

Raw Hide 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

January 2014

Ear Carving Workshop

Here are some pictures of the ear carving workshop that was previewed in last month's *Raw Hide Gazette*.



Ken and Len working on carving ears.



Norm concentrating on his work.



Paula's sample ear..

Hide Highlights

Page

- 3.....Muzzles
- 4.....Leather Burning Workshop Results
- 5.....Old Style Leather Projects
- 8.....Spokane Workshop
- 9.....Robb Gray's Knife and Sheath
- 10...Amazing Saddle
- 11...Workshop Report
- 12...Western Washington PSLAC Schedules
- 13...Eastern Washington PSLAC Schedules
- 13...Did You Know.....?
- 14...Advertisements
- 17...Map & Directions

**Next Meeting on
Sunday February 9th
at 1:00 PM**

*Meet at The Cedar Grange Hall
No. 534 at Maple Valley
(See last page for map
& directions)*

Ear Carving Workshop



Paula hard at work.



Ken working on his piece.

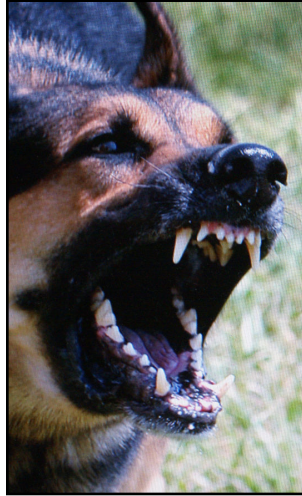


Len tapping away.



John studying his work.

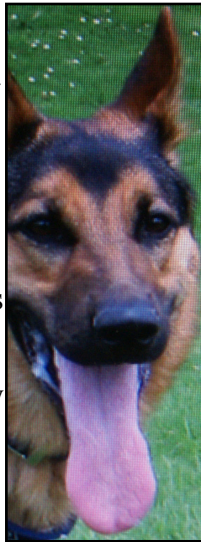
Nose, muzzle, snout, trunk, proboscis, no matter



Angry dog.

Each subject of a drawing or piece must be studied closely, as there are a great many dissimilarities.

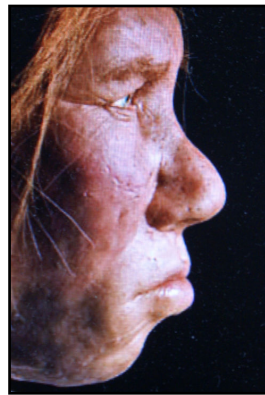
I have not covered it in the articles on eyes and ears, so will now. To properly study any animal, a basic knowledge of the animal's anatomy is necessary. The skeleton is the framework on which the rest of the animal is built. The muscles are attached to the skeleton by ligaments and tendons. This gives the body its basic shape. All is covered by a covering, the skin, which may or may not be covered with hair. The basics can be found in some of the books by Al Stohlman. Other sources are art books, and various educational text books.



Happy dog.

With this knowledge we can look at the various ridges, hollows, and shapes seen on the subject, and have an idea of why it is that way, the parts that are involved, and what the function is. Is the subject healthy and in good

condition, or is it starving or in some way incapacitated? (An

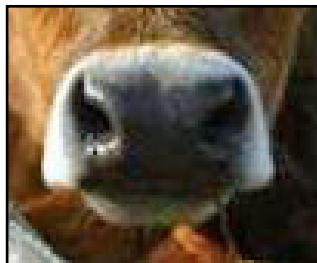


Human profile.

the texture? Is it wet or dry? If hair covered, what are the directions of the hair? Other than having nostrils for breathing, what other functions does the muzzle furnish? Many animals use the sense of smell to track game or "read the other mail". Some use their snouts for digging, such as the pig. Other's are very mobile and used for collecting food, such as the elephant, horse, anteater, and giraffe.

The lips. Are they static (not very mobile), or mobile?

The mobile ones have a variety of uses. Gathering of food, vocalization,



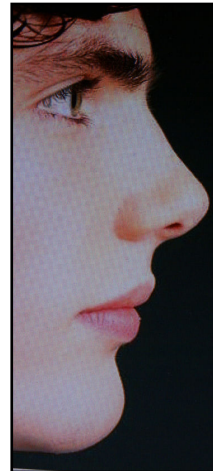
Cow nose.

ions, physical condition, anger, anxiety, aggression, and relaxation are just a few examples.

