

CENTRAL SECURITIES CORP
 Form N-30B-2
 October 21, 2008

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CENTRAL SECURITIES CORPORATION

INTERIM REPORT TO STOCKHOLDERS
 AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2008

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To the Stockholders of

CENTRAL SECURITIES CORPORATION:

Financial data for the quarter ended September 30, 2008 prepared by management without audit by our independent registered public accounting firm and other pertinent information are submitted herewith.

Comparative market values of net assets are as follows:

| | Sept. 30, 2008 | June 30, 2008 | Dec. 31, 2007 |
|---|----------------|---------------|---------------|
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| Net assets..... | \$574,601,495 | \$638,415,329 | \$644,822,700 |
| Net assets per share of Common Stock..... | 27.08 | 29.86 | 30.00 |
| Shares of Common Stock outstanding..... | 21,219,382 | 21,376,782 | 21,385,800 |

Comparative operating results are as follows:

| | Nine months ended September | |
|--|-----------------------------|--------------|
| | 2008 | 2007 |
| | ----- | ----- |
| Net investment income..... | \$ 5,421,102 | \$ 7,704,000 |
| Per share of Common Stock..... | .25* | .25* |
| Net realized gain on sale of investments..... | 43,796,489 | 37,419,000 |
| Increase (decrease) in net unrealized appreciation of investments... | (111,179,937) | 13,242,000 |
| Increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations..... | (61,962,346) | 58,367,000 |

* Per-share data are based on the average number of Common shares

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outstanding during the nine-month period.

In the quarter ended September 30, 2008 the Corporation repurchased 157,400 shares of its Common Stock at an average price of \$23.84. The Corporation may from time to time purchase Common Stock in such amounts and at such prices as the Board of Directors may deem advisable in the best interests of stockholders. Purchases may be made on NYSE Alternext, the successor to the American Stock Exchange, or in transactions directly with stockholders.

Stockholders' inquiries are welcome.

Central Securities Corporation

WILMOT H. KIDD, PRESIDENT

630 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10111
October 15, 2008

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PRINCIPAL PORTFOLIO CHANGES
July 1 to September 30, 2008

(Common Stock unless specified otherwise)
(unaudited)

| | Number of Shares | | |
|--|------------------|-------------|-------------------------------|
| | Purchased | Sold | Held September 30, 2008 |
| Abbott Laboratories..... | | 10,000 | 100,000 |
| American International Group, Inc..... | 30,000 | 230,000 | -- |
| Analog Devices, Inc..... | | 40,000 | 390,000 |
| Brady Corporation..... | | 5,600 | 870,000 |
| Capital One Financial Corporation..... | | 90,000 | 250,000 |
| Intel Corporation..... | | 90,400 | 809,600 |
| Maxim Integrated Products, Inc..... | 310,000 | | 310,000 |
| McMoRan Exploration Corporation..... | 20,000 | | 670,000 |
| Murphy Oil Corporation..... | | 36,700 | 363,300 |
| Precision Castparts Corporation..... | 8,900 | | 100,000 |
| Rohm and Haas Company..... | | 140,000 (a) | -- |
| Roper Industries, Inc..... | | 50,000 | 300,000 |
| RSC Holdings Inc..... | 70,000 | | 70,000 |
| Sonus Networks, Inc..... | 230,000 | | 3,230,000 |
| The TriZetto Group, Inc..... | | 240,000 (a) | -- |
| White Mountains Insurance Group, Ltd.... | | 2,000 | -- |
| Xerox Corporation..... | 30,000 | | 930,000 |

(a) Merger.

TEN LARGEST INVESTMENTS
(unaudited)

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| | September 30, 2008 | | | |
|--|--------------------|---------|------------|----------|
| | Cost | Value | % of | Year Fir |
| | ----- | ----- | Net Assets | Acquire |
| | (millions) | | ----- | ----- |
| The Plymouth Rock Company, Inc..... | \$ 2.2 | \$140.0 | 24.4% | 1982 |
| Brady Corporation..... | 2.5 | 30.7 | 5.3 | 1984 |
| Coherent, Inc..... | 23.6 | 30.2 | 5.3 | 2007 |
| Agilent Technologies, Inc..... | 22.5 | 28.0 | 4.9 | 2005 |
| The Bank of New York Mellon Corporation..... | 15.5 | 26.9 | 4.7 | 1993 |
| Convergys Corporation..... | 25.3 | 25.6 | 4.5 | 1998 |
| Murphy Oil Corporation..... | 1.5 | 23.3 | 4.1 | 1974 |
| Devon Energy Corporation..... | 14.9 | 18.2 | 3.2 | 2007 |
| Roper Industries, Inc..... | 6.4 | 17.1 | 3.0 | 2003 |
| Dover Corporation..... | 13.0 | 16.2 | 2.8 | 2003 |

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dudley D. Johnson, Chairman
 Simms C. Browning
 Donald G. Calder
 Jay R. Inglis
 Wilmot H. Kidd
 C. Carter Walker, Jr.

OFFICERS

Wilmot H. Kidd, President
 Charles N. Edgerton, Vice President and Treasurer
 William E. Sheeline, Vice President
 Marlene A. Krumholz, Secretary

OFFICE

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www.centralsecurities.com

TRANSFER AGENT AND REGISTRAR

Computershare Trust Company, N.A.
 P. O. Box 43069, Providence, RI 02940-3069
 800-756-8200
www.computershare.com

CUSTODIAN

UMB Bank, N.A.
 Kansas City, MO

INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

KPMG LLP, New York

