

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 6, Issue 1

Puget Sound Leather Artisans Co-Op

March 2000

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Meeting Announcement

Mark your calendar!

Sunday, March 26th,
2:00-4:00pm

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

Saddlery in Fulbeck, UK

Situated in the attractive village of Fulbeck, Lincolnshire, Manor Stables Craft Workshops offers a unique insight into rural crafts. The former stable block has been sympathetically converted to house working crafts units together with generous display areas.

One area is the Saddlery for repairs, servicing and bespoke work to saddlery, bridgework, harness and ancillary items. Work is carried out by Mark Bushell, a qualified saddler.

Mark took some time out from his busy day to show some of his tools used for harness making.

Phone: (01400) 272779

Bill's News

I just received 40 Hidecrafters Catalogs and a nice side of 6/7 ounce leather **FREE** from **Hidecrafters (Jim Linnell)** and it is for Children's leather. **PK, Woody, Jeff** indicated they needed some 6/7 ounce



for rounders for the Den leaders and Neck-erchief slides.

It is nice to see such a level of support for the Children's Leather Program. Many thanks to a company that promotes leather-craft for the young.

Bill Churchill, Federal Way, WA

The Stohlman Museum Update

The Museum is progressing well now with some help from my friends. **Tony and Kay Laier** arrived Saturday (for a week). Progress to date is that all benches, tools etc., are all in place. I have re-lacquered all timber and sorted out a multitude of photos and leather. We have been cleaning all leather items for the last two days. Tony has done a great job on **Al and Ann's** (rough-out) saddles — a major

task! Kay has brought back to life so many pieces of their work — pieces far back as 1942 (*Al's first leatherwork: a briefcase and full carved leather jacket made while in New Guinea during the war*). The show cases that Tandy so kindly donated to the Museum (we couldn't fit them all in) are in place, and tomorrow is the start of setting up displays. The people at the **King's Saddlery** have been wonderful — so cooperative. I'm sure there are a few sore backs tonight after all that heavy lifting today. Many pieces of the Stohlman's work have been donated since the word is out on the Museum (hoping to get another saddle soon). These include a pictorial, a man on horse back. This is a magnificent embossed applique with silver trim. Al made miniature buckles, rings, etc., from silver and also engraved corner pieces for the oak leaf carved frame. I have



Al's Knife

week or so.

....well, the Museum continues towards completion. I have been here over five weeks now and still see more than a weeks work ahead. All displays are now complete, but many changes take place when doing the final arrangements. I have been 'captioning' all pieces in the displays for the past three days...and still a long way



RawHide Gazette
Editor / Publisher: Bob Stelmack
Co-Founders: Bill Churchill & General Seymour
Treasurer/Secretary: Linda Stockhausen
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email: bingbudz@postalzone.com

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

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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.

brought back the original drawing and notes for all the silverwork to be displayed with the picture. Ann has sent me a tape with much information regarding many of the pieces which will be shown. She will also bring with her a handbag (with matching wallet, check book cover, purse, and cigarette case) that Al made just prior to them going to Chicago in the 60's for some workshops. More of his silver engraving work is coming too. This handbag is a masterpiece — filigreed, with a window in the flap exposing a foal that is carved on the body of the bag. I could go on and on, but will post a photo taken this morning instead. I shall post a further update in a

to go.

So... today's picture is of Al's swivel knife. Al started to learn silver work in the late fifties --practicing on all kinds of metal. He made this knife as a 'practice' piece using silver, gold and precious stones. Also displayed are other examples of his work: engraving, chasing, and buckle making. There are also many of his original pencil drawings of the items he has made from silver. More to come.....

Peter Main
<Petergmain@aol.com>

February PSLAC Meeting

February's meeting was one of our best.

MacPhersons has done a wonderful job filling the gap that was left by Tandy. They have all the dyes, finishes, cements, as well as racks full of leather and rawhide.

I had to take a picture of the Ostrich, when I first saw the Ostrich I thought it was the biggest Turkey I had ever seen as it turned out it may be the BIGGEST TURKEY I have ever seen. :-)

Ken conducted the meeting and did a terrific job. Fred and May didn't show up for this meeting so I didn't have the help of May for taking the notes for the pictures.... So I volunteered Sister Rachel she did a nice job. At first I was taking pictures faster than she could write, but it turned out OK. I really want to thank her for her help.

