

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 8, Issue 5

Puget Sound Leather Artisans Co-Op

September 2002

Hide Highlights

- Puyallup Fair Donation
- Amateur Division Winner—Linda Stockhausen
- Paula's Leather Bound Notebook Class
- Professional Division Winner—Paula Marquis
- Making Your Own Oval Pattern
- Ken & Len with the Scouts
- From the Dusty Workbench
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- From the Email Bag—Swivel Knife Blades
- Super Scissors
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- The Celtic Corner
- Joyce's Latest Project
- Show and Tell
- Pendleton Trade Show - November 9 & 10
- Adam Smith's Unicorn Leather Carving & Pattern

Meeting Announcement

NEXT MEETING:

Meeting time:

2pm-5pm

October—13th

Location:

New MEETING PLACE
Veterans Memorial Park

(see back page for map)

Puyallup Fair Donation

A Great Big THANKYOU to Kevin White from The Leather Factory at Spokane, (28 West Boone Ave., Spokane, WA 99201, Phone: 509-328-9939, Toll Free: 1-800-822-8437). Kevin has graciously given the Co-op over 400 rounders to use at the Fair!

Jeff Bement

Puyallup Fair Amateur Division

Linda Stockhausen wins grand champion amateur division.

Well for someone that sold all her tools and gave up leather Linda did a great job on her saddle lamp.

Jeff Bement



Photo by Jeff Bement

Linda's First Place Fair Entry for the Amateur Division

←NEW



Jeff Bement



Ken Eriksen



Jackie Holliday

Photos by Dusty Wert



Paula is showing a little wear from a few mishaps during the class...

...and George taking care of the cat.



Paula's Leather Bound Notebook Class... ...and Paula's First Place Fair Entry for the Professional division

Paula Marquis wins Grand Champion professional division

Paula's leather covered canister wins top award for the Puyallup Fair



Photo by Jeff Bement

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

Finished Leather Bound 3-Ring Binders from Paula's Class

Photos by Dusty Wert



Jackie's 3 ring binder



The 3 ring binder that Woody made and he didn't take the class



The binder that Paula was making at the class for her Sister-in-Law



The 1st binder that Jackie made

Finished Leather Bound 3-Ring Binders from Paula's Class

Photos by Dusty Wert



The Leaders of PSLAC

(left to right: Fred Nachbar, Dale Buckenberger, Jeff Bement, and Ken Eriksen. Director Bob Stelmack and Co-Founder General Seymour—not pictured)

Making Your Own Oval Pattern

How many times have you needed an oval and couldn't find the shape or size that you needed without a large loss of time and a lot of searching?

Here is a simple method of generating an oval of any dimensions using only straight lines. After a little practice and confidence you can have any oval you want in less than half an hour.

Here are the 9 easy steps to get your oval with three sample illustrations to get you started.

Step 1.

Having determined the location, size and orientation (direction you desire your picture to go) of the desired oval, draw a rectangle to encompass it.

Step 2.

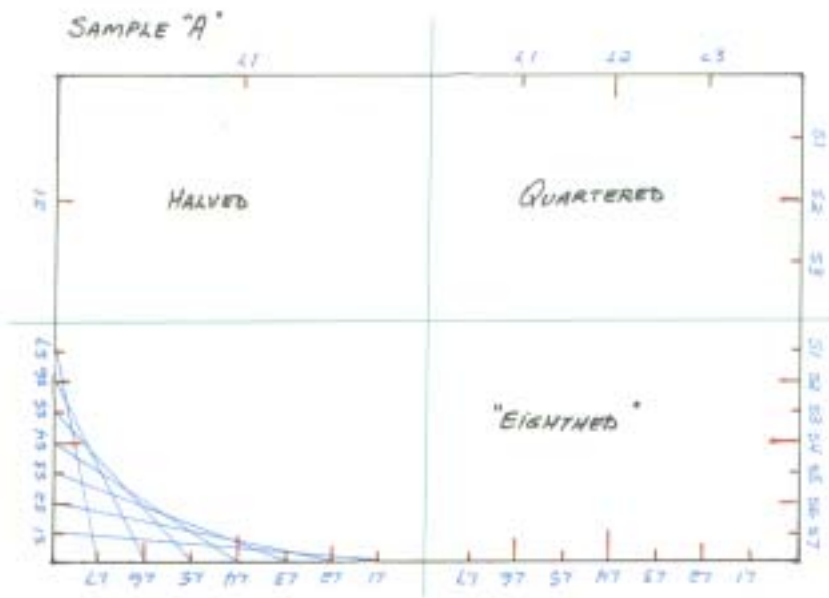
Determine the mid-point of each side and connect each of its opposite mid-point. These two lines become the major and minor axis of the oval. They also divide the areas into four quarters.

