

NBS Classification Committee MINUTES
Monday, August 6, 2019
Portland, Oregon

PRESENT

Joy Journeay, Interim Chair	George Gauthier	Johnson Frazier
Annie Frazier	Jane Johnson	Judy Schwenk
Carolyn Webb	Jane Quimby	Ronnie Wexler
Fran Howell	Joan MacFarlane	Sheila Brudno
		William Hentges

ABSENT

Joy Worn
Ronnie Kauk

GUESTS: Terry Anderson, Gretchen Gauthier, Bruce Beck, Nikki Deal

Text highlighted in YELLOW is still being discussed. It has been proposed by an NBS member for consideration.

Text highlighted in RED would be deleted from the Blue Book.

Text in BLUE would be added to the Blue Book.

ACTIVE ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN 2020

MATERIALS Request that Classification help address the lack of compliance with counting Synthetic Polymers as materials.

STUDIO MAKER MARKS Should studio button maker signatures and marks be considered back marks on the button reverse, or verbal if appearing on the front of the button.

23-10 SHAPES: Page 66. It is suggested that reference be included to the [NBB December 2009 and Nov-Dec 1966 articles on Shapes](#).

25-3 DESIGNER BUTTONS As Ronnie Kauk was absent, this topic shall be moved forward for continued discussion through the year and remain on the agenda for the 2020 meeting.

25-3 FASHION

25-3.1 DESIGNER.

25-3.1.1 Signed

25-3.1.2 Unsigned

25-3.2 LOGO / BRAND NAME.

PROPOSE ADDING A THIRD

25-3.3 Buttons designed specifically for the designers of clothing but not handmade or handcrafted. One is Sunny Chapman who I'm sure designed the buttons but were mass produced in a factory. Another I believe would be Todd Oldham. Otherwise these are excluded because they are not handmade by the artist.

PROPOSED APPENDIX ADDITION

25-3.1 DESIGNER. Handcrafted buttons made for fashion designers expressing the artistry of the individual maker.

25-3.1.1 Signed

25-3.1.2 Unsigned

25-3.2 LOGO / BRAND NAME. Mass-produced buttons with a name, initial or logo of an individual, company, noted personality or retail store.

25-3.3 Buttons designed specifically for the designers of clothing but not handmade or handcrafted.

25-4 GLOVE BUTTONS It has been identified that a comprehensive description of glove buttons is needed, as multiple shank types exist. Glove button collectors are invited to submit their suggestions

to the Division IV representatives.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION COMPLETE

23-1 ALLOWANCE FOR MULTIPLE MATERIAL BACKGROUNDS was discussed but the committee determined to leave the background description as it currently stands.

22-1 PATTERNS It was decided to not amend the Page 60 text to allow for labeling of multiple patterns. The text already stipulates that an award can allow this option.

22-1 PATTERNS—OVAL The committee felt it is not necessary to list the oval in its own pattern subclass.

INTRODUCED TO NBS MEMBERSHIP

INTRO. REQUIRED VIEWING OF BUTTON BACKS. Suggested additions for fragile buttons.

PAGE 8: Mounting requirements: Buttons used for back mark awards should be either 1) mounted on an acetate card or with elastic thread or 2) labeled on front of the card. **Fragile buttons may be mounted with spiders.** Buttons requiring shank visibility should be mounted on clear acetate or with elastic thread so the backs may be seen without removing buttons from the card. Exceptions are glass swirl backs, **thread backs, pad backs** and other buttons of an extremely fragile nature.

PAGE 82, Glossary addition: Spider. A wire holder for fragile buttons. Shaped like spider arms with a loop for mounting at the center.

6-5.3 METAL BACK GLASS BUTTONS.

