

Georgia Gems A Publication of the Georgia Jewelers Association

Georgia Jewelers Association 5815 Fairwood Walk, Acworth GA, 30101 Phone: 770-424-7567 Fax: 770-424-9438

Dear Esteemed Georgia Jewelers.

On the heels of our first combined Alabama Georgia Jewelers Association convention I am feeling great about our organization. In a sprit of cooperation and sharing we did something that we have been talking about for years. As far as I



am concerned it was a fantastic weekend and I think that most who attended went away with a good feeling. It was great to meet our fellow jewelers from Alabama and get their perspective on this wonderful industry that we work

When I spoke to people that attended the owner's round table they said that the sharing that took place really gave them some ideas that they could take back to their stores and use in promoting their business. Fresh ideas are always welcome and were in good supply during the convention.

The vendor cafe was a great way to meet our vendors & sponsors and see their wares. I found some good solutions to issues that I had in the store and I have put them to use since. I hope the vendor cafe continues to be a growing part of our future conventions.

I would like to thank Andy Macaulay of Chippenhook for showing us tips on how to spruce up our stores and display our jewelry merchandise in more effective ways. I would like to give a thank you to Louis Scholz of Brixton & Gill and Fine Jewelry by Louis for his seminar on effective ways to make money during these trying times.

The design contest was full of beautifully designed jewelry. I must give hats off to Aline Ezquerra from Leebrant Jewelers for all of her hard work on the design contest. She did a fantastic job. This year we had some incredible entries that I am sure made the job of judging very hard. Thank you to all of the designers that put their hard work and time into making these beautiful pieces

that made the design contest such a success. I would like to thank Doug Johnson of Gemvision for driving all the way down to our convention to help us take pictures of our design contest.

I hope that you took some time to get out doors and enjoy the gardens by golfing, hiking, driving or biking. There was a lot to see and do at the gardens and my family took in the sights by bicycle. It was a wonderful hour and it rounded out a great weekend.

Lastly I would like to thank our wonderful executive directors Judy Lince and Kathy Beall whose hard work and dedication made this weekend what it was. I also would like to extend our gratitude to our sponsors whose contributions made this week end possible.

I cannot wait to see what we cook up for next year and I am looking forward to our next coconvention. If you missed this one, please plan to attend in 2010.

Eddie Knox President GJA

Yearbook Need

Next month we will begin selling ads for our first ever "Holiday Yearbook". Although we switched our convention to the spring this year your board decided to stay with a fall yearbook. All our past advertisers will be solicited for ads. We are asking all our retailers to send us items they would like to have in the yearbook. Standard jeweler's weights and measures, anniversary gift list and other pertinent information have been suggested. While we can't promise to use all your submissions, the more we have to choose from the better the book. Please drop me an e mail (judylince@comcast.net) or call me (770-424-7567) with your suggestions by August 1st.

Thanks, Judy

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Georgia Jewelers Association

Executive Director: Judy Lince 5815 Fairwood Walk Acworth, GA 30101 (Phone)770-424-7567 (Fax) 770-4249438 judylince@comcast.net http://www.georgiajewlers.org

Publication & Distribution

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1 st Quarter	February	15
2 nd Quarter	May	15
3 rd quarter	August	15
4 th Quarter	November	15

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Change of address should be sent to the GJA headquarters location above. Georgia Gems, in its sole discretion, reserves the right to run ad material on hand if material not received by copy deadline date.

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1846 Cheshire Bridge Road Atlanta, GA 30324

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Calender of Events

July 18-22 IJO (Charlotte)

July 26-29 **JA Show** (NY)

August 1-3 **RJO Show** (Covington, KY)

August 8-10 SJTA (Atlanta)

October 25-27 **JA Special Delivery**Show (NY)

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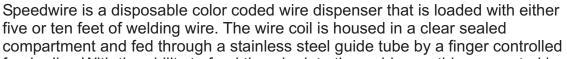
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Tech Corner

