



Georgia Gems

A Publication of the Georgia Jewelers Association

Georgia Jewelers Association, 5815 Fairwood Walk, Acworth GA, 30101
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Dear Georgia Jewelers,

I hope this newsletter finds you well and with great expectations for the remainder of 2010. In April we enjoyed another combined convention with the Alabama and Georgia Jewelers Associations at Sandestin Resort in Destin, FL. What a wonderful place for the event.

The accommodations, food, and programs made the weekend both informative and enjoyable.

It was great meeting, and getting to know better, our fellow jewelers from Alabama. Hearing new ideas and new perspectives from others in our industry is one of the many benefits of involvement in Georgia Jewelers. The round table discussions offer a great avenue for the exchanging and sharing of ideas to help us build and improve our own businesses.

The Georgia Jewelers' Design Contest had twenty-six entries. The competition was intense with the People's Choice Award decided by just one vote. Congratulations to all the 2010 winners.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Eddie Knox for the terrific job he has done the past two years. It is not easy to take care of your day-to-day commitments and still do the job as president. I must also thank him for his great support of the Design Contest.



Eddie Knox, GJA outgoing president and John Reed, newly elected president share thoughts during GJA April convention



Lastly, I must thank our wonderful Executive Director, Judy, Lince. Judy makes this job much easier with her support of the president and each of the office holders. I look forward to working with Judy and our new officers to make 2010 and 2011 great years for the Georgia Jewelers Association.

Fondly,

John

John Reed, JWR Jewelers, Athens
GJA President



Welcome New Members

New Associate Members

Welcome to our newest associate members

Tom Greenless, **Laser Star Technologies**, Orlando, FL

Steve Dabbs, **Judy Carter & Associates**, Cumming, GA



GJA Board Meeting Notice

8/8 @ 8

Please be advised that a board meeting will be held on **August 8, 2010** at **8:00AM** at the Atlanta Jewelry Show. Membership, 2010 yearbook and 2011 convention are among the important topics. The attendance of all officers, board members and past presidents is requested.

John Reed
GJA President

2010 GJA Board

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Georgia Jewelers Association

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3 rd quarter	August	15
4 th Quarter	November	15

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Calendar of Events

July 25-27 RJO (Kansas City)

July 25-28 JA NY Jewelry show

July 31-August 3 IJO (Washington , DC)

August 7-9 SJTA Jewelry Show (Atlanta Cobb Galleria)

August 8 GJA Board Meeting 8AM Cobb Galleria

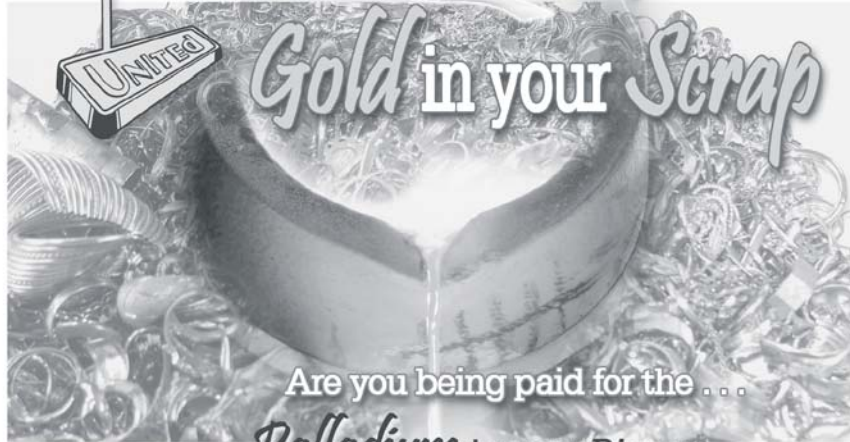
August 21-22 Mid-America Jewelry Show (Columbus)

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GJA Jewelry Design Contest Winners Announced



Marietta, GA jeweler Johnny Johnson won the "Best of Show" category in the Georgia Jewelers Association Annual Jewelry Design Contest. Held at the Sandestin Resort in Destin, FL, the design contest took place April 11th during the association's annual convention.

Johnson, owner of Edward-Johns Jewelers in Marietta took top billing. His winning design was a sterling silver and 14K yellow gold Cats Eye rutilated quartz and diamond ring.

As Best of Show winner, Johnson's piece will be entered in the recently announced Atlanta Jewelry Show's jewelry design competition to be held during the 2011 spring show in Atlanta. Winners from state wide jewelry design competitions will be invited to send their states winning design entry to the competition.

