



# *The International Councilor*

Winter 2015

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## The International Councilor

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Winter 2015  
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## President's Message

### Sachit Kumar, CII

Happy  
Holidays!

I am pleased and honoured to begin my term as President of the CII. It has been especially gratifying to be working with an extraordinary Executive Board that has enormous energy and passion.



**Sheila Ponnosamy**, our Past President has taken onus of the International Partnership Committee duly supported by **Sant Kaur Jayaram**.

**Anne Styren**, Vice-President heading the Legislative Committee is actively working on a proposal of change in some of the bylaws;

**Eddy Sigrist**, our Secretary and Treasurer;

**Galen Clements**, the Executive Regional Director, looking into memberships supported by our Regional Directors;

**Ryan Colley**, In-charge of Public Relations and Marketing duly assisted by **Marc Reed**;

*Continued on page 8*

## Incredible India Exceeds All Expectations

Pawan Ahluwalia and Sachit Kumar, our hosts for our 61st Annual General Meeting promised a spectacular event and they not only delivered but surpassed everyone's wildest dreams with a conference that included it all. For a full recap of what many are calling the most spectacular AGM in CII history read Jeremy King's article on page 3 of this issue. Also, courtesy of Ed Kelly, there are photos on pages 9 & 10 that document the fun.

It was not all fun and games (although there was plenty of that). The Executive Board took on three new Board Members; elected new officers; accepted several new members; ratified the new regional alignments and established committees, all designed to make CII more relevant to you as an investigator / security professional and as a business person.

For those of you that missed this amazing event, we hope to see you in Sweden as host Niclas Franklin is already planning another first rate conference.

*May Peace on Earth  
reign over all this  
Holiday Season.*

# Editor's Message

by Lois Colley



Dear Members:

As 2015 winds down, a new executive team winds up! Congratulations to those in new roles in our organization. We are confident in your vision, your enthusiasm, and your ability to lead CII into 2016. Hearty congratulations to newly elected President, Sachit Kumar. Additionally, we congratulate Anne Styren (Vice President), Eddy Sigrist (Treasurer and Secretary), and the newly elected board members, Mark Reed, Sant Kaur-Jayaram, and Ryan Colley. Talented Tel Aviv investigator Jacob Lapid was (quite rightly) awarded Investigator of the Year. We thank Sheila Ponnosamy, Immediate Past President, for her excellent leadership.

For many, 2015 will be remembered as the year of *businesses behaving badly*. Volkswagen was busted for engineering false emissions information into the systems for 11 million vehicles, Australia's "black jobs" economy was outed (the vast majority of temporary foreign workers work below minimum wage), United Airlines was caught in a corruption scandal with the Port Authorities of New York and New Jersey, HSBC was exposed for "inviting" tax evasion in their customer base, and then there's FIFA. (But there's *always* FIFA- when are they *not* making headlines for corruption?) And those are just a handful of the scandals we read about in the news.

For others, 2015 will be overshadowed by what seems to be the never ending examples of horrific behavior heaped upon us by the terrorist attacks. Whether in Paris, San Bernadino or over the Sinai desert, these attacks have struck the heart of us all.

As economies in many areas of the world continue to recover, the financial woes of less promising days seem rather close in the rearview mirror. Does this sense of fragility create an environment of urgency for a power grab? Does it lead otherwise ethical business people to take more risks, which may or may not violate laws and individual rights? Or, maybe there's no ethical downward trend at all- maybe the business leaders of today are as likely as they ever were to violate ethical and legal standards, but the *fact gatherers* of the information age are only one step behind on the paper trail.

For our industry, this downward trend in business eth-

ics means two things: 1) More work; 2) More chances to work for the wrong clients.

We all know the phrase: "Where there's smoke, there's fire." And this year, there's been smoke everywhere in the private sector. As economies improve and risk-takers abound, investigators who have been keeping up with the latest industry trends and marketing to the right people should have an ever-increasing pool of cases. But as professionals who need to remain on the right side of the law, we need to be cautious that these new clients are bringing work that doesn't diminish our integrity. Luckily, we have an incredible community of wisdom and industry knowledge to fall back on, known as the CII member base. We are tasked with keeping our industry clean amidst an ever-dirtier business world. We are not only responsible to ourselves, but to one another. And that's a good thing.

In this month's councilor, we're delighted to feature Jeremy King's excellent coverage of the AGM, along with a new "Member Reconnaissance" section, which will feature the accomplishments of a different CII member each issue. This month, we feature Larry Ross, who has had a fascinating career spanning government and private sector work. Don't miss John Sexton's article on Hurricane Katrina, which originally appeared in the *Irish Times*. This issue's Quarterly Resource column focuses on EXIF data and AshleyMadison.com (how could we resist?). Of course, we have other member news to share, AGM images, and more. Happy reading!

Best,

Lois Colley

## SUBMISSIONS WANTED

If you have an article,  
essay, or anything of interest you  
would like to have in the Councilor  
contact Editor Lois Colley at  
[editor@cii2.org](mailto:editor@cii2.org)

# 2015 AGM—A recap

By Jeremy King, Executive Vice President,  
King International Advisory Group

View and interact with (Like, Share on Facebook and Twitter) the original post [here](#).

When I drew up my list of ideal business trips many years ago I could safely say India was left out. I'm in the business of assisting large corporations grow to new heights by providing them with actionable intelligence to mitigate unsavory business transactions – what could a developing country like India offer me?

As it turns out, the answer is – a lot.

From Mumbai to Delhi, India is seeing an influx of foreign investment like never before. India's Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, was recently in the US and Canada promoting economic opportunities, and by all accounts was quite successful.

No sooner than touching down on Canadian soil after 12 days abroad did I read a front page article which the Canada Pension Plan Investment Board (CPPIB) announced the opening of a new office in India's financial capital, Mumbai, to focus on investment opportunities across the Indian subcontinent. The article stated that the fund is ready to invest \$2 billion in housing, banking and infrastructure.

What better time than now for the Council of International Investigators (C.I.I.) to hold the 61st Annual General Meeting in New Delhi, India.

Top investigation & agency owners and agents from over 24 countries convened in this great city for seven days of discussions and seminars, including "The Indian Economy – Its Impact on Growth of Jobs and Business", "Digital Forensics & Cyber Intelligence – A Multi-Disciplinary Approach to Corporate Investigations", and "Ethical Issues in the Investigations and Security Industry". The tools of our profession are international in scope, so taking the opportunity to learn about strategies and techniques from other nations is invaluable to agency owners like myself.

