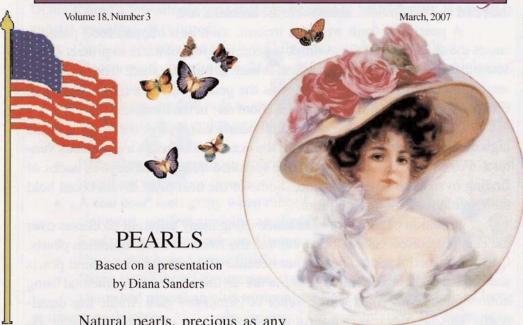
American Hatpin Society



Natural pearls, precious as any gem, have been treasured for their mysterious luster for centuries. The rarity of natural pearls led to the development of faux pearls and cultured pearls. The jewelry industry today uses natural, cultured, and imitation pearls.

Natural pearls, unlike gemstones made inside the Earth, are created by growing inside living animals called mollusks. Mollusks have soft bodies and a hard exterior shell. They are found in both salt water and freshwater. Any mollusk, including oysters, abalone, mussel, and conch that produces a shell can create a pearl. Pearls occur naturally in amazing colors ranging from white black and

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Show & Tell......10

Pearls (cont.)

gold to purple. The color depends on both the type of mollusk that produced the pearl and the environment where the animal lived.

A pearl will form when an irritant, such as a trapped food particle, enters the shell causing the mollusk to secrete layers of nacre to protect itself. The substance, nacre, is the same that is used to build its shell. The process of secreting nacre in layers is what forms the pearl. This is a rare occurrence. Finding a natural pearl in a mollusk is about one in ten thousand.

The beauty and rarity of natural pearls has always contributed to the high demand. Retrieving them from the ocean was always a dangerous venture. For centuries, pearl divers have searched quiet ocean bays in hopes of finding oysters with pearls inside. Some of the best pearl divers could hold their breath for 5 minutes or more.

Imitation pearls have been made using many different processes over the centuries. Records found reveal that the Romans made imitation pearls. Queen Elizabeth I adored pearls, but because of the scarcity of natural pearls she had faux pearls sewn into her garments. In the 17th century, a method using hollow glass beads filled with Essence of Orient and gum Arabic was developed. This process was in use for at least 225 years. Today, artificial pearls are often made by coating the outside of a solid bead. Some of the best imitation pearls are made with Essence of Orient mixed with a synthetic resin. Another method uses powdered mother-of-pearl.

Over the last 100 years, there have been many elaborate techniques developed to artificially grow pearls inside mollusks. These processes, known as "pearl culturing," have increased the number and quality of pearls harvested today. Since the early 20th century, the cultured pearl industry has flourished. Cultured pearl farms are suspended from special rafts in the ocean. The pearls are harvested after spending many months in a mollusk. The longer the pearl remains in the water, whether it is natural or cultured, the thicker the nacre coating. Mikimoto perfected a process for cultured pearls in 1905. His process utilizes a small bead that is made of mussel shell lining known as mother-of-pearl. This process remained a highly guarded secret for 60 years.

There are seven factors that effect and determine the value of pearls. They are size, shape, color, luster, surface quality, nacre thickness, and matching. Fresh water pearls range in size from 2mm to 13mm while salt water

Pearls (cont.)

pearls range from 2mm to 18mm. Pearls from the South Seas are usually larger. Diana shared a few simple tests that can be used to help identify if a pearl is natural, imitation, or cultured:

- Natural and cultured pearls will fluoresce under blacklight.
- Place a pearl on a strong light to see if you can see the bead nucleus of a cultured pearl.
- Look down the drill hole to see if there is a bead inside the outer layer.
- Faux pearls show puddling at the drill hole where the coating material dripped.
- Natural pearls are seldom truly round. There is not a rotation axis and it will not roll in any direction.
- A real pearl feels gritty when rubbed against your tooth and the artificial pearl will feel smooth and slippery.
- Real pearls have an iridescent luster or orient resembling a soap bubble.
- Faux pearls have a matte finish.
- Diana stated that X-raying a pearl remains the most definitive test.

