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

c/o C. Joy Journeay, Editor 4000 Truro Drive ANCHORAGE AK 99507

VISITOUR WEB PAG Ţ AT WWW.WRBA.US

TERRITORIAL NEWS

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Western Regional Button Association

Volume 11, Number 3

AUGUST 25, 2013

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!

<u>Annual</u> <u>Two-Y</u>	<u>'ear</u>
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	

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

newsletter sent in selected format

Life\$250

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

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**based	on 8x5 inch layout	t	

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

VOLUNTEER

One of several words to be found listed twice in the dictionary; once as a verb and again as a noun. You can volunteer or you can be a volunteer.

The various button societies depend upon volunteers and as is human nature, volunteers are a minority within the group and



tend to be the same people volunteering over and over again. There are many reasons for this to be so.

Some volunteers are just born leaders and it matters not which group they are in at the time, they just seem to take charge and carry the ball.

Some will volunteer because they see a need to do so and are willing and able to perform the required tasks. Some will see a need in themselves to learn the required tasks and thus volunteer for self improvement. Others will volunteer because of peer pressure or because of a guilty feeling that they have not done so and feel the need.

I have had the privilege of volunteering. I volunteered to reshelf books in the public library, teach English, command the local submarine veterans base, Master the local Masonic Lodge and even accept election as President. (of WRBA) I volunteered at National to be on their board and send out tray slips and serve as Parliamentarian but I respectfully declined to accept election as President. I am willing to volunteer and accept some responsibility but I have my limits as to how much responsibility I can afford to accept. In every role as volunteer, I have learned something new and gained in experience. The volunteer benefits more from the exercise than those who receive some small service.

You may be asking yourself why this message is centered on the volunteer. It is the season to call for volunteers to serve WRBA and the great button family who make up WRBA. Button people tend to be among the best and brightest and the WRBA group is no exception. Most of you are far more talented than I at this business of organization. I need to look for my socks every morning.

Please consider the joys of volunteering and contact me or one of the WRBA board. You will be glad you did. Ask not what WRBA can do for you, ask what you can do for WRBA.

Tom Barrans, WRBA President





CALL FOR **VOLUNTEERS**



Page 3

Speaking of volunteerism, as we approach the October WRBA show date, we need to develop a list of helpers at the WRBA show. We need all of you to participate to make the show a go!

JUDGING: We need judges, clerks and runners to admire the many award entries we expect you will have done for our October get-together. Send an email to Barbara Barrans sign up by calling (559) 683-6418 or by email to (darbysbarb@aol.com).

REGISTRATION: Registration volunteers are one of the most important positions to WRBA. The registration table is a visitor's first contact with our hobby. A friendly, helpful greeting can transition a person's interest into an engaging hobby!

Let Harriett Brittenham know when you can spend time at registration. Harriett can be reached by phone at 720 851-2574 or by email brittmh@aol.com .



WRBA 2013 will be October 3- 5, 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 thich provides airport shuttle, pool, fitness center, concierge, and parking.

> Make your reservations now. Bring your Pets!



Call the hotel at (775) 356-3300 or (800) 648-1177 Reservation code: GBUTTONS.



WRBA 2013 PROGRAM, **SPECIAL EVENTS** & EDUCATIONAL **SESSIONS**



COSTUME CHALLENGE

Prizes will be awarded to each person who is dressed for the theme AT ALL TIMES during the show. Anything NAUTICAL will count! Ladies choose clothes in the blues and greens of the sea. Wear those pearl BUTTON earrings & bracelets at all times. Men display Hawaiian shirts, captain hats, sailor suits, eye patches and peg legs!

SHOW ROOM DISPLAYS & EDUCATION

- A. Fabulous Shell / Pearl Buttons.
- B. Postcards of the Sea Lovely shell postcards, cards with mother of pearl as part of the design, mermaid cards, cards with sand, sponges, dried fish, and crazy stuff from the sea.
- C. Animals that Live In and On the Water

D.

