

**Midwest Regional Button Association  
GENERAL MEETING  
October 9, 2021  
Normal, IL**

**Meeting called to order at 8:52 AM by President Barbara Weeks.**

- Barbara acknowledged Russa Milburn for superb show management and coordination; Al Schulz for serving as MRBA's webmaster; Helen Richwine, who coordinated the auction; Nancy Cummins & Steve Adamson, who did the table decorations and managed tray check-in and hanging; Maude Hartman, who counted and measured competition trays; Ann Olson, who had the special participation ribbons made; Rich Lunseth, who designed the MRBA postcard and the NBS Show postcard, and provided tech support; the Kansas State Button Society for the dealer treat bags; Karen Leibold, who managed the online volunteer sign-up process on the MRBA website. Barbara acknowledged Karen Leibold, Sally Gibson, and Jamie Young for their Education Station programs; Edie Walsh, Becky Lyon and Joy Journey, and Inga Ladd for their presentations.
- Russa acknowledged her support team of MRBA members, including Brenda Eilbracht and Paul Thomas, and the pandemic-reduced slate of 13 intrepid, social-distanced dealers who ventured to Normal from all over the U.S.
- Minutes of the last meeting are posted online, so reading of the 2019 minutes will be dispensed with. No corrections to the published minutes were offered, and the minutes will stand as published.

**Treasurer's report, Lisa Schulz:**

Lisa summarized MRBA's pre-show financial status. Income and expenses both relate primarily to the 2021 show. Some show expenses will be paid after the show. Detailed itemization of income and expenses is available from Lisa. Current account balances are:

|              |   |
|--------------|---|
| \$ 10,312.83 | checking (includes transfers from Paypal) |
| \$ 18,962.88 | savings                                   |
| \$ -0-       | PayPal balance                            |
| \$ 29,275.71 | TOTAL                                     |

Lisa reported that the 2021 auction, our fund-raiser held the evening before the general meeting, brought in \$2,372.00. Barb noted that because our finances are in excellent shape, the board had decided to slim down the volume of the auction this year.

**Competition summary:**

Barbara thanked the team who assisted in judging 44 competitive and noncompetitive trays from 23 entrants. Barb announced the winners of the six competitive awards.

**Old business:**

- Show procedural notes: The show will have a soft closing between 2:00 and 2:30 this afternoon. Barb outlined the tray check-out procedure. Extra favor buttons will be available where the Pop-up Education Station was.

**New business:**

- The primary function for MRBA's members for the rest of the year and into next year will be responsibilities related to hosting the 2022 National Button Society Show in Middleton, WI, in

August 2022. Volunteers from MRBA member states will be needed for staffing various functions, and especially for the registration table. Barbara reminded the group that volunteers for the MRBA-sponsored event can sign up on the MRBA website. We will likely be using Sign-up Genius again, but where it will be posted is as yet undetermined. It may likely be on both the MRBA website and the NBS website.

- Barbara reminded the membership to check the website ([www.MRBA.website](http://www.MRBA.website)) to stay current with developments related to the 2022 National show, and for other MRBA news.
- MRBA submitted a circus-themed award to NBS for the 2022 National.
- MRBA will not be held in 2022. As part of its mission to support the hobby in its region, MRBA doesn't hold its regional show during years when National is hosted by a Midwestern state.
- MRBA Board of Directors changes: Becky Lyon (MN), Sally Gibson (OH, Lisa Schulz (WI), and Jerry DeHay (TX) are rotating off the MRBA board as their states' representatives this year. Incoming state representatives will be Terry Anderson for Wisconsin, and Kit Cambell for Ohio. Becky Lyon will serve as MN's informal liaison. Texas is having its fall workshop this weekend and we hope to hear who its new representative will be following the workshop.
- Karen Leibold presented the slate of incoming MRBA officers, who will each serve a two-year term: President, Helen Richwine; Vice-President, Edie Walsh; Treasurer, Lisa Schulz; Secretary, Gary Brockman. Carol Koontz moved and Debbie Carpenter seconded that the slate of officers be accepted. The membership voted in favor of the slate, and their terms of office will begin three days after the show's end.

**The membership having raised no additional new business items, the meeting was adjourned at 9:29 AM.**