

Great American Group, Inc.  
Form 10-K/A  
April 30, 2010

**UNITED STATES**  
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

**FORM 10-K/A**

(Mark One)

ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934  
For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2009

or

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934  
For the transition period from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Commission File Number 333-159644

**GREAT AMERICAN GROUP, INC.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

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**Delaware**  
(State or Other Jurisdiction of

**27-0223495**  
(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

Incorporation or Organization)

**21860 Burbank Boulevard, Suite 300 South**

**Woodland Hills, CA**  
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

**91367**  
(Zip Code)

**(818) 884-3737**

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

**Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act: None**

**Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: None**

(Title of Class)

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. Yes:  No:

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Act. Yes:  No:

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes:  No:

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Website, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T during the preceding 12 months (or such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes:  No:

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K (§ 229.405 of this chapter) is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer or a smaller reporting company. See definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer  Accelerated filer   
Non-accelerated filer  (Do not check if a smaller reporting company) Smaller reporting company

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes:  No:

The registrant's common stock was not publicly traded as of the last business day of its most recently completed second quarter.

The number of shares outstanding of the registrant's Common Stock as of April 21, 2010 was 30,318,705.



**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

The undersigned registrant hereby amends in its entirety Part III of its Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2009 as set forth in the pages attached hereto. This Form 10-K/A does not reflect events occurring after the filing of the original Annual Report on Form 10-K and, other than the amendment described above, does not modify or update the disclosures in the original Annual Report on Form 10-K in any way.

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**PART III**
**Item 10. Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance.**

We have a classified board of directors (the Board) consisting of two Class I directors (Bryant R. Riley and Mark D. Klein), three Class II directors (Hugh J. Hilton, Michael J. Levitt and Harvey M. Yellen), and two Class III directors (Andrew Gumaer and Matthew J. Hart), who will serve until the annual meetings of stockholders to be held in 2010, 2011 and 2012, respectively, or until their respective successors are duly elected and qualified. The following table provides the name, age and position(s) of each of our directors as of April 30, 2010:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Committees</b>
<i>Class I Directors</i>		
Bryant R. Riley	43	None
Mark D. Klein	47	Compensation Committee, Corporate Governance Committee
<i>Class II Directors</i>		
Hugh G. Hilton	58	Audit Committee, Compensation Committee*, Corporate Governance Committee
Michael J. Levitt	51	None
Harvey M. Yellen	63	None
<i>Class III Directors</i>		
Andrew Gumaer	49	None
Matthew J. Hart	58	Audit Committee*, Compensation Committee, Corporate Governance Committee*

\* Chairman of the respective committee.

**Bryant R. Riley** has served as a director since August 2009. Mr. Riley has served as the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of B. Riley & Co., LLC, a stock brokerage firm, since founding the firm in 1997. Mr. Riley also has served as the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Riley Investment Management, LLC, an investment management company, since founding the company in 2000. Mr. Riley serves on the boards of directors of Alliance Semiconductor Corp., DDI Corp., Trans World Entertainment Corp. and LCC International. He also served on the board of directors of Aldila, Inc. from 2003 to February 2010, Celeritek, Inc. from 2003 to 2007, Integrated Silicon Solutions, Inc. from 2006 to 2008, Mossimo, Inc. from 2005 to 2006, Silicon Storage Technology, Inc. from 2008 to 2009 and Transmeta Corporation from 2008 to 2009. From 1996 to 1997, Mr. Riley was an equity salesman with Dabney/Resnick Inc., a stock brokerage firm. From 1995 to 1996, Mr. Riley managed the institutional equity department of Gaines, Berland Inc., a stock brokerage firm. From 1993 to 1995, Mr. Riley co-managed the equity department of Dabney/Resnick Inc. In 1991, Mr. Riley co-founded Huberman Riley, a brokerage firm based in Dallas, Texas, and served as its President until 1993. From 1989 to 1991, Mr. Riley served in various positions with LH Friend, Weinress & Frankson, an Irvine, California based stock brokerage firm. Mr. Riley received his B.S. in Finance from Lehigh University. Mr. Riley's experience and expertise in the investment banking industry provides our Board with valuable insight into the capital markets. Mr. Riley's extensive experience serving on other public company boards provides important resource for our Board.

