

RawHide Gazette

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"Without question, the RawHide Gazette is by far the best and most informative and comprehensive Guild publications of all of them! You are to be commended for your very fine and professional efforts. Keep up the good work. With admiration"

/signed/

Al & Ann Stohman, December 1997

Puget Sound Leather Artisans Co-Op

February 2007

Hide Highlights

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Carol Gessell Profile

I drove along the winding 2-lane highway underneath an umbrella of trees. The river was rather quiet now, unlike it had been a few weeks before. I finally found what I was looking for, a green address sign at the entrance to a gravel driveway. The drive wound its way up the hill alongside a small creek. Several trees had been knocked down by a recent windstorm. About a quarter of a mile up the winding drive I came to the house and barn. Carol Gessell was there to meet me. Their place is at the top of a hill and overlooks the foothills of the North Cascade Mountains. It was overcast and I couldn't see the mountains themselves, but on a clear day Mt Baker and several of the other peaks are visible.



Meeting Announcement

**Next Meeting on
Sunday February 11th
at 1PM**

Meet at MacPherson Leather Company. 12th and Weller Seattle. Perfect chance to stock up on leather, supplies and findings.

(See last page for map)



The barn loft serves as her workshop. A couple of the first things I noticed were the windows facing those hills, and also overlooking the pasture where her 2 black Friesian horses were grazing. But her 2 large poly covered work benches were facing into the shop, not out at that view, except her stamping bench faces the north window and those mountains. A wood stove heats the shop.

Her father bought her an introductory kit when she was a small girl. Interest fell off after a couple of years and reappeared years later because of her horses. Dissatisfied with what was available she started making her own gear, starting with bridles, belts, and other simple projects. People saw them and she started getting orders. She is self-taught, except for the 6 weeks or so that she spent with Pete Gorrell learning saddle making. That first saddle now resides in the tack compartment of her transport trailer.



About 3 years ago people started asking if she could make jackets, vests, chaps, etc. Well – yes. Carol draws her own patterns for everything; jackets, vests, chaps, saddles, spur straps, bridles, and whatever else. She also does decorative beading and uses spots, rhinestones, engraved silver, and whatever else she can dream up to decorate



her projects. Currently her largest orders are for chaps, 6 pair this month alone. On her torso forms are one jacket just completed, and another just started. Both will have matching chaps.

She gets her saddle trees from Bill Bean, one of which is sitting on the pull down awaiting its first piece of leather, which will be attached within the next couple of weeks. We will follow its construction and have photos along the way.



Three sewing machines, light, medium, and heavy duties made by Juki and Artisan are aligned along part of 1 wall. Her storage room has deep shelves packed with various leathers, and bins full of the small pieces, which she uses for small projects and the decorative sections on her clothing and chaps.

She enjoys tooling the most, and her eventual goal is full

time making saddles.

I've said enough, and will let the pictures speak for themselves.

Her web contact is:
<www.blackhorseleather.com>

Phone 425 482-4343

Norm



More of Carol's Headstalls



Next Page:

- North Breakfast group
- Norm's Elk Tandy Cover

North Breakfast Report

Not much from the North End breakfast this month. Mostly just friendly visiting.

11 people attended the January breakfast. Len dropped by for a short visit. Others in attendance were Paula, George, Sister Rachael, Norm, Letty, General, Ann, Robb Gray, James Hamilton, Fred King, and Dusty, who came with General and Ann.

There were only 2 items for show and tell, one, a dragon sample made by Paula for a customer who wants several chair backs carved. The other was the elk cover of the current Tandy catalog done by Norm.

Pictures by General and Dusty.

General

Paula's Dragon





Happy New Year!

We have reduced some of our volume pricing:

Mixing and matching of colors or types are allowed for reaching the

Quantity	Suede Carp	Glazed Carp	Suede Perch	Glazed Perch
1 - 100	\$5	\$6	\$6	\$7
100 - 300	\$4	\$5	\$5	\$6
300 - 500	\$3.50	\$4.50	\$4.50	\$5.50
Over 500	contact us	contact us	contact us	contact us

quantity discount levels. Sea Leather Wear will honor previous fish leather purchases, for cumulative volume discounting on current purchases. For instance, if you previously purchased 60 skins, you need only purchase another 40, to receive the volume discounted price that would apply for 100. For a confirmation of your account balance, please contact us.

Please note that these prices are in Canadian dollars, and the current U.S. dollar exchange rate is more favorable for our U.S. customers now than it was a few months ago.

