

RawHide Gazette

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"Without question, the RawHide 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 8, Issue 1

Puget Sound Leather Artisans Co-Op

May 2002

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PSLAC and Leather Craft Support

The Nominations for the

Jeff Bement will give a workshop on Sheridan Style Carving at the May meeting beginning at 12:00 noon

The Annual Bill Churchill Award have closed for this year, but your continued support: at the meeting, entries in the Puyallup Fair, assisting with children's demonstrations and articles for the RawHide Gazette can make a difference in "carrying the message" of

leather craft.

We have no losers in any awards or competitions. As witnessed by several e-mails to PSLAC, this PSLAC organization is quite highly regarded by other Leather Guilds who want to know how PSLAC has created such a dynamic leather craft organization.

The Annual Bill Churchill Award will be presented at the June meeting along with many other special events. **Don't miss a single meeting!**

Reminder for Bookbinding Class

Here at long last is the list of what everybody has to bring. Most of them everybody would already have.

- Long Bone Folder
- Pen, Pencil, Ruler, Notepad (notepad is optional)
- Skiving Knife
- Clicking Knife
- Sharpening Stick/Strop
- Round Brush
- Small paint tray and roller
- Chinagraph Pencil
- Small bucket

Meeting Announcement

NEXT MEETING:
Meeting time: 2-5pm
May—12th
 Location:
WOODY'S PLACE -- 4248
 A Street SE, Auburn
 (see back page for map)

Annual Bill Churchill Award

have closed for this year, but your continued support: at the meeting, entries in the Puyallup Fair, assisting with children's demonstrations and articles for the RawHide Gazette can make a difference in "carrying the message" of

- Apron or Rags (for wiping off gluey fingers)
- Smooth faced convex hammer (Cobbler's hammer)
- Leather
- Newspapers (for spreading out to glue on)
- Needle and Thread
- Heavy duty scissors

I will bring a sample of everything above to the next meeting so everybody can see what is required.

The Bone Folder can be purchased at Daniel Smith (it comes in two sizes, long and short, we want the long one), Paper Zone also sells the bone folders.

I will supply the materials (other than the leather) for making the book.

- A book press (Bob Stelmack said he would bring the other book press, two is better than one).
- Glue
- Drills and bits
- Small Granite block for skiving on.

I don't think I left anything out. If I have, I'll bring it up at the meeting.

Paula

Finding Patterns for Leather Projects on the Internet with



The Internet company, Google, has made it even easier than ever to find that Boy Scout logo, cow (for Dusty), or even a dragon for your next leather project.

<http://www.google.com/>

I searched for my favorite image, a dragon, and found over 64,000 images and pictures of dragons. Now the hard part is



picking the image to modify and use on my next project.

Bob Stelmack
Wellington, UK



A Member Takes Blue Ribbon

Check out the IILG site (www.iilg.org) and click on shows then on Pitt Pounders 2002. You'll see that Jackie Holliday took a blue Ribbon for her Elk picture, (it's # 3 in the pictures view on the web site and shown above here).

Congrats on a well deserved award. If any one hasn't seen this Elk you may find it at the Spokane Leather Factory this summer.

Woody Collins

STOHLMAN HORSES -- Volume Two

Hello, now it has been twelve months since I announced Volume One of The Stohlmans Personal Patterns Portfolio.

Volume Two is now nearing completion, and I again make available, copies of the two hundred "Limited Editions". This volume is solely devoted to "horses". There are over one hundred patterns that can be traced, enlarged or reduced, to fit any project of any size. I have also included leather carving instruction pages -- with three pages of "anatomy".

These special two hundred signed copies will have the leather instruction pages printed in color. The production run of Volume Two will be in black and white.

For those of you that are unable to be in Sheridan for the release of Volume Two, I will arrange for **Ann Stohman** to sign the books, and will post them soon after the



Terry Durbin, MacPherson Leather, Manager

PSLAC thanks MacPherson for hosting the April Meeting in their shop on a day-off!!!

Photos by Dusty Wert

show.

The cost again is the same as last year -- \$35.00 including postage.

