

# Raw Hide Gazette

Copyright © 2004 by PSLAC, All Rights Reserved

"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 9, Issue 10

Puget Sound Leather Artisans Co-Op

March 2004

## Hide Highlights

### Page

- 2 How to Make a Viking Leather Water Bottle
- 3 René Berends World Tour Update
- 4 The "2-Shews Experience"
- 6 Sharpening
- 6 Hello everyone:
- 7 Tiffany Park Workshop
- 8 Stairstep Applique
- 9 SASS by Peter Main
- 11 The "Cougar"\*\*\*
- 12 February Meeting at MacPherson's Leather
- 14 My New Set of Tools by Norm Lynds
- 15 Traditional Sleigh Bell Hip Strap
- 15 Hartford Sleigh Bell Hip Strap
- 17 Ken's Knothole

\*\*\*Demo: Judy will be showing how to carve a cougar at Noon.



Greg MacPherson, Manager



The February PSLAC meeting was hosted by **Greg MacPherson** at **MacPherson's Leather** located at 519 - 12th Avenue S., Seattle, Washington 98144. Greg took time out of his day off on Sunday to make his business establishment available for a PSLAC Sunday meeting. Many thanks from PSLAC to allow the use of the business premises for our meeting and catering to our leather purchase needs.

**MacPherson's Leather offers a discount to PSLAC Members.**

Call Greg and make your leather needs known or visit their web site at:

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

### STORE HOURS:

Monday - Friday 8 am to 4:30 pm  
Saturday - 10 am to 3 pm  
Toll Free: 800-343-9949  
Phone: (206) 328-0855  
Fax: (206) 328-0859

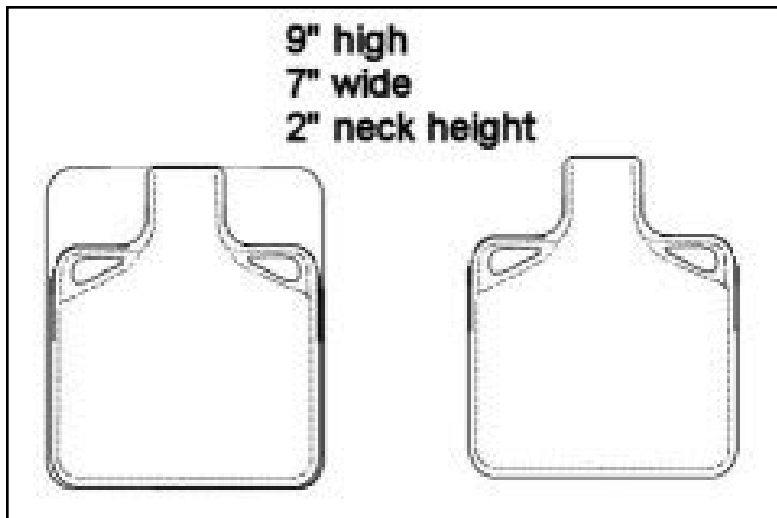
## April & May Meeting Changes

*We decided to change meeting dates for April and May, due to conflicts with Easter and Mother's Day—to the 3rd Sunday for each of those two months, so we want to give folks plenty of notice.*

### Meeting Announcement

**NEXT MEETING on**  
**Sunday,**  
**March 14th**  
**noon-5pm**  
**DEMO\*\***

*(see map on last page)*



## How to Make a Viking Leather Water Bottle

### You will need:

- ▶ Approx 2 sq. ft. of 6 oz. vegetable tanned hide
- ▶ A cardboard template
- ▶ Craft knife
- ▶ Good heavy weight linen thread, waxed
- ▶ A good awl and sewing needle
- ▶ Beeswax or brewers pitch
- ▶ 4" length of 1" wood dowel for neck stopper
- ▶ Leather thong
- ▶ Fine sand or bits of old rag

### Construction:

First draw out your bottle shape on the cardboard, marking out strap holes. Place template on your leather and cut out 2.

Using a stitch marker—sew both parts together 1/4" in from the edge, using saddle stitch, keep stitches tight don't worry about sewing around the 2 strap holes yet.

When you have finished the sewing, soak the leather in cold water for about half an hour, you want the leather to be as supple as possible.

Now you have a choice of using the fine sand or as I do, small bits of material. Open the neck of the bottle and start stuffing with your choice of filler.

Ram as much in as possible, you will see the sides and bottom start to pull in and the front and back start to bulge out, keep ramming the filler in until the leather is well stretched.

that it holds this shape. DO NOT USE BOILING WATER, water from the hot water tap is hot enough, turn on the tap and put some rubber washing up gloves on. Holding the bottle side up, hold it under the hot water tap, it is very important that you keep it moving

Fill up to within 2" of the neck.

Now push the dowel in to the neck and work in so that you have about 2" sticking out. A mallet helps.

Now we need to harden the leather so

under the stream of water.

You will see the leather start to darken, you are looking to get an even dark colour all over, if the water is too hot or you hold the leather in the same spot under the water you risk burning the leather which will shrivel and look like a prune. This happened to my first attempt.

Allow the bottle to dry completely, do not force dry it.

### Now to water proof the bottle:

In both cases you want a 2-3mm coating. The first way is to empty the bottle of it's filling, then heat the pitch or beeswax to just past melting point.

Cover the neck with tin foil to protect the outside of the bottle from damage, get someone to pour the now liquid pitch of beeswax in, do this quickly, quickly turn the bottle trying to coat the inside, again if the liquid



is to hot your bottle will be ruined.

Allow the bottle to cool down completely and repeat the pouring.

This is the second way to do it, my preferred way.

When the bottle has dried, undo the stitching completely and separate the 2 half's, remove filler.

Heat up your pitch or beeswax, using a spoon, ladle the liquid on to one of the two halves and use a heated spoon to spread the beeswax or pitch evenly over the surface. Do both halves making sure you coat all edges.

Place the 2 halves back together and re-stitch again, also stitch around the strap holes.

Using a sharp knife trim and tidy up the edges.

Using the back of a heated spoon, run it round the edges to make sure they are sealed. I now give the outside a good coating of beeswax working it in to the leather, remove excess and buff up.

### **Now for the neck stopper:**

Dip the dowel in to the melted pitch or beeswax, allow to cool, and push into the neck, this will give you a water tight seal.

Fill the bottle with cold water and leave to stand for a couple of hours, check outside for leaks not forgetting the edges. If it leaks from the back or front, unstitch and use the hot spoon again, if it leaks from the edge, run the hot spoon over the edge.

Attach the leather thong to the strap holes so you can hang it over your shoulder, you might also want to drill a hole in the dowel and attach it to the bottle with some thong.