E. HANDOUT: Newest Way to Prepare & Judge Anchor Cards

F. HANDOUT: Is It a FISH?

WEDNESDAY

6:30pm "EARLY BIRD" SPECIAL SHELL SHOW AND TELL

Each participant bring a card with your name and up to four shell buttons. The "program" will be each person telling us why they are special. We'll get to know our button people as well as their taste in buttons. SPECIAL PRIZE for BEST PIRATE!

7:30pm "EARLY BIRD" BUTTON SALES

THURSDAY

8-9:30am TRAY CHECK IN

9:30am JUDGING & CLEARK MEETING

10am-6pm **JUDGING**

6-7:30pm MARITIME RECEPTION **BETHLEHEM PEARLS**

presented by Dale & Betty Parkhurst

AN ILLUSTRATED SHELL CLASSIFICATION

presented by Fran Howell

7:30-10pm SHOW ROOM Open — Button Sales & Displays

FRIDAY

Tray & Judging Discussion 9am

10am-5pm **SHOW ROOM Open**

6:30pm **DESSERT RECEPTION**

Reception & Auction attendees

receive a Treasures of the Sea Button

Chocolate Dipped Strawberries, Chocolate Biscotti Cookies, Chocolate Decadence.

Chocolate Kisses and Trail Mix

7:00pm **WRBA Auction**

TREASURES OF THE SEA PEARL BUTTONS 8:00pm

presentation by Bruce Beck

SATURDAY

8:30am SATURDAY AWARDS BREAKFAST

includes the Show Favor Button

Coffee, Decaf, Teas, Chilled Fruit Juices

Sliced Fresh Fruit

Breakfast Pastries, Muffins and Coffee Cake

Scrambled Eggs **Breakfast Potatoes Biscuits and Gravy** Ham and Sausage

10am-4pm SHOW ROOM OPEN

11:00 am **CLASSIFICATION & COMPETITION Q & A**

presentation by Barbara Barrans

1:00 pm **ENAMEL BUTTONS**

presentation by Tom Barrans

JACKSONIANS

by Tom Barrans

JACKSONIANS: THE BUTTON

Jacksonians are small brass gilt buttons made from approximately 1825 to 1840, ranging in diameter size from about ½ to 3/4 inch. They are one-piece rimmed, with an omega shank. They were made to be worn on a mans vest with the rim designed to facilitate the button hole. One-hundred and forty pictorial subject variations can be found, although some are very rare.

Later variations were made as a twopiece button which imitates a rimmed button. Some of these are hard to distinguish from a true Jacksonian. The test would be to hold the shank and turn the rim although these buttons are very old and the rim may not be loose. In the button world. these variations are termed "Jacksonian cousins." A former cousin is the plain faced. one-piece Jacksonian which now qualifies under

the classification



Lion Shell **Eagle** Deer

Eggs in Nest Beehive Dove Dog

Eagle Sheep **Squirrel** Horse

as a Jacksonian. Since the NBS Classification is the result of the wishes of the collectors, there may come a time when cousins will all be accepted as Jacksonians and thus, if it appears to be one, it will be for competition.



Most Jacksonians are backmarked with a quality description, although a few backs are blank. Some are identified as to maker. Makers include Leavenworth and Kendrick; Robinson, Jones and Co.; Robinson, Blackinton and Co.; Scoville, Richard Robinson and Co.

JACKSONIANS: THE DESIGNS

The era of "good feelings" in America began in 1815 after the Battle of New Orleans and the defeat of the British. Just as World War II was the second round of World War I, so too was the War of 1812 the second round of the American Revolution.

When the city of Washington was in flames it looked like the

new nation might not survive. The Treaty of Ghent had been signed in December of 1814 and the war was soon to be over. Still, the January 1815 engagement was the confidence builder which led to pride and a feeling of Nationalism.

General Jackson was a national hero and thereafter associated with these "good feelings" among Americans. The concept of "Union" began to supersede the traditional feeling



Wheat & Tools Clover
Wheat Cornucopia
Flower Rose

Flower Basket Thistle



of being a New Englander or Virginian. The states became diminished as the federal government grew in strength.

