

Creativity with Buttons by Suzanne Proulx

National Button Society is embarking on a new creative direction in ways of displaying, appreciating and utilizing our buttons. My journey began collecting pearl, black glass and transparent glass buttons to make pins in the 1990's. This has led me to make many craft items with buttons over the years. Since discovering NBS I have also entered a few creative mounting awards. Being isolated at home has allowed me to work on various projects that I will be sharing with you in this article.

The following pictures are examples of finished projects as well as my current works in progress.



The first picture is an example of a Creative Mounting competition for Illinois State in which I won 1st place.

It has a special meaning to me. I am a retired nurse and two of the women pictured in the layout are my Aunts who were also in the nursing profession.

In my research I was able to find many buttons related to the medical field.

This slow stitched book was inspired by Anne Brooke textile artist on YouTube. It encompasses embroidery techniques and antique fabric, laces and of course buttons.



Anne's newest challenge is a 52-week tag study. Again, using old textiles, buttons and embroidery. On the back of the tag, we are encouraged to journal your thoughts for the week.



Junk journals are a new and popular paper craft. It uses old books, ephemera, fabric, and lace. I then add many of my buttons for additional interest. This journal was created by Nancy Strickler, a member of the Auroras Button Club, and I further embellished it with buttons.



This beautiful vintage handkerchief lady was purchased on Etsy and again embellished with my buttons. She will make a lovely creative award.



Vintage jewelry and buttons always go well together. I love old bar pins and old lingerie pins that I can dangle paperweights or swirl back buttons from.

My current project begins with me finding the lovely Art Deco, porcelain half dolls used to make pincushions. My plan is to make them into the pincushion and the outer skirt will be decorated with small Art Deco glass buttons.



Inspiration comes from so many areas like art, music, literature, sewing, textiles and other hobbies or interests. Blending these with our love and passion for buttons is a creative and imaginative new experience.

I would like to thank Karen Richardson (a co-member of the Auroras and Chicago Area) for helping me to edit and compile my article. And a BIG thank you to Susan Weinrebe, President of Chicago Area and Auroras, for being my mentor.

Hope to see you picking around the poke box soon!!!

Creatively submitted by Suzanne Proulx – Member of Auroras and Chicago Area (local button clubs) as well as Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan and NBS