

# Rawhide PSLAC Gazette

"Without question, the Rawhide Gazette is by far the best and most informative and comprehensive Guild publications of all of them! You are to be commended for your very fine and professional efforts. Keep up the good work. With admiration"/signed/ Al & Ann Stohlman, December 1997

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Puget Sound Leather Artisans Co-Op

September 2010

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## Meetings Start Back Up In September

### Good Olde Tandy Days

When I worked at **Tandy Leather** we sold Python skins (tanned). One time we got a huge Python skin that was one of the biggest we received in our shipments and we hung it over a 8' wall made of peg board. A customer came in with his 10 year old son.

All of a sudden the son saw the Python and asked: "How did that big snake get up there?" Then he pointed to the snake skin.

I, being the gentle and reserved person that I am, said: "I wrestled him in the alley out back and he lost." Then his dad topped me and my smartalick answer with: "If the snake would of won it would of been Dusty's hide up there."

I loved my job

Dusty Wert

### PSLAC East

It's that time of year when **PSLAC-East** starts presenting the 2nd Saturday classes again at the **Spokane Leather Factory** on W 28 Boone. As usual they are held on the 2nd Saturday of every month from 10 AM to 1 PM. Our first class will be held on September 11.

For those of you new to this list, **PSLAC**

is the **Puget Sound Leather Artisan Co-op** and since we are East of Seattle, we are known as **PSLAC-East**. Our sister group in central Washington (Tri-cities area) is known as the **Desert Leathercrafters Group (DLG)**. All of us like to see other peoples work and brag about our own so expect pictures to be taken at the classes and of your projects. We feature them in the **Rawhide Gazette** which is the co-op's newsletter. If you are interested in joining **PSLAC** (\$15 per year for an internet subscription) go to [www.pslac.org](http://www.pslac.org) and check us out. Then click on "how to join" in the left hand column..

Right now our class schedule isn't complete so the best I can say is that we will begin with basic tooling and expand from there.

We also present special classes at other times and will let you know of that schedule as well. The special classes are fee paid all day classes (usually from 9 AM to 3 PM) and have limited enrollments so each participant gets more personalized instruction.

### Ken Bush

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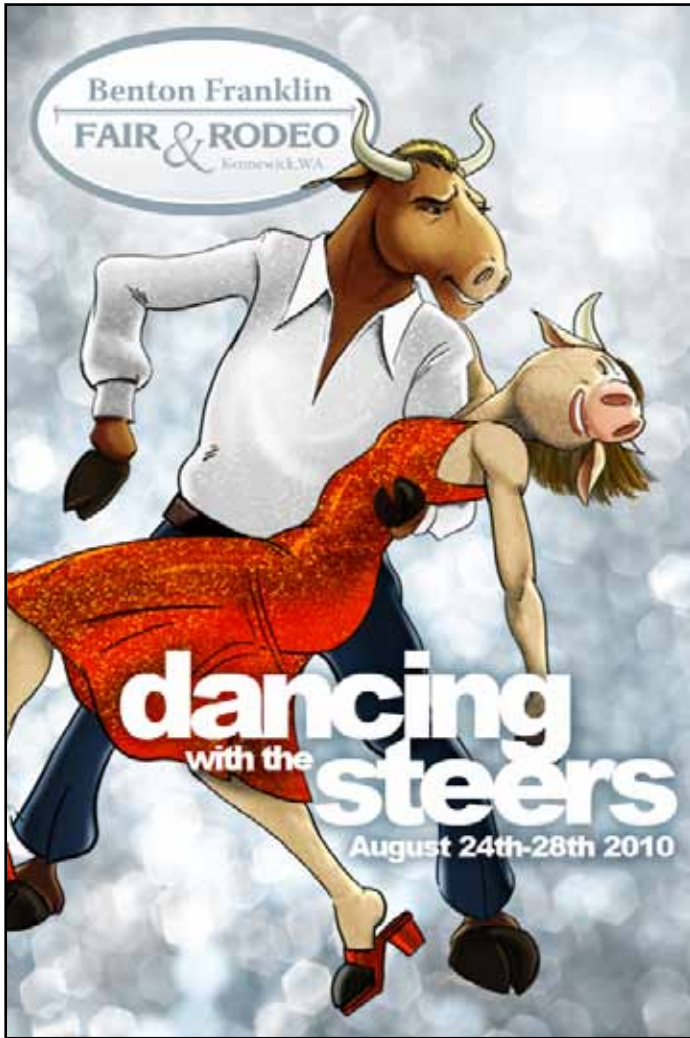
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### Meeting Announcement

#### NEXT MEETING

**Sunday, September  
12th**

*(See map on last page)*



### Benton Franklin County Fair

What we didn't do in Fair Leather Entries (only 4 entries pictured below), we made up in demonstrations to the kids. The **Desert Leather Group (DLG)** gathered at the 4H building on Friday and Saturday to demonstrate the Mystery Braid Bracelet. We had (pictured top to bottom) **Larry Sterling, Carla Hodges, Dal**







**Hoover, Herb Rockey, Bob Stelmack, Anni Sterling, and Karen Stelmack.**

We started by collecting leather scraps that were large enough to cut a 9" by 1" section. Since I have a new business making leather book covers, I had the most scrap to meet our needs.