Awards were given in four different value categories as well as best of show and the Peoples Choice award. The winning selections are chosen based on overall design, marketability, practicality and wearability, and craftsmanship. A panel of judges selected the winners for each category.

Judging the competition were Adam Staub, national sales manager for Galatea, Doug Hucker, CEO of the American Gem Trade Association and Bill Wismar, Alabama Jewelers Association design contest chairman and owner of Metal Binders in Fairhope, AL.

Other category winners included:

Category 1A:

1st place: Jana Barry,
Edward-Johns Jewelers,
Marietta, GA-sterling silver
disc with lizard pendant



2nd place: Eddie Knox,
Knox Jewelers, Atlanta, GA-
sterling silver, meteorite,
enamel, and glass
pendant.



Category 1B:

1st place: Jana Barry,
Edward-Johns Jewelers,
Marietta, GA-18K yellow and
14K white gold black Tahitian
Pearl and diamond ring



2nd place: Anna
Johnson, Edward Johns
Jewelers, Marietta, GA
Palladium and 14K white
gold amethyst and
diamond pendant



Category 2:

1st place: Jonathan
Meadows, Art Jewelers,
Woodstock, GA-24K yellow
gold and 18K white gold
Tanzanite pendant



2nd place: John Johnson,
Edward-Johns Jewelers,
Marietta, GA-14K Yellow and
18K white gold black Drusy
and diamond pendant



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Category 3:

1st place: John Johnson,
 Edward-Johns Jewelers,
 Marietta, GA-Palladium
 and 14K white gold
 Tanzanite, Tsavorite Garnet
 and diamond pendant



2nd place: Jonathan
 Meadows, Art Jewelers,
 Woodstock, GA-14K white
 gold diamond earrings



The coveted Peoples Choice award was awarded to Mikheil Kautenzki from Tena's Jewelry in Elberton, GA. A frequent participant and past winner in the competition, his winning piece was a 14K yellow and white gold pearl, ruby and diamond necklace.

Winners in each category received a plaque and the congratulations of the judges and their peers.

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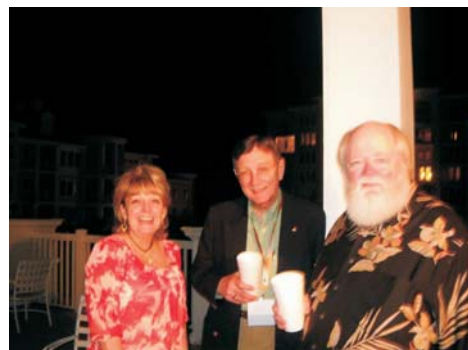
Convention Photos



Doug Hucker, AGTA president and Chris Gruttadauria of JCK



Adam Schaper, SE Findings/Namano runs the Texas Hold'em charity poker tournament for JFC as Nancy Dawkins, AJA past president looks on



Anna and Johnny Johnson catch up with Tim Haney, center



Steve Dabbs , Judy Carter & Ass, helps Don Lowe, AJA president man the refreshments in the hospitality suite



Judy Lince 's husband Mike and daughter Whitney, center, renew friendships with Terry Phillips and Jean Graham of JC Grant



One of two round table discussion groups



Doug Hucker of AGTA presents his program



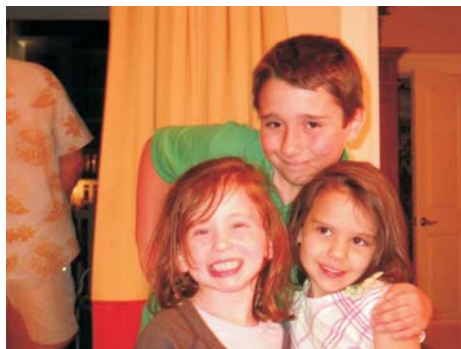
Georgia and Alabama jewelers gather to see newest Gemvision software with Doug Johnson



Claudia Zale, Stuller VP speaks with retailers



Somebody must be winning with all those smiles!



The next generation of jewelers?



Stuller's Darrell Warren explains some of the trailer full of equipment Stuller brought to share

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Condolences

Margaret J. Allen, age 76, died Apr. 20, 2010 at Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital, Albany. Margaret owned **Russell A. Jones Jewelry (Cordele, GA)** for 35 years later working for J. W. Designs for the past four years as a floral designer. She was a registered gemologist, certified appraiser and wedding consultant. She was a past president of the Georgia Jewelers Association. Margaret attended Agnes Scott College and received her undergraduate degree from the University of Georgia in 1956. Her master's degree in speech pathology was received from Auburn University in 1971. She was a member of Alpha Delta Pi.

