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2012 EXTREME LEATHER WORKSHOP

Our fifth Extreme Leather Workshop will be held in Asheville in March of 2012. This year's edition will bring some change. We have picked a new hotel. Although, the DoubleTree was very kind to us, we felt it was important to find a venue that would be a little lower in cost. We are moving to the Quality Inn, 1 Skyland Inn Dr., Arden, NC 28704. The Quality Inn is owned by the same people.

In addition to the change in venue we have a change in line up of our instructors.

This year Jim Linnell will join us and will be teaching a notebook class. Jim is an outstanding carver and teacher. You might want to hurry to reserve your spot in that one!! Our second instructor will be none other than our founder—Kevin Adams. Kevin will be teaching a class originally scheduled for Chan Geer. Chan is unfortunately not able to join us this year, but has been working with Kevin on the concepts and patterns for the class. Kevin teaches weekly classes in Asheville and is also an excellent teacher! Kevin's class will be making a Sheridan style lamp. (it is rumored

that materials for two lamps are included in the package—so you can make a matching lamp when you get home) Stay tuned for verification and final details.

We will have usual offering of tools and goods available to purchase. We are excited about the 5th edition of our workshop and look forward to seeing old friends and new faces in Asheville.

Register now to ensure your slot in the class of your choice.

END OF MONTHLY ADVANCE NEWSLETTER BY: STEVE CARTER

For four years the Monthly Advance newsletter published by Hides to Art has been a labor of love. We started the newsletter as a way to share what we knew, what our friends knew and perhaps a little self promotion of the workshop and classes. We started out monthly, then had to transition to every six weeks, then every two months, then whenever we could get enough content for a decent issue.

I have served as editor and creator of this newsletter since its inception and have enjoyed putting every single

issue together. We wanted to share, to share freely and help others learn our craft. I think we have accomplished that. I remember seeing a lady frantically working on a holster for an ifolg show in Ohio. She was lacing the holster with two color Mexican Round Weave. She had a copy of our newsletter that featured instructions for that type of lacing and was going to town. I didn't say anything to her, but thought to myself...."yes, this is working...we are helping." I have received numerous emails thanking us for our free

newsletter. I thank all of our loyal subscribers.

However, we have had to beg and beg and beg for content. We have offered free tools to help and still we have run out of patterns and "how to" articles. We do not want to be just another collection of advertisements. Without content, we have nothing to publish, nothing to share, nothing new to teach. In short I surrender!! I do not know how to gather meaningful content to share with our readers without the voluntary contributions. I cannot create patterns every

month and I cannot create a "how to" every month (in case you are wondering—I have contributed 4 myself).

If I sound a little angry...maybe I am. Though I think frustrated is a better word. I enjoy putting the newsletter together. I also thought that more of our leather colleagues would want to share what they know and the projects they create.

If material surfaces, I (we) will resume....until then thanks for reading.....

I will miss this!
Steve Carter

Small Radius Edge Finisher

BY: LYNDON T. COUVILLION

Recently I was visiting a small saddle shop in rural Oklahoma and I noticed a finishing machine used to finish edges on shoes and other leather objects. The element that caught my eye was shaped like the interior of a bowl placed on edge and was composed of what looked like hundreds of pieces of waxed sandpaper. Since my shop is considerably smaller than this shop I could not justify the cost and space requirements of the larger machine for the limited quantity of work that I do. Additionally, my products, mostly cell phone cases, key carriers, spur straps, etc., have curves that are of much smaller radii that are difficult to finish. Interior curves on phone cases are particularly difficult since they are of such small radii. So, I had to invent my own small radius edge finisher.

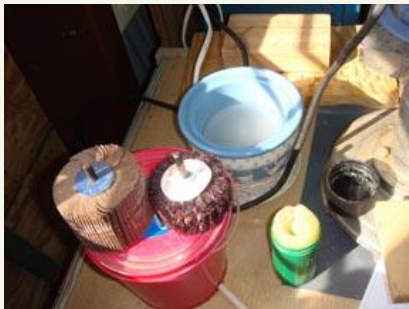


Figure 1: Wax pot, wax stick and sanding drums.

The drum at the far left was not used in this project, but could be.

Backtracking somewhat, I have procured a couple of small

Rival^(TM) Potpourri Crock Slow Cookers of about two-cup size that are generally used to add scents and moisture to the air. I find that they lose their appeal rather quickly and soon find their way to the Goodwill store. They sell for about \$1.00 and in one I keep a mix on 50/50 beeswax and paraffin. The other is pure paraffin. I would imagine that one could obtain one for each color, as is necessary. The one in this photograph contains the 100% paraffin. It has since received a metal lid of undetermined origin and with a lid it melts the wax faster. The cover also helps keep the wax clean and keep the flies, which we have in copious quantities here, out of the wax. Great care must be taken to insure that these are turned off when not in use as a pot full of hot wax cannot help but be a fire hazard. The shop fire extinguisher is handy just in case.

The green tubular object in the photograph is an expended tube of Brut^(TM) deodorant filled with the 50/50 beeswax and paraffin mix. I have several and they have lots of uses; such as waxing hand-stitching threads, to lubricate drill bits, to lubricate wood screws before use, and other similar uses, it has a cover to keep the wax clean and is easier to find on a crowded bench since it stands up on its base.

