

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

Hide Highlights

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New Directions

My recent exposure to Renaissance Fair Groups and now **Single Action Shooting Society (SASS)** Groups has me more interested in leather projects and construction. Binding books, wallets, belt and picture carving are nice, but actual gear that can be used and sold to others has my attention. So this issue has some pictures and information on SASS and Cowboy Action Shooting. Here is the man that greeted me at the Rattlesnake Gulch.

Bob Stelmack
Richland, WA



Meeting Announcement

NEXT MEETING

Sunday, November 11th,

Doors open at noon for **Leather Wall Vase with Dusty Wert** followed by the meeting at 2:00 pm

PSLAC East October Meeting

What a surprise! My first visit to the monthly leather meeting in Spokane, WA, and I found four leather instructors at the meeting: **Dave Torix, Ken Bush, Mike Francis and Woody Collins**. The **Tandy Leather Factory** hosts the monthly PSLAC East meeting and **Cheryl**, the store manager, was our host. These meetings are “organized unstructured events”. In other words, each person either brings a project to work on or if they want a lesson then it will be taught to the people that show up for lessons. This day there were two students, one project worker and a lot of “leather talk”.

The leather meeting/teaching sessions are held once a month on the second Saturday of the month. There is an exception this coming November when everyone is going to the **7th Annual Pendleton Leatherworkers Trade Show** on November 9th and 10th.

Just like other PSLAC meetings there were “Show & Tell” items on display. **Jackie Holliday’s** cougar was very three

dimensional by just carving (no embossing)—with her trademark perfect coloring. This cougar was enhanced with feather quills placed as whiskers. Unfortunately, Jackie was ill this day, but she was kind enough to provide some informative articles on coloring and leather for this newsletter.



Cheryl



Mike



Ken



TLF's newest employee



Dave



Woody and Ken had brought several projects. Woody's check book covers show the results of taking courses from both **Bob Beard** and **Chan Geer**. Woody received permission from Bob Beard to have a custom pattern transfer sheet made by **Jeff Mosby** (Grey Ghost Graphics, www.greyghostgraphics.com) to allow Woody to rapidly



Jackie Holliday



Jackie Holliday



Jackie Holliday

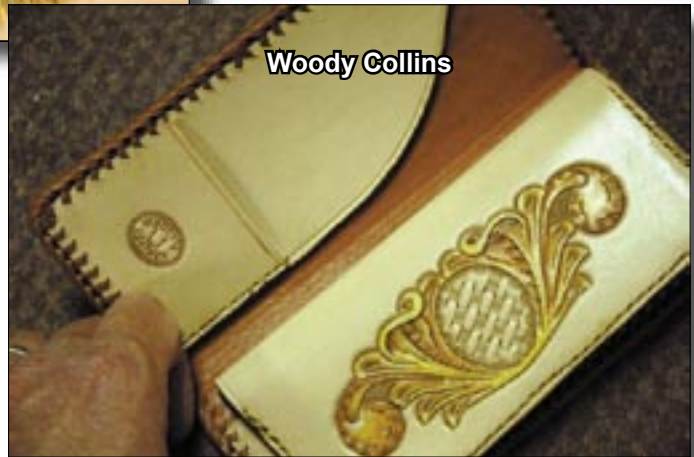
trace a design to the leather. He also uses portions of the pattern transfer sheet on projects so that one checkbook cover pattern transfer sheet is used on multiple projects and they don't look like the same design.

Ken's work has a distinct lacing style with two color lacing in metallic or bright colors. In fact, some of Ken's linings for his portfolios are also lined in bright metallic leathers.

