

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 7, Issue 6

Puget Sound Leather Artisans Co-Op

September 2001

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Meeting Announcement

NEXT MEETINGS

September—30th

October—21st

November—18th

at 4248 A st. S.E., Auburn WA
(see back page for map)

A Note from Our New Director—Fred Nachbar

As some of you members know, I was asked and accepted to take **Bill Churchill's** place on **PSLAC's** board. Thank you for this opportunity.

A few meetings back **Dusty Wert, Woody Collins, General Seymour, Jeff Bement** and myself were kicking around some ideas on how to get more members involved with **PSLAC** in general.

We extend to you, the membership body, an invitation to submit your ideas on what you would like to see happen to involve more members.

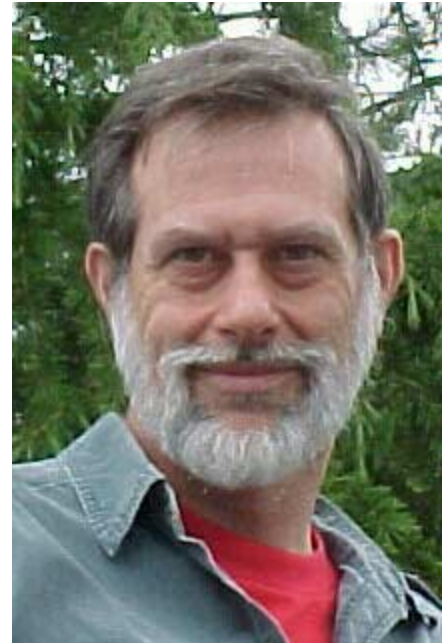
The following article (*and possible series*) was the inspiration of **Dusty Wert**. Give us some feed back on the idea and feel free to submit your own.

Thank you.
Fred Nachbar

Fred Nachar's Leather Autobiography

It was the year of '79. I was temporarily stationed at **Great Lakes Naval Training Facility** and living off base in Zion, Illinois.

One evening after picking up my wife from work we were at a stoplight when she said, "How would you like to take leather carving classes?". I replied that I



was already busy with the lessons I was learning from and for the Navy. Over the next several days she mentioned it again and finally I said yes.

We took four basic lessons learning how to stamp a belt and carve a traditional floral design. One of the vivid memories I had of those classes was the instructor telling me how well my swivel knife work was. From then on, I was hooked.

Over the years I've gone through many phases. First the honing of the skills I learned the winter of '79. Then it was doing odd leather jobs, the wallets, belts, checkbooks! Next came the specials. A picture frame, rifle scabbard, clock faces and then the snow leopard. That leopard was my first exercise in shading and mixing my own colors. Talk about nail biters. God I don't know how Karen put up

with me those two weeks. Anyway, the leopard came out pretty well, as some of you know.

From '79 to '90 I learned most of the craft by myself by experimenting and by reading some of the many books by **Al and Ann Stohlman**. There were failures and triumphs, but I was surprised by how few of my failures were out and out discards.

In early '89 I met **Larry Reikena** and **Dusty Wert**. I went to **Tandy Tacoma** to buy leather. When I got there the tea I drank in Port Orchard was begging to be

The Leather Factory -- Portland
Offering a wholesale discount to the PSLAC members

recycled. I walked in and Dusty was behind the counter. I said to her, "I'm going to buy some leather, but first I need to use the restroom". She said, "We don't have one for customers" then a voice came out of the back room "It's okay Dusty, I'm back here". That was Larry's voice and the start of two new friendships.

About a year later I met **Bill "By God I'm Good" Churchill**. And he was too! Well that turned in to a pretty good friendship too and it wasn't long before I met **General Seymour** also. It was at this time that I started taking formal training. Those lessons from Bill and others greatly improved my skills.

In '94 Larry asked if I would teach in his store. I asked did he think I was good enough and he said "Yes". I taught there winter and spring until Tandy closed its doors. It was about that time ('94) that Bill and General were kicking around the idea of the co-op and PSLAC was born shortly after. I was tapped as one of the first board members and remained so for about three years.

