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PREFERRED INCOME FUND INC

Form N-30B-2

October 22, 2004

FLAHERTY & CRUMRINE PREFERRED INCOME FUND

Dear Shareholder:

The Flaherty & Crumrine Preferred Income Fund ("PFD") produced a total return on Net Asset Value ("NAV") of 2.6%(1) during the three month period ending August 31, 2004. Since the beginning of the fiscal year on December 1, 2003, the total return on NAV has been 3.9%.

The NAV returns are consistent with our expectations for how the Fund should perform during periods of volatile long-term interest rates. As can be seen from the chart below, the yield on the 30 year U.S. Treasury bond has changed direction in each of the first three fiscal quarters of 2004 (changes in the value of the Fund's assets and hedge positions are closely correlated to the performance of this bond). The decline in rates during the first fiscal quarter contributed to strong returns for the period. The subsequent jump in rates during the second fiscal quarter resulted in negative returns for the period, as the Fund's hedges only partially offset the drop in value of the Fund's investment portfolio.

[GRAPHIC OMITTED]

EDGAR REPRESENTATION OF DATA POINTS USED IN PRINTED GRAPHIC AS FOLLOWS:

YIELD ON LONG-TERM U.S. TREASURY BOND

DATE	YIELD
12/01/03	5.155%
12/05/03	5.047%
12/12/03	5.090%
12/19/03	4.959%
12/26/03	4.969%
01/02/04	5.170%
01/09/04	4.964%
01/16/04	4.892%
01/23/04	4.938%
01/30/04	4.965%
02/06/04	4.928%
02/13/04	4.916%
02/20/04	4.954%
02/27/04	4.855%
03/05/04	4.743%
03/12/04	4.707%
03/19/04	4.718%
03/26/04	4.771%
04/02/04	4.972%
04/09/04	5.028%
04/16/04	5.174%
04/23/04	5.246%
04/30/04	5.281%
05/07/04	5.462%
05/14/04	5.500%
05/21/04	5.460%
05/28/04	5.345%
06/04/04	5.461%
06/11/04	5.474%
06/18/04	5.374%
06/25/04	5.336%
07/02/04	5.205%

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07/09/04	5.213%
07/16/04	5.121%
07/23/04	5.171%
07/30/04	5.203%
08/06/04	5.034%
08/13/04	5.008%
08/20/04	5.027%
08/27/04	5.016%
08/31/04	4.935%

As we began the most recent fiscal quarter, the Fund's hedge positions had appreciated significantly and were offsetting changes in value of the preferred portfolio almost dollar-for-dollar. Following the weakness in March and April we were unwilling to risk further declines in NAV, so we maintained the existing hedge position. If interest rates had continued to rise, the NAV of the Fund should have remained reasonably stable. That is exactly how the Fund's safety net hedging strategy is intended to work!

Shortly after the start of the third quarter, long-term interest rates reversed course and began a steady DECLINE, despite the fact that the Federal Reserve began INCREASING short-term rates in June (for a more detailed discussion of the economic conditions driving interest rates, see the "3rd Quarter Economic Update" on the Fund's website: WWW.PREFERREDINCOME.COM). As expected, the Fund's preferred securities appreciated throughout the period, while the hedge fell in value, dragging down overall performance. Initially this drag was substantial, but it lessened as rates continued to fall.

The Fund also benefited from a modest, favorable move in the relationship between the Fund's preferred securities and U.S. Treasuries. Simply stated, the price of our preferreds rose by more than the price of corresponding Treasury bonds during the quarter. This was the opposite of conditions in the previous quarter.

(1) Based on monthly data provided by Lipper Inc. Distributions are assumed to be reinvested at NAV in accordance with Lipper's practice.

NAV investment performance is comprised of principal change and income. The discussion to this point has focused on factors that impact the principal change. Let's turn to the other component of performance -- income. The Fund's investment portfolio continues to produce sufficient amounts of dividend and interest income to support the current monthly dividend. There are, however, some warning flags on the horizon.