One thing that drives me crazy is to have my wire in place just where I want it and when I hit it with the laser it jumps. This has caused me many hours of frustration. While at the recent 2009 Georgia Alabama Convention I had the pleasure to meet Glenn Manning of Manning Jewelers. Besides being a second generation jeweler and store owner, Glen is an inventor as well. He has created a device that allows you to control precisely where wire is placed when laser welding. This device is called speedwire and it is just that.



feed roller. With the ability to feed the wire into the weld smoothly, supported by the tube (as close as 2mm from the weld), the results are extreme accuracy and speed. The wire Glen uses welds cleanly and with out complications. I love this product. Gone are the tangle of wire that always happens to 30gauge wire (you cannot see it without help) and happens when you have a rush job and do not have time to untangle wire. Small wire also has the tendency to move no matter how steady you are and it also has a tendency to hop out of place when you hit it with the laser. With speedwire I have found that these problems are almost non-existent. I think if you laser weld a lot like I do you will find this product invaluable.

Speedwire contact info is (866) 999-5359 or at www.speedjeweler.com. Or you can email or call me and we can discuss any topic you like. eddie@knoxjeweles.com or (770) 757-2485.

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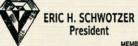
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2009 Design Contest Results

For the second year in a row, a jeweler from Athens has won the "best of show" category in the Georgia Jewelers Association Annual Jewelry Design Contest. Held at the Callaway Gardens Resort in Pine Mountain, GA, the design contest took place April 19th during the association's annual convention.

Best of Show, was awarded to Paul Henriques of JWR Jewelers in Athens. Henrique's winning piece also received the People's Choice award during the Sunday luncheon meeting. His winning design was a palladium and platinum necklace with pink tourmaline, yellow sapphire, rhodalite garnet and diamond. In 2008 his pendant inspired by a four leaf clover and containing a triangular cut 'Maw Sit Sit jade stone, tsavorite garnet and diamonds took the top prize.



Best of Show and Peoples Choice Award Winner

As best of show, Henrique's piece will be entered in the JA Show in New York next year.

Awards were given in four different value categories as well as best of show. 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. Other category winners included:

Category 1A: 1st place: Eddie Knox, Knox Jewelers, Atlanta --sterling silver brooch of a pair of zebras; 2nd place: Jonathan Meadows, Art Jewelers, Woodstock --antique silver fork forged into pendant holding red coral; 3rd place: John Johnson, Edward Joh<u>ns Jewelers, Marietta--</u>sterling silver and sapphire star ring.



1st Place



2nd Place



3rd Place

Category 1 B:1st place: Mikheil Kautzengzhi, Tena's Jewelry, Elberton-- 18K yellow gold pendant with diamonds, rubies, pearl and carved turquoise; 2nd place: Jana Barry, Edward Johns Jewelers, Marietta-- sterling silver garnet and diamond pendant; 3rd place: Kamal El Moukha, Rosenfeld Jewelry, LTD, Tucker--14k white gold blue topaz and diamond ring.



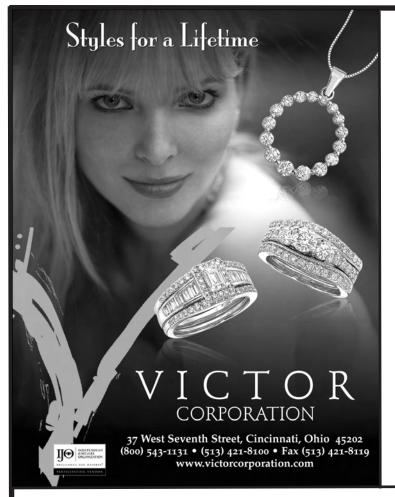
1st Place

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2nd Place



3rd Place



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Category 2:1st place: Mikheil Kautzengzhi, Tena's Jewelry, Elberton--14K white, rose and yellow gold Mother's ring with white and yellow diamonds, ruby, blue topaz, peridot and carved turquoise; 2nd place: Jonathan Meadows, Art Jewelers, Woodstock -18K yellow gold with platinum reversible pink spinel and green diamond pendant; 3nd place: John Johnson, Edward Johns Jewelers, Marietta, --14K Yellow gold diamond and fancy cut onyx pendant.