I now teach occasionally, usually at PSLAC meetings and at the **Northwest Leather Trades Show in Pendleton, Oregon**. *(A shameful plug here -- I'll be teaching a four hour class at the upcoming NW Leather Trades Show sponsored*



by the LeatherCrafters and Saddlers Journal. Sign up Now!)

I've done farmer's markets, craft shows and such. I burned out on taking special orders and now I do only leatherwork projects that I want to do and these are mostly pictorials. I have occasionally written for the **Rawhide Gazette** and the **Leather Crafter's and Saddler's Journal**.

In closing I would like to say that leather craft has given me many hours of pleasure and it has kept me off the streets. It also uncovered talents and skills I never knew I possessed and it all started at a cold stop at a stoplight in Illinois.

Fred Nachbar
PSLAC Director

Old Hand Crank Singer Sewing Machine

I have it on good authority that at the first meeting after the Summer break, that there will be a good chance that someone



at that meeting will walk away with a **Antique Shuttle Bobbin Singer Sewing Machine**, fresh from England -- good luck.



Bob Stelmack
Wellington, UK

Fort Lewis Demo

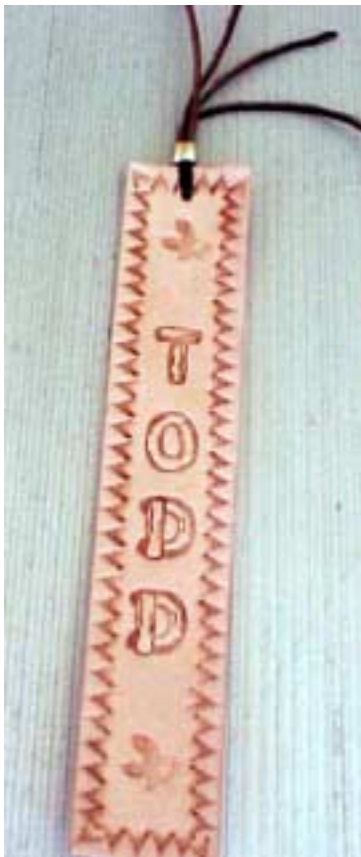
Well the day wasn't like we thought it was going to be. However we had a ball. Here are the pictures.

We were so shocked when they asked us to go fishing and they wouldn't take no for an answer. So **Woody, Dave, Barb** and I went fishing we had a lot of fun.

It is a beautiful day. The scouts bought 500 of the fish some of them were real large, but most was on the small side. I got 2 fish and Barb is helping me "land" my fish in the picture. I told them I was going to get "Moby Dick" Well you can see that the fish isn't quiet Moby. Barb was saying that I caught "Fred" I don't think it was Fred he would of gave me a better fight then that fish did. ;-)



Dusty Wert
dustytoy@nwlinc.com



COMING UP:

The Great Northwest Leatherworkers Trade Show at
Pendleton, Oregon

October 26 Sat - 27 Sat - 28 Sun

at the

Pendleton Convention Center, 1601 Westgate, Pendleton,
Oregon 97801

Free Admission

and

Free Thursday 6PM Banquet and Entertainment



Taking the Projects to the Puyallup Fair

After the Saturday morning, the gang took some of the entries to the Puyallup Fair and what follows are some pictures of the Puyallup Fair and a sampling of some of the projects of the leather craftsmen who entered.



Brettun's Village Shops

*Offering a 10% discount to the PSLAC
members*



The Puyallup Fair 2001.....

The Fair is going full steam ahead. I would like to congratulate three of our members. **Woody Collins** is in the professional category and he received **Grand Champion for his Eagle** and **Jeff Bement** is in the non-professional and he received **Grand Champion for his clutch purse**.

They had four Junior entries and congratulation goes to **Katie Berge** for getting **Grand Champion for her leather**



stuffed animal. Four entries doesn't seem like many, but last year there were none. Keep up the good work and next year there will more entries.