Bob Stelmack
Richland, WA



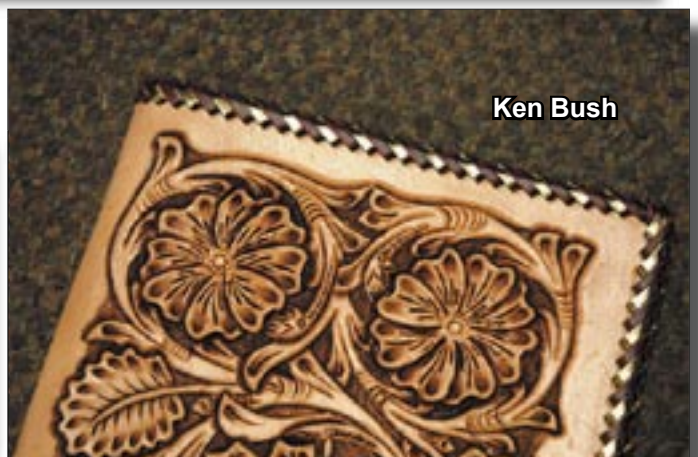
Ken Bush



Woody Collins



Woody Collins



Ken Bush

Puyallup Fair Leathercraft Results for 2007

- Class 1800, Pictures:
1st - Horse by Jess Bryant
- Class 1850, Pictures:
1st - Christ with Lambs by Glenn Woessner
2nd - Barn Scene by Vernon Heinle
3rd - Picture Frame by George L. Senn
- Class 1855, Tooled Sportsman Carriers
1st - Gun Belt and Holster by Fred King
2nd - Holster with Star by Mark Freese
- Class 1860, Tooled Carring Cases
1st - PDA Case Hand Held Flowers by Glenn Woessner
2nd - Portfolio by Bob Stubbs
- Class 1865, Tooled Handbags
1st - Acorn and Leaves Purse by Bob Stubbs
2nd - Fantasy Purse by Barbara Lourdes
- Class 1870, Tooled Pocket Items
1st - Green and Blue Flower by John Wickstrom
2nd - Check Book "D" by David Jensen
- Class 1875, Albums, scrapbooks
1st - "Craigs" Notebook by John Wickstrom
2nd - Journal Cover by Don Ferguson
- Class 1880, Wallets
1st - Flower Tradition Western by John Wickstrom
2nd - Wallet Bamboo/Cobra Skin by Glenn Woessner
3rd - Kangaroo Leather soft by Duke Needham
HM - Eagle with Chain by David Jensen
- Class 1890, Household Items
1st - Horseshoe Coat Hanger by G. L. Senn
- Class 1905, Wearing Apparel
1st - Dog Collar Braiding w/Silver by Richard Gehring
- Class 1920, Other Leathercraft
1st - Wooden Box with Inlaid Roses by Vernon Heinle
2nd - Battle Axe with Leather by Travis Pooley
- Class 1929, Grand & Res Champion - Adult Leathercraft Division**
1st - "Craigs" Notebook by John Wickstrom
2nd - Christ with Lambs by Glenn

Harstine Island's "Apple Squeeze" Demos Leather Burning

Harstine Island has a "Apple Squeeze" every year. It is held in the Community Hall built in 1914. They squeeze apples and bottle the cider and sell gallons of cider to the people on the Island and surrounding area. Harstine Island is in Mason county by Shelton, Washington.



Dave Puls tooled and Fred Nachbar wood burned leather.

Every year they ask the people that live on the island to demonstrate their hobby and this was the first year that Dave Puls and Fred Nachbar had a table to show how to tool and wood burn leather.

Looks like they had a fun time.

Dusty Wert
Harstine Island



Woesner
Class 1930, Grand & Res Champion - Junior Leathercraft Division
1st - Horse by Jess Bryant

Teachers and Professionals

- Class 1950, Pictures
1st - Cat by Len Madison
- Class 1955, Large Tooled Article
1st - Laptop Case/Travel Bag by Phillip Hawk
2nd - Handbag by Kenneth Imus
3rd - Cribbage case w/Board and Pegs by Judy Ferguson
HM - Ladies Purse Floral Rosmal by Phil O'Neill
- Class 1960, Small Tooled Article
1st - Portfolio with Front Pocket by

- Kenneth Imus
2nd - Black Jack Mug by Paula Marquis
3rd - Sherridan Style Laced Wallet by General Seymour
HM - Spur Straps Acorn Leaf by Phil O'Neill
- Class 1970, Wearing Apparel
1st - Bronze Mask by Len Madison
- Class 1999, Grand & Res Champion - Professional Leathercraft Division**
1st - Portfolio with Front Pocket by Kenneth Imus
1st - Laptop Case/Travel Bag by Phillip Hawk



1



2



3



4



5

Show and Tell

- 1 - Paula made these to hold money.
- 2 - John Wickstrom made the case for the pliers.
- 3 - This is a heart vase to hang on the wall I'm giving a workshop November meeting on how to make the vase and the members can make one at the meeting. Then December meeting Paula is going to have a workshop to make leather flowers to put in the heart vase.
- 4 - This is the start of a carrying case for his tooling tools in a rack. I am sure that John will show and tell the finished project.
- 5 - General is finally done with Ann's purse just in time for her to bring to Hawaii. Aloha Ann.

