

CJA NEWS

Winter 2009

Published by the Chicago Jewelers Association

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Dear Fellow and Prospective Members of the CJA:

By the time you read this newsletter, the annual Holiday Party will be history. We had a great response, and had a large crowd of 100 dine and have fun at Wildfire Grill. The party was co-sponsored by the CJA, WJA, Mid-States Recycling & Refining, G4S International, United Precious Metals, and Howard Frum Jewelers. This year we had drawings for prizes—there were restaurant gift certificates, Bulls tickets, watches, and other great items.

The Crime Alert Network is healthy and growing well. We have been helpful in warning people about some of the scams that have become too prevalent in these times of record high gold prices. As long as gold remains as high as it is, you can expect to have people try to scam you. Beware of the new alloy that looks and tests like 18K white gold. Be especially vigilant of new customers.

The CJA Postal Discount continues to grow and add new subscribers. To help increase the volume of shipping via the USPS, the Post Office is going to test daily pickups from those whose offices are in 29 E. Madison and 55 E. Washington. If the trial is successful, they will make it a permanent service for our industry, and in particular, our members. If you need help getting set up with the program, please let us know. We are planning some webinars to help you get started, and to answer any questions you may have.

The most important news to report is that the Illinois Jewelers Association (IJA) has decided to wind down their operations and make their membership members of the Chicago Jewelers Association (CJA) effective the first of January, 2010. The IJA has held discussions with the CJA for a number of months and has decided to have their members become a part of the CJA.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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The decision was prompted by Jewelers of America's (JA) announcement that they would no longer support the state associations. The associations would have to change the way that they operate and support themselves. The Illinois Jewelers Association's Board of Directors met with members of the CJA Board of Directors and decided that the best solution was to join forces with the CJA. The result is that we will add more than 100 additional members to our roster. There is strength in numbers!

In the meantime, I am pleased to announce that two members of the IJA will join the CJA Board of Directors. They are John Reed of Champaign, IL., and Terry Davis of Charleston, IL. We welcome their addition to the Board and look forward to working with them to enhance the Association for all Illinois Jewelers.

The Evening at Zanies Comedy Club was a great success! There were 45 people who attended and enjoyed a great dinner, warm conversation and networking at Corcoran's Grill and Pub, followed by an evening of laughs and fun at Zanies.

We are holding an evening with the Bulls on January 11th, when they play the Detroit Pistons at the United Center. We were able to snag a block of tickets at half-price. You can attend for only \$30 a person. Tickets will be sold on a first come, first served basis. Get your request in early. The Bulls need our support!

We are in need of more people who want to be involved in the Association. The wonderful benefits we have provided only come with time and effort. Committees need more people to help and provide ideas and support. This will become even more crucial as we expand our reach across the state. Please let one of our Board members know if you have an interest. People are needed to help at the INSTORE Show booth and with the social events that we will put on during the show. We also need the members to be ambassadors for



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President's Message

Continued from page 2

the CJA and to promote the organization to the jewelers they do business with. Everyone can save money with the United States Post Office using our discount program, and who wants to pay full price for parking downtown? I think you get the idea...

TIPS TO THRIVE

Compliments Of Jewelers Mutual

'Tis the season

For identity thieves, the holiday season is the season of taking: Taking purses and wallets, as more and more shoppers descend into retail stores. Taking credit card and debit card numbers swiped by keystroke-recording malware. Taking personal information obtained in phishing schemes and phone conversations in "vishing" schemes.

"We tend to be busiest during the fourth quarter of the year—October, November, December," says Raul Vargas, certified fraud examiner with Identity Theft 911. "I know that traditionally financial institutions take their biggest losses in January or February because fraud occurs around the holidays, but consumers don't find out until these months."

"The most common thing that goes up during the holiday-time is what's considered account takeover fraud — the fraudulent use of existing open accounts," Vargas explains.

"People are shopping more often, and credit cards are out of their possession more often," Vargas says. In addition to the physical loss or theft of credit and debit card numbers, the season is ripe for card 'skimming'— that is, the deployment of small devices that steal account information. "When you're shopping, be careful about your cards — whom you are handing them to and what that person's doing once you hand it to them. Make sure you get your cards and ID back if you hand them to someone."



Howard Frum Jewelers

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WATCH?"***

***"WANNA SELL
A WATCH?"***

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www.howardfrum.com



Identity Theft 911 Newsletter • November/December 2009

**Has your e-mail address, mailing address,
fax or phone number changed?**

Call (312) 641-5201 or
e-mail changes to admin@chicagoja.org
Your help in keeping our records
up to date is appreciated!