### **Rob Crowe**

Email: shadowdragon@lineone.net  
IILG Member  
Leeds, England

## **René Berends World Tour Update**

Dear friends,

For those of you who are interested, you'll

Jan. 23-25:	"Jagdtasche" / "Hunting Bag"	Deutschland, The Bear Gallery, 82041 Deisenhofen, Germany.
Febr. 27-29:	"Schmuck aus Leder" / "Leather Jewellery"	Deutschland, The Bear Gallery, 82041 Deisenhofen, Germany.
March 6-7:	"Historisches Punzieren", "Historical Carving"	Österreich
March 19-21 (fully booked):	"Document bag"	Ft. Worth, TX, USA at Hide Crafter Leathercraft in Ft. Worth. Texas.
March 26-28:	"Leather Jewellery"	Tucson, AZ, USA at Rocking „J“ Leather in Tucson (AZ).
April 3-4:	"Modern Art in Leather"	Mexico, Workshop, Lecture and slide show in Mexico City.
April 16-18:	"Hunting Bag"	Wellington, New Zealand
April 15:	"Modern Art in Leather"	Wellington, New Zealand, Lecture and slide show in Art Place, Wellington
April 23-25:	"Hunting Bag"	Christchurch, New Zealand
April 30 - May 2:	"Hunting Bag"	Sydney, Australia, at Birdsall Leather & Craft,
May 7-9:	"Hunting Bag"	South Australia
May 14-16:	"Hunting Bag"	Tasmania, Australia
May 21-23:	"Hunting Bag"	Victoria, Australia
May 29-31:	"Hunting Bag"	Victoria, Australia
June 4-6:		Taiwan
June 11-13:		Taiwan
July 19-24:	"Celtic Belpouch and Historical Carving"	Norway, in the Rauland Akademi, Norway
August 27-29:	"Hunting Bag"	Norway

find the updated itinerary of my teaching programme for the first half of 2004. Short notice changes and additions are still possible, but I have started to book the flights for the world tour, so the periods of stay in the various countries are definite.

Good news is coming in from everywhere and new doors are opening for future venues. It reaffirms me that a positive and constructive approach to life reaps positive reactions.

The seminar at Hidecrafters in Fort Worth, Texas is fully booked. George Hurst and I will also do an instruction video on the Document Case seminar.

Bill Reis and I have also agreed on a number of "how to do" articles and a report on the trip in the future and I hope that the first one will appear in the April-May issue of the Leather Crafters and Saddlers Journal.

Because of the preliminary promotion of the teaching tour the reactions have been

overwhelming and several leatherworkers in the United States have asked me to come to their areas to teach. As I am not able to oblige to these requests on this tour, I am already planning a teaching tour for 2005. This tour will be combined with my possible invitation to the Dimensions in Leather 2005 in July in Brisbane (Australia). I say possible as it always depends on the amount of students who book the classes. Anyway the plan is to travel the United States for a period of about two months in April-May June 2005, to teach on week-ends in various places. As the co-ordination for these long trips is very extensive, I will have to start the organizing as soon as possible. First come, first served.

At this point I would like to thank all the sponsors, colleagues and friends for their help and support to enable me to make this journey.

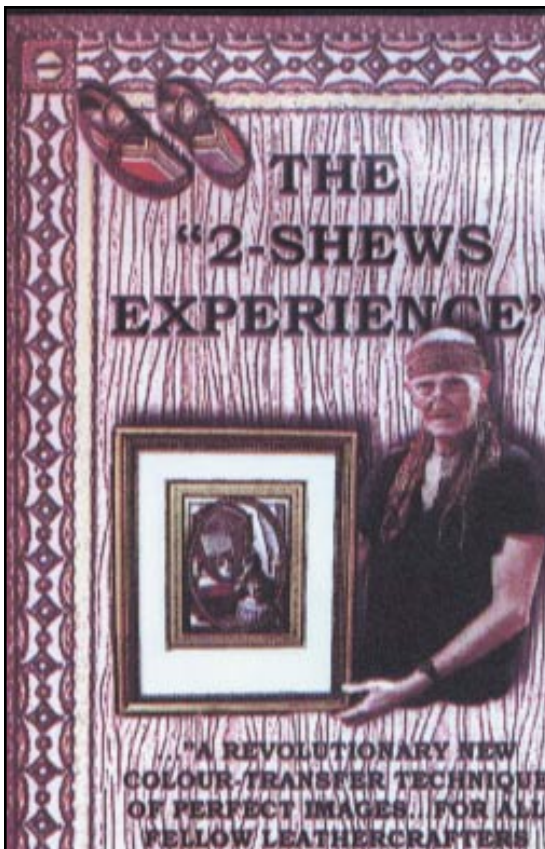
Yours sincerely,

**René Berends**



In a world of silicon, drugs and hijackers, there will always be a place for lasting natural beauty...

## Bill Stockil, Master Craftsman



### The “2-Shews Experience”

(ed. note: Recently purchased the video offered by 2-Shews a.k.a. **Bill Stockil** and found his color transfer with his tooling and black pen marking techniques quite interesting. This is a must own video for the wider range of leather experiences and those who enjoy Blues music. 2-Shews writes back after asking for permission to include his video information in this issue of the RawHide Gazette.)

2-Shews says: “A few thoughts and general feelings on the whole decision to make this thing:

“My aim was to put across the, sometimes not so obvious, power and freedom that comes with this ‘transfer technique’. All of that linked very closely to the all to frequent

comment by most of us: ‘I could never attempt a particular project because I just don’t have any natural artistic talent!’ Well, that is well and truly dead and buried—this opens up a whole new world for anyone who cares to run with it. How the individual leathercrafter chooses to use the very basic technique is also entirely wide open.

“It is my sincere hope that, like all innovations various individuals will take that which appeals and leave the rest—and therein lies the continuous growth of our wonderful ‘leathercraft’ world. I have no doubt that I’m going to be slaughtered by more than a few of the ol’timers—bottom line is ‘who’s getting results?’

“Really glad you enjoyed the ‘2-shews-blews’ it was another unusual choice of background music for an instructional video—and it also goes back a long way. The writing of the script was a first [and a fun thing to do] and could only be written as the final edit was progressing. God I’m rambling again—gotta go and open the Gallery. Hope all of this is clearer than mud! Have fun, and thanks again.”

Best regards, **2-Shews**  
**Bill Stockil**  
URL: [www.billstockil.co.za](http://www.billstockil.co.za)  
Email: [billy2shews@telkomsa.net](mailto:billy2shews@telkomsa.net)