Are the teeth completely covered or partially

aside – the best rawhide comes from an animal that has starved to death.)

Back to the muzzle. Is the skin covered with hair or bare skin? If bare

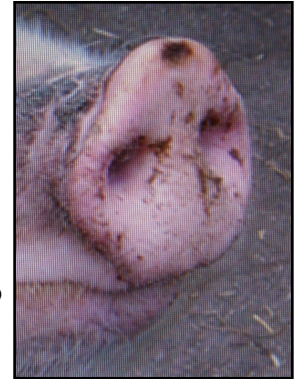


Human profile.

exposed? We will cover teeth in a future article.

Whiskers/guard hairs. These are the longer much heavier hairs that extend outward from the sides of the muzzle. These are especially prevalent on cats and rodents. Their main usage is in navigation. Examples: Rats trails generally are next to a solid object, such as a wall, frequently in total darkness. The rat goes along the wall, keeping it within touch distance from these whiskers.

Other rodents use them to navigate through their burrows. They are also used to gauge size. The total width of the whiskers is pretty much the same size space that is needed to squeeze the animal's body through.



Pig snout.

When carving the muzzle, use the swivel knife very sparingly. Only the outline, the nostrils, and lips should be cut. Use bevellers and modeling tools for the rest of the outlining. Refer to the pattern frequently. Watch the direction the hair lies or falls. Use lifters and modeling tools to lift and shape the nostrils.

In the photos, I thought I would include profile photos of an aboriginal and modern man. I have selected a few photos of animal muzzles. Study examples of various subjects in books, calendars on the web, or best if you can study the animal itself.

Norm Lynds

Leather Burning Workshop Results

Leather Burnings

After doing the burning workshop with Fred Nachbar, it has left me enthused and confident to try more burnings.

My first practice piece was the

Gladys Wickstrom brought in two of her new practice pieces, a couple of birds in a tree on leather and an owl on wood. Both pieces look GREAT. Will have photos in the Gazette next month.

Paula Marquis

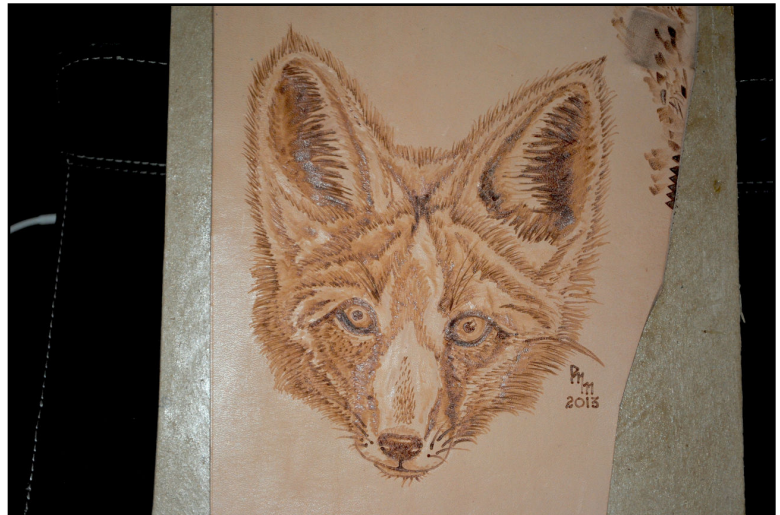


Paula's "Gibson Girl".

'Gibson Girl' model that we did at the workshop, which was actually a difficult first project with all that abundance of hair, but, it sure gave me confidence to try other subjects.

The second practice piece was the young fox study. Need a lot more practice, didn't do a good job on the fox's right eye. Got too heavy handed with the burning around the eye.

Third practice was totally different. A fun project with the mushrooms and wanted to see if I could give it form and shape. Again, more practice needed, but, slowly getting there.



Fox study.



Mushroom study.

Going through old catalogues and looking at old leather projects it is always interesting to see what sort of things leatherworkers made and how they were constructed.

Ron Edwards (sadly passed away now) an Australian Author and Artist produced many good books on leather projects, most old traditional bush articles. Over many years I have acquired a large quantity of his books and am working on eventually owning all of them.

I think the first book of his I purchased was a special limited edition on making an Australian Stock Saddle and when the book arrived I was surprised to find he had autographed it. I have since purchased three other copies of the book to use as working copies as they were not the limited editions.