Our sample packets <<http://www.sealeatherwear.com/sample-packets-c-27.html>> are of carp skins. Our perch skins are slightly wider than the carp skins and have smaller scale pockets. The perch skins are not currently pictured on our website.

We have set up stocklots <<http://www.sealeatherwear.com/stocklots-c-28.html>> in quantities of up to 200, and recently adjusted some of the pricing, on our stocklots page. Customers who have previously purchased one of our sample packets, can apply the credit toward one of the stocklot purchases. Please contact us, as our web based ordering system will not automatically apply the credit.

We are interested in showing the diverse use of our products by adding our customers' pictures to our apparel <<http://www.sealeatherwear.com/fish-leather-apparel-ideas.php>> and accessory <<http://www.sealeatherwear.com/fish-leather-accessories-ideas.php>> pages. If you have purchased our skins previously and would allow us to add your item here, please contact us.

If at any time you have concerns or difficulties using our website, or have any other issue requiring discussion, please contact us.

Stanley Major
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PSLAC EAST Report



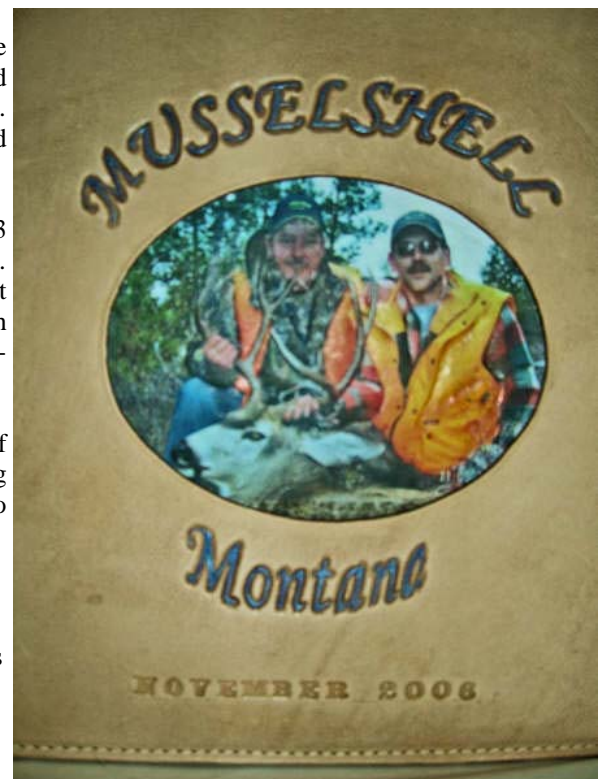
Thought I'd write in and let you know what's been going on here on the East side. Jackie and I continue to instruct at the Leather Factory on the 2nd Saturday of the month and we are slowly building up a group of regulars. I've finished a basic carving class and started a class on Business Card cases (from scratch or kit) that has gotten good response.

In February I'll start a carving session on Chan Geer's style for 2 or 3 months. I've also enclosed a photo of some of my regulars at the "Factory". If anyone on the West side is interested, we have contacted Chan about teaching his note book class here in Coeur d'Alene area on June 29th, 30th and July 1st. Feel free to contact me or Jackie for details if interested--208-687-1963.

I've been busy doing gun shows and so far average \$400 for a weekend of show. This coming March we will be doing what is called the Custer Spring show at the Spokane Fairgrounds. In this area that's a big show, having to be juried to get in.

Jackie is carving away and I have enclosed two Jim Linnel Elk photos, one is carved and then painted. Also here is 1 of 4 photo binders Jackie made for a gentleman to give to his family he went on a hunt with. The photo was done using the 2 Shews method.

Looking forward to seeing all of you in the near future---Woody & Jackie



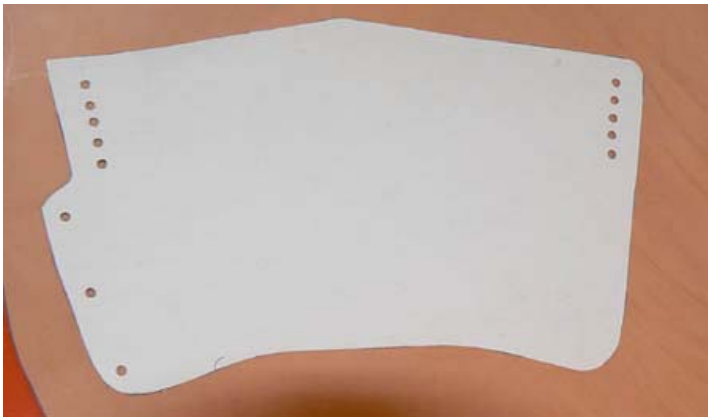
COWBOY CUFF WORKSHOP

We all gathered at Len's home for the Cowboy Cuff Workshop. We were only a small group:

