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**ACE HARDWARE RE-ELECTS THREE DIRECTORS, ADDS ONE NEW
MEMBER AT ANNUAL STOCKHOLDERS MEETING**

OAK BROOK, Ill., June 23, 2011 – Ace Hardware retailers Jim Ackroyd and Gina Schaefer, and financial executive Jeffrey Girard were re-elected to Ace Hardware Corporation’s board of directors at the retailer-owned cooperative’s annual stockholders meeting June 14 at its corporate headquarters in Oak Brook, Ill. Ace retailer David Karsten was elected to his first term on the board. Ackroyd, Girard, Schaefer and Karsten each will serve three-year terms on the 10-person board of directors, which sets strategic policy and direction for Ace management.

Ackroyd, 55, was elected to his second three-year term as a member director. He serves as the chief executive officer of Vision Ace Hardware LLC, a 10-store chain based in Naples, Fla. In addition to his work with Ace, Ackroyd has previously held CFO positions and managed real estate development companies.

Schaefer, 40, was elected to serve a second three-year term as a member director. Along with husband Marc Friedman, she owns and manages Logan Hardware, the parent company of seven urban Ace Hardware stores in Washington, D.C., and Baltimore. Schaefer, who has won numerous business and entrepreneur awards, is also heavily involved in community organizations.

Karsten, 47, joins the board for his first term as a member director. He opened his first Ace Hardware store nine years ago in the Phoenix area after serving as a trader at the Chicago Stock Exchange. Since then, Karsten has expanded his business, opening two additional Ace stores with a strong focus in niche merchandising.

Jacksonville, Fla., resident Girard, 63, was elected to serve a second term as a non-member director and is qualified as an “audit committee financial expert” for SEC

purposes based on his CFO tenure at two *Fortune* 500 companies. Girard also serves on the board of Winn-Dixie Stores Inc.

“We’re drawing from some of the most innovative and experienced Ace retailers as well as other outstanding industry professionals to help lead Ace’s strategic initiatives in the years ahead,” said David Ziegler, Ace retailer and chairman of the board for Ace Hardware. “I’m extremely proud of the diverse points of view and experience on our board of directors; it is a direct representation of the distinctiveness of our unique Ace retailers.”

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About Ace® Hardware

For more than 85 years, Ace Hardware has been known as the helpful hardware store in thousands of communities across America. Customers depend on Ace to help them take care of their homes quickly and easily so they can get on with their lives. In 2011, Ace ranked “Highest in Customer Satisfaction among Home Improvement Stores for the Fifth Consecutive Year,” according to J.D. Power and Associates. With 4,500 locally owned and operated hardware stores, Ace is the largest hardware cooperative in the industry. Headquartered in Oak Brook, Ill., Ace currently operates 14 distribution centers in the U.S. It also operates distribution centers in Shanghai, China; Panama City, Panama; and Dubai, United Arab Emirates. Its retailers’ stores are located in all 50 states and more than 60 countries. For more information on Ace, visit www.acehardware.com.