

1991 - 11 - 420 Carat Diamond info

The Largest Rough Un-Cut Diamond ever to be displayed and shown in Kansas was the 420-Carat Diamond Owned by Lazare Kaplan Diamonds.



The diamond has an octahedron form/shape, Two (2) pyramids glued bottom to bottom, with eight (8) triangular sides

The diamond is too heavily included to cut and so it is more valuable as a Natural Rough Diamond Specimen for a Diamond Collector to put in his/her collection.

I can't disclose the value of the diamond at the time I had it in my possession

The size is a bigger than a Chicken egg and slightly smaller than a duck egg.

I have a bunch of 35mm film negatives and print pictures but they are back in Kansas in storage.

We had to carry specialized Insurance and also have Two (2) armed guards present at all times it was outside of the safety deposit box at the bank.

At the time Kansas didn't have conceal carry permits but I was Deputized along with my dad so that both dad and I could legally open-carry or conceal carry.

Very few people in Kansas were ever deputized.

I was also the President of the Kingman Police Pistol Club and I was also a Range Safety Officer and also designed and conducted over 240 to 270 sanctioned shooting tournaments over a 10-year period with ZERO (0) incidents.

I contacted Lazare Kaplan Diamond to see if it was possible to get one of their Three (3) Largest Rough Diamonds that Lazare Kaplan Diamonds owned to be shipped out and put on public display as part of a Public Promotion of the Kansas Chapter #30 of the Gemological Institute of America's Alumni Association.

Our store, Walker's Jewelry was a Lazare Kaplan Dealer of their High Quality "Ideal Cut" Diamonds

This was in conjunction with the Chapter's Publication of the 1<sup>st</sup> Printed Booklet Ever in the World that listed EVERY SINGLE Gemologist, Graduate Gemologist and Certified Gemologist in a specific area or region, in this case, the State of Kansas.

Leslie Kinder-Anderson was the President and La Shawn was Vice President of the Kansas Chapter at the time. These were the principle ones involved in putting the informative booklet together along with, Mitzi Desmarteau.

Along with Gary Roskin who at the time was the Executive Director of GIA Alumni Association. GIA, Diamond Promotional Service, Jeweler's Circular-Keystone Magazine, Jewelers of America, Lazar Kaplan, C.A. Kiger Company, Modern Jeweler Magazine and National Jeweler Magazine assisted and supported this ground breaking project.



This is me with the diamond in my fingers getting ready to drop it in my pocket.

Leslie Kinder-Anderson is in the foreground as we were getting the displays set up in the Atrium's soon to be gift shop.

The Atrium area is just across the hall where we had a small stage small lectern and a bunch of chairs for guests

We also had a Complete Gemological Laboratory Set up to show the public exactly what we as Gemologists and Gemological Appraisers of Gems and Jewelry really do for a living and the equipment we use daily.



This is the “Epic Center” the Tallest Building in the State of Kansas  
385 feet tall and 22-stories above ground

It is in downtown, Wichita Kansas.

Robert M. Shipley, The Founder of the Gemological Institute of America (GIA) & American Gem Society (AGS) actually had a jewelry store on the main drag of downtown Wichita, on Douglas Street, just a few blocks away from this building before he closed it and went to get educated on pearls and colored stones and diamonds.

My home town is Kingman, Kansas a small rural town about 35-miles west of Wichita, Kansas  
Population under 3,500, not including cows, cats and dogs

This is a copy from my small town news paper about the Diamond and what the Kansas Chapter of the GIA Alumni were doing to inform and educate the consumer more about Gemologist, Graduate Gemologists and Certified Gemologists and why you need to, GET THE REAL FACTS, Talk to a Gemologists”



## Gem Institute to sponsor Diamond Seminar

The Kansas Chapter #30 of the Gemological Institute of America Alumni Association will sponsor a seminar on diamonds and precious gems for the general public.

A booklet on diamonds and precious gems will be available listing known gemologists across the state and all the jewelry stores in Kansas that employ professionally trained gemologists.

A 420 carat rough diamond will be on display. It is one of the largest un-cut diamonds in the world.

The seminar will take place Saturday, Nov. 9 at the Epic Center in Wichita for one day only.

Anyone wanting more information many contact LaShawn Bauer, G.G. at Walker's Jewelry Store.



*LASHAWN BAUER displays a gem stone, reported to be one of the world's largest uncut diamonds at 420 carats.*

## Bauer arranges display

The largest diamond ever to come into the state of Kansas came to Kingman before it was put on display at the tallest building in Kansas, "The Epic Center" in Wichita.

Kingman Gemologist La Shawn Bauer of Walker's Jewelry was responsible for arranging the display of the 420 Carat rough un-cut diamond in Wichita.

"The diamond display was used as a drawing card to bring the general public to seminars about diamonds, precious gems and jewelry," said Bauer. "The entire focal point of this entire event is the public debut of the *Kansas Consumer guide to Gemologists and Jewelry stores*, Which has helpful information on diamonds, gemstones and jewelry.

This booklet was originally conceived and designed by Bauer. He

then enlisted the help of Leslie Kinder-Anderson, of Melanie Custom Jewelry of Wichita.

Kinder-Anderson is a past president of the Kansas Chapter #30 of the Gemological Institute of America Alumni Association. Bauer is serving as President for 91-92.

These two gemologists have brought the state of Kansas to the forefront in the international jewelry industry in consumer education and awareness due in part to the booklet they worked on together and published.

If you look at the picture closely you will see that in the background is a wall of Safety Deposit Boxes

This picture was taken just outside the Safety Deposit Box Vault of the Kingman State Bank.

This is where the diamond was stored before it was taken over to the Epic Center in Wichita Kansas.

I was delivered by police car provided by the Kingman Police Department and Two Police officers along with my dad and we also had two other police officers from the Wichita Police Department also there at the event.

Two even had shotguns, no less during the entire event.