6-5.3—Metal back. Includes Div. I wafers **which** are usually thin and may be flat, slightly concave, or convex with a protective metal back; **and Div. III buttons such as Biminis and Bimini-like.**

7-3 DETERMINING THE COLOR OF GLASS BUTTONS

Blue Book, APPENDIX Page 40, 7-0 CLEAR AND COLORED GLASS ASSORTED

... The color of a glass button is determined by the color of the glass body at the shank regardless if the shank is glued, embedded or self-shanked. **If the glass at the shank shows two colors, then the color of the button can be either color.**

7-4.9.1 CANDY STRIPED GLASS

Candy striped glass - a sub-group of intermixed glass with clearly defined and spaced stripes on a solid color body, either transparent or opaque.

10-5.6 STEEL CUPS

PROPOSED APPENDIX ADDITION, Pg 47 10-5.6 Steel cups. ... These may also be classed as the mounted material, e.g., pearl, **brass, etc.** See p 77, "Cross-overs (material)."

PROPOSED APPENDIX ADDITION, Pg 77 Crossovers (material). Although most buttons are appropriate in only one material section, some have "dual identities" based on their construction. Steel cups with other material centers (including backgrounds) may be used either as metal buttons (steel cups) or as the material mounted in the cup, such as pearl, **brass, etc.** ~~A steel cup with a different metal center can still be considered a steel cup.~~

2. **Page 76, Line 5 under Base material.** The placement of sew-thru holes or shank attachment typically determines the base material of a button. There are **two** exceptions to

this rule: 1) Materials (including backgrounds) mounted in/on metal are usually considered the base material; however, clear and colored and black glass mounted in/on metal belong in Sec. 8 ~~and steel cups with metal centers or backgrounds are steel buttons;...~~"

11-7 AMEND OME on SHELL.

PAGE 50, Blue Book **11-7 Other material embellishment (OME) assorted.** Includes **the** other type **s** of shell (**iridescent or non-iridescent**), enameled plaquettes, lithographs, porcelain, etc., as well as those listed below.

14-1.2 BURWOOD/SYROCO. Replace the "comma" between the two with a "slash."

15-5 UNLISTED-ORGANICS/NON-ORGANICS

BLUE BOOK, Page 55 15-5 Unlisted. Includes all materials not listed elsewhere. ... Petrified and fossilized **formerly** organic materials such as wood and bone are also appropriate here since they have turned to mineral.

BLUE BOOK, Page 79 Gemstones. Includes precious and semi-precious minerals, as well as **formerly** organic materials such as petrified wood, jet, coral, amber, natural pearls, etc.

18-0 BEE HIVES AND BIRD HOUSES

BLUE BOOK, Page 56, 18-0 OBJECTS ASSORTED. Includes small inanimate objects, as well as human or animal skeletons or parts, **bee hives, and birdhouses.**

19-0 PLANTS

Taxonomists have determined that seaweed and fungi do not perform basic plant functions. We accept these under the PLANT section. To insure continued use, we propose these additions & retention of 19-4 Fungi.

Page 22, 19-0 PLANTS—Includes plant-related subjects such as seaweed and fungi

Page 23, 19-10 UNLISTED AND RELATED (such as seaweed, cones, cactus, ferns, moss, lichen, seeds)

20-6 CUPID **BLUE BOOK, Page 58, 20-6 Cupid, cherubs.** Cupid, the son of Venus usually **appears with a bow, arrow, quiver, torch or heart.** Cherubs are represented as . . .

20-22.2 TRANSPORTATION-NON-HUMAN

To make this class easier to understand and logical for competition, this change is proposed.

20-22 TRANSPORTATION

20-22.1 Human

20-22.1.1 Air

20-22.1.2 Land

20-22.1.3 Water

20-22.2 **Improbable**

PROPOSED APPENDIX ADDITION, Pg 59

20-22.1 TRANSPORTATION-HUMAN. Includes modes of transportation for humans with or without human passengers. Animals without riders, or objects, e.g., skis, skateboard, etc., without people using them, are not appropriate here. **Animals with a harness or attached to a vehicle are appropriate here.** A pedestrian does not depict a "mode" of transportation.

