

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



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Puget Sound Leather Artisans Co-Op

July 2017

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*(Always room for more
articles, tips, ideas or
whatever. Just send to
stelmack@nwlinc.com)*

Our PSLAC MISSION is...

To further the enjoyment of leather and to help others learn more about the real joy of leather - working as a group and sharing ideas and knowledge of leather, its uses and how to use it. To pass on this knowledge to others and then have them pass it on to the new members who come later. A fellowship with peers, young and old, expert and non-expert, anyone who has the love of leather.

To show and demonstrate to people outside the Co-Op leather in all forms and try to help them to become interested in leather.

...to share...

time talent, with all others in the Co-Op, especially the young.



Annual Bar-B-Que

At our annual barbecue/sale in June we had the usual hamburgers, hotdogs, and sausages along with the fixings furnished by the club and a wide assortment of salads, fruits, and deserts brought by the members.

It was well attended, with a couple very special people whom we very seldom get to see, these are **Dusty Wert** and **Ann Seymour**. Others that we haven't seen in a long while were **Dave and Sue Puls**, **David Livingston**



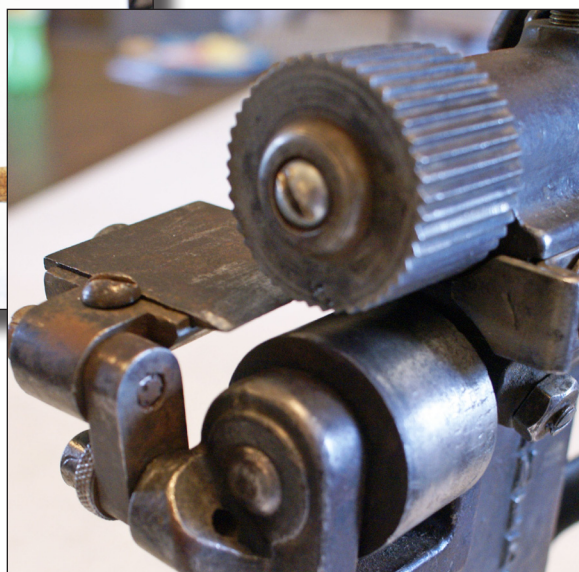
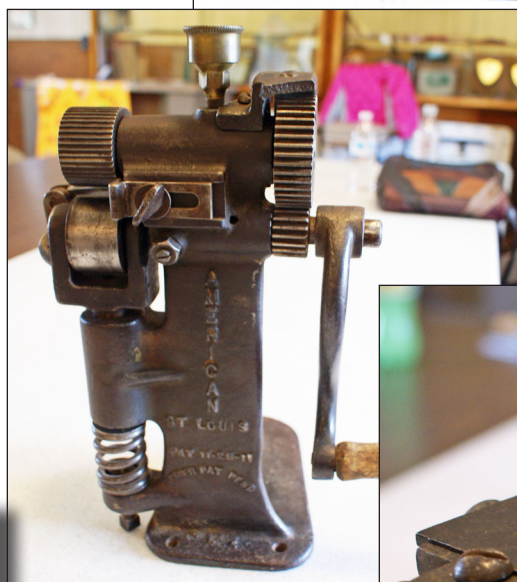
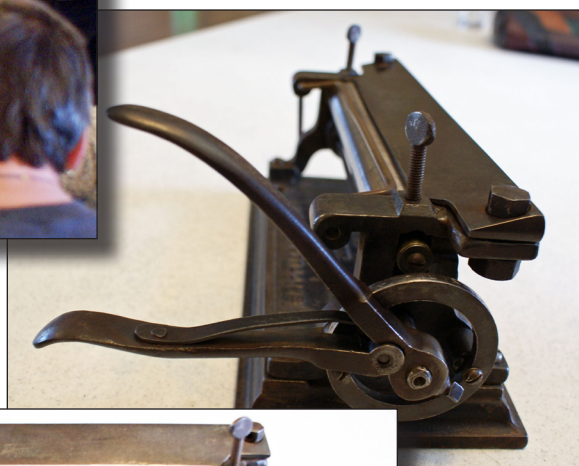
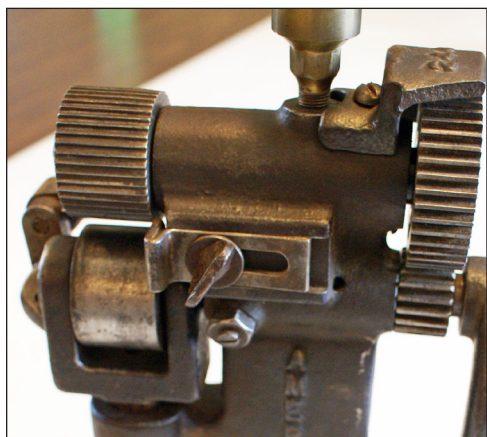


and friend. **Fred and Mae Nachbar** who we also seldom see, left their island for a day to attend.