Step 3.

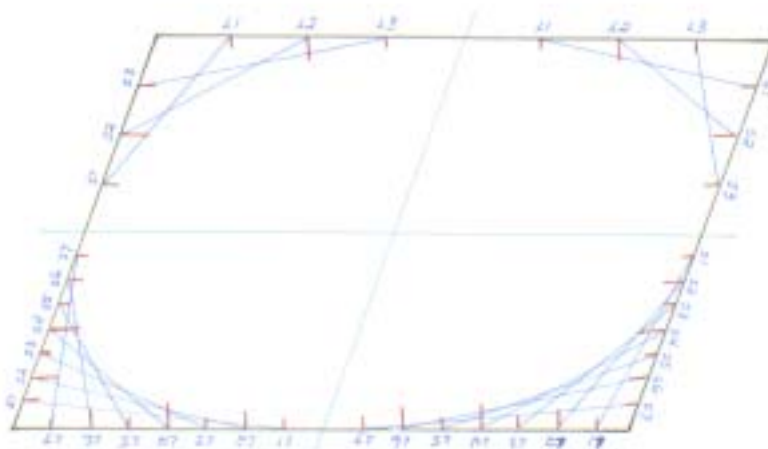
Working each quarter as a separate section, divide each side into a number of equal parts. Each side must contain the same number of parts. An easy way is to repeatedly half each side. The more divisions, the more accurate the oval will be. (See Sample 'A')

Step 4.

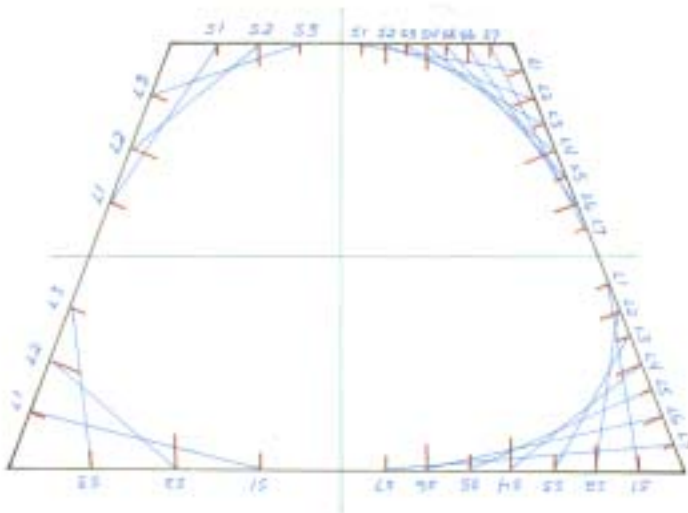
Going clockwise within a quarter, label each division mark (Long 1, Long 2, Long 3, ... etc.. Short 1, Short 2, Short 3, ...etc.).



SAMPLE 'B'



SAMPLE 'C'



Step 5.

With a straight-edge, join L1 to S1, L2 to S2, etc.

Step 6.

Repeat for the remaining three quarters. (Or, cut the quarter out carefully and draw the oval by tracing the first quarter, then flopping the pattern over for each successive quarter until you have a whole oval.)

Step 7.

The area within all the lines is your oval.

Step 8.

Interesting, and repeatable shapes can be generated by varying the length and angles of the basic lines. A rectangle of equal sides at 90 degrees will produce a circle, at another angle an ellipse. With the top line shorter than the bottom, a 'slumping circle' results. Sample drawings 'B' and 'C' below are to get you started on some of your own ideas.