She is survived by her daughters: Anne Allen of Jacksonville, Fla. and Kathy McDonald, and her husband Scott, of Peachtree City, Ga.; a very special granddaughter: Frances Anne McDonald; her brother: Russell A. Jones, M.D., and his wife Katie of, Chattanooga, Tenn.; a niece Jennifer Jones and a nephew Jason Jones.

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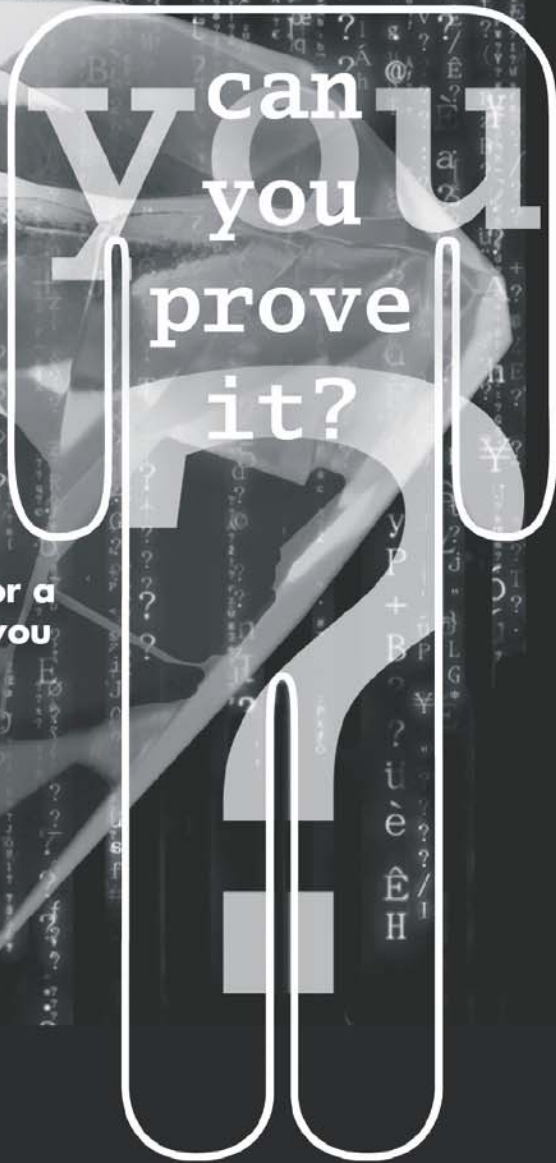
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Jewelers Helping Others this Spring

In the last two months Georgia and surrounding jewelers have been busy helping others. During our April convention Southeastern Findings & Namano sponsored a Texas Hold'em poker tournament with all proceeds going to Jewelers for Children and their legacy charities. \$675 was raised during the Saturday night game. Adam Schaper and Mark Smith from SE Findings & Namano rounded up the players from Alabama, Georgia and salesmen from other states and rounded up the proceeds for this fun time for the second year in a row.

Earlier that same evening during the cocktail hour, raffle tickets were offered for a chance to win a two night stay at the Waverly Hotel at the Cobb Galleria during the August show courtesy the Atlanta Jewelry show. At the same time, parties bid on jewelry made by children for the Make-A-Wish Foundation during a silent auction. \$1500 was raised for Make-A-Wish of Alabama and Georgia.

On May 25th Ford, Gittings and Kane Jewelers in Rome helped grant a wish for a Make-A-Wish child. The wish granting party was themed Hawaiian to match the wish of 18 year old Brittany Weldon who suffers from cystic fibrosis, a disease that affects her lungs and digestive system. She and her family will fly to Hawaii this summer thanks to Make-A-Wish and were treated to a "bon voyage party" at the store, gifts and dinner at her favorite restaurant courtesy of owners Alice Herring and Jan Ferguson.

On June 3, Lissa Maxwell, of Nashville was named "Woman of the Year" by the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Maxwell is Director of Operation for Diamond Council of America in Nashville and an Atlanta Jewelry show exhibitor for many years. She beat out other candidates when she raised \$37,000 for LLS. Congrats to Lissa for her fund raising efforts and for becoming engaged six days earlier!

8/8@8
GJA board meeting

Georgia Jewelers Association

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