

TERRITORIAL NEWS



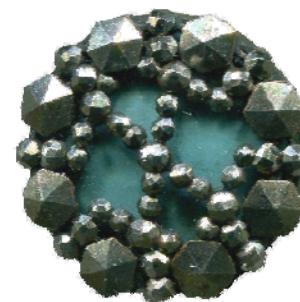
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Western Regional Button Association
Volume 11, Number 1
FEBRUARY 25, 2013

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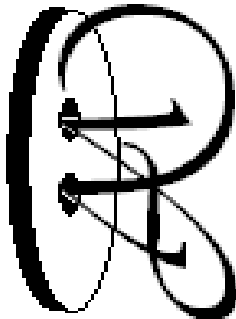


Be sure to
"FRIEND"
NBS on
Facebook.
You'll be glad
you did!



*A beautiful glass background behind a
mesh of cut steels. Barbara Barrans*

VISIT OUR WEB PAGE AT WWW.WRBA.US



c/o C. Joy Journey, Editor
2301 Merrill Field Drive A-3
ANCHORAGE AK 99501-4134

An interest that is not nurtured fades.
Knowledge that is not shared dies
with the mind of he who hoards it.
A pleasure that is not shared is a
feeble pleasure, indeed.

WRBA Mission Statement

- ♥ Establish an affiliation, a forum, and an identity for all Western U.S. button collectors, including those who are not part of any local organization
- ♥ Unite the isolated collectors of the west with the established clubs
- ♥ Pool the talents and resources of members for enrichment of the hobby
- ♥ Keep us all in touch via the territorial newsletter
- ♥ Host a regional show with the purpose of:
 - Recruiting those fascinated by buttons into the hobby
 - Providing educational workshops & presentations
 - Learning through competition
 - Meeting dealers and obtaining buttons for our collections
 - Refreshing our interest and ambition in collecting
 - Enjoying the camaraderie and fun of gathering together

www.wrba.us

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Fundraising Chair Vacant

Membership

WRBA membership year is Jan-Dec.
Save \$5 by joining for two years!

Annual Two-Year

Junior (ages 8 thru 17)... \$5 \$10

Active member—print..... \$25 \$45

Black & white newsletters,
printed and mailed

Active member—email.... \$20 \$35

Color PDF newsletters,
sent via email

Dual membership..... \$30 \$55

*residence at same address; one
newsletter sent in selected format

Life..... \$250

Membership is required to receive
the newsletter, compete in competition,
or to vote and have a voice in WRBA
business.

If you join midyear, old issues will
not be mailed to you. However, you
may ask to receive past issues via email
in PDF format.

Send check or money order to the
Treasurer (*address inside front cover*),
payable to WRBA or pay via PayPal to
treasurer@wrba.us.

Advertising

WRBA News is published four (4) times
per year, and is distributed
electronically or via the US mail.

| Rates | Dimensions | Per | Per |
|---------|------------|-------|-------|
| Page** | H x W | Issue | Year |
| ¼ page | 2" x 5½" | \$25 | \$85 |
| ½ page | 4" x 5½" | \$35 | \$120 |
| Full pg | 7½ x 4½ " | \$50 | \$165 |

**based on 8x5 inch layout

Submission deadlines

Jan 5, Apr 5, Jul 5, Oct 5

Submit advertising copy to the editor.
Submit payment by PayPal to Treasurer.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

GREAT HONK

Dear members of WRBA:

I have recently been given the statistics on WRBA membership and they are sad. We had about 140 members and only 100 or so have renewed their membership.

"Great Honk" was the cry of exclamation from the musical, *The Music Man*. I use it here to get your attention to our membership problem.

Who needs WRBA anyway? These are the times that try men's souls. What with the economy being not great and people out of work, it is not surprising that button collecting would not be a high priority.

Yeah, but these are hard times and we need button shows to cheer us. There is not a doubt in my mind that your WRBA show in Reno is one of the best. You have the best and the brightest people in your organization who have been doing shows in the west for about ten years. WRBA has dealers from all over the country. Your NBS Classification Chairperson is the head judge. There is education to be had, wonderful friendships to renew and tons of buttons as well as fun. Between shows we have one of the finest button briefs published in the country.

So why is membership off???? We have a WRBA charm string which grows because our beloved members have died. We have a culture of young people who feel no need to join groups. This is not just a WRBA problem. Membership in almost all social groups is down. I am a member of a California Fraternity which has half the members it did some 25 years ago. I belong to a Veterans group whose membership is down as well.