Jacksonian button designs reflect national pride and union. A bust of Washington and perhaps Jefferson is depicted. The Eagle is on a dozen Jacksonians. One which depicts an anchor with the words "Liberty" and "Union" seems like a political choice. Some who embraced states rights contended that liberty was more valuable than preserving the union.

Another button depicts hands clasping with the words "Union" and "Strength". Their point was that New Yorkers could not defeat the British, nor could Virginians, but together the new republic could and did.

National pride did not rest on military victory alone but grew with the expansion of the country in population, geographical area, technological advance and the resulting prosperity. Jacksonian buttons picture much of this new technology and include the



Clipper Ship Steam Ship

Steam Locomotive Steam Fire Wagon









Soldier

Rider

Bow, Quiver & Arrows

Design

fast new clipper ships, steam locomotive, steam boat and fire wagon. Much of the progress was designed to bring agricultural products to markets in this country and abroad. The Erie Canal was a transportation miracle of the time. Cotton production rose with the invention of the Cotton Gin. Wheat production rose with the McCormick Reaper. Here again, we see the prosperity of agriculture reflected in the Jacksonian button – the wheat, various fruit and nut designs and the Cornucopia of Plenty.

Dozens of pictorial animal life also reflect the Jacksonian era. The bee and bee hive are shown to suggest industry and commerce. The squirrel may represent the virtues of thrift and savings. The clown and camel buttons may reflect the beginnings of the traveling circus in America. Hunting was still a major source of food and so the fox and deer are depicted along with the bow and quiver and horse and rider. The dog is represented because he is mans best friend and the fat cat is pictured for some unknown reason.

ANDREW JACKSON

It is reasonable to assume that Andrew Jackson, a fashionable gentleman of the time, may have worn a vest with these beautiful little buttons – although it is doubtful that they were then called Jacksonians.

Robert V. Remini wrote extensively on Jackson and his most thorough biography is a three volume edition. Later he abridged a one-volume paperback which is also filled with wonderful stories of the famous man.

Jackson was the seventh president and very different from his six predecessors. He is rightfully founder of the modern Democratic Party. He did not suffer from a formal education and was very passionate in his beliefs. He was distrustful of





Lyre Crest

aristocratic old-money men who believed that only property owners should vote. Jackson was kind and chivalrous to women and children and was feared and respected by men. He studied the law and became an attorney, a prosecutor, a judge, a congressman, senator, general and president.

Jackson was a warrior of the American Revolution at age 13 and a hero as Major General in the Battle of New Orleans. He fought in many Indian campaigns as well as many duels in defense of his honor. He loved his wife, Rachel, all his life. Jackson owned hundreds of slaves. He had a violent temper and would rage with the most foul language.

His parents left Ireland and arrived in the new world in 1765. In March of 1767 Andrew Jackson was born and his father died. He learned to read and write in the rural tutorial system of Western Carolina. When he was nine years old and a copy of the Declaration of Independence came to his village, he was chosen to read it aloud.

Jackson had older brothers who served in the revolutionary army and he served as a courier in that cause. He was captured by the British and when an officer ordered him to clean his boots he refused. In a rage, the officer hit him with his sword cutting his head and hand, leaving physical and emotional scars for the rest of Jackson's life. By the end of the war for independence, Andrew Jackson had lost his entire family.

The Indian wars were very bloody as incidents followed fighting which lead to massacre and then revenge massacres. In 1813 following a battle with the Creek Indians, a ten month old Creek boy was found in the arms of his dead mother. Jackson told the women of the tribe to take care of the child and they replied, "He has no relations you should kill him." Jackson took the boy home and raised him as a son.

Jackson ran for President in 1824 and won the popular vote. He got the most electoral votes but failed to gain a majority and the election was decided in the congress. Since it did not seem fitting that a backwoods foul mouth general should be elevated to the office of President, the house elected Adams (the son of the first President Adams.) Jackson won by a large margin in 1828 and was re-elected in 1832. As President, he announced that the nation was debt free, the result of income from import taxes and the sale of land in the West.

During Jackson's presidential term there was a Supreme Court decision favoring the Cherokee vs. Georgia. Chief Justice John Marshall gave the opinion and upon hearing it, Jackson replied. "Marshall has made his decision now let him enforce it." Georgia lost the case and the Cherokee lost their homeland.

