

# CALDWELL TRUST COMPANY

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## Investment letter

### Philosopher Adler's beliefs set moral tone for government

A half-century or so ago, prominent philosopher and educator Mortimer J. Adler, Ph.D. (1902-2001) wrote and lectured extensively on the subject of ethics and character in life, business and governance. His harshest commentaries focused on what he perceived early on as an unhealthy trend in America, especially in the academic world, toward "scientism," in which science alone can render truth. In fact, his predictions about the dangers of "relativism" in all things now seem to have worked their way well into American life.

He was neither an economist nor a financially minded person. His principal interest was always to make "philosophy"—often a hard and serious-sounding word—into an everyday subject for ordinary people. He called it just plain "armchair" thinking. When asked what he thought was the right amount of financial success for any one person, his answer was just "enough" to eat well, stay warm and dry and live a full life with a minimum of financial worry.

While this is obviously a philosopher speaking, he lived his own life along these lines. But for anyone immersed in the financial world, who must strive to maximize returns while minimizing risk for investors, this idealistic definition is hard to reconcile with the real world.

Taking risks and accumulating capital in excess of one's needs and wants are goals as well as the results of free market capitalism at work. Our foundation was built on the general idea of wealth and excess capital creation as *needed* to finance expansion and employment opportunities for the maximum benefit of all citizens. When some, through skill and ability, enjoy a measure of what Aristotle and Adler called "good fortune," they create more wealth than Dr. Adler's "enough." That excess becomes the mother's milk of risk-taking capitalism, which fuels the growth that provides for the economic needs of those who are, by choice or nature, less successful financially.

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### Caldwell mourns the loss of co-founder Jack Meyerhoff

"Jack was truly a pillar of this community," said R. G. "Kelly" Caldwell, Jr., CEO/president of Caldwell Trust Company, on the loss of Jack F. Meyerhoff. "He touched every part of the community, and dare I say, each one of us in some special way."



Meyerhoff was a co-founder of Caldwell Trust Company and an active board member up to the time of his passing on September 14 at the age of 83. "I really got to know Jack after returning from college in 1988 and starting to work in the family business," Kelly said. "Jack and my father Roland were the best of friends. They were always hanging around each other, discussing investments, politics, the economy, and basically all the world's problems and how they would solve them!"

Kelly described Meyerhoff as a "polite powerbroker" who readily embraced new technology. "We called him 'Jack the Fax' because he never stopped thinking about ways to make things better. Even

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### Ron Foxworthy joins board of Trust Companies of America

Longtime community leader Ron Foxworthy has joined the board of Trust Companies of America, parent company of Caldwell Trust Company, according to R. G. "Kelly" Caldwell, Jr., CEO/president of both companies. Foxworthy fills the unexpired term of Jack Meyerhoff, who died on September 14. "We truly miss Jack," Caldwell says. "He left big shoes to fill, and we're honored that Ron has agreed to step in. He brings a keen business sense, an impressive record of achievements and a giving heart."



James F. Gabbert, chair of both boards, says, "Ron is a strong asset for Trust Companies of America. In addition to his extensive community service, he has achieved a lengthy and honorable record as a board chair or director of over a half-dozen banks. We know that he understands our business, and we welcome the insights he can share with us."

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# Caldwell Trust Company gains local and statewide recognition

## Caldwell Trust Company named first-place winner as “Best Investment Company”

Readers of the *Venice Herald-Tribune* have selected Caldwell Trust Company as first-place winner for 2009 in the category of “Best Investment Company.” The election was based on votes cast by *Venice Herald-Tribune* readers in its annual Readers’ Choice Awards.

“We thank our neighbors for recognizing our commitment to provide the best possible investment and trust services,” says R. G. “Kelly” Caldwell, Jr., CEO/president.

## R. G. “Kelly” Caldwell, Jr., named to statewide positions

R. G. “Kelly” Caldwell, Jr., CEO/president of Caldwell Trust Company, has been tapped for key executive positions in two professional organizations.

Kelly has been elected to serve on the **Florida Bankers Association** Trust, Asset Management and Private Banking Division Executive Committee. This committee, comprising over 45 member institutions, oversees the Trust, Asset Management and Private Banking Division of the Florida Bankers Association.



As reported previously, **Leadership Florida** has chosen Kelly as a member of its Class XXVIII. Leadership Florida describes itself as “a statewide community of leaders engaged in understanding and serving Florida.”

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## Investment letter – *Continued from page 1*

### The time has come for “armchair” thinking and a cautious approach

#### Human tendencies may increase government intrusion

Unfortunately, history also shows that as free societies grow and mature, political impulses increase on the strength of the financial differences that are created. Rightly or wrongly, these impulses gain credence because of factors that are inherent in human nature when disparities widen between us. Humans almost always tend toward excessive swings at both the good and bad ends of the economic cycle, resulting in a political mood that increases governmental intrusion in private economy, notwithstanding that the success record of such intrusions has been dismal at best.