Dusty Wert

1



2



Show and Tell (cont.)

- 1 - Paula made this carrying case. It is a very custom case. The picture doesn't do it justice. The handle is extra wide the gentleman has a hand that is 5 inches wide.
- 2 - This is Paula's Mug that she entered in the fair. She put brewers pitch inside so it is usable.
- 3 - Four inch marble that Norm framed.

Dusty Wert

3





Show and Tell (cont.)

1 - Barb made this purse

2 - Ken worked on braiding the hat band for quite awhile and now he has a real neat hat and band.

3 - John Wickstrom is going to give a class John is scheduled to do the wallet back carving and stamping for beginners on the 23rd February 2008. Should be a good workshop.



Dusty Wert



Judy Ferguson's Leather Embossing Demo

Judy Ferguson held the October 2007 PSLAC meeting demonstration. She showed her style of embossing leather.

Her first consideration for a project is selection of the leather. She looks at the back side looking for stretch marks. If there are stretch marks the skin has been slightly torn on the animal and stretched during its growth. *Leather with the stretch marks will emboss better than leather without those marks.*

The main difference between her style and the "standard" style is that she does not cut the borders with a swivel knife. This was the way she was taught many years ago.

After tracing the pattern onto the leather she immediately starts the embossing process from the back. As she works the leather out, she uses a modeler to keep the front pattern line pressed down and distinct. She is constantly working both from the front and back sides of the leather to stretch and mold her project.

For this demo we just did the card suits of clubs, hearts, diamonds, and spades.

Norm Lynds



The Great Arts Adventure

Spokane Art Supply, in Spokane Washington along with **The Creative Element** in Coeur D'Alene, Idaho, sponsored "The Great Arts Adventure".

What a wonderful, fun learning experience it was. **Carla Gray** came down from Priest River and **Woody Collins** and I met with **Ken Bush** where we went on to the Spokane Community College for the Great Arts Adventure. At the "The Great Arts Adventure" there were: oil, acrylic and watercolor paint, papers, pens, pencils, books, airbrushes and all were represented by various companies.

One of the first things we did was go to the **Golden Paint Company** table to ask questions about using acrylics on leather. One of our questions was how to keep blue from turning green when used on leather. The answer was to use a medium in between the blue and the leather.

Golden gave two one-hour lectures on using acrylics. The first one was on using mediums and the second on using liquid acrylics as watercolors. Some of the things we learned were that the liquids do not break down when mixed with water and can be used as a transparent wash, also they do not lift like a water color do and once dry you can rub and rub on them and they will stay. Other thing we found interesting was a demo with the acrylic flow release additive. The liquid paint did not penetrate paper, but when the release was added it penetrated the paper.

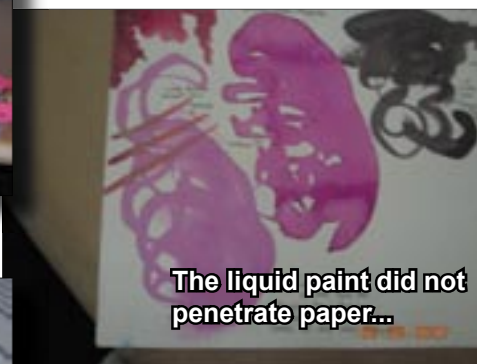
There was a discussion on paint colors and what they do. They called them "sinkers" or "swimmer" colors depending on the size of their molecular make up.

Synthetic brushes were recommended and to use a hair conditioner on sable brushes to keep them in shape.

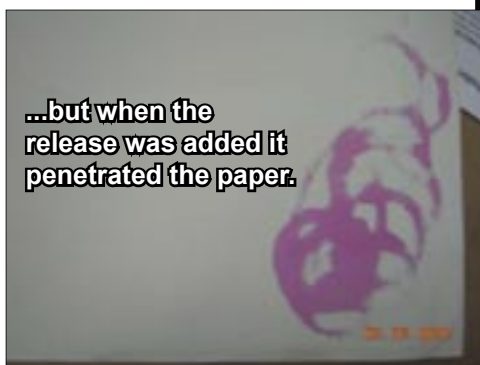
The **Iwata Airbrush Company** was there and I had to check them out. **General Seymour** uses them and his airbrush work is amazing. We learned that you can do very fine detail work with them and they are easier to control.

