



LET US MAKE A TOOL (A CREASER) - V. Farrara

When I begin teaching a leather course, the first thing I have the pupils do is to make a tool.

Materials required: 5 popsicle sticks
a piece of heavy thread (any colour)
bond fast cement

Stack all 5 sticks evenly, then shift no. 2 and no. 4 down 1/4 inch. This leaves no. 2 and no. 4, 1/4 inch on the other end. Tap gently each end to even off loose points.

Hold tight and begin winding your thread round and round tightly from top to bottom, leaving extended stick ends clear. The cement oozing from the sides will hold thread fast. Do not remove thread as it acts as a grip. Points can be thinned for finer lines.

Now you have a three edged creaser and a two edged creaser. A single one can be made with five sticks, having a double support on both sides, or you can have your no. 4 stick extend as a guide over the edge of your leather.

As the wood burnishes very well, I find myself using this tool even after years of leatherwork. Try making several.

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BRAIN STORMING AT THE 25th ANNUAL

At the 25th Annual we took time Sunday morning to take a look at the functioning of C.S.C.L. As a basis for looking at ourselves objectively we used C.S.C.L. membership brochure as a guide. The members present were divided into six groups under a leader-recorder. There was to be no discussion allowed, but each person in the group was to give their thought or suggestion on the various headings as listed in the brochure.

It has been quite a task to simmer all the comments down to the essence of thought in each section, in order to have them in printable form. Under each heading the common thought by participating members, is given on the left side with information comments from background knowledge gained over 25 years membership and as immediate Past President of C.S.C.L. by Helen Wheaton, on the right side.

If, after reading the following report, you have anything to add, whether you were at the Annual or not, I would be pleased to hear from you.

The following report respectfully submitted.

Helen M. Wheaton,
100 Grand Avenue,
London, Ontario N6C 1L7.

Members comments

What is C.S.C.L.?

Non-Profit - 5/6 thought Executive well run--1/6 thought our buffer fund investment should be used up in scholarships.

Voluntarily Staffed -

- Executive well run
- joined to learn but could see volunteering for executive was part of the whole organization

Information comments

Non-Profit: If used for Scholarships- would be duplicating programmes already available--

1. Women's Committee of CG of C (now OCC)
2. Art Council of Ontario
3. Culture & Recreation Dept. (find out what they offer in local regions, or go to them with a programme)
4. New Horizon Grants
5. Youth Grants

Would suggest use of interest only. 5/6 satisfied with things as they are.

Joining means: volunteering your attention and time at meetings (no knitting) and your support of activities; after a time be willing to serve in offices and demonstrate

Members commentsEducational:

1. More speakers at Branch meetings
2. Workshops oftener than Annual

3. Demonstrations

Who may join:Membership:

- forms should be made available to all.
- general lack of communication
- promotion material with new memberships (design of the year)
- novices helped with proper terms for basis projects
- more emphasis on new members
- fuller reports of Executive Meetings at Branch meetings
- New young members Recognize at Annual List in Canadian Leathercraft

Information comments

1. Branches are autonomous as far as program is concerned.
2. If they have the courage and willingness to work--doors can be opened (see list on other page)

Branch could let members know their program agendas so any member could attend.

Agendas could be published in Canadian Leathercraft.

3. A list of those willing to go and demonstrate--recompense required--etc.
Nora Huyck at one time made up such a list. Where is it now? A new one should be circulated. Also a fee structure set-up for evening meetings and workshops eg. Marie Atken \$50.00 per hr. plus travel and equipment.

- immediate use of present forms so we can assess talents then set up a committee to up-date and 150 given to each branch.
- name and address of membership chairman in each edition of Canadian Leathercraft
- who to provide?
- vocabulary of terms be given at meetings and demonstrations
- have novice table at Annual
- each President receives a copy of minutes each month--if she or he can't present them at the meetings, appoint someone who will

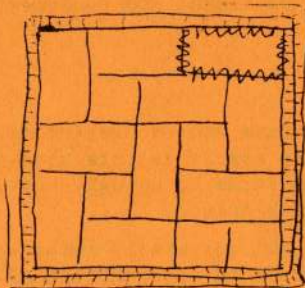
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PILLOW AND LADIES VEST - by Doris Miles

A neighbour's garbage and my Scottish ancestry recently led me to an interesting project. Remember the files of leather upholstery samples that suppliers of office furniture used to produce from which the customer chose a colour to match their office decor? Now the cost of leather makes its use prohibitive, vinyls and naughehide are used almost exclusively.

My neighbour was cleaning his basement and fortunately I happened along just as he was dropping two of these sample files into the garbage. One snowy evening last March I dug them out of a deep drawer of leather pieces and began laying them out in a pattern. Weeks later I proudly displayed two reversible leather cushions for our son's bachelor apartment.

The diagram below will give you some idea of the assembly. I began by cutting them all into rectangles 3" x 6". The "quieter" colours I cut again into squares 3" x 3". Then I measured, marked and punched the holes around the edge of each and with phentex crocheted the borders. I tried crocheting the pieces together but this seemed too bulky and I ended up sewing them instead. Finally with the pillow form inside I crocheted the front and back together with two rows of firm single crochet. The finished product is very practical and attractive.



