

CRITTENDEN GARY L
 Form 5
 February 14, 2006

FORM 5

OMB APPROVAL

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

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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 *
 CRITTENDEN GARY L
 (Last) (First) (Middle)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 AMERICAN EXPRESS CO [AXP]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer
 (Check all applicable)

3 WORLD FINANCIAL CENTER, 200 VESEY ST, AMERICAN EXPRESS TOWER
 (Street)

3. Statement for Issuer's Fiscal Year Ended (Month/Day/Year)
 12/31/2005

Director 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)
 Member, Global Leadership Team

NEW YORK, NY 10285
 (City) (State) (Zip)

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting (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) (A) or (D) Price	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 Ownership (Instr. 4)
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Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

SEC 2270 (9-02)

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

1. Title of Derivative	2. Conversion	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if	4. Transaction	5. Number	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities	8. Price
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Security (Instr. 3)	or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	any (Month/Day/Year)	Code (Instr. 8)	of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 3 and 4)						
				(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares			
Phantom Stock Units	\$ 0 ⁽¹⁾	01/27/2005 ⁽³⁾	Â		J ⁽³⁾	71	Â	Â ⁽²⁾	Â ⁽²⁾	Common Stock	71	\$ 0

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
CRITTENDEN GARY L 3 WORLD FINANCIAL CENTER 200 VESEY ST, AMERICAN EXPRESS TOWER NEW YORK, NY 10285	Â	Â	Â	Member, Global Leadership Team

Signatures

/s/ Stephen P. Norman,
attorney-in-fact

02/14/2006

__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 phantom stock converts into common stock on a one-for-one basis.
- (2) The units are to be settled following the reporting person's retirement or other termination of service.
- (3) The reported phantom stock units were acquired under the Company's Supplemental Retirement Plan on 1/27/2005, 4/22/2005, 7/28/2005, and 10/11/2005, at prices ranging from \$49.18 to \$55.47 per share.

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.