The members who brought things for the sale laid them out and the others in attendance looked and selections made and purchased. **John Wickstrom** brought three antique tools he had found on their latest trip to Alaska. Two were well worn splitters, one with no name and the other one made by **H.F. Osborne**. The third was a hand cranked splitter with a 1 inch blade. The name on it is **American, St. Louis**. I will call it a rein splitter, as that is the only thing I can think of where there would have been enough volume to demand a machine for splitting leather only up to 1". It has a grease cup on top to keep the shaft lubricated, and it's blade is well worn as is the handle.

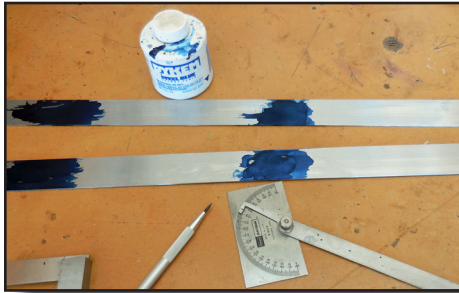
Both the sale and barbecue, cooking being done by **Roger**, were a success and we look forward to another next year.

Norm Lynds



Making a Skiving Knife

This article will be on making a skiving knife. Steels have various names, many of them by numbers following one of the letters A, O, and W. These are air, oil, and water which are the quenching material used for hardening during the tempering process. For the skiving knives I use **o1** steel 1/16" thick by 1 1/4" wide.



The blanks are laid out in 8 1/2" lengths, coated with Dykem, which is a metal ink, marked for cutting with a 35 degree angle. After cutting, the angles are remarked and ground to the mark on the belt grinder.



For the grinding process I made a bunch of jigs to attach to the blanks, and these will be run across a piece of angle iron attached to the plate on the grinder.

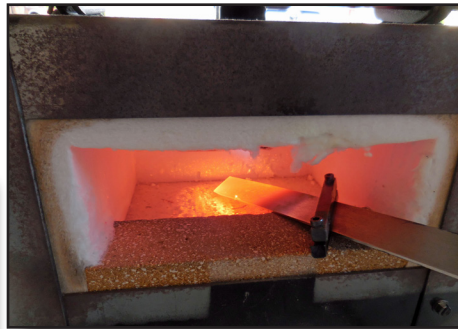


Another line is marked 4 3/4 from the tip of the blank, the jig attached, and the bevels ground with the right handed knives beveled on right and the left handed ones on the left.

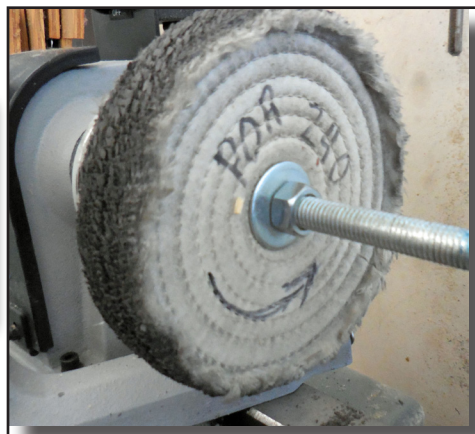
Sanding belts are graded by grits, with 36 being the coarsest and 500 being the finest. I start with the 36 grit and go through the 220, removing a little more than half the thickness. This leaves approximately 3/8" bevel.



Tempering is next. Hardening is first. The blank is heated to a bright red in the forge and quenched in oil. Very hard but brittle. Some of that hardness has to be drawn off. To do this I use a toaster oven set at 400 and let them soak for 1 hour.



Back to the belt grinder, starting with the 220 grit and working up through the 500 grit, taking only a few passes with each grit (lots of belt changing), leaving only a very slight flat edge on the end of the blank. I want this slight flat edge for the final sharpening to be



done by hand.

To remove the blackness and crud from the tempering I now go to a series of 4 buffing wheels on the lathe from 240 grit through white rouge.

