

CATHAY GENERAL BANCORP  
Form 4  
March 28, 2005

**FORM 4**

**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).

**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 \*  
CHANG MICHAEL M Y

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
CATHAY GENERAL BANCORP  
[CATY]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
03/24/2005

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

777 NORTH BROADWAY

(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

LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

(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                    | 03/24/2005                           |  | M                              | 400 A \$ 10.625   | 104,954.21 (1)  | D  |   |
| Common Stock                    | 03/24/2005                           |  | M                              | 1,200 A \$ 15.0475  | 106,154.21 (1)  | D  |   |
| Common Stock                    | 03/24/2005                           |  | M                              | 400 A \$ 16.275   | 106,554.21 (1)  | D  |   |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   | 132,944   | I  | As custodian for children                             |
|                                 |                                      |  |                                |   | 136,000   | I  |   |

|              |  |  |  |  |         |   |                                  |
|--------------|--|--|--|--|---------|---|----------------------------------|
| Common Stock |  |  |  |  |         |   | Spouse as custodian for children |
| Common Stock |  |  |  |  | 208,812 | I | Family Trust                     |

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

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(9-02)

**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) | Amount or Number of Shares |        |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|----------------------------|--------|
|  |  |                                      |  | Code                           | V (A) (D)   | Date Exercisable   | Expiration Date   | Title                      |        |
| Stock Option                               | \$ 10.625  | 03/24/2005                           |  | M                              | 400   | 01/20/2005   | 01/20/2010  | Common Stock               | 0      |
| Stock Option                               | \$ 15.0475   | 03/24/2005                           |  | M                              | 1,200   | 01/18/2006 <sup>(2)</sup>                                | 01/18/2011  | Common Stock               | 400    |
| Stock Option                               | \$ 16.275  | 03/24/2005                           |  | M                              | 400   | 02/21/2004 <sup>(3)</sup>                                | 02/21/2012  | Common Stock               | 1,600  |
| Stock Option                               | \$ 19.925  |                                      |  |                                |   | 01/16/2004 <sup>(4)</sup>                                | 01/16/2013  | Common Stock               | 3,800  |
| Stock Option                               | \$ 24.8  |                                      |  |                                |   | 11/20/2004 <sup>(5)</sup>                                | 11/20/2013  | Common Stock               | 11,000 |
| Stock Option                               | \$ 37  |                                      |  |                                |   | 02/17/2006 <sup>(6)</sup>                                | 02/17/2015  | Common Stock               | 3,500  |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships |           |         |       |
|--------------------------------|---------------|-----------|---------|-------|
|                                | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
|                                | X             |           |         |       |

CHANG MICHAEL M Y  
777 NORTH BROADWAY  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

## Signatures

Michael M.Y.  
Chang

03/28/2005

\*\*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) Includes 67.36 shares acquired through dividend reinvestment year-to-date.
- (2) The option vests in 1 annual installment beginning 1/18/06.
- (3) The option vests in 4 equal annual installments beginning 2/21/04.
- (4) The option vests in 5 equal annual installments beginning 1/16/04.
- (5) The option vests in 5 equal annual installments beginning 11/20/04.
- (6) The option vests in 5 equal annual installments beginning 2/17/06.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space 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.