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The International Councilor

President's Message

BY Eddy Sigrist, CII, CFE

Dear CII Friends,

My best wishes to you and your families for 2013.



As members of The Council of International Investigators we can proudly distinguish ourselves from our competitors. It is a vision that our founders had in 1955, which was to form a group of vetted professional investigators known for its high standards of integrity, adherence to the code of ethics and excellence in investigative services.

Today these founding principles have remained unchanged. It is reassuring that we can call upon any CII member anywhere in the world to form part of a project team either for their specific expertise and or their favorable location for your client's assignment. This unique collaboration of responsive, dedicated and qualified professionals definitely gives us the edge in any tender and brings us business.

Regretfully there are non-member investigation companies that try to piggy back on our good reputation by fraudulently using the CII name and displaying the CII logo on their websites. [→ continues on next page](#)

India rolls out a unique identification number

Did you know that each Indian citizen may soon have unique 12-digit identification number at birth or upon confirmation of citizenship?

The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) operates the program (known as "AADHAAR") that rolled out in 2010 and according to the UIDAI website, as of January 2013 the program has 260 million participants. UIDAI was designed to help eliminate fraud and abuse of social service programs, realize more transparent elections, and provide a better system for addressing illegal immigration and issues surrounding national security. The optional inclusion into the program makes Indians eligible for participation in direct access to public and private sector platforms. For example, an Indian citizen utilizing their "unique identification number" or "UID" can open a bank or utility account through a local private sector provider, or go to a hospital and get state-governed healthcare all by processing it through their UID.

As with any government-run program there are issues with its rollout, but everyone should monitor the program as it becomes more widely used as this may become a reliable tool for tracking and verifying the identity of India's citizens in the future.

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President's Message *continued from page 1*

Preservation of CII's integrity internationally is of paramount importance. We are committed to identifying and tracking down the businesses and owners that part take in the fraudulent use of the CII name. Last year we successfully removed the CII logo from several investigation company websites and we even closed down an investigation company's website and reported the perpetrators to the appropriate authorities.

The CII Executive Regional Director, the membership committee, and regional directors continue to do a great job as gate keepers, screening out the bad apples during the application process and taking action against investigation companies that fraudulently use our logo. Nevertheless we need your help too and ask all our members to check the competitors in their region and alert us of any company fraudulently using the CII name.

Renewing your CII membership is hopefully a no brainer. If you have not yet renewed your membership, please login to www.cii2.org, complete the membership renewal form and pay the fees online by credit card or offline by check.

Our CII membership database will only update your membership status when both the online form has been completed and your payment has been received. The online form

further prompts you to review and update your online profile and ensures that you will not be sent reminders to renew your membership.

The "find a member" search engine on the CII website has been upgraded. It has become user friendly, and members can easily be found by location. Please check your profile via the find a member search engine to make sure your profile is still correct.

Let members know who you are and advertise on the CII website. The prices are reasonable and contributions are directly reinvested in upgrading the website. Call or email the office and take advantage of this opportunity.

The growth of the CII is dependent on your support, contribution and constructive feedback. The more CII grows the more potential business we can generate externally and within our network. This is a call to all members to introduce at least one new investigator to the CII this year that meets the CII application criteria and abides by the Councils Code of Ethics. Introducing a colleague to the CII has been beneficial for my business for many reasons. My advice is to do the same. You will see that it enhances the relationship between you and generates more business.

Wishing you good health and a prosperous 2013

Kind regards,
Eddy Sigrist
CII President ☐

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Until last month's shooting in the United States (Newtown, Connecticut) that took the lives of 20 children, the debate on the merits of gun control in the U.S. had largely taken a back seat to more global issues such as continued unrest in the Middle East and stabilizing the U.S. and world economy. This was in spite of the 2011 shooting spree at a Norwegian youth camp (killing at least 76 people) that occurred just hours after seven people were gunned down in Oslo or the movie theatre massacre in Aurora, Colorado. Regardless of which continent you are standing in, or what your position is with respect to firearms, we are all left wondering "why is this happening?"

In the United States, gun control discussion usually makes an appearance every four years during the campaigning for the Presidential elections. Oddly, this past year it was barely mentioned by either President Obama or Governor Romney during the presidential run off. The American public were too thirsty for economic progress.