Deadline for the advance subscription is May 8, 2002. Check or money order can be made out to me at:

Peter Main
635 Irving Street, Apt 3
San Francisco, CA. 94122
USA

Peter Main
Email: petermain@MSN.com

Cleaning up Clip Art for Leather Patterns

Here are the results of applying part of a neat trick I recently learned for cleaning up black and white clipart. This is not my original idea, the technique is so simple I neglected to bookmark the originator. My apologies to whomever dreamed this one up.

Got a blurry b&w clipart? Open it in PaintShop Pro, increase colors to 16 million, then click on Colors, Adjust Shadow, Midtone and Highlight.

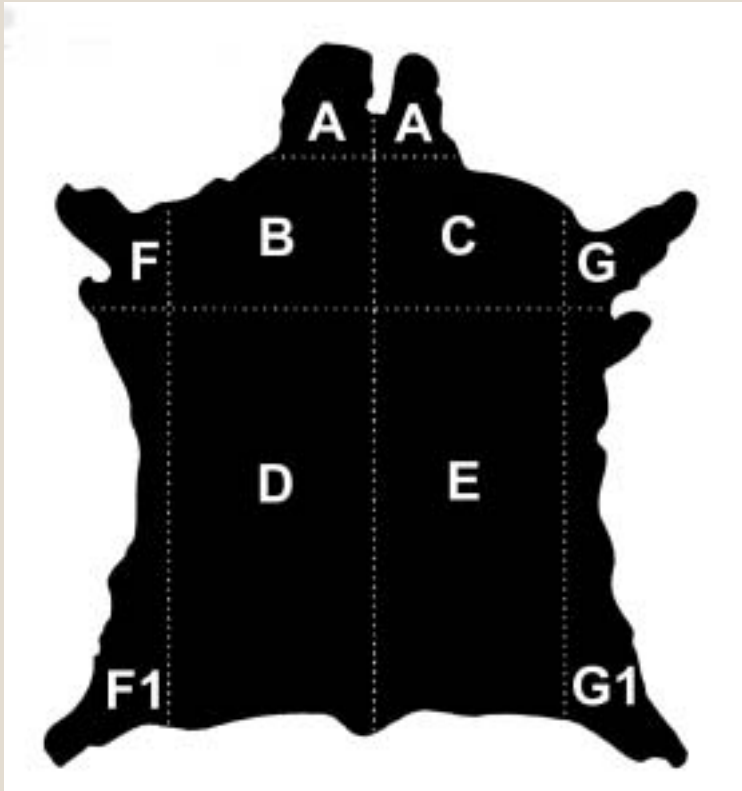


Adjust settings for each in these approximate neighborhoods:

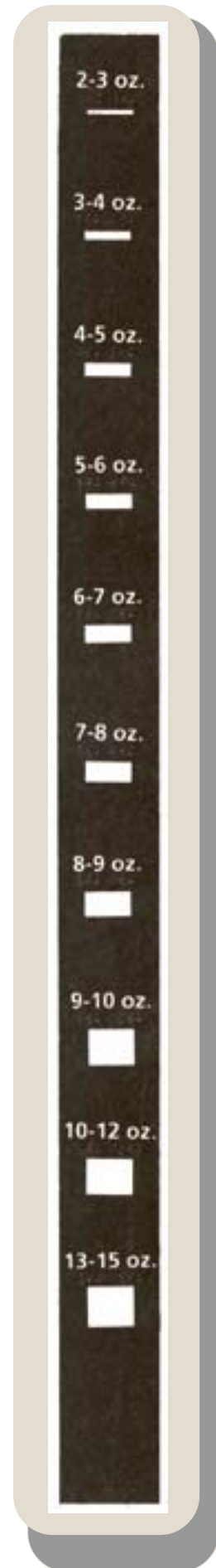
Shadow=60
Midtone=65
Highlight=78

Bob Stelmack
Wellington, UK

Leather Hide Subdivision Terminology



Name	Subsection
Head	A
Double Shoulder	B+C
Single Bend	D or E
Belly	F+F1 or G+G1
Double Backs	D + E
Double Butt	F1+D+E+G1
Side	A+B+D+F+F1
... or	A+C+E+G+G1
Hide	ALL Sections



Leather Reference

Blade Disposal

The Problem: How to safely dispose of broken needle, razor blades, etc., etc.

