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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 8

Puget Sound Leather Artisans Co-Op

December 2002

Hide Highlights

- Quick Custom Leather Christmas Stockings
- A.H. Rice Thread
- My Friend Jean
- Don Betts
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- Bookbinding On-line Catalog
- Tools 4 Leather
- General Seymour's Airbrush Class
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- Common Defects In Vegetable Tanned Leather
- Black Spots



Quick Custom Leather Christmas Stockings

Quick and easy (if you have a Tippman Boss sewing machine). These are couple of leather stockings I made out of brightly colored scrap chrome tanned leathers. The red stocking base is a piece of red suede, whereas the white stocking is mainly a chrome tanned base. In either case the base pattern was cut



Meeting Announcement

NEXT MEETING:
Meeting time:
12noon-5pm
January—12th

Fred's demo on two color edge braiding

at a **NEWER** location:

Issaquah Valley Senior Center

(see back page for map)



out (make the top extra big to fit lots of presents) and the legging bands were glued on along with a cut out tree and punched leather holes.

Install a leather loop and sew through the whole thing. This is where a strong leather sewing machine makes the job easy.

• • Puget Sound Leather Artisans Co-Op • • •

The first white stocking was made with too small an opening so that only small expensive presents would fit.





A.H. Rice Thread

I got tired of digging around to find some thread to sew up a project. Most of the thread I have is that artificial sinew in black, brown and natural. It is possible to split the sinew, but gets to be just another hassle.

So I sent in one of the LC&SJ product cards I was mailed and for \$20 plus shipping you get a dozen 1/2 ounce spools of thread matched in color for most leather work.

The thread is nylon and when I use nylon or polyester thread I finish off the stitches by back stitching over the last three holes and then use a soldering iron to melt (or fuse) the ends.

Bob Stelmack Wellingore, UK

A.H. Rice Threac 55 Spring St Pittsfield, MA ZIP: 01201-480 Ph. 1-800-765-7423





My Friend Jean

I first met Jean Riggas in 1999 when I came to Seattle for a visit and again in 2001 when I returned to live here.

When she found I did leatherwork she

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asked for help with a rifle scabbard that her father had made more than 50 years ago. It had two carved panels on it - they were the only pieces of carving that he ever did - and the body was deerhide with sheepskin lining.

The body and lining were in very bad shape as was the lacing which had worn thin in most places. It was a wonder the scabbard was still holding together.

Jean had given the rifle to her son a long time ago, and she thought that if she could repair the scabbard she would give that to her son also.

When she showed me the scabbard, I was a little doubtful if it was possible to renovate, but, since it had sentimental value for her, we decided to give it a try.

She had some deerhide at home from an animal that she herself had shot many years ago and had somebody tan for her. I took her to MacPhersons and we purchased a sheepskin, lacing, etc.

Brettun's Village Shops

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We managed to save the straps, little pieces and hardware as well as the carved panels. The body and lining was replaced and the handsewn and laced parts.

To cut a long story short, the final product turned out so good and Jean was so excited about it, it got her hooked on leatherwork.

She made a couple of small folders, one where she had painted the thistle on the oval inset (which appeared in the RawHide Gazette earlier this year).

latest Her project was this folder for her Son-in-Law who is in the Navy (as a Pilot). He's been transferred to Japan

and will be there for three years. This is his Christmas present. We put extra foam for padding so that the wings would sit deep into the foam and give a more plush look. We also put a pocket on the inside with a pencil loop too. The end result looks very good and Jean is tickled pink.

She's now getting very ambitious and is

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working on a handbag for herself. She's told me what she wants the handbag to look like and we're making the patterns from scratch.

Getting her to come to a PSLAC meeting is a little difficult as she lives near Marysville and most of her weekends are pretty well filled.

Jean comes to my little workshop one night per week, so the jobs she tackles are a little slow. She goes to painting classes another night and usually works two nights during the week. That makes her free time pretty limited.

I'm pretty proud of Jean and her efforts and glad I could show somebody the joys of working with leather.

December 2002 -- Hide Side 3

Paula Marquis





Don Betts

Don Betts passed away on Monday the 9th of December.

Don was one of the first directors of PSLAC and was very active until his job required him to work on Sundays. He was an active leather worker up until he came down with cancer.

Don's Memorial was held Saturday December 14, 2002 at 2:00 PM at the Westminster Presbyterian Church in Tacoma, Washington. He will be missed.

