

For Immediate Release By:  
Susan Smith, NBS Publicity Chair  
Email: [Publicity@nationalbuttonociety.org](mailto:Publicity@nationalbuttonociety.org)  
Contact: Nancy Cummins, NBS Publicity Assistant  
Phone: 417 833-1069  
Email: [Nancyc02@aol.com](mailto:Nancyc02@aol.com)



## Art and Buttons Collide

National Button Week arrives in March and the National Button Society (NBS) is hosting a virtual festival to celebrate. The Buttons Goin' Green Spring Fest is March 17-19 and is a free event for both members and non-members. The event will include on-line workshops which will feature programs on Niello metal, Coin, and Shell buttons as well as a program on "What The National Button Society has to Offer" and other topics.

The most exciting feature of this event is that it will highlight 25 studio artists, each of whom will create and sell a button which is only available during this week. Buttons offered will be in a variety of materials such as enamel, fabric, wood, metal, ceramic, and more.

Wisconsin has four artists whose works will be featured. First, is studio artist **Lynn P. (Pagel) Breutzmann** from the Sheboygan area, who works in stoneware and raku ceramics. Breutzmann began making buttons in 1992-93 as a special present for her mother, who at the time was a new button collector. She uses many different methods to create her designs: some are hand carved, others hand sculpted or molded from found objects, and even cookie cutters have been used!

Three of her buttons are featured in Elizabeth Hughes' Big Book of Buttons, one of the Society's most revered reference books.

Green Bay studio artist **Caroline Gilderson-Duwe** is a newcomer to button collecting. In 2021 her father-in-law passed away and as she and her sister were sorting through his estate they found a box of buttons. She spent the night into the early hours sorting through that box. She likened it to finding a time capsule full of history and pieces of art. Gilderson-Duwe has been doing needlework of some kind or another since she was five years old. It never occurred to her to create needlework buttons until she saw some fabric ones on FaceBook. Her creations bring her joy and she hopes they bring joy to you as well.

Appleton area is represented by Wisconsin native **Laurie Hanson**. She has been a member of NBS and the WI State Button Society for over 12 years. She began collecting buttons while in college as a way to stay connected to her father. A retired police officer, he collected city police department uniform buttons. After he passed, Hanson continued to add buttons to the collection they worked on together. She now has over 150+ uniform buttons.

Along the way, she was given her grandmother's buttons after which buttons became 'a thing' she did casually, until it became 'the thing' she was hooked on. Now that she is retired, she's taken her button collecting, joined it with a lifelong passion for photography, and turned it into a 'new for her' art form: resin cast buttons.

Representing the Madison Wisconsin area is **Lisa Schultz** who began collecting buttons when she was nine gathering them from relative's boxes. Later going through them she found a couple her mother had told her were special, and being curious, went to the library to see what information she could find about them. The only reference she found was in the periodical section, "*The National Button Bulletin*." She ordered what she thought was a magazine and was quite surprised to find out she had joined a club. Thirty years later she became president of that club, the National Button Society.

In 1994, Schultz bought her first collection and thus she and her husband, Al, began their business Button Images. They started traveling to out of state shows. Pre-pandemic they were going to 14 shows a year. Needing something to do in the car, Lisa began to make counted cross stitch buttons sometimes using a pattern and sometimes her own.

Whether you're a member or non-member of National Button Society, please, join us for this exciting weekend's free zoom meetings. The wonderful world of art in miniature awaits you. Presentations, chats, education, online competition & The BUTTON CALENDAR--surprises with special studio artists and their buttons made to commemorate this online event--a new button every day for 25 days! Questions: [ButtonU@NationalButtonSociety.org](mailto:ButtonU@NationalButtonSociety.org)

All three button artists can be contacted for further questions and interviews at:

Name:	Phone:	Email:	Website:
Lynn Breutzmann:		rakubuttons2@gmail.com	
Caroline Gilderson-Duwe		carolinegd@new.rr.com	
Laurie Hansen:	920-475-5530	rolajeza@att.net	
Lisa Schultz:	608-271-4566	buttonldy@aol.com	ButtonImages.com

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Credit:  
Lynn Breutzmann: Raku Ceramic Owls

Credit:  
Caroline Gilderson-Duwe: Fabric Peacock  
Eyes with Beads



Credit:  
Laurie Hanson: Resin Cast Buttons

Credit:  
Lisa Schultz: Fabric Mushrooms