Len Madison (our Host)
Norm Lynds
James Hamilton
Ken Eriksen
Paula Marquis
George Marquis (catering truck)

Ken Imus had intended on leading the workshop. He was unable to do so because his hip was giving him a lot of trouble after it got broken in a car accident and was not able to negotiate the stairs and steps at Len's home. We hope you are well again soon, Ken, we miss you.

Ken prepared three styles of cuffs for us to see what the finished products would look like and made heavy paper patterns to mark our cuffs on the leather with.



Since we were all basically familiar with cowboy cuffs, we spent a wonderful day just throwing ideas around and helping each other.



Doing just a border design was a good idea, but, as these ideas go, they just grow out of proportion and most of us ended up with fully decorated cuffs at the end of the day, unfinished of course!

James, being our beginner, we all pitched in and gave him lots of advice, which we are all fond of doing, and filled his head with so many ideas, he went home a little dizzy. He decided to do the pattern that was in the Cowboy Cuffs Pattern Pack. This was his second attempt at carving and stamping and he's got a ways to go, but for his second effort he did a very creditable job. Unfortunately, his leather drank a lot of water and got very drunk and so he was



unable to do more to the cuffs until they dried. He spent the last couple of hours of the day watching, absorbing and learning.

Norm decided to cover his cuffs with a basket weave stamp. He did a wonderful job of getting his

weave pattern nice and straight. Great job Norm.

Len wasn't feeling 100% as he'd had a bad night and not much sleep, so in the afternoon he sat in his easy chair and kept us entertained with his interesting snoring rhythms.



Ken Eriksen and myself used the Chan Geer stamping tool for our border and then decided to do the arrowhead weave pattern to fill in our cuffs. I staggered my arrowheads by putting a

weave between each arrowhead. It made the arrowheads look less busy.

We punched our holes for the lacing and punched our holes for the durable dots (Tandy's Line 24 Snaps) and most of us managed to prick mark out the stitching.

That's about as far as we got for the day, and we are planning to finish the job at home and bring them to the next meeting.

George kindly went out to fetch lunches from Quiznos for us and came back in short order with the message that Quiznos was closed! Len did a quick hunt around for another menu from another eating-place. This one had burgers and a good variety of other foods. George went out again and this time came back with lunch. Thank you George, you doing that means we can keep working longer.

Norm kept busy taking photos during the day as we progressed.

Paula Marquis



Paula stamping

Len stamping



January Meeting

Paula's latest project any suggestions?



Barb's EBay Purchases—
Complete with Churchill's signature





Jewelry by Robb Gray



Norm's new tools:

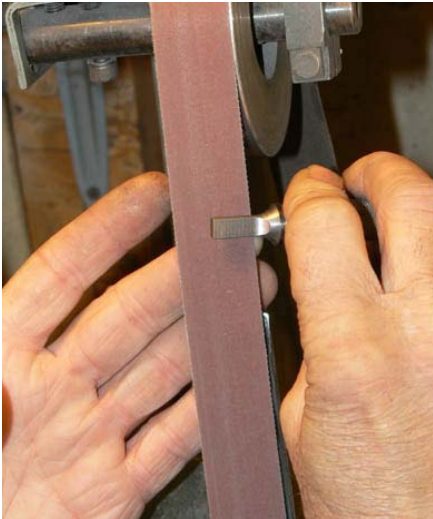
An Edger with an eighth inch shaft for a Dremel or Flex Shaft.

Another with a quarter inch shaft for a drill press or hand drill.



Bob Beard

Due to an e-mail snafu I didn't receive the pictures to go with last month's article. Here are the missing pictures from Norm Lynds' visit with Bob Beard.



Sanding a swivel knife blade

Bob Beard Contact information:
Pro-Series Tools
#36 Road 5243
Farmington, N.M. 87401
505 632-7039
Fax: 505 632-7038

Working on a stamp



Bob sanding a blank



Bob at his workbench

Ready
for
bluing



WORKSHOP CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT

This early in the year there is not too much to report yet, but, the directors have been busy endeavoring to get some good workshops going for 2007.