General Seymour

CLPW Leather

10% Discount for PSLAC Members



These knives were purchased (in US dollars):

- 1. Right Handed Paring Knife, \$7.95
- Traditional Paring Knife (hardened steel, made from large hacksaw blades), \$22.00
- 3. Clicker Handle and Clicker Straight Blades, \$19.20 and \$1.55

Right out of the box the Clicker Handle/ Blade and the Traditional Paring Knife performed excellently. As you must already know, the skiving of the leather involves riding the edge of the knife on a smooth surface (tempered glass or smooth marble stone) a small distance away from the leather's edge and pushing the knife along the leather. The

Paring or Skiving Leather

While looking for bookbinding supplies I ran across some nice paring or skiving knives. Since it is hardest for me to skive chrome tanned leather -- that is what I tested each of the new knives on.

The knives came from **J. Hewett & Sons, Ltd.** in London. They are also found on the Internet at:

http://www.hewit.com Email: sales@hewit.com





closer the riding edge to the leather -- the thinner the leather is skived. The Traditional Paring Blade worked best on the short end areas.

The Right Handed Paring Knife looked sharp, but in fact was quite dull. Using a 1500 grit wet stone the edge was brought up to a fine sharpness and then it performed as well as the other knifes.

There are also electrical and mechanical skivers for production work and a mechanical one is shown elsewhere in this issue.

Bob Stelmack Wellingore, UK

http://talasonline.com/info/catalog.cfm

Bookbinding On- line Catalog

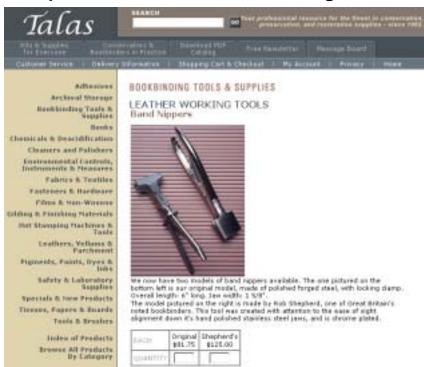
Even though this company is in England, they have a very nice downloadable catalog in the PDF format (same as the Raw-

HERITAGELEATHER COMPANY Offering a 20% discount to PSL 4C

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

Hide Gazette) and this catalog shows all the supplies you would ever need to bind books.

Bob Stelmack Wellingore, UK





Tools 4 Leather

The machine, designed and made in England, has now been modified and tested through many years of constant use. It is now a useful and routine working tool in numerous hand binderies an the U.K. and overseas.

It is simple to use and set up; the machine is simply screwed or clamped to a bench top and a standard razor blade is inserted between bed and platen where it automatically slots into the correct position and attitude for cutting.

There are two adjusters; one for thickness, the other for angle. The first raises or lowers the anvil adjusting it's relationship to the blade according to the depth of pare required. The second rotates the anvil to correct the parallel or to achieve a bevelled or feathered cut. A groove can be pared in the skin by winding an adhesive tape strip, the width of the groove

required around the anvil before making a cut in the normal way.

Using the machine is straight forward; keeping the leather in tension it is fed over the anvil and under the blade which removes a shaving leaving that part of the skin an even thickness. It will accurately pare the narrowest strips, useful when doing in-

lay or onlay work. The machine has a generous support loop allowing large areas to be pared by making a number of parallel sweeps. These areas will need finishing with knife, spokeshave and glass paper. The machine is invaluable and time saving for many bindery jobs such as inlays,



onlays, labels, thin patches for repair, spines and corners for half and quarter bindings and larger areas including full leather bindings.

Back by Popular Demand - Paula's Bookbinding Class

An all day Bookbinding workshop will be held on **January 4th 2003** at the home of **Jeff Bement**.

Jeff Bement 3942 SW 329TH PL Federal Way, WA 98023

Start at 9.00a.m. and have our books finished at 5.00p.m. By popular request the book to be bound will be approximately 8"x5". The cost will be \$25.00 for the workshop plus the cost of materials, which will be announced at the workshop as the exact amount won't be known until I have purchased all the materials. Will not exceed \$17.00.

List of materials for everybody to bring:

- ☐ Long Bone Folder
- ☐ Pen, Pencil, Ruler, Notepad (notepad is optional, you may not wish to take notes)
- ☐ Skiving Knife

☐ Clicking Knife

- ☐ Sharpening Stick/Strop
- ☐ Round Brush (large stencil brush from a hobby shop will suffice)
- ☐ Small paint tray and roller
- ☐ Chinagraph Pencil
- ☐ Small bucket
- ☐ Apron or Rags (for wiping off gluey fingers)
- ☐ Smooth faced convex hammer (Cobbler's hammer)
- ☐ Leather (soft and pliable garment or upholstery)
- ☐ Newspapers (for spreading out to glue on)
- ☐ Needle and Thread
- ☐ Heavy duty scissors

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 bring the materials (other than the

The Leathercraft Store

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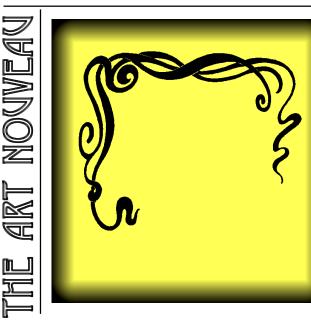
leather) for making the book. Also:

- Book Press
- Glue
- Drills and bits
- Small granite block for skiving on

See you all at the workshop.