In addition to the wonderful seminars, we were also treated to fantastic guest speakers such as retired **Lt. General Prakash Menon**, Military advisor to the Government of India on defense affairs and a key member of the National Security Advisor of India, who spoke about the needs for our nations to 'Grow Together' and the challenges that lie with those efforts. We also heard special agent **Udaykiran Devineni**, US Department of Homeland Security / Immigration & Customs Enforcement, talk about "The National Intellectual Rights Center and Its Role in International Intellectual Property Investigations".

*Continued on page 11*

## Three Past Presidents, Former AGM Hosts, Chime in

Since last month's conference wrapped up, CII Members from around the globe have raved regarding the hospitality of the hosts, the quality of the conference, and the all-around wonder of the Incredible India! Congratulations and thank you to the hosts, Pawan Ahluwalia and Sachit Kumar. The sights and sounds of India were a perfect backdrop for CII members to network and continue to develop their skills and understanding. For those who missed this year's AGM, here are some remarks from your fellow members:

*"The conference was superb and all the Indian speakers were fantastic. Pawan himself was the star as moderator who demonstrated the Hard Talk session that we normally watch in the BBC. From the Welcome Dinner to the Closing Dinner and all the activities and programs arranged for us during the five days including the tour to Taj Mahal went on like clockwork and well coordinated by the Ahluwalias and the Kumar families. Thank you." -Ponno Kalastree*

*"It would be hard to say which day was the best. All of the panels, speakers, food, drink and entertainment were over the top in all regards. I want to compliment our hosts and AGM Committee...there was not one detail from arrival to departure, the hotel accommodations and the attention to every day's schedule was impressive." - Nancy Barber*

*"There is no doubt that CII is in good hands with Sachit leading the helm! Having just returned from what was truly one of the best AGM's I have ever attended. Every detail done to perfection from the seminars to the Gala, and the production and logistics were brilliantly executed. A credit to our hosts Sachit and Pawan Ahluwalia." - Jay Groob*

## Election Results

The nominations were made, the votes came in, the ballots were counted and three new Executive Board Members were sworn in at the Gala Banquet, by General Rakesh Loomba. Those new Board Members are:

**Marc Reed—Canada**

**Sant Kaur Jayaram—Singapore**

**Ryan Colley—USA**

The Officers for 2015-2016 are as follows:

**Sachit Kumar— India  
President**

**Anne Styren—Sweden  
Vice President**

**Eddy Sigrist—Netherlands  
Secretary / Treasurer**

**Sheila Ponnosamy—Singapore  
Past President**

Remaining on the Executive Board to the completion of their terms are:

**Jacob Lapid—Israel**

**Raul Fat—Romania**

**Brett Mikkelson—Panama**

Retiring from the Board, with much appreciation for work well done are:

**John Sexton—USA (via Ireland)**

**Debra Macdonald—Canada**

Thank you all for your service to the Council and its members. Your work accomplished more than you know

## Galen Clements to lead regions with new alignment

The Executive Board approved the new alignment of regions, reducing the number from an unwieldy 26 to a much more manageable and accountable 12. Our Executive Regional Director, **Galen Clements** has agreed to lead our Regional Directors for the next year. The new directors are already stepping to the plate with **Howie Griffiths** sending out a newsletter highlighting news from Africa and **Nancy Barber** hosting a Holiday party in California. Here are the new regions and Regional Directors:

**Region 1 - Canada - Ken Cahoon**

**Region 2 - South & Central America - Seth Derish & Maurice Amres**

**Region 3 - Africa - Howard Griffiths**

**Region 4 - Far East - Jack Chu**

**Region 5 - Southeast Asia - Ponnosamy Kalastree**

**Region 6 - India / Middle East - Pawan Ahluwalia**

**Region 7 - Northern Europe - Toine Goorts**

**Region 8 - Southern Europe - Goolam Monsoor**

**Region 9 - United Kingdom - Stephen Grant**

**Region 10 - USA East - Joan Beach Reistetter**

**Region 11 - USA Central - Kevin Read**

**Region 12 - USA West - Nancy Barber**



CII visits the Taj Mahal—one of the 7 Wonders of the World

# CII Membership Continues to Climb

The membership numbers are at an all time high as more and more professionals from around the world are learning of the Council and the benefits of membership. Over the past 12 months we have accepted 35 new members, with 7 pending. As our numbers rise, we are always mindful that CII doesn't strive to be the largest organization, just the most prestigious. We continue to employ strict vetting and are mindful of our obligation to only accept the most qualified.

## Current Membership Numbers

|           |     |            |    |
|-----------|-----|------------|----|
| Certified | 286 | Affiliate  | 11 |
| Qualified | 15  | Honorary   | 6  |
| Associate | 2   | Emeritus   | 4  |
| Senior    | 19  | Applicants | 7  |

Total Membership 343  
Countries Represented—58  
Continents Represented—6

## Most Recent New Members

**Martin Battles, CII**  
Tactical Private Investigations,  
Lake Charles Louisiana USA

**Robert Rainey, ACII**  
Xpera Risk Mitigation & Investigation  
Toronto, Ontario Canada

**Wilson Rood, CII**  
Wilson Rood y Asociados  
Dominican Republic

**Elford John, CII**  
IRM Solutions, Inc.  
Trinidad / Tobago & Barbados

**Alison Chong ACII**  
Mainguard International  
Singapore

## Pending applicants

**Hiu (David) Chu**  
RA Consultants  
Hong Kong PRC

**George McKillop**  
Haymarket Risk Management Ltd.  
London England

**Sam Zonensein**  
Renzone Consultants  
Kfar Yuna Israel

**Richard Kenney**  
Call Cop Consulting, Inc.  
Pearl River NY USA

**Harpal Singh Bansal**  
Genius Vanguard Pvt. Ltd.  
Jaipur India

**Sanjay Kaushik**  
Netrika Consulting, India Pvt. Ltd.  
Delhi India

**Derya Topal**  
Derya Topal Agency  
Istanbul Turkey

More information about the applicants can be found on the CII website. Anyone with knowledge of these applicant's qualifications can contact Galen Clements at [galen.clements@comcast.net](mailto:galen.clements@comcast.net)

*(Remember no posting about applicants on the listserv)*

## Two New Senior Members

At the Executive Board Meeting held Saturday, December 5, **James Carino** of Pennsylvania USA and **Aaron Sivan** of Tel Aviv, Israel were both approved as Senior Members. Congratulation to both on their long and successful careers as fact finders and truth seekers.