So will we have a WRBA 2013 show??? You bet your buttons we will! As to the future of WRBA, I am not as confident. As long as we can sponsor a show and have enough attendance to satisfy the requirements of a hotel, we will continue. It is not a matter of how much we love our buttons that propagates our button clubs: it is a simple matter of demographics. Will we have enough people who want a WRBA or NBS for that matter? Only time will tell. We all know that the National Button Society survived the major impact of WW II and went on to grow.

If you are reading this, it is because you are already a member. You may want to mention to your button buddies that you read a wonderful and insightful blurb about WRBA membership and if the word spreads, perhaps we can renew enthusiasm and recruit new members.

Tom Barrans, WRBA President



wrba
2013
Oct 3-5, 2013

Treasures
of the sea





wrba 2013 Oct 3-5



Treasures of the sea

WRBA 2013 will be October 3-5, 2013, Thursday to Saturday, at John Ascuaga's Nugget in Sparks-Reno.

Room rates in the West Tower Deluxe are \$69 for Wednesday and Thursday nights and \$98 for Friday and Saturday. Rates in the East Tower Premier are \$79 for Wednesday and Thursday nights and \$108 for Friday and Saturday. In addition, the hotel charges a \$5 resort fee which provides airport shuttle, pool, fitness center, concierge, and parking.

WRBA 2013 is just around the corner so make your reservations now. You can call the hotel at (775) 356-3445 or (800) 648-1177.

CALL FOR AUCTION DONATIONS

The WRBA auction is always one of the delightful times WRBA members gather to enjoy each other's company AND have an opportunity to scoop up desirable buttons and related items.

Please consider donating items for the auction. The auction is one of the vital fundraising activities.

If possible, send donated items TODAY to Joy Journeay, or send a SCAN of the item to be donated. We would like to prepare an auction booklet ahead of time which will contain scans of the auction items.

Thank you for considering this worthy cause! Send scans to joyjourneay@gmail.com and items by mail to:

Joy Journeay—WRBA
2301 Merrill Field Drive A-3
Anchorage AK 99507



WRBA 2013 DRAFT SCHEDULE



The following dates and times can be used for the purposes of scheduling your travel to WRBA 2013. In our next issues we will begin to include the educational presentations and sessions.

Wednesday, October 2

| | |
|---------|-------------------------|
| 4–5 pm | Registration Open |
| 5:30 pm | Board Meeting |
| 7:30 pm | Early Bird Presentation |

Thursday, October 3

| | |
|------------|--------------------------|
| 7–9 am | Tray Check In |
| 8:30 am | Clerks & Judges Meeting |
| 9am–5pm | Judging |
| 5–6 pm | Maritime Reception |
| 6–7 pm | Educational Presentation |
| 7:30–10 pm | Showroom Open |

Friday, October 4

| | |
|----------|--------------------------|
| 8:30 am | General Meeting |
| 10am–5pm | Showroom Open |
| 6:30 pm | Pearlies Reception |
| 7:30 pm | Educational Presentation |

Saturday, October 5

| | |
|----------|------------------|
| 8:00 am | Awards Breakfast |
| 10:00 am | Tray Discussion |
| 11:00 AM | Board Meeting |
| 3:00 pm | Tray Check Out |
| 10am–4pm | Showroom open |

WRBA MEMORY STRING

by Bev Heebner

This is a reminder that you can submit a button and remembrance for the WRBA memory string.

I will be at the NBS annual convention in Portland OR in August. If you have someone you wish to include in the memory string album you can give me the information in person if you are coming to NBS.

Please provide a short biography (three or four lines), a picture (about 2"x2") and a button to add to the WRBA memory string.

It really helps if the information can be provided in advance of the October 2013 WRBA show. Advance submission allows me an opportunity to assemble the pages and assures that yours is included in the album for all attendees to view.

If you wish to submit by mail, my address is

5503 Tenth Avenue SW
Olympia WA 98512.

If you have questions, call me at (360) 352-5793.

My summer address (June 15-Sept 10) is

Pomeroy Ranger Station,
71 W Main Street,
Pomeroy WA 99347

In the summer you can call me at (509) 843-6116. Be aware that in the summer we will answer the phone by saying, "Tucannon Guard Station." My husband, Charlie, and I volunteer for the US Forest Service in the summer.

Our WRBA 2013 show will be here before you know it! Thanks in advance.



ATTENTION BUTTON VOLUNTEERS

Consider donating a portion of your time at the 2013 WRBA button show by helping judge or clerk during our judging day on Thursday.