A lot of Ron's books were small, covering specific subjects and that made them very affordable to purchase. One I purchased about a year ago is titled OLD STYLE LEATHER PROJECTS and has a lot of simple articles to make and interesting projects in it.

I phoned Deborah Edwards (Ron's daughter-in-law) in Queensland and she has kindly given me permission to print in our *Raw Hide Gazette* one of the projects from the above book (See the following two pages). In itself it is a very useful project and with slight tweaking here and there it can become a versatile article for today's times. The thing to keep in mind is that the metric system is used in Australia but the measurements can easily be converted to inches.

Deborah welcomes you all to try the project and I would like to add the information you need to find the web site and contact Deborah if you are interested in purchasing any of Ron's books, personally I would highly recommend you

check out the web site.

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Enjoy.

Paula Marquis

Pocket Notebook and Card Case

The pocket notebook is an old fashioned idea that beats an electronic notepad every time because it does not get flat batteries or crash. There were all sorts of patterns for these in the old days, and I have found this one to be quite practical.

Some of the old patterns had space for a small pencil but I have tried this and found it to be a nuisance as it stiffens up the case and in any case the pencil lead seems to be always getting broken as you sit down.

If you carry an unprotected notebook in the pocket for any length of time it will begin to curl badly at the edges and also get dirty. The cover protects it, especially one like this with a flap that wraps around the lower edge of the book.

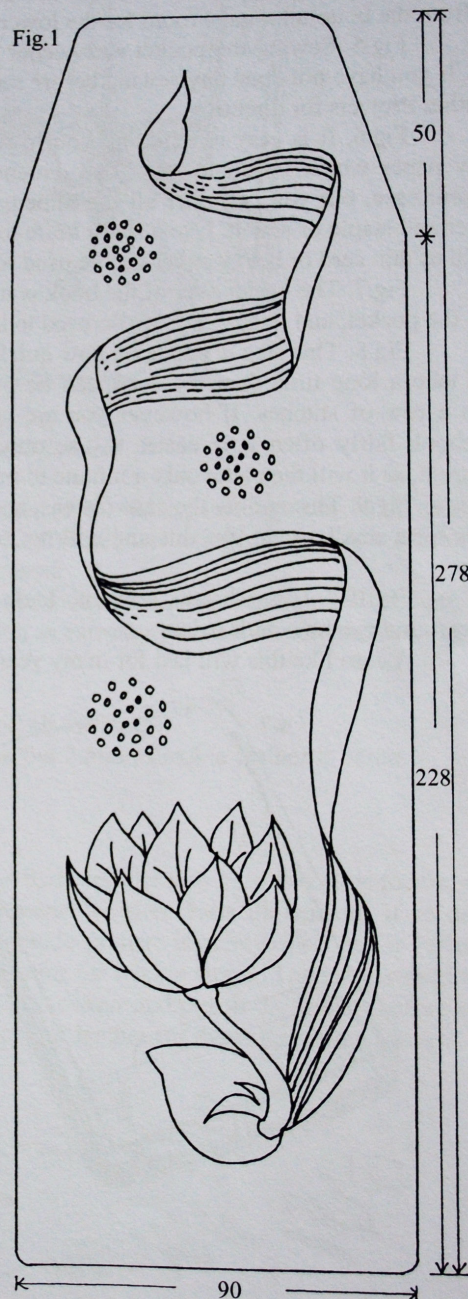
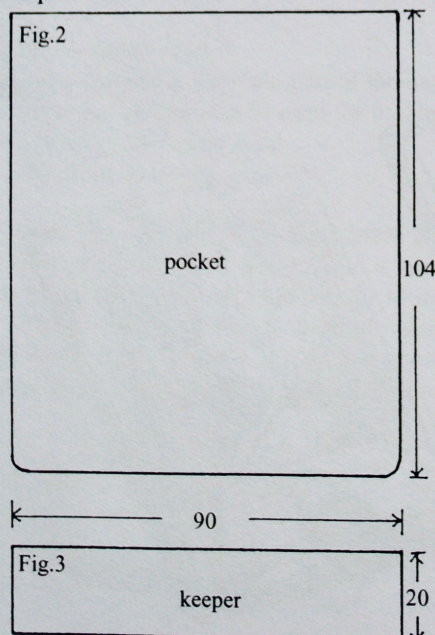
Materials needed.