Solution: Take an old pill bottle, with a child proof lid. Write Sharps (or Blade Disposal) on the outside so you won't get it mixed up with your other bottles. This will give you a safe place to dispose of dangerous material.

...and it is CHEAP TOO!

Keep toolin'?

"Irish"

Glenn A. Woessner



Photos by Dusty Wert

Tips-Tips-Tips

Putting a leather project in a sunny window will darken and color the project naturally.



Photos by Dusty Wert



Corner

The Celtic





The potluck is whatever you want to bring. I bring macaroni salad every year. We, May and myself (a committee of two), get to judge which dessert is the best. We like to have everyone who brings a dessert bring the recipe, so Bob can publish it. If you make something unusual bring that recipe too. One year we got the recipe for watermelon salsa. It was great.

By the way I am the photographer so when you see a blonde running around you better smile

We have a lot of fun at the meetings and hope that you join us in Auburn. I will send out your RawHide Gazette as soon as it is ready for publication.

Dusty Wert
dustytoy7@aol.com

PS If you have any questions just e-mail me if I don't know the answer I'll find someone that can answer your question. That is what the co-op is all about (helping each other).

Letter to a New Member from Dusty

Hi Cindy,

I'm Dusty and I'll be mailing the RawHide Gazette to you next month. If you would like this month's RawHide Gazette, I could send it to you. When I send them out it is in black and white.

There is a map on how to get to the meeting place and I hope that you will be able to show up for the meetings. We

Brettun's Village Shops
Offering a 10% discount to the PSLAC members

have two more meetings before we go on summer break. The dates are always posted on the front page of the issue, plus the demonstration given before the meeting. If there is a demonstration they start at noon and then we go into the meeting at 2:00 PM.

The June meeting really isn't a meeting. It is a garage sale and the annual picnic. The co-op brings the hamburgers and hot dogs and the members bring the rest.

The Leathercraft Store
Offering a Discount to PSLAC members

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

because I take pictures of everyone.

If you have a project that you would like to show off bring it because I take pictures of them and Bob puts them in the RawHide Gazette.



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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 Leather products. *Advertisement*

Two-Color Deer Skin Checker Bag

I stumbled across some antique brass measuring weights last weekend and thought they might make a nice checker set.

One set of two ounce and one set of one ounce weights for the leather checker-board.

Using two different colors of deer skin, I sewed up a simple leather bag with brass colored eyelets for the draw string. This bag keeps both my leather checkers and my new found brass checkers.

Bob Stelmack
Wellington, UK



Photos by Bob Stelmack



A few of the brass weights date back to the 1800's



**Start a Child in
Leathercraft Today**



**Bill Churchill's
Childrens
Leather Program**

*Confidence
Observation
Practice
Imagination*

RawHide Gazette

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

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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.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to PSLAC, c/o Jeff Bement , 3942 SW – 329th PL, Federal Way, WA 98023, 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. PSLAC members are entitled to a 25% discount. Leather companies supporting PSLAC are given free Business Card size advertisement, additional space at regular rates.



Photos by Ken Eriksen

Product Alert:

J & W LeatherCrafters
*Offering a 10% discount to the PSLAC
members*

I happened to pick up the plastic glue pot we've gotten from the **Woodworkers Store** in South Seattle, off Michigan, and it spilled on my workbench, out from the seams at the bottom! Fortunately, it only ruined a shirt and spilled over onto the work table, before I was able to get paper towels under it. Appears that the solvent, **TOLUENE**, in the **Barge Contact Cement**, ate right through plastic seams. Haven't had a chance to take it back to the store to ask them about it. But, figured any of you who have one better check it out.

