BORDERS ON BUTTONS #3: PICTORIALS

Third in a Series of Articles Concerning Borders on Buttons

by Claudia Chalmers & Joy Journeay

The four pictorial sections can be found on buttons in most every material. A sampling is included here for your review.

The border detail shows (from the inside out), a wreath border contained within two flat edges, then the main border of six walking bulls, and finally a flat border upon which sits a guilloche border. (A guilloche (pronounced ghi-lowsh') is comprised of interlaced bands forming circles or loops.)

This large stamped brass button may show Dionysus with the Cretan Bull on a center medallion, nested inside a beautiful border set.

from the Official NBS Classification 2009/2010 Awards Edition

SECTION 23– 4 Borders Assorted That portion of a button's face design which lies between the center and the outer edge. It may be any width, but it must "border" a plain or decorative center of any size or shape. Refer to May 1999 NBS Bulletin.

ANIMAL LIFE

Three insects on border.

Two eagles on border.

Six elephants on inner border.

Deer and hound border.

Two lion heads.

Four cat

Porcelain with six each rooster & rooster heads on the border. MMF.

PLANT LIFE

Plant life is perhaps the most prevalent pictorial border.

When gathering buttons for competition specifically for pictorial plant life borders, be sure to not include borders that only contain stylized plant life, as this is classed as a pattern border, not a pictorial border. Thoughtfully review the features.

Fruits, grain and flower border.

Enamel buttons, one with a pierced screen background, depicting a central rose surrounded by a border of alternating six roses, three rose leaves, and three buds.

Painted studio button with a gold line border inside a flower and leaf border.

Porcelain button with a gold line, wreath, and gold edge border

Glass set in brass. Painted borders of an inner rope/cable and painted plant life.

Top row: Amethyst glass set in brass. Black glass set in brass with a stamped brass border of grapes and grape leaves. Four lower buttons are stamped brass.

Brass with pierced flower border.

Brass with grapevine border.

White metal with a pierced plant life border.

Pearl with an acanthus leaf border over a plain rim border.

Velvet background behind a cat's head with a leaf rim border.

French White button of a fairy in an art nouveau border of water lily leaves and blooms.

Large jewel, glass set in pierced brass, with a border of water lily leaves and blooms.

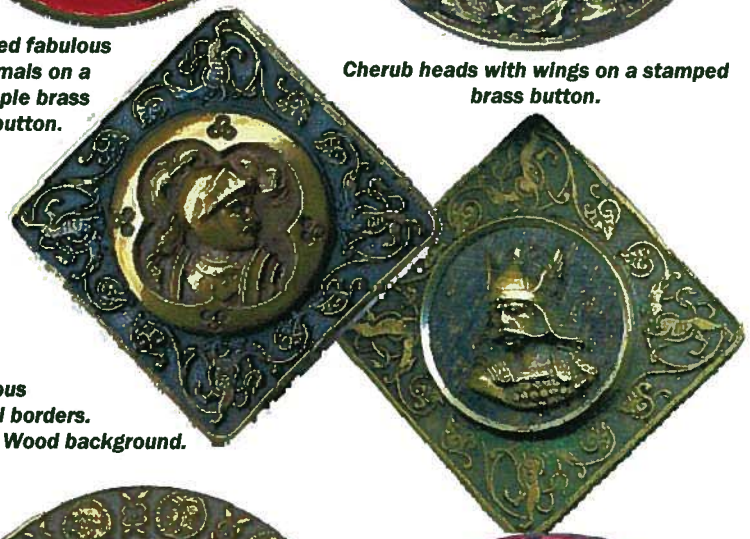
OBJECTS

(clockwise from top left): Brass grapes, screen background and a handkerchief border with screw heads. Feather border. Belt border. Belt border. Screw head border. Shell border.

OTHER PICTORIALS

Painted fabulous animals on a simple brass button.

Cherub heads with wings on a stamped brass button.



Fabulous animal borders. (right) Wood background.

Greek head border. Pierced stamped

Wave border on pierced burwood.