

# AGA Update

 ACCREDITED GEMOLOGISTS ASSOCIATION

## SPRING '88 ISSUE

### A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As we move into a new and exciting year for AGA, we look back with pride on our accomplishments. I have enclosed, as required by the constitution, our '87 financial report. As you can see we ended the year in the black. This will enable us to move ahead with many projects we've longed to do for some time.

Tucson '88 was a tremendous success and the video tapes are almost finished, for those of you who couldn't make it. The feedback from the surveys we sent out is providing a lot of good ideas for next year's conference. At our board of directors meeting in Tucson, one of the major topics was ongoing education. We formed the basis for an "education committee" whose task will be to create post graduate gemological training. The idea, it is hoped, will evolve into a full blown course for those who want to stay at the forefront of technology, practical testing and valuation. The first project of this committee is a series of mini-conferences. These will be intensive one and two day hands on workshops dealing with issues of important current gemological concerns. The first is tentatively scheduled for the end of May and will feature C.R. "Cap" Beesley. The topic is country of origin and treatment of colored gems. This will be held in Salt Lake City and will be Friday and Saturday with a concluding fieldtrip Sunday to the Red Beryl mines in Delta Utah. The second is tentatively scheduled for the end of August in San Diego. Friday and Saturday will feature a hands on workshop on diamonds and will conclude with a fieldtrip to the Tourmaline mines on Sunday. These classes will be limited to twenty participants. More on these in future issues.

Our accredited lab program has been well received and a directory of Accredited Labs will be featured in the upcoming CORNERSTONE.

**PLEASE VOTE!** Enclosed you will find a ballot to vote for a proposed change to the constitution. This should make vast improvements in the governmental structure of AGA. Read it carefully and send your vote back today.

Very soon you will receive information on

upcoming elections. We already have members responding who want to run. The board addressed the issue of elections and revised the way the nominating committee will post names and selections on the voting ballot. Full details on elections will follow in future issues.

AGA has made special arrangements to start a new program called "LAB ALERT" on our bulletin board, AGANET. We are also negotiating to place a very large gemological library and database on AGANET. These will be pay channels. Lab alert will feature gemological lab news from major laboratories around the world and will be coordinated by American Gemological Laboratories and C.R. "Cap" Beesley. We would like to thank Cap for all his help on this project. Stay tuned for developments on this exciting event.

Many more projects are in the works and AGA is headed for a terrific year. Still the best bargain going, AGA has more to offer you! Thanks to all who helped this past year; the board, the governors, the committees and their chairs, the speakers, and especially you, the membership. **KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!**

### PLEASE CHECK YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS !

Please check your name, address, membership number and titles as they appeared last year in the CORNERSTONE and especially on the mailing label of this issue of UPDATE. If you have any changes you want made please rush them to me in the post paid envelope with your ballot envelope. We go to press with the CORNERSTONE at the end of April and if you have a change we need it right away. Also there is a form for sending names of people you think might like to join AGA. Please send us the names and we'll do the rest. Help us grow.

**GOT AN IDEA? AN ARTICLE YOU WANT PUBLISHED? A CRITICISM, OR COMPLIMENT? A GEMOLOGICAL PROBLEM YOU WANT HELP WITH? WANT TO DO RESEARCH? AGA IS THERE TO HELP IT'S MEMBERS! LET US HEAR FROM YOU.....!**

## VIDEO ON "A DIAMOND CUTTER'S SECRETS: HOW TO SUCCESSFULLY BUY A DIAMOND"

Originally made as a consumer guide, this video can be an asset to both the owners and staff of jewelry stores. It may be used to train sales people and improve their knowledge about diamonds. You could also show the tape to a prospective buyer to answer their questions about diamonds.

This 60 minute video tells the viewer everything about diamonds. Things such as:

- \*How to color grade a diamond
- \*It shows how to judge clarity and examples from flawless to 1-3 grade
- \*How to use a microscope
- \*How to "wet grade" a stone
- \*Where the price breaks are on carat weight
- \*How to use scales to determine carat weight
- \*The diamond cutter takes the viewer into the cutting area and shows how diamonds are cut
- \*Find out how to determine bad cut and "spread cut" stones
- \*Learn the secret of "Fire and Brilliance"
- \*Plus the secret six C's of diamond buying

The price: 3 full length tapes for \$99.00 plus \$5.00 postage (\$104.00) or 1 tape for \$39.95 plus \$3.00 postage (\$42.95).