**Mark D. Klein** has served as a director since July 2009. Mr. Klein is a registered representative at Ladenburg Thalmann & Co. Inc. From February 2007 to July 2009, Mr. Klein served as the Chief Executive Officer, President and Director of Alternative Asset Management Corporation. From April 2007 until August 2008, Mr. Klein was the Chief Executive Officer of Hanover Group US LLC, an indirect U.S. subsidiary of the Hanover Group. Prior to joining Hanover in 2007, Mr. Klein was Chairman of Ladenburg Thalmann & Co., Inc. From March 2005 to

September 2006, he was Chief Executive Officer and President of Ladenburg Thalmann Financial Services, Inc., the parent of Ladenburg Thalmann & Co., Inc., and Chief Executive Officer of Ladenburg Thalmann Asset Management Inc., a subsidiary of Ladenburg Financial Services, Inc. Prior to joining Ladenburg Thalmann, from June 2000 to March 2005 Mr. Klein served as the Chief Executive Officer and President of NBGI Asset Management, Inc. and NBGI Securities, which were the U.S. subsidiaries of the National Bank of Greece, the largest financial institution in Greece. Prior to joining NBGI, Mr. Klein was President and Founder of Newbrook Capital Management. Prior to the formation of Newbrook Capital Management, Mr. Klein was a Senior Portfolio Manager for PaineWebber and Smith Barney Shearson. Prior to his affiliation with PaineWebber and Smith Barney Shearson, Mr. Klein managed investment accounts at Prudential Securities and managed firm capital at MKI Securities. Before entering the securities industry, Mr. Klein worked for two years at Arthur Young in its Entrepreneurial Services Group. Mr. Klein also served as a member of the board of directors of American Apparel, Inc. from December 2007 to October 2009. Mr. Klein is a graduate of J.L. Kellogg Graduate School of Management at Northwestern University, with a Masters of Management degree and also received a Bachelors of Business Administration degree with high distinction from Emory University. Mr. Klein's experience and expertise in the financial services industry and as a member of other public company boards provides an important resource for our Board.

**Hugh G. Hilton** has served as a director since July 2009. Mr. Hilton has served as a Managing Director and National Practice Leader of Alvarez & Marsal Real Estate Group since March 2009 and co-founder and Chief Executive Officer of A&M Capital RE, an operating and principal investment arm for distressed real estate, since March 2009. Mr. Hilton has also served as Chief Executive Officer of Grand Sierra Resort, gaming resort property in Northern Nevada, since October 2008, prior to which he served as Chief Restructuring Officer beginning in August 2007. Since 2003, Mr. Hilton has also served as the Chief Executive Officer of Prandium, Inc., a California-based restaurant chain. Mr. Hilton's prior business experience includes serving as a Vice President of BankAmerica Investment Real Estate, as President First Interstate Bancorp's real estate fund advisory arm and President of HVK, Inc. Mr. Hilton holds a Bachelor of Science in business administration and a Master of Business Administration from the University of Michigan as well as a Juris Doctor from the University of Colorado. Mr. Hilton is a member of the American Bankruptcy Institute and the Colorado Bar Association. Mr. Hilton's financial experience and expertise in the real estate industry is particularly relevant to the Board as we expand our current service offerings. He provides the Board with important insight into the real estate marketplace.

**Michael J. Levitt** has served as a director since July 2009. In 2001, Mr. Levitt is the Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and Founder of Stone Tower Capital LLC, an investment firm focused on credit and credit-related assets. At December 31, 2009, Stone Tower managed, through its affiliates, approximately \$40 billion in leveraged finance-related assets across various investment vehicles. Mr. Levitt also serves as Chief Executive Officer of Stone Tower Equity Partners LLC and Chief Executive Officer and Director of Everquest Financial Ltd. From March 2007 to July 2009, Mr. Levitt served as the Chairman of the Board of AAMAC. Mr. Levitt has spent his entire 25-year career managing or advising non-investment grade businesses and investing in non-investment grade assets. Previously, Mr. Levitt served as the managing partner of the New York office of Hicks, Muse, Tate & Furst Incorporated. Prior thereto, Mr. Levitt served as the co-head of the investment banking division of Smith Barney Inc. Mr. Levitt has a B.B.A. from the University of Michigan and a J.D. from the University of Michigan Law School. Mr. Levitt's experience and expertise in the investment banking industry and understanding of credit and credit related assets provides our Board with valuable insight into the markets in which we operate.

**Matthew J. Hart** has served as a director since July 2009. Mr. Hart was President and Chief Operating Officer of Hilton Hotels Corporation, referred to herein as Hilton, from May 2004 until the buyout of Hilton by the Blackstone Group in October 2007. Mr. Hart also served as Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Hilton from 1996 to 2004. Prior to joining Hilton in 1996, Mr. Hart was Senior Vice President and Treasurer of The Walt Disney Company and was Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer for Host Marriot Corp. Mr. Hart received his Bachelor of Arts in Economics and Sociology from Vanderbilt University in 1974 and earned a Master of Business Administration in Finance and Marketing from Columbia University in 1976. Mr. Hart currently serves on the board of directors of US Airways Group, Air Lease Corporation, and is Chairman of Heal the Bay, a non-profit organization. Mr. Hart's extensive experience and expertise with public companies is well suited for his role as the designated financial expert and chairman of our Audit Committee. He also brings extensive experience serving on other public company boards which provide important resources in his service on our Board.