I don't know if you recall the Christmas ornament that I made earlier this year. I had mentioned then that I just made my first entry for the Fair. I did enter it and I received 2nd place for it.

I was disappointed of how few entries there was at the fair in the leather category. Come on, let's show the Hobby World what we can do! You have 11 months to get your masterpiece finished. I put a album with a "Frog" at a computer and I wasn't going to enter it, but Fred Nachbar told me, I should enter it. I did and it got 1st place. The Hobby Hall did a nice job with a display of

The Leathercraft Store
Offering a Discount to PSLAC Members

....Puyallup Fair 2001.....

the **Mountain Man Outfit** that **Bill** donated to them, earlier this year. They did a great job making the Mt. Man Outfit look good. General gave me a picture of Bill wearing the Mt. Man Outfit. I bought a frame and I took it to the Hobby Hall when I brought in my entries. I asked if they could put Bill's picture on display. Marilyn didn't know if the committee would allow it. I was happy to see that they put it on display.

When we were setting up I heard a voice that I recognized -- it was **Harry Smith**. Harry was with us on the Kids program and so I invited him to help the kids pound leather. He stayed for about 30 minutes and he

had a great time. We had a lot of kids and kids at heart come by



the leather d e m o table. We gave away

100, 2" rounders. The young people were able to stamp the leather and **Dave Jensen** and I were proud to watch them go out the door show-

ing off the rounder. Dave Jensen and I were scheduled for the first day Friday September 7th from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM. We had to pack up our things at 6:00 PM and they kept coming up to the table and begged us to let them do some leather work. Dave and I had all the marbles and

tools put away and we ran out of rounders so we had to turn them away. The 2 hours flew by so fast -- it always does when your having fun.

Dusty Wert
dustytoy@nwlink.com



Puyallup Fair 2001...



...and the Leather Demos...





**...and the crowds
watching and
participating the
Leather Demos...**



A Visit to Daniel Smith

Every time Karen and I are in Seattle—we stop by our favorite Art Store. This was an especially good trip because we found some new items that can be used on leather.

First, as you already know, the **TomBow Brush Pens** that **Bill Churchill** used on many of his latest carvings were actually colored with watercolors. The TowBow

The Leather Factory -- Spokane
Offering a wholesale discount to the PSLAC members

fluid is actually a water color type of fluid. So, I went in search of any new or improved water colors and found one in the Sumi-e (*pronounced: sue-me-eh*) ink painting books (another hobby of mine) a description of the difference between water colors and Sumi-e inks.

Sumi-e colors are traditionally more opaque, with more pastel-like pigmentation, than western watercolors. They use **hide glue** rather than **gum arabic** as a binder. This makes the bonding quite

MACPHERSON Leather Company
Offering a 30-40% off retail discount to the PSLAC members

strong and allows color overlay without bleeding. Daniel Smith offers approximately 40 colors including some gold and silver metallics. Each color comes in an individual ceramic dish. The retail cost is \$8.85 for each color and a discount for twelve or more colors at \$7.95 each.

My next coloring project will use the newly purchased Sumi-e ink paints.

Also, we found a new set of special effect acrylics that are luminescent and something quite new—**Interference**

CLPW Leather
10% Discount for PSLAC Members

acrylics. These interference acrylics are quite striking. Right out of the tube they appear somewhat like a lip gloss, but don't seem to really have any color. But paint them across a dark color or even black and the color comes to life. It currently comes in lilac, red, green, blue, gold, silver and copper at \$7.99 for a 60ml tube.

Finally, we purchased some Daniel Smith **Acrylic Flow Re-leaser** to be able to create those watercolor-like washes and smooth transitions. It reduces the surface tension of the acrylic paint and lets the paint flow more freely. Helps quite a bit in blending and cost \$6.00 for an 8oz. container.



