

Canadian Society for Creative Leathercraft
CANADIAN LEATHERCRAFT



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Winter – 2014-2015



Jim Wilkes with our Norwegian visitor Alf B. Luneborg at Tundra Leather

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Notes from the Editor...

When does a Canadian Winter become exciting and newsworthy? I'm not focusing on the blustery winds and Polar temperatures, but the ambience of leather crafters and the anticipation of a Spring Workshop. Our newest CSCL President, Rob Regan is intent on ensuring that CSCL moves forward in 2015. He wants to give CSCL members reasons for being members. Workshops keep interest and provide the interactions for teaching, sharing and working together. See the details about the March 21st Workshop you won't want to miss. Annual 2015 planning is underway, see some of the early plans on page 5.

Although CSCL's origin is Canadian we have connections around the world, the United States, Japan, and Norway. In late January we welcomed Alf B. Luneborg who publishes a European Leather Crafters Journal. Alf's whirlwind visit in Southern Ontario is documented in this edition.

Rex Lingwood is a Canadian Sculptor working in Leather and other media; he is known internationally and to many CSCL members. Rex takes leather to another level and has explored ages old "cuir bouilli" techniques in his bowls and vessels. Read about my visit with Rex on page 3.

His book "Leather in Three Dimensions" is available through the Larmour Library.

Norland Branch notified CSCL of the passing of long-time member, James "Corby" Corbett aged 82, on January 3, 2015. Jim was an enthusiastic participant in many Norland events and workshops.

Branch meetings are held in Hamilton, Mississauga, and Norland, Ontario. Guests are always welcome at meetings with opportunities for newcomers to meet members and glean valuable leather crafting tips. CSCL also has a website and a Facebook page that can help with resources and finding people with the answers.

The quarterly Newsletter "Canadian Leathercraft" is your source of information about CSCL and its members. Also, check out the CSCL website at www.canadianleathercraft.org and CSCL's Facebook page.

As always, if you have questions, comments, or even a future article for this newsletter, contact your Editor, Madeleine Mitchell at [REDACTED]

Highlights from Executive Council Meetings...

January 23, 2015

- November 2014 meeting was cancelled by Rob Regan due to lack of attendees
- Discussion about upcoming Workshop – "How to Make a Dragon" with Jim Wilkes.
- Branch Presidents reminded to tell members about the Larmour Library.
- Continued discussion about the 2015 Annual – Mississauga in the midst of planning. Barbara Chynoweth to send out survey about member's preferences.
- An increased Membership Fee is possible in 2016, to be decided at the 2015 Annual Business Meeting, but not into effect until 2016.

Have you got your CSCL Membership paid up?

To sign up or renew your CSCL Membership

Contact our new Membership Chair:

Barbara Chynoweth, Membership Chairman, CSCL

*[REDACTED]
Norland, Ontario [REDACTED]*

T: [REDACTED]

Meeting Rex Lingwood

by Madeleine Mitchell



On a sunny and crisp January morning, enjoying the fragrance of a wood burning stove, I met Rex Lingwood. Rex is an internationally known sculptor who works in a variety of media, including leather. I remember hearing Rex's name in the 1980's when CSCL was enthralled with his book "Leather in Three Dimensions". His use of leather revolutionized the thinking of leather crafting and bolted it into the arts.

As I toured his restored stone home in rural Ontario, I felt privileged to meet the artist and view his work.

"In 1995 the Deutsches Ledermuseum mounted a major exhibition of his work, Rex Lingwood: Boxes and Bowls? Experiments with Functional Subjects. The exhibition was accompanied by an extensive catalogue. The exhibition toured in Germany, France, the Netherlands, and England before returning to Canada in 1997. His award winning work is part of private and public collections in Canada, the United States, Australia New Zealand, Britain, Germany, France, and the Netherlands. His book, Leather in Three Dimensions, is generally acknowledged as the major work on the subject. Lingwood is also well known as a teacher, and has taught in Canada, the United States, Great Britain, Australia and New Zealand and Germany." [from Rex's website]

Surprising to me, Rex Lingwood has lived, for 30 years, just 20 minutes from my home. We were brought together by Alf B. Luneborg from Norway who publishes a European Leathercraft magazine, and who is a Rex Lingwood fan. Alf arrived Monday January 26th in Toronto. I arrived Wednesday at Rex's home and had a tour of his restored stone house that he has filled with his art. Rex Lingwood, and his wife Wendy Michinson were gracious hosts to our Norwegian visitor. Rex's wife, Wendy is a historian and writer about women's issues.

