

## AGTA to Honor Hodgkinson and Keller at 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event on February 1

The American Gem Trade Association (AGTA) will make Scottish gemologist Alan Hodgkinson an Honorary Member and recognize longtime *Gems and Gemology* editor Alice Keller in Tucson, February 1, 2011, during the AGTA's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event at the Tucson Convention Center. The event is open to all registered attendees and exhibitors and will begin at 6:00 pm.



Alan Hodgkinson, FGA, DGA, is one of the world's most renowned gemological lecturers and authors. Alan's enthusiasm for gemstones and gemology is infectious; those attending his lectures cannot get enough of his easily understandable and simple techniques that yield vital information without expending large amounts of money on high-tech equipment. He has been the recipient of many honors, including - Honorary Registered Valuer UK, Honorary Member Canadian Gemmological Association, Freeman Worshipful Company of Goldsmiths, Freeman City of London, and was the first recipient of the Antonio Bonanno Award. Alan is the developer of Hodgkinson's Visual Optics. He is currently President of the Eastwood Chamber of Trade and Commerce, and he is working on a book entitled "Diamond & Gemstones - A Practical Identification Manual."



Alice Keller, already an AGTA Honorary Member, was hand-picked by Richard T. Liddicoat, GIA's leader and patriarch for more than 60 years and editor-in-chief of *G&G* for 50 years, to oversee GIA's flagship publication in 1980. She became its third editor-in-chief, after GIA founder Robert Shipley and Liddicoat, in 2002. Her expertise was the pivotal force in developing *G&G* into the premier professional journal of gemology it is known as today. She recently retired from her post.

"Both of these individuals are held in high regard by the American Gem Trade Association and its members," stated Douglas K. Hucker, AGTA CEO. "The information and knowledge they both have shared with our members and the industry through the years makes them both worthy of recognition by the AGTA."

The AGTA's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration is being sponsored by the City of Tucson and will be located in the new East Entrance of the Tucson Convention Center on the opening day of the AGTA GemFair™ Tucson, Tuesday, February 1, 2011. All registered GemFair attendees are invited to attend to recognize these two individuals and celebrate AGTA's three decades as The Authority in Color. For further information, go to [www.agta.org](http://www.agta.org).