For: General American Investors Company, Inc.

450 Lexington Avenue

New York, New York 10017

Company Contact: Eugene L. DeStaebler, Jr. May 17, 2005

Vice-President Administration

(212) 916-8420 <u>For Immediate Release</u>

Eugene Stark Named Vice-President of General American Investors Company

New York, May 17, 2005 – Eugene S. Stark has been appointed Vice-President of General American Investors Company, Inc.

Mr. Stark, 47, a CPA, who joined General American earlier this month, served as a vice president of Prudential Financial, Inc. (1987-2004) with increasing responsibilities for accounting and financial management in the area of regulated investment products, including closed-end funds. Prior thereto, he gained diverse audit experience at Deloitte & Touche (1982-1987). Earlier this year he served as the chief financial officer of a business development company with investments in the energy industry.

Mr. Stark received a B.S. in Accounting, cum laude, from Rider University and an M.B.A. in Finance from Rutgers University. He and his wife, Donna, and their two children reside in Bridgewater, NJ.

General American Investors (NYSE symbol GAM), a closed-end investment company founded in 1927, has been publicly traded since its inception and has been listed on the NYSE since 1930. The objective of the Company is long-term capital appreciation through investment in companies with above average growth potential. General American has total net assets of approximately \$1 billion applicable to its 28.9 million shares of common stock outstanding. The aggregate liquidation value of the Company's preferred stock is \$200 million. Its preferred shares (symbol GAM Pr B) are also listed on the NYSE.