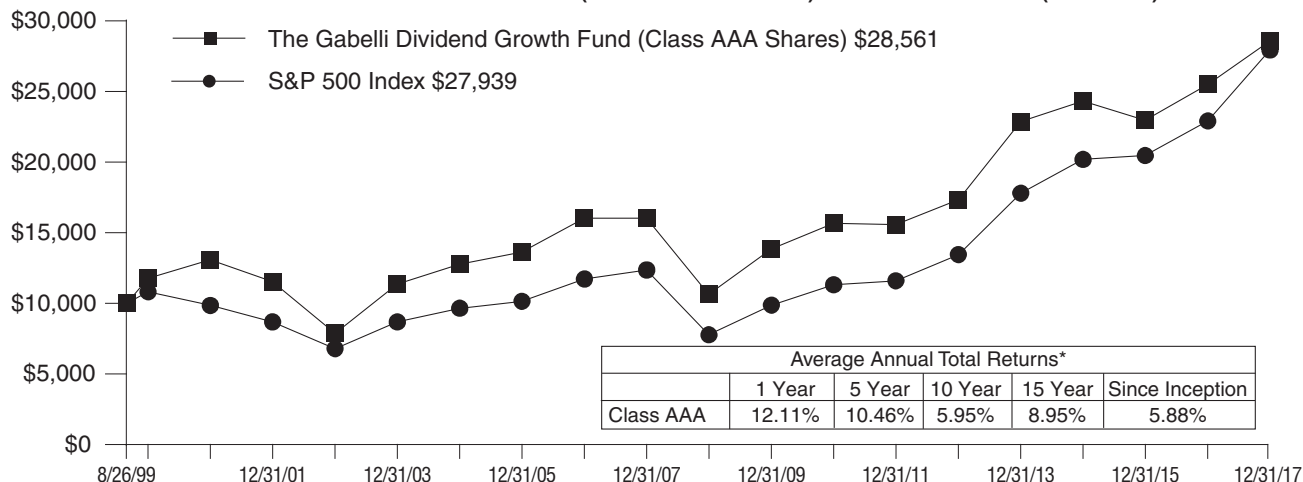
**Average Annual Returns through December 31, 2017 (a) (Unaudited)**

	1 Year	5 Year	10 Year	15 Year	Since Inception (8/26/99)
<b>Class AAA (GABBX)</b> .....	12.11%	10.46%	5.95%	8.95%	5.88%
S&P 500 Index .....	21.83	15.79	8.50	9.92	5.76
Lipper Large Cap Value Fund Average .....	16.06	13.99	6.86	8.88	5.61
<b>Class A (GBCAX)</b> .....	12.15	10.47	5.96	8.98	5.91
With sales charge (b) .....	5.70	9.17	5.34	8.55	5.56
<b>Class C (GBCCX)</b> .....	11.32	9.65	5.16	8.20	5.29
With contingent deferred sales charge (c) .....	10.32	9.65	5.16	8.20	5.29
<b>Class I (GBCIX)</b> .....	13.26	10.96	6.32	9.28	6.14

*In the current prospectuses dated April 28, 2017, the expense ratios for Class AAA, A, C, and I Shares are 2.00%, 2.00%, 2.75%, and 1.75%, respectively, and the net expense ratios for these classes after contractual reimbursements by Gabelli Funds, LLC, (the "Adviser") are 2.00%, 2.00%, 2.75%, and 1.00%, respectively. See page 8 for the expense ratios for the year ended December 31, 2017. Class AAA and Class I Shares do not have a sales charge. The maximum sales charge for Class A and C Shares is 5.75% and 1.00%, 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. Returns would have been lower had the Adviser not reimbursed certain expenses of the Fund. The Fund imposes a 2% redemption fee on shares sold or exchanged within seven days of purchase. 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 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 Lipper Large Cap Value Fund Average reflects the average performance of mutual funds classified in this particular category. Dividends are considered reinvested. You cannot invest directly in an index. 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 and the Class I Shares on June 30, 2004. The actual performance of the Class A and Class C Shares would have been lower due to the additional fees and expenses associated with these classes of shares. The actual performance for the Class I Shares would have been higher due to the lower expenses related to this class of shares.
- (b) Performance results include the effect of the maximum 5.75% sales charge at the beginning of the period.
- (c) Assuming payment of the 1% maximum contingent deferred sales charge imposed on redemptions made within one year of purchase.

**COMPARISON OF CHANGE IN VALUE OF A \$10,000 INVESTMENT IN THE GABELLI DIVIDEND GROWTH FUND (CLASS AAA SHARES) AND S&P 500 INDEX (Unaudited)**



\* Past performance is not predictive of future results. The performance tables and graph do not reflect the deduction of taxes that a shareholder would pay on fund distributions or the redemption of fund shares.

# The Gabelli Dividend Growth Fund

## Disclosure of Fund Expenses (Unaudited)

For the Six Month Period from July 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017

## Expense Table

We believe it is important for you to understand the impact of fees and expenses regarding your investment. All mutual funds have operating expenses. As a shareholder of a fund, you incur ongoing costs, which include costs for portfolio management, administrative services, and shareholder reports (like this one), among others. Operating expenses, which are deducted from a fund's gross income, directly reduce the investment return of a fund. When a fund's expenses are expressed as a percentage of its average net assets, this figure is known as the expense ratio. The following examples are intended to help you understand the ongoing costs (in dollars) of investing in your Fund and to compare these costs with those of other mutual funds. The examples are based on an investment of \$1,000 made at the beginning of the period shown and held for the entire period.

The Expense Table below illustrates your Fund's costs in two ways:

**Actual Fund Return:** This section provides information about actual account values and actual expenses. You may use this section to help you to estimate the actual expenses that you paid over the period after any fee waivers and expense reimbursements. The "Ending Account Value" shown is derived from the Fund's **actual** return during the past six months, and the "Expenses Paid During Period" shows the dollar amount that would have been paid by an investor who started with \$1,000 in the Fund. You may use this information, together with the amount you invested, to estimate the expenses that you paid over the period.

To do so, simply divide your account value by \$1,000 (for example, an \$8,600 account value divided by \$1,000 = 8.6), then multiply the result by the number given for your Fund under the heading "Expenses Paid During Period" to estimate the expenses you paid during this period.

**Hypothetical 5% Return:** This section provides information about hypothetical account values and

hypothetical expenses based on the Fund's actual expense ratio. It assumes a hypothetical annualized return of 5% before expenses during the period shown. In this case – because the hypothetical return used is **not** the Fund's actual return – the results do not apply to your investment and you cannot use the hypothetical account value and expense to estimate the actual ending account balance or expenses you paid for the period. This example is useful in making comparisons of the ongoing costs of investing in the Fund and other funds. To do so, compare this 5% hypothetical example with the 5% hypothetical examples that appear in shareholder reports of other funds.

