

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 Stohman, December 1997



PSLAC Website
<http://www.pslac.org/>

Puget Sound Leather Artisans Co-Op

November 2017

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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.

Jeff's Class on the Peter Main Butterfly and Flowers



SPECIAL EVENT – November 3rd & 4th PENDLETON LEATHER SHOW

Time: 9AM to 5PM Location: Pendleton Convention Center Cost: Free!

This is the Pacific Northwest's biggest leathercraft event of the year! Tandy Leather Portland will be there with extensive discounts on leather, tools, and more. Come on out to see us and take advantage of the unique educational and professional opportunities available at the show!

- A special sale on ALL PROJECT KITS, valid November 11-18
- Our annual BLACK FRIDAY MEGA-SALE!

• Puget Sound Leather Artisans Co-Op •

Peter Main's Monarch Butterfly by Jeff Bement

Jeff Bement was the leader in the September and October meetings which project was Peter Main's monarch butterfly affixed onto a background of branches ending in flowers and buds. Patterns were handed out with the butterfly, butterfly body, and foliage.

Jeff handed out a small piece (3" x 3") of Styrofoam and a small (about 1/2" x 1 1/2") piece of thick leather. This piece of leather was used to make the body plug of the butterfly. While the thin leather to be used for the butterfly was casing, the body plug was shaped. First it was cut to the shape of the pattern, and then each of the three segments, head, thorax, and abdomen were cut to shape.

The leather was centered on the Styrofoam flesh side up and the body plug centered and pressed into the leather, which was pressed down into the Styrofoam. When level it was glued in place with contact cement.

The butterfly pattern was cut in half and the body shape was also cut away. Each side of the pattern was placed on the leather to fit and the pattern traced.



feather edge and color all the edges with a black felt tip pen. Color the spots with a white pen, dye, or paint.

with a coat of Satin finish or a product of your choice.

If desired, the back of the wings may be painted with diluted white glue and shaped as they would be in flight and left to dry.

When tracing the background pattern, a suggestion from Peter is to only trace only one side of the



tern outline the body and wings is cut with a swivel knife, leaning the knife outward leaving the edge very narrow. The wings are cut to show the 4 wings, not just 2.

Diluted dye is used to cover the whole carving. All the uncut lines are retraced using a black ball point pen, and the design done on the body. Use a swivel knife to remove the carving from the initial piece of leather. Skive the edges of the wings down to a

stems. When the swivel knife work is finished, set a set of dividers for the proper width and retrace the stems and cut. This is used only where the stems are the same diameter. For this piece inverted carving, or beveling inside the pattern instead of outside will be used. Bevel inside all the stems, leaves, and blossoms and then finish them off with a modeling tool, and/or other stamps as you choose. The pattern is colored with diluted dyes and the project is finished

Using a curved awl blade pierce the body plug in the thorax area and thread it with a piece of thread. Tie the thread and fix it with a drop of white glue. Place the butterfly on the background piece where you want it, and pierce the background piece twice and insert the two pieces of thread on the butterfly and tie them off and cement the knot with a drop of white glue.

The piece is ready for framing.

Norm



Coloring



Ken's Knothole

It's been some time since I have had some input for the *Rawhide Gazette*. My wife and I were out to Billings, MT last week, for her family's reunion. We used to make the trip almost yearly to visit her folks, before they passed. We figured it's been about 16 years since we've been there. Whenever I'm in Billings, one of my obligatory stops is at the Montana Leather Factory store, which we did this trip. I took some pictures (see here) and while there picked up some new yellow and red Feibings dies that I needed to finish the **Peter Main** butterfly project that **Jeff Bement's** been working with us on. I also picked up a couple of small cans of **Master Petronio** contact cement. These are a great size to take with the demos and seminars.



See Norm Lind's write up, and pic's on the butterfly project in this Gazette .

I noticed a comment from

I'm interested in trying out. It took a couple of tries, but finally got to his store on his Facebook page, but still had some questions, so I called him today so I could make sure I ordered the right configuration. He took time to review the various tool options and

There was also a Tandy store in Bozeman that I always looked forward to stopping at on our trips to Billings. It was an independent and I picked up some locally sourced items you didn't usually see at the franchise stores. I was going to get some pics of the store to put in this article, but unfortunately, sometime in the past 16 years, they must have closed down.