If you are able and willing to help **JUDGE, CLERK, RUN** or assist in a variety of ways on Thursday, **please contact the Chair of Judges, Barb Barrans**. Our show depends on volunteers and this is a wonderful opportunity to contribute to your hobby and learn while immersing yourself in buttons!

darbysbarb@aol.com 559 683-6418

P O Box 2556, Oakhurst CA 93644

We also need volunteers to help at the Registration table during the show. Registration volunteers are one of the most important positions to WRBA. When visitors and potential collectors take the time to come to a button show, the registration table is their first contact with the organized hobby. A friendly, helpful greeting can be the catalyst to transition a person's interest into an engaging hobby!



Judy Schwenk & Jim Nolan

5518 Sugarloaf Street

Anacortes, WA 98221

(360)-293-2315

anajamm@comcast.net

We buy any size collections.

Approvals sent on request.

Contact us for your button needs.



WRBA Profit & Loss Statement—2012 1/1/2012 THROUGH 12/31/2012

| Category | 1/1/2012- 12/31/2012 |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| INCOME | |
| Interest Inc | 0.88 |
| Membership Dues | 1,130.00 |
| TOTAL INCOME | 1,130.88 |
| EXPENSES | |
| Bank Charge | 15.29 |
| Donations = | 500.00 |
| Newsletter | 1,459.33 |
| Show Expenses | |
| Storage Stipend | 500.00 |
| TOTAL Show Expenses | 500.00 |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | 2,474.62 |
| OVERALL TOTAL | -1,343.74 |

WRBA Treasurer's Note

This statement is incomplete, as the WRBA Editor has not sent the WRBA Treasurer bills for two of the WRBA 2012 newsletters.

The bank charges are the amount paid to PayPal.

The Donation was to the 2012 National Show for the Auctioneer, which WRBA volunteered to support for NBS in August 2012.



2013 WRBA AWARDS



DIVISION I

1. Cl. 7-0, Small. C & C glass assorted. Wild About Buttons \$5-3-2
2. Cl. 8-1 + 8-2, Lg. Glass mounted in/on metal specialized to a large central jewel. Joy Journey \$5-3-2
3. Cl. 11-7.2, Small. Shell specialized to steel OME. Other OME allowed if steel is present also. Joy Journey \$5-3-2
4. Cl. 15-4.1, 25 Any size Back marked rubber. Div II allowed but not required. Wild About Buttons \$5-3-2
5. Cl. 18-0 through 20-24, Small. Pictorials specialized to black glass. Colorado WRBA members \$7-5-3
6. Cl. 20-22.1.1, 20 Any size. Specialized to ships and boats with mast or sail. Div. II allowed but not required. Presidents Award \$10-6-4
7. Cl. 23-3.4.1, Mixed. Whistles (see page 54, NBS Blue Book). Colorado WRBA members \$7-5-3

DIVISION III

8. Cl. 1-1, 25 Any size. Celluloid specialized to buffed finish. Wild About Buttons \$5-3-2
9. Cl. 23-3.2 Medium. RSBs showing assorted metals/materials, colors, shapes, DF and pictorials. Carolyn Boes \$10-6-4

DIVISION IV

10. Cl. 1-0, 12 Any size. Bridle rosettes. Include the 4 pictorial sections. Points will be given for number of pictorial classes and subclasses represented, as well as materials, shapes and back marks. Label back marks in order to receive credit. Judy Schwenk. \$5-3-2.

11. Cl. 5-0, 12 Any size. Costume trim assorted. Look for pictorials and non-pictorials, assorted materials, sizes, shapes, colors, etc Judy Schwenk. \$5-3-2.

