

Lynch Sally A
 Form 5
 January 20, 2012

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 *
 Lynch Sally A
 (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)
 Vice President

3. Statement for Issuer's Fiscal Year Ended (Month/Day/Year)
 12/31/2011

GENERAL AMERICAN INVESTORS COMPANY, INC., 100 PARK AVENUE - 35TH FLOOR
 (Street)

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

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

NEW YORK, NY 10017
 (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 Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|--|-------------------------------------|
| Common Stock | 12/31/2011 | | J ⁽¹⁾ | 2,596 A \$ ⁽¹⁾ | 30,101 | I | By Thrift Plan Trust ⁽²⁾ |

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

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