Step 9.

Remember, the critical point is that each quarter side must be divided into equal parts, the same number for both top and sides.

Tip and Text by George Marquis
Typed and Drawn by Paula Marquis



Len Madison



Ken Imus

**Ken Imus and
Len Madison
working with
Scouts at
Camp
Brinkley.
They worked
with eight
groups of kids
over a four
week period.**



Billfolds



**Ken Imus
has some
dog gone
good leather
carvings!**





Photos by Dusty Wert

Bunny Checkbook

I just made a checkbook for a friend and I think it came out nice. I have already given the checkbook to Nadean so all I have is the pictures now. She really enjoyed it and asked "How much do I owe you?" Knowing that she is going to Turkey I said "Bring me home something made of leather when you go to Turkey". She agreed to that so, I'm looking forward to my payment.

I got the bunny stamp from Hidecrafters the texture is a #657 from Tandy I used a Craftaid #2283 for the letter 'N'. Just beveled around it.

Dusty Wert
Email: dustoy7@aol.com



Alphabet Disks

Alphabet Disks to personalize hats and many other things.

You will need

- 4/5 oz. tooling leather
- Large drive punch 9/16" or larger
- Craftool #705 & #100 or 1/4" alphabet set
- Sharp knife
- Bone folder
- Kevlar beading thread (15" long)
- Sharp sewing needle

□ And of course—a swell baseball cap

I started by punching out the disks. I had 4 letters (fig. 1) to make so I punched out 8 disks.

I don't have all of my tools with me so I took a lesson that I learned from a 10 year old. I took the seeder and made the letters with it freehand. I took the background tool to enhance the letter. Apply a finish on the letter disk.

Put the back disks and the letter disks together and trim if they don't match up to each other.

Place a thin cut with a sharp knife from side to side in the middle of the back disk on the flesh side. Use your bone folder (fig. 2) and make a small trench on the cut.

Lay the back disk side by side with the line going left to right. Lay the kevlar (or any tough thin thread you have) in the trench. Put white glue on top of the thread. Care should be taken not to move the back disks. When you have them the way you want them Put a bead of glue (fig. 3) on the thread—let dry.

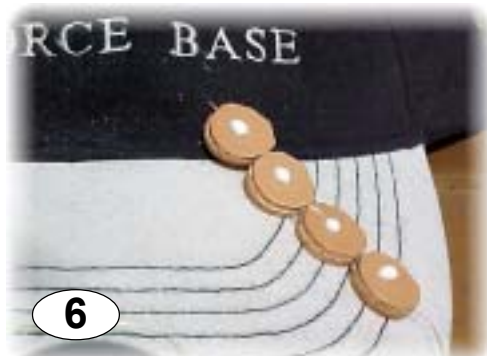
Put glue on the flesh side of the letter disks. Place them in order (fig. 5), go from left to right in this case 'RICH'. Check to see if they are alined correctly—let dry.

Decide where you want the name to go. Usually in the middle front of the hat. Thread the needle (fig. 4), put the needle through the material, right next to the disk. Place a little drop of glue on the back of the disk (fig. 6) only after you have made sure that it is right where you want it to be. Press the name on the hat. Secure the thread by making a knot inside the hat. Repeat on the other side (fig. 7&8) of the name.

This can be a good idea for those who sell at craft shows. People always like to have things personal-



1



6



2



7



3



8



4



5



Dusty Wert

ized. Great way to use up your scraps too. Enjoy your personalized one of a kind hat.

From the Email Bag—Swivel Knife Blades

(Editors Note: The IILG group maintains a email list for its members to discuss leather related topics. It is definitely a group to belong to. Here is a sample of on item discussing swivel knife blades.)

Here's a question. Does anyone have a opinion about Barry King's 1/4" knife blade and the Extreme Alloy 1/4" blade? What is the difference between the 1/4" angle and the Slim (or detail) 1/4" extreme alloy blades? I will mostly be using it for Sheridan carving. Any opinions?