## More Membership News

### Jacob Lapid Named International Investigator of the Year 2015

Executive Board Member, Jacob Lapid of Israel was presented the Council's most prestigious award, International Investigator of the Year for his exceptional work on solving an abduction of a fifteen year old female. Other investigators were stymied in their attempts to locate the girl. At the suggestion of a local attorney, the family reached out to Jacob, who took on the case pro bono. Within 48 hours he tracked the abductor and victim from San Diego California to Jacksonville FL. With discrete surveillance he was able to find the abductor, lure him away from the victim and have him arrested by the Jacksonville County Sheriff's office who commended Jacob for a "fantastic investigation." The victim was reunited with her family for a happy ending to what could have been a tragedy.

Graham Dooley of France was also nominated for the award as a result of an investigation he conducted and subsequent testimony, which established a precedent for presenting evidence in France.

When presented the IIOTY loving cup at the gala banquet, Jacob graciously called Graham to the podium to share his award, commenting that Graham's contribution to the profession was exceptional.

### Bert Falbaum posthumously awarded the MSA

The Executive Board unanimously selected Bert Falbaum as the recipient of the Meritorious Service Award for his numerous contributions and mentoring skills. The Board is pleased to note that Judge Peggy Falbaum will be attending the AGM in Sweden to accept this honor in Bert's memory.

## Regional Meetings Planned

Recognizing that due to time and business commitments, it is at times difficult for some members to attend an AGM, the Executive Board has approved support for two (and possibly a third) Regional Meetings this year. Those meeting approved are:

### Europe

Warsaw Poland

Regent Warsaw Hotel

April 15—17

### Asia

Jakarta Indonesia

Dates to be determined

## Committee Chair Appointments

**Legislative—Anne Styren**

**Public Relations / Marketing—Ryan Colley**

**Membership—Galen Clements**

**Audit & Finance—Alice Campbell**

**Conference—Brett Mikkelson**

**Education—Michele Stuart**

**International Councilor—Lois Colley**

**Advisory—Brian King**

## Ponno Kalastree named Regional Director of the year for the 3rd time!

For his exceptional efforts as Regional Director for Southeast Asia, included hosting a meeting that attracted 65 attendees; underwriting a CII exhibition booth at an Interpol conference; and bringing in several new members, Ponno was recognized as the winner of the 2015 Malcom Thomson Memorial Award. Ponno was previously honored in 1997 and 2007 with this award. He has also received the IIIOTY in 1998.

# Watching the Detectives - Submitted by Joan Beach Reisetter



## VICKI MARR - A Waterside Surprise

When Vicki's August birthday was approaching, she anticipated a small celebration. What she didn't anticipate was that her loving husband Alan, and daughter Kat, had bigger plans in mind. After eight months of planning, Alan and Kat were delighted to surprise Vicki with a lunch at Hampton Court. Arriving at 1 p.m., they headed out to the terrace for a drink. But before the birthday girl could even raise her glass, they saw a large paddle boat steamer alongside the water, with people shouting "Happy Birthday!" Vicki turned around to see whose birthday it was, and was delighted to see that the boat contained 77 of her wonderful friends and family. They had a great four hours on the river, finally ending at home with a party as the icing on the cake. Alan and Kat were particularly proud of pulling off such a stunt- and they can now tell us how to keep an eight month secret from a canny ex-police officer. Vicki, your colleagues and friends at CII wish you a Happy Belated Birthday, and we congratulate Alan and Kat for their cunning accomplishment!



## GOOLAM MONSOOR- Above and Beyond (as Usual)

Philip Helgerson, a former United States Naval Officer and subsequent government contract employee (recently retired) and his librarian wife, Carol, decided to take a trip to France to celebrate this special time in their lives. When Joan Beach mentioned her friend and CII colleague Goolam Monsoor as a possible contact in case of difficulty, they thought that was a prudent idea, so Joan exchanged their contact information. Goolam, as always, goes beyond his word and took them on a lovely tour of Paris and to dinner. Joan originally met Phil and Carol through their work on the board of the Maine State Society of Washington, DC Foundation, Joan having been former President, and Phil being the current President. The purpose of the organization is to raise scholarship funds for Maine students. Phil and Carol now split their time between Maine and St. Mary's County, Maryland. Joan thanks Goolam for his exceptional hospitality, and the story serves as a reminder that as colleagues, worldwide, we at CII have created a community that is as informed and interesting as it is inviting!

## WALTER ATWOOD - On the road again

Emeritus member Walter Atwood, 93 years young and his friend Inez Williams, both now of Jacksonville Florida, took an 18 day road trip in late September which included a visit to Bill and Debbie Elliot in New Mexico. Thank you, Joan, for submitting this lovely photo.



## TANYA DEGENOVA - Gone but not forgotten

Long time member and former Board Member, Tanya DeGenova, has left the private investigation business and is now working for the US Justice Department as an attache, stationed in Africa. As such, she had to resign her membership from the Council. She has our best wishes for her new career direction and gratitude for her service to the Council.

## President's Message (continued from page 1)

**Brett Mikkelson** is heading Conference Committee and also host of the AGM 2017 in Panama; **Jacob Lapid** and **Raul Fat** round out the Board. Special mention and thanks to our other CII members **Lois Colley** – Councilor Newsletter; **Michelle Stuart** – Education Committee; **Robert Dudash** – Certifications; **Alice Campbell** – Audit & Finance Committee; **Brain King** – Advisory Committee; **Niclas Franklin**, host for the 2016 AGM and last but not the least our Executive Director **Steve Kirby** for his valuable and timely assistance at all times.

We had an extremely successful Annual Conference in New Delhi that included memorable Speakers and Events. Evaluations from the conference showed that Members, Spouses and Guests really enjoyed the presentations and outings this year. Additionally attendance was high and the CII made historic profits (which was not intentional). I would like to once again extend a special thank you to all our sponsors, who through their generous donations helped to make this conference a great success.

In the year 2016, we would be expanding our membership benefits to include webinars that will be informative and beneficial along with continuing to add valuable information to the CII.

Additionally, the CII this year has allocated a substantial budget for Marketing and Public Relations. The intention is to reach out to end users and build on the image of CII. We are designing fresh Member's certificate and Member's plaques for interested members.

We look forward to the CII 2016 Regional Meetings being held in Warsaw April 15 - 17 and Jakarta (dates not yet set) and the Annual Conference in (Gutenberg) in August 2016.

I would like to thank you all for your continued support of the Association and I look forward to my year of service as your President.

Have a wonderful and safe Holiday season!  
Wishing you all a Very Merry Christmas a great 2016!