Ken is asking the members who bring artwork to the meeting to hold up the artwork and tell the group what it is. I think that it is a great idea because, in the past nobody knew who did what. This way if there is a story behind the item the member who brought it to the meeting can talk about how much fun they had doing the project or if they had a problem with making the item, how they solved that

problem.

In my case, I showed the cartoon with the toothbrush. I printed a cartoon I received via e-mail and the story behind it is that I am giving it to my son who isn't happy with his job. My point is that it could be worse.



I also had the portrait that I tooled in Bill's class. Rich took a picture of me when I was telling about my portrait. Everybody accused



me of doing a commercial for Bill's class. Come to think of it he should pay me for the nice words I said about the class. Hmmmmm — Big \$\$\$\$.

Terry is looking for a new employee. Anybody interested should give Terry a call at MacPhersons.

We are sending out reminders with the gazette. Reminding members that their membership is due or over due. It was nice to see that the gazette was in a prominent place

on the counter at MacPhersons. A lady came to the meeting to "check us out". While shopping at MacPhersons she picked-up a gazette and saw that we were going to hold our meeting in her neighborhood and I think that we have a new member. I hope so she seems to be very nice. As you can see through this e-mail that I had a wonderful day I hope everybody did.

Dusty Wert <dustytoy@gateway.net>

Thanks to Hidecrafters

Hidecrafters
Fort Worth, Texas
Attn: Jim Linnell

Your Generous donation to PSLAC Children's Leather is very much appreciated. The Leather will be used in training Scout Leaders so they in turn can use their knowledge to start the Children in Leathercraft. At this time, we have four very dedicated people that are holding seminars with Scout Leaders, P.K. Dan, Woody Collins, Jeff Bement, and Harry Smith. Under P.K. Dan's leadership and with her knowledge of what the scouting World does concerning Leather, these People are really an asset to Children's Leather. Also P.K. Dan's son is helping out, his next step in Scouting is Eagle. Again we wish to thank you.

/s/ PSLAC Board of Directors
Ken Eriksen
Chuck Carlson
Bob Stelmack

What Makes PSLAC Special?

(ed. note: This email was sent from Chuck to Dusty and thought it would nice to share with others)

Dusty,

I have not been ignoring the good comments you and **Rich** sent along about **PSLAC**, I had intended to talk to you at the meeting and then had to stay home to attend to some family business.

Regarding the president/vice president suggestion. **Bill** and **General** were VERY insistent when they turned PSLAC over to the directors that any efforts by anyone to reorganize into that (President/Vice President) format would result in the collapse of the organization. Apparently something of that sort was attempted years ago. I guess **Sister Rachel** was around then and knows all about it. The whole Guild fell apart within a couple days. Bill feels that what separates our success from some Guild failures is that the some other Guilds have the President/Vice President thing going on and it becomes a real political status. A specific few people running around with a "look at me, I'm the President attitude", and forcing their will on the group. Folks waiting for their turn and have the "When I'm President we're going to run things my way" attitude.

I guess that's part of it, we don't need attitudes, we need to stay focused on how can we pass on and share the knowledge of leather craft at all levels (beginner to advanced) to all ages of folks. Especially, how do we get youth involved so the art of leather working can continue on and not become a lost art as many other crafts are becoming?

I understand the need for some organizations to need the specific organizational structure. We all have agreed (Bill, General, Bob, Ken and I) that the best format to move into the future with is a less formal one, that is, with the three board members working together. With Bill & General in the background as a sounding board to make the goals of PSLAC become a reality,

without anyone of us as the "boss". Working as a team that gets the job done with the help of many others — and it's working too! No one is working for a President, but it's folks like you (Dusty) and Rich that have come forward to help, I believe, because you are not helping a President you happen to like, but you're working to help a group and an art called leather craft, to share, passing on knowledge in a fun, relaxing format.

Now we certainly do need a meeting agenda to keep us on track and insure that the meetings are worthwhile and something that folks look forward to because they will go away feeling they learned and shared in leather craft that day. That's what I was getting at in my comments about agenda, as it's really easy to have a topic of discussion get out of hand time-wise and then the project recognition and sharing how they made their project and tips on sharing their techniques just doesn't happen. The vital input from folks like you has indicated just how important that aspect is, and to the directors, that input from everyone is extremely vital, and our job is simply to make sure everyone's need are met through both the meeting and the Gazette. I hope this is happening and thanks for letting me be a small part of the PSLAC success story.