#### Editor’s Review

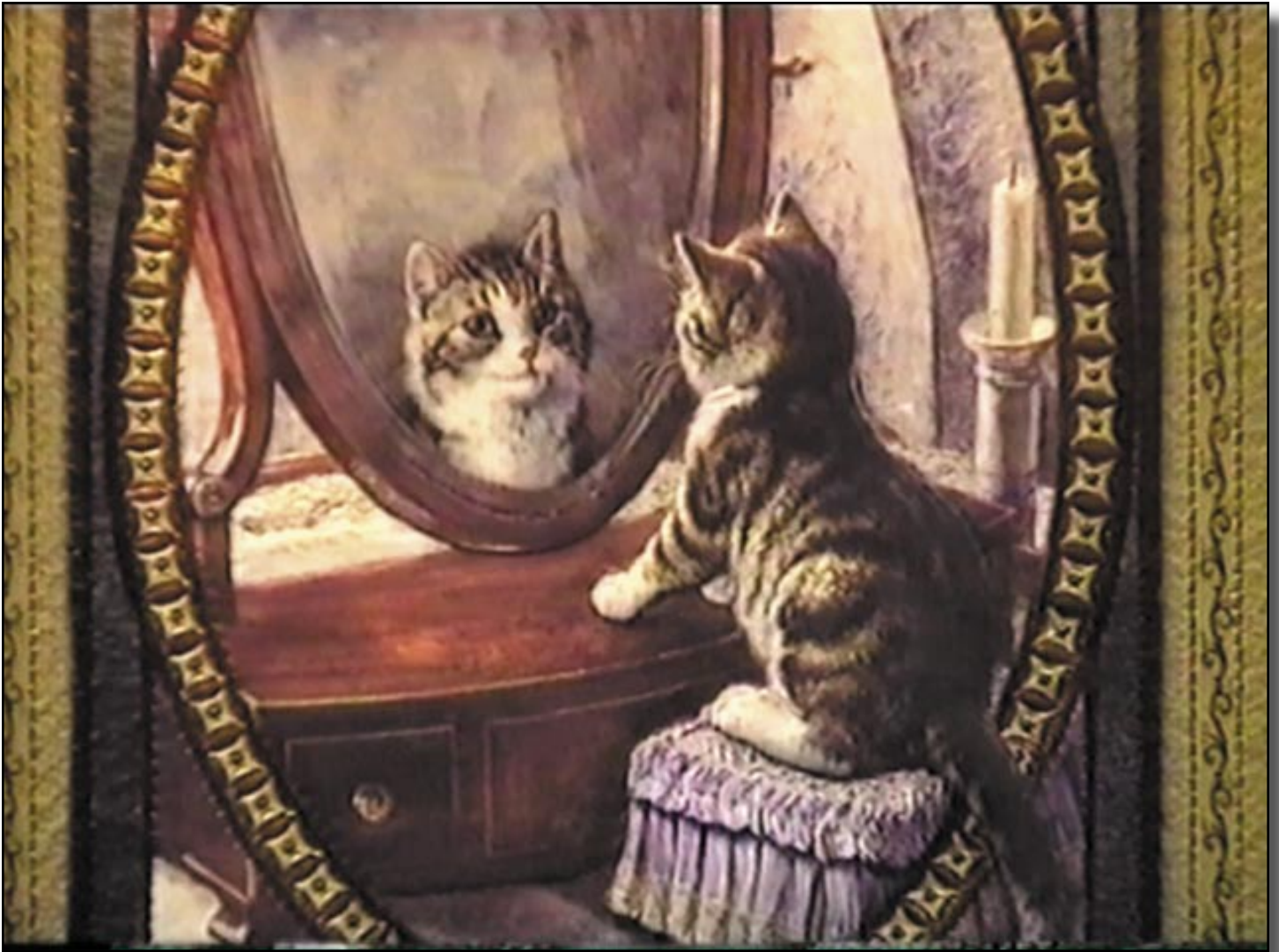
The video contains a process that uses a color photo copy, adhesive and leather combination to transfer an existing design



to the surface of a piece of leather. Additionally, the process to tool, bevel and emboss the picture is shown along with some tips and hints on how to use geometric tools and black pens to sharpen and decorate an image. The use of acrylic colors and bending with spirit dyes is also shown. The video is clear and the voice over and music make it entertaining to watch. There is also a technique shown to mimic a hand sewn decoration that helps give the project more of that handmade look.

Use of epoxy resin to mimic a mirrored surface is also shown. This video is not in the traditional “Rob Barr” or “George Hurst” method, but is in the style that 2-shews uses. It’s not conventional, so some of the old timers might not grasp the commercial use. I found it almost worth the \$55, but a little pricey for one-hour video demo. I might have marked it for \$29.95 to be more in line with other videos by others. I give it an 8 on the 1-10 scale. Just my 2 pence. Hope this helps and it is just my opinion.

Bob Stelmack  
Editor, RawHide Gazette



**From Finish (above)  
back to Start (right)**

2-Shews started with a 19th century print from a calendar and wound up with a 21st century leather master piece.



## Sharpening

(ed. note: This is from another fine leather related Yahoo Group, leatherworkers, that have quite a group of people dedicated to the craft of leather. To go to: <http://yahoogroups.com> and search for "leatherworkers".)

Sharpening is a topic that's near and dear to me, being interested in woodworking and knife making in addition to leather working (and a whole lot of other stuff too).

While people can learn to sharpen blades freehand and do a fine job at it, unless you do it a lot you really should use a sharpening guide of some sort to keep the bevel angles consistent while you work through different grits. The simple guides that Tandy and others sell work fine for the swivel blades.

Someone had commented: "A whetstone?! You might as well use a file!", but there's nothing wrong with using such stones as long as the final honing is done with a sufficiently fine one. An Arkansas surgical black stone, while it probably won't rival the finest Japanese water stones, will put a mirror finish on a blade. There are a lot of different ways to remove metal from a blade, and within limits all of them work well for sharpening. The final result you want with any of them is a sharply defined, uniform edge, with as smooth a surface to it as you can achieve.

I use the 3M wet/dry sandpaper, like another list member mentioned. I have a 1/2" glass plate that I put the paper on for a flat backing, and use grits from 220 up to 2000. These are available from auto supply stores in the painting section. Water stones will work great, as will an assortment of whet stones (oilstones). You can get iron lapping plates with grit assortments to use on them. To a large degree it doesn't matter what you use. The key is to have coarse abrasives for edge shaping, and the finest you can find for the final edge. One additional requirement is that the surface should be flat. Not a problem with paper on glass, but oilstones, and especially water stones, need to be flattened regularly if they get much use. Otherwise they dish out and you get convex bevels instead of flat (concave would be okay, and you can get that if you hollow grind the blades, but it's probably overkill on small blades like these).

With a new blade, or one that has been nicked or chipped, you would want to start with a coarse abrasive. Something around 200 grit will work pretty quickly on these small sized blades. Establish a bevel at the angle you want and hone it until the bevel is completely to the edge and you can feel a slight burr on the opposite side. Flip the blade around and do the same on the other side. If you want you could grind or belt sand for this step, but the blades are so small that doing it by hand really is pretty quick.

At this point, one technique is to move to the next finer grit that you have and repeat the honing. In the sanding papers, I have 200, 300, 400, 600, 800, 1200, 1500, and 2000. If you like water stones, a selection like 200, 800, 1200, 4000, 8000 would be plenty. It doesn't take long on each grit once the bevel has been established.

Another technique is to slightly increase the bevel angle (move the guide slightly closer to the blade edge or put a thin spacer under the guide base) and then go directly to the finest grit you have. You're putting a micro bevel on that will do the actual cutting (the rest of the bevel is really just relief for the cut, which isn't that important in leather carving since we're dealing with quite shallow cuts, but can be more of an issue in other applications).

