

Raw Hide Gazette

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"Without question, the Raw Hide Gazette is by far the best and most informative and comprehensive Guild publications of all of them! You are to be commended for your very fine and professional efforts. Keep up the good work. With admiration"
/signed/

Al & Ann Stohlman, December 1997

Volume 5, Issue 11

Puget Sound Leather Artisans Co-Op

January 2000

Hide Highlights

- 2000 -- The Year of the Dragon
- Next Two Pslac Meetings
- Tips-tips-tips Patterns
- Winner of the Tippmann BOSS Stitcher
- Build Your Own Dragon
- Whimsical Dragons
- Copic Sketch Leather Coloring



2000 -- The Year of the Dragon

The Year of the Rabbit has come and gone and now we have the Year of the Dragon. So to celebrate we have a Members Only article to make a Leather Dragon Figure. In addition, in this issue we have an Oriental (typically Chinese) Dragon pattern and photocarve. Picture here on the Cover Page is a close-up of the photocarve showing the simple beveling and modeling to bring the Dragon to "life" Parts of the Dragon have been undercut, lifted (ala Robb Barr style, but no putty fill on the surface) and tooled underneath. The teeth and ears were done this way.

The patterns are easy to get here in

Japan. There are several copyright free and royalty free computer clip art CD's that are used for people to make their own New Years Day cards. Everyone sends New Years Day cards to each other and they are ALL delivered, by the Japan's Postal Service on the New Years Day (I don't know how they do it.)

The clip art CD's are JPG or GIF images that I just print to a piece of tracing paper to use as my pattern. In this pattern I cut more lines than normal to get very high relief to those facial areas. Normally you would use a modeling spoon or beveler to form these areas, but I was experimenting with this project.

The high relief was formed by beveling the outside lines first, and then using Ken Imus' famous ball bearing emboss-

Meeting Announcement

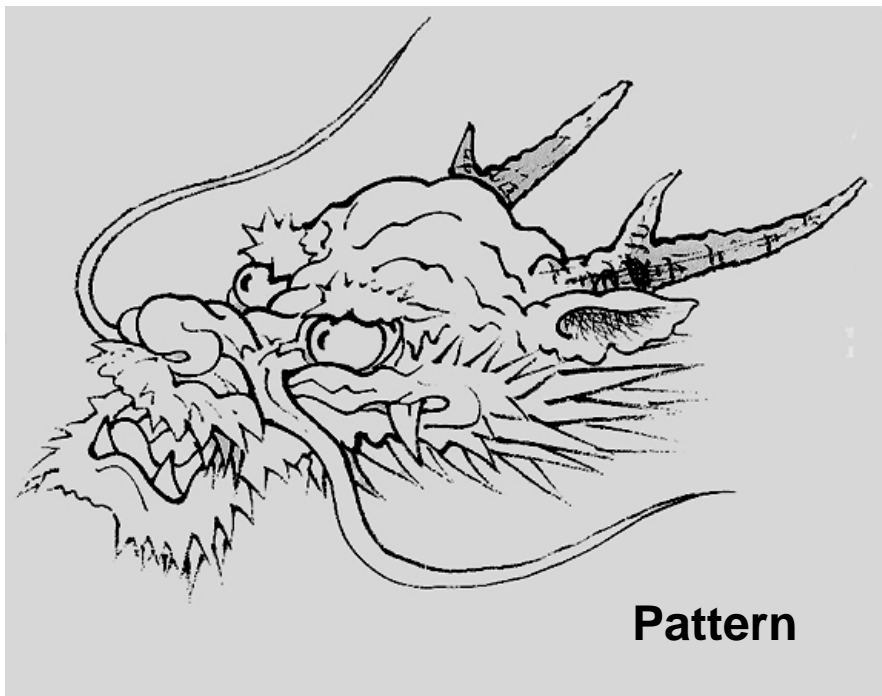
Mark your calendar!

The next meeting will be:
Sunday, January 30th,
2:00-4:00pm

Location: **WOODY's PLACE --**
4248 A Street SE, Auburn

...and
Sunday, February 27th
2:00-4:00pm

Location: **MacPhersons**



Pattern

ing technique I raised the eye, nose and forehead areas by mixing leather dust

RawHide Gazette

Editor / Publisher: Bob Stelmack
Co-Founders: Bill Churchill & General Seymour
Treasurer/Secretary: Linda Stockhausen

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The *RawHide Gazette* is published monthly (12 times a year). Address for information and correspondence: PSLAC, c/o Linda Stockhausen, 12614 142nd. Ave. Ct. E., Puyallup, WA 98374, U.S.A., (ph. 253-770-8751,

email: bingbudz@postalzone.com

The *RawHide Gazette* is provided to the Puget Sound Leather Artisans Co-Op as a part of their membership benefits. Annual dues are \$24.00 USD per year.