Mike Heinen
Evansville,IL
mhein68@accessus.net

Dear Mike,

To give you a bit of information concerning swivel knife blades. **Barry King** makes a good product, so does **Extreme Alloy**. Extreme Alloy uses a material that certainly has edge holding capabilities. It is made out of an " extreme alloy" as their name implies. Barry uses O-1 tool steel in his blades. This is the same material that I use in the production of my leather carving tools. This is a good high carbon content tool steel that can produce a fine cutting edge when heat treated properly.

J & W LeatherCrafters
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This is the key—PROPER HEAT TREATING! Without a good heat treating process these steels are only as good as the cheaper blades commonly available in the market place. A well heat treated blade will out perform any other blades available including the ceramic blades that are offered. The ceramic blades are good for people that do not sharpen things well or do not have the proper equipment to do the job. A ceramic blade is very hard and brittle and can chip or break easily. When this happens, you will need diamond

stones to repair or to improve the cutting edge. Steel blades can be resharpened with common sharpening equipment and can receive a polished edge that can be superior to what is provided with a ceramic blade. Steel blades can be reshaped easily where a ceramic blade needs specialized diamond equipment to do the job.

I use a material called D-2 in the production of my swivel knife blades. It is superior to O-1 as it does have a higher content of carbon and chromium in this particular alloy. D-2 is a premier knife makers steel made to create high custom knife blades with very high performance

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rrior to O-1 as it does have a higher content of carbon and chromium in this particular alloy. D-2 is a premier knife makers steel made to create high custom knife blades with very high performance

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characteristics. It is very tuff, holds an edge like crazy, is stable, durable, and can be resharpened with common equipment (provided that the hardness is not too high). My blades are heat treated to a Rockwell C hardness of 59. I can make them harder between Rockwell 60 to 67 in hardness but is difficult for the average person to sharpen blades this hard with common honing stones. 59C seems to be a good compromise between hardness and toughness and offers the best overall service to the user.

A straight blade has advantages over an angle blade. It can be held in a more vertical position to make cutting straighter lines possible. Wider straight blades can cut deeper into the leather than shorter 1/4" blades. An angle blade needs a ruler to cut a straight line. A straight blade has two sides to cut with, an angle blade has only one. Therefore a straight blade will cut twice as much leather before it requires touching up or stropping. To duplicate the angle blade with a straight blade the craftsperson needs to only shift his hold slightly (15 degrees) forward to match the angle blade. Straight blades

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RawHide Gazette
Editor / Publisher: Bob Stelmack
Co-Founders: Bill Churchill & General Seymour
Treasurer/Secretary: Jeff Bement

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The **RawHide Gazette** is published monthly (12 times a year). Address for information and correspondence: PSLAC, c/o Jeff Bement , 3942 SW - 329th PL, Federal Way, WA 98023, U.S.A.

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.

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.

offer a distinct advantage over the angle blade. If you are just starting out in leather craft start with a straight blade and get used to the variations in holding techniques. After years of practice the advantage will become clear. An Angle blade can become a handicap when used for years or carving making a straight blade feel awkward in your hands. I know that a lot of crafts persons may disagree with this last statement—but it is true.

The common bade in 1/4" size is close to 1/8" in thickness. My common blades are a bit thinner being .110" instead of 1/8" or .125" Sheridan style blades are usually about 1/16" in thickness. These Sheridan blades can be in straight or cut on an angle. They can be made in any size like 1/4", 3/8", 1/2" or 5/8" this. Smaller blades are an advantage in making more detailed

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cuts or tighter turns. Longer blades will cut deep in thick leather and excel in long sweeping cuts in saddle work etc. The main advantage of a thinner Sheridan style blade is that it produces a thinner cut that will not interfere with lines that are running very close together. This can also be accomplished by using less pressure with a common blade. This produces the same type of cut but requires a small bit of skill and finesse. The common 1/8" thickness blade creates a line that is easy for carving tools to fit into. This makes it easier for your tools to find their "mark". Most of the Sheridan style carvers find an advantage in using the thinner 1/16" th., because of the closer and finer lines used in this style of carving.