As for stropping, sure, do it. Minor irregularities in the edge are starting points for micro chips to break off leading to quicker edge deterioration. The advice about using a hard surface is well taken. Stropping will dub an edge. The softer the substrate the more rounding will take place. I've heard of one place that compresses the leather they use for their hones to make it harder. Someday I'm going to run a strip of moist leather through my pasta maker (no, not the extruder, the roller!) and see if this works. Cereal box cardboard on a flat surface would be a good, easy to come by choice to try. The green chrome oxide crayons or the yellow stone compound someone mentioned are usually used, along with white rouge (rather a contradiction in names) or sometimes red rouge (though this doesn't seem to work as well as the other compounds). If you've got a good, fine edge to start out with you won't need to strop much. Re strop during work if the edge loses its "oomph." But a lot of stropping without re honing will give you a rounded edge. If it still cuts okay for you then go with it, but you might want to check

the edge with a loupe to see it's condition and re hone as necessary. For re sharpening an existing good bevel you can start with finer grits, 600 in the paper, perhaps 4000 in a water stone.

This is just some basic stuff for someone who isn't real up on sharpening techniques. There are a lot of ways to get good edges and I'm not trying to say that what I've written is the only way. It would be a good starting point, and should give anyone excellent edges on their knives.

**Jim Foster**

Minnesota

Email: [james.foster@ugsplm.com](mailto:james.foster@ugsplm.com)

## Hello everyone:

The **City of Pacific** which is where I live and is just down from Woody's old place in Auburn will be having **Pacific Day's** in **Pacific Park** which is about a mile and half from Woody's old place and 4 blocks from my home.

*"The 2004 Pacific Day's will be July 23rd, 24th and 25th. Vendor booths will be the 24th and 25th. You can sign up for a booth at any time at City Hall, although it will not start getting full till June or so"* said Rich Hildreth, Mayor of the City of Pacific.

The booth space last year was \$25.00, but I do not know how much it will be this year. You take and set up a table in a plot and people go by. There is usually a lot of kids there. If you want to sell some of your stuff you can. They have been crying for people to set up booths from last year. This year they have a new committee and it is being held on a different day than Auburn days has their festival. You would have to pack everything up for the night. You can bring your family and BBQ or just have a brown bag picnic go for a swim but fair warning that water is cold. Let me know what you all think. This would also be a good way of getting some scout activity going. This would also be a good time to work on your fair entries.

I also talked with the senior center about maybe having a demo class with them. They will meet soon and will let me know if they are interested. The new director seems interested.

Thanks,

**Barbara Lourdes**  
253-833-7855

## Tiffany Park Workshop

PSLAC members visited **Cub Scout Pack 710** on Tuesday January 27, 2004 at **Tiffany Park Elementary School** in Renton Washington.

**Richard Thorkildson**, Pack Master, conducted opening ceremonies followed by groups working at two leather stations. The scout groups consisted of Tiger Cubs, Wolf Cubs, siblings and parents.

**Jeff Bement** taught the methods to decorate a 'rounder' (3" leather disc), a key fob and a tie slide. **Dave Jensen** assisted and set the rivets for the tie slides. The key fob used a rivet to hold the key ring to the leather.

The second station was a Hide Game. **Deborah Evans** led the groups through a hands-on experience with leather hides and discussion of their various attributes. Examples for consideration: art work (embossed), drum, fox, frog, lizard, mallet, rabbit, shark, snake, turkey, wallets (cow and buffalo) and a section of zebra hide.

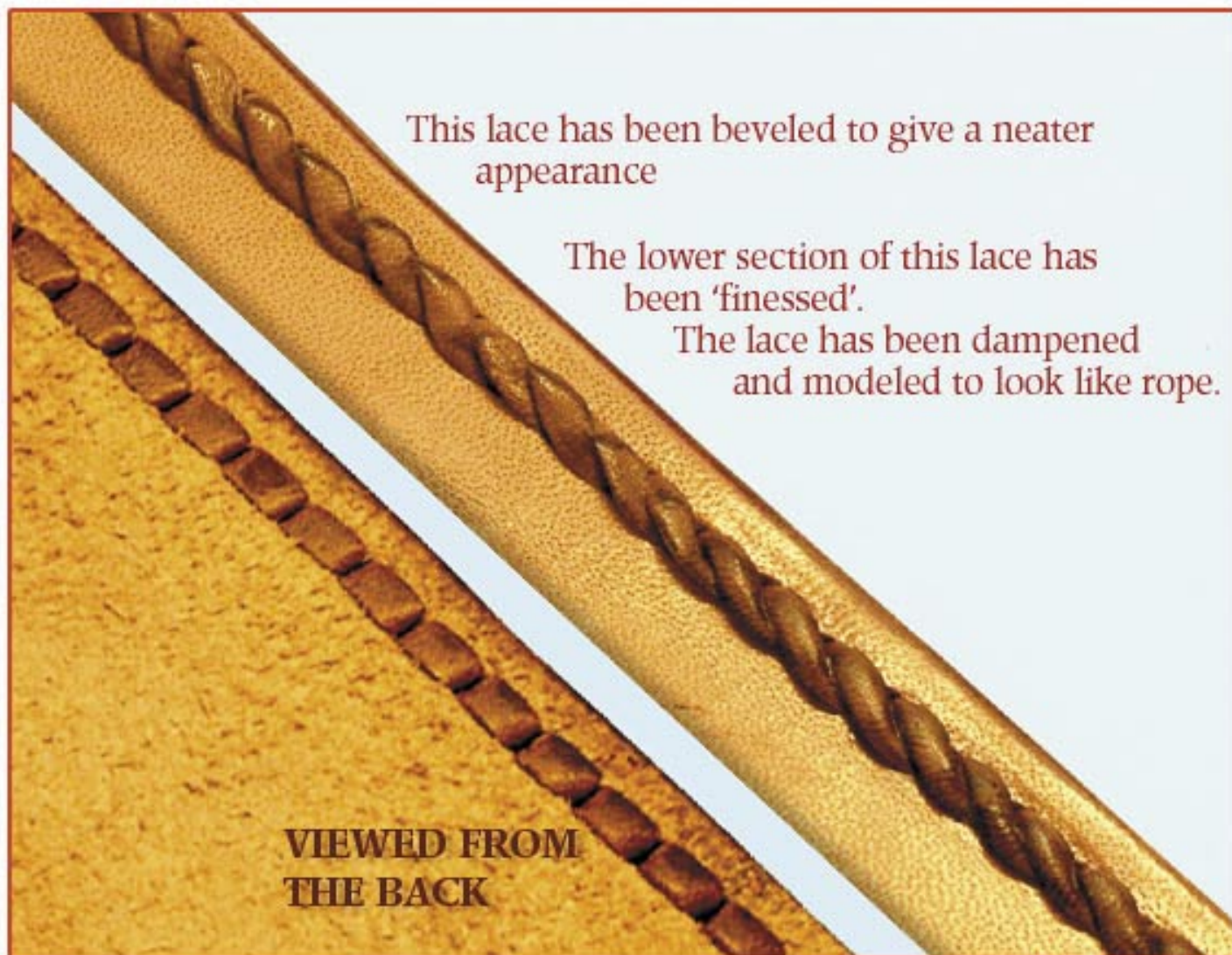
A special thanks to **Dusty Wert** for sharing her collection for use in this workshop.