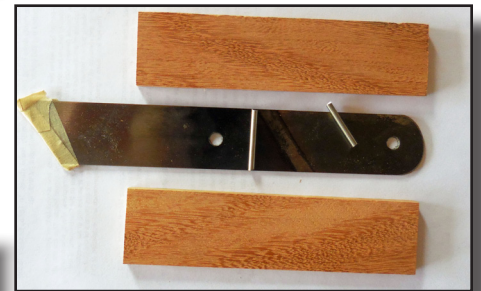
Sharpening starts with a piece of 220 grit sanding belt on a piece of granite with the blank being drawn across it at approximately a 20 degree angle.

Once the final angle has been ground, the rest of the sharpening can be done with a



series of sandpapers up through 2500 or by stones. I have used both. Either way, I like to use a King finish stone last, before stropping.

The butt is rounded over and a couple 1/4" holes drilled for the metal rods through the handles. Wood pieces selected for the handles, clamped onto the blank and drilled for the 1/8" rods. Epoxy is applied and the handle scales attached and pinned by the rods, and clamped together for curing. After



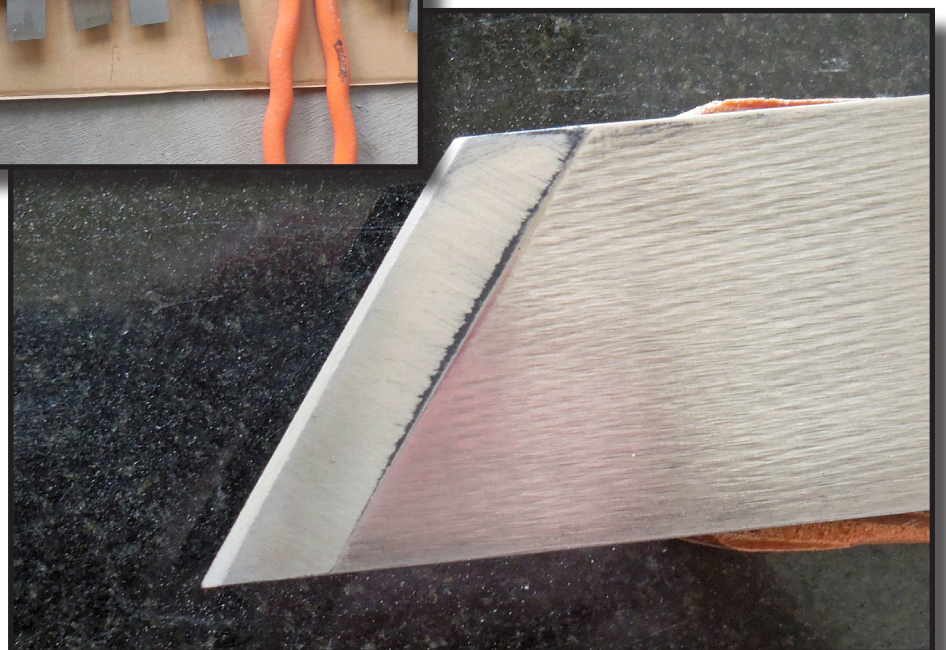
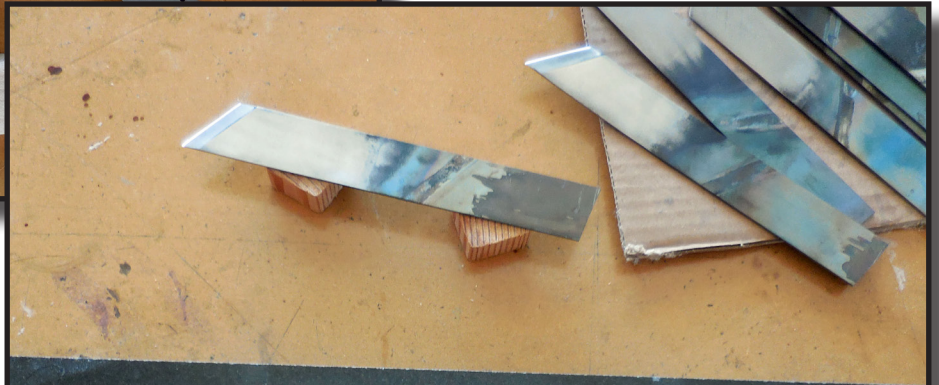
curing the scales are shaped, sanded, and given a coat of finish.

A small sheath is made to protect the blade



from damage by cutting and gluing a piece of leather to fit the blade. Done!

Norm Lynds



Tandy Leather **Portland** Class Schedule for July

Hello everyone!

Kick off your start to summer with Tandy Leather!