As can be seen from the schedule listed so far there are still a number of empty spots still 'to be set'. We really would like some input from our members, particularly those who want to go to the workshops and what they would like to learn. We have a lot of talent in our Club and we feel sure that whatever you, the member, would like to learn we have somebody in the club who can teach it. If not, well, there is also a lot of other good talent in the country and we can look to bringing an expert in.

On March 24th the all day workshop will be with John Wickstrom and we will make a wallet. This workshop will also be a General Seymour's home, address above, from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. We will be making our own insides for this wallet and will be a very good workshop to attend. Listed below are the materials and tools needed to do the Wallet:

Wallet Back
Skiver
Leather for liner
Bar snap
Spring bar and wing inserts
About 8 yards of 3/32 lacing
Contact cement or rubber cement
Pattern
Edge dye.
Pen (for marking dark leather, a light colored gel pen will work)
Knife
Skiver knife
Rotary punch
Cutting pad
Pounding board
Marble slab
Dividers
3/32 thonging chisels - multiple and single
Lacing needles
Sharp Scalpel

(If wallet is to be saddle stitched - sewing supplies will also need to be brought to the workshop).

April's all-day workshop will be inseting exotic leathers. June will be braiding a 6-strand with core, dog leash. July will be the annual UFO workshop. More on these in future issues of the RG.

Also, as you can see from the schedule we are trying to get Peter Main to come to Seattle in August. We have heard from Peter and he said August 25/26 works for him. He has sent a picture of a CD case cover that will be embossed with his special methods. It will be a great workshop as he does some amazing work.

See you all at the meeting.

Len Madison
Workshop Co-Ordinator.

Yes, this strikes fear in all Seattle-ites



South Breakfast Report

16 people attended the South Breakfast at the Homestead Restaurant. We had a great time discussing our projects. The breakfast is at 8:30 AM every third Saturday. -Rog-



PSLAC CURRENT SCHEDULE FOR 2007

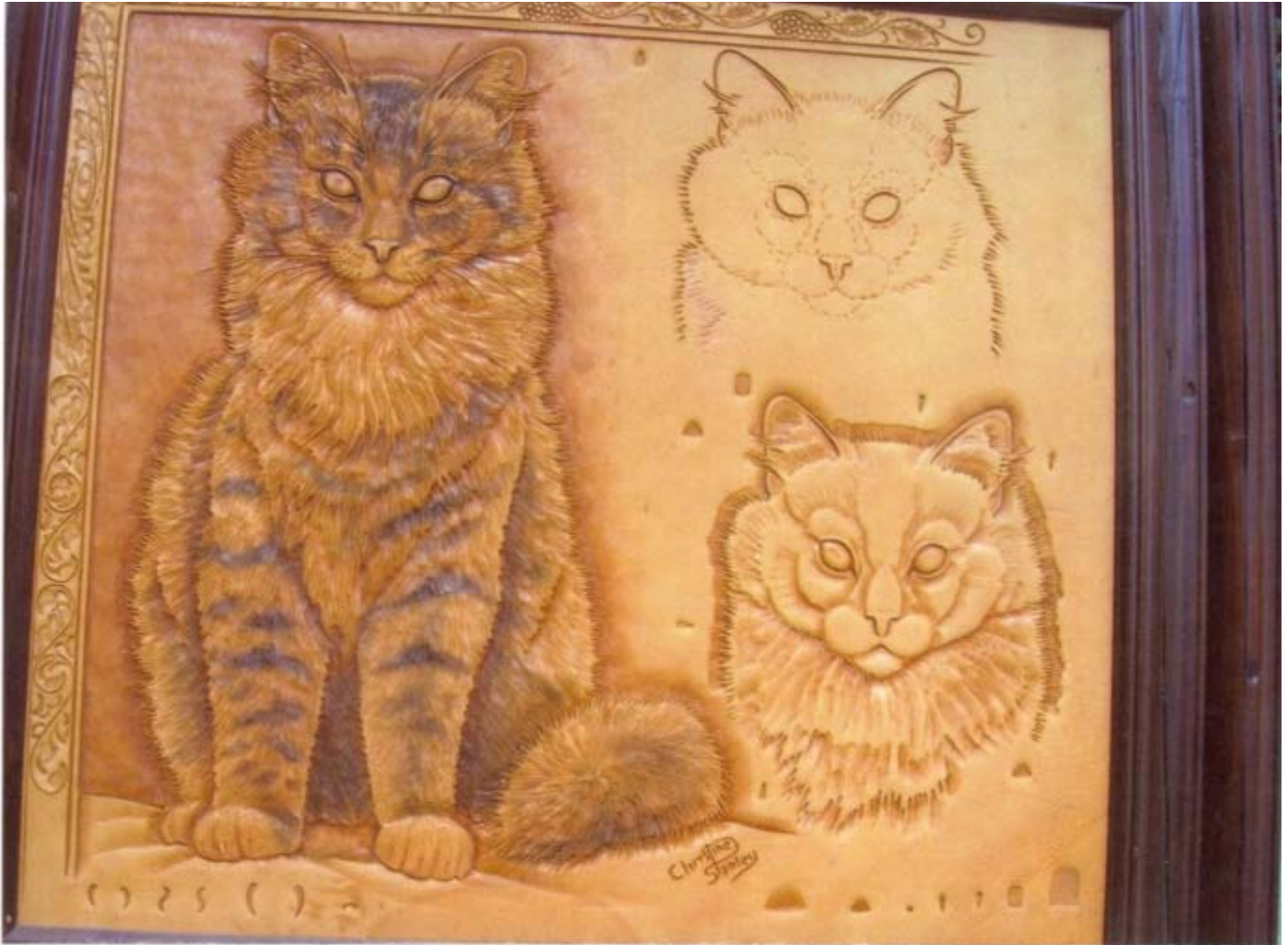
General Member's meetings are on the 2nd Sunday of each Month.