Daniel Smith is one of the finest Art Stores in the Pacific Northwest and can be reached by phone at 800-426-6740 (International 206-223-9599), or view on-line



at: www.danielsmith.com, or visited at:

Seattle:

4150 1st Ave. S., Seattle 98134

Bellevue:

15112 NE 24th St., Bellevue 98052

Silverdale:

10516 Silverdale Way, Silverdale
98383

Ask for their catalog—two hundred pages of art supplies.

Bob Stelmack

Wellingore, UK

Coloring

Just thought I would share with you my wife, Karen's, latest watercolor picture of an eagle from the front cover of an old US Air Force magazine. This was done completely on paper with water color. Looks like I'll have to ask Karen how to color the next eagle I carve.



**Eagle by
Karen Stelmack**

Bob Stelmack

Wellingore, UK

Mackenzie & Company

Karen and I had the fortune to go to a Edinburgh to see a Military Tatoo (a celebration of marching and bands). While we were there we shopped a little and found a leather shop where hand made items were still being made. We purchased a unique purse for Karen with a special 6 D-ring purse/back-pack design.

Pictured here is a rough drawing of the

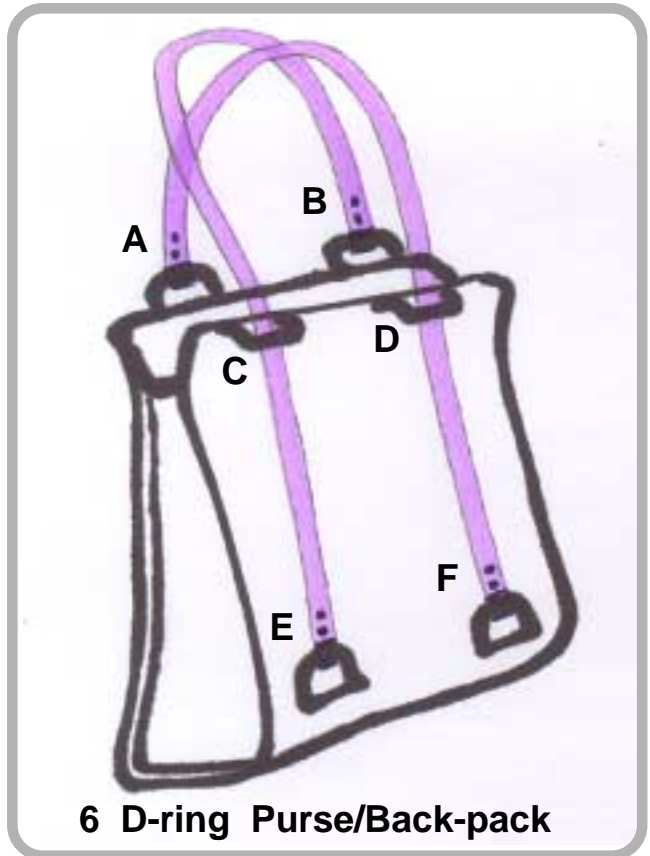
Trader's
Offering PSLAC Members a Discount

bags design. The leather strap connected from D-ring **A** and **F** passes through D-ring **D**. Likewise, the leather strap connected from D-ring **B** and **E** passes through D-ring **C**. As shown, it can be carried in the hand, but by slipping the

straps down through the D-rings—the hand held purse becomes a back pack.

Here is a little about that leather shop:

Mackenzie & Company have been designing and making leather bags and cases in Scotland for over 25 years. They started making hand-made saddles, but now specialize in making travel bags and business cases. The philosophy of the company is to bring together the traditional skills of the saddler and combine them with the essential elements of classic British design.



6 D-ring Purse/Back-pack

Each bag is individually made and finished by hand.

They accept individual commissions and contact their workshop with any requirements.

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Their workshop is situated on the **Isle of Arran**, off the west coast of Scotland.

PLEASANT VALLEY SADDLE SHOP
Offering a 20% discount to the PSLAC members

The retail shop and design studio is in the city center of **Edinburgh, Scotland** and open Monday to Saturday from 10:00 am to 5:30 pm.

