

Wilhite Clayton E  
 Form 4  
 September 06, 2012

**FORM 4** UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
 Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287  
 Expires: January 31, 2015  
 Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

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 \*  
 Wilhite Clayton E

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
 CARROLS RESTAURANT GROUP, INC. [TAST]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
 08/29/2012

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

C/O CARROLS RESTAURANT GROUP, INC., 968 JAMES ST.

(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

SYRACUSE, NY 13203

(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 Ownership (Instr. 4)
				(A) or (D)	Price		
				Code	V	Amount	
Common Stock, \$0.01 par value	08/29/2012		A	4,605	<u>A</u> <u>(1)</u>	<u>\$ 0</u> <u>(1)</u>	69,370 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)

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. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of Derivative Securities Owned Following Transaction (Instr. 5)
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares

## Reporting Owners

**Reporting Owner Name / Address**

**Relationships**

Director    10% Owner    Officer    Other

Wilhite Clayton E  
C/O CARROLS RESTAURANT GROUP, INC.  
968 JAMES ST.  
SYRACUSE, NY 13203

X

## Signatures

/s/ Clayton E.                      09/06/2012  
Wilhite

\_\_Signature of                      Date  
Reporting Person

## 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 Shares were granted to the Reporting Person pursuant to the Issuer's 2006 Stock Incentive Plan, as amended, and are subject to restrictions on transfer. The stock award reported herein shall vest and the restrictions shall lapse as follows: one-fifth (1/5) of the Shares reported herein shall vest and the restrictions shall lapse on each of August 29, 2013, August 29, 2014, August 29, 2015, August 29, 2016 and August 29, 2017, provided that the Reporting Person has continuously remained a director of the Issuer. Any unvested shares underlying the stock award reported herein will be immediately forfeited upon the Reporting Person ceasing to be a director. The stock award reported herein is not transferable unless vested.

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.