1st Place



2nd Place



3rd Place

Category 3:1st place: John Johnson, Edward Johns Jewelers, Marietta--14K yellow and white gold Diamond pendant; 2nd place: Jonathan Meadows, Art Jewelers, Woodstock --14K yellow gold gents snake motif ring with diamond and pearl; 3rd place: Eddie Knox, Knox Jewelers, Atlanta --18K Yellow gold Amethyst and diamond pendant.



1st Place



2nd Place



3rd Place

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

Good jewelry appraisal = satisfied customer

Writing an appraisal may seem like a tedious task. However, carefully documented, detailed appraisals are crucial in providing our mutual customer with accurate insurance coverage.

Jewelers Mutual, like most insurers, uses insurance evaluations and appraisals to establish the appropriate limit of insurance for a customer.

First, a vivid description

Because underwriters never "see" the insured item, the appraisal helps the underwriter visualize the item. Include photos too! Then, carefully document details to support the value for which the item is appraised.

Include major characteristics and major components of the item. For example:

- Metals
- · Stones
- Trademarks
- Weight
- Enhancements
- Finish

If an item includes a stone with a lab report or certification from a professional grading organization, such as AGS or GIA, indicate that on the appraisal or insurance evaluation. Include the document's number and attach a copy of the lab report or certificate with the appraisal.

Determine the value

Loss situations test the value of the appraisal. A good appraisal or insurance evaluation should *reflect the retail replacement value in a normal market*.

Too often appraisals are vague, over- or under-valued, or incomplete.

Don't overvalue the appraisal. You may think overvaluing does your customer a favor, but in reality, it simply causes the customer to pay higher insurance premiums.

Undervaluing an appraisal can be disastrous, resulting in a bad experience for all. While the customer may pay lower premiums, if the item is lost or stolen he or she may not have enough coverage to pay for the replacement. Accuracy is critical.

Bottom line: Provide your customer with the actual value of the appraised item in a *normal market* so that the customer can replace their piece.

Note volatile markets

Especially during these turbulent times, it's important to consider the market when the item is appraised. In a volatile market period, note on the appraisal that the values should be reviewed in six months because market values are greatly fluctuating. Be sure to explain to the customer why re-valuing is important.

Include taxes

When writing the appraisal, Jewelers Mutual reminds you to be sure to include the tax, as tax will be assessed to the customer in a repair or loss situation.

By working together we can provide the best service for our mutual customer. Visit www.jewelersmutual.com for more information. Jewelers Mutual Insurance Company is the only U.S. insurer solely dedicated to insuring the jeweler industry and jewelry. If you are not yet working with Jewelers Mutual, call us to learn more, 800-558-6411.

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Gittings first in Northwest Georgia to get Distinguished Scout Award

The Boy Scouts of America had a surprise waiting for Joe Gittings on Sunday morning, March 1. 2009 at Trinity United Methodist Church. Gittings received the Distinguished Eagle Scout Award — the first such award for an Eagle Scout in the Northwest Georgia Council. Scouts he led during his 20 years as a scoutmaster joined his family and friends at a reception after the church service, where Gittings expressed his joy at the award and the turnout. "I can't say how proud I am to see everyone here," he said. "Some of my former scouts came from a long way to be here for this." Gittings received his Eagle Scout ranking, 67 years ago, on the day the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor.

He said he remembers listening to the radio for the entire afternoon. Three years later, he joined the Army at age 17 and was serving in the infantry on Okinawa when the war ended in 1945. After the war, Gittings went to horology school, where he learned to repair watches, then returned to Rome. He served as scoutmaster for Troop 28 at West Rome Methodist Church from 1953 to 1973.