Diana had placed an ultra violet black light with a small tray of loose pearls on each table. At the conclusion of her presentation, the lights were turned off. Members clustered in groups to look at the "pearls" under the black light. It was easy to spot the real pearls, as they fluoresced under the light, while the white beads just reflected the light.

Using this test, Diana examined members' hatpins during Show and Tell. She determined that most of the pins had either faux or natural salt water pearls. Jodi Lenocker had a beautiful 14k gold amethyst hatpin with a ring of seed pearls. Diana discovered that one of our members has a hatpin with the older type of imitation pearl in which the coating was on the inside of the bead. After the meeting, Diana spent time showing interested members the difference in luster between fresh water and salt water pearls, with salt water pearls having superior luster.

From 1912 Priscilla Bead Work Book

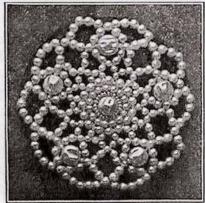


Fig. 82. HATPIN OF PEARLS

MINUTES



January 13, 2007 Holiday Inn Costa Mesa, CA

It was certainly a cold winter day for our January meeting. Everyone arrived wearing their warmest coat. The cold however, did not stop members from attending the meeting. It was one of the largest gatherings we have had recently.

The Tuttons, from Richmond, VA, came early to set up for their fantastic display of hatpins and holders they brought to sale. We are so fortunate that Janet and Roger are able to attend the January meetings. Janet generously donated 5% of her sales from the meeting to the club's treasury.

Diana Sanders was setting up, along with the help of her husband for her program on pearls. This is the third time Diana has been our speaker. She always brings great expertise to the subject she talks about. Her displays for hands-on-learning always complete her insightful presentations. She recently finished her book, All About Antique Silver with International Hallmarks. She had brought along autographed copies. With the sale of each book, she contributed \$5.00 to the club.

After a chance to visit with other members and shop for the perfect hatpins, Jodi announced that it was time to have a seat and begin the formal part of the meeting. She began by welcoming Audrey Madans, from Charlotte, NC. It has been a while since Audrey has been able to attend a meeting. She is a regular columnist for the AHS newsletter. Her articles about "How I got Hooked on Hatpins" are a popular addition to the newsletter.

Next, Jodi introduced and welcomed the following. Nancy Zagorac, a long time member, traveling all the way from Pittsburgh, PA, attended her first meeting. Jeanne San Paolo has not been able to attend a meeting for 2 years

Minutes (cont.)

because of her extensive travels. Roxanne Bernal is a new member that heard about the club from a dealer at an antique show she recently attended. Joy Reed brought her sister from England, Irene Smeaton, as a guest.

Jodi thanked Janet Tutton in advance for donating 5% of her total sales that day to the club. This donation will greatly help the club's treasury this year.

She thanked Norma Canova who agreed to be our new Member at Large. She also thanked Diana Sanders for contributing \$5.00 to the club for each of her new books that she sells.

Christen Wright gave the Treasurer's Report for the quarter ending December 31, 2007. The beginning balance was \$1628.52. The total income was \$1,750.00, and the expenses were \$2,935.89, leaving a net income of \$1,185.89. The balance for the quarter was \$328.31.

In regards to the luncheon meetings, Christen really needs to know by the Tuesday before the meeting if a member plans to attend. We want you to attend, even if you have to give notice at the last minute, but you may not receive the same meal as the group. The July and October meetings will be held on the 3rd Saturday of those months instead of the 2nd due to the availability of a room. The new meeting dates are July 21, 2007 and October 20, 2007.

At this time, Jodi presented information from the board meeting held on December 10, 2006. Please see details on this meeting following the minutes.

Jodi informed us that the British Hatpin Club is not going to participate in the "twinning" membership program between the two clubs beginning January 2007.

Joy Reed and Barbara Hosterman, have graciously agreed to be our speakers at our April meeting. Their presentation will be on Tussy-Mussies.

Ginger Ryerson donated two beautiful plaques with a collage of hatpins and holder for the club to raffle. The tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 tickets for \$5.00.

We will have our election of officers at the next meeting. The current Officers and Members-at-Large have agreed to have their names presented as a slate for the election. We are open to additional nominations before the election is held in April.

At this time, Diana Sanders gave her fascinating program on pearls.

Minutes (cont.)

Read the feature article for information on her presentation.

