

MARTHA WASHINGTON BUTTON CLUB

2025 MEETING PROGRAMS

Updated 4/6//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 PINS

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, monogramed 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 - 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.

JUNE 14 – BUTTON CRAFTS

Terri G. will teach us to make a fun button craft project. A wonderful way to use up some of those “non-collectible” buttons (is there such a thing?). Even the most uncrafty among us will find Terri’s projects easy-peasy to make.

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 - RIBBON BUTTONS Part 2

Join us to learn more about the humble and clever Ribbon Button. Member Ginny D. will follow up on her research of the obscure topic of Ribbon Buttons. Ginny will provide the results of her research into their origin, applications, how they were marketed to the home sewer and fashion houses, and existing patents.

NOVEMBER 8 - TBD

Peggy always goes above and beyond with her presentation. Will she share something unusual and exotic this year?

DECEMBER 13 - HOLIDAY PARTY

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