Everyone had show specials and some free samples. We came away with books, bags, pens, pencils and paints and a lot more knowledge about acrylics.

Jackie Holliday



The liquid paint did not penetrate paper...



...but when the release was added it penetrated the paper.



Using Acrylic Paints on Leather

One of the first things to consider before putting paint on leather is paint quality. Quality paints are made up of just pigment and medium, while poor quality paints also contain fillers. Fillers in the paint tend to muddy the paint up. The paints aren't clear and bright. What this does to our carving is it tends to flatten out our carving instead of enhancing the depth and dimension of our carving. In other words we go to a lot of work to add depth and definition to a piece of leather and if we don't use quality paint on it, the result is a piece that has a dull, drab appearance.

Secondly, is opaque versus semi-transparent versus transparent colors. Draw a black line on a piece of paper and put some paint over it. If the color is opaque you will not be able to see the black line. If the color is semi-transparent you will be able to see the black line, but not very well. If the color is transparent, you will be able to see the black line clearly.

This is like being on a lake and looking down at the water. If you can only see the surface of the lake this is an opaque color. If you can see about half-way down, but not be able to see the bottom this is like a semi transparent color. If you can see the bottom quite clearly this is a transparent color. This is important for us to understand because we want to add the benefits of color but not cover up all the work we did when we carved the piece. We still want to be able to see the leather.

Light fastness is another thing to consider. Good quality paints have a light fastness rating 1, 2, 3, or 4. The number 1 being the most light fast and the number 4 is fugitive, meaning it will fade over time. If the paint doesn't have a rating it probably is not very light fast and you might want to put some paint on a scrap piece of leather and cover up half of it, set it out in the sun for a few days, or call the paint company to find out more details before use. The paint might hold up for 50 years under museum quality conditions, but the stuff I make is headed for someone's back pocket or is going to hang in a living room that has windows. To go to all the work of painting a piece and having it fade in a few years is not a pleasant thought, especially for the customer who paid for it.

Color selection in choosing colors to use for our leather project. There are two whites in acrylics. Titanium white, which is an opaque white and if used on leather straight out of the tube or bottle it has rather glaring consequences. Titanium white is used for mixing with other colors it will turn the other colors more opaque and cover up the leather. Zinc white or transparent mixing white is a transparent white that you can clearly see the black line under it. When using Zinc white for mixing it will keep a transparent color transparent and make an opaque color more semi-transparent. Pure white works well on white paper and off white works better on leather so if a white is needed, it seems to be a bit more pleasing to the eye if you add a bit of brown to it.

We were all taught that if we had 3 basic

Workshop Co-ordinator's Report

It is only a short report this month as there are no all-day workshops till January.

As you can see from the updated schedule we've pretty well filled up the all-day workshops for next year and still have to have four more ideas for mini-demo/workshops before the meetings of September, October, November and December. So, come on out there, give us some ideas of what you want.

Judy's Embossing Workshop was great. She came up with very simple patterns of diamond, heart and club. It was an excellent basis for learning Judy's methods of embossing. Thank you Judy.

The next mini-demo is with **Dusty Wert** and we will make a **Simple Leather Vase** for hanging on a wall for decoration. This can have a dry flower arrangement in it, or you can make some leather flowers to put in it. Here is the list of materials that Dusty would like us to bring if we are participating in making the vase.

- 4/5 oz leather approximately 6" x 6-1/2" or a little larger is also good.

colors we could mix anything. That's not entirely true. Many books have been written on this subject. One book that is recommended is **Blue and Yellow don't make Green by Michael Wilcox**. To summarize a yellow is not just a yellow, it either has green in it or some red in it. Red either has some yellow or some blue in it. Blue either has some red or yellow in it. When you are mixing colors if you don't pay attention to the color bias you could end up with a muddy color instead of a bright clean color.

Jackie Holliday

- Super shears for cutting leather or clicking knife if you prefer.
- A simple pattern of your choice, or geometric stamping tool (keeping in mind we only have two hours).
- Lacing and tools for lacing if you wish to lace the project.
- Sewing tools and thread if you wish to hand sew the project.
- Contact cement.
- Cutting board.
- Stamping marble.
- Mallet.