Please note that the expenses shown in the table are meant to highlight your ongoing costs only and do not reflect any transactional costs such as sales charges (loads), redemption fees, or exchange fees, if any, which are described in the Prospectus. If these costs were applied to your account, your costs would be higher. Therefore, the 5% hypothetical return is useful in comparing ongoing costs only, and will not help you determine the relative total costs of owning different funds. The "Annualized Expense Ratio" represents the actual expenses for the last six months and may be different from the expense ratio in the Financial Highlights which is for the year ended December 31, 2017.

	Beginning Account Value 07/01/17	Ending Account Value 12/31/17	Annualized Expense Ratio	Expenses Paid During Period*
<b><i>The Gabelli Dividend Growth Fund</i></b>				
<b>Actual Fund Return</b>				
Class AAA	\$1,000.00	\$1,063.50	2.05%	\$10.66
Class A	\$1,000.00	\$1,063.80	2.05%	\$10.66
Class C	\$1,000.00	\$1,059.80	2.81%	\$14.59
Class I	\$1,000.00	\$1,069.60	1.00%	\$ 5.22
<b>Hypothetical 5% Return</b>				
Class AAA	\$1,000.00	\$1,014.87	2.05%	\$10.41
Class A	\$1,000.00	\$1,014.87	2.05%	\$10.41
Class C	\$1,000.00	\$1,011.04	2.81%	\$14.24
Class I	\$1,000.00	\$1,020.16	1.00%	\$ 5.09

\* Expenses are equal to the Fund's annualized expense ratio for the last six months multiplied by the average account value over the period, multiplied by the number of days in the most recent fiscal half year (184 days), then divided by 365.

## Summary of Portfolio Holdings (Unaudited)

The following table presents portfolio holdings as a percent of net assets as of December 31, 2017:

### The Gabelli Dividend Growth Fund

Financial Services . . . . .	29.5%	Telecommunications . . . . .	1.7%
Health Care . . . . .	15.3%	Media . . . . .	1.6%
Computer Software and Services . . . . .	11.5%	Transportation . . . . .	1.1%
Diversified Industrial . . . . .	7.9%	Semiconductors . . . . .	0.8%
Energy . . . . .	7.9%	Cable and Satellite . . . . .	0.7%
Food and Beverage . . . . .	7.1%	Entertainment . . . . .	0.7%
Specialty Chemicals . . . . .	6.5%	Business Services . . . . .	0.6%
Retail . . . . .	2.9%	Other Assets and Liabilities (Net) . . . . .	<u>(1.8)%</u>
Automotive: Parts and Accessories . . . . .	2.2%		<u>100.0%</u>
Energy Services . . . . .	1.9%		
Metals and Mining . . . . .	1.9%		

*The Fund files a complete schedule of portfolio holdings with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") for the first and third quarters of each fiscal year on Form N-Q. Shareholders may obtain this information at [www.gabelli.com](http://www.gabelli.com) or by calling the Fund at 800-GABELLI (800-422-3554). The Fund's Form N-Q is available on the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov) and may also be reviewed and copied at the SEC's Public Reference Room in Washington, DC. Information on the operation of the Public Reference Room may be obtained by calling 800-SEC-0330.*

### Proxy Voting

The Fund files Form N-PX with its complete proxy voting record for the twelve months ended June 30, no later than August 31 of each year. A description of the Fund's proxy voting policies, procedures, and how the Fund voted proxies relating to portfolio securities is available without charge, upon request, by (i) calling 800-GABELLI (800-422-3554); (ii) writing to The Gabelli Funds at One Corporate Center, Rye, NY 10580-1422; or (iii) visiting the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov).



# The Gabelli Dividend Growth Fund

## Schedule of Investments — December 31, 2017

Shares		Cost	Market Value	Shares		Cost	Market Value
<b>COMMON STOCKS — 101.8%</b>				<b>Food and Beverage — 7.1%</b>			
<b>Automotive: Parts and Accessories — 2.2%</b>				<b>Health Care — 15.3%</b>			
6,000	Aptiv plc.....	\$ 370,336	\$ 508,980	4,000	Diageo plc, ADR .....	\$ 452,378	\$ 584,120
2,000	Delphi Technologies plc†.....	70,540	104,940	19,000	Mondelez International Inc., Cl. A....	635,514	813,200
		<u>440,876</u>	<u>613,920</u>	8,000	The Kraft Heinz Co. ....	665,501	622,080
						<u>1,753,393</u>	<u>2,019,400</u>
	<b>Business Services — 0.6%</b>			<b>Media — 1.6%</b>			
1,500	Visa Inc., Cl. A .....	137,987	171,030	13,000	TEGNA Inc. ....	191,374	183,040
	<b>Cable and Satellite — 0.7%</b>			6,000	Tribune Media Co., Cl. A .....	223,236	254,820
4,000	DISH Network Corp., Cl. A† .....	196,682	191,000			<u>414,610</u>	<u>437,860</u>
	<b>Computer Software and Services — 11.5%</b>			<b>Metals and Mining — 1.9%</b>			
600	Alphabet Inc., Cl. C† .....	324,200	627,840	14,000	Newmont Mining Corp. ....	467,229	525,280
4,200	Apple Inc. ....	303,303	710,766		<b>Retail — 2.9%</b>		
23,000	Hewlett Packard Enterprise Co.....	326,847	330,280	17,000	Macy's Inc. ....	484,466	428,230
12,000	Microsoft Corp.....	330,073	1,026,480	7,000	Starbucks Corp. ....	395,388	402,010
12,000	Oracle Corp.....	527,576	567,360			<u>879,854</u>	<u>830,240</u>
		<u>1,811,999</u>	<u>3,262,726</u>	<b>Semiconductors — 0.8%</b>			
	<b>Diversified Industrial — 7.9%</b>			2,000	NXP Semiconductors NV† .....	230,534	234,180
800	Acuity Brands Inc. ....	129,593	140,800		<b>Specialty Chemicals — 6.5%</b>		
45,000	General Electric Co. ....	1,152,560	785,250	25,820	DowDuPont Inc. ....	896,106	1,838,900
6,000	Honeywell International Inc.....	210,351	920,160		<b>Telecommunications — 1.7%</b>		
7,500	Rexnord Corp.† .....	175,412	195,150	7,500	T-Mobile US Inc.†.....	457,172	476,325
3,500	Textron Inc.....	163,707	198,065		<b>Transportation — 1.1%</b>		
		<u>1,831,623</u>	<u>2,239,425</u>	800	AMERCO .....	297,496	302,328
	<b>Energy — 7.9%</b>			<b>TOTAL COMMON STOCKS .....</b>			
7,000	Anadarko Petroleum Corp. ....	418,203	375,480			<u>21,753,662</u>	<u>28,799,606</u>
17,000	Baker Hughes, a GE Company .....	795,724	537,880	<b>TOTAL INVESTMENTS — 101.8% .....</b>			
7,500	National Fuel Gas Co. ....	404,382	411,825			<u>\$21,753,662</u>	<u>28,799,606</u>
9,000	Phillips 66 .....	704,054	910,350	<b>Other Assets and Liabilities (Net) — (1.8)% .....</b>			
		<u>2,322,363</u>	<u>2,235,535</u>				<u>(512,045)</u>
	<b>Energy Services — 1.9%</b>			<b>NET ASSETS — 100.0% .....</b>			
11,000	Halliburton Co. ....	503,280	537,570				<u>\$28,287,561</u>
	<b>Entertainment — 0.7%</b>						
6,000	Twenty-First Century Fox Inc., Cl. A. .	185,330	207,180				
	<b>Financial Services — 29.5%</b>						
9,000	American Express Co.....	547,008	893,790				
24,000	American International Group Inc. ...	1,038,262	1,429,920				
15,000	Bank of America Corp.....	382,774	442,800				
21,500	Citigroup Inc. ....	965,902	1,599,815				
13,100	JPMorgan Chase & Co. ....	609,460	1,400,914				
15,500	Legg Mason Inc. ....	562,399	650,690				
14,000	Morgan Stanley.....	234,537	734,580				
8,000	PayPal Holdings Inc.†.....	294,553	588,960				
1,750	State Street Corp.....	172,078	170,818				
2,900	Willis Towers Watson plc.....	369,830	437,001				
		<u>5,176,803</u>	<u>8,349,288</u>				

