

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

Puget Sound Leather Artisans Co-Op

October 2006

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Meeting Announcement

NEXT MEETING on
Sunday, October
8th
at the
Quil Ceda Tannery
at 2pm

(see last page for map)

The Puyallup Fair

Once again, Marilyn Fankhauser, Hobby Hall Demonstration Coordinator championed the Leather Displays at the Hobby Hall. She has steadfastly supported all leather crafters and maintained a place to show of the craft of leather. The PSLAC volunteers and Marilyn's scheduling made it possible to reach a large number of young and old and give a taste of the craft. Many thanks to Marylin for her continued support.

This fair is listed as the sixth largest in the country with many things to see and do. Where else would you find a half ton pumpkin?

Demos and Leather Samples of the Puyallup Fair



1:30-3:30
Leather
 With Paula Margolis,
 Rusty West,
 David Jensen,
 Debbie Evans!





2006 Chan Geer Workshop

by Paula Marquis

I think we had the largest group ever (*at least since I've been a member of PSLAC*) for a two-day workshop. I guess that says something about **Chan Geer's** popularity.

It was an absolutely wonderful two days and Chan can come back anytime he wants and I'll be first in line to sign up.

The first day Saturday was a very long day from 8.00a.m. to 7.00p.m. because we couldn't get the hall on Sunday till 10.30a.m. and we needed as much time as possible to get our project completed, which none of us actually did. I think **Carol Gessel** and **Jeff Nabors** got pretty close to finishing. I think we nearly wore Chan out the first day as he never got a chance to sit down except for the lunch break.

We had 17 people come to the workshop:

General Seymour
Ken Eriksen
Len Madison
Michael Foley
Joshua Foley
Jeff Bement
Jeff Nabors
D.J. Estrada
Barbara Lourdes
Woody Collins
Jackie Halliday

Norm Lynds
John Wickstrom
Roger Kaiser
Carol Gessel
Paula Marquis
Dave Puls

Chan brought all the materials we needed for the project which were sponsored by various suppliers which I will list at the end of this article. Their sponsorship was very much appreciated and we THANK YOU ALL VERY MUCH.

First order for the day was to mark out our borders for the overall pattern and then the panels (back and front). Chan had some tap-offs for those who didn't want to draw their patterns out. The tap-offs were pretty popular and so they took a while to make the rounds. I had already drawn my pattern out on tracing film, so went ahead and transferred the pattern to the paper.

Once we had the pattern drawn and carved, we moved on to the back panel and made a framework outline that was pleasing to the eye, then marked out the border inside that and used a tool that Chan designed. It looks like lacing through three holes. The tool can be purchased from Hidecrafter (I got mine from Andy in Denver), it's in their catalogue on page 47, tool No. PX008. On the inside of the panel we did a basketweave, but, ran the basketweave in different directions to make 'arrow heads'. The finish looked very effective.

Then we returned to the front panel and

started on our Sheridan carving. It was slow going to most of us as we were not familiar with this style. Carol Gessel and Jeff Nabors had already done a fair amount of Sheridan Style Carving so they took off at a roaring pace and left most of us behind. Of course, I could have got a lot further and so could **General** if we hadn't been having such a good time talking and laughing! We weren't the only ones, there was a lot of talking and laughing going on around the room and everybody was asking Chan's advice and help. He was kept very busy going from person to person around the room showing and explaining how to get the best results. I'm not normally as slow as I was with this project, but, it was a whole new concept to me, I had only every tried Sheridan Style Carving once before. The job does not go as fast as the traditional style carving and there is a lot more bevelling to do. The results are well worth the effort. I think about half the class got all the carving and stamping done by the end of the first day. Carol of course shot way ahead of the rest of us and had her's all carved and ready to leave to dry with nearly two hours to spare. Of course, that's not a good thing for the rest of us, and I knew General had brought along some leather already cut and stuck down on some cardboard, so I got him to give that to Carol to start carving and stamping. That kept Carol quiet till home time. She finished all the carving and stamping on that during the following week and brought it to the Monthly Meeting for General to finish by assembling it and then giving it to Ann.

I tried using a pear shader on my flower

petals instead of the Thumbprint tool that is for Sheridan style carving. The results were not good and I purchased the Thumbprints. Also purchased quite a few other tools, which enhanced the work and made it look a lot better. It really is true, you need the right tools to get the right results. It was a very expensive weekend for me as I purchased quite a lot of **Barry King's tools**, and a **Jeff Cook small head knife** and books, etc. etc. In fact, I think it was an expensive weekend for quite a few of the participants. It was fun, though!