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Jewelry Shipping Boxes and more...



Improve your business with us

NOTICE: Pursuant to the Constitution and By-Laws of the Jewelers' Security Alliance, Members of the JSA are hereby notified that the Annual Meeting of the Members of the Alliance will be held at the Pierre Hotel, Fifth Avenue at 61st Street, New York, NY on Saturday, January 9, 2010 at 10:15 a.m. for the election of Members of the Board of Directors and the transaction of other business. Resolutions will be considered to increase the Board of Directors from fourteen members to fifteen members, and to modify a provision that limits successive terms of the Chairperson of the Board.

**COURTESY OF JEWELERS SECURITY
ALLIANCE**

CRIME ALERT

Area Crime To Be Aware Of

A release from the Jewelers Security Alliance

SALES ASSOCIATE AND SUSPECT SHOT Alamo, CA - December 3, 2009

At 7:30 p.m. there was an attempted robbery at a retail jewelry store. A suspect shot a jewelry store employee in the upper torso, who returned the fire and shot a male robber. When police arrived the suspect holed himself in the store and put a gun to his own head. Within an hour police personnel persuaded the suspect to come out of the store. Both the suspect and the sales associate were in the hospital and had surgery.

ANOTHER SWITCH BY GOLD SELLER Bayonne, NJ - December 1, 2009

A black male suspect was a seller of gold at a retail jewelry store. He committed a switch of the real gold for fake gold and left the store with \$9,400 in cash. This is believed to be the same seller as the suspect in the crime in Kearney, NJ reported in the JSA Email Crime Alert dated 11/25/09. He is described as in his 40s, 6', heavy build with facial hair. He wears glasses and has a diamond earring in his left ear. He stated that his name was Richard Sloppy and provided a GA Driver's License.

RECOMMENDATION: *After testing a gold item, do not let it out of your possession or sight before paying the seller. Any attempt by the seller to distract you or put the item in a bag, can provide the seller an opportunity to switch the gold for a fake.*

Dallas, TX - December 3, 2009 - A salesperson was outside a restaurant waiting for his traveling companion. When he got into his car, a van pulled alongside and suspects smashed the driver's side window. When the salesperson tried to get away, a suspect blocked his path and another vehicle pulled up from behind. A suspect smashed his rear window and took a briefcase containing his merchandise.

RECOMMENDATION: *The longer a salesperson takes to get to his vehicle and pull away, the greater the risk. Get to your vehicle as quickly as possible and start driving without hesitation, using evasive driving techniques.*

CJA WELCOMES THE IJA

A Welcome Letter From President Larry Hyman

I would like to welcome the members of the Illinois Jewelers Association to the Chicago Jewelers Association, an organization representing the interests of jewelers in all of Illinois.

The Chicago Jewelers Association has been serving Chicago jewelers since 1874. Like many organizations we have had our ups and downs. However, in the last several years we have re-energized the Association and have worked hard to create benefits of great value to our membership. As a result we have seen our membership more than triple in last 18 months.

It is our intention to serve all the jewelers in Illinois not just those in the Chicago area. To that end we will have programs both in the Chicago area and at other locations around the state. Plans are being developed for several events in 2010. More information will be sent as the dates approach.

The benefits provided for our members represent real value. We established the Chicago Jewelers Association Crime Alert Network (CAN). It is a "Neighborhood Crime Watch" system for the jewelry community. When a member of our community experiences a crime, suspicious incident, or missing merchandise, the member can put out an alert by contacting one of the designated leaders who will then contact the entire membership. This program is being expanded to the entire state. Contact is made by either e-mail or fax.

As a member of the Chicago Jewelers Association you may take advantage of our discounted shipping program thru the United States Postal Service. Never in the history of the USPS has there been a discount like this offered! Be sure to take advantage of it. The program offers a 14.5% discount on Express Mail packages and a 7% discount on Priority Mail shipping. There is no safer way to ship your goods!

There are more programs and benefits. You will be added to our newsletter distribution and receive more information on the other benefits offered by the CJA. You may go to our website (www.chicagoja.org) to get up to date information. Included in this packet is a brochure about the CJA and a Certificate of Membership.

We welcome your comments and questions regarding your membership and we hope to see you at events and shows. This is your Association, take advantage of all the benefits it has to offer.

Sincerely,
Laurence E. Hyman

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NEW BENEFIT!