† Non-income producing security.  
ADR American Depositary Receipt

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

## The Gabelli Dividend Growth Fund

### Statement of Assets and Liabilities December 31, 2017

**Assets:**

Investments, at value (cost \$21,753,662) .....	\$28,799,606
Cash .....	588
Receivable for Fund shares sold .....	61,595
Receivable for investments sold .....	38,097
Receivable from Adviser .....	7,163
Prepaid expenses .....	26,705
Dividends receivable .....	<u>40,302</u>
<b>Total Assets</b> .....	<u>28,974,056</u>

**Liabilities:**

Payable for Fund shares redeemed .....	43,389
Payable for investments purchased .....	163,104
Payable for investment advisory fees .....	24,510
Payable for distribution fees .....	6,202
Line of credit payable .....	388,000
Other accrued expenses .....	<u>61,290</u>
<b>Total Liabilities</b> .....	<u>686,495</u>

**Net Assets**

(applicable to 1,650,378 shares outstanding) ... \$28,287,561

**Net Assets Consist of:**

Paid-in capital .....	\$21,382,452
Accumulated net realized gains on investments ..	(140,835)
Net unrealized appreciation on investments .....	<u>7,045,944</u>
<b>Net Assets</b> .....	<u>\$28,287,561</u>

**Shares of Beneficial Interest, each at \$0.001 par value;  
unlimited number of shares authorized:**
**Class AAA:**

Net Asset Value, offering, and redemption price per share (\$17,154,975 ÷ 995,362 shares outstanding) .....
 \$17.23 |

**Class A:**

Net Asset Value and redemption price per share (\$3,682,599 ÷ 214,174 shares outstanding) .....
 \$17.19 |

Maximum offering price per share (NAV ÷ 0.9425, based on maximum sales charge of 5.75% of the offering price) .....
 \$18.24 |

**Class C:**

Net Asset Value and offering price per share (\$1,968,797 ÷ 124,648 shares outstanding) .....
 \$15.79(a) |

**Class I:**

Net Asset Value, offering, and redemption price per share (\$5,481,190 ÷ 316,194 shares outstanding) .....
 \$17.33 |

(a) Redemption price varies based on the length of time held.

### Statement of Operations For the Year Ended December 31, 2017

**Investment Income:**

Dividends (net of foreign withholding taxes of \$113) .....	\$ 739,155
Interest .....	11,918
Other Income* .....	<u>38</u>
<b>Total Investment Income</b> .....	<u>751,111</u>

**Expenses:**

Investment advisory fees .....	290,841
Distribution fees - Class AAA .....	43,719
Distribution fees - Class A .....	9,301
Distribution fees - Class C .....	22,575
Registration expenses .....	51,715
Shareholder communications expenses .....	47,915
Shareholder services fees .....	33,858
Legal and audit fees .....	33,055
Trustees' fees .....	30,000
Custodian fees .....	7,508
Interest expense .....	286
Miscellaneous expenses .....	<u>16,625</u>
<b>Total Expenses</b> .....	<u>587,398</u>

**Less:**

Expenses reimbursed by Adviser (See Note 3) ..

(44,685)

**Total Reimbursements** .....

(44,685)

**Net Expenses** .....

542,713

**Net Investment Income** .....

208,398

**Net Realized and Unrealized Gain/(Loss) on Investments:**

Net realized gain on investments .....

4,403,232

Net change in unrealized appreciation/depreciation on investments .....

(1,226,569)

**Net Realized and Unrealized Gain/(Loss) on Investments** .....

3,176,663

**Net Increase in Net Assets Resulting from Operations** .....

\$ 3,385,061

\* The Fund received a reimbursement of custody expenses paid in prior years.

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

# The Gabelli Dividend Growth Fund

## Statement of Changes in Net Assets

	<u>Year Ended</u> <u>December 31, 2017</u>	<u>Year Ended</u> <u>December 31, 2016</u>
<b>Operations:</b>		
Net investment income.....	\$ 208,398	\$ 117,967
Net realized gain on investments and foreign currency transactions .....	4,403,232	1,489,966
Net change in unrealized appreciation/depreciation on investments.....	<u>(1,226,569)</u>	<u>1,127,889</u>
<b>Net Increase in Net Assets Resulting from Operations.....</b>	<b><u>3,385,061</u></b>	<b><u>2,735,822</u></b>
<b>Distributions to Shareholders:</b>		
Net investment income		
Class AAA.....	(81,434)	(70,688)
Class A .....	(18,783)	(13,333)
Class I .....	<u>(85,109)</u>	<u>(42,521)</u>
	<u>(185,326)</u>	<u>(126,542)</u>
Net realized gain		
Class AAA.....	(2,402,535)	(925,295)
Class A .....	(539,315)	(170,303)
Class C .....	(294,733)	(105,684)
Class I .....	<u>(812,899)</u>	<u>(267,947)</u>
	<u>(4,049,482)</u>	<u>(1,469,229)</u>
<b>Total Distributions to Shareholders .....</b>	<b><u>(4,234,808)</u></b>	<b><u>(1,595,771)</u></b>
<b>Shares of Beneficial Interest Transactions:</b>		
Class AAA.....	175,057	(2,853,110)
Class A .....	136,355	105,432
Class C .....	(602,759)	976,972
Class I .....	<u>568,631</u>	<u>309,490</u>
<b>Net Increase/(Decrease) in Net Assets from Shares of Beneficial Interest Transactions .....</b>	<b><u>277,284</u></b>	<b><u>(1,461,216)</u></b>
<b>Redemption Fees .....</b>	<b><u>—</u></b>	<b><u>125</u></b>
<b>Net Decrease in Net Assets .....</b>	<b>(572,463)</b>	<b>(321,040)</b>
<b>Net Assets:</b>		
Beginning of year .....	<u>28,860,024</u>	<u>29,181,064</u>
End of year (including undistributed net investment income of \$0 and \$0, respectively) .....	<u>\$28,287,561</u>	<u>\$28,860,024</u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

