



JEWELERS UPDATE

Volume 15 Issue 3

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Winning Time At Convention

Oz Hefner –Oz's Jewelers of Hickory and Keith Hipp-Ellis Jewelers of Lexington won Best of Show and People's Choice Awards, respectively in the 2011 Design Competition. Congratulations on beautiful designs. Photographs will appear in our next issue.

Convention attendees had great fun raising money for Make-A-Wish. Equity Diamond donated beautiful diamond earrings for the event. Over \$1,100 was raised during Saturday evening's banquet to help grant a wish for a child who is critically ill.

Ken Kelley of Diamonds 'n Dunes-Kitty Hawk, took the prize for Best Dressed Male Saturday evening. Ken coordinated his zebra pants with a "custom made" leopard collar and hat. Kim Woods of Barry's Jewelers-Charleston took Best Dressed Female. Her face paint took her cheetah dress over the top!

Many thanks to all our sponsors for the event. Our Platinum sponsors included Bulova, Federated Insurance and JCK. A complete listing of sponsors can be found on Page 5. Our association could not function without their support. Please thank them with consideration of their business. See photos on Page 7.



NCJA is pleased to announce its Facebook page is up and running. Are you our Friend? Show us by "Liking" us. We believe the page will enable North Carolina Jewelers to get information more quickly about industry friends, robberies, scams and more. Will you be our buddy?

2011/2012

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I am Tracey Love of Love's Jewelers in Brevard and I am honored to serve as your new President.

I'd like to thank Stacey Sears who was my predecessor as President. I also thank Jim Barbee, Art Gray and Ralph Timmerman-Camelot, who have just completed terms on the board. We will miss them all.

We are at a crossroads with our association. We have been an association since 1925. Since the split with Jewelers of America, many jewelers have stopped paying dues. While we are still in business, we are limping along. Take a look at your yearbook and see who we are missing in your hometown. In order to be viable, we have to have the support of independent jewelers from across the state. Encourage others. Be a fan.

My family has been members for 30 years. I remember as a child, taking vacations with my parents to the conventions. What fun I had visiting with my extended jewelry family in Myrtle Beach. I balanced fun and sun and business.

I am not giving up on an organization that I consider valuable to my business and yours. Add your testimonial to our Facebook page (search North Carolina Jewelers Association). Encourage others to join. Be a fan of a fantastic group of people and businesses.

Sincerely,

Tracey Love

Love's Jewelers
Brevard



Tracey Love
Love's Jewelry, Brevard

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Senate Bill 144 passed the Senate and moved to the House where it is expected to pass as well. The bill adds "cash converters" to the Pawnbrokers Modernization Act. It is difficult to say how law enforcement will interpret who is a cash converter even though there is an exemption for retailers who purchase their inventories from wholesalers and for transactions covered under the Precious Metals statutes. What we cannot say is how they will interpret estate pieces you decide not to refine and retain for your inventories or stones you do not return. The effective date of the legislation is December 2011. Visit www.ncleg.net for more information on S144.

The House has overhauled workers' comp. Rep. Folwell, sponsor of the bill, helped secure a compromise between interested parties. The matter now goes to the Senate for further consideration. NCJA will keep you posted in this matter which should save your business considerable expense, if passed.





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Bench Tips

Never use copper when rhodium plating; instead use a gold hook to suspend the item. Remember, items will not plate if they are not perfectly cleaned prior to plating. Replace water with only distilled. Dark spots will occur when an area is not cleaned properly.

Have a tip? Send us an email and we will share with the membership!

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Virginia Beach: April 29- May 1

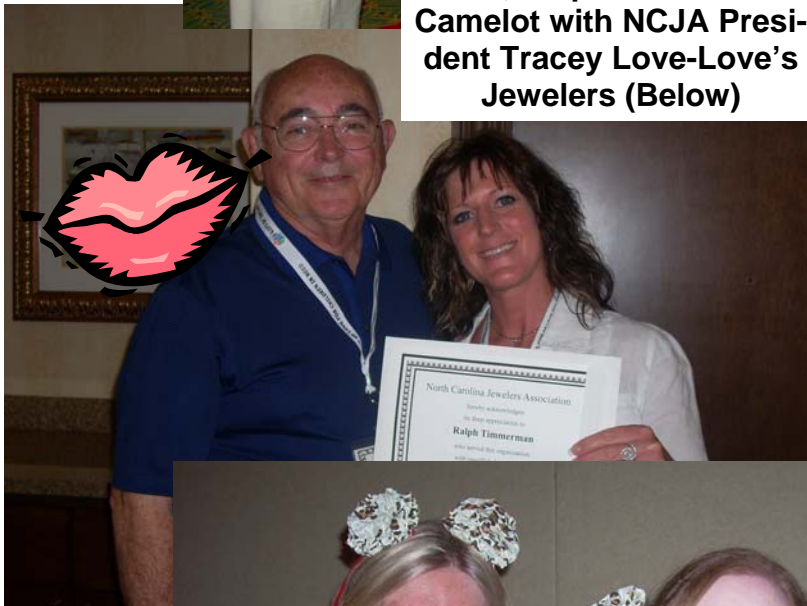


Please register at www.gtshows.com

Bulova Golf Tournament
Team Winners:
Barry Woods, Chuck Frey,
Fred Shuford, Mark Toupin



We'll Miss You on the
Board, Ralph Timmerman-
Camelot with NCJA Presi-
dent Tracey Love-Love's
Jewelers (Below)



Best Dressed for Convention
Theme, Ken Kelley-Kitty Hawk



Many thanks to Brad
Huisken-IAS Training
(below) for a great seminar.



Best Dressed for Convention
Theme Female, Kim Woods-
Charleston (left) with Laurel
Koenders (right)






North Carolina Jewelers Association
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 (919) 789-7979
 www.ncjewelers.org

The North Carolina Jewelers Association (NCJA) is a non-profit trade organization whose mission is to promote and protect the welfare of retail jewelers in our state. Please visit our website www.ncjewelers.org for more information or email us at ncja@nc.rr.com.

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