The common 1/4" blade will do any job that you may require of it with a variation in cut width (according to the depth of your cut). The thinner Sheridan style blade will be the best overall choice if you intend to concentrate your style of

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carving towards the Sheridan techniques. Note, however, that the swivel knife blade is only the beginning of duplicating the Sheridan style of carving. I make many other tools that are made especially for this type of carving. Extra steep bevelers, leaf liners, thumbprints, flower centers, mule feet, thinner veinners, etc.! Your blade selection is only the starting point.

Hopefully this letter will give you some food for thought concerning your quest. This is only my opinion. However, I do make Leather stamping tools and swivel knives and blades on a professional level everyday. I hope my thoughts on this matter are of some help to you.

With Best Regards,
Robert Beard
 Pro-Series tool Co.

A Visit to the **Moorcroft** Ceramic Company in Stoke-on-Trent, UK, allowed me to take pictures of their products. One picture shows a rainbow trout and its coloration. This would make a nice pattern in the Robb Barr heavy embossing technique. **Bob Stelmack**, Wellington, UK





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

Super Scissors

Always like the use of tools made for something else adapted to leather.

At the St. Fair the other day, my husband got a new pair of pruners for the yard. He has a couple others of this brand and loves them. They cut through branches off our fruit trees, etc. and have a ratchet cutting device built in. Neat.

This year they have a new product and I took it over immediately! This is a "Fine Nose Pruner", like a small pair of scissors that don't have finger holes and have a spring to help with ease of cutting. I tried them on a piece of 5 oz. chap split and they cut it WITH EASE! They are so easy to use I will probably get another pair just for me! These scissors are well worth the \$24.95 USD.

Cathy
Email: CSchlim@aol.com

The screenshot shows the Florian Tools website interface. At the top is a green banner with the 'FLORIAN' logo and the tagline 'RATCHET-CUT PRUNING TOOLS and more...'. Below the banner is a navigation menu with links for 'home', 'site map', 'view cart', 'products', 'help', 'contact us', and 'free catalog'. The main content area features a search bar with the text 'Search Our Site' and 'Enter a Item Code or Keyword'. To the right of the search bar is a list of product categories including Bird Feeders, Pruning Tools, Digging Tools, Watering Tools, Gift Ideas, Garden Gadgets, Vegetable Helpers, Landscaping, Sharpeners, Chimae, Fountains, Books, Pest Deterrents, For The Home, For The Deck, Furniture, Greenhouses, Garden Wear, Garden Decor, Knives, and Gloves. The product being featured is the 'Florian® Fine Nose Pruner', shown as a pair of yellow-handled scissors with a ratchet mechanism. Below the product image is a link that says 'Click on the image for a detail view!'. At the bottom of the screenshot, there is a shipping notice: 'Florian Original - Free Shipping!' and a product listing: 'P-450 Florian Fine Nose Pruner \$24.95'. A descriptive paragraph follows: 'This fine point scissor shear is excellent for flower arranging, Ikebana, Bonsai and other precise cutting. Featuring precision ground stainless blades and comfortable polypropylene ribbed grips with a safety closure loop, we're sure that you will find this compact tool to be very useful.'

Tandy Leather
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CORNER

The Celtic



Antique Super Scissors

These scissors were picked up at an antique fair. They are Tailor's Scissors used to cut large bolts of cloth. Very large (16" long), sharp and very strong. Just the perfect thing to cutting those sides of leather down to size.

Bob Stelmack
Wellingore, UK

Joyce's Latest Project

A gentleman asked me if I could make his wife a **checkbook cover** depicting her occupation of "**Tour Guide**". I told him I could if he helped me with what he thought should be on it.

He brought me one of her business cards and one of her stationery with her letterhead. We decided to use the business card showing the world in green and the letterhead for the type set for her name. I then asked him what he wanted on the back side of the checkbook cover. He said that since she dealt in travel, a white ship with her business name on it would be appropriate.

I found the ship on a page of travel clip art and with the help of a scanner, made it the right size.

The inside is made of kangaroo. The pen holder is cut into the lining using a size 00 punch and cut with a knife to shape. The edge of the pockets were skived, turned, and creased to make them look more finished.