All submissions are subject to editing for clarity and length. All articles submitted must be accompanied by name, address and permission of writer.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to PSLAC, c/o Linda Stockhausen, 12614 142nd. Ave. Ct. E., Puyallup, WA 98374, U.S.A.

Advertising Rates

The *RawHide Gazette* now offers advertising space to interested parties. Ad spaces are as follows:

- 1/4 Page or Business Card \$60 USD
- 1/2 Page \$110 USD
- 1 Full Page \$200 USD

These rates cover a six month time period. Guild members are entitled to a 25% discount. Leather companies supporting PSLAC are given free Business Card size advertisement, additional space at regular rates.

again, glued to a stiff piece of .040 plastic from Boeing Surplus, and began the final tooling. I only used a few tools for this project: B60 (modified), F976 (triangle cross hatch beveler), B701 (cross hatch beveler), F900 (matte) and a modeling spoon.

To accentuate the face and especially the eyes I used one of **Bill Churchill's "modified B60 bevelers"** (see *Bill's September 1998 Article on Undercutting*). The undercut beveler was followed up with a modeling spoon to round the edges giving a more realistic look to the carving. As I am writing this article I am starting to color the Dragon. I do not want to show you the finished product until you have a chance to try it yourself. I'll show it in a month or two. If you go to my leather gallery on my web site at:

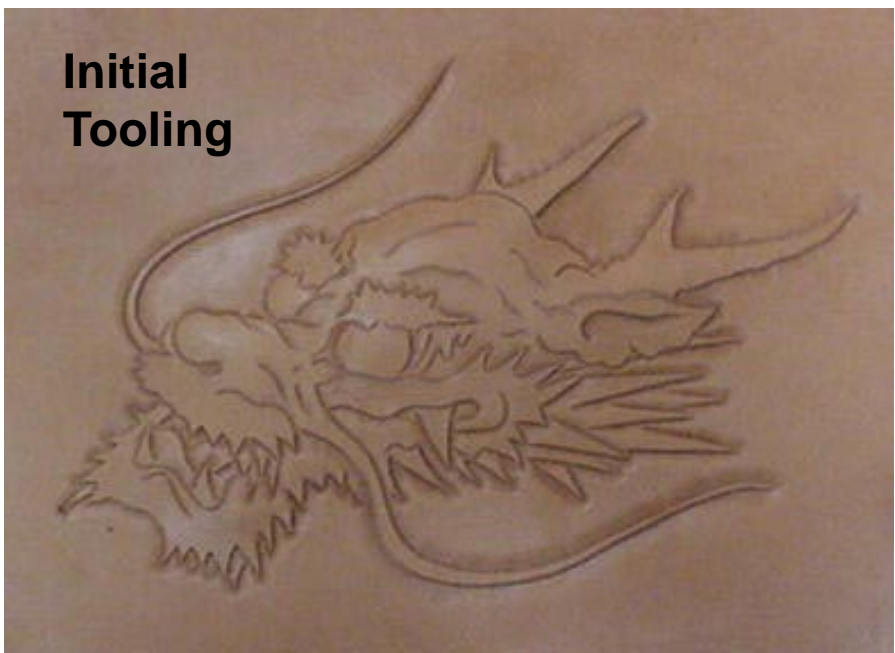
<http://www.nwlink.com/~stelmack/leather.htm>

...you will find the finished Dragon -- when complete.

My thoughts for colors are either green and white tone with some brown and red highlights ...or... a red Dragon. I'll see what happens and as I said before no carving project is ever thrown away -- it gets finished and made into something useful.

mixed with rubber cement. This technique does not give the crisp definition that **Al Stohlman or Peter Main** achieve with "leather cut plugs", but for this project it was just what I wanted. I did put a little extra putty mixture in the eye area since this was to be the area I wanted to accentuate. See the putty picture.

After the leather putty mixture completely dried (two days) I cased the leather



Leather Dust & Rubber Cement Putty



Note the heavy eye build up.

Bring your own version of this or another oriental type Dragon to one of the next meetings. In fact, one of the following pages has all the pieces to design and build your own Dragon.