# The Gabelli Dividend Growth Fund

## Financial Highlights

Selected data for a share of beneficial interest outstanding throughout each year:

Year Ended December 31	from Investment Operations				Distributions			Ratios to Average Net Assets/ Supplemental Data						
	Net Asset Value Beginning of Year	Net Investment Income (Loss)(a)	Net Unrealized Gain(Loss) on Investments	Total from Investment Operations	Net Realized Gain on Investments	Total Distributions	Redemption Fees (a)(b)	Net Asset Value End of Year	Total Return	Net Assets End of Year (in 000 \$)	Net Investment Income (Loss)	Operating Expenses Before Reimbursement	Operating Expenses Net of Reimburse- ment and Credits	Portfolio Turnover Rate
<b>Class AAA</b>														
2017	\$17.93	\$ 0.11	\$ 2.07	\$ 2.18	\$(2.79)	\$(2.88)	—	\$17.23	12.1%	\$17,155	0.58%	2.01%	2.00%	60%
2016	17.12	0.07	1.82	1.89	(1.00)	(1.08)	\$0.00	17.93	11.0	17,454	0.40	2.00	2.00(c)	14
2015	18.74	0.06	(1.11)	(1.05)	(0.51)	(0.57)	0.00	17.12	(5.6)	19,536	0.32	1.91	1.91(d)	15
2014	19.10	0.28	0.98	1.26	(1.35)	(1.62)	0.00	18.74	6.4	23,476	1.40	1.89	1.89(e)	23
2013	15.10	0.11	4.66	4.77	(0.68)	(0.77)	0.00	19.10	31.7	25,051	0.64	2.00	2.00(e)	12
<b>Class A</b>														
2017	\$17.89	\$ 0.11	\$ 2.08	\$ 2.19	\$(2.79)	\$(2.89)	—	\$17.19	12.2%	\$ 3,683	0.58%	2.01%	2.00%	60%
2016	17.09	0.07	1.81	1.88	(1.00)	(1.08)	\$0.00	17.89	10.9	3,673	0.41	2.00	2.00(c)	14
2015	18.70	0.06	(1.10)	(1.04)	(0.51)	(0.57)	0.00	17.09	(5.6)	3,432	0.33	1.91	1.91(d)	15
2014	19.07	0.27	0.98	1.25	(1.35)	(1.62)	0.00	18.70	6.4	3,805	1.35	1.89	1.89(e)	23
2013	15.09	0.12	4.64	4.76	(0.68)	(0.78)	0.00	19.07	31.6	3,062	0.66	2.00	2.00(e)	12
<b>Class C</b>														
2017	\$16.68	\$(0.04)	\$ 1.94	\$ 1.90	\$(2.79)	\$(2.79)	—	\$15.79	11.3%	\$ 1,969	(0.21)%	2.76%	2.75%	60%
2016	16.05	(0.06)	1.69	1.63	(1.00)	(1.00)	\$0.00	16.68	10.1	2,620	(0.36)	2.75	2.75(c)	14
2015	17.67	(0.07)	(1.04)	(1.11)	(0.51)	(0.51)	0.00	16.05	(6.3)	1,616	(0.42)	2.66	2.66(d)	15
2014	18.11	0.11	0.95	1.06	(1.35)	(1.50)	0.00	17.67	5.7	1,654	0.59	2.64	2.64(e)	23
2013	14.39	(0.02)	4.42	4.40	(0.00)(b)	(0.68)	0.00	18.11	30.6	1,630	(0.10)	2.75	2.75(e)	12
<b>Class I</b>														
2017	\$18.01	\$ 0.31	\$ 2.09	\$ 2.40	\$(2.79)	\$(3.08)	—	\$17.33	13.3%	\$ 5,481	1.61%	1.76%	1.00%	60%
2016	17.19	0.15	1.83	1.98	(1.00)	(1.16)	\$0.00	18.01	11.4	5,110	0.85	1.75	1.55(c)	14
2015	18.82	0.11	(1.12)	(1.01)	(0.51)	(0.62)	0.00	17.19	(5.4)	4,597	0.57	1.65	1.65(d)	15
2014	19.17	0.31	1.01	1.32	(1.35)	(1.67)	0.00	18.82	6.7	5,870	1.53	1.64	1.64(e)	23
2013	15.15	0.16	4.67	4.83	(0.68)	(0.81)	0.00	19.17	32.0	4,066	0.89	1.75	1.75(e)	12

† Total return represents aggregate total return of a hypothetical \$1,000 investment at the beginning of the year and sold at the end of the year including reinvestment of distributions and does not reflect the applicable sales charges.

(a) Per share amounts have been calculated using the average shares outstanding method.

(b) Amount represents less than \$0.005 per share.

(c) During the year ended December 31, 2017, and 2016, the Fund received reimbursements of custody expenses paid in prior years. Had such reimbursement (allocated by relative net asset values of the Fund's share classes) been included in the 2016 calculation, the annualized expense ratios would have been 1.83% (Class AAA), 1.83% (Class A), 2.59% (Class C), and 1.39% (Class I). The 2017 reimbursement had no effect on the expense ratio.

(d) The Fund received credits from a designated broker who agreed to pay certain Fund operating expenses. For the years ended December 31, 2015, there was no impact on the expense ratios.

(e) Under an expense deferral agreement with the Adviser, the Adviser recovered from the Fund \$10,696 and \$16,430 for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively, representing in 2014 the balance outstanding of previously reimbursed expenses from the Adviser. Had such payments not been made, the expense ratios would have been 1.86% and 1.94% (Class AAA and Class A) 2.61% and 2.69% (Class C), and 1.61% and 1.69% (Class I).

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

# The Gabelli Dividend Growth Fund

## Notes to Financial Statements

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**1. Organization.** The Gabelli Dividend Growth Fund was organized on May 13, 1999 as a Delaware statutory trust. The Fund is a diversified open-end management investment company registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “1940 Act”). The Fund’s primary objective is long term growth of capital with current income as a secondary objective. The Fund commenced operations on August 26, 1999.

**2. Significant Accounting Policies.** As an investment company, the Fund follows the investment company accounting and reporting guidance, which is part of U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (“GAAP”) that may require the use of management estimates and assumptions in the preparation of its financial statements. Actual results could differ from those estimates. The following is a summary of significant accounting policies followed by the Fund in the preparation of its financial statements.

**Security Valuation.** Portfolio securities listed or traded on a nationally recognized securities exchange or traded in the U.S. over-the-counter market for which market quotations are readily available are valued at the last quoted sale price or a market’s official closing price as of the close of business on the day the securities are being valued. If there were no sales that day, the security is valued at the average of the closing bid and asked prices or, if there were no asked prices quoted on that day, then the security is valued at the closing bid price on that day. If no bid or asked prices are quoted on such day, the security is valued at the most recently available price or, if the Board of Trustees (the “Board”) so determines, by such other method as the Board shall determine in good faith to reflect its fair market value. Portfolio securities traded on more than one national securities exchange or market are valued according to the broadest and most representative market, as determined by Gabelli Funds, LLC (the “Adviser”).

