

From

# The Collector

to You...

## Bill Larson

### Appointed ICA Ambassador



Pala International President **Bill Larson** has been appointed a two-year term as ambassador to the Western United States from the International Colored Gemstone Association (ICA). ICA President Joseph M. Menzie stressed that the appointment "is not an honorary position; it is a demanding one.... An Ambassador is the conduit through which the Board and I are able to communicate with your local members, and they with us, not only to provide information but more importantly to obtain the opinions and needs of our members in each country." He added that, "the Ambassador is the ICA official spokesperson in your country and the permanent link with the local trade associations and government authorities."

## Gem of the Year: Quartz

*For its long history and durability, its interesting varieties, its fashionable colors, its affordability and popularity among gem cutters and carvers; quartz is Professional Jeweler's 2005 Gemstone of the Year.*

Quartz, named after a Slavic word for "hard", is one of the most common minerals in the earth's crust. It can be found in several forms and in all three major kinds of rocks – igneous, metamorphic and sedimentary. Quartz is the name for a group of minerals of the same chemical composition ( $\text{SiO}_2$ ) and similar physical properties.

There are many varieties of quartz. Geologists often divide them into two general groups: crystalline and cryptocrystalline. The crystalline varieties are those which occur in distinct visible crystals such as amethyst, rock crystal, smoky quartz, citrine and rose quartz. The cryptocrystalline forms of quartz have individual grains of quartz that can be seen only with a microscope. They are generally known as chalcedony and include agate, petrified wood, chrysoprase, bloodstone, jasper, carnelian, moss agate and sard.

The piezoelectric property of quartz provides the basis for the operation of quartz watches and clocks.

Quartz is used in making glass and quartz sandstone is a common building material. Quartz sand is used in making sandpaper and grindstones. Most quartz crystal used for industrial purposes is produced synthetically because of the limited supply of suitable natural crystals.



## Crystalline Quartz

### Amethyst

Amethyst, the birthstone for February, is probably the most well known member of the quartz family as well as the most valued. It's color ranges from pale lavender to deep reddish purple. The name comes from the Greek word for "not drunken" because amethyst was used to ward off the effects of alcohol. Brazil is an important source of amethyst. It has been carved and worn since 1991 B.C. and was formerly a favorite gemstone of Christian church officials due to its regal color.



### Ametrine



Ametrine is the color-zoned quartz variety consisting of half amethyst and half citrine. These rare stones come from a single source in Bolivia and are most commonly cut to show a 50/50 color split of purple and yellow. Recent marketing aims to promote the more unusual cuts that reveal many beautiful colors in ametrine such as peach, orange and lavender.

### Citrine

Citrine gets its name from its lemon yellow color. Natural citrine is rare. Most commercial citrine is heat-treated amethyst that becomes a darker yellow to a gold-brown at certain temperatures. This is an accepted treatment in the trade and citrine makes a beautiful ring or pendant stone. Evidence suggests pre-Colombian Incas in South America used these gemstones.



### Smoky Quartz

Smoky quartz is a popular stone for late summer and early fall due to its smoky, pale to deep brown color. It was often set in jewelry in Victorian times. It is very common and found on every continent.



### Rock Crystal



Rock crystal is pure colorless quartz. The name crystal comes from the Greek word for "ice," as it was believed that rock crystal was eternally frozen. Rock crystal is used in costume jewelry as faceted gems and beads and is also used to make stunning carvings and decorative objects.

### Rose Quartz

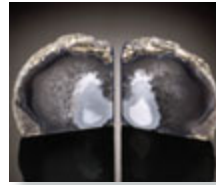


Rose quartz occurs in a delicate pink color. The material is nearly always cloudy or translucent, rarely transparent. The color ranges from almost white to a deep rose-pink. It is mainly used in cabochons, carvings and decorative objects. Microscopic rutile needles may create a star effect.

## Cryptocrystalline Quartz

### Chalcedony

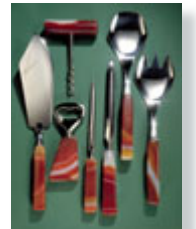
Chalcedony is used by gemologists as a species name for all cryptocrystalline quartzes as well as specifically for the bluish-white-gray variety, which is often cut as a cabochon and used in jewelry



### Patterned Chalcedony:

#### Agate & Jasper

Colored chalcedony gem varieties are called agate and jasper. Agate takes the form of colored layers or bands, flat or concentric. If it is more uniform, less transparent and non-layered it is often called jasper. Agate was known to primitive man and acquired a cloak of superstition. It was supposed to cure insomnia, breed prudence and caution, and bring its owner strength and victory in battle. Today it is used for objects d'art, decorative purposes, jewelry and as layer stones for cameos.



