

BUTTENWIESER LAWRENCE BENJAMIN
 Form 4
 March 17, 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 *
 BUTTENWIESER LAWRENCE BENJAMIN

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)
 575 MADISON AVENUE
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 03/15/2005

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

NEW YORK, NY 10022
 (City) (State) (Zip)

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

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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				Code V Amount (D) Price			
Common Stock	03/15/2005		S	3,000 D \$ 31.4767	251,723	D	
Common Stock					460,781	I	By Trust (1)

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)

Table with 9 columns: 1. Title of Derivative Security, 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security, 3. Transaction Date, 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any, 4. Transaction Code, 5. Number of Derivative Securities, 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date, 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities, 8. Price of Derivative Security, 9. Number of Derivative Securities. Includes sub-headers for Date Exercisable, Expiration Date, Title, Amount or Number of Shares, and Code V (A) (D).

Reporting Owners

Table with 2 main columns: Reporting Owner Name / Address and Relationships. Relationships sub-columns: Director, 10% Owner, Officer, Other. Entry: BUTTENWIESER LAWRENCE BENJAMIN, 575 MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK, NY 10022, Director: X.

Signatures

/s/Lawrence B. Buttenwieser 03/17/2005
**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) I have a beneficial interest in these securities, which are held in a Trust of which I am a Co-Trustee.

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.