Day 2 - Sunday.

I couldn't get to the workshop till about 11.30a.m. and everybody was well on the way with their dyeing and antiquing. A few of us were still sitting around stamping, asking Chan a million questions and buying more tools.

Most of the day was spent with antiquing and waiting in between each stage for the antique to dry then on to the next stage. By mid-afternoon those who had done their antiquing were ready to start lacing and Chan got them all started with the two colours. By home time quite a few were well on their way with the lacing and Carol Gessell and Jeff Nabors were nearly finished with their lacing.

I probably could have got a lot further with my work if I hadn't been having such a good time, but, even so I was a lot slower than I normally am as this Sheridan style of work was very different to what I normally do and being unfamiliar with it, it tends to slow a person down, but, with a little more practice I should pick up speed again, and I think this applied to most of us who hadn't done Sheridan style work before. Speaking for myself, I learned a LOT of new techniques and ways of using the new tools.

It was a great weekend Chan and you did a wonderful job. Hope we didn't wear you out too much and trust we'll see you again in the future.

Here is the list of Sponsors and all they supplied for our weekend. THANK YOU all and you'll probably hear from us at various times in the future.

HERMAN OAK LEATHER CO. - supplied all the carving leather for the workshop.

RON'S TOOLS COMPANY - sent along various edging tools for us to try out and purchase.

STEVENSON-PAXTON SALES (SHERIDAN LEATHER OUTFITTERS) - Lining Leathers for the folder.

BEE NATURAL LEATHERCARE - Pro Carve, RTC. and Leather Finish.

FIEBING'S LEATHER FINISHES - Richard Chase 1-800-558-1033 - Antique finishes and Tan Kote

JIM DOWNEY - Kangaroo Lacing and Lace Bevellers.

HIDE CRAFTER LEATHER COMPANY - Sheep skin for antiquing and Rubber Cement and Contact Cement.

GREY GHOST GRAPHICS - Makes very good maker stamps.

Sunday night after the workshop was finished, a large group of us, spouses included, invaded **Black Angus** at Federal Way and had a great night socializing and eating. It was an excellent finish to an excellent weekend.

by Norm Lynds

Chan Geer's class was very interesting. Chan had everything ready for the class. Each of us received a large plastic bag with the patterns, picture of the finished project, and supplies for making the project. Chan led us through the steps of design, layout, swivel knife work, tooling, and finishing of the project. He also had a selection of his videos and books, and tools by Barry King, Ron's Tools and Jim Downey. For many of us it was a very expensive week end.

We were a bit pressed for time getting all the tooling and finishing done. I had to do the lacing later at home. For those, such as myself that were not very familiar with the Sheridan style carving, it was a learning experience with new techniques. One of the things I learned, was not to lift the flower petals very much. I had mine standing up very nicely above the rest of the surface, but they got mashed down during the construction and finishing stages.

I particularly liked learning the technique

of making the arrowhead pattern with the basketweave stamp.

All in all, it was a very interesting and informative class, and I would recommend it to anyone who is interested in the Sheridan style of carving.

by Michael Foley

Joshua and I waited all summer for this class to convene, anticipating a great learning experience in a style (Chan's style) that we both admire and have been studying for a year or so. We were thrilled when the day finally came and speaking for both of us - we were not disappointed. We thought the class was well organized, really appreciated the sponsorships and contributions of all Chan's industry friends, and we really enjoyed visiting and working with Chan. You may have picked up on the fact that I am originally from a small town just outside of Sheridan, Wyoming and that Chan and my Dad worked together out at the **Decker Coal Mines** for many years. It was fun to report back to Dad when I met Chan and both gentlemen spoke kindly of one another about their time together out at the mine. For Joshua and me, it was fun to make that connection with 'the place I hail from'.

Aside from the old home days ... Joshua and I were very pleased with the stack of carving tips we picked up from Chan and just as importantly, from **our new friends at PSLAC**. I was delighted by the willingness of the much more skilled carvers to offer friendly critique and share their tips on how to solve some of our novice mistakes. I've already finished two of the notebooks and I am looking forward to tweaking the designs a little and make a few more for Christmas gifts this year. After this great first experience with the PSLAC workshop, we are both looking forward to many more in the future.

by Jeff Nabors

First off I would like to start by saying hello to everyone. This is my first class or instruction for new styles of leather craft. I would say that I am self taught for the most part. I did get lucky enough to spend a couple of days in Sheridan, WY about a year ago. I had just started learning how to carve and tool, so what better place to go and learn. **Chan Geer's** workshop was a blast. To have a person of Chan's talent and character come

out and share his knowledge of leather working, is to say the least, exhilarating.