Chuck Carlson
anchorleather@bigfoot.com

"New" Old Books

Leather Factory has reprinted a few of the Stohlman's OLD books. Those that the copyrights have run out. Leather factory, MacPhersons and Hidecrafters are now carrying them. Tandy says they are carrying the rest. Now is a good time for ALL to buy ALL the books that they don't have. Here are the old books:

Figure Carving
Holsters
Inverted Carving
The "OLD" color Book
How to Carve

Naturally they are a little higher than the originals, but at any price and worth it,

especially the *Figure Carving* and *How to Carve*

Bill Churchill
churchil@nwlink.com
<http://www.nwlink.com/~churchil>

A Place to SELL

I have made arrangements to sell at the Kent Farmers Market this spring/summer. Any where from 4 to 6 sessions about 1 month apart, starting on the 29th of April. I would gladly display any of the PSLAC Co-Op's members work for sale. I would add a 15% sellers fee to help cover costs of space and liability insurance. If you think this might be of interest to some of the group maybe it could be announced in the gazette -- I'll mention it also at the next meeting.

Woody Collins

Upcoming Attractions for the Meetings

General Seymour is giving *Hands-on Airbrush with Paper* this month and *Hands-on Leather Carving* next month and I am giving a *Coloring Demonstration* with ink pens and Tombo brushes the following month

Bill Churchill
Federal Way, WA



Tips-Tips-Tips



Betty Latham

I have a neat way to bevel that I would like to share with the members. When I took a class at Bill's he asked the class to bevel a line so he could see how we all beveled. So when it came to my turn to bevel the line I knew that he would find out that I'm the world worst beveler. That's what happened. He told me that I had to practice my beveling because I was really BAD. So I decided that is what I was going to do. So, I would cut a line and practiced and I found that if I held the tool straight up and down and don't have a big grip on the tool that was helpful.

Also Bill rocks his mallet (from side to side) instead of holding the mallet like a hammer.

Then I decided to cheat. I took my modeler (the one with the ball) and I put pressure on the side of the cut line that I wanted to bevel. With my smooth beveler that worked great and I was able to walk that beveler right down that line. So now when I do any beveling I cut my pattern as usual and then I decide what side of the line that needs to be beveled. I then use my modeler. If it's a big pattern I use the big ball and of course if I have a small pattern there is a small end to the modeler. If the small end is too big for your pattern I use the new small modeler (it is not really NEW but it was the latest one that Tandy brought out).

I do have Peter Main's modeler but I use that one to fine tune my tooling after I bevel.

I think there are a lot of people that do this type of beveling, but if you haven't done it this way and beveling isn't your strong point you might like to try it.

The last class I took at Bill's he remarked how my beveling has improved. I thanked him but didn't tell him that I cheated -- well now he knows because I just told him and you my little secret.

Dusty Wert

<dustytoy@gateway.net>

Hi Bill;

Well, the show wasn't as successful as I had hoped. Lots of lookers but no buyers, but there is another more positive reason for this note. *I just got a call from the Seattle Times wanting to do a profile, with pictures, on me.* What I would like from you is a plug for PSLAC. Just something short and sweet that I can remember. The article will be in some section of a Saturday paper, and I will be on the cover. Pretty cool huh?

Anyhow, I'm waiting for a call back to set up a time and date so I will let you know more then.

Betty

<elizabethalatham@juno.com>

Betty:

I am so happy for you. I know how you feel. I sure hope that it helps you. I am taking the liberty of passing this along. I am sure that Stelmack will be pleased with this bit of news. Also it is very much appreciated that you would like to include PSLAC in your day of glory. I would think that if you just mentioned that you belonged to **Puget Sound Leather Artisans Co-Op** and that our aim is to pass on to the future generations the art of leather craft would be good. Again, all the success that you deserve.

Bill Churchill

<churchil@nwlinc.com>

Ken's Knothole

This is going to be relatively short (at least as much as possible for me) this month. We had a great February meeting at **MacPherson's** in Seattle. **Terry Durbin**, the manager, again put out some great goodies, coffee and pop for the group and gave us some info on the new leather products he is carrying and a little about the directions he is taking with the business. *They have been staying open later on Friday afternoon's and are looking at opening on Saturdays starting possibly in April*, so those that don't work near Seattle will be able to get in to shop.