Portfolio securities primarily traded on a foreign market are generally valued at the preceding closing values of such securities on the relevant market, but may be fair valued pursuant to procedures established by the Board if market conditions change significantly after the close of the foreign market, but prior to the close of business on the day the securities are being valued. Debt obligations for which market quotations are readily available are valued at the average of the latest bid and asked prices. If there were no asked prices quoted on such day, the security is valued using the closing bid price, unless the Board determines such amount does not reflect the securities’ fair value, in which case these securities will be fair valued as determined by the Board. Certain securities are valued principally using dealer quotations. Futures contracts are valued at the closing settlement price of the exchange or board of trade on which the applicable contract is traded. OTC futures and options on futures for which market quotations are readily available will be valued by quotations received from a pricing service or, if no quotations are available from a pricing service, by quotations obtained from one or more dealers in the instrument in question by the Adviser.

Securities and assets for which market quotations are not readily available are fair valued as determined by the Board. Fair valuation methodologies and procedures may include, but are not limited to: analysis and review of available financial and non-financial information about the company; comparisons with the valuation and changes in valuation of similar securities, including a comparison of foreign securities with the equivalent U.S. dollar value American Depositary Receipt securities at the close of the U.S. exchange; and evaluation of any other information that could be indicative of the value of the security.

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;

## The Gabelli Dividend Growth Fund

### Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)

- Level 2 — other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speeds, credit risk, etc.); and
- Level 3 — significant unobservable inputs (including the Board's determinations as to the fair value of investments).

A financial instrument's level within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of any input both individually and in the aggregate that is significant to the fair value measurement. The inputs or methodology used for valuing securities are not necessarily an indication of the risk associated with investing in those securities. The summary of the Fund's investments in securities by inputs used to value the Fund's investments as of December 31, 2017 is as follows:

	Valuation Inputs	
	Level 1 Quoted Prices	Total Market Value at 12/31/17
<b>INVESTMENTS IN SECURITIES:</b>		
<b>ASSETS (Market Value):</b>		
Common Stocks(a)	\$28,799,606	\$28,799,606
<b>TOTAL INVESTMENTS IN SECURITIES – ASSETS</b>	<b>\$28,799,606</b>	<b>\$28,799,606</b>

(a) Please refer to the Schedule of Investments for the industry classifications of these portfolio holdings.

The Fund did not have transfers between Level 1 and Level 2 during the year ended December 31, 2017. The Fund's policy is to recognize transfers among Levels as of the beginning of the reporting period.

There were no Level 3 investments held at December 31, 2017 or 2016.

#### Additional Information to Evaluate Qualitative Information.

**General.** The Fund uses recognized industry pricing services – approved by the Board and unaffiliated with the Adviser – to value most of its securities, and uses broker quotes provided by market makers of securities not valued by these and other recognized pricing sources. Several different pricing feeds are received to value domestic equity securities, international equity securities, preferred equity securities, and fixed income securities. The data within these feeds are ultimately sourced from major stock exchanges and trading systems where these securities trade. The prices supplied by external sources are checked by obtaining quotations or actual transaction prices from market participants. If a price obtained from the pricing source is deemed unreliable, prices will be sought from another pricing service or from a broker/dealer that trades that security or similar securities.

**Fair Valuation.** Fair valued securities may be common or preferred equities, warrants, options, rights, or fixed income obligations. Where appropriate, Level 3 securities are those for which market quotations are not available, such as securities not traded for several days, or for which current bids are not available, or which are restricted as to transfer. Among the factors to be considered to fair value a security are recent prices of comparable securities that are publicly traded, reliable prices of securities not publicly traded, the use of valuation models, current analyst reports, valuing the income or cash flow of the issuer, or cost if the preceding factors do not apply. The circumstances of Level 3 securities are frequently monitored to determine if fair valuation measures continue to apply.

## The Gabelli Dividend Growth Fund

### Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)

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The Adviser reports quarterly to the Board the results of the application of fair valuation policies and procedures. These include backtesting the prices realized in subsequent trades of these fair valued securities to fair values previously recognized.

**Foreign Securities.** The Fund may directly purchase securities of foreign issuers. Investing in securities of foreign issuers involves special risks not typically associated with investing in securities of U.S. issuers. The risks include possible revaluation of currencies, the inability to repatriate funds, less complete financial information about companies, and possible future adverse political and economic developments. Moreover, securities of many foreign issuers and their markets may be less liquid and their prices more volatile than securities of comparable U.S. issuers.

**Foreign Taxes.** The Fund may be subject to foreign taxes on income, gains on investments, or currency repatriation, a portion of which may be recoverable. The Fund will accrue such taxes and recoveries as applicable, based upon its current interpretation of tax rules and regulations that exist in the markets in which it invests.

**Securities Transactions and Investment Income.** Securities transactions are accounted for on the trade date with realized gain/(loss) on investments determined by using the identified cost method. Interest income (including amortization of premium and accretion of discount) is recorded on an accrual basis. Premiums and discounts on debt securities are amortized using the effective yield to maturity method. Dividend income is recorded on the ex-dividend date, except for certain dividends from foreign securities that are recorded as soon after the ex-dividend date as the Fund becomes aware of such dividends.

**Determination of Net Asset Value and Calculation of Expenses.** Certain administrative expenses are common to, and allocated among, various affiliated funds. Such allocations are made on the basis of each fund's average net assets or other criteria directly affecting the expenses as determined by the Adviser pursuant to procedures established by the Board.

In calculating the NAV per share of each class, investment income, realized and unrealized gains and losses, redemption fees, and expenses other than class specific expenses are allocated daily to each class of shares based upon the proportion of net assets of each class at the beginning of each day. Distribution expenses are borne solely by the class incurring the expense.

**Distributions to Shareholders.** Distributions to shareholders are recorded on the ex-dividend date. Distributions to shareholders are based on income and capital gains as determined in accordance with federal income tax regulations, which may differ from income and capital gains as determined under GAAP. These differences are primarily due to differing treatments of income and gains on various investment securities held by the Fund, timing differences, and differing characterizations of distributions made by the Fund. These book/ tax differences are either temporary or permanent in nature. To the extent these differences are permanent, adjustments are made to the appropriate capital accounts in the period when the differences arise. Permanent differences were primarily due to utilization of equalization. These reclassifications have no impact on the NAV of the Fund. For the year ended December 31, 2017, reclassifications were made to decrease net investment income by \$14,923 and increase distributions in excess of net realized gain on investments by \$460,245, with an offsetting adjustment to paid-in capital.

# The Gabelli Dividend Growth Fund

## Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)

The tax character of distributions paid during the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016 was as follows:

	<u>Year Ended</u> <u>December 31, 2017</u>	<u>Year Ended</u> <u>December 31, 2016</u>
<b>Distributions paid from:*</b>		
Ordinary income (inclusive of short term capital gains) .....	\$ 522,519	\$ 130,567
Net long term capital gains .....	<u>4,195,605</u>	<u>1,465,204</u>
Total distributions paid .....	<u>\$4,718,124</u>	<u>\$1,595,771</u>

\* Total distributions paid differs from the Statement of Changes in Net Assets due to the utilization of equalization.

