

James A Fiebig

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Objective Statement:

After a lifetime in retail jewelry and community leadership, Mr. Fiebig has made a commitment to assisting two distinctly different groups to overcome the challenges they face. He is helping poverty stricken areas where our gemstones originate by arranging for U.S. jewelers travel to these countries, acquiring these gems from the local dealers, and assisting with marketing back in the U.S. The ultimate goal is to raise world awareness of the mutual benefit of people to people economics and bring fundamental change to the 1 billion people currently without access to clean water and sanitation. Mr. Fiebig desires work with any agency to further this important cause.

Professional Experience

- ◆ 2005 May-Sept living and working in Madagascar to establish Gemstone Tourism business for Malagasy people
- ◆ 1989—Jan. 2005 : PRESIDENT, FIEBIG JEWELERS, INC.
25 years experience in every facet of our industry, including bench work, engraving, human resources, advertising, public relations, store design, sales, and management.
- ◆ Frequent speaker (over 200 public speaking presentations) on gemstones.
- ◆ Extensive travel to purchase gemstones, including Brazil, Madagascar, South Africa, and several East African countries.
- ◆ Design of finished jewelry using stones purchased abroad.
- ◆ Annual sales are up 400% since 1980.
- ◆ 1979—1989 : STORE MANAGER, FIEBIG JEWELRY

Professional Memberships

- ◆ JEWELERS OF AMERICA
- ◆ JEWELERS' VIGILANCE COMMITTEE
- ◆ MICHIGAN JEWELERS' ASSOCIATION, VICE PRESIDENT 2004
Responsible for two state conventions and past chair for the Future Goals Executive Committee for MJA.
Judged the Michigan Jewelers' Design Competition for three years.
- ◆ GIA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
Active in continuing gemology education with our local chapter
- ◆ US MADAGASCAR BUSINESS COUNCIL

Languages

- ◆ FUNCTIONAL IN SPANISH, FRENCH, GERMAN, PORTUGUESE, SWAHILI, AND MALAGASY.

Community Activities

- ◆ 1983-84 : GREATER STURGIS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PRESIDENT
- ◆ 1983 : STURGIS LABOR-MANAGEMENT BOARD
- ◆ 1984-85, 1986-87 : DOWNTOWN STURGIS ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT
- ◆ 1981-2004: DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY BOARD MEMBER;
CHAIRMAN (2 TERMS); Administered the entire Downtown Master Plan 2002-04
- ◆ 1993-94 : STURGIS ROTARY PRESIDENT; Rotary International,
Paul Harris Fellow Recipient
- ◆ 1998-Present : STURGIS BUSINESS EDUCATION ALLIANCE TEACHER/ADVISOR
- ◆ SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER; CHURCH FUND RAISING

Interests & Activities

- ◆ Playing regularly with a Jazz trio, sailboat racing, teaching courses on wine and food.

Education

- ◆ 1974-78 : UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN - BA Music Composition