Trader's
Stitching Posts at Wholesale
Offering PSLAC Members a Discount

Ken Eriksen

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 \$29.00 for a one year subscription.*

April Meeting Sharing



Photos by Dusty Wert

- 1- Harry Smith's CD case. Showing nice details sewing and the unusual closure. The pattern for the CD case was from Hidecrafters with his order and was free.**
- 2 - Ken's Boeing Badge holder.**
- 3 - Ken Imus billfold made with textured leather from throwaway scraps.**
- 4 - Example of what the type of work that Robb Barr taught in his classes. Ken Imus brought in his sample from a previous Robb Barr class.**

April Meeting Sharing



Photos by Dusty Wert

- 1 - Paula's book covers. Class on how to make a book and bind it is June 8th. The class is so popular that she is going to have a second class in the fall.**
- 2 - Paula's coasters with her special dye job.**
- 3 - Paula's coin/clutch purse.**
- 4 - Woody's new tool box (bought at a hardware store) Woody had to put leather tooling around it.**
- 5 - Woody's key holder with hooks.**



April Meeting Sharing



Photos by Dusty Wert



1,2,3 - Jackie Holliday's checkbook project coloring.

4 - Phil O'Neil's projects: Horseshoe Coaster, coaster with leather caddy and an item to keep your hands from burning with a Latte.

5 - Dale's rattle brought so that Woody can bring it to the Auburn Library display case.

6 - A wallet that Joe Barth made. He calls his Sheridan flower tooling Eastern Sheridan tooling.



April Meeting Sharing



Photos by Dusty Wert



- 1 - Members at the MacPherson Leather shop.**
- 2 - MacPherson's employee John doing the same job Dusty did for 20 years. John agreed it is a fun job.**
- 3 - Woody showing off a case he made for his modelers. An idea he got from Bob only Bob made his to hold brushes.**
- 4 - The real Ken. Hanging onto every word that Paula was saying about the bookbinding class.**
- 5 - Terry Durbin, the Seattle MacPherson Leather Store manager.**

Textured Leather Wallets

Ken Imus continues to amaze us. He showed a couple textured leather wallets this month that are absolutely beautiful. The finish he put on the leather after texturing gave such depth that it looked like finished wood grain to me.

Ken ran across this technique in an article titled "Textured Leather from Throw-away Scraps" by **Gail Russell**, page 13, **The Leather Craftsman**, November 1985.

Take a piece of vegetable tanned leather that has flaws making it unsuitable for carving.

Trace the outline on a piece of glass with a wax (grease?) pencil or scratch it on wax paper. Turn the glass over so the damp leather does not contact the tracing.

Moisten both sides with a sponge and allow it to return almost to its natural color. Leather that is too moist will not hold the creases. Wad the damp leather into a ball pressing hard to insure good firm creases. Unfold the piece and place it onto your working area.

Use the tracing to stretch the leather back to its original shape. Weight down the corners and let it dry.

The article says to use a block dyeing technique. *"Wrap a clean lint free cloth around a sponge and apply the dye to it. Blot all excess dye onto a paper towel. Using brisk, circular motions, rub the dye onto the leather piece. When the application has dried thoroughly, it should be finished with Fiebing's Leather Balm with atom wax. This will soften the piece and imparts a high-gloss*

finish. Finally buff the piece with a clean cloth or electric polisher."

Ken wet his leather, scrunched and twisted it into a ball, bound it up with rubber bands and let it dry before stretched it out flat. Then he used antique dye. He applied a couple coats of Neat Lac for the finish. Neat Lac is great for getting depth to the leather.

The results are fabulous. Lighter 1-2 oz. leather will work easier than 4-5oz., according to Ken, who showed us both. Remember this is the same Ken Imus that got us going on the batik dyeing tech-



Photos by Dusty Wert

nique a couple months ago. **Thanks for sharing Ken!**

Harry Smith

Harry's Happenings

The April meeting at **MacPherson's Leather** was great! I did not get a count on the attendance, because every one was wandering around the retail leather area buying stuff.

Woody opened the meeting with a reminder about the Churchill Award nomination forms. **They are due by April 30.** By the time you read this it will be too late

to nominate anyone this year.

Then he brought up **Robb Barr's** untimely death, and turned the floor over to **Len Madison**. Len returned the deposits for Robb's workshop that we had scheduled for April 19th through the 21st. He said he was on his way to Riverside to give the money to Robb when he learned the trip would not be necessary. He said Robb's host told him that Robb looked gray and ashen all day at the class and had fallen asleep a number of times while he was teaching. I believe that going quickly in your sleep is a good omen. I can hear **Bill Churchill** telling Robb that his work is great, but here are a couple things he could do to improve it!