We have some very important information and deals to share with you this month (please see attached flyers).

Fourth of July Cost Sale. You pay what we pay on clearance merchandise July 1-5. In addition, take advantage of rotating specials on new and regular stock items!

We are very excited to introduce a new discount program available to all First Responders. This discount allows all members of, Police, Fire, Medical, and Emergency Response to shop at Elite Club Pricing and take advantage of exclusive offers!

Looking to expand your knowledge and skills? Check out our new list of classes for July! We even have a kids class this month!

August Annual Customer Showcase and Parking Lot sale. Free vending opportunity to makers (space is limited), in store exclusives, and demonstrations. A unique once a year experience, this event gives our customers a chance to showcase, promote, and sell their very own leather goods. Booth rental is free to existing customers, just call ahead by August 19th to secure a spot. All vendors are encouraged to advertise on their social media and by word of mouth to make this year a huge success – the more we promote, the more people we can get in to find out about the amazing craftsmanship our customers are capable of! In addition to the outdoor showcase, we will also be having many exclusive deals inside our shop, as well as craft demonstrations. A food vendor will be on site to purchase lunch. Please call us at Portland Tandy Leather, 503-255-8818, to sign up or for more vending information.

July 1st Time of Class: 10AM to 3PM: Open Table: Cost: free Description/Instructions: Does a project have you stumped? Not sure you have all the right tools, need help putting a project together, or do you just need extra space to work? Get answers to your questions, participate in demonstrations, and even use some of our tools the first Saturday of each month.

July 8th Time of Class: 10AM – 1PM: Kids Class: Cost: \$6.00: Instructor: Jeanette Description/Instructions: Have some youngsters who are curious about creating their own leather project, but don't know where to start? Drop the kids off at Tandy Leather, and we'll show them the ropes in the basic level introductory class. In this class, attendees will be creating their very own custom stamped and dyed drawstring coin pouch (4071-00). Ages 7-13. Max of 6 attendees.

July 15th Time of Class: 10AM -3PM: Hardware Setting: Cost \$5.00: Instructor: Ray Description/Instructions: So, you've begun leatherworking and are now ready to venture from stitching everything by hand to setting hardware? From appliques, cosmetic decoration, to functional use, join Ray as he shows you how to set standard pieces of hardware both by hand and using the hand press. In no time, you'll understand what type of hardware you need for various projects and how to properly set them. Ages 12+, beginners encouraged! Class time is flexible, depending on the speed of the attendees.

July 22nd SeaDog Nights and Gypsy Carnival: July 20-24 th Join Tandy Leather in Lebanon Oregon for the area's premier pirate festival. Set sail with us and take a side trip from your mundane life to experience a weekend of shenanigans, ships, fun, games and fire for grownups (or at least those who are grownup on the outside), kids and everyone in between.

July 29th Time of Class: 10AM – 3PM: Folded Clutch: Cost: \$25.00: Instructor: Ray Description/Instructions: Join us this month in building your very own custom evening clutch purse. It features a folded and stitched design to deliver a 5" x 9" clutch with two inner compartments. Bag dimensions will be large enough for most daily carry items. In this class, you will learn the basics of design, layout, assembly techniques, stitching, hardware setting, dyeing and finishing

No matter what kind of project you are working on, we at Tandy Leather Portland are here with support, service, and expertise!

We hope to see you soon!

Your Friends at Tandy Leather Portland
13221 Ne Whitaker Way
Portland, OR 97230
(503) 255-8818 | (888) 277-3360
Portland021@tandyleather.com

Tandy Leather **Tacoma** Class Schedule for July

July 1 st There will be no class this weekend. Come check out our booth at All's Faire, Thurston County Fairgrounds' largest medieval/Fantasy festival! This show runs from 6/30 – 7/2, and is free to the public! We will be holding a free raffle so stop by to enter and take advantage of our amazing deals on furs and hides!

July 4 th – CLOSED FOR INDEPENDENCE DAY! Have a safe holiday everyone!

July 8 th 9:00 am – Noon Geometric Stamping Cost – Free This weekend we will be going over the basics of stamping with different geometric and basketweave tools! Feel free to bring in a project you are currently working on, or we will have scrap pieces of leather here to practice with.

July 11 th – 18 th & 25 th Open Table Tuesdays! Come in between 10 am – Noon and utilize our workspace! We are opening our class tables for you to use for free. Project help is available upon request.