Send checks or money orders to: DIAMOND VIDEO, P.O. BOX 3073, PALMER, PA 18043.

To charge Mastercard or VISA call (215) 252-1161 anytime.

Excerpt From: William Bray, Diamond Video

### CFH GEMMOLOGY COURSES

The institute seeks contributions from donors in enlarging its stock of training material and instruments.

More and more people are becoming more and more fascinated by coloured stones and diamonds. To meet the current demand for courses in these subjects, the CFH has decided to opt for the double formula of providing both daytime sessions and evening classes, in French at the Institute in Lausanne, and in German in Berne and Zurich.

The Practical Gemmology programme is scheduled to cover 3 consecutive days or a cycle of 12 evenings spread over 12 weeks. The objectives of this course are:

-- to impart the necessary basic knowledge to give participants confidence and improve their performance;

- to acquaint participants with identification instruments and their use;
- to enable participants to differentiate natural transparent gems from certain synthetic stones and the more common imitations;
- to enable participants to give their customers information and advice about gemstones;
- to give participants an introduction to the world of coloured gemstones that will enable them to decide whether or not to undertake further gemmological studies.

The Diamond Grading programme lasts 2 days or 4 evenings. At the end of the course the participants are able to:

- correctly read a certificate made out by an official laboratory;
- correctly interpret the degree of purity, the colour and the proportions of the cut;
- use this knowledge in their dealings with customers.

(For dates and further information on these courses, please contact of CFH - Tel: 021/201 201)

### CFH LONG COURSES - 1987 & 1988

#### 1987

A record total of 55 participants attend the two month course - DIPLOMKURS - and the two four month courses - COMPREHENSIVE COURSE & COURSE SUPERIEUR.

The young jewellers who, having attended these long courses, are now ready to face the challenges of their very competitive trade, came from the following countries:

Andorra - Australia - Belgium - France - Germany - Great Britain - Greece - Ireland - Netherlands - Spain - Switzerland - United States of America

#### 1988

This year, the programme for these courses will be as follows:

DIPLOMKURS (in German)  
11 April - 3 June

COMPREHENSIVE COURSE (in English)  
Product Knowledge  
& Salesmanship : 4 July - 26 August  
Store Management : 5 September - 28 October

COURS SUPERIEUR (in French)  
Store Management : 4 July - 26 August  
Product Knowledge  
& Salesmanship : 5 September - 28 October

Candidates are already registering for these courses and any others who may be interested are invited to request our detailed documentation and to send in their application without delay.

Any candidates who are able to do so are also invited to come and visit the CFH. A member of the faculty will be pleased to meet them and show them round, with appointment.

### CFH PROMOTION

The National Association of Watch & Clock Collectors of the United States of America, dedicated to promoting knowledge and competence in the field of watchmaking, held its annual congress in the month of June last at Anaheim, in the district of Los Angeles.

The three-day programme of seminars and lectures included a talk of the CFH Institute, given by Mr. Daniel Chatelain, a well known Lausanne jeweller who specialises in antique watches. (He is also an enthusiastic LUXOR computer programme user, besides being the father of Christian Chatelain who attended the Cours Supérieur in 1983.) His excellent presentation of the Institute aroused great interest.

The CFH is highly gratified by such events and would like to encourage all alumni to follow this example!

From: Bulletin CFH  
Bulletin No. 73  
November 1987  
Address; CFH Institute, case postale 371, CH-1001  
Lausanne Tel. 021/20.12.01

### 8th NORTHWEST FACETERS CONFERENCE INTERNATIONAL FACETERS CONFERENCE

May 28 & 29, 1988

The British Columbia Faceters Guild,  
Co-Hosted by the Vancouver Island Faceters Guild  
are sponsoring the Northwest Faceters Conference -  
Symposium.

Place: Hotel Vancouver, Vancouver, B.C. Canada

Date: Memorial Day Weekend, May 28 & 29

Program: Speakers such as -

- Max Faulkner of Australia on Zicrons
- Dr. Carl M. Unruh, Editor & Publisher of  
The Faceter's Gem
- Bob Long & Norm Steele
- Mr. Degoutiere of Victoria, B.C.
- Mr. John Toole, a well known Vancouver -  
F.G.A.
- Dr. Danner from the Geological Sciences of the  
University of British Columbia
- Elton McCawley of the Columbia  
Willamette Guild
- AND OTHERS
- THERE WILL BE DEALERS . . . . .