On Saturday we were able to learn little techniques that would allow us to improve our techniques. From drawing patterns, using tap-offs to making a long-lasting template that will come in handy for lifetime's worth of leatherworking. Chan was very receptive and responsive with the students and their questions and concerns. Taking the time to visit with each and everyone and offering tips to help improve the overall design.

On Sunday, Chan shared with us his technique for staining and lacing. The double cordovan lacing with two colors was a bit of a challenge, but the finished product is eye catching. I feel that now with the procedures that I learned in the class will allow me to add new things to my repertoire for my future customers.

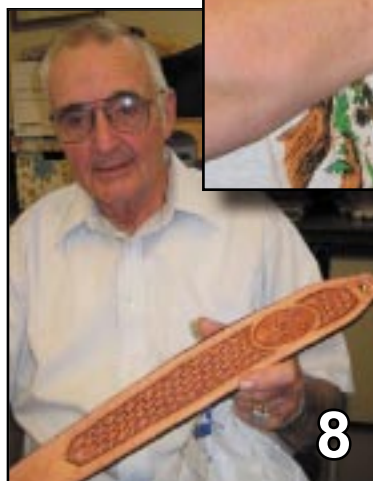
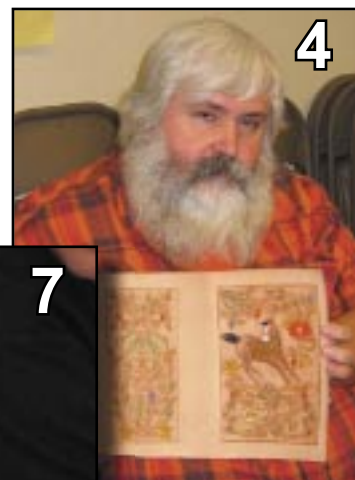
To simply sum up the two day class into a couple paragraphs, I would have to say that the price is moderate and the instruction was superb. I would have expected to pay more for a class of this type. I would like to take the time to say Thanks to Chan and all the other suppliers of leather, stain, and tools that were brought to the class. If there were another class like this offered in the future you can bet that I will be the first on to sign up.

Carol's Bargrounder Demonstration

Carol Gessel gave a demonstration at the September meeting on using the Bargrounder and getting good results. Pictured here are the students and those good results"

- 1-Carol & Dave
- 2-Carol's carving
- 3-Dave Livingston close to his work
- 4-Dave Livingston
- 5-Dave Puls
- 6-Ken Imus' purse
- 7-Paula
- 8-Phil O'Neill

...and on the next page is John Wickstrom and his work:



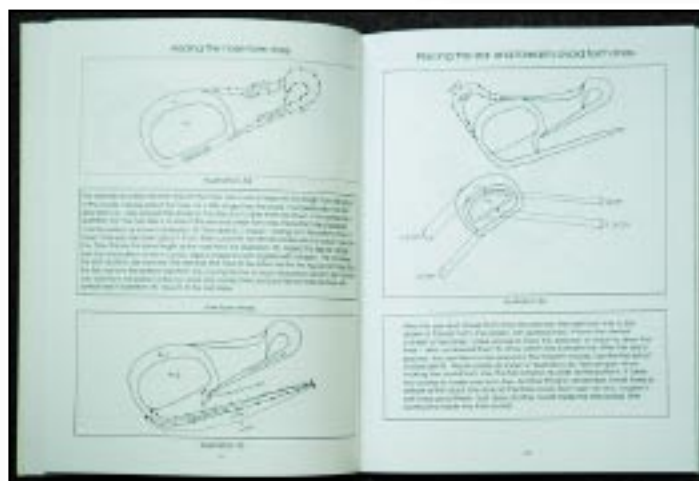
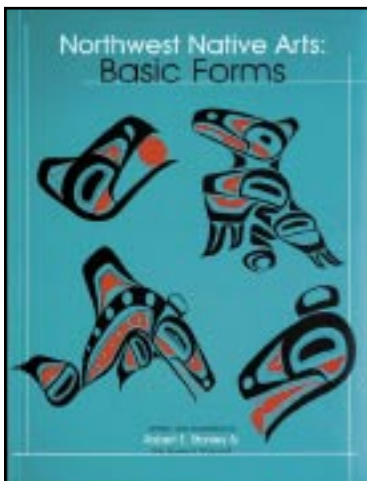


1-John Wickstrom
 2-John's folder
 3-John's notebook back
 4-John's notebook front

Northwest Coastal Indian Design Books



Northwest Coast Indian Painting, House Fronts and Interior Screens by Edward Malin gives the history and the different design philosophies or the different coastal tribes. Almost half the book is devoted to photographs and drawings of those designs placed on the Indian dwellings.



