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<SROS>NASDAQ
<REPORTING-OWNER>
0001182612

Officer
</REPORTING-OWNER>

<SUBJECT-COMPANY>
Ligand Pharmaceuticals Incorporated
0000886163

<IRS-NUMBER>77-0160744
</SUBJECT-COMPANY>

<PERIOD>04/29/03

4

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

FORM 4
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.
Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue.

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person(s)
Groves, Eric S.
10275 Science Center Drive

San Diego, California 92121

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
Ligand Pharmaceuticals Incorporated (LGND)

3. I.R.S. Identification Number of Reporting Person, if an entity (Voluntary)

4. Statement for Month/Day/Year
04/29/2003

5. If Amendment, Date of Original (Month/Day/Year)

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

Director 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)
Vice President,
Project Management

7. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)

Form filed by One Reporting Person
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

<TABLE>
<CAPTION>

Table I Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1) Title of Security	2) Trans- action Date (Month/ Day/Year)	3) Trans- action or Code V	4) Securities Acquired(A) or Disposed of (D) A or Amount	5) Amount of Securities D or Price	6) Amount of Indirect Beneficial Ownership End of Month I	7) Nature of
<S> Common Stock	<C> 03/31/03	<C> J	<C> 232	<C><C> A \$4.6495	<C> 3,540	<C><C> D Direct

<CAPTION>

Table II (PART 1) Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (Columns 1 through 6)

1) Title of Derivative Security	2) Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3) Trans- action Date	4) Trans- action Code V	5) Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) A D	6) Date Exercisable and Expiration Date Exercisable Expiration
<S> Incentive Stock Option (right to buy)	<C> \$9.2500	<C> 04/29/03	<C> A	<C> 20,000	<C> (1) 04/29/13

<CAPTION>

Table II (PART 2) Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (Columns 1,3 and 7 through 11)

1) Title of Derivative Security	2) Transaction Date	3) Trans- action of Underlying Securities	7) Title and Amount or Number of Shares	8) Price of Derivative Security	9) Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned at End of Month	10) D or I	11) Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership
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<S>	<C>	<C>	<C>	<C>	<C>	<C>	<C>
Incentive Stock Option (right to buy)		04/29/03	Common Stock		20,000		20,000 D Direct

<FN>
Explanation of Responses:

(1)
Grant to reporting person of options, exercisable over a 4-year period measured from the date of grant, 12-1/2% after six months, then 1/48th of the Option Shares per month thereafter. The date of grant is 4/29/03.

</FN>
</TABLE>
SIGNATURE OF REPORTING PERSON
/S/ By: Barbara J. Olson
For: Eric S. Groves
DATE 05/01/03