### Carnelian

Carnelian is probably named after the color of the kornel cherry, translucent to semi-opaque, red or orange-red or brownish chalcedony. The color is due to iron. Wax does not easily adhere to polished carnelian, which made this material useful for signet rings.

### Chrysoprase

Chrysoprase is a highly translucent, apple-green chalcedony that is frequently mistaken for jade. It is the most valuable of the chalcedonies, colored green by traces of nickel silicate. Chrysoprase, usually cut into cabochons, beads or cameos and intaglios, was popular in the Victorian era.



### Bloodstone

Bloodstone is an opaque, dark-green chalcedony with red spots. An old name still used in Europe is heliotrope. Particles of chlorite or included hornblende needles cause the green color. Red spots are caused by iron oxide. It is used often as seals for men's rings and for other ornamental objects



### Petrified Wood



Colorful agate that has replaced tree trunks and limbs: the woody structure is preserved in many cases and can be seen with a microscope. The colors may be very bright and strong. It is usually used for ornamental objects and decorative pieces such as tabletops, book-ends or paperweights and less frequently for jewelry purposes.

## From the Executive's Desk...



*The hot trends this season include flowers, ethnic influences and an organic mood.*

Circles and ovals continue to be popular as well as organic shapes and elements in the natural world. Pink still remains a hot color followed by blue. Look for combinations of blue and orange; purple and green; and black and white. In terms of stone cuts, cabochons are the fashionable choice. Layering is a key styling trend with the mixing of chains in different weights and sizes with innovative links and intricate texturing and detailing.

Having just returned from the Couture Conference and jewelry shows in Las Vegas, The Collector is excited to share the new hot trends and invite you to visit one of our salon locations.

*Jeanne Hancock Larson,*  
Executive Director

## Minerals in Interior Design

*While many of the earth's mineral species crystallize, quartz crystals are among the most beautiful.*

As far back as the days of Ancient Greece and Rome, quartz has held a special place with people. Romans drank wine from amethyst goblets to prevent drunkenness and the Greeks referred to rock crystal as "frozen light."

All these centuries later, natural crystals are still being used to bring beauty to people's lives. Interior designers are adorning homes with large, unpolished specimens like bold amethyst geodes that are large enough to stand in and smaller carved or polished pieces such as obelisks, crystal balls and pyramids that make a room sparkle as the sun hits just the right spot. Crystals possess a beauty that anyone can relate to. There is no need for a background in art to appreciate them. They mix beautifully with all styles ranging from an elegant hotel to a more casual beach house and make an excellent choice for interior design.



Ancient Romans thought amethyst goblets would keep them from getting drunk



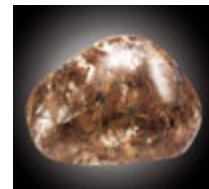
## Appraiser Notes

*by Jo Ellen Cole*

### In Quartz, Inclusions Can Be A Good Thing!

Phantoms are ghost-like outlines that appear and reflect the outline of the external quartz crystal because of pauses in its growth due to a change in the environment such as temperature or pressure, or a change in the constitution of the mother liquid. Crystal growth can cease temporarily, giving inclusions of other minerals a chance to be deposited on the surface of the quartz's prismatic faces. Once the crystal resumes its growth, it captures the inclusions in a hexagonal prism, like a moment frozen in place during the crystal's growth. Although phantoms can occur in any single crystal species, hexagonal quartz crystals are most appreciated for showing distinct phantoms that can be dramatic and varied.

For a professional appraisal or any further information, please contact Jo Ellen Cole, GG., FGA. at 760-758-8315 or [jocole2@cox.net](mailto:jocole2@cox.net)



Rutilated quartz is another type of inclusion

An example of phantom quartz





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## Art Nouveau

The Art Nouveau movement began in the 1880s partly as a reaction against the repressive, heavy styles of the Victorian period. The ornamental, asymmetrical style expressed passion, vitality and vigor and was manifested in art, architecture, metalwork, textiles and interior design. It was clearly embodied in the spectacular jewelry of the period where the subjects often included the female form with long flowing hair, exotic plant life and winged creatures, all of which held a sort of dreamlike symbolism. The Art Nouveau designers incorporated such gem materials as moonstone, opal, turquoise, tourmaline, pearl, horn and ivory. Gemstones were used as accents while the main focus was often the use of enamels. There is a variety of enameling techniques and one of the most beautiful and popular is plique-a-jour, which produces a stained-glass-window effect. The Art Nouveau movement was short-lived as it was unable to survive the First World War and the diminished sense of naïve romanticism. The movement was quickly buried but it made a long lasting impact on art and design that is carried through to the present day.



Art Nouveau style necklace  
 by Masriera  
 This collection is available at  
 The Collector Fine Jewelry

## The Collector Fine Jewelry

Fallbrook: 912 So. Live Oak Park Rd.  
 Fallbrook, CA 92028  
 760-728-9121 760-728-5827 fax  
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