Afterwards the group was able to browse all through the store. I took the opportunity to stock up on rubber and Barge contact cement. We had some new faces and some I hadn't seen for awhile.

Two weekends later a number of us attended the **25th annual Cascade Mountain Man Craft and Gun Show**, at the King County Fairgrounds in Enumclaw. Over 120 vendors with leather, furs, rawhides, beads, knives, muzzle loading guns, colonial and fur trade era clothing – who could ask for anything more. I know **Bill, General, Chuck, Dale, and Woody** were there and had a great time. **Betty Latham** from our club had a booth there again this year and while her sales were a bit disappointing, she did have a reporter from the Seattle Times talk to her about doing an article on her leather clothing. I had a table, but didn't have much to sell and since I'm a member of the Cascade Mountain Man, I'm usually running around helping where I can and so at the table much. I also made note that everything on the table was made prior to my purchase of our first computer last year. I think there's a correlation there.

Bill, always thinking about PSLAC, approached one of the vendors who were making stitching ponies about being a sponsor. I wrote about these guys last year, but couldn't find their business card. They have both a floor mounted model and one that you hold with your thighs that looks like a cross between a stitching pony and a Thighmaster. They are interested and will give PSLAC members a discount – around 15%. I'll bring definite prices to our March meeting and we'll see about having Dale help scan their card for the next Gazette. *In case you want to contact them sooner, they are Skysooter (425-823-0110) and Scream'n Eagle (360-658-1847). Tell them you're members so you'll get the discount.* We'll be getting them a list of our members.

Segway to Dues: **Dusty, Rich and Linda** have done yeo-person service and we now have an updated list of current and past-due members. Be looking at the mailing label on your Gazette, for month/

(continued on page 7)



Dusty's Figure Carving Class Example



Dusty's Coaster



Woody Collins'

Holster



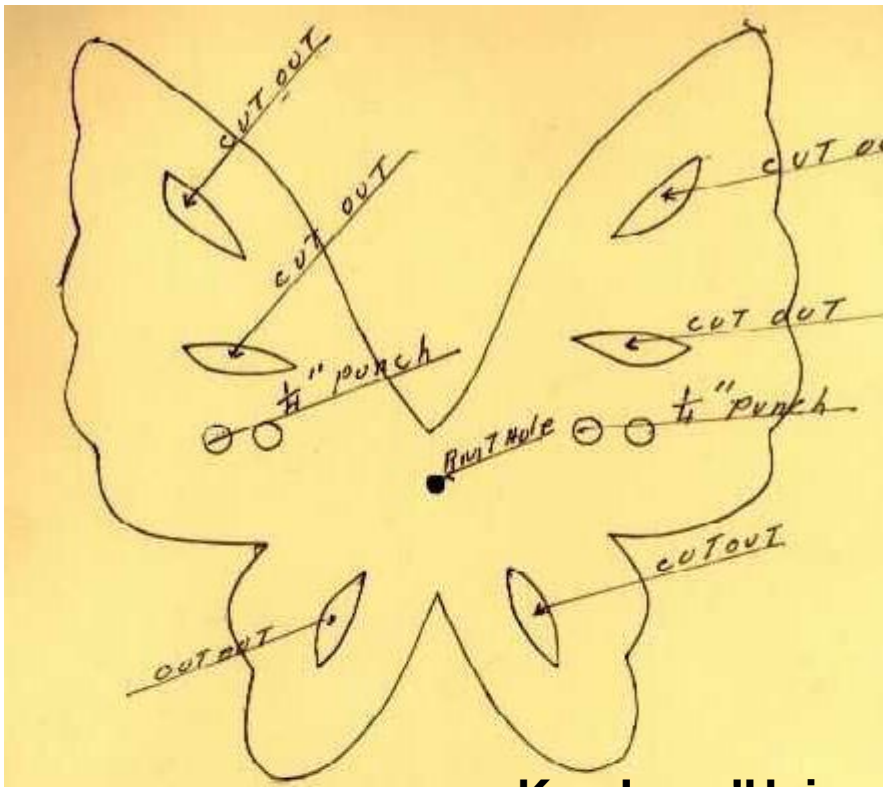
Woody Collins'

