



Washington DC Chapter GIA Alumni Association

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“Tsavorite: History, Family and Ethical Sourcing” presented by James Walker

Wednesday, January 20, 2021 ; 6:30 – 9:00P.M.

Mr. Walker will cover the history of the discovery of Tsavorite, what it was like working with Campbell Bridges for nearly 20 years. Why the Bridges family was one of the original Ethical Sources, due to the vertical integration of their operation.

Mr. Walker will provide video and photos for talking points and will open it up to participant questions and answers.

[Please Join our Zoom Meeting – January 20th – from our web page linked here!](#)

Mr. James Walker grew up in Hamburg, NY, just south of Buffalo. As a kid he spent his summers collecting fossils. He graduated from Principia College with a BA in Studio Art/Art History.

Mr. Walker spent a year traveling in Central America before joining the Arlington County Police Department. After two years as a police officer he started his career in the jewelry business working at Nordstrom. In 1993 he met Campbell Bridges at a DC GIA Chapter meeting. Within a month he was working for Campbell Bridges selling his East African gems around the country. In 1994 he traveled to the Scorpion Mine for the first time. Little did he know he would spend 20 years working in East Africa.

After Campbell was murdered in 2009 Mr. Walker worked for 5 years fighting to keep the mine open and bring those responsible for Campbell's murder to justice. In 2014, after the murder case concluded, he left Kenya for a position in the Mine Safety Health Administration inspecting mines in the Northeast.

Mr. Walker attends the Tucson AGTA show every year and conducts lectures when the opportunity arises. He also spends time prospecting for new gem deposits.

Charles Marts
Secretary, DCGIA

February Meeting: TBD
DCGIA Tuscon Discussion Panel

DCGIA, 13400 Catocin Ct Herndon, VA 20170 USA

Access the Chapter website at www.dcgia.org for information, updates, and last minute changes.

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