Adults and youth enjoyed expanding their knowledge and skills in leatherwork.

"If it's not fun, it's not Scouting" said **BADEN POWELL**.

**Debbie Evans**





This lace has been beveled to give a neater appearance

The lower section of this lace has been 'finessed'.

The lace has been dampened and modeled to look like rope.

**VIEWED FROM THE BACK**

*Peter Main 2004*

## Stairstep Applique

Hello Bob,

Thought I would forward this to you for the PSLAC magazine—there was a lot of interest in this simple, but effective decoration. Perhaps you have Bruce Grants book and could give the page number for this 'stairstep applique' (ref: **Encyclopedia of Rawhide and Leather Braiding** by **Bruce Grant**, copyright © 1972 by Cornell Maritime Press, Inc., page 444, plate 183)

And thanks to **Verlane** for giving this 'applique' a name. I used to call it 'rope lacing'. I was shown this a few decades back by a gentleman at a craft market. He was doing it on site and making little purses. I made a few items using this only as a decoration, although it can be used as an assembly method. If you are using this in construction, it is wise to add a few 'hidden' sewing threads

at the beginning (under and between the first couple of holes) at the 'stress' points, the threads are knotted and set with a dab of white glue.

I have done a small sample to show how I made this 'applique' look a little more decorative.

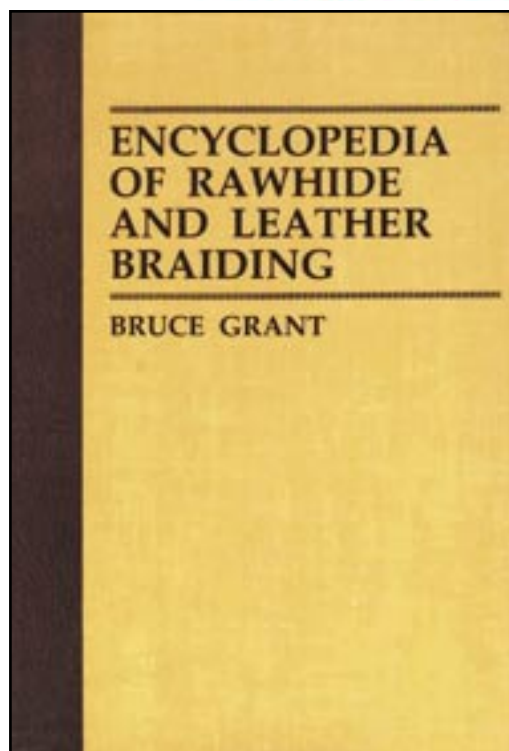
Very busy here in San Francisco putting another book together. Will send out details in a few months. I leave for Germany again in March—just love that place and surrounding countries.

Hope all is well with you,

Regards,

**Peter Main**

Email: [petergmain@msn.com](mailto:petergmain@msn.com)





## SASS by Peter Main

Thought I would forward this to you in case you need a 'filler' somewhere in the magazine. I will post the other 'follow-ups' in separate mails.

...thought I would share some work in progress (which I am really enjoying). It is an embossed appliquéd picture. The boots are made from white kangaroo (skived extremely thin) over sculptured leather plugs. The derringer is the same. All are colored with spirit dye.

... and here is another part of the picture—the subject being the character used by SASS.

This part is made over a sculptured leather plug covered with paper thin goatskin. There are nine parts to this little head—the plug, the crown of the hat, hatband, brim, whiskers each side and moustache with plug.

Asked what I mean by an 'embossed appliquéd picture'—I think the photo here tells the story. The head is 'embossed' and 'appliquéd' (adhered) to a background surface. I started doing these 'separated' pictures over twenty years ago for two reasons. Firstly for more precise detail and secondly, so I would not have to hold moisture in just one piece of leather (for complicated subjects) that take forever to complete.

..and on the following page is the completed picture. This has been a lot of fun. There are 38 separate parts forming this picture—from buttons to background. All coloring is with spirit dyes with the exception of the white for the eyes and black and red on the playing cards—these cards are made from white kangaroo. The SASS on the background is 'modeled' only (not cut). The light texture of the floorboards is also modeled and dry-brushed in a deeper tan than the background. The character (6" high [tall]) is tied to the background with eight threads. White glue is also used, so this picture will stay together forever.

**Peter Main**

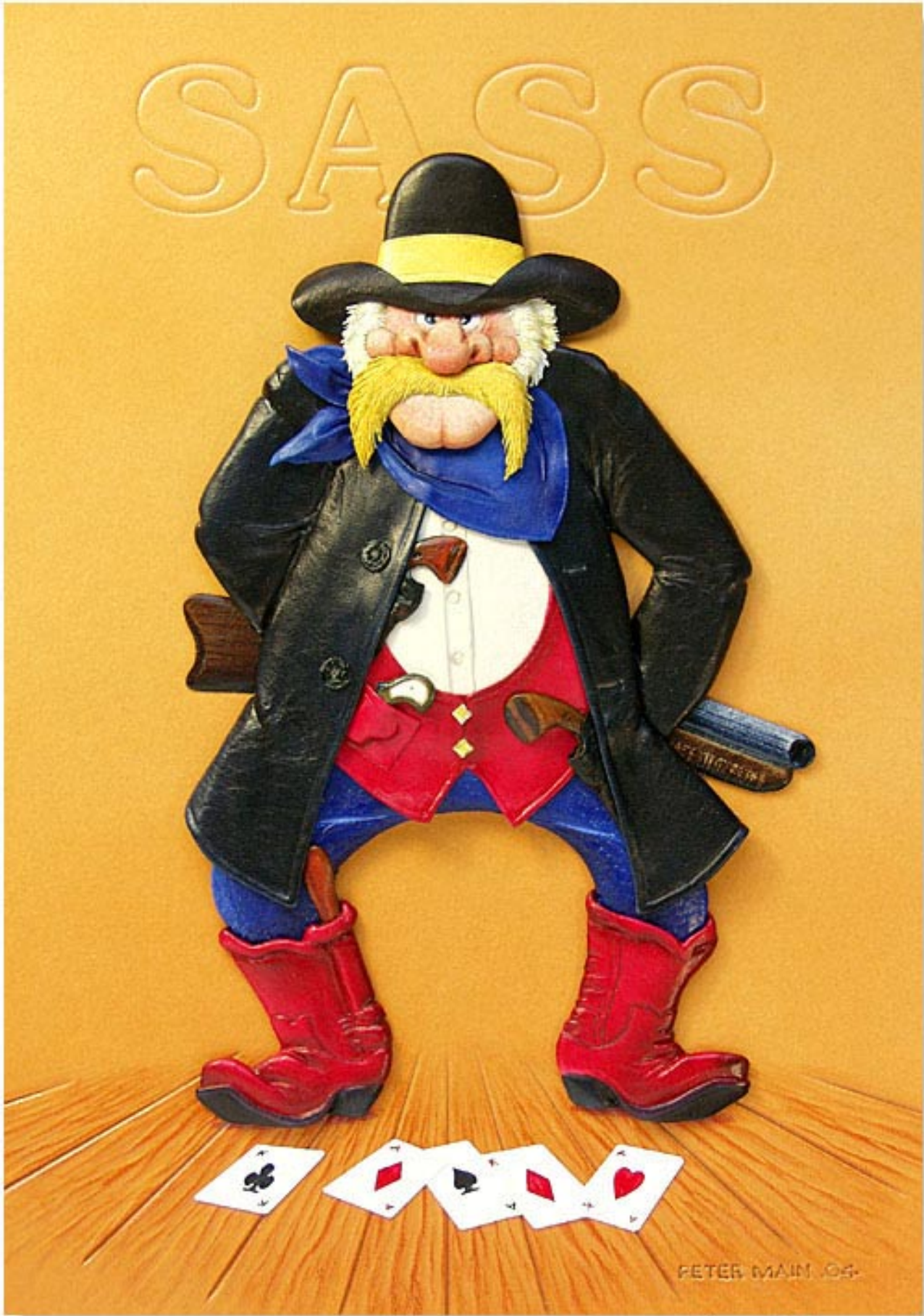
Email: [petergmain@msn.com](mailto:petergmain@msn.com)