Paula Marquis

CORNER_







PSLAC Puget Sound Leather Artisans Co-op Home of the RawHide Gazette http://pslac.org/

PSLAC Membership Application

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

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

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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

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@nwlink.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:

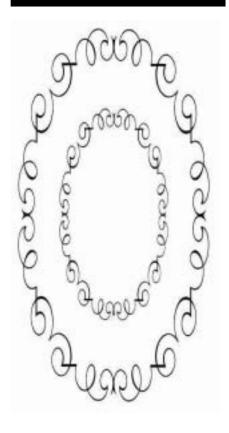
> Jeff Bement 3942 SW - 329th PL Federal Way, WA 98023 U.S.A.

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 permiting.

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















General Seymour's Airbrush Class

December Meeting Show and Tell



- 1 The box of the blow air brush
- 2 Paula's ornaments
- 3 Len Madison using a blow air brush
- 4 Leather bowls Len's on the left and Ken Imus's on the right. The middle bowl is the bowl Ken got at a 2nd hand store for a quarter to use as a mold







December Meeting Show and Tell







- 1 Ken with his latest purse creation
- 2 Ken used a pearshader #368 to go around the petals and he is going to give a demo on the "Basic Floral" design done differently
- 3 Ken examining Paula's riding crop
- 4 The riding crop pictured on some snakeskin

RawHide Gazette Technical Publication Information

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December Meeting Show and Tell



1 - Jeff's stamped checkbook. He bought the tool from Dusty and figured out how to use it and did a little modification to the tool. Now, Dusty wants the tool back. 2 - Another one of Jeff's checkbooks.



Hide Crafter Productions Offers a wholesale discount to **PSLAC** members



RawHide Gazette

Editor / Publisher: Bob Stelmack Co-Founders: Bill Churchill & General Seymour

Treasurer/Secretarty: JeffBement

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POSTMASTER: Send addresss 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

Catalog: > Airbrush System

Other Accessories: Airbrush System | Coloring Tutorials | Wide Marker Accessories | Copic Nibs |
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- PSLAC Received this email what does the membership think about including this company product as a PSLAC sponsor? Let me know at stelmack@nwlink.com

"I was searching the web and came across your article in the January 2000 issue of the Rawhide Gazette. I was wondering if you still use the COPIC Sketch markers and what success you have had with them.



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Please let me know what is entailed in becoming a sponsor as well as any thoughts you have on this proposal. We were thinking of FREE Shipping in the continental United States."

Common Defects In Vegetable Tanned Leather

(ed. note: This email recently sent to me from the IILG [http://iilg.org] and contained some sage information from the CEO of Siegal Leather Company.)

Many of y'all have had questions regarding common defects in vegetable tanned leather. I hope that the following will be of service.