Professional Gem Sciences has offered an amazing benefit to members of the CJA! They now offer 15% off their gem grading and appraising services! This is a great service from a great company, and just another added bonus passed along to you, our membership!



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Jeff Cohen • Denise Hartman

THANK YOU!!!

The Chicago Jewelers' Association would like to recognize those who donated drawing prizes to the Association's annual Holiday Party:

Howard Frum
 LAZ Parking
 A.K. Diamond Gallery
 Fantasy Diamonds
 Arlene Previti
 SEP Tools
 Mid-States Recycling & Refining
 Lubin Bergman Organization
 Gary Dolinko

Gifts ranged from dining gift certificates to a high-end watch. Thank you, one and all who donated! The night was a huge success due in large part to you!



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Chicago Jewelers' Association

presents

A Diamond Morning at **The Field Museum**

WHEN:

Wed., January 27, 2010

9a.m.-11 a.m. or stay all day!

WHERE:

The Field Museum

1400 S. Lake Shore Dr., Chicago

COST: \$25 per person

Includes a light breakfast, presentation, admittance to the Nature of Diamonds Exhibit and access to the entire museum.

*Please respond on or before
January 20, 2010*

Name _____

Company _____

Address _____

Phone _____

of persons _____

Amount enclosed \$ _____

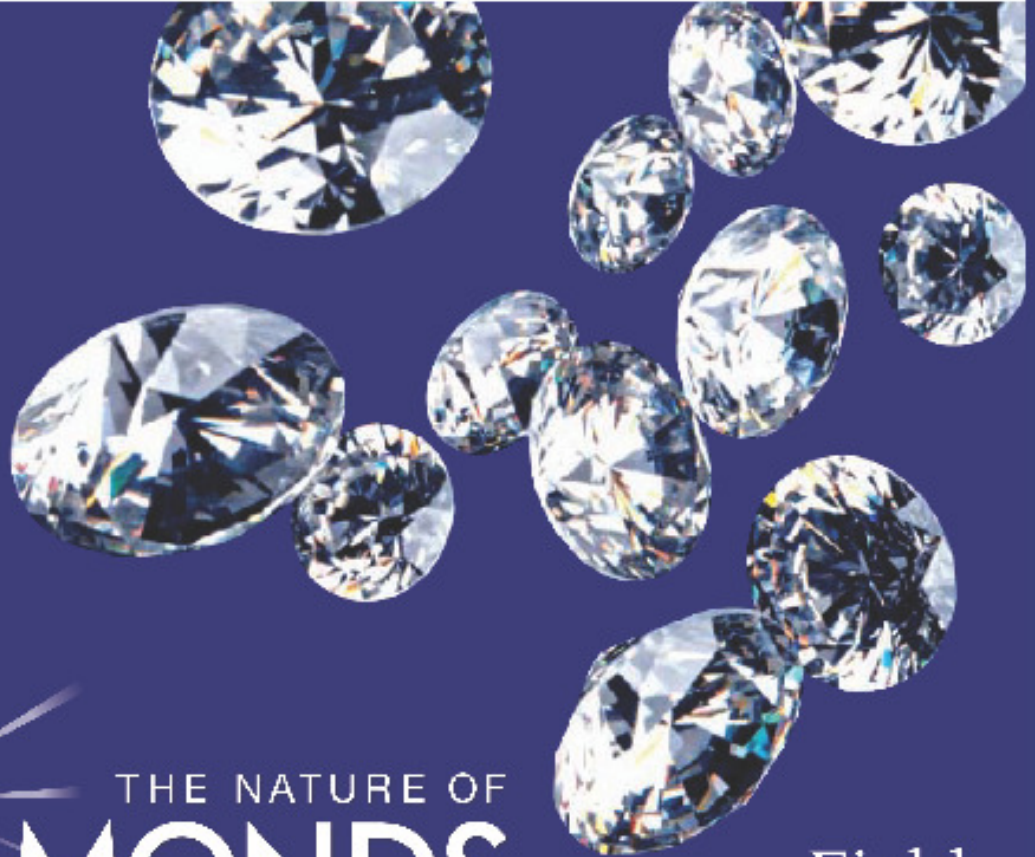
Make check payable to Chicago Jeweler's Association

Chicago Jewelers' Association
P.O. Box 0501
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Phone: (312) 641-5201

E-mail: administration@chicagoja.org

website: www.chicagoja.org

Or you can pay via PayPal.com using a credit card. Please use the following to make payment to administration@chicagoja.org



THE NATURE OF
DIAMONDS

The **Field**
Museum



Millennium Garages Parking Registration Form



Company: Chicago Jewelers' Association
Group: Members

Parker Application for: GPN/GPS/MPG/EMG

NEW ACTIVATION x (Start _____ Date _____) CHANGE INFO _____ DEACTIVATION _____

Please complete this application and return it to the Garage Office where you would like to park, or fax it to 312-616-1542. For directions and additional information, please visit www.MILLENNIUMGARAGES.com or call 312.616.0600.