For Dr. Adler, however, these economic aspects of democracy or free market capitalism were not at the heart of his worries. Rather, it was his dire observations of man’s nature, and

of what happens when a system’s academics begin to believe and teach that only that which is determinable with scientific certitude is worthy of study or inquiry. Scientism concluded, and taught today’s leaders, that because fields of study in the social sphere, philosophy included, can produce only opinions—not certitudes—that anyone’s take on a subject is as right or good as another’s. Adler viewed “might makes right” as the outcome of such thinking, and foretold that this way of thinking would be the only remaining alternative for leaders and the powerful.

#### Government must provide the framework

If liberty, equality and justice are to prevail and thrive, our

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*“...our response to investors is to be skeptical about embracing the DJIA’s recent rise as a ‘return to normal...”*

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leaders in business and government and our voters must conduct themselves with morality, character, self-restraint and a strong sense of ethics. If we follow these virtues, our government’s role must be to provide the framework for capitalism to flourish at the individual level, rather than to control the economy. So, we suggest that investors do some simple “armchair” thinking and ask themselves if the government’s recent actions (stimulus plan with resulting record deficits) and current proposals (health care mandates, cap and trade/energy tax, automatic tax increases when cuts expire in 2010) will be the shot in the arm needed to turn the economy around, or will it continue at its anemic pace.

#### CONCLUSION:

With the DJIA now fluctuating near 10,000 and the fear felt while the market bottomed in March 2009 subsiding, a sense of normalcy seems to have returned. But when we are asked, our response to investors is to be skeptical about embracing the DJIA’s recent rise as a “return to normal,” lest we forget that the market is still off 4,000 points, 28% from its October 2007 high.

Right now, politics with a capital “P” is dominating this marketplace; we expect a confused market until our government provides some definitive rules of the game. In a recent teleconference with Art Laffer, the term “sugar rush” was used to describe the likelihood that taxpayers will take as much income/gain in the next 6 to 8 months as possible, before the Bush tax cuts expire and tax rates increase. This is just human nature, much like the way automobile sales surged during the “Cash for Clunkers” program before falling out of bed once it expired. For longer-term investors, it is hard to be optimistic about a strong recovery until sound policies coming out of Washington will allow for wealth creation in this economy.

# Sonya Dlug finds both career and family at Caldwell Trust Company

Sonya Dlug knew that her job as hostess in a Venice restaurant wouldn't take her in the direction she wanted—although it did hold other promises for her future.



After finishing her associate's degree at Manatee Community College, Sonya was working towards a bachelor's degree at the University of South Florida. In 2003, a restaurant co-worker recommended her to Caldwell's vice president/trust officer Jan Miller, who was based in the Sarasota office, and Jan spoke with Marcia DeVries, chief financial officer and treasurer, in Venice. "I walked into the Venice office and met Marcia," Sonya says. "She dropped everything to interview me."

Marcia called Sonya back for meetings with Jan and CEO/president R.G. "Kelly" Caldwell, Jr., and suddenly Sonya was an intern. However, she continued her job at the restaurant while finishing her studies.

Sonya enjoyed working with Marcia, but in 2005 Kelly suggested she round out the last six months of her internship by joining Jan Miller in the Sarasota office. She has been with Jan ever since.

Upon graduation in 2005, Sonya became a fulltime trust assistant

and later a trust associate. She was promoted to the position of assistant trust officer this past summer.

Dlug has completed Florida Trust School programs sponsored by the Florida Bankers Association, advancing through Graduate Level II. She has also completed programs in fiduciary income tax, basics of probate practice and special needs trusts.

"Sonya has been a very welcome addition to our Caldwell family," Kelly says. "We have been encouraged as we watched her grow. We could not be more pleased with her achievements."

While working at the Venice restaurant, Sonya and another employee, Robert Dlug, began to date. "We only worked together for a year, then he went into the Marine Corps for five years," she says. That left her free to pursue her studies, win academic honors, do volunteer work and advance her career. Now Robert is back, and they were married in May. A honeymoon will have to wait though; they're too busy fixing up their new home.

"It is unusual that your first real career job is at a place you see yourself working for the long term," Sonya says. "I love that Caldwell Trust Company is family-owned and very family-oriented."

To reach Sonya, please call 941-926-9336 or write to her at [Sonya@ctrust.com](mailto:Sonya@ctrust.com).

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## The community fondly remembers Jack Meyerhoff, 'polite powerbroker'

while he was on vacations with Margie, he would send frequent faxes with ideas and solutions."

Recognized by *Who's Who In America* for his financial leadership, Meyerhoff retired from a corporate career in 1981 but "I never really stopped working," he said last year. An organizer of the Venice Chamber of Commerce, he volunteered his services to so many organizations that the City of Venice named him a "Pillar of Our Community" in 2003.