**Harvey M. Yellen** has served as our Vice Chairman and President since July 2009. Prior to July 2009, Mr. Yellen was a co-founder of GAG, LLC, had served as GAG, LLC's Chairman since June 2007 and previously served as GAG, LLC's President from June 2006 to June 2007 and the President of The Pride Capital Group, LLC, predecessor in interest to GAG, LLC, from 2002 to May 2006. Mr. Yellen was also the Executive Vice President of Garcel, Inc. from 1994 to 2002. Prior to beginning his services at Garcel, Inc., Mr. Yellen held senior management positions at various retail companies, including: Allied Department Stores, Sieferts/Spurgeons and Fashion Crossroads. Mr. Yellen received his Bachelor of Science in Business from Louisiana State University in 1968. Mr. Yellen's in depth knowledge of our business and operations, his experience in the retail industry, positions him well to serve as our Vice Chairman and President.

**Andrew Gumaer** has served as our Chief Executive Officer since July 2009. Prior to July 2009, Mr. Gumaer was a co-founder of GAG, LLC, had served as GAG, LLC's Chief Executive Officer since May 2007 and previously served as GAG, LLC's President from June 2006 to May 2007. Mr. Gumaer also currently serves as the Co-Chief Executive Officer of Great American Home Auctions, LLC. Prior to assuming his current responsibilities, Mr. Gumaer was the President of The Pride Capital Group, LLC, predecessor in interest to GAG, LLC, from 2002 to May 2006. Mr. Gumaer also served as the Senior Vice President of Garcel, Inc. from 1997 to 2002 and as a Senior Vice President with the investment banking firm Drexel Burnham Lambert prior to his service with Garcel, Inc. Mr. Gumaer is the brother-in-law of Mark Weitz our President, Wholesale and Industrial Services. Mr. Gumaer's in depth knowledge of our business and operations, his experience in the investment banking industry, and leadership as GAG, LLC's Chief Executive Officer and President since 2006 positions him well to serve as our Chief Executive Officer and a member of our Board.

**Executive Officers**

Executive officers are elected by our Board and serve at its discretion. Other than as described below, there are no family relationships between any director or executive officer and any other directors or executive officers. Set forth below is information regarding our executive officers as of April 30, 2010.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Age</b>
Harvey M. Yellen	Vice Chairman and President	63
Andrew Gumaer	Chief Executive Officer	49
Paul S. Erickson	Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer	48
Scott K. Carpenter	Executive Vice President, Retail Services	54
Thomas E. Pabst	Chief Operating Officer	51
Lester M. Freidman	Managing Director, Great American Group Advisory and Valuation	50
	Services, LLC	
Mark Weitz	President, Wholesale and Industrial Services	50
Mark Naughton	Senior Vice President and General Counsel	47
Howard E. Weitzman	Senior Vice President, Chief Accounting Officer	48
Mr. Gumaer's biographical information is included with those of the other members of our Board.		

Mr. Yellen's biographical information is included with those of the other members of our Board.

**Paul Erickson** has served as our Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer since July 2009 and as GAG, LLC's Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer since June 2006. Prior to assuming his current responsibilities, Mr. Erickson was the Chief Financial Officer of The Pride Capital Group, LLC, predecessor in interest to Great American, from 2001 to May 2006. Mr. Erickson also served as the Controller of Garcel, Inc. beginning in 1995 and was promoted to Chief Financial Officer in 1997. From 1992 to 1996, Mr. Erickson served as Chief Financial Officer of Joan Vass, Inc. and 1001, Inc., both retail and manufacturing companies. Mr. Erickson received his Bachelor of Science in Finance and Accounting from California State University Northridge in 1986 and earned a Master of Science in Business Administration from the University of Phoenix in 1997.

**Scott K. Carpenter** has served as our Executive Vice President, Retail Services since July 2009 and as GAG, LLC's Executive Vice President and Director of Operations, Retail Services since June 2006. Prior to assuming his current responsibilities, Mr. Carpenter was the Senior Vice President of Operations of The Pride Capital Group, LLC, predecessor in interest to Great American, from 2001 to May 2006 and the Vice President of Operations of Garcel, Inc. from 1997 to 2000. From 1995 to 1997, Mr. Carpenter was responsible for operations in 155 Office Depot stores in 17 states as Regional Operations Manager. Prior to his service with Office Depot, Mr. Carpenter served as a Buyer and as Director of Store Operations of Hechinger stores in both domestic and international operations from 1987 to 1995. Mr. Carpenter also previously worked for Booz, Allen and Hamilton and McDonnell Aircraft Company. Mr. Carpenter received his Bachelor of Science in Economics from George Mason University in 1978 and earned a Master of Arts from George Mason University in 1982.

