Western Regional Button Association is pleased to share our educational articles with the button collecting community. This article appeared in the May 2016 WRBA *Territorial News.* Enjoy!
Please join WRBA! Go to www.WRBA.us
WRBA gladly offers our articles for reprint, as long as credit is given to WRBA as the source, and the author.

Greek Mythology #5: ASTRAEA

by Joy Journeay

Astraea was a virgin goddess, and daughter of Zeus and the Titan Themis. She was the star goddess, with wings, a flaming torch, and bright aureole, often carrying Zeus' thunderbolt. She is depicted bare breasted and with a diadem, earrings, a double-strand necklace and double coil bracelets on each wrist. During the Golden Age, Astraea lived among men, blessing mankind, and stayed the longest with humans. When she withdrew, Zeus placed her among the stars as the constellation Virgo. She will return to Earth one day bringing a utopian Golden Age.

ABOVE LEFT: Stamped brass design over wood, brass screen & dark paint. Bottom with original tint. Large.
ABOVE RIGHT: Larger button of stamped brass held onto an engraved brass disc by five cut steels and tole on the engraved brass disc of both the large and small buttons. Next is the same construction without the tole.
BOTTOM: Small stamped brass with a black painted, reticulated background.

Wood background button from the collection of Claudia Chalmers. Small buttons & original tint from CB Weiser. The other three buttons are from Byson Buttons.