*Peter Main 2004*



*Peter Main 2004*



PETER MAIN '04

*Peter Main 2004*

## The "Cougar"

Here is Judy's Cougar pattern so the members who are going to go to the March Demo can trace it on some leather and will be ready to get started at noon the 14th. Judy was showing us that you need the stretching part

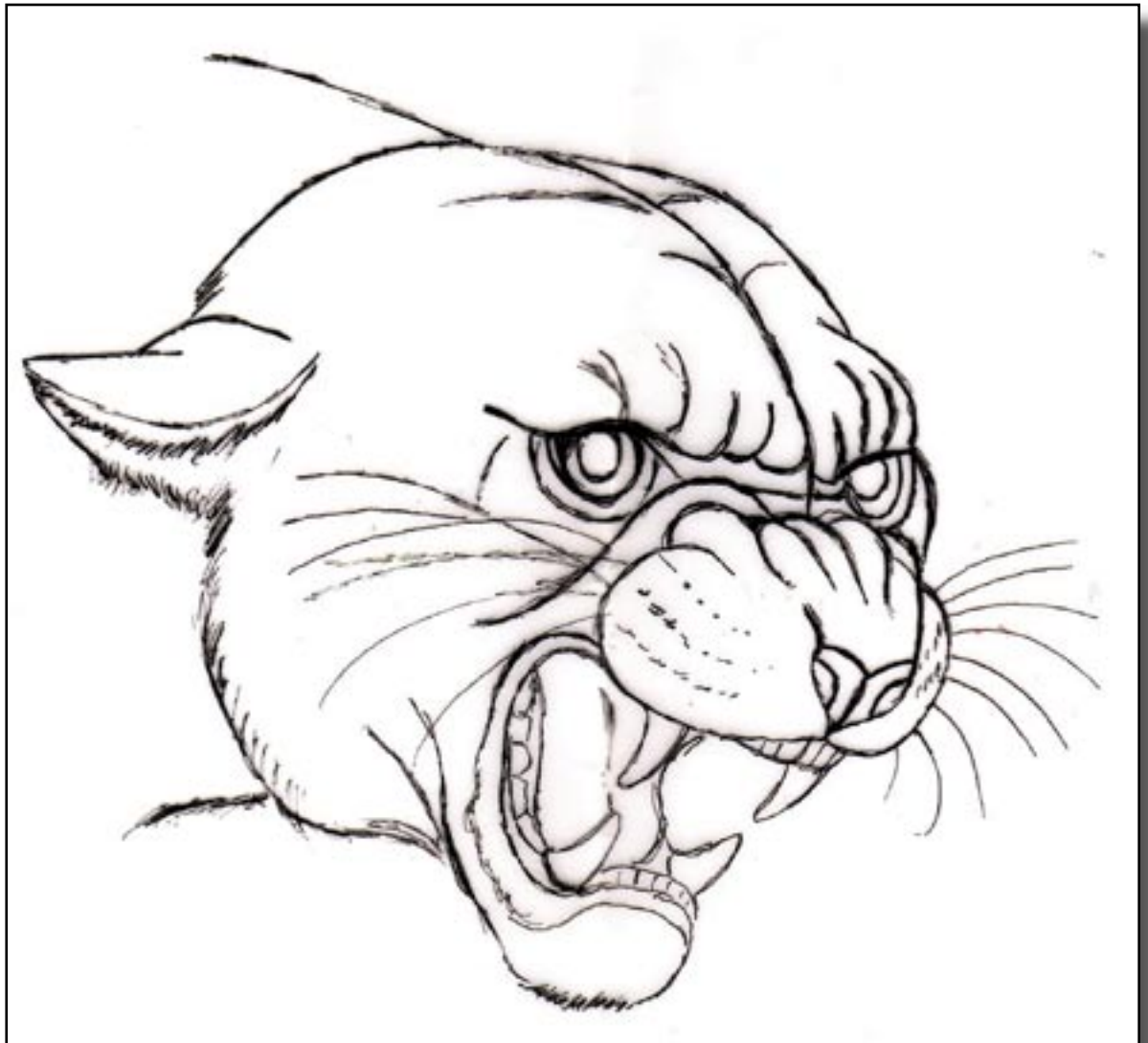


(belly) of the hide. She uses 3-4 oz. leather. Judy thought the leather was about 3 oz. General had a gauge and told her it was 4 1/2 oz. Enlarge or reduce as you see fit. The sample that Judy is holding looks about 4 1/2" across. The one shown here is about 5" from nose to ear.

### **What to bring:**

A piece of leather (3-4 oz), cased with pattern on. If you don't have a piece that you think will do, let Judy or Dusty know in advance, and we can bring one. You will need modeling tools and round end tools\* or marbles, whatever you have used for embossing in the past.

\*The tools that Norm made, featured on page 14 here, upper left corner, is what Judy recommends.





Don Ferguson made this frame for a gentleman he knows. When asked "how much" he told him \$125.00.

The gentleman said he would have paid \$150.00.

Don tried to change the price but the gentleman didn't go for it. ▶

◀Carla the newest member with Ken. Ken and Carla knew each other when they were teenagers and she dated Ken's brother John.



Judy put her personnel touch to the frame. ▶



◀Leather arm cuffs by Ken Imus.