I want a Monthly Access Card!

MONTHLY ALL ACCESS RATES: (Circle which garage)

Grant Park North: \$210.00/month
Grant park South: \$215.00/month
Millennium Park: \$199.00/ month
East Monroe Garage: \$189.00/ month

Rates include all taxes and are subject to change upon tax increase

I want a Daily Debit Access Card! 1 in and 1 out per park

DAY RATES (Up to 12 Hours): (Circle which garage)

Grant Park North - \$11.00
Grant park South - \$12.00
Millennium Park - \$11.00
East Monroe Garage - \$10.00

Indicate how many parks, or \$ value, you want to add to your card: \$ _____ OR # of parks _____

DRIVER INFORMATION ***ALL GREY SHADED AREAS ARE REQUIRED***

Last Name***		First Name***		Company, Suite #	
Street Address (if no company enter home address)***			Apt or Box #	City***	State***
Business/ Daytime Phone***		Evening Telephone		E-Mail Address***	
Zip Code***					

VEHICLE INFORMATION (optional)

State/ License Plate #	Color
Year/ Make	Model

METHOD OF INVOICING AND PAYMENT

____ Company is responsible for payment (Contact _____) _____ Individual is responsible for payment

Monthly Parkers: Each parker is responsible for paying by the first of every month, without reminder; however, if you would still like to receive an invoice for your records, please select the method of delivery for invoices below:

____ No Invoice Needed _____ Email Invoice (Invoice will be emailed to address given above.)

DAILY PARKERS USING DAILY DEBIT ACCESS CARDS:

PAYMENTS: At the time of initial purchase, and from time to time thereafter, cardholder will make payment to LAZ Parking Chicago, and LAZ Parking Chicago will credit your account by an amount which may be larger than the amount paid. All payments must be made by Visa, Mastercard, American Express, Discover, or by Check payable to Chicago Loop Parking, LLC.

PARKING: You shall use the debit card to enter and exit the Grant Park North, Grant Park South, Millennium Park, and/or East Monroe Street garages. The appropriate parking charges will be deducted from your account. The debit card cannot be used in conjunction with any other discounts. It is your responsibility to make prompt payments to insure a positive balance on account. Use of the garages shall be pursuant to a license only; no bailment relationship shall be created.

LOST CARDS: The cardholder alone assumes all risk of loss or theft of the debit card, and understands that neither LAZ Parking Chicago or the garages will refund or reimburse any positive balance that may exist at the time of loss or theft, without regard to whether you notify LAZ Parking Chicago of the loss or theft. LAZ Parking Chicago will replace a lost or stolen card for a \$25 replacement fee, but not any positive balance remaining thereon.

EXPIRATION/TERMINATION: If no payment for credit is made for a period of one (1) year the debit card shall expire. No refunds of any unused credit amount shall be available at any time. LAZ Parking Chicago may terminate a debit card at any time upon thirty (30) days notice, and promptly refund you with the unused credit amount. LAZ Parking Chicago reserves the right to immediately terminate the debit card without notice in the event that you fail to comply with any provision of this agreement.

AUTOMATIC PAYMENTS

TYPE OF CREDIT CARD: VISA ___ MC ___ DIS ___ AMEX ___ NAME ON CARD: _____

CREDIT CARD NUMBER: _____ EXP : _____ CVV: _____

Card Holder's Signature: _____ Date: _____


I authorize LAZ Parking Chicago, Inc. to charge the MONTHLY parking rate to my credit card each month. LAZ Parking reserves the right to terminate or refuse parking to any individual for any reason it deems appropriate. Card Holder has read the rules and regulations for the parking facility and understands and agrees to its contents.

For Office Use Only

Location Number: _____ Access Card No.: _____ Start Date: _____ Employee Initial: _____

HOLIDAY PARTY

Pictures From The Holiday Party
2009. Thanks To All Who Attended!



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Phone: () _____ /

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