Warm Wishes to you All  
Sachit Kumar, CII,  
President

## CII on marketing blitz

Thanks to the generosity of our sponsoring members and the exceptional planning and negotiating skills of our hosts at the 2015 AGM, the Council found itself with a financial windfall that President Kumar proposed be reinvested in marketing the Council.

At the latest Board meeting held on Saturday, December 5, the Board budgeted \$15,000 for marketing the Council to potential clients and to prospective members. Each initiative and expenditure will require Board approval so as to maximize return on investment and potential business to all members.

The first initiative being researched is exhibiting at the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners conference in Las Vegas in June. Several other events are under consideration. The marketing and public relations committee are researching additional venues and opportunities to showcase the Council.

Any members with ideas as to how to market CII are encouraged to contact either Ryan Colley at [rdc@colleypi.com](mailto:rdc@colleypi.com) or Marc Reed at [marc.reed@reedresearch.com](mailto:marc.reed@reedresearch.com).

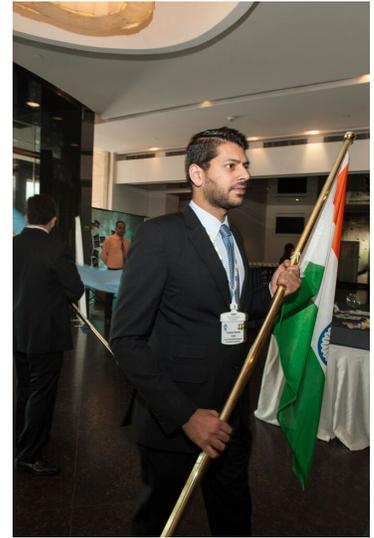
### Councilor Goes Quarterly

The Executive Board decided to publish the Councilor on a quarterly basis rather than on a bi-monthly basis. It was felt that with the improved listserv, our Facebook page and other communication methods that a quarterly publication would suffice. It was also felt that by publishing quarterly the Editor would be able to secure more relevant featured articles.

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Chandra and Maurice Amres in full Indian attire



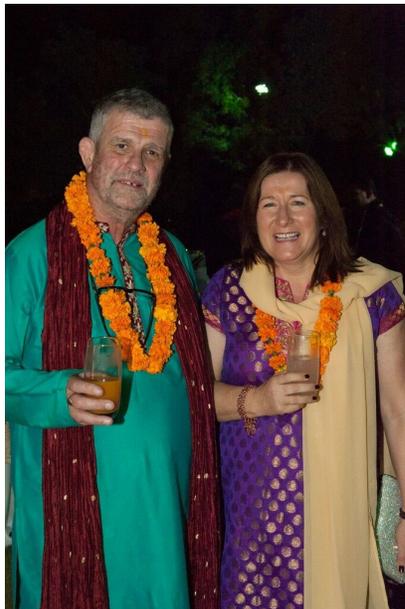
Gautam Kumar carries the Indian flag at the opening ceremony



Nancy Barber address a full house at the AGM



John Sexton presents Sachit Kumar with a token of appreciation.



Jimmy & Maread Gahan  
Irish or Indian?



East meets West—Puneet Kumar and Jan Collie



President Sachit Kumar, Kalie Cuffee, and Jeremy King all looking sharp at the gala banquet

Photos courtesy of Silver Sleuth Ed Kelly

# Memories from 2015 AGM Gala Banquet

Courtesy of Ed Kelly



Sachit Kumar takes the Oath of Office as President



Jacob Lapid with IIIOTY loving cup recognizes the contributions of Graham Dooley



Co Host Pawan Ahluwalia addresses the audience



Anne Styren sparkles at the Gala Banquet



Lt. General Rakesh Loomba (Retd) addresses the gala banquet



Past President Sheila Ponnosamy presents Bunty Ahluwalia with a small token of appreciate for Bunty being the mother hen of us all. Bunty's care and concern for the guests was exceptional!



Past Presidents "Growing Together"

## The Scandinavian Way

While it hardly seems like the 2015 AGM just ended, (oh wait, it did just end about 6 weeks ago,) it's not too early to start thinking about the **62nd Annual General Meeting, August 23 to 27 in Gothenburg Sweden**. Host Niclas Franklin has already set a provisional schedule with 6 highly educational seminars; golf outing; networking boat tour to the archipelago and a seafood dinner; spouse tours; and an optional tour to Copenhagen. Those special Scandinavian touches, coupled with the CII traditional cocktail reception; hospitality suite; awards luncheon; and gala banquet will make this a must see event. Sweden in August - you just can't beat the weather, the sites, and the amazing countryside. Watch the website and listserv for more information and registration will open in March.

Save the dates  
August 23—27  
62nd AGM

### 61st AGM Recap continued from page 3

To say this business trip was a learning experience would not do it justice – it was definitely life changing, both professionally and personally.

Our company, King International Advisory Group, is regularly retained to assist Canadian corporations with intelligence matters overseas. From corporate Due Diligence to Intellectual Property investigations, the value of an organization such as C.I.I. allows us to manage our client's assignments in the most efficient way possible, often getting results that would be impossible without the assistance of local intelligence partners. What's most important is how the information is developed, especially after Canada passed the Foreign Anti-Bribery Law, making it a serious criminal offence for Canadians and Canadian companies to bribe foreign government officials.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my gracious hosts, Pawanjit Ahluwalia, Managing Director of Premier Shield, and Sachit Kumar, Director of Globe Detective Agency. These gentlemen, with the assistance of Jasjit Ahluwalia, Abhijit Ahluwalia, Vivek Kumar, Puneet Kumar, Gautam Kumar, and last, but certainly not least, Bunty Ahluwalia, made my Indian adventure an experience I will remember for the rest of my life.

My hope is that through the clients we represent, and the investigations we receive, I will be able to see more of this great country in the very near future.

## CII To Sponsor Training Webinars

Thanks in part to the financial success of the 61st AGM, the Executive Board has authorized \$5,000 to arrange for training / educational webinars for members. The Education Committee headed by Michele Stuart, assisted by Eddy Sigrist is hard at work finding the right mix of international interest and relevancy. Stay tuned as more information will follow.