When you check the new schedule of workshops, you will see where the workshops will be held. Bob Beard's workshop will of course be held at Len's home and as soon as we have dates we will let you all know.

See you all at the meeting.

Len Madison
Workshop Co-Ordinator.

Some Independent Notes from Woody & Jackie's Leather Work

Woody asked me to send you this information on leathers that we are currently using.

There are several companies that we are working with for different reasons.

Wickett & Craig (1-800-826-6379 ext 216 ask for Matt) I really like carving on their leather. It's as easy to work the next day as it was the first day and so on. I prefer it for doing pictures and I like the color. I am using their "carving leather" not the "skirting leather". I can get it "leveled". They split the side to exactly "6 oz". I really like that for binders. Also, the flesh side is nice and smooth—no "fuzzies". Additionally, **Verlane** loves their English Bridle leather

I just got a side of 2-3 oz for lining binders but haven't tried it yet to see just how it will lay down.

Goliger Leather (1-800-423-2329) carry the best of the Herman Oak. In my opinion their B grade is as good as others A grade. For construction and carving it is still the best. You will have to wait if you want it leveled as they have to special order it.

Sheridan Leather (1-307-674-6679) carries both Wickett & Craig and Herman Oak and a very good selection of chrome tanned leather. They also carry **Douglas Tools**—awesome tools!

Tandy Leather Factory (Tacoma 1-888-222-0510, Spokane 1-800-822-8437, Seattle 1-866-220-9698) and **MacPherson Leather** (1-800-343-9949) where you can handle and pick your own leather. In fact, Woody just purchased a side of Tandys imported premium leather and found it carved and burnished very well, he liked it.

I'll just throw this in case your interested the best hand sewing needles and thread we can get here come from England. Bet that Bob Stelmack knows that.

Jackie & Woody

PSLAC North Breakfast Meeting



Sister Rachael, Don Ferguson



Kevin Lynds



Dick Gehring & wife



General, Ann, Paula & George



Sister Rachael, Jackie Lynds



Ann and Paula

Howdy, Miss
Dance Hall Gal.
How about a
dance?



individual area of interest, SASS events provide regular opportunities for fellowship and fun with like-minded folks and families.

Every SASS member is required to select a shooting alias representative of a character or profession from the Old West or the western film genre.

Cowboy Action Shooting is a multi-faceted shooting sport in which contestants compete with firearms typical of those used in the taming of the Old West: single action revolvers, pistol caliber lever action rifles, and old time shotguns. The shooting competition is staged in a unique, characterized, "Old West" style. It is a timed sport in which shooters compete for prestige on a course of different shooting stages.

The previous is an excerpt from www.sassnet.com

Rattlesnake Gulch Roundup SASS North- west Regional Champi- onship

Ivan Sampson, Karen and I spent an afternoon on Rattlesnake Mountain just outside

Sounds like a
good time!



SASS

The **Single Action Shooting Society** is an international organization created to preserve and promote the sport of **Cowboy Action Shooting™**. SASS endorses regional matches conducted by affiliated clubs, stages **END of TRAIL The World Championship of Cowboy Action Shooting**, promulgates rules and procedures to ensure safety and consistency in the Cowboy Action Shooting matches, and seeks to protect its members' 2nd Amendment rights. SASS members share a common interest in preserving the history of the Old West and competitive shooting.

One of the unique aspects of SASS approved Cowboy Action Shooting™ is the requirement placed on costuming. Each participant is required to adopt a shooting alias appropriate to a character or profession of the late 19th century, a Hollywood western star, or an appropriate character from fiction. Their costume is then developed accordingly. Many event participants gain more enjoyment from the costuming aspect of our sport than from the shooting competition, itself. Regardless of a SASS member's



of the Tri-Cities. Yes, there is a real Rattlesnake Mountain and yes there are rattlesnakes. With all the shooting going on and all the people, I think the snakes were in hiding.