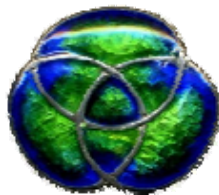
DIVISION IX

12. Cl. 1-0 through 15-5, 25 Any size. Anchors. Div. II allowed but not required. Joy Journey \$5-3-2
13. Cl. 1-0 through 15-5, 30 Any size. Specialized to Fish: 10 buttons with a single seahorse, 10 buttons with fish, and 10 buttons with two fish (a seahorse is a fish also) on each button. Zodiac paired fish allowed. Joy Journey \$5-3-2
14. Cl. 1-0 through 15-5, 25 Any size. Specialized to BIRDS OF THE SEA or WATER. To include 15 penguins, and 10 other birds. Joy Journey \$5-3-2
15. Cl. 1-0 through 15-5, Various. Specialized to Crabs. Zodiac crabs allowed. Joy Journey \$5-3-2
16. Cl. 6-2.3, Small. Specialized to black glass whistles. Joy Journey \$5-3-2
17. Cl. 6-6.2, Small. Faceted black glass specialized to ball shapes, with every button having a different facet pattern. Joy Journey \$5 for each successful entrant.
18. Cl. 6-8, Small. Black glass balls. Joy Journey \$5-3-2
19. Cl. 7-2, 25 any size. Clear colorless glass specialized to shapes. No OME or DF. Trisha Price \$5-3-2
20. Cl. 7-3.2, 30 Any size. Transparent glass specialized to all shades of blue except teal. No DF or OME. Carolyn Boes \$5-3-2
21. Cl. 11-2, 16 Any size. Non-iridescent shell specialized to cowrie. Look for variety in decoration and techniques. Barb Johnson \$7-5-3
22. Cl. 11-3, Small. Shell specialized to 2 hole sew-through. Joy Journey \$5-3-2
23. Cl. 11-8, Small. Shell specialized to "traced" linear shapes. No

- OME. No DF. See page 56 of the NBS Blue Book under 23-10 Shapes assorted. Linear shape is revealed by tracing around the outside edge of a button. All buttons may be traced, including realistic and contour. Try for a tray where every button "traces" a different linear shape. Joy Journey \$5-3-2
24. Cl. 13-2 through 13-7, 25 Any size. Vegetable Ivory. No need to balance classes. Helpful to label classes. Maximum of 3 studio buttons. Santa Clara Valley BC \$15-10-5
25. Cl. 17-0, 25 Any size. Specialized to Creatures of the Sea: 5 whales, 5 dolphins, 5 other mammals (manatee, sea otter, sea lion, seal, walrus, etc.), 2 crustaceans, 2 mollusks, 2 seahorses, 2 sea tortoise and 2 with three or more sea animals (starfish, rays, fish, etc.) on one button. Note: Killer whales are dolphins, not whales. Limit of 6 studio buttons. Joy Journey \$5-3-2
26. Cl. 17-2 + 17-5.4, Various. Birds and Dogs (domestic). Identify species/breed if possible. Colorado WRBA members in memory of Sharon Ruske. \$50-30-20
27. Cl. 17-1, 25 Any size. Specialized to Frogs and Toads. No limit on realistic or studio buttons. Trisha Price \$5-3-2
28. Cl. 17-5L, 24 Any size. Specialized to bears. Label type of bear; extra points for multiple bears (one point per extra bear up to five points). Limited to those who have not won a bear award. Southern Oregon Button Club \$5-3-2
29. Cl. 17-5.1 + 17-5.2, 25 Any size. Specialized to cats, 10 wild, 10 domestic and 5 free choice of either. Trisha Price \$5-3-2
30. Cl. 17-5.1 + 17-5.4L, 24 Any size. Dogs and cats specialized to at least 10 of each. Try to include one button with both. Label material. Limited to those who have not won an award for dogs and cats. Southern Oregon Button Club \$5-3-2
31. Cl. 17-5.4L, 24 Any size, Dogs specialized to 12 of one breed and 12 other breeds (try for different breeds). Label breeds and material. Limited to those who have not won a dog award. Southern Oregon Button Club \$5-3-2
32. Cl. 17-6, 20 Any size. Snakes. Snake may be the border of the

button. Limit of 3 Studios. Wild About Buttons \$5-3-2

33. Cl. 17-0 + 19-5.1, 25 Any size. 15 buttons with corn and 10 buttons with animals that eat corn. Extra points for no more than three (3) OME and three (3) DF. Usual limit on studios. Bev Heebner \$5-3-2
34. Cl. 17-0 through 20-24, Small. Pictorials specialized to black glass; no black glass mounted in metal. Label pictorial class. 3 points for representing each class/subclass the first time, 2 points each for each different shape (realistic, contour, linear), 1 point each for variety of glass techniques. Joy Journeyay \$5-3-2
35. Cl. 18-0 through 20-24, 20 Any size. Pictorial buttons specialized to those depicting present and past vices, i.e. gambling, drinking, dancing, etc. Label both subject and material. Colorado WRBA members \$7-5-3
36. Cl. 20-1 Small. Specialized to black glass ARCHITECTURAL STRUCTURES. No black glass mounted in metal. No OME. Joy Journeyay \$5-3-2
37. Cl. 20-2 Small. Specialized to black glass stars, comets and/or moons. No black glass mounted in metal. Balance of astronomical bodies not necessary. To remind us of the stars and moon that guided early sailors in the black of night. Eclipse depiction allowed. Joy Journeyay \$5-3-2
38. Cl. 21-7, Various. Pictorials specialized to metal. Colorado WRBA members \$7-5-3
39. Cl. 22-1, Various. Patterns. Santa Clara Valley BC \$15-10-5 (See Pages 22 and 51 in the NBS Blue Book.)
40. Cl. 23-10.1.1, Small. Balls, including modified balls. Jane Johnson \$5-3-2
41. Cl. 25-10, Med. Sporting buttons. Must have at least 1 person on each button, but person does not have to be the major focus. French sporting sets with verbals are included in this award. Judy Schwenk \$5-3-2. (See Page 60 in the NBS Blue Book.)