The Federal Reserve's present policy of raising short-term interest rates directly affects the Fund by increasing the cost of its leverage. The Fed's policy has been in place for some time now, and we have factored it into our management strategy. However, changes in long-term interest rates and the resulting impact on income are more difficult to plan for. If long-term interest rates rise, the Fund's hedges should appreciate and enable the Fund to purchase additional income-producing securities; this additional income should tend to offset the higher leverage expense.

Things get more challenging if long-term rates decline. This so-called "bull flattening" scenario (short-term rates rise while long-term rates decline), initially puts a strain on distributable income. Once again, the cost of LEVERAGE goes up along with higher short-term rates, but now the income generated by the investment portfolio may at some point actually fall if issuers retire older preferred securities with relatively high coupons and replace them with new issues that pay a lower rate (the issuer is analogous to a homeowner

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Outstanding 10,243,165

MOODY'S RATINGS	% OF PORTFOLIO
AAA	0.6%
AA	5.6%
A	28.2%
BBB	43.2%
BB	15.8%
Not Rated	5.3%
Below Investment Grade*	15.0%

* BELOW INVESTMENT GRADE BY BOTH MOODY'S AND S&P

[GRAPHIC OMITTED]
EDGAR REPRESENTATION OF DATA POINTS USED IN PRINTED GRAPHIC AS FOLLOWS:

INDUSTRY CATEGORIES	% OF PORTFOLIO
Utilities	45%
Banks	28%
Financial Services	11%
Insurance	9%
Oil and Gas	4%
Other	3%

TOP 10 HOLDINGS BY ISSUER	% OF PORTFOLIO
J.P. Morgan Chase	6.5%
Lehman Brothers	5.2%
Interstate Power	5.1%
Citigroup	4.8%
GreenPoint Financial	3.8%
Zurich RegCaPS	3.7%
Duke Energy	3.7%
ABN AMRO	3.4%
Alabama Power	3.4%
SLM Corporation	2.9%

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% OF PORTFOLIO

Holdings Generating Qualified Dividend Income (QDI) for Individuals 76
 Holdings Generating Income Eligible for the Corporate Dividend Received Deduction (DRD) 76

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Flaherty &Crumrine Preferred Income Fund Incorporated
 PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS
 AUGUST 31, 2004 (UNAUDITED)

SHARES/\$ PAR

PREFERRED SECURITIES -- 93.6%

BANKING -- 28.4%

	ABN AMRO North America, Inc.:
3,625	6.46% Pfd., 144A***
4,000	6.59% Pfd., 144A***
400	BancWest Capital I, 9.50% Pfd. 12/01/30
\$750,000	Barnett Capital II, 7.95% 12/01/26 Capital Security
\$1,500,000	BT Preferred Capital Trust II, 7.875% 02/25/27 Capital Security
	Citigroup, Inc.:
128,927	5.864% Pfd., Series M
9,876	6.213% Pfd., Series G
51,500	6.231% Pfd., Series H
31,850	6.365% Pfd., Series F
	Cobank, ACB:
50,000	7.00% Pfd., 144A***
75,000	Adj. Rate Pfd., 144A***
\$500,000	Comerica (Imperial) Capital Trust I, 9.98% 12/31/26 Capital Security, Series B .
\$2,250,000	First Hawaiian Capital I, 8.343% 07/01/27 Capital Security, Series B
\$1,500,000	First Union Capital II, 7.95% 11/15/29 Capital Security
\$906,000	First Union Institutional Capital I, 8.04% 12/01/26 Capital Security
\$1,820,000	First Union Institutional Capital II, 7.85% 01/01/27 Capital Security
\$7,820,000	GreenPoint Capital Trust I, 9.10% 06/01/27 Capital Security
34,200	HSBC USA, Inc., \$2.8575 Pfd.
	J.P. Morgan Chase & Co.:
37,500	6.625% Pfd., Series H
147,775	Series A, Adj. Rate Pfd.
\$270,000	Keycorp Institutional Capital B, 8.25% 12/15/26 Capital Security
\$674,000	NB Capital Trust II, 7.83% 12/15/26 Capital Security
16,500	Regions Financial Trust I, 8.00% Pfd.
\$2,635,000	Republic New York Capital II, 7.53% 12/04/26 Capital Security
7,500	Wachovia Preferred Funding, 7.25% Pfd. Series A