In 1845 Jackson died at The Hermitage, his beloved home in Tennessee. He was 78 years old.

See also:

Jacksonians by H. Campbell Scarlett, NBB May, 1950. Jacksonian Buttons by Kay Vocelle, NBS Junior Chairperson. Various books on Andrew Jackson by Robert V. Remini.





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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.





HOW WAS YOUR COLONIAL COPPER BUTTON WORN?

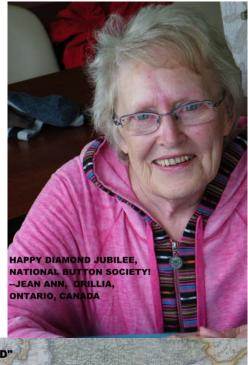
At the 75th Diamond Jubilee of the National Button Society recently held in Appleton, Wisconsin, Beatrice Taran donated a colonial copper button to the annual fundraising auction. Imagine her surprise when Lillian Ward donated over twenty old photographs and one of them features a woman wearing a



DREAM CATCHERS "AROUND THE WORLD" **CHARM STRING**

The "Around-the-World" Charm String with glass buttons donated by button enthusiasts from seventeen countries was auctioned off in the Empire Room of the Radisson Paper Valley Hotel on Friday night, August 16th. Bruce Beck, the capable auctioneer, announced in a loud voice. "Going once. Going twice. Sold at \$3,600!"

But the story doesn't end there. Not all donated buttons ended up on this string (which was stainless







steel encircled by plastic) which held 4,015 buttons. The charm string grew until it was 70 feet long.

The charm string contained tingues, kaleidoscopes, radiants, bimini, paperweights, fused, lamp work, studios, and every glass classification tracked by NBS.

Auctioned with the charm string were a carrying case—depicting a map of the world on its inside and outside surfaces—and a beautiful journal including a separate entry for EVERY donation made to the charm string. Prior to its inclusion into the charm string, each

donation was photographed with the name of the donor.

In addition, there were 400 black glass buttons that didn't make it into the original string. A "sister" charm string of these black glass buttons was created and sold in the auction for \$250. Jean Ann didn't



stop there! She had a special charm string T-shirt made, which sold at auction for \$60.

The grand total raised by this button visionary was \$90 short of \$4,000. Ahead of the auction, Jean Ann spoke to those gathered and made a presentation to NBS of the photographic record and a second complete journal.

Jean Ann wrote, "Thanks to all 400 donors who participated in this endeavor to show NBS how much we appreciate the work they do and congratulations on their 75th Anniversary!. I understand this 2013 auction raised the most ever for NBS! Cheers!"

Jean Ann Moores, Orillia, Ontario, Canada luv2turn2@gmail.com



PATTERN OR SHAPE? Have a Heart!!!

by Barbara Barrans

Everyone knows what we call a heart is not really the shape or depiction of a actual heart—it is a shape, or design, that represents certain attributes.

The heart means love or courage in many cultures.

This symbolic shape can be applied to buttons in two ways. If the button is shaped like a heart, it can be used as that "shape" under the 23-10 Shapes Assorted class, whether it has pictorial elements or not. Shape is the only consideration.

If you are representing the 22-1.2.3 Patterns class, however—where pictorials are not allowed except in the wallpaper types—the heart may not include any other pictorial element along with the heart. So, the heart shaped riveted button, if it has no pictorial design in the center of it, may be used as either a shape (heart) or a pattern (heart). If the shaped rivet has a train car in the center of it, then the button fits under 23-10 Shapes, but not 22-1.2.3 Patterns.

The same logic applies for other patterns such as squares, triangles, stars, crescents, etc. A star-shaped button with a bird in the center is not appropriate under Patterns as a star, but may be used under Shapes. And, of course, it

may be used as a bird.

Since words and letters are classed as 22-1
Verbal under 22-2
Symbols, which is part of the 22
Patterns, Symbols section, they are not considered pictorial and may accompany a pattern without a problem. In fact, it can be seen as a counter.

