

Raw Hide PSLAC Gazette

"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

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Puget Sound Leather Artisans Co-Op

December 2010

Hide Highlights

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Hawaiian Leather

Recently we spent a week in Hawaii on the big Island. In the village of Naalehu I saw

Meeting Announcement

NEXT MEETING

**Sunday, December
12th**

(See map on last page)

a shop, Wildbull Leatherworks. Naturally, I had to stop and look in. Shop was closed, Sunday. But, the stop was not wasted, as a block away is a fantastic bakery, claims to be the southernmost bakery in the US. Then, across the street a restaurant claiming to be the southernmost restaurant in the US.

A couple days later we were back, and this time the shop was open. I met the owner **Ronald Scharf** and his apprentice **Shaunlee Blaine**. Ron was born and raised in Nebraska, moved around for a while, and spent quite awhile in Medford, Oregon. When he retired, he liked the weather in Hawaii, and moved there.

He taught himself leather work and saddle making and set up shop. He does very little tooling, maybe some corners. He does do some border stamping and basket weave, but his clients just can not afford the expense of tooling, as this is a rather depressed area. He does quite a bit of repairs on saddles and tack, lots of damage and mold from the wet weather.

Shaunlee is apprenticing to become a saddle maker. While I was there she was fitting a pattern to the seat of the saddle that she is making.

While he doesn't list it, if the bakery and restaurant can claim to be the southernmost, I think that he can also claim to be the southernmost saddle maker in the US.

South Point, the southernmost spot in the US is 12 miles off the highway down a narrow paved road, until you get close to the point. There it turns in to a very powdery red dust. The remains (some foundations and walkways) of a WWII Army training camp are at South Point. It is the dry season, and everything is either brown or grey. There were a few horses



and very few cattle in the pastures. I imagine it would be a whole lot different during the wet season. Very short and windblown trees are there. The point is surrounded by short cliffs. We only saw one spot where

there was access to the water, but we could not get close, as I would of wiped out the undercarriage of the rental car on the rocks. I don't think they would of appreciated that. Fortunately, that night it rained where we were staying and pretty much washed the dust off the car.

Norm Lynds



PSLAC-East Craft Shows

How many times have you heard the phrase “Leathercraft is a dying art”?

Woody Collins and I went to two craft shows in November trying to dispel that rumor. The first was held at **Central Valley H.S.** in the **Spokane Valley** where I ran into a woman who is working hard to dispel that same rumor about her craft.

Ioana Frunza Rodgers does absolutely fabulous work with lowly eggs. These eggs are called **Ukrainian or Pysanka Eggs** and are better known nowadays as Easter Eggs. They originated in Eastern Europe during early Pagan times as a celebration of surviving the Winter and were shown in the Spring as a symbol of the coming fertility or rebirth in the fields. Ioana gave me some information on the meanings and history of the decorations and colors but there too many variations to do her work justice so the best thing I can do is give you a link to go to for some history.

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pysanka

The following week, we went to the **University H.S.** show in the **Spokane Valley** where customers were very elusive. Quite a few vendors left with nothing to show for their efforts. We feel fortunate that we managed to pay for our booth and some of our gas.

Ken Bush

White Rose Leather
11923 E. Fairview Ave.
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Photo 1: Woody demonstrating the craft for customers at the CV show.



Photo 5: Ioana teaches the art of Ukrainian Eggs locally.



Photo 2: Pillows from my earlier sewing phase. I got the idea for the designs while vacationing at Kalaloch and watching the wind blow sand around pebbles on the beach.



Photo 6: Woody and I during a brief calm at CV.



Photo 3: We met fellow vendor Ioana and her Ukrainian eggs at the Central Valley HS show.



Photo 7: More of my phases at the U-Hi show. Obviously the major influence after my sewing phase comes from Chan Geer and his Sheridan style carving and basket stamping. Holsters are becoming my latest phase.



Photo 4: Notice the intricate detail in her eggs. I believe she uses duck eggs. You have to see them up close to appreciate.



Photo 8: Woody hard at work as usual. Notice! no customers in the background. Except for a brief lunch hour crowd, it was pretty much deserted.

PSLAC-East Monthly Class

While Woody and I were at the University craft show, **Stan McConnell** presented a class on the **American Beauty Rose** at the PSLAC-East 2nd Saturday class at the Spokane Leather Factory. This time about 18 attendees showed up and almost swamped Stan. Fortunately **Steve Camp** and **Louie Reedy** were among those showing so Stan put them to work helping with the class.

Photo 1: Louie Reedy helping a group at the round table.

Photo 2: Stan with part of his group.

Photo 3: Steve Camp assisting another student. Normally he is not this shy so you will have to guess what he looks like.

Photo 4: There are three separate classes going on at the same time. Thanks to Louie and Steve for assisting Stan.

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Bobby Rose's Holster Class

I got a call from **Chan Geer** while he was doing a class in Portland Oregon. One of the attendees in Chan's class was **Bobby Rose** who taught holster making on the coast and Chan recommended that we consider Bobby for a holster class up here in Spokane. After seeing Bobby's work I scheduled a class for late November which is always a risk because of the unpredictable weather. The class consisted of several phases. First Bobby talked about the history and requirements of holster making. Then he showed us how to make a pattern for any type of gun using a simple manilla folder and whatever gun you had handy. To keep everybody on the same page, Bobby supplied his own finished pattern for a Ruger which we then cut out and assembled. Finally he ended by showing us his method of finishing. All the while he interspersed his instructions with tips and techniques that were valuable in perfecting our own techniques.

It snowed the last day of the class and later got down to 2 degrees (F) above zero. I hope everyone made it home safely.

Photo 1: Some of Bobby's work.

Photo 2: One of Bobby's albums obviously made with Chan's influence.

Photo 3: The class was designed for making a Cheyenne style pattern for a revolver. My apologies if I slowed down the class but I don't own a revolver so I brought my 9mm pistol instead. Here is a sample of how a finished Pancake concealment holster should look.

Photo 4: Lots of notes were taken.

Photo 5: First aid being administered after Bobby brushed lightly against his head knife. Talk about sharp..

Photo 6: Bobby applying his pattern to leather.

Photo 7. Some of the Rowdies in the class

Photo 8: More Rowdies

Photo 9: Even more rowdies.

Photo 10: We gathered around Bobby's table for a lot of the instruction.

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Workshop Report

The last meeting for the year. The year has passed very swiftly despite the fact that we did not have very many all day workshops. The economy seems to have slowed that down. Hopefully we can have more workshops next year with a better economy and generate more enthusiasm.

There will be no club give-away in the December meeting, but, we will have a gift exchange. This was mentioned two months ago and everybody was reminded last month, so we should all have our gifts made and wrapped ready to bring to the meeting. For those who do not wish or have time to make something and still wish to join in the gift giving, purchase of a gift (not exceeding the value of \$20). This gift exchange of course is not compulsory and anybody not wishing to join is still expected to come to the meeting so we can all enjoy each other's company.

Just want to remind everybody to bring the **box pattern** that was handed out last month and leather and all the necessary tools so that we can commence the project, which can then be completed bit by bit at each meeting.

Paula will publish the pattern in the January **RawHide Gazette** with ideas and instructions for making the box for all our members everywhere to make and then send in photos of their finished product. Those photos we can then put in the RawHide Gazette for everybody to enjoy seeing the various results that can be attained from a simple pattern.

See you all at the meeting.

Len Madison

Workshop Co-Ordinator.

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.

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

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. Contact Ken Bush for time, date (normally the second Saturday) and details:

Ken Bush
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Phone: 509.926.2087

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RawHide Gazette

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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 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**

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