BACKGROUND BUTTONS #7:

GLASS & UNLISTED

Seventh in a Series Concerning Background Buttons
by Claudia Chalmers and Joy Journeyay

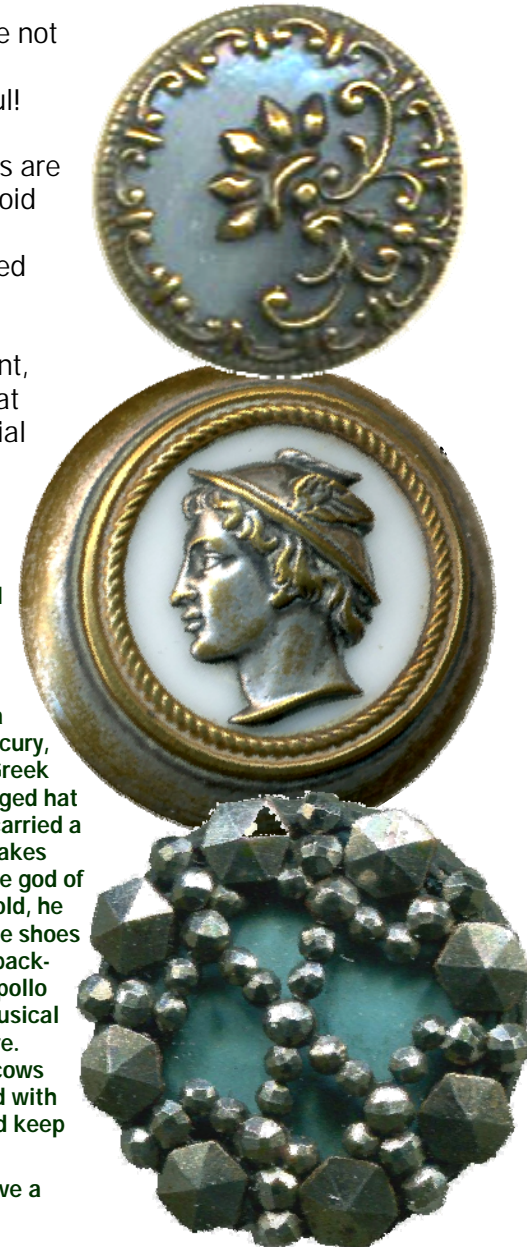
Glass background buttons are not as common as wood or celluloid backgrounds, but just as beautiful! Check carefully to be sure that pearlized or lustered backgrounds are truly glass, as many can be celluloid imitating glass.

Background buttons of unlisted materials include those with vegetable ivory, galena, bone, enamel, leather, paper, parchment, tortoise shell, etc. Remember that the background must be a material as opposed to a decorative finish such as paint.

RIGHT TOP Pierced brass conventional design over a glass background With luster decorative finish.

RIGHT MIDDLE Tinned brass Mercury over a white glass background, set in a tinned brass setting. Threadback. Mercury, was the Roman God of travelers. (His Greek name was Hermes.) Mercury had a winged hat and sandals, so that he could fly, and carried a staff which also has wings with two snakes winding around it. Mercury was also the god of thieves. When he was only a few days old, he stole the cows of Apollo. Mercury made shoes for the cows and taught them to walk backwards so they could not be followed. Apollo soon noticed Mercury playing a new musical instrument strung with cow-gut, the lyre. Apollo realized that Mercury stole his cows and was furious. But, he was enamored with the lyre, and agreed that Mercury could keep the cows if Apollo got the lyre.

RIGHT BOTTOM Cut steel lattice above a blue glass background.



ENAMEL BACKGROUNDS

Domed enamel background button with three crowns. The enamel disk is mounted in a gilt setting.

