

CLARK WILLIAM A  
Form 5  
February 14, 2006

**FORM 5**

**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0362  
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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).  
Form 3 Holdings Reported Form 4 Transactions Reported

**ANNUAL STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES**

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
**CLARK WILLIAM A**

(Last) (First) (Middle)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
**CORNERSTONE TOTAL RETURN FUND INC [CRF]**

3. Statement for Issuer's Fiscal Year Ended (Month/Day/Year)  
**12/31/2005**

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  
**(Check all applicable)**  
 Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)  
**Vice President**

6. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting  
**(check applicable line)**

**ASHEVILLE, NC 28805**

Form Filed by One Reporting Person  
 Form Filed by More than One Reporting Person

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned at end of Issuer's Fiscal Year (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Stock			3	(A) Amount (D) Price		D	

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

**Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.**

SEC 2270 (9-02)

**Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)**

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1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Price of Underlying Security (Instr. 5)
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## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
CLARK WILLIAM A 116 SONDDLEY PKWY. ASHEVILLE, NC 28805	X		Vice President	

## Signatures

/s/ William A. Clark  
03/08/2006

\*\*Signature of Reporting Person                      Date

## Explanation of Responses:

- \* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).
  - \*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- Includes (i) 3,074 shares acquired in exchange for securities of The Cornerstone Strategic Return Fund, Inc. pursuant to the merger on (1) October 25, 2002 of The Cornerstone Strategic Return Fund, Inc. with and into the Registrant, and (ii) an aggregate of 505.297 shares subsequently acquired pursuant to the Reporting Person's participation in the Registrant's Dividend Reinvestment Plan.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space provided is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.