

TRUST FBO ALTSCHUL CHARLES UAD 12 15 72  
 Form 5  
 January 28, 2009

# FORM 5

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

OMB APPROVAL

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 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 \*  
 TRUST FBO ALTSCHUL  
 CHARLES UAD 12 15 72

(Last) (First) (Middle)

C/O OVERBROOK  
 MANAGEMENT CORP, 122  
 EAST 42ND STREET SUITE 2500

(Street)

NEW YORK, NY 10168-2500

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
 GENERAL AMERICAN  
 INVESTORS CO INC [GAM]

3. Statement for Issuer's Fiscal Year Ended (Month/Day/Year)  
 12/31/2008

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)  
 Trustee/President & CEO - GAM

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)	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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Stock	12/26/2008	12/26/2008	J <sup>(1)</sup>	82 A	\$ 15.55	2,989 D	Indirect Beneficial Ownership

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

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