Woody announced **Paula Marquis' Bookbinding Workshop is on June 8.** Paula went over the tools necessary for the class. We need to bring either a grease pencil or silver pen for marking the leather. We will also need some linen thread. A suggestion was made that these type markers and threads are available at sewing notions stores.

There were a couple spaces left for Paula's workshop, but were immediately filled. If you want to take the class, let Woody know. He twisted Paula's arm and she committed to another class perhaps in the fall.

Len has lined up some other instructors for a three-day or possibly two-weekend workshop. He suggested a dream team type deal, but it was awfully expensive. He has three possibilities, **Joe Barth, Bob Beard, and Peter Main**, that are interested in coming and doing the two weekends deal. *I think spending a week on Orcas Island caught their attention!*

This workshop will be in the \$200 range. A chance to learn from any of these guys is worth it. I know I will be there, if Len can work it out. Watch for more information!

Then Len told us that **Jim Linnell** of **Tandy Leather** is looking for some one to run a **Tandy Store in the greater Seattle area!** What a thing to do while we were

Hide Crafter Productions
Offers a wholesale discount to PSLAC members

in MacPherson's! When he realized what he was saying, he quickly went to a whisper.

Woody again told us that June would be his last meeting. **Dale Buckenberger** will take over Woody's duties. Dale also showed us the **Churchill Award Medalion**. It is a great design! Bill's daughters and possibly his wife will be on hand when we award the first one at the June meeting, BBQ, and flea market.

Tiny informed us that the **Issaquah Senior Center** is available for us to hold our meeting. With Woody gone, we will need another location. So keep an eye out. Thanks to Tiny, we have at least one alternate spot.

Terry Durbin took the floor. Terry is in his twelfth year as MacPherson's manager. He still has not fully recovered from the accident he was involved in last fall, but is putting in half days.

MacPherson's is a family owned business. They have stores in **Portland, Oregon with a small satellite store in Eugene, Billings, Montana, and Seattle**, each run by a brother. **Greg** runs the Seattle store. They are active with community projects and are especially grateful for our patronage.

Terry gave us a very informative overview on recent events affecting leather prices. The mad cow disease and hoof and mouth caused an increase in prices. He stopped buying so he could hold the line. He still has not raised prices. MacPherson's policy is to provide only

CLPW Leather

10% Discount for PSLAC Members

top quality leather for all its customers. He endorses single hide sales. They can't cut hides because it makes them manufacturers rather than wholesalers, so full hides and sides are all they sell if the

leather is not in a kit. Of course they have a full line of belt blanks and are now providing kangaroo lace in hanks. I converted the 10-meter lengths into feet and compared prices. They are very favorable to spools of lace. The samples he passed around were excellent quality.

Since being with MacPherson's, he has enlarged the retail space to 4,000 square feet and increased the hardware inventory \$20,000. He now stocks a full line of **Al Stohlman** publications, and showed us **two new Sheridan Style books** that he sold out to our members. The stamping tools available looked about double what they used to carry, and, hold on to your wallets, he has a full line of **Barry King tools**. These babies are worth the money!

Paula recommended a clicking knife with a French curve blade. Terry will have two dozen available by her class date. Let's scoop them up. It is the only utility

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

knife I use, for whatever that is worth!

If you want to order by computer, contact Terry at:

terry@macphersonleather.com

...and let him know you are a **PSLAC Member**. He will make sure you get the best service. Remember to bring your membership card with you when you visit. That's the only way to get the discount. Apparently, some unscrupulous people are taking advantage of our discount. Also, check out the tools you buy. The Nordstrom "wear it once to the Prom and return it" scam stung Terry. It appears that people were buying tools, using them once and returning them, but Terry has put a stop to that.

I always take my coin magnifying glass when I buy tools to check out the working face. It is surprising how much difference there is between tools.

We had several projects brought in for show and tell. Two were tributes to Robb Barr. **Ken Imus** did the **Indian Medicine Man over a wolf**. It is excellent. **Jackie Holliday** brought in her **practice moose**, and her final work took a third place ribbon at the Pitt Pounders show. This is an

HERITAGE LEATHER COMPANY
Offering a 20% discount to PSLAC Members (15% on leather)

IFOLG show, so Jackie is now an International ribbon holder. Congratulations and thanks for showing us the practice piece, which looked pretty finished to me.