COST . . . JUST 30 DOLLARS CANADIAN

### 8TH NORTHWEST FACETERS SINGLE STONE FACETERS COMPETITION.

Anyone registered and attending the conference may enter. It is a single stone competition and judging is on workmanship only.

ALL STONES TO BE CUT IN SYNTHETIC  
SPINEL OF ANY COLOR.

Categories:

Novice - Beginning faceter who has not won a 1st place in any novice competition or entered a higher level.

Advanced - Any faceter who has scored below 90 points in any Master level competition.

Master - Any faceter meeting eligibility requirements.

Awards - First and second Certificate and Trophy is awarded in each category.

Entries must be received no later than May 16, 1988. Stones must be in the hands of the judging chairman no later than 5:00 P.M. on Friday, May 27th.

If you are not able to arrive by 5:00 P.M. deadline, you may send your entry with a representative.

(No mail ins - deliver in person by 5 PM Friday night)

You MUST be present at the awards luncheon to be eligible for an award.

All competition stones will be on exhibit in a display case for viewing and will be returned at the close of the Conference.

### JUDGING CRITERIA

This conference will be an extension of the Northwest Faceters conference, competition judging criteria will be the same as for previous conferences.

ITEM	POINTS
FACET SYMMETRY < 28 >	
crown.....	5
pavilion.....	5
girdle.....	10

girdle.....	10
FACET MEETS < 35 >	
crown.....	10
pavilion.....	10
girdle.....	5
culet.....	10
FACET POLISH < 45 >	
table.....	10
crown.....	15
pavilion.....	5
TOTAL	100

**SPECIAL NOTES**

The contestant is responsible to see that the competitive stone is returned after the end of the Conference.

All stones must be cut by the entrant.

**Stone Sizes:**

"Primus", the Novice Cut, is to be no less than 8mm and no greater than 10mm measured across the flat.

"Poly Eight", the Intermediate Cut, should be 8x10mm plus or minus 1(one) mm in either dimension.

"Nulli Secundus", the Master stone, must be 15mm (top to bottom or across the shoulders), plus or minus 1/2 (.5) mm.

**To register fill out form that appears to the right and mail immediately.**

**REGISTRATION APPLICATION**  
(Please Print)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Prov. \_\_\_\_\_ Zip/Code \_\_\_\_\_

Guild/Club/Society \_\_\_\_\_

\$30.00 (Can.) Registration fee enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Accommodation arrangements: Hotel Vancouver \_\_\_\_\_  
Other Hotel \_\_\_\_\_  
R.U. Park \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE REPLY TO: BILL STANOYEV,  
Conference Chairman,  
5566 6th Ave.,  
Delta, B.C. V4M 1M1  
CANADA

Phone (604) 943-1048

ACCREDITED GEMOLOGIST ASSOCIATION, INC.  
A MEMBERSHIP ORGANIZATION  
STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENSES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1987

**REVENUES**

Annual conference fees	\$ 27,262
Membership dues	22,733
Sale of conference tapes	1,512
Miscellaneous	918
Gem lab accreditation	140

Total Revenues \$ 52,565

**EXPENSES**

Annual conference expense	18,112
Professional fees	6,455
Publications	4,197
President's office expense	2,412
Treasurer's office expense	682
Admission and membership committee	466
AGANET expense	440
Miscellaneous	155
Public relations committee	132

Total Expenses 33,051

EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES 19,514

INCOME TAXES 2,645

NET INCOME \$ 16,869

# Official Ballot

## Accredited Gemologists Association

At the board of governors and board of directors meeting in Tucson, February 7, 1988, the motion was made to change a portion of the constitution. Specifically we wanted to change that portion which defines the structure of regions and regional governors. The board expressed concern that the current system of sixteen regions and governors was far too cumbersome and that maintenance of this many regions, all of which were supposed to be developing chapters, was unrealistic. A motion to create four simple regions based on population distribution of membership was placed before the board. This would divide the country into four equal sections with one regional governor to represent each section. "Equal" refers to the total number of members per a geographic area and not the geographic area itself.