July 15 th 9:00am – Noon Decorative stitching Cost- \$5.00 This class will include two spools of our Waxed Braided Cord to practice with. We will be going over how to properly twist/braid your thread prior to application on your project. This technique is not common and makes your project stand out from the crowd. Please bring in a current project or be prepared to purchase a blank off our wall.

July 22 nd & 29 th 9:00am – Noon Open Workshop Cost – Free If you are interested in learning leatherworking, stuck on a project or having trouble with a technique, bring in your materials and receive our hands-on help!

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Tandy Leather #124 Tacoma
13819 Pacific Ave S.
Tacoma, WA 98444
(253) 548-1100 | (888) 222-0510
Tacoma124@tandyleather.com

Meeting Activities For July

The Picnic last month was great, everybody had a good time. Sometimes its nice just to spend the afternoon sitting and talking, swapping ideas and generally catching up with everybody.

A very special THANKS to **Roger and Debbie** for all the work they did in preparation of the BBQ and in particular the GREAT job Roger did of the cooking. I think we may have to give you that job again next year!

For the July meeting activities we are going to finish making the tubes with **Ken**, so bring everything you had at the May meeting to continue where we left off.

For the August meeting activity we'll be doing figure carving, haven't figured out the subject yet, so I guess it'll be a surprise. Bring some tooling leather, fairly heavy, say 9/10oz for good carving and tooling depth. All the usual equipment will be needed and of course, swivel knife, figure carving bevelers, smooth pear shaders, modeling spoons. Tracing film and stylus will also be needed.

I will bring patterns.

The other thing we all need to keep in mind is that the Puyallup Fair is just around the corner. We will be having our northern breakfast a week earlier in August and anybody who wants me to take their entry to the Fair will bring it to the breakfast. I will be leaving the breakfast to take the entries in at 11am. Don't forget to register your entries online and print out a copy of the entry and bring it with the article as I have to take the two in together.

See you all at the meeting.

Paula Marquis

Are You a Leather Burner? #4 – What look are you going for?

As we progress with the techniques of using Pyrography to decorate leather articles we will need to embrace processes that are uncomfortable or outside our experience. In this way we grow as artists and experimentation is the only way our craft will widen in acceptance by all ages and cultures.

There are some excellent books available on Pyrography. Many are written with traditional wood burning as the basis but recently Leather based Pyrography is gaining traction. Two newly published books are reviewed below.

A new one I just picked up is **The Art of Leather Burning** by: **Lora Susan Irish**. ISBN-13: 978-0-486-80942-7. This book is quickly becoming a favorite for several reasons that include not just being an instructional manual but also a project book with a dozen projects. The book is published by Dover Publications, Inc. and has dozens of patterns to use. The author guides you

through the construction of several simple projects which are decorated with various burning techniques including line work, shading & stippling. I highly recommend this book for all skill levels if you are interested in fine line work and shading.

On a recent trip to my local **Tandy** store I purchased a book that had some examples of Leather Pyrography. **LeatherCrafted** by: **Caitlin McNamara Sullivan**. ISBN-13: 978-1-4402-4167-3. This book also is project based with patterns. The author made a point of heating the tip to glowing before using it. Of course a tip at that heat will burn or actually char the leather, but she was looking to "brand" the leather. The artist had a particular look she was interested in achieving and although that look may not be everyone's preference, the finished products are pleasing and commercially successful.

One note of caution, when branding, some tips use a silver soldering technique in the manufacturing process (Colwood "B" tips are an example) and these tips can become hot enough to separate the soldered parts rendering the tip useless.

These two authors show different views of Pyrography that promote techniques that may be controversial. The uses of their demonstrated techniques provide us with diverse points of view which will broaden our craft.

Roger Kaiser

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



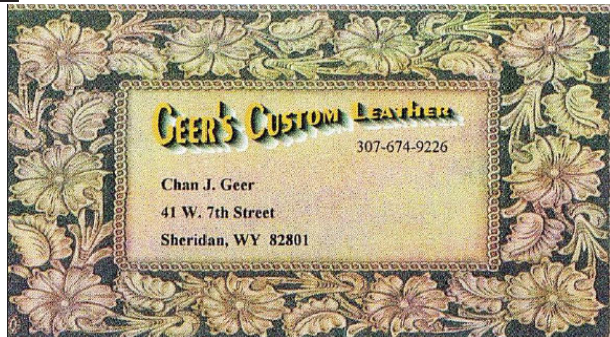
I make almost anything that can be made from leather and can be sewn by hand. I do not like sewing machines and cannot get along with them. Therefore, that excludes making clothing, which entails using very soft leather.