Ken also had those wallets with the unusual textured finish and you can read about them elsewhere in this edition. Jackie also brought a piece that is a test of Tambo Pens. What coloring! This project will end up a purse that I can not wait to see. **Paula Marquis** had a beautifully done coin purse with a Celtic design and flawless braid. She also had some coasters which were made from that tied dyed leather and were really eye catching. She also had three examples of the books we are going to do at her class on June 8. One was covered with the tie dyed leather she brought to an earlier meeting. **Phil O'Neill** showed a horse with attached bells for hanging on a door, a horseshoe coaster, a latte holster, and a set of coasters in a holder. These coasters were finished with Varathane. Paula reminded us to use the water-based version. Apparently Phil had a bad experience with the other stuff. Woody showed a key holder with fobs, and his new tool box. He got the box at Lowes, a local hardware store, then made leather panels to fill in the sides and top. He inverted the inside tray and lined it with leather to protect the tools, which were in a block of wood made by his son who drilled the holes for him. It came out very nice. I brought in a CD case made from a Hidecrafter Leather pattern. **Dusty** took so many pictures of it; you can read about it in a separate article.

Woody did a **Cub Scout demo in North Bend**, and Phil O'Neill showed some **Cubs** how to do it right a couple weeks ago.

Dave Jensen and I had eleven **Cubs from Den 307 in Federal Way** attend our demo on April 19.

I guess I got pretty wordy this month. **Jeff Bement** will give a workshop on **Sheridan Style carving** at the May meeting. He is going to start at 12:00 noon.

June 8th is an all day Jamboree at Flaming Geyser Park. There will probably be about 40 to 50 Scouts coming through our station. It is the same day as our Bookbinding class. So, if you can help out, contact Woody. It is supposed to run from about 1:00 PM until 5:00 PM.

Finally, do not forget the June meeting. There is a potluck and BBQ planned, along with the Kids Kits for Demos, a leather-related flea market, and the first annual Churchill award presentation.

Harry Smith

Leather CD Case

Those marketing geniuses at Hidecrafter Leather sent me an unsolicited pattern for this CD case in a package with some tools and supplies I ordered. I wanted to make something for my oldest son, and he thought he could use a case for his CD's much more than another belt or wallet!

I rounded up the dimensions to 6" x 6" for the front and 6" x 9" for the back and flap. I cut a square piece of leather 6" x 15", but if I was smart I would have added 2" more for the connector. I cut the connector, 2 closer tabs and the closer loop all from contiguous pieces for uniformity.

Using contact shelf paper for backing as Jeff Bement suggested, I cut, carved, and stamped the front. The Victorian design is a free pattern from a woodworking site. I stamped the closer tab pattern, striped off the backing and glued it to the other tab.

Then I punched in the closer loop holes, edged and skived the closer loop, and

glued it in place after forming it around the closer tab. I glued in the liner, providing more support to the closer tab.

I stamped the basket weave pattern on the back, stripped off the contact paper and glued in the lining. Be sure to fold the flap to at least 90 degrees or else the lining will bunch up when the case is closed.

I then trimmed the linings to form a good edge and glued in the pockets. They

Photos by Dusty Wert



should be about 3/8" short of 6" on one side to allow for sewing in the connector. I had to dry assemble the pieces to make sure I did not glue down the wrong ends of the pockets.

I stamped the connector design. Then I put two coats of neatsfoot oil on all the parts to replace the oils lost from casing the leather and allowed them to cure overnight.

I put a Super Shene resist on the Victorian design, and used mahogany antique

stain on all the stamped pieces. After buffing off the excess stain, I coated the stain with a light coat of Super Shene.

I grooved the sewing channels and glued in the connector to the front piece. I positioned and glued the closer tab in place. After sewing the tab in place, I stitched the rest of the front, glued the connector to the back and stitched the back.

I just finished up to this stag an couple hours before the meeting.

After getting home, I sanded, slicked, and edge coated all the edges. For the finish, I used two coats of Fiebings Aussie Leather Conditioner. Combined with the neatsfoot oil, this finish has made the case very supple so it closes nicely. I always buff each coat with lamb's wool to work the finish into the leather. As a final touch, I branded my son's initials into the closer loop.