Bob Stelmack "editor-in-transit"

Next Two PSLAC Meetings

Since the January and February Raw-Hide Gazettes will be published while I am "on-the-road" we have the details for the **January 30th meeting to be held at Woody's Place** (see map on the last page) and the **February 27th meeting will be held at MacPhersons** in downtown Seattle at:

MacPhersons
519 - 12th Ave. S.
Seattle, WA 98144
Phone: (206) 328-0855

Tips-Tips-Tips

Patterns

Here is an idea that I will pass on. I work for the prison system here in Texas, and that's where I first got interested in leather crafting. Well, in our prison craft shops, (and probably it is the same in most states) employees and free world people can go through official paperwork and

make a contract with an inmate to make something for them, like a belt, wallet, or purse. I have made contracts with several different inmates to make patterns of their work for me and provided them with linoleum samples from

local floor cover stores to cut the patterns from. These inmates have cut LOTS of patterns for me for VERY reasonable rates since I have supplied the material to cut them from. The inmates mostly cut their patterns from bontex, which is not expensive but these linoleum samples were saved from the trash so there is no cost for the material! They will last almost forever and when you get ready to cut something out, you just lay it out on the flesh side, trace around it, and cut it out! I provided tracing film and one inmate even made tooling patterns for me. If any of the readers of the RawHide Gazette have access to a local prison they might explore this resource for patterns. Many of these inmates are extremely talented despite everything else that they might be. If this type of business is allowed, it would benefit both you and the

inmate. Just a thought.

Mike Tillery <tillery@flash.net>

And the Winner Is...

The New Year is here and we are starting off on a new century, 30 years ago I would have never thought I would see the day. Wow what excitement. We, at the Lone Star Leather Guild, ended the old year by giving away a **Tippman 'Boss' Hand Stitcher**. For those of you who missed the party or have not received the word. **Carolyn Clark of Dallas, Texas** was the lucky winner. Carolyn is a fairly new member of our Guild and relatively new to the art of leathercrafting. I now understand that she plans on sticking with it for many years to come. Congratulations from all of us to you Carolyn.

Andy Stasiak
Texas

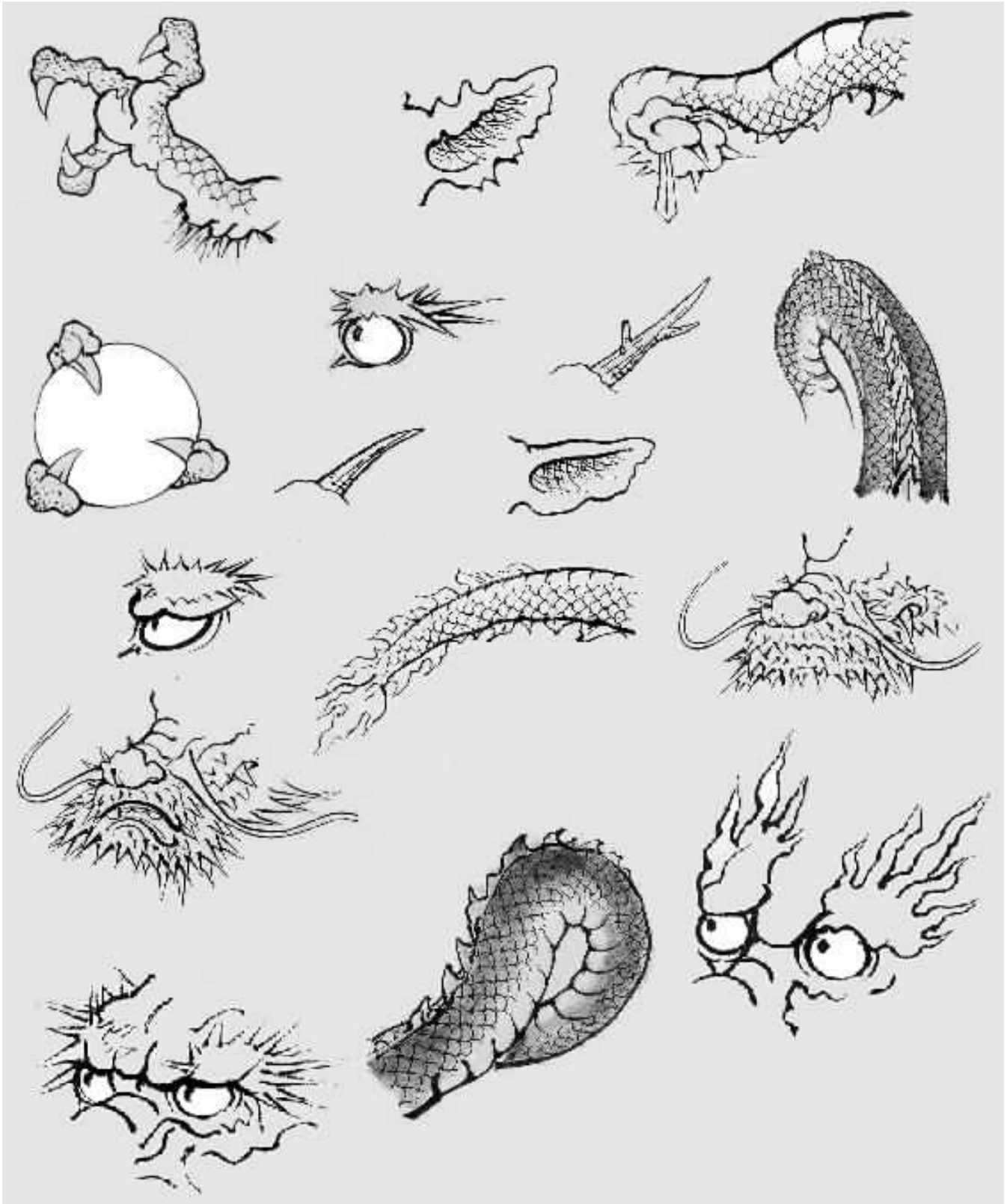


Finished Tooling



Build Your Own Dragon

(Take the traditional parts and form your own pattern.)



