

Rust Steven W
 Form 4
 July 03, 2012

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 *
 Rust Steven W

(Last) (First) (Middle)
 10 SOUTH 1ST AVENUE
 (Street)

WALLA WALLA, WA 99362
 (City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 BANNER CORP [BANR]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 07/02/2012

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)
 Executive VP, Banner Bank

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

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 Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(D)	Price
Common Stock, \$.01 par value per share	07/02/2012		A		2,000	A	\$ 0 (1)
					2,982	(2)	D

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)

Table with 9 columns: 1. Title of Derivative Security, 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security, 3. Transaction Date, 3A. Deemed Execution Date, 4. Transaction Code, 5. Number of Derivative Securities, 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date, 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities, 8. Price of Derivative Security, 9. Number of Derivative Securities. Includes sub-headers for Date Exercisable and Expiration Date, and Amount or Number of Shares.

Reporting Owners

Table with 2 columns: Reporting Owner Name / Address, Relationships. Includes sub-headers: Director, 10% Owner, Officer, Other. Example entry: Rust Steven W, 10 SOUTH 1ST AVENUE, WALLA WALLA, WA 99362, Executive VP, Banner Bank.

Signatures

Table with 2 columns: Signature, Date. Entry: /s/Steven W. Rust, 07/03/2012. Legend: **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) Award pursuant to 2012 Restricted Stock Plan; shares vest ratably over three years beginning 7/2/13.
(2) Includes direct ownership of 342 shares through Deferred Compensation Plan and 256 shares through Employee Stock Ownership Plan.
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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