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.

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13819 Pacific Ave S
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Manager: Diana Vanwyck
Phone: 253-548-1100

Spokane, WA

1702 N. Monroe St.
Spokane, WA 99205
Manager: Jason Jones
Phone: 509-328-9939

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PSLAC Membership:

- "a" Internet access to RawHide Gazette including Member only area & meeting attendance \$20/year. (1 Person)
- "b" US Postal Mail copy of RawHide Gazette including new Member only articles & meeting attendance \$30/year. (1 Person)
- "j" Junior (16 and under) Internet access to RawHide
- Gazette including Member only area and meeting attendance \$10 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

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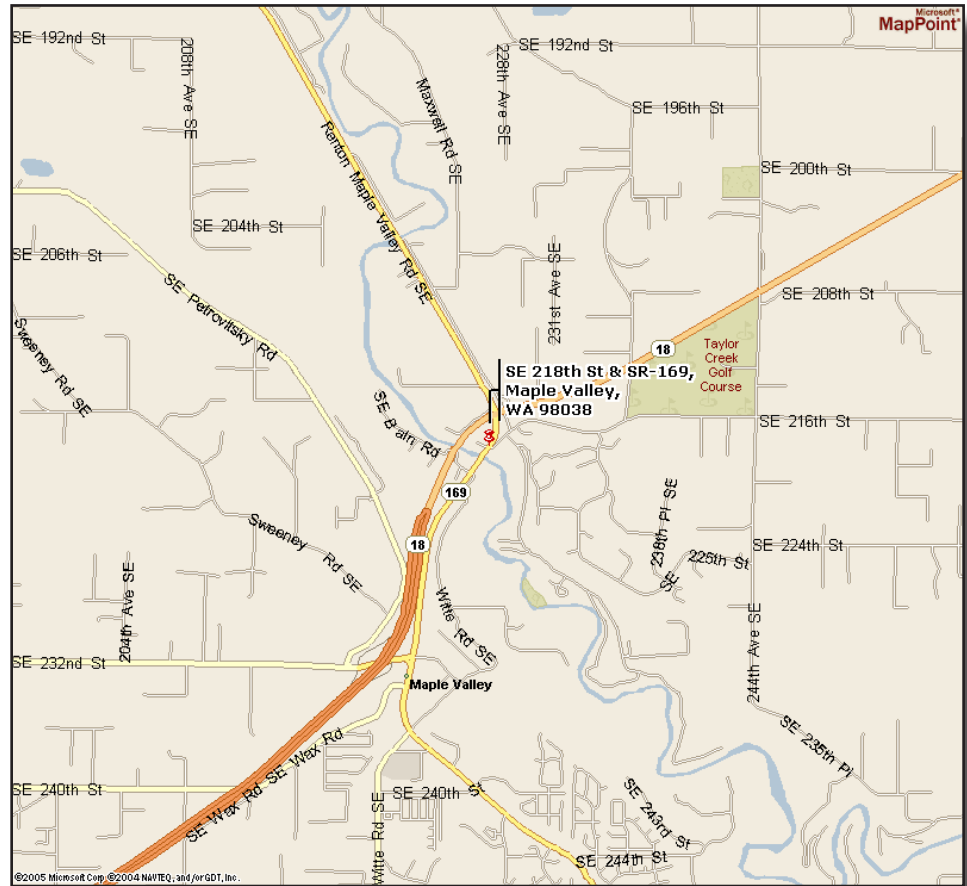
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From I-405 take the SR169 exit and proceed toward Maple Valley on the Maple Valley Highway. In about 10 Miles you will reach the SE 216th/SE 218th Street intersection. Turn Right onto SE 218th (the downsloping hill on the left next to the Maple Valley Market parking lot) towards the big white/gray building next to the bridge (the Cedar Grange). The parking lot is on the first left.

From Highway 18 take the SE 231st, Junction 169, Maple Valley exit. Proceed to the Highway 169 (Maple Valley Highway) junction. Turn North (toward Renton) on Highway 169 and go about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile until you reach the SE 216th/SE 218th Street intersection. Turn left onto SE 218th (the downsloping hill on the left next to the Maple Valley Market parking lot) towards the big white/gray building next to the bridge (the Cedar Grange). The parking lot is on the first left.

From Issaquah take Front Street toward Hobart and Highway 18. In about 10 miles get on Highway 18 West heading toward Maple Valley and Auburn. Follow the Highway 18 instructions.



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USA