20-22.2 TRANSPORTATION-IMPROBABLE. Includes buttons depicting improbable **passengers** (animals, cherubs, etc.) riding on unusual modes of transportation (insects, fish, birds, fabulous creatures, etc.) **or operating real devices (bicycles, automobiles).** **Also includes humans on unusual modes of transportation.**

23-10 SHAPES: There are 3 basic shapes: contour, linear, and realistic. All buttons have a basic linear shape, the most common being circular. Tracing around the outside edge of a button will indicate

its linear **or realistic** shape. A single button may fit into more than one shape category (a ball contour shape is also a circular linear shape), but shall represent (and be labeled as) only one shape at a time.

25-10 NEW DEFINITION FOR SECTION 25, USAGE 25-10 (PANTS BUTTONS)

PAGE 70: 25-10 Suspender (brace) Pants. Small, slightly concave, convex or flat round sew-thrus stamped in 1- and 2-piece construction. Commonly made of brass or steel but other materials may be found. Single or crossed bar shanks common, whistles less so. Round 2- and 4-hole sew thru have thread grooves or deep wells to protect thread. Those with cardboard or wood backing are material cross-overs. See NBB March 2019.

BUTTON SUMMARIES_ BLUE BOOK, Page 28

26-1 LARGE (Secs. 1 through 25 except 3, 16 & 21) – Best assortment of all classes with not over 1 class included from each of 20 sections.

26-1 LARGE (Secs. 1 through 25 except 3, 16 & 21) – Best assortment of classes from 20 different sections, with one class per section labeled numerically..... I III

26-2 MEDIUM (Secs. 1 through 25 except 3, 16 & 21) – Best assortment with at least 1 and not over 6 labeled classes included from each section. I III

26-3 SMALL (Secs. 1 through 25 except 3, 16 & 21) – Best assortment with at least 1 and not over 6 labeled classes included from each section. I III

26-4 DIMINUTIVE (Secs. 1 through 25 except 3, 16 & 21) – Best assortment with not over 10 labeled classes included from each section. I III

26-5 VARIOUS (Secs. 1 through 25 except 3, 16 & 21) – Best assortment with at least 1 labeled class included from each section. I III

26-6 MIXED (Secs. 1 through 25 except 3, 16 & 21) – Best assortment with at least 1 and not over 6 labeled classes included from each section. I III

26-7 MEDIUM-LARGE (Secs. 1 through 25 except 3, 16 & 21) – Best assortment with at least 1 labeled class included from each section. I III

DIVISION II BUTTONS. Delete reference to Div III on Page 3 and 5 of the Blue Book.

Division III was included erroneously on these two pages, not in keeping with the approved change.

PAGE 3: Division III Modern/vintage: Includes modern or vintage (post- 1918) buttons. **Div. II buttons are allowed unless excluded by the award.**

PAGE 5: Can a button from one DIVISION be used in a different division? Aside from using Div. I and III buttons in Div. IX, buttons appropriate in one button division are rarely usable in another. However, Division II buttons may be used in **Div. III or IX** will be judged without regard to Div. II status.

DIVISION II

1-0 UNITED STATES ASSORTED (1-2 thru 1-10)

1-5 Hunt clubs

1-8 Societies/clubs

1-8.1 Hunt clubs

2-0 FOREIGN ASSORTED (2-1 thru 2-7)

2-3 Hunt clubs

2-6 Societies/clubs

2-6.1 Hunt clubs

BLUE BOOK APPENDIX Page 72

1-8.1 Hunt clubs. Buttons worn by organized clubs for hunting and formal gatherings. One or two-piece construction, primarily gilt brass and other materials exist. Buttons may include an initial or initials, club name, club motto and/or pictorials. A hunt button with no verbal identification must be labeled as to the name of the hunt. Please refer to BBB for Hunt Club examples, information and references.

BLUE BOOK APPENDIX Page 73

2-6.1 Hunt clubs. See page 72.