Northwest Native Arts: Basic Forms by Robert E. Stanleys Sr. shows the basic forms, just like other design books, but expands the descriptions on to show how to connect and form for a total fluid shape. Most design books any show the design elements—this one shows the shapes used to the balance the total image.

Dusty's Puyallup Fair Pictures



◀Amy is a petite 4 year old that had to have the mom help who was happy to help her. They didn't like her choice of 3-D stamp. She asked to do a TRUCK.

Hi Dusty

Thank you and your team for your many hours standing and pounding at the Puyallup Fair. We sure enjoyed stopping by your table. You took a picture of my little Victoria on Wednesday and mentioned that you'd like to forward a copy. In case that is still a possibility I'd love to have it. Here is our email address: <snip>

Thank you again. The kids really did enjoy getting their little imprint. :)

Gorette'



This little guy could work better with tongue out. Worked for him.



"I'm Marilyn biggest fan."



The crowd it was bigger but by the time I got the camera out they had moved on.▶

Upcoming Events

PSLAC Current Schedule

General Member's meetings are on the 2nd Sunday of each Month.

Mini-Demos at meeting.

2006

October - Meeting will be held at Quil Ceda at Marysville. (No Mini-Workshop)

November - John Wickstrom - Pattern Drawing/Swivel Knife Work.

December -

2007

January -

February - MacPherson's - No Mini-Workshop.

All-Day Workshops.

2006

September 30th - Norm Lynds - Sharpening knives - at General's home.

October 28th - Ken Eriksen - Making a mandala - at Len's home.

December 2nd - Paula Marquis - Bookbinding Class - at General's home.

2007

January 27th - Ken Imus - Cowboy Cuffs - at Len's home.

February 24th - Paula Marquis - Carving a Persian Cat - at General's home.

March 31st - To be set.

April 28th - To be set.

May 26th - Jackie Halliday - Colouring the Persian Cat - at General's home.

North breakfast >>> Last Friday of the month at 10:00 AM
at Elmer's Restaurant at Lynnwood.

South breakfast >>> The 3rd Saturday of the month at 8:30 AM

Workshop Report

As the year is winding up our list of workshops is getting shorter and we are starting to look at workshops for next year.

There will be no mini-demo before the meeting in October as we will meet at the Quil Ceda Tanning Co in Marysville. The address is: 3922 88th Street N.E., Marysville. WA 98270 (phone: (360) 659 1333). At that meeting we can pick up all our supplies for the Mandala workshop by Ken Eriksen on Saturday 28th October, from 9.00a.m. to 5.00p.m. at Len's home, the address being 4908 Harbor Lane, Everett. WA 98203. the workshop will cost the usual \$25.00 per person.

The November mini-workshop before the meeting will be conducted by John Wickstrom, it will cover swivel knife work. We've all seen how nice John's swivel knife cuts are, so it is a session to be looking forward to.

The November workshop has been shifted to December 2nd (due to Thanksgiving), all day 9.00a.m. to 5.00p.m. at General's home, and his address is: 17915 212th Avenue, E., Orting. WA 98360-9246. Paula Marquis will be doing that workshop and it will be a bookbinding class. Again the normal fee of \$25.00 will apply plus the cost of materials, but, Paula doesn't think that will exceed \$17.00. You can sign up and pay for that class at the October meeting.

We have three workshops already lined up for next year, one with Ken Imus making Cowboy Cuffs, one carving a Persian Cat with Paula Marquis and one with Jackie Halliday colouring the Persian Cat.

We still need quite a few ideas for workshop and the Directors don't want to be the only ones to choose workshops, so give us some ideas of the things you would like to learn.

Here are a few ideas to start you thinking:

Three-ring Binder
Spur Straps
Holsters
Knife Sheaths
Quivers

Help us and give us ideas of what you the members want.

Len Madison
Workshop Co-Ordinator.

PSLAC Members Only Advertisement Page

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

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Paula and George Marquis

www.marquisuniqueleather.com



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.

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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.

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.

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