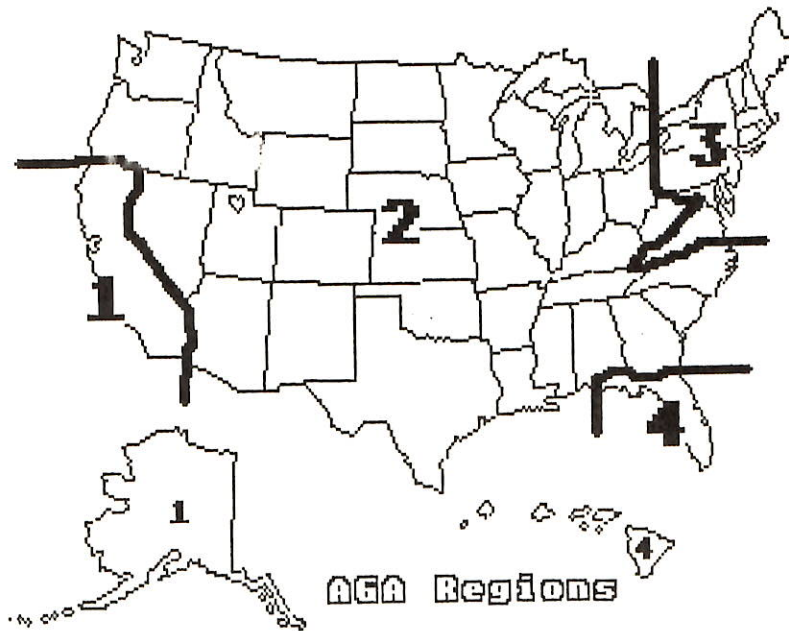
Since there are not enough members residing outside the United States to justify a separate region, they would become members of the region in which the "current" international headquarters resided (the same as the president). There would be no regional governor at large and with only four regions each governor could then focus on benefits for it's region with much greater economic sense. Further it was proposed that these regions be adjusted by the "current" treasurer and board to accomodate the population distribution. This may be done annually as dues are collected for that year, or as the treasurer and board may see need based on radical change in population distribution. The governors of each region would be elected concurrent with the board of directors and would serve the same two year term. Once elected the governor of that region (i.e. region 1) would stay governor of that region even if his or her place of residence was to fall outside that region either by change of residence or change of boundary in the region itself unless they request , in writing to the board, to be replaced. In that instance the president and board will have the power to replace that regional governor for the balance of the term without vote by the entire nmembership. A majority vote by the board (as defined by the constitution) would be required to install a new regional governor.

Your current board of directors and regional governors have voted unanimously to approve this motion and recommend you vote yes to this proposed change to the constitution.

On the back of this page is the ballot with a map of the regions as they would exist based on the current membership population distribution, if the change is approved. **Please** read the proposed change and mail this ballot back right away. Your vote counts!

Feel free to enclose any comments in with the post paid envelope but do not put anything other than the official ballot in the envelope market "BALLOT". This will insure a secret ballot procedure.

(see reverse side)



This shows how the "NEW" regions would be set up based on current member population.

Please follow the procedure below:

1. Place a mark for your vote on ballot below.
2. Insert this ballot in the enclosed envelope marked "BALLOT" and seal.
3. Place the sealed "BALLOT" envelope in the post paid envelope enclosed.
4. Seal the envelope and write your name across the back flap of the envelope.
5. Mail in post paid envelope by 4-30-88.

PLEASE VOTE BELOW TO INDICATE YOUR CHOICE:

The current constitution of the Accredited Gemologists Association should be amended to allow the regions as they exist to be changed to four only. These will be based on the membership population distribution to create as close as possible, four equally populated regions within the United States. Members residing outside the United States will belong to the region hosting the International Headquarters. Governors of these four regions will be elected every two years concurrent with election of board of directors as specified by the constitution. These governors will remain in place for the full term regardless of any change of personal address or regional boundary unless they submit resignation to the board in writing. Thirty day advance notice is necessary. Upon resignation of a governor the board shall, at the direction of the president, install a new regional governor. This will be by a majority vote of the board and only for the balance of term until the next general election. The board, at the direction of the current treasurer, shall have the ability to change regional boundaries as the population of membership changes. This may be adjusted annually as dues are collected or as needed with sudden changes in population base.

YES

NO

ABSTAIN