## February Meeting at MacPherson's Leather

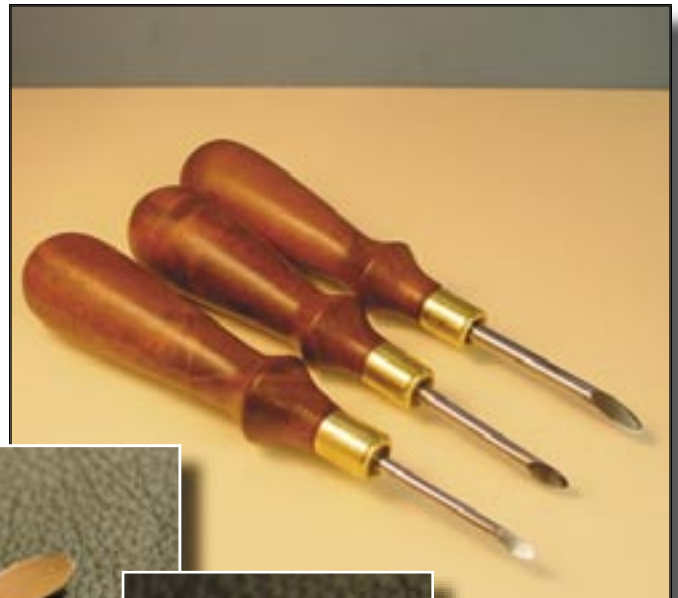


◀ Ray Brooks, a student of Ken Imus, did the key case and rounders for his first projects. Ray also did a tooled belt and buckle to match. His wife loves it so much she wouldn't give it up so Ken could bring it to show and tell. Ray seems to be a promising leather artist. I hope he continues working with leather because he has talent.



▲ Carla wants to learn braiding. I think she knows more than most. I asked her to teach a class. She brought 3 of her hat bands that she made. The white with the black is really rawhide.

Harry Smith made a tri-legged seat using the pattern from the seat he brought to the meeting last month. The second picture is the seat that he brought last month after he conditioned it. Good Job Harry! ▶



### **My New Set of Tools by Norm Lynds**

I can't figure out what was more thrilling this month—my pebble graining tools from Bob Beard or my new set of lifters, modelers and embossers from Norm. *(see advertisement for contact details)*

Those new modelers seem to have just the right edge and roundness for the figure carvings I'm working on.

The lifters (a.k.a. Pro-Petal, by Tandy) work better now that I have three sizes. I couldn't keep from applying one of Bill Churchill's tricks and I ground down the heel of the lifter to reduce the marks caused in its use. (See detail inserts)

**Bob Stelmack**  
Wellington, UK

# CLASSIC BELLS

## SELLING & RESTORING

### ANTIQUE HORSE & SLEIGH BELLS

Hi, Bob,

Thanks for the kind note in response to my membership renewal. Since I live in Iowa, I doubt I will make it to many PSLAC meetings, although I sincerely would like to.

My interest in leatherworking is mainly in reconstructing antique sleigh bell straps and other sleigh-bell related items for my husband's and my business Classic Bells.

My work is fairly simple compared with some of the lovely things that I see on the PSLAC website. I am gradually branching out though -- I have been teaching myself how to make hand-stitched custom knife sheaths and Norwegian-style horse harness.

I don't do much tooling or other fancy work, although I did recently add a simple, decorative edging on a new sleigh bell strap to closely match the edging on the old strap. The original bell strap was originally used by the owner's grandfather, so it was important to him to have the reconstructed strap look like the original.

I was very proud of the results -- for my skill level, the edging was quite an accomplishment. If you're curious, there are photos here:

<http://classicbells.com/Portfolio/HipStraps/HipStraps.htm#TradRumpStrap>

I am always impressed with the quality of the PSLAC newsletter and of the enthusiasm in the group. Keep up the good work -- I shall admire it from afar and benefit from the expertise you all so generously share through the website and the newsletter.

Sincerely,  
DeeAnna Weed  
<http://classicbells.com/>

(The following is from DeeAnna Weed's web site)

### Traditional Sleigh Bell Hip Strap

A hip strap (also called a rump strap) can have two, four, six or even eight bells.

The most common type of bell in a hip strap is the heavy Swedish-style bell (top two photos).

Large "Improved" Swedish and petal-style bells were also used (third and fourth photos).

Jingle bells and petal bells have bright ringing sound. Swedish bells of similar size have a clanging, chime-y sound. Which sounds better? Only our customers can know for sure.

Hip strap with "Improved" Swedish bells dating to the late 1800s or early 1900s. This untooled strap is 20" long by 2 1/2" wide. It has two #10 (2 1/4") and two #12 (2 1/2") bells.

Hip strap with petal bells dating to the mid 1900s. The design of this strap and the sizes of the bells are identical to the strap shown immediately above.

Typical hip-strap leather, as received

### Hartford Sleigh Bell Hip Strap

This unusual hip strap is about 24" long and 3" wide. There are 12 #2 bells (1 1/4" in diameter) and 8 #1 bells (1 1/8").

These "round ridge" bells are similar to a petal-design bell in shape, but they have no design. They date



from the late 1800s to early 1900s. The strap would lay over the horse's back or



rump. The small center strap buckles over the back strap on the horse's harness. This



is a re-creation of a strap from Hartford, Connecticut USA.



# PSLAC Members Only Advertisement Page

## MARQUIS UNIQUE LEATHER ARTISTRY, LLC

Paula and George Marquis



I make almost anything that can be made from leather and can be sewn by hand. I do not like sewing machines and cannot get along with them. Therefore, that excludes making clothing, which entails using very soft leather.

A lot of my works are 'bespoke items', meaning, one of, individual custom requests, ranging anywhere from books and folders to rifle scabbards, holsters and golf bags, fully carved and stamped, and any and all articles in between, which also includes saddles and harness.

I like to make articles that are practical, such as all kinds of bags (including brief cases, bible covers, etc.), belts with a challenge, mouse pads, tissue box holders, knife and sword sheaths, 11th Century bottles (sealed so they can be used as wine carafes), to various types of boxes (both useful and decorative) and other artistic decorations including such things as moulded bowls and vases as well as framed pictures.

Phone: (206)-523-6295

Email: [marquispg@aol.com](mailto:marquispg@aol.com)

## DIAMOND P RANCH

Phil O'Neil

Custom Saddle Repair & Custom Chaps



Email: [bjoneill@worldnet.att.net](mailto:bjoneill@worldnet.att.net)

Any PSLAC Member can advertise leather related products or services, subject to approval. Just send your text, picture and/or logo to [stelmack@nwlink.com](mailto:stelmack@nwlink.com)



## Norm Lynds Toolmaker

Mallets, Modelers, embossing tools,  
lifters and others on request

Phone: (360) 668-7004

E-mail: [NWLynds@Juno.com](mailto:NWLynds@Juno.com)



# Leather Company Advertisement Page



Toll Free:  
**(800) 541-3264**

**Bee Natural  
Leather-  
care**

*The ultimate in  
leather care prod-  
ucts*

P.O. Box 820803, Vancouver, WA 98682-0018  
(360) 891-7178, FAX: (360) 891-7166  
Email: [bnatura@pacifier.com](mailto:bnatura@pacifier.com)

## **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*

## Ken's Knothole

We are looking putting together a calendar of upcoming meetings and demo's for rest of this year. I hope to have that somewhat firmed up and in the April RG. **Bob** has posted a notice of the changes for dates of meetings in April and May. We are planning now for get togethers this summer to work on projects and maybe a **UFO** to work on those **Unfinished Fair-entry Objects**. **Len** is working options for a class either from premier leather workers **Bob Beard** or **Joe Barth**, also for sometime this summer. More on this as it firms up.