The outside is tooling calf with the design cut and modeled with "**That Modeling Tool**" (Peter Main's).

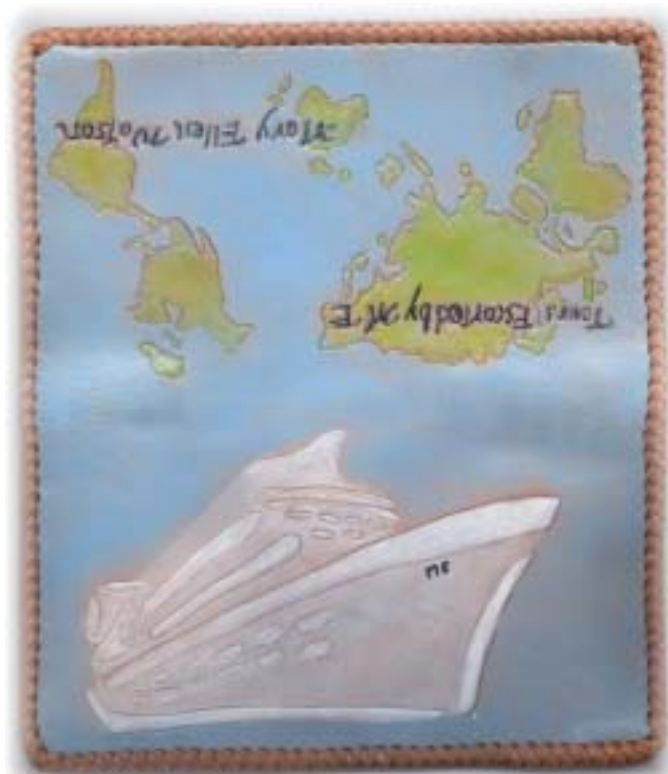
I used **Tandy's Cova™** paint thinned to a wash to do the color. The blue was first all over the project, then the green on the world, then the white on the ship. There are at least two coats of each color except the light white on the ship.

The Mexican Basket Weave was done using around eight yards of kangaroo lace. The letters were colored with a black **Sandford® Sharpie®** and the whole thing was finished with **Tandy's Supershene™**.

This is my first time using clip art for design ideas.

The client liked the finished project.

Joyce Beaver



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Ferdco would like to cordially invite you to attend the
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Pendleton Trade Show - November 9 & 10

I talked to Ron at Ferdco's So far it is turning out to be a nice show . So far the list of venders includes **Demer's Leather, Goliger Leather, Old Smoothy, Ron's Tools, Leather Factory Spokane, Cal Bork, Frank Hansen, Douglass Tools, Oregon Leather, Bee Natural, Spokane Falls Community College, and Bill Rodgers.**