### Advertise in the Councilor

The Councilor is looking for your adverts for the 4 publications in 2016. The following are the rates for various sizes:

1/2 page ad - \$500 - 4 issues

1/4 page ad - \$250 - 4 issues

Business Card - \$150 - 4 issues

### Support CII

For more information or to place an ad contact  
Steve Kirby at [skirby@cii2.org](mailto:skirby@cii2.org)

# Featured Articles

## Enforcing Law and Order After Hurricane Katrina

*Former Garda JP Sexton recalls his time helping to police the streets of New Orleans ten years ago this week*

by John P. Sexton

*[This article originally appeared in The Irish Times on Wednesday, September 2, 2015, and was re-printed with permission from the author.]*



It was not until I started to see posts on Facebook this past week that I realised this was the tenth anniversary of Hurricane Katrina, a horrendous storm which not only devastated the lives through which it tore, but also exposed a quagmire of public corruption and human depravity. Never in my wildest dreams would I have thought I would be in the thick of it, but there I found myself, mere hours after the storm had abated, enforcing law and order on the streets of [Louisiana](#).

I was definitely a stranger to hurricanes. Growing up in the most northern part of Ireland, I was no stranger to wild gales and rough weather, which constantly rolled in off the Atlantic. To say rough weather “rolled in” on the Inishowen Peninsula of Donegal is a gross understatement, for it bombarded us. But we became used to that environment. It is your lot in life and you accept it. Seeing houses submerged in water up to their rafters and cars stuck into the sides of houses, like some Picasso/Ford fusion, was not as easy to accept.

Around the last week of August 2005, I remembered hearing on the news that a hurricane was brewing off shore. I was scheduled to attend an investigators’ conference in Portugal at the beginning of September, and I fleetingly wondered if it would interfere with my flight from Washington DC.

On the 29th, I received a call from a corporate

client asking if my company could provide armed security in New Orleans, to one of their clients. Hurricane Katrina had made landfall in Louisiana and within hours, 80 per cent of the city was flooded. The request was like nothing I had ever heard before. Their client was in the cash in transit business and had had tens of millions of dollars in a building in New Orleans, in which the first five floors were completely submerged. Apparently the building was being “cased” by a group of would-be bank robbers, and it would be our job to protect the cash from being stolen.

I thought it over for a moment. As the entrance was completely underwater (which meant that all electricity throughout the building would be cut off), the only feasible option was to air lift a team of heavily armed security personnel onto the roof of the building, and protect it from the top down. They would have all their supplies on the roof, and make that their “home” for as long it took.

I assumed the “bad guys” would enter the building using diving gear. Even if they got in undetected, they would have to surface when bringing out all that cash. So I contacted a high ranking police official I trusted down there. I asked him if he could do me a favour and drop a number of my guys on to the roof of a building in downtown New Orleans to thwart a bank robbery. He said he could loan me their police helicopter, but in return he had a favour to ask of me.

He wanted me to volunteer to police the streets with his guys who were under tremendous strain. There were gangs of armed looters roaming the streets and his officers were working long shifts. It was an insane period and my company was getting requests from several clients simultaneously.  
*(Continued next page)*

I had paying contracts in Louisiana and Texas. I left myself free to coordinate the various personnel movements from my base outside of Washington DC. I told him I could do it, but that I would need a day to gather sufficient supplies of weapons and ammunition. On September 1st, I boarded a flight from Washington DC to Baton Rouge. I couldn't fly into New Orleans itself, as the airport had been shut down. A police van would pick up arriving volunteers and bring us from Baton Rouge into New Orleans. Before I left DC, I cancelled my flight to Portugal.

I got off the plane and made my way to an airport hotel, via their shuttle. I found myself a decent vantage point, plugged in my phone charger and waited for others to arrive. As I was one of the first police back-up responders on the ground, I was appointed as the senior member in charge and observed the newly arriving during the following hours. When we had reached the required number to make the journey back, a van driver appeared and we started to board. The drive to New Orleans was not long, but the sites we encountered along the way, spell bounded us. The television coverage could not properly convey the real-time devastation. It left us speechless on that inward journey. The police had shut down the Bridges into New Orleans. It felt strange to have the highway all to ourselves. The only vehicles to be seen speeding along the top of the city were police cruisers.

The police department had commandeered a function type of room for us at the Holiday Inn. The rest of the hotel was being occupied by refugees who had lost everything. I remembered thinking that in situations like this, "bad guys" often slipped through the "cracks", so we had to be very diligent about safeguarding our weapons as we slept. The hotel had filled the room with metal army cots and there would be more than 20 of us sharing the same room and toilet facilities, by the time we had fully ramped up. Sleep consisted of three hours maximum in a 24-hour period and we always kept our semi-automatic pistols under our pillows, in case the place would be over-run during the night.

We were told that the local water supply was dangerous to use and was full of all kinds of bacteria from chemicals, dead animals and dead humans. Whenever we used water, it needed to come from a sealed bottle. But when working in 90 degree heat for 21 hours a day, you tend to forget what may be good for you. I found myself waking after a few hours sleep and walking zombie-like to the bathroom, brushing my teeth with contaminated city water instead of the bottles with which we were issued. Who thinks to take a bottle of water into brush your teeth after three hours sleep?

The following day I reported to police headquarters. I was informed that we were to be deputized with full police powers and that we would join in to supplement the current police (known and trusted) as needed. I was immediately assigned to a SWAT unit. My partner was a young cop, Tommy, with several years of service. We were to patrol the Canal Street area of New Orleans and also conduct high-threat level money escorts around the area. We were armed to the teeth.

"I can't tell you how happy we are to have you guys come down and work with us," Tommy confided. "Before you got here, we were working twenty three hour shifts." These guys were operating on fumes. I asked him if his home had been affected by the hurricane. He didn't know. When the evacuation was ordered, he had sent his wife and children to her relatives in Texas. His house was probably destroyed, but his main concern was keeping the people of the area safe.

My first shift there was 21 hours long. Tommy was thrilled at the prospect of working such a short day. The time passed quickly, as it did when we laid our heads down for a couple of hours at shift-end. Between the heat, lack of sleep and having to remain laser-focused due to the dangerous nature of our work, my mind started playing tricks on me towards the end of my third day there.

When you have worked in countries torn apart by civil war, or worked in war zones where death and destruction are a daily occurrence, you become so acutely aware of your surroundings, that you don't have to give it a second thought. It's a matter of

*(Continued next page)*

survival. I found myself in this frame of mind when patrolling the streets at night for looters. Martial law had been imposed and unfortunately society in some areas had deteriorated so badly, that normal “peace time” policing policies could not be relied on to keep us alive.

There was little to no room for community style policing as there were too many “bad guys” who intentionally added to the mayhem, so they would be free to thief and murder as they saw fit. Utility men working on overhead electricity lines became targets for criminals to “pick-off”. Not all of the bodies being recovered had died from drowning. Many corpses were turning up with bullet holes in their skulls.