For CSCL Members: a heads up...

Looks like after many years of a nominal Yearly Membership Fee of \$25, we are going to have make an increase. Costs are up substantiately for mailings, copying, and insurance.

Your Executive Council is trying to keep costs under control and will present the details at the 2015 Annual General Meeting in May. **Note:** any increase in the Membership Fee will not be in effect until April 1. 2016

Touring with Alf

by Madeleine Mitchell

Alf Bjornar Luneborg is a soft spoken Norwegian who lives in Sweden. He worked in the leather industry for 20 years and now retired, publishes a European Leather Crafting magazine. Alf and I have been corresponding for about 8 years, regularly exchanging our leather crafting publications.

After meeting Alf at the home of Rex Lingwood, we proceeded eastward to Nancy Durham's Workshop in Princeton, ON and then, with Nancy, had lunch in Paris, that's Paris Ontario. Since we had not had a hot drink at lunch, we treated Alf to a truly Canadian experience... a stop at a Tim Horton's Drive Thru. I'm not sure if Alf will have a chance to see any NHL games, but he revelled in telling Nancy and me, about the game where Norway beat Canada at the Sochi Olympics.

We then took him to meet some CSCL members in Hamilton. At Tundra Leather, Alf chatted with Sean Dalgetty and Jim Wilkes and Tundra's newest employee, Heather. By midafternoon, we were on the road again, to another meet master leather crafter, Paul Kitchener, at his home on the shore of Lake Ontario near Stoney Creek, ON.

Nancy and I left Alf with Paul and Linda, learning later that they took him to Niagara Falls Wednesday evening for dinner atop the Skylon Tower.

Thursday morning Paul escorted Alf to the Bata Shoe Museum in Toronto, where they met Eugene Pik. The museum trip was highlighted by a behind the scenes tour of the back rooms of the museum that houses more of the impressive collection. Be sure to check the Bata Shoe Museum website and plan a visit.

Paul had also arranged to take Alf to the Shoemaking Shop of Nasser Vies in Toronto. After a full day, they returned to Paul's home.

After a whirlwind 4 days in late January, our intrepid Norwegian traveller, left Canada for home. It was not long before I heard from Alf, with his thanks to all his new Canadian friends.



Paul Kitchener, Nasser Vies Leather Shoemaker, with Alf B. Luneborg,
(Photo from Eugene Pik)

From Eugene Pik about January 29, 2015:

Today I met two very interesting people: Alf Bjørnar Luneborg and Nasser Vies. Alf came to Canada all the way from Norway only for few days to see works of Rex Lingwood, visit the Bata Shoe museum and meet Nasser. He is publishing a local leathercraft magazine in Norway. Nasser is the known Canadian maker of bespoke shoes and he also teaches shoe making courses at his place. Both Alf and Nasser are very nice people, with years of experience and I was just lucky to be invited by [Paul Kitchener](#) to spend a day in that company. *Editor's Note: Check out Eugene Pik's website for images from the Bata Museum and Eugene's Leather Crafting videos.*



Eugene Pik, Nasser Vies, and Alf B. Luneborg (Photo from Eugene Pik)

***Come our CSCL Annual 2015
May 1 and 2
Burlington Arts Centre
Hosted by the Mississauga Branch
The DRAW table is back! Demos & Workshops Special Guests
More details in the Mail soon...***