FINANCIAL SERVICES -- 10.8%

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	The Bear Stearns Companies Inc.:	
63,100	5.49% Pfd., Series G
62,540	5.72% Pfd., Series F
6,975	Freddie Mac, 5.00% Pfd., Series F

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Flaherty & Crumrine Preferred Income Fund Incorporated
 PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)
 AUGUST 31, 2004 (UNAUDITED)

SHARES/\$ PAR

PREFERRED SECURITIES -- 93.6%
 FINANCIAL SERVICES -- (CONTINUED)

	Lehman Brothers Holdings, Inc.:	
85,400	5.67% Pfd., Series D	.....
154,475	5.94% Pfd., Series C	.....
20,000	6.50% Pfd., Series F	.....
123,805	SLM Corporation, 6.97% Pfd., Series A	.....

INSURANCE -- 7.8%

21,000	Everest Re Capital Trust II, 6.20% Pfd. Series B	.....
\$5,150,000	MMI Capital Trust I, 7.625% 12/15/27 Capital Security, Series B	.....
18	Premium Assets, Series A, Zurich RegCaPS Variable Inverse Pfd., Pvt.	.....
\$4,000,000	Provident Financing Trust I, 7.405% 03/15/38 Capital Security	.....
7,000	St. Paul Capital Trust I, 7.60% Pfd.	.....
	Zurich RegCaPS Funding Trust:	
4,250	6.01% Pfd., 144A***	.....
2,450	6.58% Pfd., Pvt., 144A***	.....

UTILITIES -- 40.3%

	Alabama Power Company:	
300	4.52% Pfd.	.....
5,734	4.72% Pfd.	.....
34,100	5.20% Pfd.	.....
275,000	5.30% Pfd.	.....
2,049	Appalachian Power Company, 5.92% Sinking Fund Pfd.	.....
26,125	Avista Corporation, \$6.95 Sinking Fund Pfd., Series K	.....
10,000	Baltimore Gas & Electric Company, 6.70% Pfd., Series 1993	.....
10,100	Boston Edison Company, 4.78% Pfd.
	Central Hudson Gas & Electric Corporation:	

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5,000	4.35% Pfd., Series D, Pvt.
900	4.96% Pfd., Series E, Pvt.
10,000	Central Illinois Light Company, 4.64% Pfd.
11,000	Central Illinois Public Service Corporation, 4.90% Pfd.
22,239	Central Vermont Public Service Corporation, 8.30% Pvt. Sinking Fund Pfd.
	Connecticut Light & Power Company:
700	4.50% Pfd., Pvt.
9,300	5.28% Pfd.
1,905	6.56% Pfd., Series 1968
15,778	\$3.24 Pfd.
2,100	Consolidated Edison Company of New York, 4.65% Pfd., Series C

 Flaherty & Crumrine Preferred Income Fund Incorporated
 PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)
 AUGUST 31, 2004 (UNAUDITED)

SHARES/\$ PAR

PREFERRED SECURITIES -- (CONTINUED)
 UTILITIES -- (CONTINUED)

	Duke Energy Corporation:
4,556	4.50% Pfd., Series C, Pvt.
26,851	6.75%, Sinking Fund Pfd, Series X
519	7.04% Pfd., Series Y
30,762	7.85% Pfd., Series S
	Duquesne Light Company:
7,675	4.10% Pfd.
6,330	4.15% Pfd.
910	4.20% Pfd.
25,775	6.50% Pfd.
5,490	\$2.10 Pfd. Series A
5,000	Energy East Capital Trust I, 8.25% Pfd.
	Entergy Arkansas, Inc.:
5,407	7.32% Pfd.
11,350	7.40% Pfd.
5,030	7.80% Pfd.
3,822	7.88% Pfd.
30,266	\$1.96 Pfd.
4,555	Entergy Gulf States, Inc., 7.56% Pfd.
	Entergy Louisiana, Inc.:
260	7.84% Pfd.
106,138	8.00% Pfd., Series 92
8,600	Entergy Mississippi, Inc., 7.44% Pfd.
10,800	Enterprise Capital Trust I, 7.44% Pfd., Series A
	Florida Power Company:
17,769	4.58% Pfd.
5,157	4.60% Pfd.
18,535	4.75% Pfd.
170	Florida Power & Light Company, 4.50% Pfd., Series A, Pvt.
50,000	Georgia Power Capital Trust V, 7.125% Pfd.