The drawing was held for the ceramic Rabbit Chefs centerpieces. The lucky winners were Linda Patti and Norma Canova.

At this time, the formal segment of the meeting came to a close.

Board meeting held 12/10/06

The Board of Directors held a meeting at Jodi's house on 12/10/06. Present were Jodi Lenocker, Cathy Miller, Rebecca Watford, Christen Wright, Virginia Woodbury, Nancy Harrigan and Rochelle Sheridan. We looked closely at the club's income and expenses. We rely on our dues of \$40.00 a year for most of our income. Each newsletter costs approximately \$8.00 an issue for printing, envelopes, and postage. Lunch costs an average of \$31.77 per person. This cost includes the use of a conference room, guest speakers' fees, and centerpieces. At our current rate, we will spend approximately \$1300.00 more than we will take in this year. Based on this information, the following steps will be implemented to save approximately \$950.00 this year:

- a. We will increase the lunch fee to \$25.00 per person, beginning with the April, 2007 meeting.
- b. The Board Officers will pay dues, (the Newsletter Editor will be exempt from paying dues).
- c. If an AHS member gives a presentation at a meeting, they will not have to pay dues the following year. This is to encourage club members to give programs to save the club money.
- d. Beginning in 2008, members living overseas will need to pay \$50.00 for membership to cover the increased cost of postage.
- e. We will try to have articles donated for a raffle, such as hatpins, hatpin holders, or other Victorian items. If the opportunity presents, the club will buy an item at a reduced rate and will raffle it.
- f. We will discontinue providing centerpieces to be raffled at the conclusion of the meeting (this was voted on at the January meeting).
- g. We will continue to ask speakers and dealers, who offer discounts to the club members, if they will donate the discount amount to the club instead.

Minutes (cont.)

h. The Board of Directors will be monitoring the income and expenditures carefully and we will keep you informed of our actions. All suggestions and comments are welcomed and will be considered.

Some ideas for increasing club membership:

- Christen Wright is working on a new flyer and club membership form to replace our current one.
- Inquire with Antique Collecting newspapers about featuring articles on hatpins and hatpin holders as collectibles.
- Continue the Web page, which has been an excellent source for attracting new members.

Respectfully Submitted: Rebecca Watford



RAFFLE

TWO COLLAGES BY LILLIAN BAKER

2 Perma Plaque collages, 16 inches by 11 inches, made by Lillian Baker have been donated by Ginger Ryerson for a raffle. One is from the May 1994 color page of her ICC of H&HH newsletter, Points, and the other is from the Sept/Oct 1995 newsletter. The print on the plaque states the collage is by Lillian Baker. Lillian is well known to hatpin collectors as being the author of books about hatpins and she was the founder of the International Club of Collectors of Hatpins and Hatpin Holders.

Tickets are \$1.00 each, or 6 tickets for \$5.00. Ticket may be purchased at the club meeting or they can be purchased by mail. Please make your check out to the American Hatpin Society and mail it to:

Nancy Harrigan 15802 Maybrook Street Westminster, CA 92683

We are hoping to raise a minimum of \$100.00 before we hold the drawing. Depending on the number of tickets sold, the drawing may be as early as the July meeting.





PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

What a lively meeting we had in January! It was a wonderful way to start the New Year. We had Janet and Roger Tutton visiting from Virginia with tables full of beautiful hatpins and a few hatpin holders. We had visitors from out of State, including Audrey Madans from North Carolina and Nancy Zagorac, from Pennsylvania. Audrey used the time to interview members for her AHS newsletter column, *How I Got Hooked On Hatpins*. I hope Nancy enjoyed putting faces to names as much as we enjoyed visiting with her. For those of you who live outside of California, if you are planning a visit, I hope you will try to arrange your schedule so you can come to one of our meetings. We love having the opportunity to get to know you and to compare notes on finding hatpins.

One of the challenges facing the club this year is meeting our expenses. You will read in the minutes the actions the Board of Directors took to keep our financial house in order. We do not want to raise dues, so we are depending on other means of raising money to meet our projected deficit of \$1300. One of those means is asking authors, dealers, and sellers who offer discounts to the club if they will donate the discount amount to the club instead. Janet Tutton generously donated 5% of her sales at the January meeting to the club and her gift of \$465.00 will be a big help in meeting our shortfall. Our guest speaker for January was Diana Sanders Cinamon who authored the book "All About Antique Silver with International Hallmarks". She said she would donate \$5.00 for each book sold at our meeting and presented AHS with a check for \$35.00 at the end of the meeting.