**Thomas E. Pabst** has served as our Chief Operating Officer since July 2009 and served as GAG, LLC's Chief Operating Officer from July 2007 through July 2009. Prior to assuming his current responsibilities, Mr. Pabst served as GAG, LLC's Chief Administrative Officer from June 2006 to June 2007. Prior to his employment with Great American, Mr. Pabst served as the Chief Administrative Officer of The Pride Capital Group, LLC, predecessor in interest to Great American from 2001 to May 2005 and as a Vice President of Garcel, Inc. in 2000. Mr. Pabst was the Chief Financial Officer of Hilco Trading Co. from 1996 to 2000 and from 1995 to 1996, Mr. Pabst served as Chief Financial Officer for Harlem Furniture. Mr. Pabst received his Bachelor of Science in Accounting from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1980. During 2005 and 2006, Mr. Pabst was a board member of the Chicago Chapter of the Turnaround Management Association. In 2007, 2008 and 2009, he was the Vice President of Communications, Secretary and President elect, respectively, and is currently the President of the Chicago Chapter of the Turnaround Management Association and serves as a board member for the International Turnaround Management Association. Mr. Pabst previously worked as a licensed Certified Public Accountant at a public accounting firm.

**Lester M. Friedman** has served as the Managing Director of Great American Advisory and Valuation Services, LLC since April 2009 and previously served as the Chief Executive Officer of Great American Advisory and Valuation Services, LLC from 2002 to April 2009 and as the Chief Operating Officer from 2000 to 2002. Prior to assuming his current responsibilities, Mr. Friedman was the Chief Operating Officer of the Garcel, Inc. Appraisal Division from 1996 to 2000 and the Chief Financial Officer of Garcel, Inc. from 1994 to 1996. Mr. Friedman was also the Controller and Director of Inventory Appraisal and Valuations for Gordon Brothers Partners. Mr. Friedman received his Bachelor of Business Studies in Accounting from the University of Massachusetts Amherst in 1982 and was a Certified Public Accountant licensed in Massachusetts from 1982 to 1990 while he worked for Laventhol Horwath.

**Mark Weitz** has served as the President of our Wholesale and Industrial Services division since July 2009 and as GAG, LLC's President, Wholesale and Industrial Services division since June 2006. Prior to assuming his current responsibilities, Mr. Weitz was the President, Wholesale and Industrial Services division of The Pride Capital Group, LLC, predecessor in interest to Great American, from 2001 to May 2006. Mr. Weitz also served as the President of the Wholesale and Industrial Services division of Garcel, Inc. from 1998 to 2000. Mr. Weitz attended the University of Washington and the University of California Los Angeles. Mr. Weitz also attended the Missouri Auction School in 1982 and has been a licensed auctioneer since such time. Mr. Weitz is the brother-in-law of Mr. Gumaer.

**Mark P. Naughton** has served as our Senior Vice President and General Counsel since July 2009, as Secretary since August 2009 and as GAG, LLC's Senior Vice President and General Counsel since June 2006. Prior to assuming his current responsibilities, Mr. Naughton was the Vice President and General Counsel of The Pride Capital Group, LLC from May 2003 to May 2006 when The Pride Capital Group, LLC merged into Great American. Prior to joining Great American, Mr. Naughton was a partner in the Chicago office of Piper Rudnick (n/k/a DLA Piper Rudnick Gray Cary) from 1993 to May 2003 and was an associate from 1987 to 1993. Mr. Naughton received his Bachelor of Arts in History and Political Science from Marquette University in 1984 and earned a J.D. from Northwestern University in 1987.

**Howard E. Weitzman** has served as Senior Vice President, Chief Accounting Officer of GAG, Inc. since December 2009. Prior to December 2009, Mr. Weitzman worked as a consultant from November 2008 assisting clients with financial reporting, internal controls, and compliance with Section 404 of the Sarbanes Oxley Act of 2002, including consulting for the Company from April 2009 on various accounting and financial reporting matters in connection with the Company's transaction with AAMAC. From December 2006 to October 2008,



Mr. Weitzman served as a Senior Manager in the SEC Services Group in the audit practice at Moss Adams, LLP. Mr. Weitzman also spent 12 years in public accounting at two Big 4 accounting firms, most recently from 2003 to October 2005 as a Senior Manager in the financial services audit practice of Deloitte & Touche, LLP. Mr. Weitzman also held various senior financial management positions, including from 1994 to 2003, with Banner Holdings, Inc. as the Chief Financial Officer of Central Financial Acceptance Corporation and Controller and Principal Accounting Officer of Central Rents, Inc. Mr. Weitzman also served as a Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Peoples Choice Financial Corporation from October 2005 to October 2006. Mr. Weitzman received a B.S. in Accounting from California State University, Northridge and is a California licensed Certified Public Accountant.

#### ***Committees of the Board of Directors***

Our Board currently has three standing committees to facilitate and assist the Board in the execution of its responsibilities: the Audit Committee, the Compensation Committee and the Corporate Governance Committee.

##### *Audit Committee*

Our Audit Committee is composed of Messrs. Matthew J. Hart (Chairperson) and Hugh G. Hilton. Our Board has affirmatively determined that each member of the Audit Committee is independent under Nasdaq Marketplace Rule 5605(a)(2), and meets all other qualifications under Nasdaq Marketplace Rule 5605(e) and the applicable rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission. Our Board has also affirmatively determined that Matthew J. Hart qualifies as an audit committee financial expert as such term is defined in Regulation S-K under the Securities Act of 1933. During 2009, the Audit Committee held three meetings.