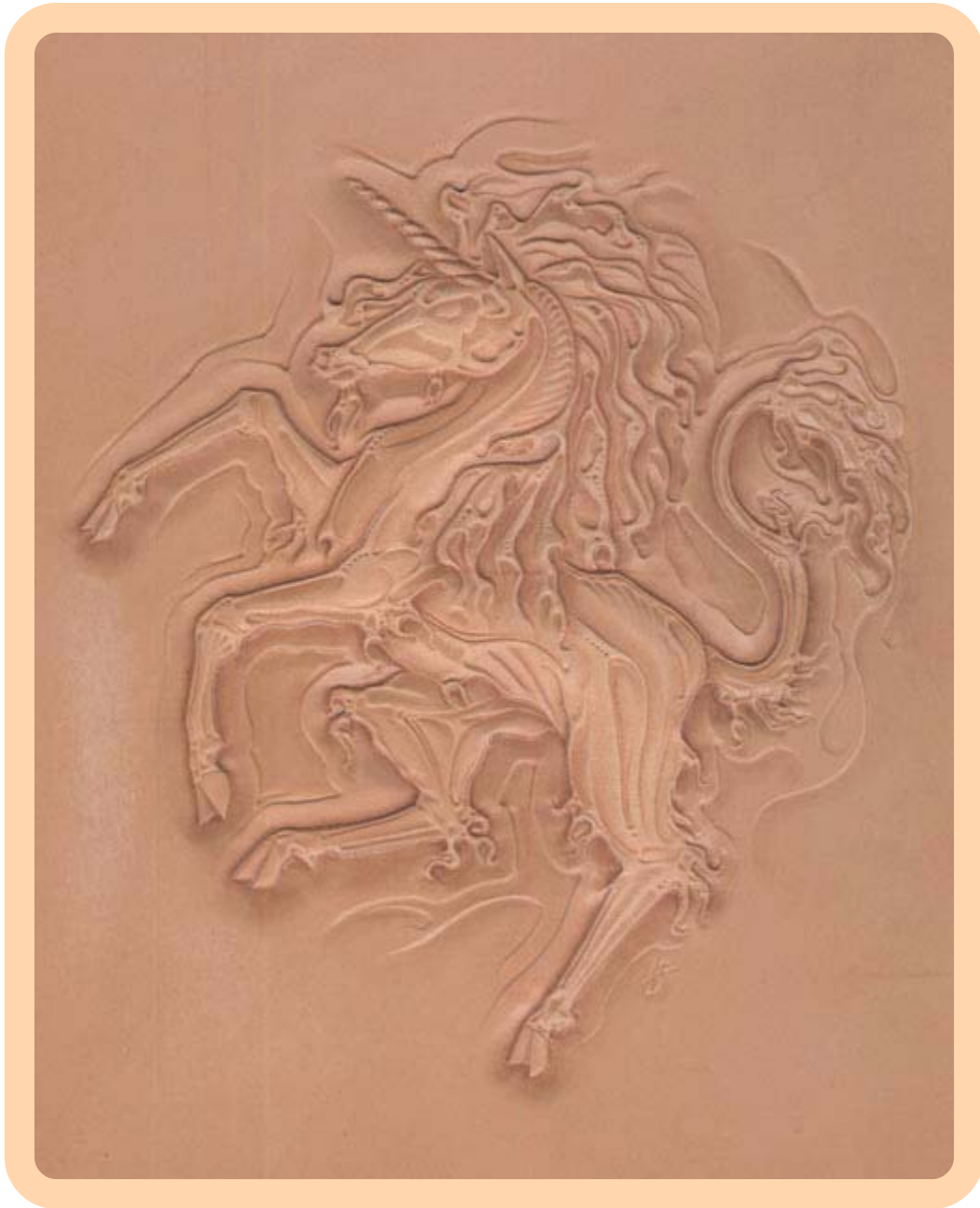
Ferdco's along with their \$50,000,000 worth of Sewing Machines will also be introducing a **new Strap Cutter, a new Flat Top Sewing Machine, and a new Long Arm Patch Machine.** It looks to be a fun show especially for us that need a new Sewing Machine, tool , or leather fix this Fall.