The costumes were a leathercrafters dream: chaps, holsters, belts, vests, hats, knife

sheaths, and other personal leather items. I learned the difference between chaps, chinks and bat wings. For this experience Ivan is teaching me how to make chaps. The standard patterns are just a starting point for us. We have started with the measurements to custom fit the chaps. I was amazed by the number of elements that needed to be considered in making a set of custom chaps. We took many picture from



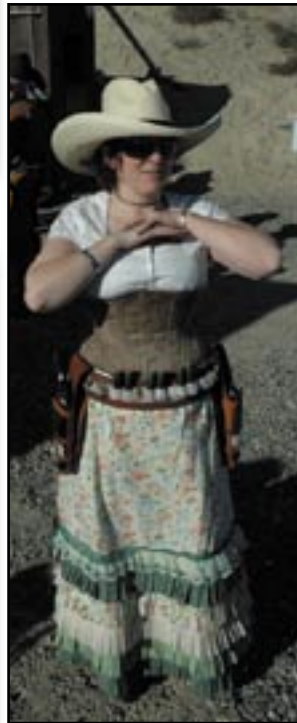


the SASS event and pictured here are a few picture to give a flavor of the event.

Also at this event were the ever present leather sales opportunities. There was every conceivable leather item, in period costume of course, that you could imagine. No Chinese stuff here!

Both men and women were involved the Cowboy Action Shooting contests and it was great fun to watch

Bob Stelmack
Richland, WA



Upcoming Events

PSLAC CURRENT SCHEDULE FOR 2007/2008.

General Member's meetings are on the 2nd Sunday of each Month, unless specified below.

2007.

Mini-Demos at Meeting.

November - Leather Wall Vase with Dusty Wert.

December - Abstract leather flowers for the vase with Paula Marquis.

All-Day Workshops.

September, October, November and December, there will be no all day workshops. A break is needed as September is very busy with the Puyallup Fair and the other months will be busy with Christmas orders for everybody.

2008.

Mini-Demos at Meeting.

January - Using the tri-weave tool with General Seymour.

February - No demo, meeting will be at MacPhersons (to be confirmed).

March - Ideas for how to price items and what sells at craft fairs with Dave Puls.

April - Silversmithing and leather with Robb Gray. (to be confirmed)

May 4th - Using various meander tools and their effects with Paula Marquis.

June - BBQ, Garage Sale and Bill Churchill Award and Picnic.

July and August - No meetings. Summer Break.

September - Open for ideas.

October - Open for ideas.

November - Open for ideas.

December - Open for ideas.

All-Day Workshops.

January 26th - Making a 3-D Butterfly picture with Jeff Bement at General's home.

February 23rd - Back to Basics carving wallet back with John Wickstrom at General's home.

March 29th - Snake cell phone case with Paula Marquis at Len's home.

April 26th - Back to basics, doing the wallet insides with John Wickstrom at General's home.

May 31st - Carving picture of the Tandy Catalogue Cover without Elk with Paula Marquis at General's home.

June 7th - Colouring the Catalogue Cover Picture with Jackie Holliday at General's home.

June 28th - Making Bag and Case handles with Paula Marquis at Len's home.

July 26th - Braiding Dog Leash - 6 strands with core with Paula Marquis at Len's home.

August 30th - Box making workshop with Peter Main (may be a 2 day workshop) at General's home.

Bob Beard will be here for a 2-day workshop sometime in the Summer. Details to be confirmed.

North breakfast >>> Last Friday of the month at 10:00 AM
at: Elmer's Restaurant, 3411 184th Street S.W., Lynnwood, WA

South breakfast >>> The 3rd Saturday of the month at 8:30 AM
at: Homestead Restaurant, South Tacoma Way, Tacoma. WA

PSLAC East mets the second Saturday of each month at the Spokane Tandy (excpt this November)

PSLAC Members Only Advertisement Page

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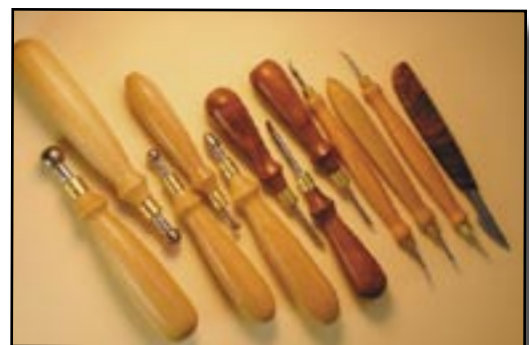
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DIRECTIONS:

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
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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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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 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. Address: 75 NE Creekway, Issaquah, WA 98027

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