**Provision for Income Taxes.** The Fund intends to continue to qualify as a regulated investment company under Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Code”). It is the policy of the Fund to comply with the requirements of the Code applicable to regulated investment companies and to distribute substantially all of its net investment company taxable income and net capital gains. Therefore, no provision for federal income taxes is required.

As of December 31, 2017, the components of accumulated earnings/losses on a tax basis were as follows:

Net unrealized appreciation on investments .....	\$6,905,110
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At December 31, 2017, the temporary differences between book basis and tax basis unrealized appreciation on investments were primarily due to deferral of losses from wash sales for tax purposes.

The Fund is permitted to carry capital losses forward for an unlimited period. Capital losses that are carried forward will retain their character as either short term or long term capital losses.

The following summarizes the tax cost of investments and the related net unrealized appreciation at December 31, 2017:

	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Gross</u> <u>Unrealized</u> <u>Appreciation</u>	<u>Gross</u> <u>Unrealized</u> <u>Depreciation</u>	<u>Net Unrealized</u> <u>Appreciation</u>
Investments.....	\$21,894,496	\$8,030,095	\$(1,124,985)	\$6,905,110

The Fund is required to evaluate tax positions taken or expected to be taken in the course of preparing the Fund’s tax returns to determine whether the tax positions are “more-likely-than-not” of being sustained by the applicable tax authority. Income tax and related interest and penalties would be recognized by the Fund as tax expense in the Statement of Operations if the tax positions were deemed not to meet the more-likely-than-not threshold. As of December 31, 2017, the Adviser has reviewed all open tax years and concluded that there was no impact to the Fund’s net assets or results of operations. The Fund’s federal and state tax returns for the prior three fiscal years remain open, subject to examination. On an ongoing basis, the Adviser will monitor the Fund’s tax positions to determine if adjustments to this conclusion are necessary.

**3. Investment Advisory Agreement and Other Transactions.** The Fund has entered into an investment advisory agreement (the “Advisory Agreement”) with the Adviser which provides that the Fund will pay the Adviser a fee, computed daily and paid monthly, at the annual rate of 1.00% of the value of its average daily net assets. In accordance with the Advisory Agreement, the Adviser provides a continuous investment program for the Fund’s portfolio, oversees the administration of all aspects of the Fund’s business and affairs, and pays the compensation of all Officers and Trustees of the Fund who are affiliated persons of the Adviser.

From January 1 through September 30, 2016, the Adviser has agreed to waive its advisory fee and/or reimburse



## The Gabelli Dividend Growth Fund

### Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)

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expenses of the Fund to the extent necessary to maintain the Fund's annualized total operating expenses (exclusive of brokerage fees, interest, taxes, acquired fund fees and expenses, and extraordinary expenses) through May 1, 2017 at no more than 2.00%, 2.00%, 2.75%, and 1.75%, respectively, of Class AAA, Class A, Class C, and Class I Shares' average daily net assets. Effective October 1, 2016, the Adviser modified this agreement with respect to Class I Shares to waive its advisory fee and/or reimburse expenses in excess of 1% (with the same foregoing exclusions) of the value of the average Class I daily net assets. In addition, the Fund has agreed, during the two year period following any waiver or reimbursement by the Adviser, to repay such amount to the extent, that after giving effect to the repayment, such adjusted annualized total operating expenses of the Fund would not exceed the foregoing respective percentage limitations, as amended, after giving effect to the recovery by the Adviser. At December 31, 2017, the cumulative amount which the Fund may repay the Adviser is \$53,831. The amended agreement is renewable annually.

For the year ended December 31, 2016, expiring December 31, 2018 .....	\$ 9,146
For the year ended December 31, 2017, expiring December 31, 2019 .....	<u>44,685</u>
	<u>\$53,831</u>

The Fund pays each Trustee who is not considered an affiliated person an annual retainer of \$3,000 plus \$500 for each Board meeting attended, and they are reimbursed for any out of pocket expenses incurred in attending meetings. All Board committee members receive \$500 per meeting attended and the Chairman of the Audit Committee and the Lead Trustee each receive a \$1,000 annual fee. A Trustee may receive a single meeting fee, allocated among the participating funds, for participation in certain meetings held on behalf of multiple funds. Trustees who are directors or employees of the Adviser or an affiliated company receive no compensation or expense reimbursement from the Fund.

**4. Distribution Plan.** The Fund's Board has adopted a distribution plan (the "Plan") for each class of shares, except for Class I Shares, pursuant to Rule 12b-1 under the 1940 Act. Under the Class AAA, Class A, and Class C Share Plans, payments are authorized to G.distributors, LLC (the "Distributor"), an affiliate of the Adviser, at annual rates of 0.25%, 0.25%, and 1.00%, respectively, of the average daily net assets of those classes, the annual limitations under each Plan. Such payments are accrued daily and paid monthly.

**5. Portfolio Securities.** Purchases and sales of securities during the year ended December 31, 2017, other than short term securities and U.S. Government obligations, aggregated \$16,598,221 and \$16,933,168, respectively.

**6. Transactions with Affiliates and Other Arrangements.** During the year ended December 31, 2017, the Fund paid \$16,492 in brokerage commissions on security trades to G.research, LLC, an affiliate of the Adviser. Additionally, the Distributor retained a total of \$1,035 from investors representing commissions (sales charges and underwriting fees) on sales and redemptions of Fund shares.

The cost of calculating the Fund's NAV per share is a Fund expense pursuant to the Advisory Agreement. The Adviser did not seek a reimbursement during the year ended December 31, 2017.

**7. Line of Credit.** The Fund participates in an unsecured line of credit, which expires on March 8, 2018 and may be renewed annually, of up to \$75,000,000 under which it may borrow up to 10% of its net assets from the custodian for temporary borrowing purposes. Borrowings under this arrangement bear interest at a floating rate equal to the higher of the overnight Federal Funds rate plus 125 basis points or the 30-day LIBOR plus

## The Gabelli Dividend Growth Fund

### Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)

125 basis points in effect on that day. This amount, if any, would be included in "Interest expense" in the Statement of Operations. At December 31, 2017, there was \$388,000 outstanding under the line of credit.

The average daily amount of borrowings outstanding under the line of credit during the year ended December 31, 2017 was \$3,189 with a weighted average interest rate of 2.85%. The maximum amount borrowed at any time during the year ended December 31, 2017 was \$388,000.

**8. Shares of Beneficial Interest.** The Fund offers four classes of shares – Class AAA Shares, Class A Shares, Class C Shares, and Class I Shares. Class AAA and Class I Shares are offered without a sales charge. Class A Shares are subject to a maximum front-end sales charge of 5.75%, and Class C Shares are subject to a 1.00% contingent deferred sales charge for one year after purchase.

The Fund imposes a redemption fee of 2.00% on all classes of shares that are redeemed or exchanged on or before the seventh day after the date of a purchase. The redemption fee is deducted from the proceeds otherwise payable to the redeeming shareholders and is retained by the Fund as an increase in paid-in capital. The redemption fees retained by the Fund during the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016, if any, can be found in the Statement of Changes in Net Assets under Redemption Fees.