Mini-Demos at meeting

February - McPherson's - No Mini-Workshop.
March - Braiding a 6-strand Lanyard with Paula.
April - To be set.
May - to be set.
June - B-B-Q Picnic, Garage Sale and Bill Churchill Award.
July/August - No meeting for Summer Months.
September - to be set.
October - to be set.
November - to be set.
December - to be set.

All-Day Workshops

February 24th - Paula Marquis - Carving a Persian Cat - at General's home.
March 24th - Carving, stamping, etc. a Wallet with John Wickstrom.
April 28th - To be set.
May 26th - Jackie Halliday - Colouring the Persian Cat - at General's home.
June 30th - To be set.
July 28th - To be set.
August 25th - Peter Main. (The exact date and venue to be announced)
September 29th - To be set.
October 27th - To be set.
November 24th? - To be set.
December 29th - To be set.



Cat Carving and Coloring Workshop

On February 24th we will again have the combination of Paula Marquis and Jackie Holliday (Idaho), this year we will do a Persian Cat Portrait carving with Paula and then on May 26th Jackie will come over from Idaho and do the coloring of the Cat, learning how to apply color to give roundness and shading for the cat's long hair. These two workshops will be at General Seymour's home at 17915 212th Ave E., Orting, WA 98360-9246. From 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Jackie picked the old Doodle Page of the Cat Portrait by Christine Stanley. She said it is a good project for learning how to get roundness to our subject with color. Listed are the materials and tools needed to do the Cat Portrait:

Carving Leather - 1 sq. ft. 9/10 oz

Tracing Film

Bowl & Sponge

Stamping Stone

Mallet

Swivel Knife

Ruler

Tracing Stylus

Bevellers - smooth and checkered as well as small and medium

Figure Carving Tools: 896, 895, 890, 902, 898

Background Tools: 98, 900 or another preferred background tool of your choice.

Multi-Blade Cutter #1057 with standard blade #1057-01 and coarse blade for large hair #1057-02 (Page 43 of the Hide Crafter Catalogue).

Scalpel Blade (if you have) is good for lifting very long hair sections. Scalpel and blade are not a necessity, but, for those who want one, Hide Crafter has them, on Page 60, Fine Detail #1212.

Wing Dividers for marking borders.

Tools for making border design of your choice.

Paula will bring tracing patterns for everybody to the workshop.

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

MARQUIS UNIQUE LEATHER ARTISTRY, LLC

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.

Phone: (206)-523-6295

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Leather Big Book Covers www.leatherbigbookcovers.com by Bob Stelmack

Leather Big Book Covers
(This site is a 501(c)(3) non-profit and is not affiliated with the PSLAC website.)

IMPORTANT NOTE: These Leather Big Book Covers are only available in the United Kingdom and February 2007. When they will be available in the United States.