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2,010	Great Plains Energy, Inc., 4.50% Pfd.
55,000	HECO Capital Trust III, 6.50% Pfd.
\$3,500,000	Houston Light & Power, Capital Trust II, 8.257%, 02/01/37 Capital Security
2,717	Idaho Power Company, 7.68% Pfd., Series 1
8,000	Indiana Michigan Power Company, 6.875% Sinking Fund Pfd.
32,650	Indianapolis Power & Light Company, 5.65% Pfd.
384,000	Interstate Power & Light Company, 8.375% Pfd., Series B
14,250	Narragansett Electric Company, 4.64% Pfd.

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 Flaherty & Crumrine Preferred Income Fund Incorporated
 PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)
 AUGUST 31, 2004 (UNAUDITED)

SHARES/\$ PAR

PREFERRED SECURITIES -- (CONTINUED)
 UTILITIES -- (CONTINUED)

	Northern Indiana Public Service Company:
3,905	7.44% Pfd.
7,465	Series A, Adj. Rate Pfd.
6,170	Ohio Edison Company, 4.44% Pfd.
1,724	Ohio Power Company, 5.90% Sinking Fund Pfd.
	Pacific Enterprises:
27,430	\$4.50 Pfd.
10,000	\$4.75 Pfd., Series 53
	PacifiCorp:
200	5.40% Pfd.
1,225	\$4.56 Pfd.
14,542	\$4.72 Pfd.
14,388	\$7.48 Sinking Fund Pfd.
5,000	PECO Energy Company, \$4.40 Pfd., Series C
790	Pennsylvania Power Company, 7.75% Pfd.
11,194	Portland General Electric, 7.75% Sinking Fund Pfd.
19,209	Potomac Electric Power Company, \$3.40 Sinking Fund Pfd.
5,000	PPL Electric Utilities Corporation, 6.75% Pfd.
10,000	Public Service Company of New Mexico, 4.58% Pfd., Series 1965
29,050	REI Trust I, 7.20% Pfd. Series C
	San Diego Gas & Electric Company:
1,200	4.40% Pfd.
700	4.50% Pfd.
67,000	\$1.70 Pfd
21,250	\$1.7625 Sinking Fund Pfd.
100,000	Savannah Electric & Power Company, 6.00% Pfd.
	South Carolina Electric & Gas Company:
25,373	5.125% Purchase Fund Pfd., Pvt.
6,703	6.00% Purchase Fund Pfd., Pvt.
60,000	Southern Union Company, 7.55% Pfd.
\$750,000	TXU Electric Capital V, 8.175% 01/30/37 Capital Security
	TXU US Holdings Company:
10,000	\$4.00 Pfd., Series TES

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5,700	\$4.00 Pfd., Series TPL
1,000	\$4.84 Pfd.
	Union Electric Company:
14,150	4.56% Pfd.
4,000	\$7.64 Pfd.
12,500	Virginia Electric & Power Company, \$7.05 Pfd.

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 Flaherty & Crumrine Preferred Income Fund Incorporated
 PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)
 AUGUST 31, 2004 (UNAUDITED)

SHARES/\$ PAR

PREFERRED SECURITIES -- (CONTINUED)
 UTILITIES -- (CONTINUED)

	Wisconsin Power & Light Company:
1,220	4.50% Pfd.
333	4.80% Pfd.
13,000	6.20% Pfd.
	Xcel Energy, Inc.:
16,030	\$4.08 Pfd., Series B
26,200	\$4.10 Pfd., Series C
22,000	\$4.11 Pfd., Series D
17,750	\$4.16 Pfd., Series E
10,000	\$4.56 Pfd., Series G

