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2026-2027**

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## ***Washington DC Chapter GIA Alumni***

***"Surprising Facts about Pearls you may not know!"***

### **PowerPoint & Lecture by Renee Newman, GG**

**May 7th, 2026, at 7pm**

**Location: 7921 Jones Branch Drive Suite #390  
McLean, VA 22102**

It is our pleasure to host author Renee Newman to celebrate her latest book *"Pearls: Their History, Sources, Types and Qualities"*. Renee's interest in pearls developed when she was an international tour director and visited Japan, China, Australia, Indonesia, the Philippines, and French Polynesia. After obtaining her Gemological Institute of America's (GIA) Graduate Gemologist (GG) degree she worked as a gemologist and jewelry control manager for the Josam Diamond Trading Corporation in downtown Los Angeles. Even though their focus was on diamonds, they realized that mounting diamonds with colored gems and pearls gave them a wider variety of jewelry to sell and Newman decided to create books that helped readers visually evaluate the quality of gems. Since 1989, she has written books on gems and jewelry including her latest book on pearls (<http://reneenewman.com/Pearls.htm>).

Renee Newman's books will be available for sale at the meeting for a discounted price. Bring cash or check for purchases. For more information about Renee and her books visit: <http://www.ReneeNewman.com>. You can connect with her on Instagram @reneenewmangg or at <http://www.facebook.com/renee.newman.5648>

Please Note: Renee Newman will also be speaking at the Chesapeake Gem & Mineral Society (CGMS) in Maryland on May 8th, 2026, Friday at 7:30pm

Contact: [info.chesapeakegemandmineral@gmail.com](mailto:info.chesapeakegemandmineral@gmail.com)

We will be honoring Past President Melanie Marts and Past Webmaster Charlie Marts for their years of service. We will take the speaker to the Hilton afterwards for dinner/drinks. Everyone is invited to participate.

**Admission is free for those who have paid their 2026 annual meeting fees and \$15.00 (Cash or Check) at the door for all others. Don't forget to register as an annual member or per meeting member to stay on the DCGIA Email List. Download the attached registration form and bring it to the meeting.**