A D Mackenzie & Co
34 Victoria Street
Edinburgh
Scotland
U.K.

tel/fax: +44 (0)131 220 0089
Email: enquiries@mackenziebags.co.uk
URL: www.mackenziebags.co.uk/

Bob Stelmack
Wellington, UK

News from Jeff

Effective Sept. 1 Hide Crafter Leathercraft is moving to:

Hide Crafter Leathercraft
7936 Hwy. 80 West
Fort Worth, TX 76116

This is fresh out of today's mail bag!
.....and.....

Hide Crafter Productions
Offers a wholesale discount to PSLAC members

Rumor has it that this may be the last year for **Pendleton**. It has been heard that **Bill Ries** is looking for a new location in the Midwest. This would be to attract more of the larger vendors, (remember last year Weavers didn't make it and there also were a few empty tables). *So if you want to continue to have a trade show in Pendleton please make plans to come and support it!*

The Leather Factory -- Billings
Offering a wholesale discount to the PSLAC members

Jeff Bement

Lost and Found

This address book minus the leather book cover, was found on the floor at Bill's memorial services. **Is it yours?**

Since we don't have a lost and found department I took it with me and every time I see a member I bring it out and ask if it is his/hers. I hope we find the owner. I might even give him/her some leather to cover this naked address book.

Dusty Wert



TWLeather, Inc.
Offering a wholesale discount to the PSLAC members

PSLAC Membership Application

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

YOUR NAME: _____
STREET ADDRESS: _____
CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____
PHONE NUMBER: (____)____-_____
E-Mail: _____

Send this form along with \$24.00 (\$10.00 for Internet Membership) your first years dues to:

Jeff Bement
3942 SW - 329TH PL
Federal Way, WA 98023
U.S.A.

If you would like to subscribe to The Leather Crafters & Saddlers Journal through the Co-Op and include an additional \$26.00 for a one year subscription.



A Visit with Jeff Bement

While in Seattle, I had the privilege to visit the workshop of fellow PSLAC Leathercrafter **Jeff Bement**. I was drooling over Jeff's premium selection of tools and equipment and the fine examples of Sheridan carving and fine horse tack. With a good selection of **Bob Beard Leather Stamps**, a **Tippmann Boss Stitcher**, an electric sewing machine and every hand tool known to man -- there isn't a leather job



Inside a PSLAC Workshop



that Jeff can't tackle.

Jeff also showed off the **PSLAC** die for cutting those neckerchief slides for the demonstrations to the Scout groups. And he showed of a recent donation from **Hide Crafters Leathercraft** of a side of leather to help those demos. Many thanks to **Hide Crafters** for their thoughtful donation -- it'll make many a Scout happy.

Bob Stelmack
Wellington, UK



Toll Free Order Lines:
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Fax: 1-(888) 263-5086

Hide Crafter Productions

Offering wholesale discount to PSLAC members
ON-LINE CATALOG <http://hidecrafter.com>

New Location:
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Ft. Worth, TX 76116

George Hurst, Manager
email: hcrafter@flash.net



Leather Factory Spokane

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Phone: (509) 328-9939
Toll Free: 1-800-822-8437
Fax: (509) 326-7019

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www.leatherfactory.com



Brettun's Village Shops

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(207) 782-0861

URL: <http://www.brettunvillage.com>
Email: leather@brettunvillage.com

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Churchill Barton, Manager

Outside Washington
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(206) 328-0855
Fax: 328-0859

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This Months SPOTLIGHT on PRO-CARV — Working and Tooling Leather Formulation

DIRECTIONS:

Dilute concentrate with water: 1 part PRO-CARV to 10 parts water is recommended for carving and tooling. When immersing the leather for shaping or forming, add 8 oz. PRO-CARV to 3 gallons of water.

NO CASING IS NECESSARY

Leather can be immersed or sponged with this solution. PRO-CARV eliminates the need to case leather. PRO-CARV allows you to begin working with the leather after immersing for 3-5 minutes because of the very rapid penetration into even the thickest hide. Allow the surface to dry somewhat before beginning forming or carving.

