

TRUST F B O ALTSCHUL STEPHEN F U A D 10 22 58
 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 F B O ALTSCHUL
 STEPHEN F U A D 10 22 58
 (Last) (First) (Middle)

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

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

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

C/O OVERBROOK MANAGEMENT CORP., 12 EAST 42ND STREET - SUITE 2500
 (Street)

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting (check applicable line)

NEW YORK, NY 10168
 (City) (State) (Zip)

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		J ⁽¹⁾	1,525 A	\$ 15.55	55,427 D	

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

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