OIL AND GAS -- 4.2%

17,200	Anadarko Petroleum Corporation, 5.46% Pfd.
7,000	Apache Corporation, 5.68% Pfd., Series B
5,985	EOG Resources, Inc., 7.195% Pfd., Series B
10,000	Lasmo America Limited, 8.15% Pfd., 144A***

REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT TRUST (REIT) -- 0.4%

40,000	Regency Centers Corporation, 7.25% Pfd., REIT
--------	---

MISCELLANEOUS INDUSTRIES -- 1.7%

13,600	E.I. Du Pont de Nemours and Company, \$4.50 Pfd., Series B
36,200	Farmland Industries, Inc., 8.00% Pfd., 144A***

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33,250 Ocean Spray Cranberries, Inc., 6.25% Pfd., 144A***
26,000 Touch America Holdings, \$6.875 Pfd.

TOTAL PREFERRED SECURITIES
(Cost \$204,148,080)

CORPORATE DEBT SECURITY -- 0.5%
UTILITIES -- 0.5%

45,000 Northern States Power Company, 8.00%

TOTAL CORPORATE DEBT SECURITY
(Cost \$1,107,375)

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Flaherty & Crumrine Preferred Income Fund Incorporated
PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)
AUGUST 31, 2004 (UNAUDITED)

SHARES/\$ PAR

COMMON STOCK AND CONVERTIBLE SECURITIES -- 4.9%
INSURANCE -- 0.7%

50,000 UnumProvident Corporation, 8.25% Mandatory Convertible, 05/16/06

UTILITIES -- 4.2%

107,500 Duke Energy Corporation
109,500 FPL Group, Inc., 8.50%, Mandatory Convertible, Series A, 02/16/05
30,000 TXU Corporation, 8.75%, Mandatory Convertible, 11/16/05

TOTAL COMMON STOCK AND CONVERTIBLE SECURITIES
(Cost \$11,120,311)

OPTION CONTRACTS -- 0.1%

1,450 October Put Options on December U.S. Treasury Bond Futures, Expiring 9/25/04

TOTAL OPTION CONTRACTS
(Cost \$1,152,956)

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 Flaherty & Crumrine Preferred Income Fund Incorporated
 PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)
 AUGUST 31, 2004 (UNAUDITED)

SHARES/\$ PAR

MONEY MARKET FUND -- 0.6%		
1,557,423 BlackRock Provident Institutional, TempFund		

TOTAL MONEY MARKET FUND		
(Cost \$1,557,423)		

TOTAL INVESTMENTS (Cost \$219,086,145**)		99.7%
OTHER ASSETS AND LIABILITIES (Net)		0.3%

Total Net Assets Available to Common and Preferred Stock		100.0%+

MONEY MARKET CUMULATIVE PREFERRED STOCK(TM) (MMP (R)) REDEMPTION VALUE		
ACCUMULATED UNDECLARED DISTRIBUTIONS TO MMP (R)		
TOTAL NET ASSETS AVAILABLE TO COMMON STOCK		

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 Flaherty & Crumrine Preferred Income Fund Incorporated
 FINANCIAL DATA
 PER SHARE OF COMMON STOCK (UNAUDITED)

	TOTAL DIVIDENDS PAID	NET ASSET VALUE	NYSE CLOSING PRICE
	-----	-----	-----
December 31, 2003 - Extra	\$0.0400	\$15.90	\$18.40
December 31, 2003	0.0950	15.90	18.40
January 31, 2004	0.0950	16.23	18.35
February 29, 2004	0.0950	16.37	18.97
March 31, 2004	0.0950	16.36	19.62
April 30, 2004	0.0950	15.94	16.11
May 31, 2004	0.0950	15.45	17.62
June 30, 2004	0.0950	15.29	17.03
July 31, 2004	0.0950	15.28	16.78
August 31, 2004	0.0950	15.56	17.90

Flaherty & Crumrine Preferred Income Fund Incorporated
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE TO COMMON STOCK(1)
FOR THE PERIOD FROM DECEMBER 1, 2003 THROUGH AUGUST 31, 2004 (UNAUDITED)

