



# Washington DC Chapter GIA Alumni Association

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## DC GIA MEETING

**AUGUST 6, 2009**

**7:00 – 9:00 P.M.**

## MS. RENEE NEWMAN

### RUBIES, SAPPHIRES, AND EMERALDS: THEN AND NOW

Ms. Renee Newman, an acclaimed author on gem and jewelry evaluation, traces her appreciation for fine gemstones and involvement with the industry from her experiences in directing tours to Asia and South America in the early 1980s. The interest of travelers in learning details regarding how to discern the quality of the gems to which they were exposed inspired Ms. Newman to acquire formal gemological training. Ms. Newman obtained her Graduate Gemologist diploma from GIA and began working in a wholesale gem firm in Los Angeles, California. From that background of trade experience and gemological credentials, Ms. Newman turned to writing books that demonstrated for readers how visually to evaluate the quality of gems. Her first book, *Diamond Ring Buying Guide*, was published in 1989. Since that time, she has written eight additional books on gems and jewelry: *Ruby, Sapphire, and Emerald Buying Guide*; *Pearl Buying Guide*; *Gold & Platinum Jewelry Buying Guide*; *Emerald & Tanzanite Buying Guide*; *Gemstone Buying Guide*; *Jewelry Handbook*; *Diamond Handbook*; and *Gem & Jewelry Pocket Guide*.

Ms. Newman's presentation will provide an update on the latest developments in the ruby, sapphire, and emerald business, drawn from research conducted for the newly released third edition of the *Ruby, Sapphire, and Emerald Buying Guide*. Particular changes to be highlighted include the following: (1) The emergence and depletion of geographic sources, (2) the proliferation and increasing sophistication of treatments, (3) the development of new terminology to describe treatments, (4) the evolving recommendations for disclosure statements, (5) the changing effect of geographic origin on price, and (6) the differences in the GIA colored stone grading system as opposed to the standards employed in years past.

We meet at the Holiday Inn Rosslyn, 1900 Ft. Meyers Drive, Arlington, VA 22209, at the Virginia end of Key Bridge, 703-807-2000. Admission is free for those who have paid their 2009 meeting fees and \$15.00 for all others. Please visit the Chapter's website at [www.dcgia.org](http://www.dcgia.org).

Please remember to bring your completed DCGIA 2009 information and application form and the yearly meeting fee of \$75.00, if you have not already submitted the foregoing.

Andrea Blake, Secretary  
5480 Wisconsin Ave., #409  
Chevy Chase, MD 20815-3506  
301-922-0970

Next Meeting:  
September 23 – Patrick Stout  
(Diamond Cut Grading)