The first police casualty we heard about was an officer who had been working day and night to protect the public, and when he did get to check on his family, he discovered the bodies of his wife and child, drowned up in their attic. They had tried to climb as high as they could to escape the rising water, but even their attic eventually flooded. When he discovered their dead bodies, the poor man took his own life.

By the second week, more volunteer reinforcements had arrived. Our numbers had grown and our duties had increased. In addition to my special assignment of escorting money and protecting the lives of local dignitaries with my partner, I joined other colleagues on a dock which had become home to a relief ship, originally destined for Haiti. The ship was stocked with food and all kinds of aid, but when they learned of the disaster in the Gulf, they rerouted for New Orleans. Eight of us worked during the day, protecting the perimeter of the dock yard. It was feared that criminals would attack the ship and loot all the food, once word got out as to what was on board.

By a stroke of good luck, the old warehouse alongside which the aid ship was docked contained tons of rubber bricks. With them we built chest-high “machine gunner” type bunkers around the corners of the warehouse. The thick rubber bricks could easi-

ly be built like cement blocks and when reinforced, were sure to stop direct gun fire on our positions. In no time, we had several bunkers for protection. Our backs faced on to the Mississippi river, which was also patrolled by our team. We took turns at the various posts, spending an hour, before rotating. There was one exception - the “rotisserie”.

There was no shelter from the searing sun at the rear of the dock, so it was decided that the shift on the rotisserie post would be 45 minutes instead of an hour. It got pretty hot standing directly in the sun wearing work clothes and a bulletproof vest, with several weapons attached to your body and in your hands. Most guys could not wait for their 45 minutes to end. I was the exception.

Being a sun worshipper all of my life, I pretended I was on a beach. I opened the top buttons on my shirt over my protective vest, sat in my chair which had a 180 degree view of the river, rolled up my sleeves and roasted like a leg of lamb. I enjoyed it so much in fact, that when the next guy would come after 45 minutes to relieve me, I would wave him on and stay for an hour and a half. Every evening, we would be relieved by a West Virginia Police Department SWAT unit for the night shift.

About half way through the second week, our shifts were shortened, which meant we only worked nine or ten hours. Also around that time, one of my colleagues heard a rumour that a neighbourhood bar had opened, and that they had cold drinks. After we finished our tour, we decided to hoof it around the area on foot, in search of the elusive cold beer. We wandered around for about an hour in the still hot sun, until we accidentally tripped across a bar, open for business with a lot of people inside.

We were in full civilian combat attire and fully armed. We had semi-auto pistols in tactical thigh holsters, pump-action shotguns, and my colleague even had a light weight, titanium frame 38 revolver in a front chest pocket of his bulletproof vest. We walked in not really knowing what to expect, so strong was the call of that cold drink, but at least we were well equipped to deal with any problem that might arise. The bar was jammed full of people.

*Continued next page)*

We made our way into a corner, where we would have our backs to a wall and be able to see the front door. I handed my shotgun to my partner and went up to the bar to order a couple of ice cold beers. A guy sitting on a stool to the side of me asked me where we had come from. I replied that I had come down from Virginia and my partner had flown in from California. He asked me if I worked for the government. I advised him that I did not, that I owned my own security firm and we came down to help out the local police, some of whom had lost everything, even their police cars and stations.

He called to the barman, "don't be taking no money from these boys. They left their homes to come down and help us when all the federal government could do was sit around on their asses and talk about help". The whole bar hushed to hear what was being said, and broke into applause. I thanked our new friends and brought the beers back to the corner.

"I think we found our new spot," I said to my colleague.

After we had dampened the Louisiana dust from our throats with three or four beers, we received a message from one of our colleagues from California. He asked us for our location and if we were alright. In our search for refreshment, it slipped our minds that everybody else would have returned back to base at the end of the shift and that we were noticeably missing. We probably missed the first couple of radio attempts, and they feared we may have been ambushed. He told us to stay put, and he would arrive shortly with the chief of police.

"Do you think the chief is coming to give us a commendation for finding the only open bar in all of Louisiana?" I asked my partner.

"I'd say it's more likely," he replied, "that he is coming to give us an ass chewing for causing them so much concern."

Our colleague arrived shortly after. He was riding in an unmarked patrol car. We waved to him as he walked in.

"It's good to see that you two are alright. Now, I

need to take your guns."

"We're being disarmed?" One of us was as shocked as the other.

"The chief says this is a safe place and that the customers here are all pro-police. He doesn't want you to be drinking and carrying all of these weapons. If you don't want to give them up, you'll have to come back with us in the car."

It was just like a scene from an old western film when the sheriff tells the cowboys to turn in their guns, so they don't try shooting up the town after they have been drinking.

It took him two trips to the car to load up the weapons. When he returned, I had one last question.

"I don't fancy having to walk back through the streets unarmed, even if it is a friendly area."

"We already thought that through," he said. "When you are ready, radio us and we'll come and collect you."

"The chief is going to be our taxi as well, how cool is that?"

"I didn't say the chief would pick you up," he said, "besides, I don't think you two should push your luck too far."

"Sound advice," I agreed. "You are a scholar and a gentleman - and so is the chief!"

*Aside from his history as a long time CII member and Past President, John Sexton is a former Detective Garda and a native of Donegal. He quit the force in 1995 to work for the [United Nations](#) in the former Yugoslavia. He has lived in Northern Virginia since 2000, where he runs his security firm, Sexton Executive Security, Inc. He is the author of a recently finished memoir *The Big Yank - Memoir of a Boy Growing Up Irish*, and is represented by the Folio Literary Management Agency in Manhattan.*

# Member Reconnaissance

## Larry Ross

*This month we invite you to learn about CII member Larry Ross as he looks back on an exceptional career spanning government service, a successful private sector legal career, and his currently thriving financial investigation business.*

The luckiest day of my life was the day that I met my future wife, Margy, at a Martha Cook mixer. And my most important decision: when I proposed to her a year later.



Another important decision: I chose to enter government service upon graduation from the Law School. That was an unusual decision at the time, and I was even cautioned by personnel in the placement office that I would “ruin my career” by following through on this plan.

The summer before my third year, I worked in Washington DC where I met John Doar, future DOJ Civil Rights Division Assistant Attorney General and one of my all time heroes. When he came to Ann Arbor and spoke at the Lawyers Club, I tried to reintroduce myself, and was elated when he interrupted and said, “We want you to come to work for us.” Margy was right there and heard the whole exchange. That pretty much sealed my fate! Later that year, when Viola Liuzzo, a Detroit civil rights activist, was murdered on the highway between Selma and Montgomery Alabama, I decided to accept the Civil Rights Division offer and put myself on the front line.