Kangaroo leather
Needles and thread
Paper for the notebook.

Fig.1. This is the main part of the cover. When made with kangaroo leather, which is both strong and light, it would not be decorated. However some leatherworkers like to decorate all their work, so I have chosen here a design adapted from the work of Aubrey Beardsley dating from the 1890s. In the original the background is black. Use 2.5mm embossing leather for this piece if the design is to be used.

Fig.2. This is the pocket.

Fig.3. This is the keeper piece that holds the flap in place.



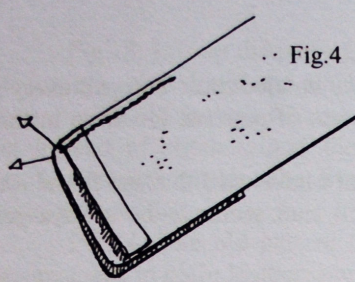


Fig.4

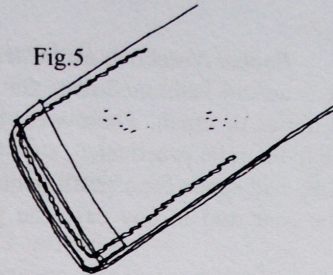


Fig.5

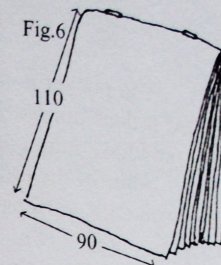


Fig.6

Fig.4. Begin sewing the pocket to the inside of the main piece. The keeper piece goes on the outside of the main piece just far enough up from the bottom to make room for the lower row of stitching.

Fig.5. Sewing the pocket and keeper piece on is quite an easy job. If you have not done any sewing before see my booklet Hand Sewn Leather Projects for directions.

Fig.6. It is easy to make up your own pad, I use ordinary A4 copy paper which I trim to size. The dimensions shown here fit the present case, but you can alter all the dimensions as desired. Fold the paper and staple or sew it. Use a sharp knife to neatly trim the edges. A piece of thin card or heavy paper can be used for the cover.

Fig.7. The back cover of the book is trimmed so that it will slip into the pocket, and this pocket is also used to hold business cards.

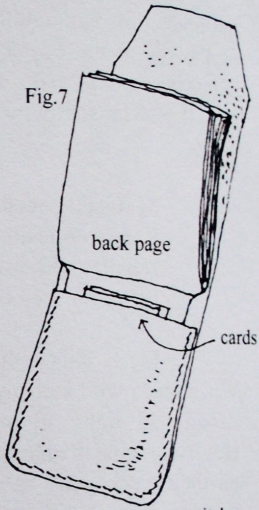


Fig.7

Fig.8. This step depends on how quickly you fill a notebook. If you take a long time then the book can be properly sewn to the case with a row of stitches. If however you are going to be replacing the notebook fairly often it is easier to use only a couple of stitches to secure it, as it will then take only a minute to put a new book in place.

Fig.9. This is how the case fastens, and this is neater than press studs for a small article like this and will not rub anything as studs tend to do.

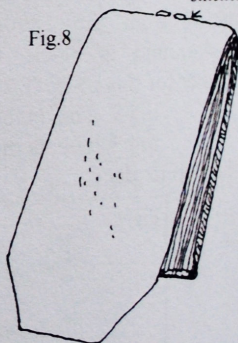


Fig.8

Fig.10. This shows how it looks with decoration. The background can be a dark colour.

A case like this will last for many years.

