

LAKELAND FINANCIAL CORP
 Form 4
 December 12, 2008

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287
 Expires: January 31, 2005
 Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

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

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
WELCH M SCOTT

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
LAKELAND FINANCIAL CORP [LKFN]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
12/11/2008

Director 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)

6 LONGWOOD COURT

(Street)

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
 Form filed by One Reporting Person
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

ELKHART, IN 46516

(City) (State) (Zip)

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

| 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 Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
| | | | Code | V Amount (A) or (D) Price | | | |
| Common Stock | 12/11/2008 | | G | V 4,000 D \$ 22.03 | 8,600 | D | |
| Common Stock | | | | | 1,400 | I | By Spouse |

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

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

| 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. Pr Deriv Secur (Instr | |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| | | | | Code | V (A) (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares |
| Phantom Stock | <u>(1)</u> | | | | | <u>(3)</u> | <u>(2)</u> | Common Stock | 11,769 |
| Stock Options (Right to Buy) | \$ 9.7188 | | | | | 02/09/2004 | 02/09/2009 | Common Stock | 1,150 |
| Stock Options (Right to Buy) | \$ 7.5625 | | | | | 02/08/2005 | 02/08/2010 | Common Stock | 1,200 |
| Stock Options (Right to Buy) | \$ 6.75 | | | | | 06/13/2005 | 06/13/2010 | Common Stock | 1,000 |
| Stock Options (Right to Buy) | \$ 6.8125 | | | | | 01/09/2006 | 01/09/2011 | Common Stock | 2,000 |
| Stock Options (Right to Buy) | \$ 17.185 | | | | | 12/09/2008 | 12/09/2013 | Common Stock | 1,000 |
| Stock Options (Right to Buy) | \$ 24.05 | | | | | 05/14/2013 | 05/14/2018 | Common Stock | 1,000 |

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address

Relationships

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Director 10% Owner Officer Other

WELCH M SCOTT
6 LONGWOOD COURT X
ELKHART, IN 46516

Signatures

Teresa A. Bartman,
Attorney-in-Fact 12/12/2008

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).
- (1) Each phantom stock unit exercises into 1 share of Common Stock.
 - (2) Phantom shares expire after the directors' retirement as a Board member.
 - (3) Phantom stock is exercisable after the directors' retirement as a Board member.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.

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