To make the first edge finisher I used a 2 1/2" (65mm) sanding drum with a 1/4" (6mm) shaft

that fits a drill or drill-press chuck. It is composed of small sheets of sandpaper separated by brown 'scrubby-pad' material at 1/4" (6mm) intervals. During cold weather I fired up the little wax pot and when the wax was thoroughly melted, I dipped the sanding drum in it. I immediately placed it on an 8" x 2" round steel anvil to cool rapidly and to form a flat bottom. Once cooled I scraped off the excess wax and returned it to the pot.



Figure 2: Sanding drum after first dipping in wax. The groove was cut prior to the second dipping.



Figure 3: Forming the groove.

The groove was formed by run-

Edger cont...

Lynden T. Couvillion

ning the mushroomed edge of an old cold chisel at the appropriate place. NOTE: Great caution must be taken when executing this step as the removal of a cold chisel by the Emergency Room personnel from softer body parts is a painful and expensive procedure, and that money could be better spent on leather-working tools. When cold, I dipped the drum again in the molten wax. This second dipping completely filled the crevices of the drum.



Figure 4: Raw edge of Leather for trial with newly created



Figure 5: Edge of Leather after application "edger"

I have since performed this process of a 2" (50mm) drum composed entirely of sheets of 80-grit sandpaper. It works as well as the larger one, but is able to get into smaller radius cuts.

IFOLG Pictures



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KEVIN'S CORNER

Hello Readers,

This will be the last Kevin's corner for some time to come, not to say it hasn't been a long time since the last one. As Steve has already stated we are discontinuing the newsletter. We started it with much hope of bringing people together and giving them a venue to show off their patterns and projects. However we have been unable to bring in the required content. I must say that Steve held out hope longer than I thought he would. I chased patterns Steve chased how to's. We both feel a sadness that this is coming to an end. Should anyone send in an article, how to, or patterns he will get a new issue out.

Now to dispel any rumors

that may be read between the lines: We are not giving up the Annual Hides To Art workshop. We are not giving up our free Monday night beginner classes. We are not stopping our tool sales nor are we giving up our toolbox line. But most of all we are not going to stop teaching or promoting leather work.

This year we are changing up the workshop. Jim Linnell will be teaching a Pictorial and I will be teaching a set of Sheridan style end table lamps.

Time to dispel rumors again: There are no issues with the instructors we have had for the past workshops. We felt a need to change things up a bit, but didn't feel the economy would support adding additional

classes to the standard two. We also felt we were not reaching folks that wanted to learn or hone their figure/pictorial carving skills: especially those that might use or want to use Crafftols. So we asked Jim Linnell to join us for our 5th edition workshop.

Chan has been after me to teach a 3 day class for the past 2 years and after careful thought, I will be taking his place this year in the Sheridan style Dept... Truth be known I think Chan wanted time to do some fishing in the spring melt and spend quality time with Mary and the new 5th wheel!

It is my hope that the 6th annual workshop we will see Bob and or Chan back and Jim too if he can make it or

another well known leather carver.

As Steve mentioned before should we ever get enough content to do another newsletter we will get it out to you ASAP. If you want the newsletter to continue, please get the content to Steve!

Sure wish I could come up with a catchy closing line for the last Kevin's corner but instead I will use the same theme as all of the past issues

Please teach what you know to someone that will teach what they learned from you in the future.

Kevin





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OUR MISSION IS TO PROVIDE COMPREHENSIVE INFORMATION TO ASSIST VIRTUALLY ANY PERSON OR GROUP IN THEIR ADVANCEMENT IN THE ART OF LEATHER CRAFT. HIDES TO ART WILL ACCOMPLISH THIS THROUGH WORKSHOPS, DEMONSTRATIONS, PRINTED MEDIA, WEB BASED MEDIA AND PERSONAL CONTACT. HIDES TO ART WILL SHARE WHAT WE KNOW OPENLY AND STRIVE TO CONTINUE LEARNING AND SHARING ALL THAT OUR CRAFT HAS TO OFFER.

Advancing the ART of Leathercraft!

2012 Extreme Leather Workshop

March 23, 24, 25, 2012

Hides To Art's 2012 Extreme Leather Workshop will feature Jim Linnell. In his class Jim will be teaching figure carving techniques to create a picture. Additionally, Kevin Adams will be teaching Sheridan style lamp class. Chan Geer and Kevin worked out details of this class together and it should be fantastic class. All materials are provided for each class. We are still working on details but hope to have a unique feature in which instructors will cross teach. Jim will help out with a portion of Kevin's class and Kevin will help out with a portion of Jim's class. What a great way to learn more and get exposed to more knowledge and technique than ever before. We think this is the first time a class of this nature

has been offered.

Class fees will be announced in the next couple of months once materials and projects are finalized. Supplies are included, but you need to bring your own tools! A non-refundable deposit of \$95.00 is required to hold your spot.

You may register at www.hidestoart.com by downloading a registration form and sending it to the address noted in the business block above or via PayPal links on the website.

Once all class details have been finalized, a full class description and recommended tool list will be available to download. Please visit the Hides To Art website for updates and to download our free newsletter.

Contact us if you have any ques-

tions or need additional information. You may also contact us if you are interested in our ongoing introductory and beginning classes hosted in Asheville, NC or the our Project Series Classes offered in various locations.

Join us in Asheville for another year of fun and learning!



Extreme Leather Workshop



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