I am proud that I played a role in a very important undertaking – breaking up the caste system in the South. I was given extraordinary responsibility, the most important of which was to represent the U.S. Attorney General in Barbour County, the home County of Alabama Governor George Wallace during the first election under the Voting Rights Act.

I spent most of the month preceding the election living in that county. As 26-year-old novice lawyer, it was my job to make sure that the election officials ran a free and fair election. From my Michigan law degree, I had learned to think on my feet and be confident of my ability as an advocate. Also important: I was knowledgeable about the Crimson Tide and could talk football with the locals! The Harvard and Yale trained lawyers had a much more difficult time in this regard. Looking back, I can see that I had a dangerous job, but at the time it never occurred to me that I could be injured, or even killed.

Years later, when my daughter, Dana, joined Teach for America and KIPP, she recognized that she was following in my footsteps by devoting herself to pursuing solutions to the civil rights demands of her era. We are so proud of all she has accomplished! (Of course, we are proud of our son’s accomplishments, too, though we don’t know what they are as those endeavors are classified.) Both of my children are U of M graduates.

Later, I transferred to the Tax Division where I litigated Federal tax cases primarily in Illinois and Ohio, working my way to Chief of the Chicago Tax Refund Docket. I litigated complex civil tax cases against sophisticated taxpayers such as the DuPonts and the Pritzkers, and reconstructed the income of mobsters such as Tony Spilotro (played by Joe Pesci in the movie, *Casino*).

I was recruited to the role on Capitol Hill as Chief Counsel to the House Ways and Means investigative

*(Continued on page 18)*

# QUARTERLY RESOURCES

Lauren Colley

## NOTES ON A SCANDAL



Affairs  
Guaranteed

*An actual graphic on the Ashley Madison website.*

Two months ago, hacker group *Impact Team* released the wolves. By wolves, I mean they released the data of AshleyMadison.com users- individuals who set out in cyberspace to have an affair. This subscription site which offers a “guarantee” that you’ll have an affair after signing up, maintains the tagline, “Life is short. Have an affair.” For a company calling themselves a “married dating site” and promising total discretion, such a data breach was damning. Thirty million members were outed via their email addresses being published. The site is now facing various lawsuits, and the hack has undoubtedly resulted in damage to the company’s reputation. In addition, allegations surfaced that over 90% of the site’s users are men, and that the number of genuine female profiles not created by Ashley Madison employees as enticements, was slim at best. Out of 31 million male accounts and 5.5 million female accounts, Fortune magazine reported that the “overwhelming majority of those female accounts appear to be bots, fakes, or inactive accounts that were hardly used in the first place.” In addition, digging a little deeper, we found a 2012 Ontario Superior Court lawsuit from a former Ashley Madison employee, Dorian Silva, who alleged that she had been hired by the site up to pose for 1,000 “fake female profiles.”

In any event, the email addresses of those implicated as users in the hack have been indexed in multiple locations on the web. In addition to outing a few minor celebrities, Florida State Attorney Jeff Ashton confessed to an account after the data breach.

In the event that you get the call from a client who suspects a spouse of cheating, your first stop might be one of the Ashley Madison indexes. Here’s one to try:

<https://ashley.cynic.al/>

## Larry Ross continued from pg 16

subcommittee where I conducted hearings that led to the revocation of the tax-exempt status of the Central States Teamsters Pension Fund, and hearings on offshore tax evasion that compelled the IRS to add the “foreign bank account question” to the Federal Tax Form 1040 (Schedule B). Upon leaving government service, I founded a law firm that specialized in tax and securities law. I represented a group of tax shelter plaintiffs that was, at the time, the largest group before the U.S. Tax Court. Other highlights included representing a taxpayer before the U.S. Supreme Court and having a law review article published in *The Tax Lawyer*.

Last, but not least, I established a private detective agency, Ross Financial Services Inc., which is active to this day. We conduct financially oriented investigations – asset searches, fraud investigations and investigative due diligence. Since its founding, RFS has assisted creditors in obtaining recoveries that now exceed eight figures. Clients include law firms, government agencies, businesses and investors.

Professionally, I enjoy matching wits with people committing fraud or endeavoring to hide assets. Personally, I greatly enjoy my role as a grandfather and my involvement in organizations that support childhood and adult literacy such as KIPP and Teach for America. Other enthusiasms seem to come and go, and I haven't found an endeavor that I find so compelling that I want to retire from my investigative practice.

# QUARTERLY RESOURCES Lauren Colley

**FACEBOOK** **Editor's Note:** Facebook very quietly resumed allowing profiles to be searched by associated cell phone. This is often the fastest and easiest way to identify a profile, especially if your target uses multiple aliases. This feature seems to go in and out, so take advantage of it while you can!

## **EXIF DATA: What is it? How do I get it? How do I use it?**

Every time a digital camera snaps a picture, a little batch of information gets paired up with the photo. This image file includes the date the photo was taken, the resolution, shutter speed, focal length and any other camera settings enabled by the user. GPS enabled cameras (including smartphones) generally store location data as well! This prized little batch of data is known as Exchangeable Image Format- aka EXIF data - though you'll sometimes see it called Descriptive Data or Meta-Data.

There are a couple of ways to review the EXIF data on a photo. For frequent reviewers of EXIF data, it might be helpful to have a plugin on your browser. For instance, I have a plugin that automatically reviews any photo on which my mouse hovers, and informs me of any available EXIF data. Another way to do it is to find a free OSINT (Open Source Intelligence) tool, upload your photo, and voila!

While they originate as part of the same file, the photo and the EXIF data *are* separable. You can't stop EXIF metadata from being added to your photos, but you can use online tools to remove EXIF afterward. To remove EXIF data in Windows, select the photo you want to work with, right-click, and then select "Properties." Click "Remove Properties and Personal Information" at the bottom of the properties box. (For Mac Users, try downloading ImageOptim.)

Many social networks automatically remove EXIF as part of the photo upload process, including Facebook and Twitter. This has been a boon to champions of personal privacy, but can be a real bummer for an investigator looking for a lead. Any image uploaded to Facebook has been completely stripped of all information, and thus, any image you download from the social media site will be without any clues. However, Google+ does currently permit EXIF data to stay attached to images upon upload.

