



OCTOBER, NOVEMBER, DECEMBER 2007
 From the desk of Gerry Gonya...Harvey Oaks Manufacturing Jeweler

With temperatures ranging in the 80's these last few weeks it's hard to think about what the future will bring. Each year it is hard to let the warm weather go for we know what is in store for us in the months ahead. At least we have seasonal changes with the beautiful fall colors.

Let's start this newsletter with an alert bulleting about topaz. Most of you know that topaz is the birthstone for November, and that topaz is a sherry color. And most of you also know that topaz (especially the colorless variety in the natural state) is heat treated or irradiated to change the color to various tones of blue. Early on in 2007 the NRC(Nuclear Regulatory Commission) raised concern that some of the London Blue topaz that was being imported into the US was not properly regulated during the irradiation process. Thus creating a health and safety concern according to the NRC. Now the NRC is considering also adding sky blue topaz and other electron irradiated topaz to the list(London Blue was irradiated using neutron bombardment).

The solution seems to take on a two prong requirement. The first requirement is that at least one company or institution be licensed to test all treated topaz that is coming into the US. This I can agree with. The second requirement is that all existing inventories currently held in the US also be tested by NRC licensed agency before being sold. Sounds like the NRC needs to make some extra \$ by getting their fingers into the bowl. One of the scientist that has studied radiation treatments in gemstones has stated that the NRC's guideline for safety margins mentions that irradiated gemstones can be a health and safety concern when "inhaled or ingested into the body". So unless you plan to grind up the blue topaz gemstones that you have and inhale the dust or mix with your favorite food to consume, you should be OK!

Now on a more recent note I just read an article that mentions some of the other colors of Topaz such as reds, orange, and pinkish browns have what is labeled a "color stability" problem. A simple test of exposing these gemstones to direct sunlight for as little as one day can turn that bright orangeish/red topaz to almost colorless. So next time you think the Internet has such a deal on gemstones that you simply can't pass up, think again! Independent jewelers that have been in this business for as long as Harvey Oaks Jeweler deal

with companies that stand behind the products they sell and will be there if such a thing happens(a little plug for independent jewelers). I do remember during one of my summer GIA classes 15 years ago the discussion of what happens to blue topaz when worn into a tanning bed-it lost most of its color.

On a slightly different note, if I mention to you the words "drusy quartz" what comes to mind? Not much you say or did he misspell the word "drusy"! Since I first started going to the Gem Show in Tucson Arizona about 12 years ago, drusy quartz gemstones have become a part of our inventory. Drusy quartz refers to mineral cavities of quartz lined with thin layers of tiny, tightly packed crystals that look like granules of sugar with each of these toppings of different fineness from coarse to powdery. In most instances, drusies are like a double decker sandwich of quartz crystals deposited over a mineral base of agate. Sound confusing? Just think of it as a snow capped mountain. Drusy can form on almost any mineral base, but most of what is used in the jewelry industry comes from natural occurring geodes. What we find so interesting about drusy quartz is it is so unique and different. What makes drusies so unique is that the customer many times can actually feel the texture of the crystals-kind of a touchy/feely thing. One of the dealers that I buy from has taken some of the drusy pieces one step further by having a thin film coating of various metallic colors put on by electrolysis process. The coating actually absorbs into the crystals and adheres to the host mineral. These pieces are not intended for rough and tumble wear due to the fact you can polish the thin coating off with a polishing wheel. You would be amazed with the different designs and types of drusy material we carry.

Birthstones Anyone?



October-Pink tourmaline and opal satisfy the birthstone requirements for October. The array of colors in opal should satisfy most of your appetite for color. Opal can vary in so many color arrangements that it is often said it is very difficult to match any two opals identically. Pink tourmaline gives the October birthstone wearer a gem that is more durable than opal and still just as beautiful. Opal is cut in a cabochon form while pink tourmaline is faceted like a diamond.



November-Topaz

Topaz occupies the November birthstone slot and as described earlier can vary in color. Still the sherry color of topaz is like no other color for softness and beauty.

December-Blue Zircon or Tanzanite



December gives you the choice between the traditional blue zircon with its bluish/green hue or tanzanite(just added to the list about 2 years ago) with its bluish/purple tones. Keep in mind that both gemstones should not be worn hard due to their lack of durability.

Upcoming Events

Harvey oaks jeweler is planning some special events over the next three months. Here is a list of what we will be doing:

1. Saturday October 20th from 9:30 AM till 1:30 PM we will be offering a free coin appraisal service with a registered numismatic coin dealer. He will give you a current value of your coins and paper currencies along with what he would pay you. We did this last year and have been receiving many requests to do it again. If you have any questions just call the store or if you would like to make an appointment for a different time, just call.
2. Thursday November 15th from 5:00 PM till 8:00 PM "ladies Night Out " at Harvey Oaks. This night is reserved for you ladies to shop for the jewelry you have always wanted, try on something a little daring, and enjoy wine and horsd'oeuvres. You will be able to fill out a wish list of what you need (not just want but truly need) and it will be kept on file for a night in December known as "Men's Night Out" Plus ladies you will get a chance to register for some great

door prizes. More details will be mailed out on our post card in late October. If you feel better shopping with a friend, then bring her along. Call the store for more details.

3. Thursday December 6th from 5:00 PM till 9:00 PM please join us for "Men's Night Out" at Harvey Oaks Jeweler. This will be the night your men will get the chance to see what you ladies filled in on your wish list, complete with finger sizes, length of chains and bracelet, and what color of gold. How much easier does it get? By the way guys you will get a chance to fill out a wish list also to let your lady know if there is a particular jewelry item that you've had your eye on. And don't forget guys-you can also register for some great give-a-ways for that evening. I almost forgot to mention that you guys won't be disappointed in the food we will be serving that night also. We will be sending you men a postcard also with the date of December 6, 2007 so you won't forget.

Write down these dates or put them in your palm pilot to remember these important events. The next 3 months should be an exciting time for all of us especially with the new and different designs that will be arriving soon. We at Harvey Oaks Jeweler hope you had a relaxing and enjoyable summer and are looking forward to the same this fall and winter. Hard to believe that December 25 is less than 3 months away. This season when our family celebrates the Holidays we will be adding one new member with our daughter-in-law Stephanie. It will be new and rewarding experience for all. They had a beautiful wedding and a great reception as well. Have a blessed Holiday Season!

For more information watch and listen for the up-coming announcements or call us at 419-332-0481 or check out our web site at: www.harveyoaksjeweler.com.

Gerry

P.S. Please join us for "Friday Night" wine & cheese starting November 2 through December 28.