

TRUST FBO ARTHUR G ALTSCHUL JR UAD 11/20/64  
 Form 5  
 February 05, 2009

# FORM 5

**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).  
 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 ARTHUR G  
 ALTSCHUL JR UAD 11/20/64

(Last) (First) (Middle)

122 42ND STREET STE  
 25000, C/O OVERBROOK  
 MANAGEMENT CORP

(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 is a director

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 Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Stock	12/26/2008	Â	J <sup>(1)</sup>	1,916 A	\$ 15.55	69,656 D	Â

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

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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. of D S B O E Is Fi (I
						Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
						(A)	(D)		

## Reporting Owners

### Reporting Owner Name / Address

### Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

TRUST FBO ARTHUR G ALTSCHUL JR UAD 11/20/64  
122 42ND STREET STE 25000  
C/O OVERBROOK MANAGEMENT CORP  
NEW YORK, NY 10168-2500

Â X      Â      Â      Trustee is a director

## Signatures

Arthur G.      02/05/2009  
Altschul, Jr.

\_\_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) Dividends received as shares

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.