The club also benefits when a member donates a worthwhile raffle item. Last year we raised \$200.00 from a kerosene parlor lamp donated by Craig and Leyla Lightheizer. This month Ginger Ryerson donated two plaques, each with a collage created by Lillian Baker of hatpins and hatpin holders. They are very attractive and either would look nice on a wall near your collection. There is more information on the plaques in this newsletter. We hope you will help the club by participating in the raffle. Also, if you have an attractive hatpin, hatpin holder, or a Victorian-era item you would be willing to donate, please let me know.

Another way of keeping costs down is having club members make presentations. In keeping with this, Joy Reed and Barbara Hosterman have agreed to be our speakers at the April meeting. They will do a presentation on Tussy-Mussies. With everyone pulling together, I am optimistic we will continue to meet our financial obligations while maintaining the high quality of our newsletter and our informative meetings.

Jodi Lenocker

SHOW AND TELL



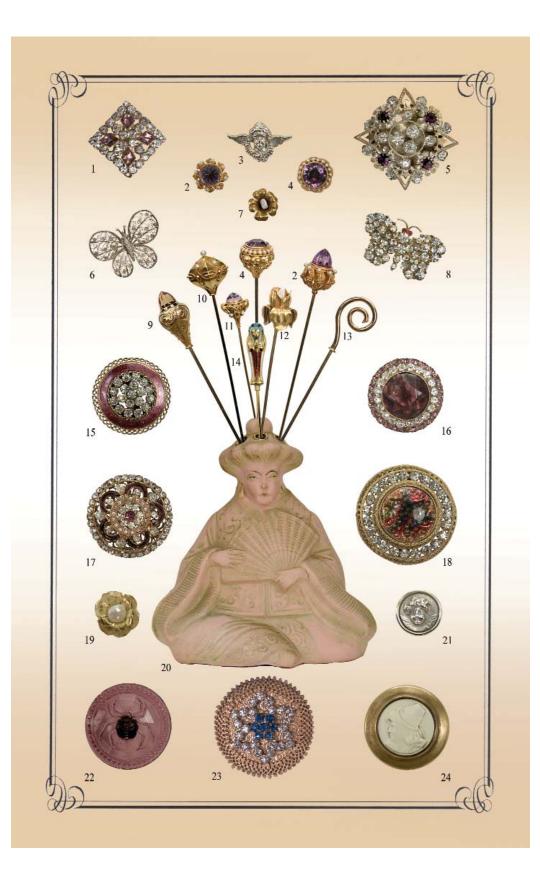
Pictures by Leslie Woodbury unless noted

Our Show and Tell was Pearls



- 1) Leigh McLernon's collection. Square pin with 4 diamond shaped amethysts surrounded with clear rhinestones on a 9" pin.
- 2) Jodi Lenocker's gold pin with carved amethyst and 8 seed pearls. The head is 3/4" tall on delicately curved panels coming down from each pearl. Granulated work on a 8" screw shaft. Unmarked.
- 3) From Cathy Miller's collection. A sterling silver puto on a 6 inch pin.
- 4) Another of Jodi's 14K gold pins. An English cut amethyst with 20 seed pearls. Marked probably Enos Richardson? Quarterfoil setting for the pearls. The stem is 6 inches.
- 5) Leigh's hatpin with clear and amethyst rhinestones, 1½" x 1½" head on a 10" shaft.
- 6) Cathy Miller's butterfly. Very dainty lacy work, looking like Mexican spun silver. The hatpin is on a 10 and 1/8" shaft.
- 7) Jodi's gold flower with 5 petals has a fresh water pearl in the center. It is not only marked 14K, it has the manufacture name of Day Clark and Co. The stem is 7" and gilded.
- 8) The rhinestone butterfly with red eyes belongs to the Leigh McLernon collection. The stem is 8" steel.
- 9) A amber faceted stone in a 14K gold setting on a 8" pin belonging to the Cathy Miller collection.