Transactions in shares of beneficial interest were as follows:

	Year Ended December 31, 2017		Year Ended December 31, 2016	
	Shares	Amount	Shares	Amount
<b>Class AAA</b>				
Shares sold .....	56,207	\$ 1,063,102	61,697	\$ 1,073,262
Shares issued upon reinvestment of distributions .....	138,285	2,392,336	53,481	963,727
Shares redeemed .....	(172,903)	(3,280,381)	(282,562)	(4,890,099)
Net increase/(decrease) .....	<u>21,589</u>	<u>\$ 175,057</u>	<u>(167,384)</u>	<u>\$(2,853,110)</u>
<b>Class A</b>				
Shares sold .....	25,092	\$ 475,006	62,267	\$ 1,115,330
Shares issued upon reinvestment of distributions .....	31,929	551,095	10,053	180,750
Shares redeemed .....	(48,157)	(889,746)	(67,852)	(1,190,648)
Net increase .....	<u>8,864</u>	<u>\$ 136,355</u>	<u>4,468</u>	<u>\$ 105,432</u>
<b>Class C</b>				
Shares sold .....	30,219	\$ 534,295	122,627	\$ 2,069,082
Shares issued upon reinvestment of distributions .....	18,480	292,912	6,280	105,327
Shares redeemed .....	(81,133)	(1,429,966)	(72,556)	(1,197,437)
Net increase/(decrease) .....	<u>(32,434)</u>	<u>\$ (602,759)</u>	<u>56,351</u>	<u>\$ 976,972</u>
<b>Class I</b>				
Shares sold .....	71,449	\$ 1,375,373	83,790	\$ 1,483,847
Shares issued upon reinvestment of distributions .....	48,261	839,740	16,161	292,517
Shares redeemed .....	(87,263)	(1,646,482)	(83,633)	(1,466,874)
Net increase .....	<u>32,447</u>	<u>\$ 568,631</u>	<u>16,318</u>	<u>\$ 309,490</u>

**9. Indemnifications.** The Fund enters into contracts that contain a variety of indemnifications. The Fund's maximum exposure under these arrangements is unknown. However, the Fund has not had prior claims or losses pursuant to these contracts. Management has reviewed the Fund's existing contracts and expects the risk of loss to be remote.

## The Gabelli Dividend Growth Fund

### Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)

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**10. Subsequent Events.** Management has evaluated the impact on the Fund of all subsequent events occurring through the date the financial statements were issued and has determined that there were no subsequent events requiring recognition or disclosure in the financial statements.

# The Gabelli Dividend Growth Fund

## Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

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To the Shareholders and Board of Trustees of  
The Gabelli Dividend Growth Fund

### Opinion on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying statement of assets and liabilities of The Gabelli Dividend Growth Fund (the “Fund”), including the schedule of investments, as of December 31, 2017, and the related statement of operations for the year then ended, the statements of changes in net assets for each of the two years in the period then ended, the financial highlights for each of the five years in the period then ended and the related notes (collectively referred to as the “financial statements”). In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Fund at December 31, 2017, the results of its operations for the year then ended, the changes in its net assets for each of the two years in the period then ended and its financial highlights for each of the five years in the period then ended, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

### Basis for Opinion

These financial statements are the responsibility of the Fund’s management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Fund’s financial statements based on our audits. We are a public accounting firm registered with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (“PCAOB”) and are required to be independent with respect to the Fund in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements and financial highlights are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud. The Fund is not required to have, nor were we engaged to perform, an audit of the Fund’s internal control over financial reporting. As part of our audits, we are required to obtain an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Fund’s internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion.

Our audits included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. Our procedures included confirmation of securities owned as of December 31, 2017, by correspondence with the custodian and brokers or by other appropriate auditing procedures where replies from brokers were not received. Our audits also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

The signature of Ernst & Young LLP is written in a blue, cursive script.

We have served as the auditor of one or more Gabelli/GAMCO Funds investment companies since 1992.

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
February 28, 2018

## The Gabelli Dividend Growth Fund

### Additional Fund Information (Unaudited)

The business and affairs of the Fund are managed under the direction of the Fund's Board of Trustees. Information pertaining to the Trustees and officers of the Fund is set forth below. The Fund's Statement of Additional Information includes additional information about the Fund's Trustees and is available without charge, upon request, by calling 800-GABELLI (800-422-3554) or by writing to The Gabelli Dividend Growth Fund at One Corporate Center, Rye, NY 10580-1422.

<u>Name, Position(s) Address<sup>1</sup> and Age</u>	<u>Term of Office and Length of Time Served<sup>2</sup></u>	<u>Number of Funds in Fund Complex Overseen by Trustee</u>	<u>Principal Occupation(s) During Past Five Years</u>	<u>Other Directorships Held by Trustee<sup>3</sup></u>
<b>INTERESTED TRUSTEES<sup>4</sup>:</b>				
<b>Mario J. Gabelli, CFA</b> Trustee Age: 75	Since 1999	32	Chairman, Chief Executive Officer, and Chief Investment Officer— Value Portfolios of GAMCO Investors, Inc. and Chief Investment Officer— Value Portfolios of Gabelli Funds, LLC and GAMCO Asset Management Inc.; Director/ Trustee or Chief Investment Officer of other registered investment companies within the Gabelli/GAMCO Fund Complex; Chief Executive Officer of GGCP, Inc.; Executive Chairman of Associated Capital Group, Inc.	Director of Morgan Group Holdings, Inc. (holding company); Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of LICF Corp. (multimedia and communication services company); Director of CIBL, Inc. (broadcasting and wireless communications); Director of ICTC Group Inc. (communications)
<b>INDEPENDENT TRUSTEES<sup>5</sup>:</b>				
<b>Anthony J. Colavita</b> Trustee Age: 82	Since 1999	28	President of the law firm of Anthony J. Colavita, P.C.	—
<b>Vincent D. Enright</b> Trustee Age: 74	Since 1999	17	Former Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of KeySpan Corp. (public utility) (1994-1998)	Director of Echo Therapeutics, Inc. (therapeutics and diagnostics) (2008-2014); Director of the LGL Group, Inc. (diversified manufacturing) (2011-2014)
<b>Mary E. Hauck</b> Trustee Age: 75	Since 2000	11	Retired Senior Manager of the Gabelli-O'Connor Fixed Income Mutual Funds Management Company	—
<b>Kuni Nakamura</b> Trustee Age: 49	Since 2009	33	President of Advanced Polymer, Inc. (chemical manufacturing company); President of KEN Enterprises, Inc. (real estate)	—
<b>Werner J. Roeder</b> Trustee Age: 77	Since 1999	23	Retired physician; Former Vice President of Medical Affairs (Medical Director) of New York Presbyterian/Lawrence Hospital (1999-2014)	—