Jeff Bement

Show and Tell Time

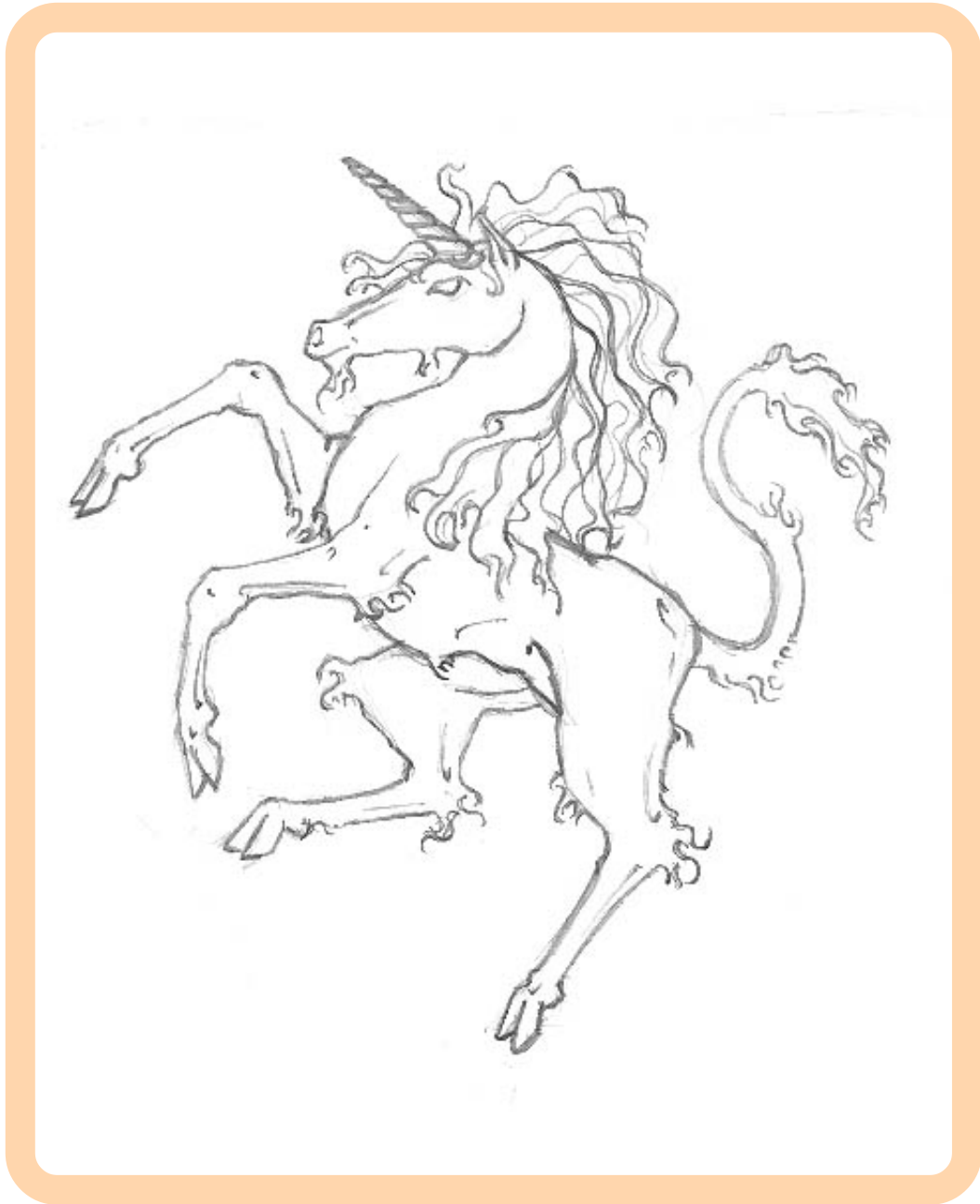
- 1 - Phil's tooled suspenders
- 2 - Norm Lund with the tools he made for under cutting
- 3 - Close up of under cutting tools
- 4 - Phil's leather weights to help with tooling—weighted with buck shot





Adam Smith's Unicorn Leather Carving & Pattern

Adam has been quite busy lately and asked if he could contribute his latest Unicorn leather carving. This carving shows a unique beveling and background technique. Notice the shadow images that mirror the shape of the Unicorn, giving the illusion of motion or action. Please see the tracing pattern of the following page.



Adam Smith's Unicorn Leather Carving & Pattern

Please see the photocarve on the preceding page.

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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.



Dusty Johnson

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

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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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Federal Way, WA 98023
U.S.A.

Your Photos here - if you send them to:

Web Editor: Bob Stelmack
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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.



New Meeting Place:

Veterans Memorial Park, 411 E Street NE

Driving Directions

From I-5 or Hwy 167, take the Hwy 18 East. Take the Auburn-Enumclaw Exit. At the end of the ramp, turn right onto Auburn Way South. Continue north on Auburn Way to Park Avenue. Turn right onto Park Avenue. Follow the road into the park. The Veterans Memorial Building is on the left at 411 E St. NE. The Veterans Memorial is at the intersection of Park Avenue and E St NE. The Backyard Garden is south of the building.

PSLAC

c/o Jeff Bement
3942 SW - 329th PL
Federal Way, WA 98023
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