In addition to Caldwell Trust Company, Jack held board positions with Manatee Community College Foundation (now State College of Florida) and the Robert and Joan Lee Boys & Girls Club, among others. He served on the board of the Venice Hospital Foundation for 25 years and helped with the hospital's sale to *Bon Secours*. Proceeds led to the establishment of the Gulf Coast Community Foundation of Venice, which has made grants of well over \$76 million to date. These perpetual legacies, among others, made Jack Meyerhoff justifiably proud.

### Jack's honors continue, even after death

Many have honored Jack during his life and after his passing. The Boys & Girls Clubs of Sarasota County had already scheduled its Dream Makers Ball, set for the Hyatt Regency on November 21, to laud him as a "Home Town Hero." Jack was looking forward to attending. Now his widow Margie will accept the award.

"Jack was like a grandfather for the Boys & Girls Club kids," says J. Mack Reid, President/CEO of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Sarasota County. "He believed in each one of them and felt that we offered exactly what they needed to reach their full potential. Our board wanted to honor Jack for his wonderful support, particularly for the Robert & Joan Lee Club in Venice."

State College of Florida is also honoring Jack and Margie. They are naming room 856 in the Sarah H. Pappas Professional Development Center on the Venice campus as the Jack and Margie Meyerhoff Simulation Lab. A co-founder of the Venice campus, Meyerhoff had helped raise funds for the College's first endowed chairs, setting a record for the largest gift ever donated to the college—\$6 million when matched with state funds.

"Jack was a behind-the-scenes kind of guy who wanted to get things done," SCF Board Chair Steve Harner said. "He always recognized that education was an important asset to the community and that this college filled that role admirably."

"There was one role that I cherish the most," Kelly said. "I called Jack my adopted father and he called me his adopted son. He helped me grow up, saw me marry and have three beautiful sons, and then he adopted my wife and children as his own. He always reminded me, there is nothing more precious than family and the time spent with them. We will miss him, but he will live on in each of us."

## Ron Foxworthy brings long history of experience, community service

Foxworthy is equally pleased with the move. "I've known this company ever since they started," he says. "They're just the best. They've been handling my account, and the accounts of my friends, for years. They do a great job. They're just good, honest people."

Foxworthy is perhaps best known for the 40 years he has devoted to handicapped children. Twenty-five years ago, he was a founder of The Suncoast Foundation for Handicapped Children, which began Sarasota's Offshore Boat Races. As a member of the steering committee for the boat race and chair of the Foundation's building committee, he has been involved with the construction of buildings totaling 80,000 square feet of space and valued at \$12 to \$15 million. The Suncoast Foundation leases these structures for one dollar per year to The Florida Center for Children and Families, Special Olympics, Children's Haven and similar organizations. In recognition of his service, Sarasota County has renamed the former By-Pass Park in Venice as The Ronald Foxworthy Campus.

Ron's community service has also been business-oriented. For forty years—from 1967 through 2007—he was a director of FCCI. He was also a co-founder of The Argus Foundation, where he has been a director for 24 years. In 2007, The Argus Foundation honored him with its Lifetime Achievement Award.

### A career interrupted by military service

Foxworthy has lived in the Sarasota-Manatee area since he was six months old. He attended Sarasota Plumbing School after graduating from Sarasota High School, then began a plumbing career that was interrupted by military service. He served on active duty with the U.S. Navy from 1951 through 1955 and

with the U. S. Navy Reserve until June 1959. He won the Korean Service Medal with three Battle Stars and the U.S. Presidential Unit Citation Award.

In 1956, he founded Rusty Plumbing, Inc., and operated this thriving business until 1999, when he turned it over to Donald Powers. He was also a developer for 30 years with partners Jack Bryant and Russ Currin. Their numerous successful projects include industrial centers (Whitfield Industrial Center, Saunders Road Industrial Center, Clark Road Industrial Center) and residential communities (Island Reef Condo, Turtle Bay Condo, Hidden Lagoon Condo, Hideaway Bay and Laurel Oak Country Club).

Ron and Mary Helene were married in Bermuda in 1997. He has two children, Scott and Alisa, and a stepson, Doug Brumbaugh, as well as five grandchildren. Despite his many commitments, this versatile man has found time to log 47 years as a private pilot and to score an astounding 13 holes-in-one.

### *Holiday Wishes*



As we move towards the holidays and a new year, it seems appropriate to remember those we've lost in 2009, with gratitude for the many ways they enriched our lives. Now it's time to gather our loved ones near and hold them close as we celebrate the most joyous of seasons.

We send our warmest wishes for a happy and festive holiday season and a prosperous new year!

## CALDWELL TRUST COMPANY

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### FOUNDING PRINCIPLES

- Provide our clients with highly personalized, one-on-one attention and care.
- Satisfy and retain clients, building loyalties and gaining word-of-mouth referrals that attract new clients.
- Provide better service by using the latest electronic technology to implement our functions internally.
- Hire skilled, experienced trust professionals and help them to become part-owners, thus nurturing loyalty and eagerness to serve.

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