The Audit Committee acts pursuant to a written charter, which is available for review on our website at [www.greatamerican.com/governance.cfm](http://www.greatamerican.com/governance.cfm). The responsibilities of the Audit Committee include overseeing, reviewing and evaluating our financial statements, accounting and financial reporting processes, internal control functions and the audits of our financial statements. The Audit Committee is also responsible for the appointment, compensation, retention, and as necessary, the termination of our independent auditors.

##### *Compensation Committee*

Our Compensation Committee is composed of Messrs. Hugh G. Hilton (Chairperson), Matthew J. Hart and Mark D. Klein. Our Board has affirmatively determined that each member of the Compensation Committee is independent as such term is defined under Nasdaq Marketplace Rule 5605(a)(2). During 2009, the Compensation Committee met one time and acted by unanimous written consent two times. Our Board has adopted a charter for the Compensation Committee which is available for review on our website at [www.greatamerican.com/governance.cfm](http://www.greatamerican.com/governance.cfm). The Compensation Committee reviews and makes recommendations to our Board concerning the compensation and benefits of our executive officers, including the Chief Executive Officer, and directors, oversees the administration of our stock option and employee benefits plans, and reviews general policy relating to compensation and benefits.

##### *Corporate Governance Committee*

Our Corporate Governance Committee is composed of Messrs. Matthew J. Hart (Chairperson), Hugh G. Hilton and Mark D. Klein. The Corporate Governance Committee evaluates and recommends to the Board nominees for each election of directors. The Corporate Governance Committee met one time in 2009. Our Board has adopted a charter for the Corporate Governance Committee and a copy of that charter is available for review on our website at [www.greatamerican.com/governance.cfm](http://www.greatamerican.com/governance.cfm). The responsibilities of the Corporate Governance Committee include making recommendations to the Board with respect to the nominations or elections of directors and providing oversight of our corporate governance policies and practices.

#### ***Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance***

Our directors, executive officers and stockholders were not subject to reporting obligations under Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act during our 2009 fiscal year.

#### ***Code of Business Conduct and Ethics***

Our Board has adopted a Code of Business Conduct and Ethics that applies to all of our directors, officers and employees. The Code of Business Conduct and Ethics is available for review on our website at [www.greatamerican.com/governance.cfm](http://www.greatamerican.com/governance.cfm), and is also available in print, without charge, to any stockholder who



requests a copy by writing to us at Great American Group, Inc., 21860 Burbank Boulevard, Suite 300 South, Woodland Hills, California, 91367, Attention: Investor Relations. Each of our directors, employees and officers, including our Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer, Chief Accounting Officer and Corporate Controller, and all of our other principal executive officers, are required to comply with the Code of Business Conduct and Ethics. There have not been any waivers of the Code of Business Conduct and Ethics relating to any of our executive officers or directors in the past year.

***Corporate Governance Documents***

Our corporate governance documents, including the Audit Committee Charter, Compensation Committee Charter, Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee Charter and Code of Ethics, are available, free of charge, on our website at [www.greatamerican.com/governance.cfm](http://www.greatamerican.com/governance.cfm). Please note, however, that the information contained on the website is not incorporated by reference in, or considered part of, this Form 10-K. We will also provide copies of these documents, free of charge, to any stockholder upon written request to Great American Group, Inc., 21860 Burbank Boulevard, Suite 300 South, Woodland Hills, California, 91367, Attention: Investor Relations.

**Item 11. Executive Compensation.**  
***Compensation Discussion and Analysis***

The Company was formed in May 2009 and began operations on July 31, 2009, in connection with the consummation of the Acquisition. Our Compensation Committee (the Committee) is continuing to evaluate the executive compensation structures and systems that we will provide for our executive officers on an ongoing basis. This compensation discussion and analysis identifies the policies and philosophies of the Committee regarding executive compensation and the material elements of the compensation awarded to, earned by, or paid to each of our executive officers who served as a named executive officer from the closing of the Acquisition through the remainder of fiscal 2009. Our named executive officers for the 2009 fiscal year are: Andrew Gumaer, Chief Executive Officer; Harvey M. Yellen, Vice Chairman and President; Paul S. Erickson, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer; Scott K. Carpenter, Executive Vice President, Retail Services; and Thomas E. Pabst, Chief Operating Officer.