I forget to pack my butterfly, and took the time to cut and stamp out another one, so I have an extra to practice on. I'm thinking I might actually get this project done by the November meeting. *(I seem to have an embarrassing number of partially finished projects in the house).*

Peter Main in the Leather Tools History group about a new swivel knife sharpening tool he was waiting for, from Gordon Andrus, with Sage Creek Stock Saddle Co. It lets you sharpen and strop the blades lengthwise inline along the edge of the blade. Gordon also has an offset angle swivel knife blade that



also gave me some great tips on sharpening and making swivel knife cuts. Can't wait to get the sharpening tools and the SK blade. I also ordered the 4 grits of lapping film for the sharpener. I'll do a write up in an upcoming Gazette. You can see a video of the sharpener at his site, and below that is a link to videos in his Facebook store:

www.sagecreeksaddles.com

https://www.facebook.com/pg/scsaddle/videos/?ref=page_internal

About the butterfly project, I'd missed the seminar Jeff did with the group 4 or 5 years ago, so really wanted to take this one, but wound up having to miss the September meeting, where they started on the

background leather piece and the butterfly. With help from Jeff at his house (*pic of his workbench, with his amazing collection of custom stamping tools*), I caught up and was able to color the background with the group at the October meeting. (*Thanks again Jeff!*)

Finally, I received the application for the **2018 Cascade Mountain Men Black Powder Gun and Craft show** last week, so thought I'd mention the date, if anyone wants to get it on their calendar. It's on **March 10 and 11, 2018, at the fairgrounds in Monroe**. I'll put in the flyer and a write up about it as we get closer to March.

Ken



Meeting Activities For November

Here we are heading towards the end of the year again.

I was not at the October meeting so I can't say how it went, but, from what I heard it was a good workshop and the butterfly project was pretty much completed with finishing touches to be done at home. Hopefully everybody will bring in their completed project for show and tell at the November meeting.

Looking a little bit ahead, it is time to knuckle down and get our Christmas Gift Exchange items done for December. The December meeting will be relaxed with no project to do and we will have the gift exchange for those who wish to join in, then some show and tell and socializing and swapping ideas and thinking up projects we would like to do next year. Bring a small snack to share and a drink if you don't want coffee. Coffee will be available all afternoon.

Now back to November. We will be mak-

ing the key fob with either an inset stone or exotic leather, personal choice.

I have plenty of key rings and will bring enough for everybody. The following is required for everybody to bring:

- 7/8oz. Tooling leather (approx. 1 sq. ft.)
- Stone or exotic leather as insert (the stone to be a max. 1" diameter, either round or oval)
- Wing Dividers
- Border stamping tool (personal choice)
- Stamping stone/mallet/container/sponge
- Cutting board
- Clicking knife and scalpel
- Edger (No 2)
- Edge finish/canvas/slicker
- Edge dye/applicator
- Pricking iron (6 to the inch)
- Needle/thread/stitching clamp or Lace and lacing needle
- Fid
- Contact cement

I don't think I've forgotten anything - you know the rest of the sentence!

In case anybody is wondering why I wasn't at the Meeting, I was in Yellowstone National Park and Cody, Wyoming.

See you all at the meeting.

Paula Marquis

Want to Know Local Tandy Class Schedules?

Well, Tandy has an on-line list of the schedules at:

<https://www.tandy-leather.com/en/leather-craft-classes?ip=true>

Bob Stelmack
Richland, WA

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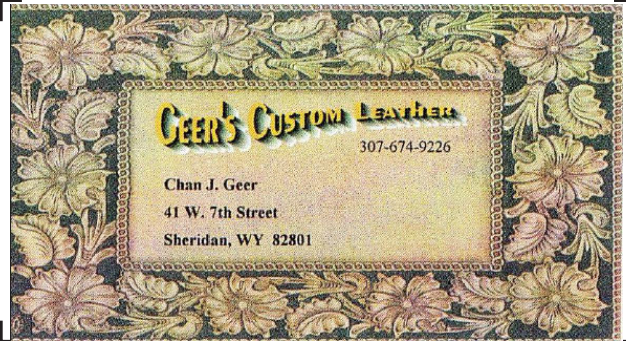
I make almost anything that can be made from leather and can be sewn by hand. I do not like sewing machines and cannot get along with them. Therefore, that excludes making clothing, which entails using very soft leather.

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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