

MONUMENT BUILDERS



OF NORTH AMERICA

NEWS

Monument Builders of North America

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Eastern Memorials Wins Award in MBNA National Design Contest

San Diego, California — **Eastern Memorials in Manassas, VA** won the Best Hand Carved Memorial award in Monument Builders of North America's (MBNA) 2012 Design Contest at its recent Joint Annual Meeting held in conjunction with the California Monument Association (CMA) and the Pacific Northwest Monument Builders Association (PNMBA) held February 24 – 26, 2012 at the Bahia Resort and Hotel in San Diego, California.

Although Mrs. Isabelle Scott passed away before its completion, she actually participated in the design of her Best Hand Carved award winning memorial. Her son, Scott Rosenberg, managed the project on her behalf after her death. Eastern Memorials did use sandblasting techniques to save time creating reliefs; however, all of the elements were hand-carved to finish including the lettering. Isabelle loved roses so they incorporated rose blooms at the tops and thirteen flowers (Mrs. Scott's favorite number) carved on the sides. Below her name are three projected candles representing her son and his daughter and her. The high relief Easter lilies that encompass the base were always in her garden during life and the back displays a song she wrote one Christmas.



All MBNA members were eligible the 2012 MBNA Design Contest and entries are finished monuments (not just conceptual designs) that fall into one of the nine categories: Best Public/Civic Monument, Best Cremation Memorial, Best Hand Etched Memorial, Best Laser Etched Memorial, Best Hand Carved Memorial, Best Marker, Best Small Monuments (tablet size 3' or less in width and height), Best Large Monuments (tablet

size over 3' in width and/or height), and Best Novice monument (open to large or small monuments by participants with less than 3 years in the industry). Winners in all categories were awarded a handsome miniature memorial for display in any office. In addition to winning in each categories, entrants were also eligible for the People's Choice Award (decided by those in attendance that the convention) and the Bert Gast Memorial Biondan Bronze Trophy for best overall monument, named for the instructor of MBNA's Design Correspondence Course, Bert Gast of Gast Memorials in Chicago, Illinois, who passed away in 2005.

All designs originated from MBNA member firms and were judged on elements of proportion, balance and the story the monument conveys.

MBNA is the largest trade association for firms and individuals in Canada and the United States that are engaged in the retail sale of monuments, wholesalers and manufacturers of monuments, or provide goods, services and materials to retailers or wholesalers of monuments.

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The Monument Builders of North America (MBNA), has the Mission statement: To define and promote Memorialization in a viable, innovative and diversified way for the membership, and to enhance the awareness of Memorialization by the general public and the Remembrance Industry. For membership information, visit MBNA's website at www.monumentbuilders.org, or contact the main office at 800.233.4472.