*Unique Circumstances Related to the Acquisition*

Our named executive officers have been employed by us since July 31, 2009. Prior to that date, each named executive officer had a significant role in the management of Great American Group LLC (GAG, LLC). At the time of the Acquisition, Messrs. Gumaer and Yellen were the sole members of GAG, LLC and received consideration for the sale of their membership interests in the Acquisition. In addition, GAG, LLC maintained a deferred compensation plan that was terminated upon the consummation of the Acquisition on July 31, 2009 (the GAG, LLC Phantom Stock Plan), under which Messrs. Erickson, Carpenter, and Pabst had received grants. The GAG, LLC Phantom Stock Plan provided for significant payments in connection with a change in control of GAG, LLC. In July 2009, each of Messrs. Erickson, Carpenter and Pabst entered into an Amendment Agreement and Release with GAG, LLC, agreeing to reduce their respective pro rata shares of the total consideration received in the Acquisition. Pursuant to the terms of their individual Amendment Agreement and Releases and the Acquisition Agreement, Messrs. Erickson, Carpenter and Pabst are each entitled to receive: (i) certain cash payments; (ii) shares of restricted stock of the Company to be issued over an 18 month period, subject to their continued employment with us and an indemnification escrow; (iii) consideration in the form of a promissory note; and (iv) additional shares of the Company's common stock to be issued contingent upon the Company having achieved certain financial targets in fiscal 2009, 2010 and 2011. Any consideration received by these executive officers under the terms of their respective Amendment Agreement and Releases following the closing of the Acquisition is reflected in the Company's consolidated financial statements and executive compensation disclosure as deferred compensation. For additional discussion of the Acquisition, see Item 1 and Item 7 of this Form 10-K and Notes 2 and 17 of our Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

Effective on July 31, 2009, in connection with the closing of the Acquisition, the Company entered into employment agreements with Messrs. Yellen, Gumaer, Erickson and Carpenter. The terms of these employment agreements were negotiated in connection with the Acquisition and reflect the significant role each of our named executive officers played at GAG, LLC and the Board's assessment of their continued importance to the Company's future success.

*Determination of Compensation Awards*

The Committee expects to perform an annual strategic review of our executive officers' compensation to determine whether we provide adequate incentives and motivation to our executive officers and whether we adequately compensate our executive officers relative to comparable officers in other similarly situated companies. The Committee met one time from July 31, 2009 through December 31, 2009. The Committee meeting held for 2009 included, for all or a portion of the meeting, not only the Committee members but also our Vice Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer. We expect these individuals to participate in all or a portion of future meetings of the Committee. During 2009, compensation decisions made in connection with the Acquisition, including the terms of employment agreements and arrangements with our named executives, were made by the full Board in connection with its approval of the Acquisition and related transactions. In the future, the Committee expects to consider recommendations from the Vice Chairman and Chief Executive Officer when making compensation decisions relating to executive officers other than the Vice Chairman and Chief Executive Officer.

When determining compensation for the Vice Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, the Committee expects to take into account, but not rely solely upon, the recommendations of the Vice Chairman and Chief Executive Officer. Following a review of such recommendations, the Committee expects to take such action regarding such compensation for the executive officers other than the Vice Chairman and Chief Executive Officer as it deems appropriate, including approving compensation in an amount the Committee deems reasonable. The Committee expects that compensation for the Vice Chairman and Chief Executive Officer will be determined by discussions among and action by the members of the Committee acting in consultation with the other independent members of the Board and market data obtained on behalf of the Committee. Neither the Company nor the Committee engaged a compensation consultant during fiscal 2009.

#### *Elements of Executive Compensation*

The Committee evaluates both performance and compensation of employees to ensure that we have the ability to attract and retain employees and that compensation provided to employees remains competitive relative to the compensation paid to similarly situated employees of peer companies. The Committee endeavors to ensure that the total compensation paid to our executive officers is fair, reasonable and competitive. The principal elements of the current executive compensation program are base salary, annual incentive cash bonus awards, other benefits and perquisites and post-termination severance upon termination and/or a change in control.

The Committee provided our named executive officers with total compensation in 2009 reflecting a combination of a base salary commensurate with experience (taking into consideration the base salary applicable to each named executive officer as a former employee of GAG, LLC prior to the Acquisition), participation in the GAG, LLC Phantom Equity Plan and other consideration received in the Acquisition, the opportunity to earn incentive compensation through equity incentives and/or performance-based bonuses, and participation in a broad-based retirement plan for employees. The Committee designed our compensation plan to link individual rewards with our performance, as well as its subjective and qualitative assessment of the performance of each named executive officer.

In addition to providing our named executive officers with compensation opportunities based upon their personal performance, our financial performance, and their individual contributions to that performance, the Committee generally undertook to provide our named executive officers with total compensation that was competitive enough to retain highly skilled individuals. The Committee recognizes that we are engaged in a very competitive industry, and our success depends upon our ability to attract and retain qualified executives through the competitive compensation packages we offer to such individuals. In addition, the Committee believes that continuity of management following the Acquisition is very important to our ongoing success.

The material components of compensation for our named executive officers for 2009, as well as the specific principles and purpose of each component, are set forth below. The Compensation Committee believes that these components of compensation were necessary and appropriate in order to attract and retain qualified executives, and to ensure continuity of the Company's business following the Acquisition.