With this experience giving me confidence I attempted another project which incorporated leather and wool. This is a ladies vest, back knitted in ribbing, to ensure a snug fit and the front crocheted from the shoulder down to patches of deerhide (see above) finished around the edges in the same manner as the cushion. Finally I crocheted the fronts, neck and armhole bands, making the buttonholes as I went. I used three colours of wool in this vest, background a dark brown and trimmed the patches with beige and green.

Perhaps these items will spark new ideas among our members for using left over pieces of leather in interesting combinations of materials and techniques.

WORKSHOP TIPS FROM BELLEVILLE

To finish the edges and get a high polish on any project not laced, such as a belt, wet the edges with water and burnish with canvas.

Due to different methods used in installing gussets, it is suggested that the gusset lining be cut slightly longer than shown. Cement in place and trim.

For counting off stitch holes on your article, such as gussets, try using the plastic clips from bread wrapping. You can trim them as desired. Use a pencil to mark number of stitches, you can rub the markings off easily. You can also use them in your knitting.

When you have the holes punched in nature tanned leather, try rotating a pencil into the hole from the top side. This will burnish and also spread wax nicely and fit into any size round hole.

When storing boxes for future use, such as size suitable for belts, wallets, jewellery, etc. try placing top under bottom section and stack in according to size. You will be surprised how many boxes you can get into one.

Cut the elastic bands off discarded panty hose, they make good ties for rolls of leather, etc.

The Bulletin needs your help

Do you have an article or tip that would be of interest to others--why not share it?

Would you like to see an article on a particular technique or item--it so what?

What do you do with your scrapes of leather--any suggestions or perhaps patterns to share with us?

If you have any comments, suggestions or information for your bulletin feel free to send them to me.

Mrs. Margaret Monteith
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Members comments

Members on Executive Committee
 limit time on Executive--do a job
 or forfeit place

Objectives

Standards must be in hands of
 branches and membership generally.

Teaching Certificates - There should be
 strict rules governing who teaches,
 and those teaching without C.S.C.L.
 sanction should be discouraged in the
 strongest order.

Standards - must remain strict,
 emphatic agreement on this.
 Standards - should be made available.

Benefits - no questions
 no comments

Canadian Leathercraft

-need all four issues, to keep members
 at large in touch as this is the only
 contact with all members

Question Box - letter to editor

Swap Shop

Place to sell used tools

More technical articles

Editorial help to write articles

Information comments

-motion in 1969 that 3 years on,
 and off for at least one year.
 -many types of service required--
 need people willing and able to
 travel, and contribute to their
 expenses.

- published in Canadian Leathercraft.
 -members should read it

- Teaching is done by those willing
 to do it, not always the best
 qualified.
 - C.S.C.L. teaching certificates
 only certify the holders knowledge--
 not their ability to teach.

-every member receives Canadian
 Leathercraft - please read

-put in and got no reply

-can advertise in Canadian Leathercraft
 -provide table at Annual - who will
 look after?

-membership only source
 -none sent in when asked for or
 voluntarily submitted
 -who will supply articles?
 -will the people who made suggestion?
 -who? who? who?

-one sent in on request, we suggested
 revisions and never heard from them
 again.

-Editors are willing to help.

Members commentsExhibitions:

Biennial - good timing to come
up with high calibre articles

No monetary awards
ribbon enough
one out of six suggested this

C.N.E. Sale

-Felt the sale was working efficiently.

Branch activityWeston Trophy

Limit to: 1 fellow
1 associate per branch

Information comments

- agree

-the monetary awards o.k. if
limited to members
-they attract outsiders who
contribute nothing to the society--
we never see or hear from them
until the next exhibit competition
-our members can't compete with
commercially minded professionals

-All exhibitions held in the name
of C.S.C.L. must be juried by
Council of Fellows.

-More members need to send work in--
but don't forget it will be screened
for good workmanship.

-This was done at one time and later
put aside (also used to be six
articles from branch required).
It was felt it would give more
incentive to gain Associate and
Fellow standing.

-Suggest we need Branch Presidents
meeting again at Annuals.



FOR THE POODLE WHO HAS EVERYTHING - LEATHER TRIM JACKET - V. Farrara

For Jezebel, who is the colour of Buckwheat honey, a dark brown material (such as coating or double knit) was chosen with lining of orange felt. The coat is made of material, lined with felt, but a garment leather over felt could be used. The lining is spot cemented here and there to the brown material, leaving a half inch scalloped or pinked edge of orange showing. Two loops were stitched on to hold the light weight leather strap which had been decorated with a design and her name. The coat is finished with a running stitch of 5/64th lacing--approximately half an inch in from the edge of the top material. The tiny pocket can be made of leather also and attached in the same manner.

A matching parka can be attached with a loose cross stitch, which acts as a hinge to wear forward or back as a collar.

If desired, four garter hooks can hold booties on by using a double piece of elastic which slips into hooks on the booties.

Make garment and hood to suit size of dog.

Booties can be made of knitted material with hooks attached. They must stretch to pull on easy and be a fabric which can be easily washed.

