

Warren H. Morss, ASA, MGA®
Election Biography

Member since 2014

GIA Graduate Gemologist (GG), 1996

Accredited Senior (ASA), 2016

Master Gemologist Appraiser (MGA®), 2020

Gem and Jewelry Discipline Committee Member At Large, 2018-2020

Gem and Jewelry Discipline Committee Chair, 2021-2023

Past GJ Chair and Chair Nominations & Awards, 2023-

Gem and Jewelry Strategic Planning Committee, 2020-2021

Co-Instructor GJ103 2020-

Boston Chapter Vice President, 2019-2021

Boston Chapter President, 2021-2023

Past Chair and Chair Nominations and Awards, 2023-

I am currently Principal of Boston Estate and Gem Appraisal now located in West Palm Beach, Florida

BA - University of Massachusetts

GG - Gemological Institute of America

Why do you feel you are qualified for this position? Include information on past volunteer positions with ASA and other organizations.

My name is Warren Morss. I have been a member of ASA since 2014 and hold Accredited Senior Appraiser and Master Geologist Appraiser designations in the Gems and Jewelry Discipline earned in 2016 and 2020 respectively. I have been involved in the jewelry industry for the past 52 years working in both wholesale and retail sectors holding multiple positions. I managed a fine jewelry salon for a major national luxury retailer and managed a store for a large national corporation specializing in the sale of luxury watches. As a diamond importer, I traveled to world markets purchasing loose diamonds from manufacturers and distributors which I sold to retailers. As a pawnbroker and jewelry buyer, I purchased diamonds and estate jewelry from the public. Presently, as the Managing Principal of Boston Estate and Gem Appraisal, in Boston, MA, I specialize in Gem and Jewelry Consulting services including independent gem and jewelry appraisal work. I hold a Graduate Gemologist degree from the Gemological Institute of America which I earned in 1996.

What contributions have you provided ASA as a member or to a comparable organization(s)?

In the past seven years, I have served ASA as a Member at Large to the Gems and Jewelry Committee, and for the last three years as Gem and Jewelry Chair, and currently Past Chair and Chair of the Nomination and Awards Committee. In this capacity, I have been a part of identifying and implementing GJ goals and initiatives including member recruitment and retention, education, and advertising. As GJ representative to the Strategic Planning Committee, I wrote the current GJ Strategic Plan and have worked to help implement many of the long- and short-term goals contained in that plan. I am currently a member of the ASA New England chapter and served as both Vice President and President, where I have worked with other members of the executive team to revitalize the chapter, focusing on the same

goals of increasing and retaining membership through increased visibility of the ASA brand along with enhanced educational and networking opportunities. I am currently Past Chair.

What do you wish for ASA's members?

My vision for the Gem and Jewelry Discipline is to continue the fine work being done by the Gem and Jewelry Discipline Committee. As the Gems and Jewelry Governor, it would be my responsibility to report Board of Governor news, initiatives, and changes to governance, to the Gems and Jewelry Committee, sit in on all GJ Committee Meetings, bring GJ initiatives as well as suggestions to the attention of the Board of Governors, and function as a liaison between The Board of Governors and the Gems and Jewelry Committee. If elected, I am excited to move forward and work as your Gem and Jewelry Governor liaising between you, your GJ Committee, and your ASA Executive Team to effectively facilitate Gem and Jewelry goals and initiatives. This includes but is not limited to recruitment, member retention, education, conference organization, finance, website design and digital marketing, strategic relationships and partnerships, and international outreach. ASA is the only global multi-disciplinary appraisal organization, and public visibility is a big priority. I will work towards creating more public, professional, and industry awareness of the ASA brand and in particular, the Gem and Jewelry Discipline. This includes the role ASA plays in educating, testing, and monitoring appraisers' professional and ethical standards in all disciplines and maintaining the highest level of public trust. We must foster the creation of new ideas and the emergence of new leadership. We must continue to develop a more formal mentoring program to assist our candidates in navigating the path to designation. We must place the highest priority on education focusing on streamlining and updating course content, format, and location.

What do you wish for ASA in the profession?

As GJ Governor, I will be working with the Board of Governors and the Executive Committee to develop and promote Gems and Jewelry initiatives, and to work as a liaison between the Board of Governors, the Executive Committee, and the GJ Committee.

Why should members vote for you?

As GJ Governor, I will be working with the Board of Governors and the Executive Committee to develop and promote Gems and Jewelry initiatives, and to work as a liaison between the Board of Governors, the Executive Committee, and the GJ Committee.