*Base Salary.* In general, we provide base salary as fixed compensation for services rendered in the position that the named executive officer serves. In considering the appropriate base salary for each named executive officer, the Committee considers a variety of factors including each named executive officer's qualifications and experience, his prior role at GAG, LLC and the significance of that role at the Company following the Acquisition, prior employment, industry knowledge, scope of responsibilities, and individual performance. For Messrs. Yellen, Gumaer, Erickson, and Carpenter, the base salary was paid in accordance with each of their respective employment agreements which became effective on the closing of the Acquisition. Base salaries for executive officers without employment agreements are generally set when the named executive officer begins employment, and the Committee expects to consider such base salaries on an annual basis. Base salary is intended to provide competitive and fair compensation for job performance. Following the Acquisition, Mr. Pabst received the same annual base salary from the Company as he had been receiving from GAG, LLC prior to the Acquisition.

The employment agreements entered into with Messrs. Yellen, Gumaer, Erickson, and Carpenter provide that their base salaries shall be increased on each anniversary of the effective date of the agreement, or July 31, 2009, by an amount determined by us, but in no event will the increase be less than 5%.

*Cash-Based Incentive Awards.* We believe a cash-based incentive compensation program is important in order to focus our management on, and reward our executives for, achieving key company and personal objectives. For 2009, the Committee adopted a cash-based incentive program that determined executive cash awards by reference to our financial results, based on the overall financial performance of the Company, the executives individual contribution to the Company's operating performance, technical expertise, leadership and management skills over the performance period for fiscal 2009. The Committee determined that senior management as a group would be eligible to receive cash awards out of a bonus pool representing approximately 10% of the Company's adjusted earnings before interest, depreciation and amortization. This bonus pool was then divided among members of senior management, including Messrs. Erickson, Carpenter and Pabst. The Committee and Messrs. Yellen and Gumaer determined that Messrs. Yellen and Gumaer would not receive a cash-based incentive award for fiscal 2009, given the consideration received for the sale of their membership interests in the Acquisition. The Committee provided the Vice Chairman and Chief Executive Officer with discretion to determine the appropriate relative percentage of the bonus pool to be allocated to each member of senior management, based on personal performance and relative base salary of each executive. For 2009, Mr. Erickson received a cash award of \$265,000, Mr. Carpenter received \$500,000 and Mr. Pabst received \$280,000.

With respect to annual bonuses for 2010 and subsequent years, it is anticipated that each executive officer will have a defined target bonus and range of possible payouts, expressed as a percentage of salary. Likewise, the Committee expects to predefine a range of performance objectives that will be used to determine actual payouts at year end. A significant portion of the target bonus would be based on the financial results of the Company and, if appropriate, certain divisions of the Company, and may have a discretionary component or a component based on individual performance. The annual bonus program would be coupled with a long-term equity based incentive award to ensure that total compensation is competitive with market practices and reflective of Company performance. This arrangement is intended to be structured to qualify executive bonuses for an exemption from the limitations imposed by Internal Revenue Code section 162(m) and thereby to preserve their potential deductibility by the Company.

*Equity-based Awards.* The Committee has not made any equity-based awards to our employees, including named executive officers, under the 2009 Plan, given that all named executive officers and a number of our employees received significant equity interests in the Company in connection with the Acquisition in the form of cash, restricted stock, promissory notes and/or deferred compensation. However, the Committee is still considering the ongoing role of equity incentive awards as a significant incentive for our employees, including our named executive officers.

*Executive Benefits and Perquisites.* All of our executive officers are eligible to participate in our employee benefit plans, including medical, dental, life insurance and 401(k) plans. These plans are available to all benefit eligible employees on an equal basis. In addition, we provide our named executive officers with a car allowance.

*Change in Control and Severance Benefits.* Pursuant to employment agreements with Messrs. Yellen, Gumaer, Erickson and Carpenter, we provide these executive officers the opportunity to receive additional compensation and benefits in the event of their termination or a change in control. Severance and change in control provisions are summarized below in the section headed "Potential Payments upon Termination or Change in Control" below. We believe that our severance and change in control arrangements with our executive officers are reasonable and within the range offered by peer companies.

#### ***Tax Considerations***

It is our policy generally to qualify compensation paid to executive officers for deductibility under Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code. Section 162(m) generally prohibits the company from deducting the compensation of officers that exceeds \$1,000,000 unless that compensation is based on the achievement of objective performance goals. We believe that our 2009 Equity Incentive Plans (the "2009 Plan") is structured to qualify the

stock options, restricted shares and stock unit awards issued thereunder as performance-based compensation and to maximize the tax deductibility of such awards. However, we may at our discretion pay compensation to our officers that is non-deductible.

#### **COMPENSATION COMMITTEE REPORT(1)**

The Compensation Committee reviews and approves our compensation programs on behalf of the Board. In fulfilling its oversight responsibilities, the Committee has reviewed and discussed the Compensation Discussion and Analysis required by Item 402(b) of Regulation S-K with management and, based on such review and discussions, the Committee recommended to our Board that the Compensation Discussion and Analysis be included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K.