There are two examples of each part (ears, claws, eyes, horns, tail, body, mouth and head) that form the Oriental Dragon..

SOME OTHER WHIMSICAL DRAGONS



PSLAC Membership Application

If you know someone who is interested in leathercraft — give them this information:
Puget Sound Leather Artisan Co-Op MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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We publish a membership list with our members expertise listed. This list is used to refer possible clients to the best person for the job. Tell a little about yourself, how you got started in leather, what your favorite things to do in leather and other crafts and/or art forms.

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If you would like to subscribe to The Leather Crafters & Saddlers Journal through the Co-Op and include an additional \$24.00 for a one year subscription.



COPiC sketch

COPiC sketch permanent brush and chisel point markers. Oh great! I finally find a brush pen a couple of weeks before I leave Japan. This COPiC sketch marker is similar to the Tombow watercolor brush pen, but the marker contains permanent marker fluid. One end is the chisel point found on many marking pens and the other is somewhat stiffer

brush much like the Tombow watercolor brush pens. The COPiC units come in many colors and are numbered and color coded for both the cap and the body. The codes are well marked (e.g. R46 for a red, G12 for a grey, etc.) so keeping the cap with the body is easier. The colors run from soft pastels to bright primary colors. Looks like these will become more of the color arsenal for Bob Stelmack's "bag-o-tricks".



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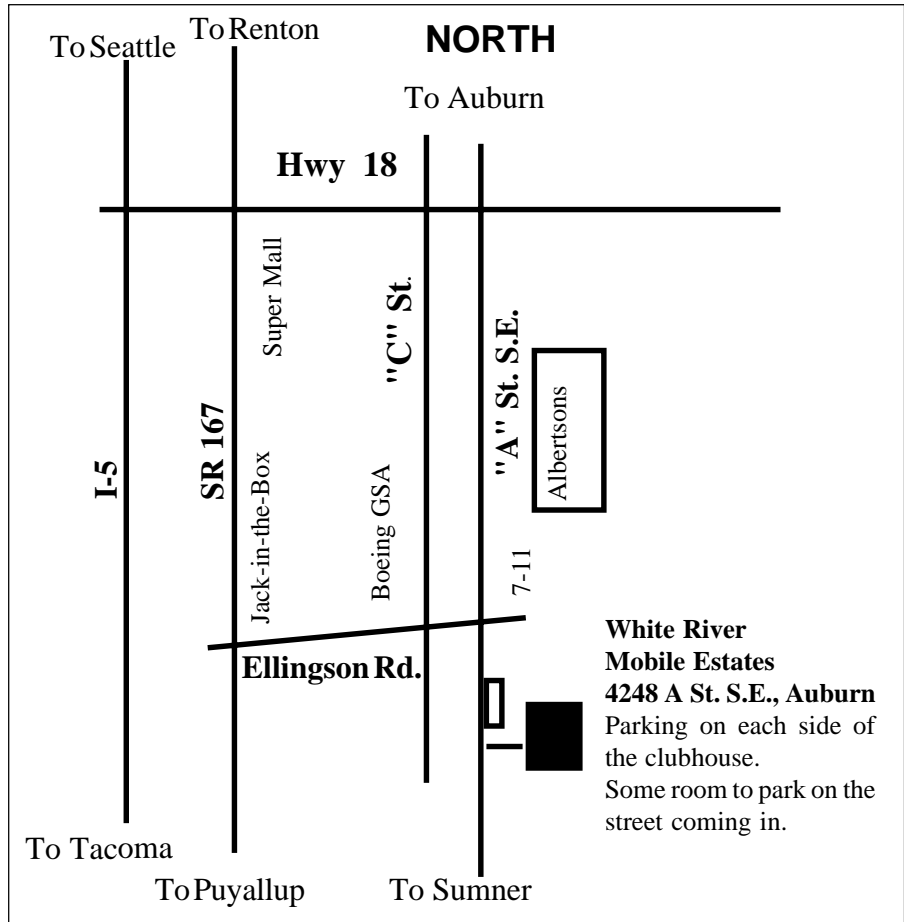
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They are also posted, in living color, on the Internet.



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