- 10) Another 14K gold pin belonging to Cathy Miller. The head has 5 seed pearls on the four sided surface. The pin is 7 inches long.
- 11) This gold hatpin has four gold beads at the corners and fleur-de-lis like sides with a seed pearl midway down. Four pearls in all and it is on a 6½" stem. Unmarked. From the collection of Jodi Lenocker.
- 12) Lovely gold iris with a pointed shape fresh water pearl in the center. It is marked 14 (for gold) and is on a 9" gold filled shaft. Another of Jodi's.
- 13) A marked 9K gold question mark or shepherd's hook with a 7 and 3/8 inch pin. Cathy Miller's collection.
- 14) This mummy belongs to Virginia's collection. It is a set with the sacred falcon or hawk. Marked 800 it has red and two shades of blue enamel. Actual size on an 8¾" gold pin.
- 15) Purple enamel ring with a row of tiny stars surrounding clear rhinestones A rope design is around the edge. It is marked Depose (meaning registered) .The stem is 10 inches and it belongs to Cathy Miller.
- 16) Another of Cathy's pins. This one has an outer row of purple rhinestones. Then a second row of clear rhinestones with a large faceted amethyst stone in the center. The shank is 11 and 7/8" inch
- 17) This pin belongs to Leigh McLernon. As you can see it has an outer row of clear rhinestones with five curved amethyst clear glass stones, an inner row of clear stones and a center amethyst stone. It is on a 10" steel pin.
- 18) This pin is from the Nancy Zagorac collection. She was visiting from Pittsburgh, PA. It has a cabochon top of multi colored glass. The 25 rhinestones surrounding the center stone are on a lower level. Finished with a brass rope around the edge. The shank is 12 inches.







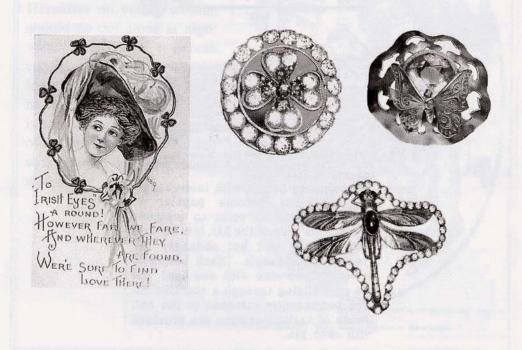
- 19) Another gold pin with a large baroque peal. The hatpin has some white and green enamel left on three of the four buds on the side. It is unmarked. It has a 7½" screw pin. Jodi Lenocker's collection.
- 20) This is a Schafer and Vater holder. The mark is on the bottom and faint as most of the S&V marks are. It is 4¾" tall. Center hole with 6 surrounding holes. Jodi's collection.
- 21) A round flat sterling silver face on a 7 and 5/8" pin. Marked sterling front. From the Cathy Miller collection.
- 22) Purple glass pin with a spider in the center. On a 8 inch shank. Leigh's collection.
- 23) Audrey Madans hatpin. She was visiting from Charlotte, N.C. The brass filigree hatpin has a "Star of David" design. The center has clear rhinestones around 7 bright blue rhinestones. It is on a 9½" steel shank. By the way Audrey collects Star of David pins if anyone wants to sell
- 24) A portrait made of celluloid and supported with a brass frame. It is on a 8" steel pin. Leigh's collection.
- 25) Large sterling etched design pin. Flowers and gracefully curled leaves on a 10" pin. It is marked F&B (Foster & Baily 1878-1898). Cathy Miller's collection.
- 26) Celluloid two sided hollow pin. Purchased at the January meeting from Janet Tutton. Shank is steel 4¾" including finding. Virginia's
- 27) Another celluloid two sided hollow pin purchased at Jan. meeting. Shank is 3½" steel. Virginia's.
- 28) Cathy's celluloid pin of loops on a 5 and 3/8" steel shank.