#### **THE COMPENSATION COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Hugh G. Hilton, *Chairperson*

Matthew J. Hart

Mark D. Klein

(1) The material in this Compensation Committee report is not soliciting material, is not deemed filed with the SEC and is not to be incorporated by reference in any of our filings under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Exchange Act, whether made before, on or after the date hereof and irrespective of any general incorporation language in any such filing.

**Summary Compensation Table**

We were formed in May 2009 and began operations on July 31, 2009 in connection with the Acquisition. The following table shows information concerning the annual compensation for services provided to us by our named executive officers from July 31, 2009, the date of the Acquisition, through December 31, 2009.

Name and Principal Position (1)	Year	Salary (\$)	Bonus (\$)	Stock Awards (\$) <sup>(2)</sup>	Option Awards (\$)	Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation (\$)	Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Earnings (\$) <sup>(3)</sup>	All Other Compensation (\$) <sup>(4)</sup>	Total Compensation (\$)
Harvey M. Yellen <i>Vice Chairman and President</i>	2009	253,846						14,257	268,103
Andrew Gumaer <i>Chief Executive Officer</i>	2009	253,846						16,090	269,936
Paul S. Erickson <i>Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer</i>	2009	117,500		1,335,014		265,000	57,628	12,090	1,787,232
Scott K. Carpenter <i>Executive Vice President, Retail Services</i>	2009	87,597		1,349,474		500,000	61,018	12,090	2,010,179
Thomas E. Pabst <i>Chief Operating Officer</i>	2009	86,539		1,325,376		280,000	55,933	10,640	1,758,488

- (1) The table above summarizes the total compensation earned by each of our named executive officers for the period from July 31, 2009 (the date of the Acquisition) to December 31, 2009.
- (2) The amounts listed in this column reflects the fair value of certain contractual rights to receive restricted stock in accordance with the Acquisition and the individual Amendment Agreement and Releases entered into with such executive on July 31, 2009. The grant date fair value of the restricted stock was \$4.93 per share (the closing price of AAMAC's common stock on July 31, 2009 adjusted for the 2 for 1 exchange ratio in accordance with the Acquisition Agreement). The fair value was determined in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Codification Topic 718, Share Based Payments, or FASB ASC 718. The actual number of shares received by each individual may vary based on provisions of the agreements that provide that participants relative percentage of the total closing stock consideration may increase if other eligible participants terminate their employment prior to the vesting of their right to receive the shares of common stock. In addition, each of Messrs. Erickson, Carpenter and Pabst are eligible to receive shares of restricted stock upon achievement of certain performance conditions. In accordance with FASB ASC 718, the fair value of such contractual rights is \$0. See Item 7 to this Form 10-K and Note 17 to our Consolidated Financial Statements for additional discussion.
- (3) The amounts listed in this column includes nonqualified deferred compensation earnings which represents the above market earnings on the deferred compensation from the GAG, LLC Phantom Stock Plan. Earnings are for the period from July 31, 2009 (the date of the Acquisition) to December 31, 2009. Above market earnings is the amount earned at 12.0% that exceeds 120% of the applicable federal tax long-term rate.
- (4) The amounts listed in this column includes other compensation detailed in the following table:

Name	Auto Allowance (\$)	Company-Paid Medical/Dental (\$)	Life and Disability (\$)	Total (\$)
Harvey M. Yellen	10,000	3,625	632	14,257
Andrew Gumaer	10,000	5,458	632	16,090
Paul S. Erickson	6,000	5,458	632	12,090
Scott K. Carpenter	6,000	5,458	632	12,090
Thomas E. Pabst	4,550	5,458	632	10,640





**Grants of Plan-Based Awards**

The following table provides information with regard to (i) potential cash bonuses paid or payable for the 2009 fiscal year under our performance-based non-equity incentive plan and (ii) rights to acquire shares of our common stock pursuant to the terms of the Acquisition Agreement and individual Amendment Agreement and Releases entered into with former participants in the GAG, LLC Phantom Equity Plan. For additional discussion of the Acquisition and the rights of the former Phantom Equityholders in the Acquisition, see Item 1 and Item 7 of this Form 10-K, Notes 2 and 17 of our Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements and Certain Relationships and Related Party Transactions Phantom Equityholder Amendment Agreements and Releases below.

Name (a)	Grant date (b)	Estimated possible payouts under non-equity incentive plan awards (1)			Estimated future payouts under equity incentive plan awards (2)			All other stock awards: Number of shares of stock or units (3) (#) (i)	Grant date fair value of stock and option awards (\$) (l)
		Threshold (\$) (c)	Target (\$) (d)	Maximum (\$) (e)	Threshold (#) (f)	Target (#) (g)	Maximum (#) (h)		
Harvey M. Yellen									
Andrew Gumaer									
Paul S. Erickson	7/31/09							270,794	1,335,014
	7/31/09					128,507			0(4)
			265,000						
Scott K. Carpenter	7/31/09							273,727	1,349,474
	7/31/09					129,107			0(4)
			500,000						
Thomas E. Pabst	7/31/09							268,839	1,325,376