## The Gabelli Dividend Growth Fund Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

<u>Name, Position(s) Address<sup>1</sup> and Age</u>	<u>Term of Office and Length of Time Served<sup>2</sup></u>	<u>Principal Occupation(s) During Past Five Years</u>
<b>OFFICERS:</b>		
<b>Bruce N. Alpert</b> President Age: 66	Since 2003	Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of Gabelli Funds, LLC since 1988; Officer of registered investment companies within the Gabelli/GAMCO Fund Complex; Senior Vice President of GAMCO Investors, Inc. since 2008
<b>John C. Ball</b> Treasurer Age: 41	Since 2017	Treasurer of all the registered investment companies within the Gabelli/GAMCO Fund Complex since 2017; Vice President and Assistant Treasurer of AMG Funds, 2014-2017; Vice President of State Street Corporation, 2007-2014
<b>Agnes Mullady</b> Vice President Age: 59	Since 2006	Officer of all of the registered investment companies within the Gabelli/GAMCO Fund Complex since 2006; President and Chief Operating Officer of the Fund Division of Gabelli Funds, LLC since 2015; Chief Executive Officer of G.distributors, LLC since 2010; Senior Vice President of GAMCO Investors, Inc. since 2009; Vice President of Gabelli Funds, LLC since 2007; Executive Vice President of Associated Capital Group, Inc. since 2016
<b>Andrea R. Mango</b> Secretary Age: 45	Since 2013	Vice President of GAMCO Investors, Inc. since 2016; Counsel of Gabelli Funds, LLC since 2013; Secretary of all registered investment companies within the Gabelli/GAMCO Fund Complex since 2013; Vice President of all closed-end funds within the Gabelli/GAMCO Fund Complex since 2014; Corporate Vice President within the Corporate Compliance Department of New York Life Insurance Company, 2011-2013
<b>Richard J. Walz</b> Chief Compliance Officer Age: 58	Since 2013	Chief Compliance Officer of all of the registered investment companies within the Gabelli/GAMCO Fund Complex since 2013; Chief Compliance Officer of AEGON USA Investment Management, 2011-2013

<sup>1</sup> Address: One Corporate Center, Rye, NY 10580-1422, unless otherwise noted.

<sup>2</sup> Each Trustee will hold office for an indefinite term until the earliest of (i) the next meeting of shareholders, if any, called for the purpose of considering the election or re-election of such Trustee and until the election and qualification of his or her successor, if any, elected at such meeting, or (ii) the date a Trustee resigns or retires, or a Trustee is removed by the Board of Trustees or shareholders, in accordance with the Fund's By-Laws and Agreement and Declaration of Trust. Each officer will hold office for an indefinite term until the date he or she resigns or retires or until his or her successor is elected and qualified.

<sup>3</sup> This column includes only directorships of companies required to report to the SEC under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, i.e., public companies, or other investment companies registered under the 1940 Act.

<sup>4</sup> "Interested person" of the Fund as defined in the 1940 Act. Mr. Gabelli is considered an "interested person" because of his affiliation with Gabelli Funds, LLC which acts as the Fund's investment adviser.

<sup>5</sup> Trustees who are not interested persons are considered "Independent" Trustees.

**THE GABELLI DIVIDEND GROWTH FUND**  
**One Corporate Center**  
**Rye, NY 10580-1422**  
**Portfolio Management Team Biographies**

**Sarah Donnelly** joined Gabelli in 1999 as a junior research analyst working with the consumer staples and media analysts. Currently she is a Portfolio Manager of Gabelli Funds, LLC, a Senior Vice President and the Food, Household and Personal Care products research analyst for Gabelli & Company. In 2013, she was named the Health & Wellness research platform leader. Ms. Donnelly received a BS in Business Administration with a concentration in Finance and minor in History from Fordham University.

**Robert D. Leininger, CFA**, joined Gabelli in 1993 as a security analyst covering the beverage industry after earning his MBA from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania. Bob rejoined Gabelli in 2010. He holds the Chartered Financial Analyst designation and is a member of the Financial Analyst Society of Philadelphia. Bob is a magna cum laude graduate of Amherst College with a degree in Economics. Since September 27, 2010, Bob has been a Portfolio Manager of the Gabelli Dividend and Income Trust. (NYSE:GDV) and since June 1, 2015 a Portfolio Manager of the Gabelli Equity Trust (NYSE:GAB).

**Justin Bergner, CFA**, is currently a Vice President at Gabelli & Company and a portfolio manager for Gabelli Funds LLC, the Adviser. Justin rejoined Gabelli & Company in 2013 as a research analyst covering Diversified Industrials, Home Improvement, and Transport companies. He began his investment career at Gabelli & Company in 2005 as a metals and mining analyst, and subsequently spent five years at Axiom International Investors as a senior analyst focused on industrial and healthcare stocks. Prior to business school, Mr. Bergner worked in management consulting at both Bain & Company and Dean & Company. A Chartered Financial Analyst, Mr. Bergner graduated cum laude from Yale University with a BA in Economics & Mathematics and received an MBA in Finance and Accounting from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania.

**2017 TAX NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS (Unaudited)**

For the year ended December 31, 2017, the Fund paid to shareholders ordinary income distributions (comprised of net investment income and short term capital gains) totaling \$0.291, \$0.294, \$0.197, and \$0.489 per share for Class AAA, Class A, Class C, and Class I Shares, respectively and long term capital gains totaling \$4,195,605, or the maximum allowable. For the year ended December 31, 2017, 96.79% of the ordinary income distribution qualifies for the dividends received deduction available to corporations. The Fund designates 100% of the ordinary income distribution as qualified dividend income and 100% of ordinary income distribution was qualified short term capital gain pursuant to the Jobs and Growth Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2003. The Fund designates 2.80% of the ordinary income distribution as qualified interest income pursuant to the Tax Relief, Unemployment Reauthorization, and Job Creation Act of 2010.

**U.S. Government Income:**

The percentage of the ordinary income distribution paid by the Fund during the year ended December 31, 2017 which was derived from U.S. Treasury securities was 0.63%. Such income is exempt from state and local tax in all states. However, many states, including New York and California, allow a tax exemption for a portion of the income earned only if a mutual fund has invested at least 50% of its assets at the end of each quarter of the Fund's fiscal year in U.S. Government securities. The Fund did not meet this strict requirement in 2017. The percentage of U.S. Government securities held as of December 31, 2017 was 0%. Due to the diversity in state and local tax law, it is recommended that you consult your personal tax adviser as to the applicability of the information provided to your specific situation.

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All designations are based on financial information available as of the date of this annual report and, accordingly, are subject to change. For each item, it is the intention of the Fund to designate the maximum amount permitted under the Internal Revenue Code and the regulations thereunder.

We have separated the portfolio managers' 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 managers' commentary is unrestricted. Both the commentary and the financial statements, including the portfolio of investments, will be available on our website at [www.gabelli.com](http://www.gabelli.com).

## THE GABELLI DIVIDEND GROWTH FUND

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Net Asset Value per share available daily  
by calling 800-GABELLI after 7:00 P.M.

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



GABELLI  
FUNDS

# THE GABELLI DIVIDEND GROWTH FUND

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