Wolf

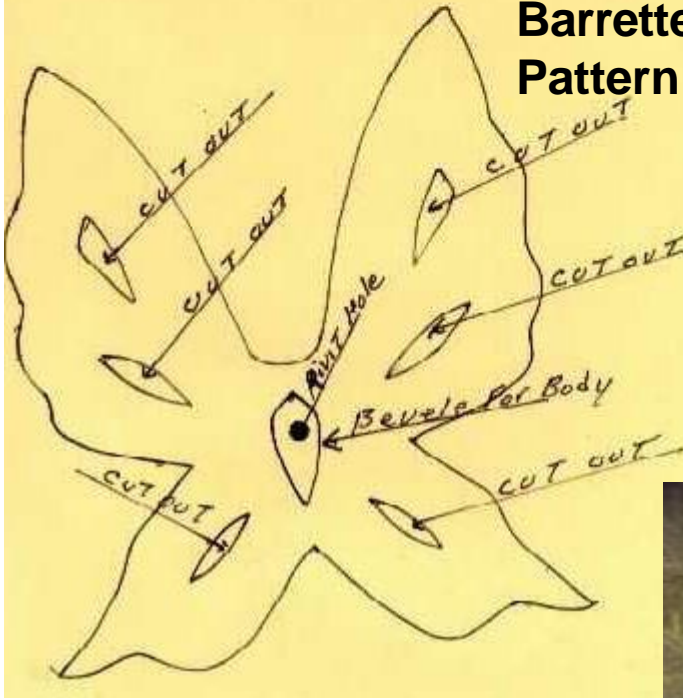
February PSLAC Meeting

Some pictures from the February meeting held at MacPhersons (nice looking group!)



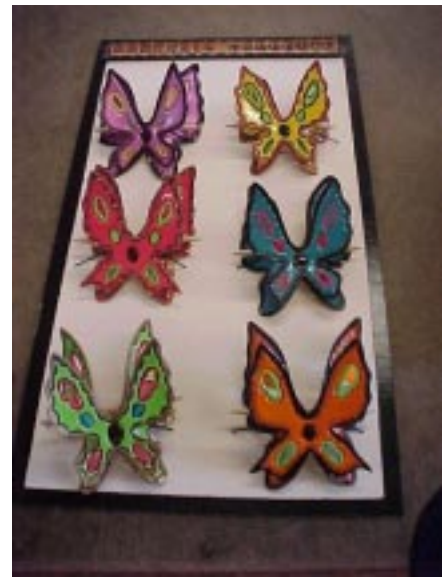


Ken Imus' Hair Barrettes Pattern



year for your dues. We're going to give those that are overdue a few months grace period, but as our mailing costs have risen we will need to begin dropping people who aren't current. We wouldn't want anyone to miss out on all the great articles or the discounts from our sponsors.

Jim Linnel, of **Hidecrafters**, donated a full hide and a couple of boxes for catalogs for our Kid's Leather program and for



PK's work with the Scouts. [Thanks Jim.](#)

Next meeting is back to our usual spot at Woody's in Auburn, on March 26, 2000 at 2:00pm. *General will begin a demo on airbrush techniques.* Don't forget about Sheridan in May and leather items for the Puyallup Fair in September. See you at the meeting.

Ken Eriksen

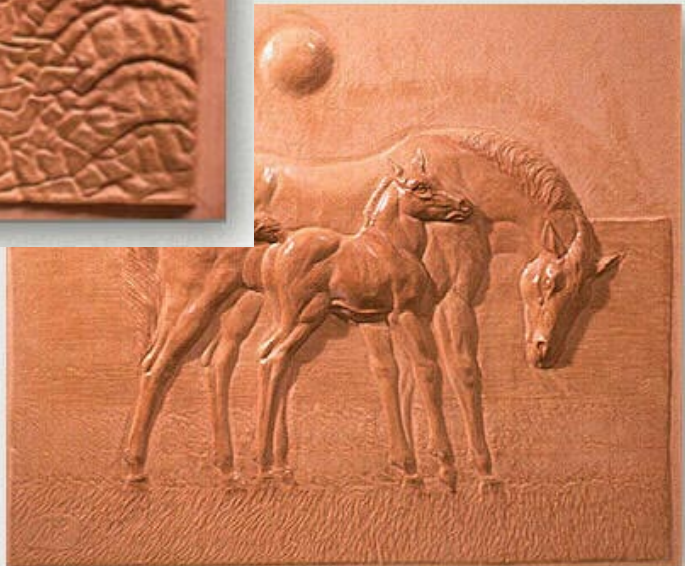
Haft - as in handle. They are hand made by Dick Anderson, who is part of the Cordwainer's Internet Guild. He will have a booth at the Sheridan Leather Trade Show in May. The hafts are about \$30.00