- 29) Virginia's celluloid purchased at the Jan meeting. Shank is 41/4" stem.
- 30) Ivory bead made into a hatpin on a 8" steel pin. Leigh McLernon's collection.
- 31) Yellow rose with gilded base and foliage. Amber stamen with brilliants in the center. Stem is 9" long. Nancy Zagorac's collection.
- 32) Audrey Madans bought this coralene pin at the January meeting. This is the name given to the tiny glass beads forming a design over the blue glass background. Shank is 10" steel. These pins are very hard to find.
- 33) High quality enamel pin with a pearl in the center of each rope twist. The pin is marked Charles Horner along with the hallmark. Pin is 10" long. Cathy's.
- 34) Christen Wright's hammered brass head with large faceted amethyst stone. Arts and Crafts era. Pin is about 10" long.
- 35) A very funky pin purchased at the January meeting by Audrey Madans. The head is a shamrock with one emerald green stone and two clear rhinestones on top of a pair of dice. One is ivory and the other is gold? Pin is 6" long.
- 36) Leigh McLernon's Nippon holder with a floral design. 5 inches tall.
- 37) Audrey Madans' huge pearl hatpin surrounded with amethyst rhinestones. The shank is 10" steel.
- 38) Leigh's collection. Clear rhinestones with a center faceted green glass stone on a 11" steel pin.
- 39) Also Leigh's. Yukon Pacific Exposition with three figures. White metal on a 12" steel pin.
- 40) This tall headed pearl hatpin in a brass frame belongs to Audrey Madans. It has a 81/2" steel pin.

- 41) Christen Wright owns this tall Satuma with a dragon motif. Pin is 9 inches.
- 42) This is one of Charles Horner's famous pins. It is hallmarked and on a 8½" bayonet steel shank. Christen is the owner.
- 43) A large pearl with a brass wire frame belonging to Audrey Madans. The stem is 9" long. I think Audrey must collect pearls also. Unusual, the coating is on the inside of the pearl.
- 44) Another pearl for Audrey. Two tear drop pearls sitting on a small round one and held together by twisted brass rope like wire. Pin 7 inches.
- 45) Gold double sided head with purple cabochon stone on each side is owned by Cathy Miller. The pin is also gold and is 7 and 1/8 inches long.
- 46) A 14K gold flower with green and pink enamel is from the Jodi's collection. It is decorated with 5 fresh water pearls on a 7½" stem. Marked Carring & Co.
- 47) Oval pillow shaped pin containing 125 prong set clear rhinestones in a star design and on a 10" steel pin. From Nancy Zagorac collection.
- 48) A garnet pin with approximately 70 rose cut prong-set stones, with a larger stone in the center. Nancy Zagorac's. It is on an 8½" pin.
- 49) The blue faceted stone in brass is surrounded with a row of 24 brilliant rhinestones. It is on a 10" pin and is from Virginia's collection. See top view at bottom of page.
- 50) Cathy Miller's interesting celluloid pin on a 6" brass shank. Very Art Deco.
- 51) This is Cathy's marked 14K gold pin covered in what is called Vermicelli. Italian for "little worms" used to describe thin gold wire in a design which

squirms like tiny worms. (Lillian Baker) It has 6 round cabochon purple stones and is on a 7 inch pin.

- 52) Beautiful sterling silver holder over green velvet. It is 7 inches tall and has an American logo of which I am not familiar. Nancy Zagorac collection.
- 53) Jodi Lenocker's Rosenthal holder is 4 and 7/8" tall. I am very fond of Rosenthal holders and have many in my own collection. And they are often marked with the Pickard stamp.
- 54) Audrey Madans' "mother of pearl" or crinkled pearl hatpin with clear rhinestones on a 10½" pin.
- 55) A white guilloche enamel decorated with pink flowers. It is dome shaped but shallow. It is on 10" steel pin and it belongs to Nancy Zagorac.



HATPINS IN THE NEWS

Original Newspaper Articles from the Hatpin Era

The Indiana Weekly Messenger, Indiana, PA, Wed., Dec. 25, 1901

Of Interest - Hatpins Are Elaborate: As the craze for decoration increases, hatpins are brought in to share it. The hatpin is not uncommon, but they are now of intricate silver, with jewels. The most unusual forms are seen, and in some of the new pins the heads are so elaborate that they form a part of the hat trimming. They protrude far out at the side of the hat instead of lying in close, next to the crown, as the old-fashioned hatpin was wont to lie, and they are rich with semi-precious stones and heavy with the gold or the silver of which they are composed. More and more elegant do they become until the purchase of a hatpin forms a large part of the expense of a hat, for, of course, the hatpin must match the millinery of the hat.

