

LAKELAND FINANCIAL CORP
 Form 4
 January 09, 2012

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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)

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

6 LONGWOOD COURT

01/06/2012

(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 Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4)
				(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Stock	12/21/2011		G	V	16	D \$ 0	59,204	D
Common Stock							11,000	I By LLP
Common Stock							1,930	I By Spouse

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

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number.

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. Derivative Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	
						Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
						(3)	(2)		
						Code	V	(A)	(D)
Phantom Stock	(1)	01/06/2012		A	822	(3)	(2)	Common Stock	822
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			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
WELCH M SCOTT 6 LONGWOOD COURT ELKHART, IN 46516		X		

Signatures

Teresa A. Bartman,
Attorney-in-Fact

01/09/2012

**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.

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(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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