"Those were the best years of my life, and I enjoyed it more than the boys did," Gittings said. "We did a lot of camping, hiking, exploring and even canoeing." During his tenure as scoutmaster, he watched 20 of his scouts receive their Eagle Scout ranking. George Joyner, who acted as Gittings' assistant scoutmaster, said he was a great leader. "We had a lot of good times with him," Joyner said. "Some of the best memories we had were on our camping trips." One of Gittings' legacies was to ensure the Northwest Georgia Council would have canoes, arranging for 18 to be

donated in the late 1950s. This was after his troop struggled to find enough canoes for its first trip down the **Etowah River** from Allatoona Dam to Rome. Gittings is the first Eagle Scout in the area to receive the Distinguished Eagle Scout Award.

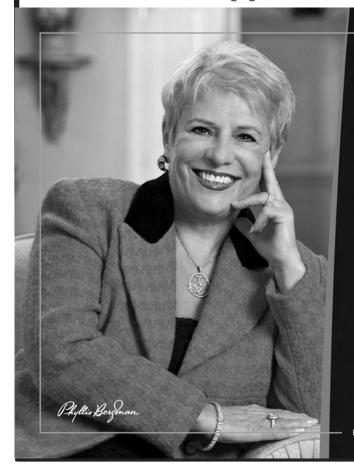


Joe Gittings receives the Distinguished Eagle Scout Award on Sunday from Buford Hill, who also holds the award, at Trinity United Methodist Church. Gittings originally received his Eagle ranking on the Japanese bombed Peatl Harbor

Chick Harvey, the Scout Executive for the Northwest Georgia Council for the Boy Scouts of America, said the award was created in 1969 to "recognize those individuals who have distinguished themselves in the community."

"Of the million or more Eagle Scouts in the United States, only 2,000 have received this award since it was first created," Harvey said.

Some of the notable dignitaries who have received the award include former president Gerald Ford; astronaut Neil Armstrong; billionaire Ross Perot; director Steven Spielberg; and Donald Rumsfeld, former secretary of defense.



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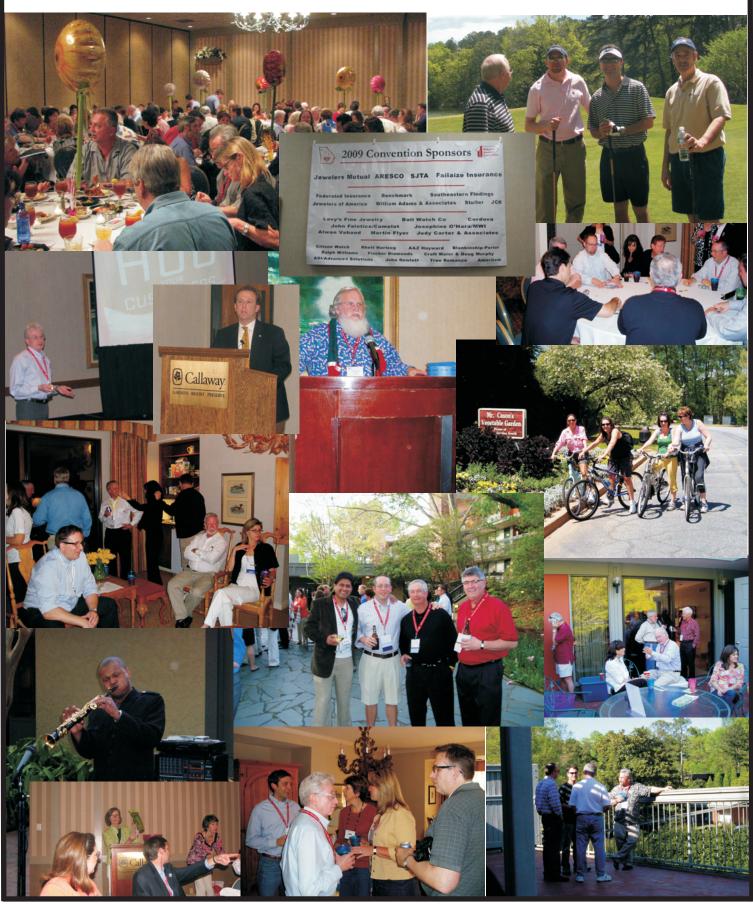
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2009 Convention





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Georgia Jewelers Association

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