Now the tides have turned and not since the assault weapon's ban expired in 2004, has there been this passionate of a discussion, or this much weight put upon reintroducing the talking points about weapons in the U.S. All across America, newspapers are filled with opinion pieces in support of or defending a ban on assault weapons and high-capacity magazines. Members of Congress and the Obama Administration delegates square off against representatives of the National Rifle Association, the ^[i] 4.3 million-member strong organization that lobbies for gun-owner's rights. The NRA has placed the blame for the recent spurt of mass-shootings on the influence of violent video games and movies, and suggested that an armed police officer be placed in every school in America.

Advocates for tighter gun control report an estimated 268 people are shot each day in the U.S. ^[ii] and the firearm homicide rate in the U.S. is 19.5 times higher than the next highest country ^[iii]. If the answer is not arming school personnel, are "School Resource Officers" the answer?

According to the Fairfax County, Virginia police department—the majority of an SRO's time is not spent on preventing incidents like those in Newtown, Connecticut or the movie theatre massacre in Aurora, Colorado, but rather on resolving conflicts, educating students, teachers, and parents, dealing with illicit material at schools, and liaising with school administrators to monitor troubled students. Sargent William Fulton, the Fairfax County Police Department School Liaison Coordinator, claims a school shooting similar to what has already occurred would be difficult to prevent in the current societal structure. Increasingly, kids are using violent video games in their free time to "relieve stress" (Sgt. Fulton cites the "Call of Duty" franchise), one in which the player is a soldier in the Army and goes on Special Forces "missions" killing "bad guys."

SRO's educate teachers and parents to be vigilant, and raise awareness when a student's exhibit abnormal behavior. However, the trouble is discerning between someone who is "chemically imbalanced" and poses a threat to others vs a student who "plays way too much" of the "Call of Duty" video game. In one instance, Sgt. Fulton recalled a Fairfax County area child who when caught with a gun at school, told officers that he was "copying" what another child he had been playing with online said he was going to do at his school in Alaska. In this case, Sgt. Fulton worked with Alaskan Authorities to eliminate the threat. While doing so, it was determined that while the Fairfax-County child was not a threat; but the danger to the children at the school in Alaska was real.

The debate over gun control measures will play out over the next couple of years. Meanwhile, if the schools don't engage with their student's parents and the parent's don't engage with their children, and the appropriate tools given to law enforcement to address and mitigate threats are not implemented, the concern is that our children will continue to be vulnerable to these types of incidents.

Given that we are an international investigation association with members

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illustration by Steve Greenberg

Joan Beach Weds Emery Reistetter

BY Lois Colley



Joan Beach and Emery Reistetter were married before immediate family on Saturday January 5. The ceremony was performed by Father David Martin at St. Luke’s church in McLean, Virginia. There were 200 family members in attendance, several of whom participated in the service. Joan was the belle of the ball sporting a beautiful ivory gown with a lace jacket and a “Royal Wedding Hat” known as a “fasctionator,” given to her following the death of her dear friend and colleague Sharon Spates, who passed away unexpectedly in 2007. Sharon was a frequent guest on CII adventures in New York, Toronto

and Washington, DC. Sharon initially acquired the hat while attending a mid-year meeting in Sydney, Australia. Meanwhile, Emery looked dapper in a black tuxedo with his eldest son, Emery J. Reistetter, by his side.

Some of the highlights included a reading by Joan’s daughter Donna Beach and a solo by Emery’s grandson Andrew.

Joan and Emery met in 2010 when Emery attended a Maine State Foundation fundraiser hosted by Joan at a nearby restaurant. Emery is retired from the U.S. Navy where he served as a Commander on nuclear submarines for his Navy Career after graduation from the Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD. The couple immediately bonded through their love of travel, family and intense rounds of bridge. Emery is now patiently teaching Joan the art of golf.

While getting to know one another, Emery not only wooed Joan with tales of the ocean but convinced her he was a master chef as well. Emery credits being sub-

merged in a submarine for weeks on end with his evolving culinary skills. And in case you are wondering, the couple plans to live at Joan’s house, which is no big surprise for all of us who know Joan. While most people living in the U.S. have a washer and dryer in their family room area, Joan has a retail store full of items she could not walk away from while managing estate sales. Simply imagine moving all the buttons she has stored in her lower level to another dwelling and you will get the idea. None of this was lost on Emery who no doubt sized up the situation and figured it far less painful to move in than to move Joan out. Now the trick is to merge all of his possessions from his voluminous house into hers. ☐

Ajit Singh Wins Investigation Entrepreneur Award

Congratulations to Ajit on winning the “Investigation Entrepreneur of the Year” from Hon’ Pratibha Devisingh Patil, Former President of India during 7th Security Leadership Submit – 2012 on 15-16th December at New Delhi, India. ☐