OPERATIONS:

Net investment income
Net realized loss on investments sold during the period
Change in net unrealized depreciation of investments held during the period
Distributions to Money Market Cumulative PreferredTM Stock Shareholders from net
investment income, including changes in accumulated undeclared distributions

NET INCREASE IN NET ASSETS FROM OPERATIONS

DISTRIBUTIONS:

Dividends paid from net investment income to Common Stock Shareholders(2)

TOTAL DISTRIBUTIONS TO COMMON STOCK SHAREHOLDERS

FUND SHARES TRANSACTIONS:

Increase from Common Stock Transactions

NET INCREASE IN NET ASSETS FROM FUND SHARE TRANSACTIONS

NET DECREASE IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE TO COMMON STOCK FOR THE
PERIOD

NET ASSETS AVAILABLE TO COMMON STOCK:

Beginning of period
Net decrease during the period

End of period

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FOR THE PERIOD FROM DECEMBER 1, 2003 THROUGH AUGUST 31, 2004 (UNAUDITED)
FOR A COMMON SHARE OUTSTANDING THROUGHOUT THE PERIOD.

PER SHARE OPERATING PERFORMANCE:

Net asset value, beginning of period

INVESTMENT OPERATIONS:

Net investment income

Net realized loss and unrealized depreciation on investments

DISTRIBUTIONS TO MMP(R)* SHAREHOLDERS:

From net investment income (including change in accumulated undeclared
dividends on MMP(R)*)

From net realized capital gains

Total from investment operations

DISTRIBUTIONS TO COMMON SHAREHOLDERS:

From net investment income

From net realized capital gains

Total distributions to Common Shareholders

Net asset value, end of period

Market value, end of period

Common shares outstanding, end of period

RATIOS TO AVERAGE NET ASSETS AVAILABLE TO COMMON STOCK

SHAREHOLDERS:

Net investment income +

Operating expenses

SUPPLEMENTAL DATA:++

Portfolio turnover rate

Total net assets available to Common and Preferred Stock, end of period (in 000's)

Ratio of operating expenses to total average net assets available to Common and
Preferred Stock

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[BEGIN SIDEBAR]

DIRECTORS

Martin Brody
Donald F. Crumrine, CFA
Robert M. Ettinger, CFA
David Gale
Morgan Gust
Robert F. Wulf, CFA

OFFICERS

Donald F. Crumrine, CFA
Chairman of the Board
and Chief Executive Officer
Robert M. Ettinger, CFA
President
R. Eric Chadwick, CFA
Chief Financial Officer,
Vice President, Treasurer
and Secretary
Peter C. Stimes, CFA
Chief Compliance
Officer and Vice President
Bradford S. Stone
Vice President
Laurie Lodolo
Assistant Compliance Officer,
Assistant Treasurer and
Assistant Secretary

INVESTMENT ADVISER

Flaherty & Crumrine Incorporated
e-mail: flaherty@pfdincome.com

QUESTIONS CONCERNING YOUR SHARES OF FLAHERTY & CRUMRINE PREFERRED INCOME FUND?

- o If your shares are held in a brokerage Account, contact your broker.
- o If you have physical possession of your shares in certificate form, contact the Fund's Transfer Agent & Shareholder Servicing Agent --
PFPC Inc.
P.O. Box 43027
Providence, RI 02940-3027
1-800-331-1710

THIS REPORT IS SENT TO SHAREHOLDERS OF FLAHERTY & CRUMRINE PREFERRED INCOME FUND INCORPORATED FOR THEIR INFORMATION. IT IS NOT A PROSPECTUS, CIRCULAR OR REPRESENTATION INTENDED FOR USE IN THE PURCHASE OR SALE OF SHARES OF THE FUND OR OF ANY SECURITIES MENTIONED IN THIS REPORT.

[END SIDEBAR]

[GRAPHIC OMITTED]
LIGHTHOUSE

FLAHERTY & CRUMRINE
=====

PREFERRED INCOME FUND

QUARTERLY
REPORT

AUGUST 31, 2004

web site: www.preferredincome.com