The Most Frequent Defects and Irregularities in the Vegetable Tannery

Visual Defect	Cause
Stains on Pelts:	
Black Stains	Iron stains, chiefly caused during transferring (iron rails, drip water), appearing after sulfide liming (iron sulfide); sodium sulfide containing water
Blue and Red Stains	Damages caused in curing, "salt stains", "germ stains", caused by microorganisms
Stains on Leather:	
Brown Stains	Sludgy extracts
	Flocculations in the suspenders, which deposit in the grain
	"Air stains"
	Contact Stains (Suspender liquors)
	Tannin migrated to the surface
	Tannins stains before coloring
	Burnt areas, caused, e.g., by scorching
Black Stains	Iron stains caused in splitting or shaving or by drip water etc.
Greenish Stains	Copper stains caused by pipes or fittings
G B G:	Sumac stains (chlorophyll)
Grey-Brown Stains	Lime stains (lime blasts) caused by exposure to air, use of hard water for washing and rinsing, lime liquor prepared with fresh water
Dark Stains,	Scud not properly removed (especially in the flanks and shaved areas)
Pale Stains, round	Stains caused by pools of tan or bleach liquors
Pale Stains, oblong	Abrasions, especially those caused by drumming
Greyish Leather Shade	Tan liquors containing iron; concrete pits, fittings, suspension frames: iron content of plant water
D-1- Di-1 (-it-)	too high: possibly caused only by rusty pipe line or condensing water containing grease
Pale Pinholes (pits) Pale Spots	Damages caused by curing: pits caused by overbating Bleaching materials not completely dissolved before addition
White Spue (removable with water)	Salt spue, (sodium sulfate, magnesium sulfate, common salt) due to sole leather seasons or to old,
· ` ` ` ` ` ` ` ` ` ` ` ` ` ` ` ` ` ` `	worked down liquors; insufficient steeping or rinsing
White Spue (not removable with water)	Fatty spue, usually consisting of free fatty acids, but with solvents; melts in the heat; and sometimes of higher fatty alcohols.
	Leathers match test) were fatliquored too acid or unsuitable fatliquoring agents were used; may also
	be caused by fat splitting microorganisms
Uneven Penetration, (untanned middle)	Too intensive coloring (case-hardening); sludge layer) in the pores; excessively exhausted liquors
Poor and Loose Flanks	Poor raw material, lime too old, bating bath too strong or too warm, excessive straining
Grain Faults:	
Loose Grain	Poorly cured raw material; excessively stressed by prolonged soaking, liming or bating: drummed
	too long in short liquors; overstrained by swelling
High Grain	Excessive initial swelling in the lime. Coloring liquor too acid
Cracked Grain	Careless handling of the raw hides; careless handling of excessively swollen pelts; excessive
D.111. 1.C	pressure of sammying and setting out machines etc.
Pebbled Grain	Prolonged drumming, liquor too short, rate of revolution too high
Drawn Grain	Coloring in liquors that are too fresh, too acid, too strong or too warm. Liquor too short, rate of revolution too high. With combination-tanned leathers; tanning liquors too strongly absorbed

Also, in the event of mold, I believe that the leather would be best treated by soaking 4-6 hours in a dilute solution of vinegar. I believe that the application of bleach would be absolutely detrimental to the integrity of the leather.

Steven Siegel



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Churchill Barton, Manager



E Sunset|W√ay

I have not read all the questions or answers concerning black spots on leather. I do have a solution that might be of some help with many stains on leather.

In the production of my tools I get allot of metal particles on my clothes and hands. These particles leave a black stain on my leather projects. I have tried many things to remove these stains. The best thing I have found is simple lemon or lime juice. Put some lemon juice on a sponge like you would water and apply it to the stained area. Be sure to blend out the lemon juice to the surrounding area as well so that water stains are reduced. Allow the lemon juice to dry or evaporate from the leather. Do not put a lemon soaked piece of leather into a bag overnight or it will create a new black mold to replace the black mark! As the lemon juice evaporates it will remove the black spots from the leather. It will not stain or change the color of the leather in any way, like acid will.

Try this it works well for me . I even wash my hands and arms with lemon juice before I start a project. When you apply lemon juice to your sponge you will notice that it cleans and bleaches your sponge to like new condition. Hope this helps you with your particular problem... I have been giving out this trick for years in all my classes.

With best regards, Bob Beard Pro-Series Tool Co.



Dusty Johnson

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"It never hurts to ask!" Joseph & Wendy Noecker

3912 SW Dolph CT Portland, Oregon 97219 Taking I-90

From Auburn: come north on Hwy167, or I-5, then I-405 north, then onto I-90, going east:

From Everett: South on I-5 to 405 South, or to I-90, going east:

From I-90 get off on exit 17/Front St., and bear right onto Front Street. At the third stoplight, turn left onto E Sunset Way, then see below:

Taking Hwy 18 from around Auburn to Issaquah

Get on Hwy 18 going East, from Auburn, it's about 12 miles to Maple Valley, then at about 2 ½ miles after Maple Valley, look for the turn off to Issaquah Hobart Rd SE, turn onto ramp 276th Ave SE and go 0.6 miles, bear left onto Issaquah Hobart Rd SE. It's about 8 ½ miles from there to Issaquah. Hobart becomes Front Street S, which takes you into down-



town Issaquah. Turn right onto E Sunset Way, then see below:

After turning onto E Sunset Way:

go two blocks (past the Police and Fire Stations), turn left onto 2nd Ave SE, go past the old Senior Center building on your left, and a baseball field, then left onto NE Creekway, go almost to the railroad tracks. The new Issaquah Valley Senior Center is a brick building on your left, parking in front of it. There is also parking behind, from Sunset, turn left into the parking area, right before the Police Station (look for a large parking sign on your left), and follow it till you see a kids play ground. Tiny and I couldn't get in to see inside, but it's a brand new building and looks to have a great, large meeting room area and a couple of medium sized side rooms, one set up for crafts. Address: 75 NE Creekway, Issaquah, WA 98027 (see another page for a detailed map of the building area)

PSLAC

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