Violence against children
continued from page 3
representing a variety of cultural backgrounds and extensive security experience, it might be time to hear from some of you. Please send your thoughts to editor@cii2.org. ☐

- References:
- [i] Wikipedia: National Rifle Association
 - [ii] The Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence: “Gun Violence:Facts”
 - [iii] The Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence: “Gun Violence: Facts”

News of former member Mel Copeland

By Alan Marr

Just before Christmas I had a telephone call from Mel Copeland our former member originally from Guernsey, Channel Islands and ultimately Finland. Mel has suffered ill health and had to give up his PI business and his CII membership. Mel advised that he was in a nursing home near Romsey/Southampton in the UK.

Vicki and I had the pleasure of visiting him this past month. We discovered that he is paralyzed without the use of his legs or hands. Consequently he is unable to feed himself, read a newspaper, or change the TV channels on the remote control. He is totally



reliant upon the nursing staff for everything. We asked him what he needed and he said it would be nice to hear from members that remember him and if they could include a photo of themselves it would help to jog his memory. He sends his best

wishes to all the members and he has fond memories of better times.

If members would like to send a greeting and/or photo the address is Waverley Lodge, Dunwood Manor Nursing Home, Dunwood Hill, East Wellow, Romsey, Hampshire, SO51 6FD, United Kingdom. We thank you in advance for taking the time to reach out to Mel. ☐

Birthday Wishes to Earl Johnson

On a brighter note, Happy Birthday to Earl Johnson of International Consultants and Investigations Inc. in New York, NY. Earl turned 21 on January 5th. ☐

CII Board member in Morocco

Here is our very own CII Board Member Tanya DeGenova posing with pre-schoolers whom she taught dental hygiene to in remote villages in south western Morocco. Kudo's to Tanya for her selfless work! ☐



Join Us for the CII 2013 European Regional Meeting 25–28 April in London, England to coincide with ABI's 100 year Annual General Meeting

By Alan Marr

The Association of British Investigators is celebrating 100 years on 25 – 27 April, 2013. In view of the fact that many of our ABI members are likely to be attending this event we decided to hold our CII European Meeting in London on the same dates. The evening events include a cocktail reception at the HMS Belfast Warship followed by Dinner at the House of Commons and a Gala Banquet. We will be offering half day trips and walks, so that you can join in the grand evening events.

For all of the details and registration with the ABI go to the ABI web site www.theabi.org.uk and there is a web page dedicated to the event on the home page. Please note that the drinks reception is by invitation only as it is sponsored and numbers are limited.

If you intend to attend that function you must make a request for an invite before 31st January, 2013. There will not be a CII registration fee as all trips will be pay as you go. Vicki and I will look forward to greeting you in London and further details of the trips/walks will be sent out as soon as possible. ☐



Annual General Meeting

17–21 September 2013

Riverside Park Hotel & Leisure Club

Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford, Ireland

Reach Investigators from All Over the World!

Take advantage of this opportunity to reach your target market effectively and efficiently at the CII Annual General Meeting!

The Council of International Investigators (CII) is a 300+ international member organization known for its standards of integrity, ethics, and mutual trust. CII is considered a spokesman for ethical investigators throughout the world with a rich tradition and reputation for excellence.

We will have speakers and advisors for you to meet with from the

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Americas, Europe, India, the Far East and Africa to share their experience of the bad, the good, and all the opportunities for collaboration in their countries. We will provide sponsors and advertisers an intimate setting in which to have personal interaction with investigators from all over the world. **Don't miss this unprecedented exposure** to showcase your products and services to an audience of investigators from the Americas, Asia, Europe, Far East, Australia, and Africa!



CII supports your investment in a variety of ways:

- Opportunity to *network from breakfast through dinner* with attendees
- Timely and relevant educational programming will draw an audience of more than 75 investigators
- Sponsorship opportunities available to showcase your company through logo placement on signage and promotional materials

- Listing in conference program with company logo (mailed to all CII members regardless of attendance)
- Listing on the conference website with a link to company website, contact information and a description of your products and services

See the CII website for more details! ☐



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Brain Teaser



This photo includes two symbolic and historic means of transportation – can you tell us *for which country*? Direct your responses to editor@ciiz.org. The first three correct responses will receive a free business card advertisement. The correct answer will be printed in the March newsletter. *Come on, don't be shy!* There are only about 196 countries to choose from. ☐