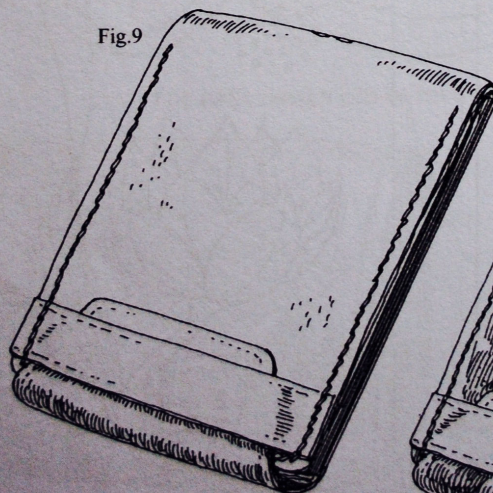


Fig.9

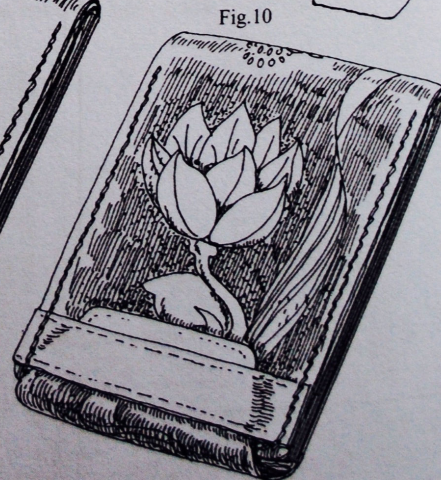


Fig.10

Spokane Workshop

The 18th and 25th of Jan. I ran beginner classes based off of a Tandy kit which came with tools and projects. The classes weren't big but those that came enjoyed the almost one on one instruction and did some very nice work. Thought you'd like to see some photos.

Woody



Robb Gray's Knife and Sheath

Robb Gray was at the Friday breakfast. He brought one of his engraved knives to show us. The blade, bolster and butt are engraved in Sheridan style engraving. The handle slabs are of camel bone. There are 4 champaign diamonds inlayed in the handle pins. This is one of those things that you absolutely have to see and handle to appreciate. Photos just don't do it justice.

Norm Lynds



Robb Gray knife and sheath



Knife bolster and handle.



Robb Gray knife.



Knife bolster and blade engraving.



Knife butt engraving.

Amazing Saddle



The saddle is made by
Lisa Skyhorse

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Workshop Report

WORKSHOP REPORT - JANUARY 2014

We got the year off well
with our January meeting.

The workshop was on
doing the Human Ear, tooling,
contouring, shaping and looking for
characteristics that make each ear
individual.

Gladys Wickstrom
brought in two pieces of her burnings, a
bird scene on leather and an owl on
wood. They were both really good
pieces.

Paula brought in her two
new practice burnings on leather of a
young fox and a mushroom/blackberry
scene.

Please note on all your
calendars that the February meeting will
be held at Maple Valley this year and not
at MacPhersons. We left it too late (time
went by too fast) to organize having the
meeting at MacPhersons and we will
visit them again next year, if
MacPhersons is willing to go to all the
trouble of opening the shop up for us.

For the February meeting
workshop we will be tooling fangs, teeth,
etc. When we have pretty well covered
all the separate portions, we will put it all
together and have a workshop making
one complete piece.

See you all at the February 9th meeting
with all your new projects for show and
tell.

Len Madison
Workshop Co-Ordinator

Western Washington (Seattle/Tacoma/Everett) PSLAC CURRENT SCHEDULE FOR 2014

General Member's meetings are on the 2nd Sunday of each Month unless specified below. 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM approx.

• Meetings held at Cedar Grange Hall No. 534 at Maple Valley General meetings start at 1:00 PM followed by the mini-demos

Breakfast informal get-together locations:

North Breakfast >>> Last Friday of the month at 10:00 AM. Lake Forest Park Town Centre. 17917 Bothell Everett Hwy, Bothell, WA 98012 Bothell Way N, bordered by 170th N. & Ballinger Way N. Meet in the Third Place Books eating area

South Breakfast >>> 3rd Saturday of the month at 8:30 AM. Homestead. 7837 S Tacoma Way, Tacoma, WA 98409 (253) 476-9000

All Day-Workshop Schedule for 2014:

TBA

February 9 1:00—4:00 PM Cedar Grange General meeting. We will be tooling fangs, teeth, etc.

March 9 1:00—4:00 PM Cedar Grange General meeting.

April 13 1:00—4:00 PM Cedar Grange General meeting.

May 11 1:00—4:00 PM Cedar Grange General meeting.

June 8 1:00—4:00 PM Cedar Grange General meeting.

July 13 1:00—4:00 PM Cedar Grange General meeting.

August 10 1:00—4:00 PM Cedar Grange General meeting.

Sept 14 1:00—4:00 PM Cedar Grange General meeting.

October 12 1:00—4:00 PM Cedar Grange General meeting.

Nov 9 1:00—4:00 PM Cedar Grange General meeting.

Dec 14 1:00—4:00 PM Cedar Grange General meeting.