**Contact MacPherson's, Hide Crafters, Goliger's Leather,
and The Leather Factory for any of the fine Bee Natural
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RawHide Gazette

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Co-Founders: Bill Churchill &
General Seymour
Treasurer/Secretary: Jeff Bement

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email: Jeffbement@aol.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.



Dusty Johnson

PLEASANT VALLEY SADDLE SHOP

1220 S. County Rd. 21

Loveland, CO 80537

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Fax: (970) 669-1589

E-Mail: dusty@pvsaddleshop.com

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Fax (208) 375-7168

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Manager

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Fax (406) 256-1360

Toll Free (888) 277-3323

www.leatherfactory.com

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Billings, MT 59101-2032



TW Leather, Inc.

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RG On-line

The Puget Sound Leather Artisans Co-Op can be found at:

<http://pslac.org>

If you need the **UserId** and **Password** for the subscription pages, just contact the *RawHide Gazette* at:

stelmack@nwlinc.com

-- 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:

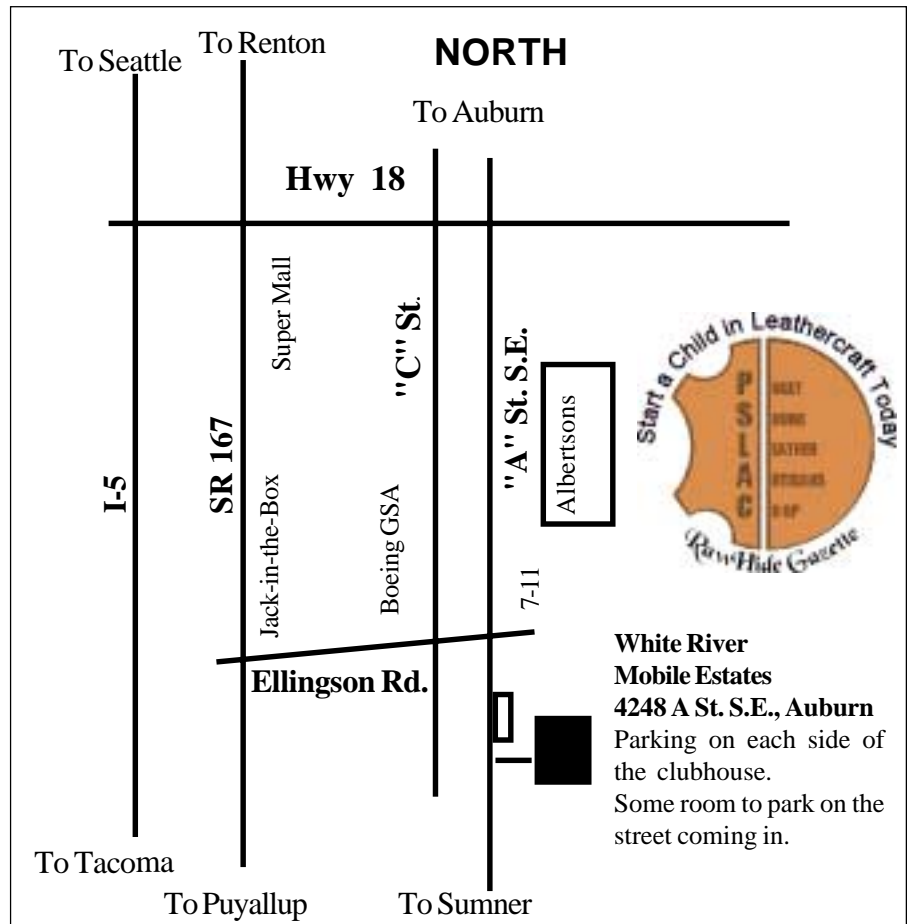
Jeff Bement
3942 SW - 329th PL
Federal Way, WA 98023
U.S.A.

Your Photos here - if you send them to:

Web Editor: Bob Stelmack
7 Memorial Hall Drive
Wellingore LN5 0BD
England

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

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



PSLAC

c/o Jeff Bement
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