

MARTHA WASHINGTON BUTTON CLUB

2025 MEETING PROGRAMS

Updated 9/27/2025

Meetings are on the second Saturday of each month from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. in Fairfax, Virginia. Please note that meeting dates and programs are subject to change. If you would like to attend a meeting, please contact us at mwbuttonclub@gmail.com

JANUARY 4 - TBD

Please note the rescheduled date.

FEBRUARY 5 - MEETING CANCELED

MARCH 8 - BEAUTY BARS

Beauty Pins are tiny, decorative pins, usually rectangular in shape, traditionally used close the back of heirloom-quality christening gowns or other delicate heirloom garments. These unique fasteners come in many styles and can be plain, monogrammed or pearl embellished. Member Carmen D. will show us Beauty Pins from her collection and tell us about the use and history of these charming closures.

APRIL 12 – CALICO BUTTONS

Member Joan R. will talk about calico buttons. These charming little buttons are named for the fabric they imitate. From the factory in France to the bottom of a river, they have quite a story to tell.

MAY 10 – CREATIVE MOUNTING CARDS

It only takes a few sheets of decorative paper and some glue to add a little pizzaz to your button trays. Terri G. will show you how to make your own 5"x7" card to highlight a special button or make ordinary buttons special.

JUNE 14 - CLUB COMPETITION TRAY JUDGING

Our competition for this year is "Contour." We are also looking forward to a noncompetitive display of creative mountings as well. Join us as we show off our best buttons and creative talents. Described in the Blue Book as "buttons with significant height," contour buttons can be spherical, linear, oval, square or realistically shaped.

JULY 12 – WAISTCOAT BUTTONS

The waistcoat first appeared in France in the mid-1600's. By the 18th century, waistcoats became an elaborate garment that had as many as forty buttons down the front. Waistcoat buttons are typically a smaller glass in metal Division I button. Susan D. will discuss their history, style and what makes these little jewels so fascinating.

AUGUST 9 - CANCELED

We are going to the National Button Society Annual Convention!

NATIONAL BUTTON SOCIETY ANNUAL CONVENTION – AUGUST 3-9

Are you ready for the Ultimate Button Adventure? It's time for the National Button Society Annual Convention in Springfield, IL. For more information visit the National Button Society Website <https://members.nationalbuttonssociety.org>

SEPTEMBER 13 – WOOD BUTTONS

This month, we are looking forward to learning more about wood buttons from Carolyn B. Wood is one of the earliest materials used to make buttons. While those buttons were likely simple utilitarian disks, modern wood buttons are so much more. Carved, lacquered, or painted wood buttons are whimsical or sophisticated. Wood buttons are pressed and molded with detailed scenes. Intricate intarsia and marquetry buttons show the hands of skilled artists.

OCTOBER 11 – BUTTON STORIES

Picture buttons motifs reflect the current fascinations and obsessions of society. Buttons depict images from popular operas and plays, ancient myths and cultures, historical landmarks, all manner of flora and fauna, current events, children's stories, nursery rhymes, and more. How much do you really know about the stories behind those images?

NOVEMBER 8 - BLACK GLAS BUTTON SUMMARY

Member Peggy S will present a program on how to prepare a summary of black glass buttons. She will talk about what a summary entails and help us create a mock-up competition card. If you wish to participate, please review Section 6-0 Black Glass Assorted and bring your blue book to the meeting.

DECEMBER 13 - HOLIDAY PARTY

Join us for our annual holiday party! Enjoy the delicious potluck food and our crazy fun button gift exchange.