Eastern Washington (Tri –Cities) Desert LeatherCraft Group (DLG) PSLAC CURRENT SCHEDULE FOR 2014

Tri-Cities Desert LeatherCraft Group Member's meetings are on the 3rd Saturday of each month unless specified below:

- Informal meetings held at Spokane Tandy Leather Factory Store, 1702 North Monroe Street, Spokane, WA 99205 (Call (509) 328-9939 for directions).

Eastern Washington (Spokane) PSLAC East PSLAC CURRENT SCHEDULE FOR 2014

PSLAC East Member's meetings are on the 1st Saturday of each Month unless specified below. 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM approx.

- Informal meetings held at Spokane Tandy Leather Factory Store, 1702 North Monroe Street, Spokane, WA 99205 Contact Ken Bush for time, date (normally the 1st Saturday) & details.

We are members of PSLAC-East (Puget Sound Leather Artisans Co-op). The East is because we are East of the Cascade Mountains. We offer classes in leathercraft at the Spokane Tandy Leather Factory store. These classes are free and open to the public. An informational newsletter is sent out prior to each class with a short description of the class, whom the instructor will be and what tools will be needed. We also schedule ad-hoc classes which are announced in the newsletter. To be on our mailing list for class notifications, please send an email (including your full name) to whiterose@aol.com requesting to be on the PSLAC-East mailing list.

All Day-Workshop Schedule for 2014:

We finally got together and came up with a PSLAC-East schedule for the leather classes we hold at Tandy in Spokane. See the schedule below. It will be good for the next three months but be aware that any schedule can change as circumstances warrant. If that happens, I will let you know ASAP. Notice that we put a wish list at the end of the schedule of classes we would like to try. If any of you have other classes that you would like to see presented, please let me know.

Date	Class	Description	Tools/Materials/Fees needed
* 1 Feb 2014	Hand Sewing	Credit card case	
8 Feb 2014	Basic Sheridan Carving	Sheridan style carving techniques	Swivel knife and mallet plus the following Pro-line Sheridan stamps: Beveller, Thumb print, Veiner, Camouflage, Flower center, Flower center shader, Leaf liner, Mule foot, Seeder, Lifter or pro petal, Basic Sheridan style tools
** 15 Feb 2014	Pre Painting (\$25)	Carving for painting class.	Basic Sheridan style tools
** 22 Feb 2014	Painting (\$25)		Paint palette, small round brushes

* denotes 1st Saturday class

** denotes fee paid class

Ideas for Future classes: Masks, Sporrán, Holster – w/clip, Embossing, Celtic knot carving, Picture frames, Horse Tack

Ken Bush

White Rose Leather

11923 E. Fairview Ave.

Spokane Valley, WA 99206, 509.926.2087

Did You Know.....?

A Word to Our Readers

Please send your tips for "Did You Know ...?". What we'd like are short items on tricks you have discovered while working with leather which might be helpful to your fellow artisans. It could be a type of material or a technique or some other item that you have found useful in your leatherwork and you would be willing to share with others. So if you don't have an article (which we would also gladly accept!) but you may have a tip or trick that you have found works please drop us a line at dblyman@yahoo.com. Please include your name and email address so we can let others know who you are. Thank you. David Lyman, Editor

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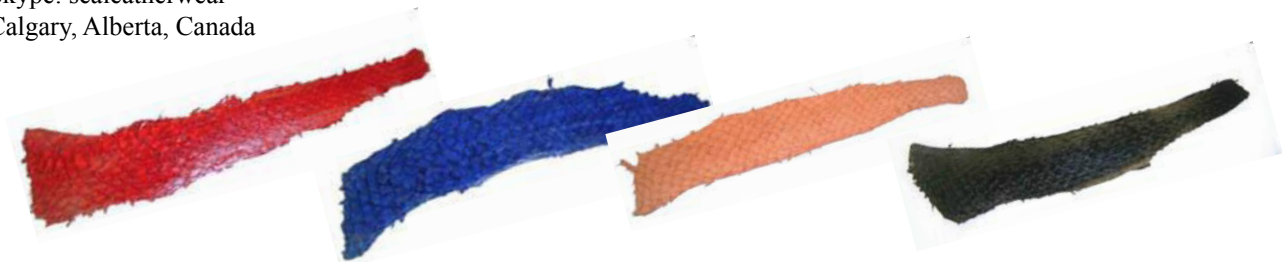
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January 2014 - HideSide 17