

For: General American Investors Company, Inc.
100 Park Avenue
New York, NY 10017

Company Contact: Eugene S. Stark
Vice-President, Administration
(212) 916-8447

August 6, 2012
For Immediate Release

**GENERAL AMERICAN INVESTORS FILES CERTIFIED SHAREHOLDER REPORT
FOR PERIOD ENDED JUNE 30, 2012**

NEW YORK, - Aug. 6 - General American Investors Company, Inc., a closed-end investment company listed on the New York Stock Exchange (GAM), filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) its Certified Shareholder Report (Form N-CSR) for the six month period ended June 30, 2012. The Form N-CSR contains the Company's June 30, 2012 Semi-Annual Report and is available at the SEC's website: www.sec.gov and the Company's website: www.generalamericaninvestors.com. The Semi-Annual Report is expected to be mailed to stockholders shortly.

Financial Information

The Semi-Annual Report indicates that as of or for the six months ended:

	<u>6/30/12</u>	<u>6/30/11</u>
Net Assets Applicable to Common Stock	\$915,445,667	\$983,696,903
Net Assets Per Common Share	\$31.95*	\$32.64
Net Investment Income	\$2,467,142	\$2,058,149
Per Share	\$.09	\$.07
Net Gain on Investments	\$62,776,373	\$44,369,139
Per Share	\$2.28	\$1.50
Common Shares Outstanding	28,650,132	30,142,086

* After dividends and distributions of \$.50 per share paid in December 2011.

Securities Transactions and Positions

The Company reported that it made a new commitment during the second quarter of 2012 in Ford Motor Company and increased its holding in Unilever N.V.

The Company's position in Wal-Mart was eliminated, while reductions were made in the holdings of PepsiCo, Teradata and TJX. The largest stock holdings in the Company's portfolio at June 30, 2012 included: The TJX Companies, Inc., QUALCOMM Incorporated, Epoch Holding Corporation, Costco Wholesale Corp., and Diageo plc ADR.

###