Swedish backmark:

C.C.SPORRONG & Co. STOCKHOLM



Tinned white metal escutcheon of musical instruments above a black enameled metal disk set in brass with cut steel on the borders. This button qualifies as a background button because the enameled portion is a separate piece.

VEGETABLE IVORY BACKGROUND

Brass head above a tooled vegetable ivory background set in a steel cup.

PAPER/PARCHMENT BACKGROUNDS



ABOVE Radlauf the Miller. A man with an axe over his shoulder leads a young woman seated on a donkey. Like BBB—Page 479, Plate 203-10. (Button Classics 179-4)

ABOVE RIGHT Lohengrin's Farewell. After championing Elsa, and winning her in marriage, Lohengrin is forced to leave because Elsa did the one thing she was forbidden to do: she asked her husband who he was. He leaves in the boat drawn by a dove. From the *Lohengrin* opera by Richard Wagner. Like BBB—Page 387.

RIGHT Frogs & Rickshaw design above an embossed and tinted parchment background. Note that this is a wallpaper design and not part of the button focus. White metal rim. Like BBB 471-18.



GALENA BACKGROUNDS in brass.

ABOVE Bird on a branch bordered by two large serpents entwined on branches.

RIGHT Rubenzahl, a Bohemian sprite, often assumed the form of a coal miner. Note the miner's pick in his hand, the timber behind him, and his hand above his head holding the shining light. Scarce. BBB—Page 443, New BBB—Page 637, Plate 186—14 in both. (Button Classics 115-2)

LEATHER BACKGROUNDS in brass.

RIGHT Leather background with stamped brass roaring lion head in high relief.

BOTTOM RIGHT Paris back white metal Incroyable on leather mounted in white metal. Japanned back. BELOW Brass Buddha above a leather background, stamped with imitation stitching, set in brass.



BACKGROUND BUTTONS #8: BACKGROUND PAIRS

Eighth in a Series Concerning Background Buttons

by Claudia Chalmers, Barbara Barrans, and Joy Journeyay

We stated at the outset of this series on background buttons that many of these images will be found with a variety of enhancements. The same stamped brass designs will be found over a background of another material set in metal, over a painted background, and as escutcheons on buttons.

It is important to thoroughly examine your button and not instantly take for granted that it completely matches one seen in a book or article.

Here are examples of button designs with different treatments enhancing the button subject matter. Some are background buttons and some do not qualify.

RIGHT

A cut steel strawberry. The top button is a wood background set in a steel cup. The bottom cut steel, which is also pierced, embellishes a stamped and engraved brass button. NBS small.

BELOW

The tinted stamped brass giraffe on the left appears over a wood background. The button on the right depicts the same animal over a darkened brass background. Also note the variation in the quality of the brass stamping detail. NBS large.





ABOVE Stamped brass with a white metal collet above a reticulated brass disk on the left and a wood background on the right.

RIGHT
A tinted stamped brass conventional design above a pearlized celluloid sheet, and below it is a woven fabric cousin. Both are background buttons.

BELOW
The same stamped brass bird with The border of two entwined snakes Seen on the previous page, but here It is above a wood background.



BACKGROUND BUTTONS #9: EXAMING CHALLENGERS & FOOLERS

Last in a Series Concerning Background Buttons

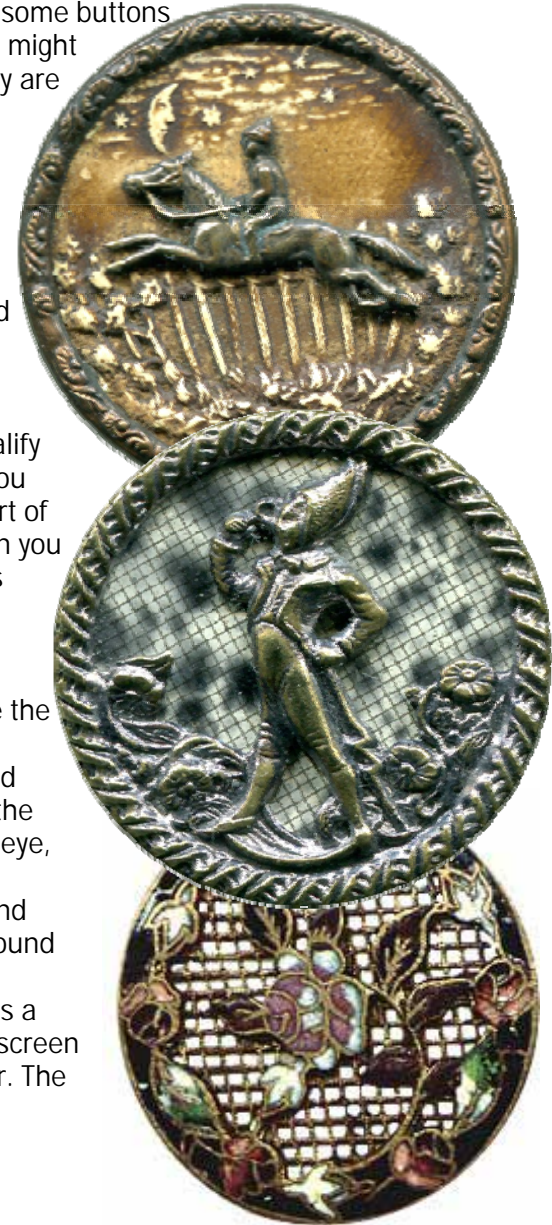
by Barbara Barrans, Claudia Chalmers and Joy Journeyay