CASCADE MOUNTAIN MEN Muzzle Loading Arms and Pioneer Craft show, is coming up on March 13 and 14, so unfortunately I'll have to miss the meeting on the 14<sup>th</sup> at the Issaquah Senior Center, and **Judy's Cougar Modeling Demonstration** before the meeting.

*NOTE: new location for the Muzzle Loading Arms and Pioneer Craft show, this year, it has been moved to the MONROE fairgrounds in Monroe, WA. in Snohomish County (from Enumclaw/King County Fair grounds). See CMM website below for details and a map, or call me for more details (425-481-9214). If you've never been to this show it is a real visual treat, with all the vendors dressed in Colonial through Mountain Man/Fur Trade era period costumes, and a lot of the local blackpowder club members dress up and make a day of it as well. You won't find modern carved leather work there, but you will see lots of beads, furs, rawhides, deer skins, knife supplies, and maybe get some ideas for projects.*

<http://www.cascademountainmen.org/>

## RawHide Gazette

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

Copyright © 2002 PSLAC, Puget Sound Leather Artisans Co-Op

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@comcast.net](mailto:jeffbement@comcast.net)

The RawHide Gazette is provided to the Puget Sound Leather Artisans Co-Op as a part of their membership benefits. Annual dues are \$24.00 USD per year.

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.

## 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](mailto: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 permitting.*

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



Toll Free Order Lines:  
1-(888) 263-5277  
Fax: 1-(888) 263-5086

### Hide Crafter Leathercraft

Offering wholesale discount to PSLAC members  
ON-LINE CATALOG [www.hidecrafter.com](http://www.hidecrafter.com)

7936 Camp Bowie West  
Ft. Worth, TX 76116

George Hurst, Manager  
email: [hcrafter@flash.net](mailto:hcrafter@flash.net)

Outside Washington  
1-800-343-9949

(206) 328-0855  
Fax: 328-0859

### MACPHERSON

### Leather Company

Leather, Shoe Finding and Saddlery

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

Greg MacPherson

519 - 12th Avenue S.  
Seattle, Washington 98144

Support our sponsors and take advantage of the PSLAC Membership Discounts

**PSLAC** Puget Sound Leather Artisans Co-op Home of the Rawhide Gazette <http://pslac.org>

Check on your Membership Status. Enter at least three characters of your name or email address and submit:

(Click here for Administration of the Membership Database)

Search this site by keywords (Note: the PDF Rawhide Gazette issues are not searched, but the index to the issues is.)

Latest issue of the Rawhide Gazette and the Members Only Issue.

Interesting features:

PSLAC MEMBER Pages for the PSLAC Members	PSLAC Library: index, books and articles (most available for checkout for members)	The current Membership Location Chart
Timber Grain Pen Color Chart	Leather Stamping Tool Index	Meet one of our Members chosen at random
Random leather tip -- if you've got another one, send it in	Brochure describing PSLAC and the Rawhide Gazette (PDF format)	Leather 3D Excel Spreadsheet used to estimate and price your project
Sample Styles for setting up a Co-Op		

### 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.

### Start a Child in Leathercraft Today



### Bill Churchill's Childrens Leather Program

Confidence  
Observation  
Practice  
Imagination



## Dusty Johnson

**PLEASANT VALLEY SADDLE SHOP**  
1220 S. County Rd. 21  
Loveland, CO 80537  
Phone: (970) 669-1588  
Fax: (970) 669-1589  
E-Mail: dusty@pvsaddleshop.com  
URL: <http://www.pvsaddleshop.com>

*Offering a 20% discount to the PSLAC members*

## BRETTUNS VILLAGE LEATHER

**Selling odd lots, miscellaneous overstocks,  
bargain leathers and leathercraft  
accessories, all from Maine, only online**

Sides, Full Hides, Buckles, Key Rings, Laces, Thread,  
Tools, Rivets, Scrap Pieces, Elk & Buffalo Scrap

**Always Free Shipping in the 48 States**

[www.brettunsvillage.com](http://www.brettunsvillage.com)

## Leather Factory

**Durham Hefta**  
Manager



**Portland**

Phone (503) 255-8818  
Fax (503) 255-9011  
Toll Free (888) 277-3360  
[www.leatherfactory.com](http://www.leatherfactory.com)

13221 N.E. Whitaker Way  
Portland, OR 97230-1128

*Offering a wholesale discount to the PSLAC members*



**SKYSHOOTER**  
(Dave)  
(425)823-0110

**TRADER'S**  
Stitching Posts at  
Wholesale

**SCREAM'N EAGLE**  
(Mike)  
(360)658-1847

## Tandy Leather Boise

**JoAnne Tackitt, Manager**  
285 N. Orchard St.  
Boise, ID 83706



**Toll Free:**  
**1-800-930-2850**  
(ph. 208-375-5589. Fax. 208-375-7168)

<http://www.tandy-leather.com>

*Offering a wholesale discount to the PSLAC members*

## The Leather Factory

**Kermit P. Creek**  
Manager



**Billings**

Phone (406) 256-1355  
Fax (406) 256-1360  
Toll Free (888) 277-3323  
[www.leatherfactory.com](http://www.leatherfactory.com)

115 North 30th Street  
Billings, MT 59101-2032

*Offering a wholesale discount to the PSLAC members*



## TWLeather, Inc.

**Toll Free: 1-800-477-9923**  
2017A White Settlement Rd.  
Fort Worth, TX 76107  
(817) 877-5427, Fax (817) 877-5432

*Offering a wholesale discount to the PSLAC members*

## Tandy Leather

**Jim Linnell**  
Director of Operations



**Toll Free:**  
**1-888-890-1611**

<http://www.tandy-leather.com>

*Offering a wholesale discount to the PSLAC members*



## Leather Factory Spokane

28 West Boone Ave, Spokane, WA 99201  
Phone: (509) 328-9939  
Toll Free: 1-800-822-8437  
Fax: (509) 326-7019

*Offering a wholesale discount to the PSLAC members*

[www.leatherfactory.com](http://www.leatherfactory.com)



Email: [jwleathercrafter@qwest.net](mailto:jwleathercrafter@qwest.net)

(503) 293-2833

Fax: 977-1762

*J & W*

*Leather Crafters*

Leather Repair: Saddles, Tack, Harness, Chaps, anything  
Leather except clothing. We make new Items & Custom Orders

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

*Offering a 10% off retail discount to the PSLAC members*

"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 downtown 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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. Address: 75 NE Creekway, Issaquah, WA 98027

---

---

## **PSLAC**

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

