

ALTSCHUL ARTHUR G JR  
Form 4  
December 19, 2005

**FORM 4** 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).

**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 \*  
ALTSCHUL ARTHUR G JR

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)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
122 EAST 42ND STREET, SUITE 2500  
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
12/19/2005

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

NEW YORK, NY 10168

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

(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)	Amount or Price			
General American Investors Company, Inc. 5.95% Preferred B	12/19/2005		S	8,600	D	\$ 24 0	I <sup>(1)</sup>	Director is General Partner
General American Investors Company, Inc. 5.95%						4,000	I	Trust <sup>(2)</sup>

Preferred B General American Investors Company, Inc. 5.95% Preferred B	71,400	I	Trusts <sup>(3)</sup>
General American Investors Company, Inc. Common Stock	1,619	D	
General American Investors Company, Inc. Common Stock	55,634	I	Trusts <sup>(2)</sup>
General American Investors Company, Inc. Common Stock	17,066	I	Trusts <sup>(4)</sup>
General American Investors Company, Inc. Common Stock	121,929	I	Trusts <sup>(3)</sup>

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

**Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.**

SEC 1474  
(9-02)

**Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**  
(e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security	2. Conversion or Exercise	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any	4. Transaction Code	5. Number of	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying	8. Price of Derivative Security	9. Nu Deriv Secur
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(Instr. 3)	Price of Derivative Security	(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	(Instr. 5)	Bene- Own- Follo- Repo- Trans- (Instr.	
				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

ALTSCHUL ARTHUR G JR  
122 EAST 42ND STREET, SUITE 2500 X  
NEW YORK, NY 10168

## Signatures

Arthur G.  
Altschul, Jr. 12/19/2005

\*\*Signature of  
Reporting Person Date

## 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) Director is GP
- (2) Director is a trustee of various trusts
- (3) Director is a trustee and a beneficiary of various trusts.
- (4) Director is a beneficiary of various trusts.

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.