The Mountain Democrat, Placerville, CA, Feb. 18, 1911
POINTLESS HATPINS.

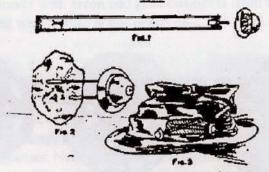


Fig. 1. Structure of the New. Hatpin-Fig. 2. The Holder-Fig. 3. Manner of Arranging in Hat.

A pointless hatpin with interchangeable heads has become popular in Paris. Having no point to protrude beyond the side of the hat, it is obvious that the pin will not endanger the eyes of other people. Each hatpin is in reality two pins with one head, the pin part sliding through a star-like fixture permanently attached to the hat. Heads of various designs are provided with each pin.

Hatpins in the News (cont.)

The Evening Democrat, Warren, PA, May 04, 1900

A new use has been found for the hatpin, and hereafter it will rightfully be regarded as much as a weapon as an article of utility. Like the Spanish woman's stiletto, which is used both as a fastening for her mantilla and as a guard against the two ardent advances of her admirers, the hatpin will be ever ready when woman becomes fully accustomed to it as a dagger, for use as a defense against attacks of any sort. Miss Bertha Lynch, a brave young woman, of Derby, Ct., is a pioneer in the use of the deadly hatpin as a weapon of defense. Attacked by four men at half-past one o'clock in the morning while alone upon the streets, she drew her trusty pin from her hat, backed herself

against a wall and defied them to do their worst. Pallid and trembling they drew back, and she, taking advantage of their panic, chased them several blocks before they escaped. Hereafter no young woman should go out alone at night without her hatpin. It is both escort and chaperone in one. As long as she has it with her she need fear no assailant, for there is something in the very sight of the long, thin bit of steel that strikes terror to the heart of the malefactor.



Hooked on Hatpins: JANET & FRED ENNIS

by Audrey Madans



Moving from New Jersey to Phoenix has not dimmed Janet Ennis' enthusiasm for hatpin collecting. She and her husband, Fred, both enjoy the hobby. Often they will go antiquing or flea marketing, and he'll go down one aisle scouting while she's at another. As soon as he spots something interesting he yells for her to come ASAP. But the pickings are slim in the Phoenix area, where mostly all that can be found are beads on sticks.

Both she and Fred have an interest in antiques. Around 1994 they walked into a shop in Atlantic City and saw a pretty carved item with a "spike" on the

end of it. It seemed to be made of some green wood, with a metal shank. It was about 4" on the top and around 6" long. After doing some research she discovered it was a hatpin. She spoke with Virginia Woodbury, who said it may have been handmade. The rest is history.

In the beginning she displayed her pins all over the house, some in every room as a matter of fact. But after the move to Arizona, where she now has a high vaulted living room ceiling, she purchased a large curio cabinet and that's where she displays the collection. When she has guests they ooh and aah over the lovely items and are fascinated by them, but they know nothing about hatpins or holders. She gets a kick out of showing them off and talking about them.

Her favorites are the mourning type pins and the large shiny, glitzy ones. In the beginning, as most of us have done, she bought lots of pins, not knowing much about them. Now, thanks to knowledge she has gained through the club and her friendship with other members, she feels much more confident. She will look at what she likes, but before purchasing, she likes to have the pin in hand, and then makes the desicion...buy or not.

At first her holders were "sort of junky and purchased only for display purposes." Of course that has changed now, too. Her favorite holders are mostly china, and she enjoys the few sterling with pin cushion attached.

How does she feel about cleaning her pins? She cleans them when she first brings them home, and rarely after that - unless Virginia or Frankie are nearby

There was that great huge rhinestone hatpin at a shop in Texas that interested her, but the going price was more than she wished to spend at that time. Giving it a great deal of thought, she turned around, went back to get it, and it was gone! Moral: "Buy it when you see it..."

She and Fred have eclectic tastes in other collectibles. Moroccan items, Oriental items, and Fred's Lalique fish round out their collecting hobbies.

REAL FINDINGS - FAKE FINDINGS