LINKS:

For an EXIF viewer that you can add-on to a browser, try adding the following to your Google Chrome browser:

<https://chrome.google.com/webstore/detail/exif-viewer/nafpfdcmppffipmhcpkplhkoiekndck?hl=en>

For a simple EXIF tool that requires to application/ installation to your devices (all you have to do is upload the photo and any attached data will appear), try:

<http://exifdata.com/>

<http://metapicz.com/#landing>

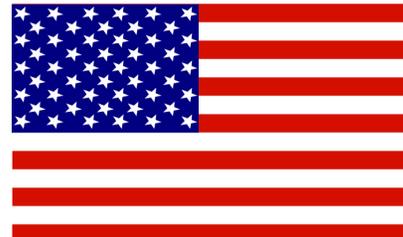
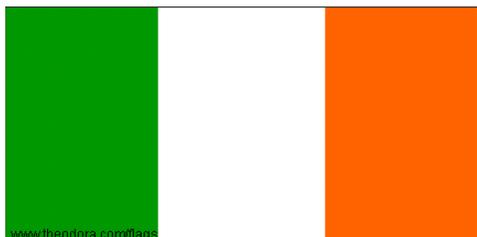
Information about viewing EXIF data on a Mac:

<http://osxdaily.com/2015/06/17/view-exif-data-photos-mac-os-x/>

App for viewing EXIF data on a Mac:

<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/viewexif/id945320815?mt=8&ign-mpt=uo%3D8>

# POD Ball Travels the East Coast



For the past fifteen or so years, the honorable POD Ball has been fiercely fought over between the US members and the Irish, supported by the entire EU . The history of the Pod Ball is a long a glorious one. As told (and possibly exaggerated) by none other than James Gahan, this was the ball that first made Derek Nally a household name all over Ireland. According to Mr. Gahan, it was a dark and stormy day in the late 1930s when Derek lead Wexford (or was it Tipperary) to the All Ireland Rugby Championship kicking this very ball through the uprights with no time remaining to lead his team to victory.

The Pod Ball was first auctioned off in 2003 in Kinsale, at which time Derek reenacted his famous kick, breaking a chandelier. The bidding was then on and at each AGM has often raised thousands of dollars to have the honor of holding the ball. The US contingent has always outbid the Irish and the only times the Irish have retained the famous ball is when they misappropriated it, as they recently did in 2013 at the AGM in Eniscorthy. It was considered such a serious breach of international protocol that Edna Kenny, the Taoiseach (Prime Minister ) of Ireland was called to bear considerable pressure on the Irish to return the ball to it rightful caretakers. Taoiseach Kenny even autographed this unique keepsake.

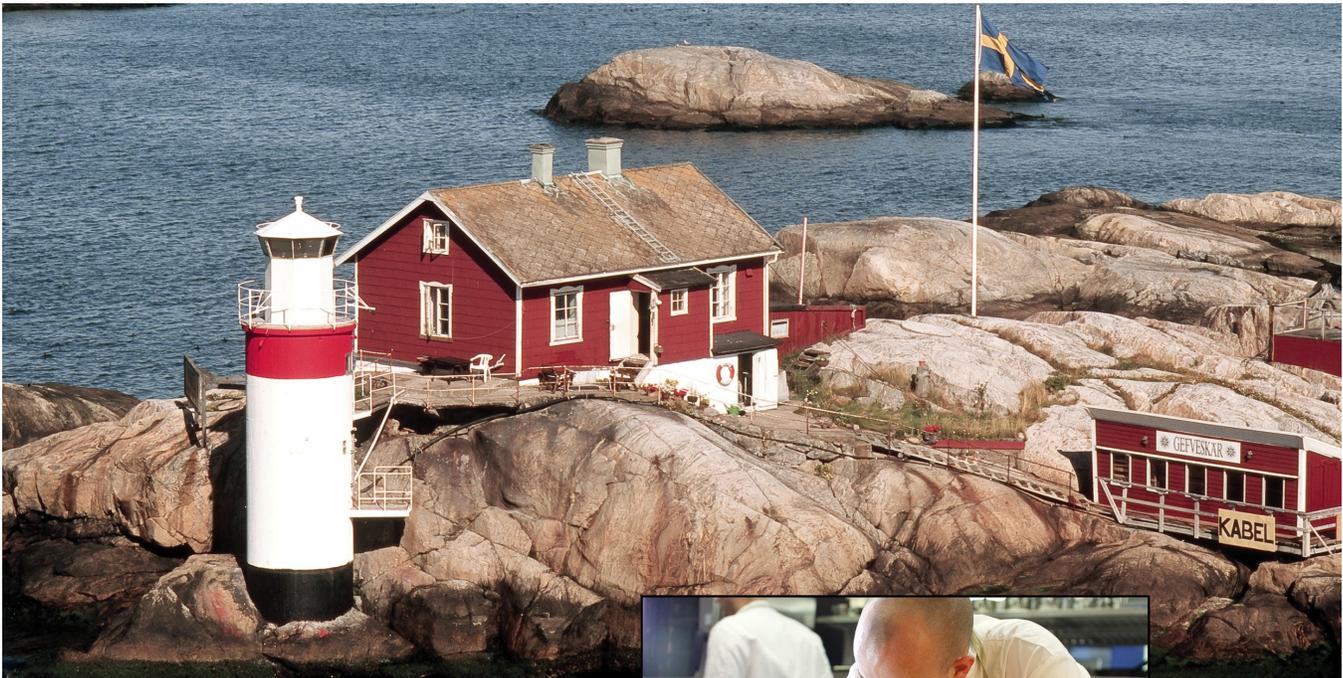
Fortunately the ball was reacquired by Galen Clements in India and Galen has reinstated the tradition of taking the POD ball on tour. This year the POD Ball made its debut on the East Coast having made appearances at the Army vs. Navy game in Philadelphia this past weekend; the Eagles vs. Buffalo Bills game on Sunday; the Vineyard Golf Resort at Renault Vineyards in Egg Harbor, NJ and Juniata Golf Club in Philadelphia. Lastly, the POD Ball visited Clements Global and NFC Global on December 14, to meet the 2009 Gold Coast Aussie ball (see above photo) rescued by the Yanks from Rod and Bob Coombs and the Eagles ball yet to be branded with any kind of title. Galen promises to keep the POD ball safe and secure from certain Irish pirates as it continues on tour.



On display with several admirers at the Renault Vineyards Golf Course



Galen and his son show off the POD ball at the Vineyards under the watchful eye of the Jersey Pine Barrens Moose!



Welcome to Sweden!



**CII Annual General Meeting  
in Gothenburg, Sweden**  
23th to 26th August, 2016



Photo: Jorma Valkonen / Mediabank Göteborg & Co (Archipelago)