As a final review, let's look at some buttons that might be backgrounds or might fool us into thinking they really are when they do not meet the qualifications to be a background button.

The first button features a stamped brass horse and rider leaping a fence. The celluloid behind the horse and rider is molded to depict the fence, crescent moon, stars, and vegetation. Do you know why this button would not qualify as a background button? If you realize that the celluloid is part of the pictorial composition, then you recognize that this example is not a background button.

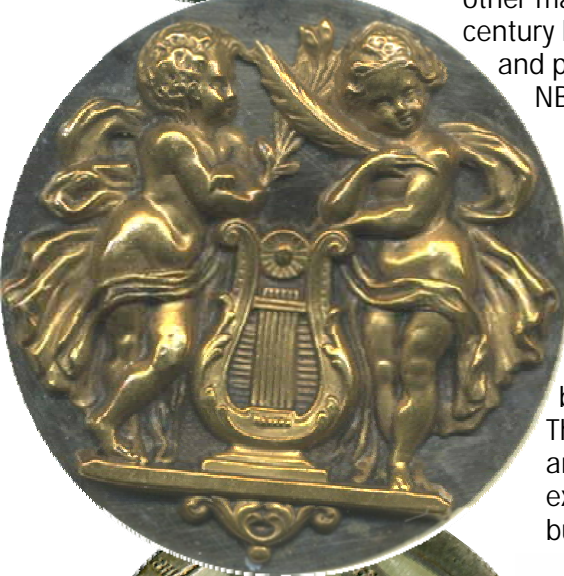
Let's consider another stamped brass image that Appears above celluloid. Here the dashing gentleman and floral detail are above cross-hatched and mottled celluloid. While the celluloid coloring attracts the eye, it is a pattern and not part of the pictorial image. This second celluloid example is a background button.

Our third example features a Lovely enameled rose over a screen with an enameled rose border. The screen is not a separate part.





This bone button at first glance certainly appears to be a beautiful example. However, it also does not qualify. When you examine the back, you will see that it is a bone button with a metal front and rim. The bone is not set into a metal or other material back. This is a 19th century bone button with pierced and painted metal embellishment. NBS medium.



The center button is a lovely depiction of two cherubs or putti above a steel disk. This button, while beautiful, does not qualify as a background for the same reason.

Last is a lovely horn button with a silver overlay. The horn is not set in metal or another material, so again this example is not a background button.

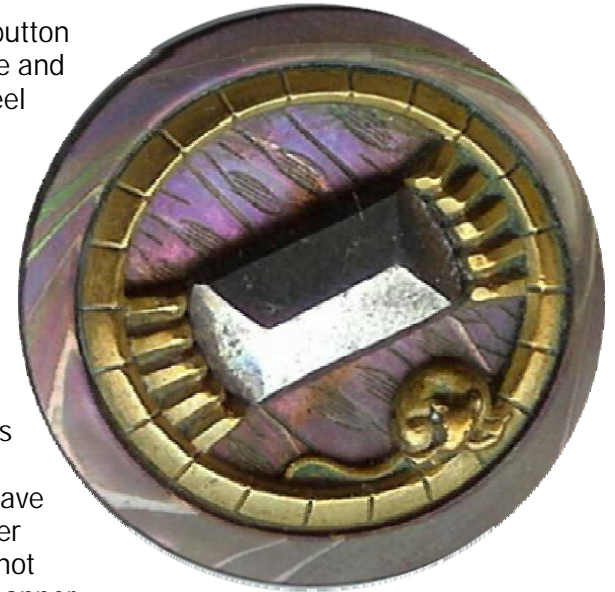


At right is a familiar button depicting a brass mouse and fittings holding a cut steel "mouse trap." We could consider whether the treatment of the material behind the brass image is "part of the pictorial or primary focus." Flooring is itself pretty much "in the background" of what sits atop it! Remember too, that backgrounds can have texture or even wallpaper designs (in metal), just not pictorial in a focused manner.