We tried cutting the bracelet by hand,





but Herb and I decided that to make enough to give to the kids, that we should have started last year! We were able to order a clicker die from Tippmann Industries and used a book press to cut the chrome tanned leather of every color and texture imaginable from the leather book cover scraps.

It was slow going because the book press did not generate 20 tons of pressure. We would slide the high density plastic (cheap cutting board) and the clicker die one-third of the way under the book press make a cut, turn it around and cut



again, then move to the center cut again, then two cuts left and right. Wow! Still quicker than cutting by hand.

Then half way through, Larry calls and said we could use his brand new Ferdco 20 ton Clicker Press. He just needs to fill with hydraulic fluid and wire the plug.

Long story shortened--we are sill waiting for a replacement pressure valve from China.

Herb Rockey was the man who proposed the idea and gave us the instruction on how to perform this braid. Some of us caught on quickly--others a little slower, as you can see from the picture on the left side, where Carla was instructing me.

Anyway, we had 200 kids (and adults) making Mystery Braid Bracelets and some requests to give demonstrations to school groups. The 4H Fair Supervisor, Shirley, has asked if we could come back next year and do something similar.

We learned a few lessons during the demos:

1. We should set the snaps before we get to the Fair or at least set one side. Poor Herb was the official snap setter. Since the snap setter only does one side with the dies in the setter and requires removal and reinstallation of the dies for the other side of the snap set, he was setting the second side manually with the hand held snap setting tools.
2. The preference in leather colors are in this order: Purple, blue, yellow, black then brown. Suede seems to be the most popular type of leather.
3. Very young kids work best if we have them hold the braided part while we do the actual braiding.

I would do this again in a heart beat.

**Bob Stelmack**  
Richland, WA

# Upcoming Events

## Western Washington (Seattle/Tacoma/Everett) PSLAC CURRENT SCHEDULE FOR 2010

- General Member's meetings are on the 2nd Sunday of each Month, (1:00pm till 4.00p.m. approx.) unless specified below.
- Meetings held at Issaquah Valley Senior Center, 75 NE Creek Way, Issaquah. WA. 98027.
- February meetings are held at MacPherson's Leather, 519 12th St. S., Seattle WA.

***Change in Start time and order of the meeting and demo:***

**General Meeting (Start at 1PM) followed by the Mini-Demos (Starts at right after General Meeting) .**

**All-Day Workshops.**

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***Breakfast informal get-together locations:***

***North breakfast >>>*** Last Friday of the month at 10:00 AM at: Crossroads Restaurant, 1904 201st Pl. S.E., Bothel. WA.

***South breakfast >>>*** The 3rd Saturday of the month at 8:30 AM at: Oscar's Restaurant, 8726 S. Hosmer St., Tacoma, WA, phone: (253) 548 2419  
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## Eastern Washington (Tri-Cities or Spokane) CURRENT SCHEDULE FOR 2010

**Tri-Cities Desert Leathercraft Group (DLG) Member's meetings** are on the 3rd Saturday of each Month, unless specified below.

- Informal meetings held at 2532 Banyon St., Richland, WA 99352 (call Bob at 509-392-2589 for directions). Google map reference: +46° 16' 19.20", -119° 18' 32.40"

**Spokane PSLAC East Member's meetings** are on the 2nd Saturday of each Month, unless specified below.

- Informal meetings are held at: the Spokane Tandy Leather Factory Store, 28 West Boone Ave., Spokane. WA 99201.

**General Meeting, Demos and Workshops.**

Class is at the Spokane Leather Factory. W 28 Boone in Spokane. Our new hours will be 10 AM to 1 PM. No more split sessions.

This next **Saturday (September 11)** is the first class of the Fall season. We will be presenting a class on **Tooling Belts**. Remember, this is a freebie class open to the public and the class hours will be from 10 AM to 1 PM.

Each participant will be tooling a 6 to 12 inch strip of belt sized leather. If you want to do an actual belt, belt blanks will be available for purchase from the Leather Factory.

# 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@nwlinc.com](mailto:stelmack@nwlinc.com)



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**RawHide Gazette**

**Editor / Publisher:** Desert Leathercraft LLC  
**Co-Founders:** Bill Churchill & General Seymour  
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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.

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

<http://pslac.org>



**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**

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