

## TRUST

*by Mike Harris*

Where did one grow up? What were the people like? Was it in inner city or suburban or rural? How about financial environment? These few questions will definitely help address the subject of trust. Taking these in reverse order if one were raised in a middle class financial situation, that is no real hunger and fitting clothes so one did not attract undue attention, it made for acceptance by one's peers, thus no stress on trust. Let us turn the page, negative on all of the above, ill fitting clothes not fitting in, non-acceptance, one learns very quickly to be bewareing and very conscious of those around them and ready to defend against the hostility engendered.

Then there is the physical place, inner center major city (New York City). Financial condition does not play a significant part here. Here we have the battle for space, room to breathe, room to find a quiet place without feeling crowded or threatened. One is very quickly always aware of those immediately around them. The inner city has its enclaves, special sections develop, at your peril do not venture into strange territory without protection. Here there cannot be much trust.

Suburban living is less trying if one stays within their territory. People are more polite and daily living is less stressful and there is more trust within the neighborhood.

Rural living is most trusting because mainly almost everyone knows everyone, families know each other. The laws of society in a small town create a sense of trust, so where one grows up really sets the stage for how trusting one is going into the real world.

The real world is an entirely different ball of wax! Deals are not closed with a handshake. Lawyers and sharp operators are just waiting for the unwary. Merchants tell half truths. Everything is buyer beware. The trusting stranger in the real world is a sheep for the shearing.

There is very little trust, everything is recorded in ink on paper, signed and witnessed and notarized. The real world is not an easy place and trust is a forgotten word.

To sum this up, I do not remember where I picked it up, but the following makes sense: "Keep your friends close and your enemies closer."