

LAKELAND FINANCIAL CORP
 Form 5
 February 11, 2009

FORM 5

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

OMB APPROVAL
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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 *
 DE BATTY JILL A

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. Statement for Issuer's Fiscal Year Ended (Month/Day/Year)
 12/31/2008

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
 Senior Vice President

1908 SHORT RIDGE RD
 (Street)

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

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

WARSAW, IN 46580

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

(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) Amount (A) or Price (D) | 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 Indirect Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Common Stock | 12/31/2008 | ∅ | J4 ⁽¹⁾ | 120 D \$ 21.58 | 3,031 | I | 401k Plan |
| Common Stock | ∅ | ∅ | ∅ | ∅ ∅ ∅ | 0 | D | ∅ |

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

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SEC 2270 (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. Amount or Number of Shares |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|-------------------------------|
| Stock Options (Right to Buy) | \$ 17.185 | Â | Â | Â | Â Â | 12/09/2008 12/09/2013 | Common Stock | 2,000 |
| Stock Options (Right to Buy) | \$ 24.05 | Â | Â | Â | Â Â | 05/14/2013 05/14/2018 | Common Stock | 2,000 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|-------------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| DE BATTY JILL A 1908 SHORT RIDGE RD WARSAW, IN 46580 | Â | Â | Â Senior Vice President | Â |

Signatures

Teresa A. Bartman,
Attorney-in-Fact

02/11/2009

__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) The number of shares represents equivalent shares based on the fair market value of the shares of Lakeland Financial Common Stock held by the unitized stock fund under the Lakeland Financial Corporation 401(k) Plan based on a report from the Plan Administrator dated as of December 31, 2008. The Reporting Person has an interest in the unitized fund, which holds shares of Lakeland Financial Corporation Common Stock and short-term investments.

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.