***You never know
what kinds of
examples of
Leathercraft you
might find on the
Internet***

These pictures represent a sample of what Bill Churchill found on the Internet while searching for leather examples. This was early in his computer career when he had not mastered the "bookmarking" of interesting sites yet. He saw these once and then was unable relocate them. With the help of some other fellow leathercrafters he was able to locate the pages again and this time save the pictures to his hard drive. It was a good thing he saved the pictures since the web site is no longer available. The only detail Bill able to provide was that these were done by a Japanese Leathercrafter. If the site reappears we get details and a contact for the Artist



High Relief Leather Portrait Carving



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-- of course the password information is free for the Puget Sound Leather Artisans Co-Op members. Those on the Internet still need send \$10 per year for a membership to:

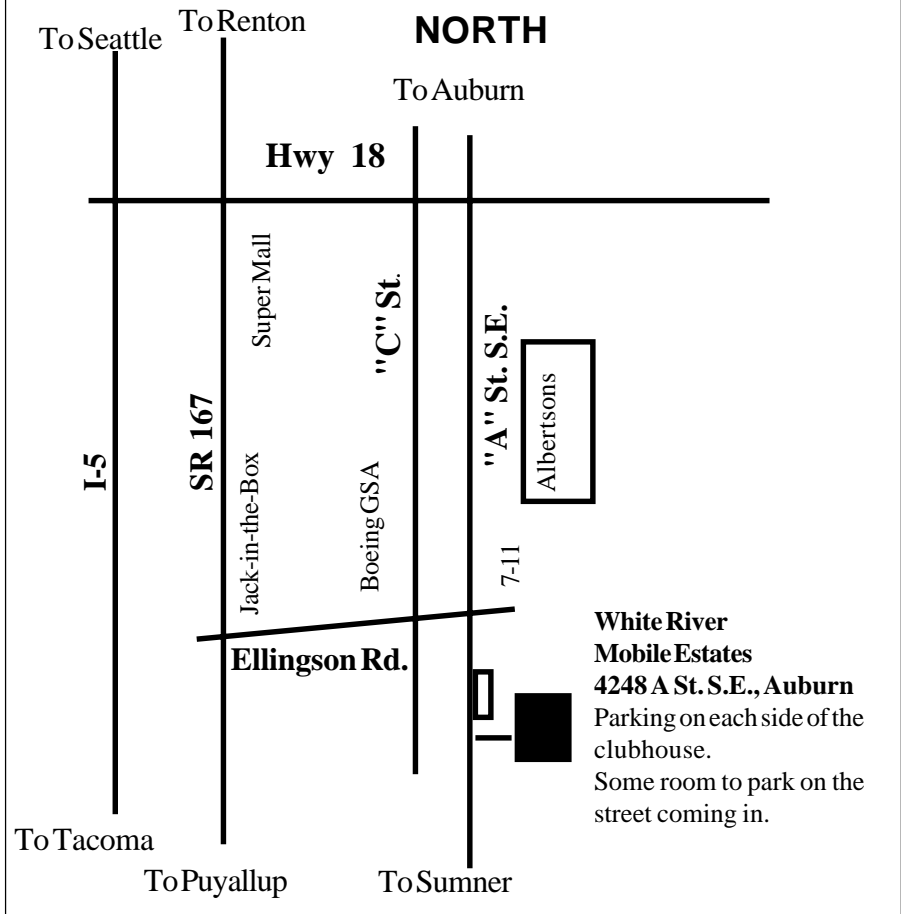
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Photos sent in to the PSLAC are used, space and focus permitting.

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



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clubhouse.
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street coming in.

PSLAC

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