Texture settled, why does this mouse example NOT qualify as a background button.....it is a solid pearl button with a brass round fitting with brass mouse and cut steel OME. The "floor" is part of the pearl button, not a separate piece.

The above example is included in this discussion to make a serious point. Often when studying our buttons we focus on one aspect or another, and can forget the basics! This is how those measles show up on fantastic button trays!

At right is a pierced stamped brass conventional design appearing above a colorful fabric background. This is a background button because the conventional design is pierced, allowing the fabric to show through, and because the fabric, while dramatic, is a pattern and not pictorial.



These three lovely NBS small buttons are paper buttons. However, they are NOT paper background buttons. Do you remember why? Because the paper in each example is PIERCED. If you are compiling a tray of background buttons, do these qualify? The paper is cut out, so they are not paper backgrounds, but in each case, there is a twinkle liner behind the paper.

If the twinkle decorates the *central design*, they are considered twinkle (metal) backgrounds. The bird button is not a good choice however, as the twinkle creates only a border, which is not valid as a background. All three are stamped, pierced and tinted brass images over paper. The pierced paper allows the twinkle backgrounds to shine through. The three birds on a branch are above black paper and a blue twinkle background. The arrow is pink tinted brass over pink Paper and a silver twinkle Background. The fence and foliage image tops tan paper above a rainbow twinkle background.



Here is another example of a very good fooler. This can help us understand why it is important to look at all aspects of the button back.

From the front, the stamped brass shoe and birds appear to be above a textured parchment background. The background is painted and worked in such a manner that it is almost impossible to discern that there is no paper present. However, if examined under a magnifying glass, you will find that there is no "edge" of a separate piece, or edge of paper. The decorative finish on the metal is amazing at imitating parchment or leather.

Turning the button over, we find that it is "repousee" or molded in place. The button is too thin to have a background material under the birds and, as the back shows, it is molded into place.

Our last example is a fable button. The stamped brass fox and bird appear above a white metal collet and textured, blackened or painted brass. While the coloring is different than the brass pictorial focus of the button, this is a decorative finish, not a separate material, so this example is not a background button.



Dream Catchers "Around the World" Charm String

NBS celebrates its 75th Anniversary this year. Jean Ann Moores from Canada is sharing her "celebration- style dream" by inviting button lovers from around the world to share in creating the longest, most gorgeous charm/memory string ever using only glass buttons.



*Charm string image from
Linda Kelly, Merriam KS*

The button size should be 1/2" to 3/4" for ease of stringing. The color, shape, and age of the glass button is the collector's choice as well as the number of buttons each person would like to send. Jean Ann will keep a journal and catalog the contributor's name, state/province, country and/or Button Club. (Include email address or phone number if you would like receipt confirmation.)

Mail your donation to Jean Ann Moores, 81 Lahay Ave, Orillia, Ontario L3V 7A2, Canada. The charm string with the journal will be auctioned live at the August National Convention in Appleton, Wisconsin with proceeds going to the National Buttons Society. A spontaneous response is sure to add a lot of glitter to NBS' exciting Diamond Jubilee and prove dreams do come true.

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WILD WILD WEST

Open to the public Saturday, September 14, 2013
Living Rock Foursquare Church
Anacortes, Washington

For information, visit www.washingtonstatebuttonssociety.org



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Appleton, Wisconsin

August 12-17, 2012 Radisson Paper Valley

Radisson Paper Valley Hotel
333 W. College Ave.
Appleton, Wisconsin 54911

Reservations: 920-733-8000 or 800-395-7046
Request the \$97 group rate for the National Button Society

Tentative show schedule:

Members Only Competition:

Tray Check-in: Monday

Judging: Tuesday & Wednesday

Early Bird Program/Reception/Party: Monday Evening

Numerous Workshops: Wednesday through Saturday

Dinner & Program: Thursday evening

General Membership Meeting: Friday morning

Special Event: Friday evening

Awards Breakfast : Saturday morning

Showroom Hours: (open to the public)

Thursday, August 15, 10 AM to 5 PM

Friday, August 16, 10 AM to 5 PM

Saturday, August 17, 10 AM to 2:30 PM