

Hello Midwest Regional Button Association friends!

Thank you to everyone who attended our third MRBA show, it was so good to see everyone. The show was an overwhelming success. There were 121 registered attendees. The competition was downsized to help incorporate the Covid restrictions. We had 23 competitors that entered 44 trays. Our favor button was fabric and was a print matching the show post card.

State sponsored award monies (from 2021 that was not used) will be applied to the 2023 awards list. States can submit new awards without submitting award money (states may also choose to keep the same award if it is their preference). Tray limits remain at 5 per member with a 3-tray limit for showroom dealers and MRBA board members.

As usual we asked for input about ways to improve our shows and many ideas will be implemented. Thank you to everyone who took the time to fill out the evaluation form. This helps us plan future shows.

1. Additional spacing and seating
People were happy with the additional spacing in the show room and dining area but requested additional seating around the show room and in the areas just outside of the show room. We will continue to have increased space between dealers, and will add chairs both places if the Covid restrictions are lifted.
2. Friday morning down time during judging
 - a. Suggestions of places to visit in the area will be provided
 - b. Plans are underway for a craft workshop for people not involved in judging.
3. Additional show room hours
The schedule is pretty tight and there may not be a way to increase the hours and not over stress our dealers. They need time to set up, restock, and take down.
4. Pop-up education
We had several requests to publicize and put these on the schedule. Let's compromise on this one, signage will be added at the registration desk announcing the pop-up sessions for the day.
5. Signage in general
People have requested clearer signs to announce where the events are located. We will work with the hotel to have the rooms more clearly marked and have an easel near registration to direct you to the right area.
6. Food issues
We will continue to improve our gluten-free and other special needs offerings. Hopefully by 2023 the restaurant will have additional hours and selections.

Plans are underway for the National Button Society 2022 show "The Greatest Button Show on Earth" August 7-13, 2022 at the Madison Marriott West in Middleton Wisconsin. Because we are sponsoring the NBS 2022 show MRBA will not have a show in 2022. Please plan to come to Middleton have a spectacular time.

Helen Richwine