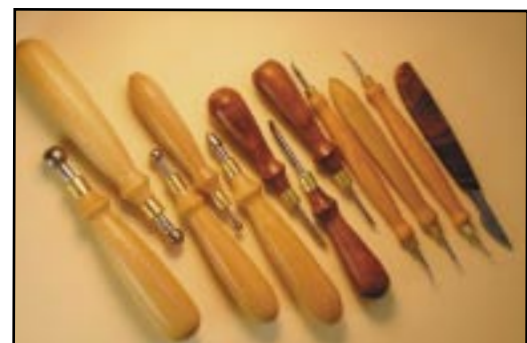
- Basic and Custom made to order. Unlimited. Customized Leather Big Book Covers for your Big Book.
- Each cover is handmade from various types of leather. Most are bound with vegetable tanned cow hide in black, brown or natural. The cover is of a 'zip-on' design, much like the old way we used to cover our school books without all paper grocery bags. Most of the covers are classic bound cow hide in many colors. Here are some samples of the basic Big Book cover.

- The basic Big Book cover can be decorated with a name and address label (and optional Screen Printer), and used as decorative name tags.

- Let your imagination run wild and have a custom Leather Big Book Cover made for you. These covers are 'zip-on' and are great for gifts. Here are some samples to get your opinion.

- Click here for a listing and prices.
- Click here for more cover variations.

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Leather, and The Leather Factory for any of the fine
Bee Natural Leather products.**

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RawHide Gazette

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

The RawHide Gazette is published monthly (12 times a year). Address for information and correspondence: PSLAC, c/o Barbara Lourdes, PO Box 1144, Auburn, WA, 98071, USA, Email: billing@pslac.org

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.

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

<http://pslac.org>

Support our sponsor and take advantage of the PSLAC Membership Discounts...



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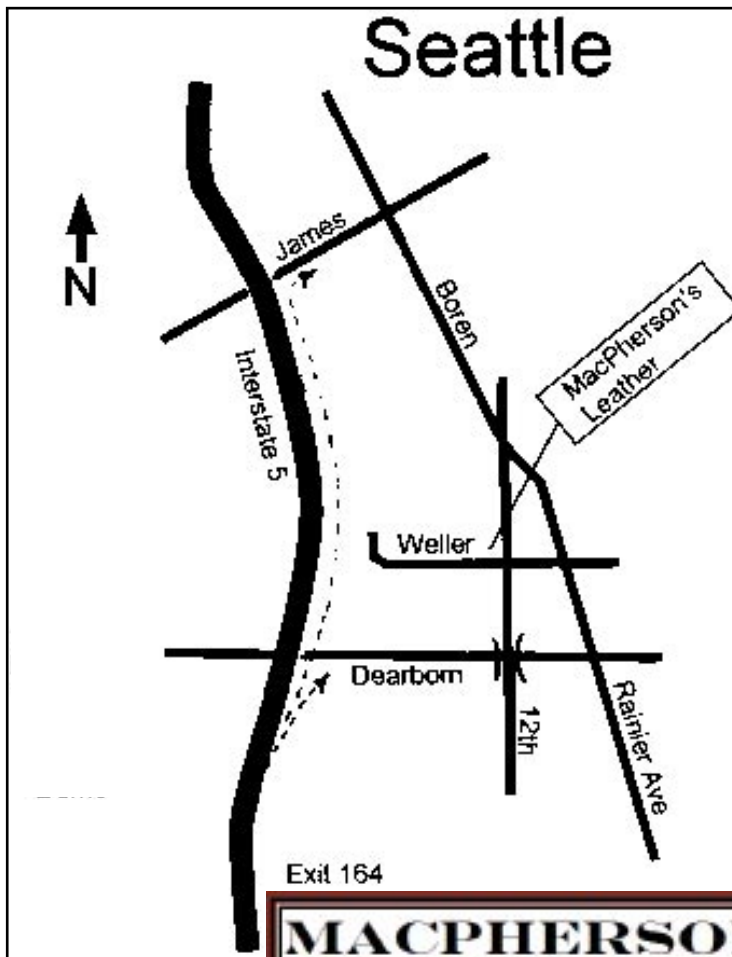
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Directions (see map):

I-5 via JAMES STREET:

Follow JAMES STREET, up the hill to BOREN AVENUE, Right on BOREN AVENUE, continue to 12th AVENUE to WELLER. MacPherson's is on the NE corner.

.....*or*.....

I-5 via DEARBORN STREET:

Follow DEARBORN STREET east to RAINIER AVENUE, left on RAINIER AVENUE to WELLER, left on WELLER to 12 AVENUE. MacPherson's is on the NE corner.

PSLAC
 c/o Barbara Lourdes
 PO Box 1144
 Auburn, WA 98071
 USA