Next time I will put the finish on before assembling the closer tab loop. The dyeing in this area is a bit messy.

I used Hidecrafter tools since it is their pattern. The basket

weave, PX001, worked really well. Although I need to practice matting, their pebble matting series PA005, PA004, and PA003, did a good job for me.

I have the pattern if anyone wants a copy. I do not think Hidecrafters will object. There is no copyright or trademark on it. Oh, I got the CD inserts from them also.

It was a very satisfying project, and can be finished in a weekend.

Harry Smith



Toll Free Order Lines:
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Hide Crafter Productions

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

New Location:
7936 Hwy 80 W
Ft. Worth, TX 76116

George Hurst, Manager
email: hcrafter@flash.net



Leather Factory Spokane

28 West Boone Ave, Spokane, WA 99201
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Fax: (509) 326-7019

Offering a wholesale discount to the PSLAC members
www.leatherfactory.com



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Brettun's Village Shops

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Email: leather@brettunsvillage.com

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Churchill Barton, Manager

Outside Washington
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Fax: 328-0859

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Fax: 977-1762

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<http://www.users.qwest.net/~jnoecker/leather/>

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"It never hurts to ask!" 3912 SW Dolph CT
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Photos by Bob Stelmack





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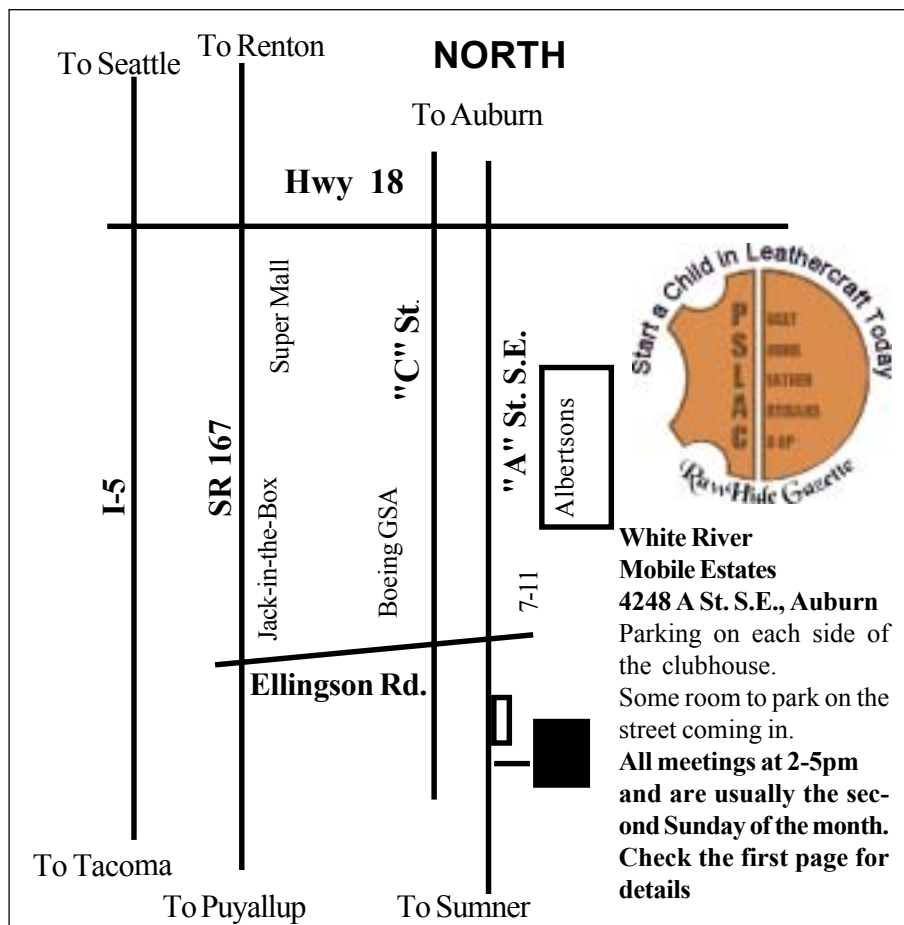
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