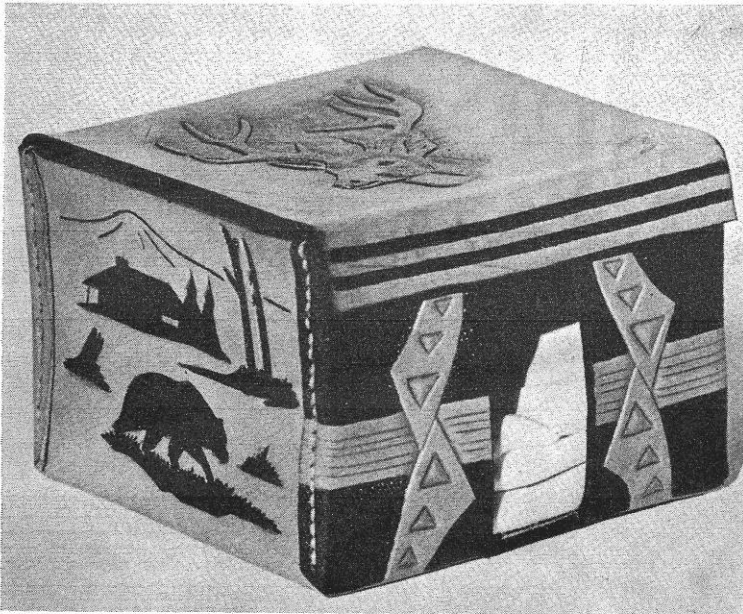
***VISIT TUNDRA LEATHER
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EXPERT ASSISTANCE WITH LEATHER PROJECTS AND TOOL SELECTION

Hubby's Hanky Box



The completed box with overlapping closure

By TANNIS POND

At first, I piled the hankies neatly in a corner of my husband's top drawer, to be hunted and re-piled the following week. Enough of that! Into a small box they went and remained for a number of years. Finally the idea came—a decorative leather box that sits on top of the dresser rather than hidden under socks and other numerous odds and ends men seem to collect in their top drawer.

Out came a large sheet of paper, ruler, pencil, eraser and a hanky. The hanky measured 4" x 4" ironed and folded. This formed the base. The height of the sides corresponding with the number of hankies measured three inches. In the front panel I made a one inch slit to ease a hanky out still folded.

The five ounce leather was cut out, dampened, the fold lines gouged, on the inside, over-lapping folds skived and the outside carved.

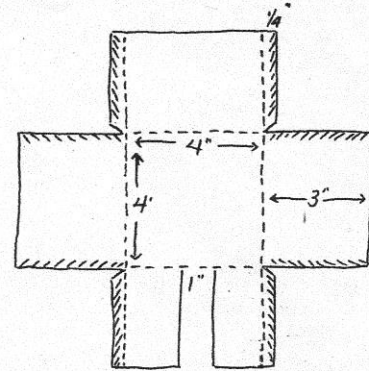
Fold into shape while still damp, wrap a strip of cloth around the sides and using a clothespin, join the cloth ends to hold the box shape until the leather is dry. Glue the flaps in place and saddle stitch.

The first box I made was lidless but to make it look complete and to hold off the dust a lid is the thing. This is made the same as the bottom with a base of four and one-eighth inches and the flaps $\frac{3}{4}$ " deep. Make a chap button (Vol. V No. 5) for handle.

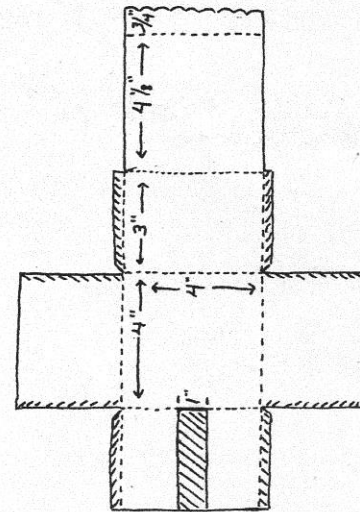
Rather than a fitted lid, an overlapping closure could be used as on a purse only without the clasp. This is made all in one piece. Work on the back top gouge so the lid lifts easily without tipping over the box.

Why stop at a square box for men's hankies? What about a triangular box for Grandma's lacy hankies? Or a smaller version that holds one or two spares for the travelling man?

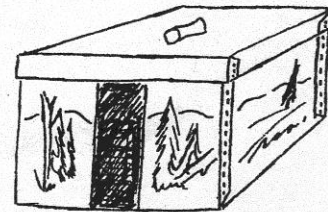
Note: Be sure to measure your handkerchiefs! Not all of them measure 4" x 4" folded.



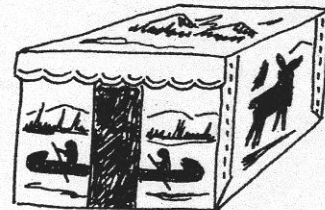
Plan for the lidless box



For an overlapping closure—all in one piece



Other suggested designs



The Craftsman

Can you think of other uses and variation of this box making technique?

Thanks to Barbara Chynoweth of the Norland Branch, for providing this leather project.