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**52nd Annual Meeting of the
Canadian Society for Creative Leathercraft
Beacon Harbourside Resort , Jordan, Ontario
April 19,20,21 2002**

It was unseasonably warm for mid-April when the CSCL Annual Meeting weekend began on Friday, April 19th. Kevin Armstrong, our Membership Chair, with the help of Mary Anne Crawford of the host Branch, Mississauga had set up the Registration desk and were welcoming leathercrafters from Toronto, Woodstock, Hamilton, Norland, and even, Yellowknife, NWT. As usual, it was the warm greetings and comradie among members that ignited the room, as well as the "oohs and aahs" as the display tables were set up and folks began viewing the latest leather creations from CSCL members.

Nancy Durham, in her last Annual Weekend as President of CSCL, gathered Executive Council members together for a short meeting to finalize details pertaining to the General Annual Meeting on Saturday morning. Almost the full slate of Officers and Directors were present for this meeting. CSCL has always had excellent representation at the regularly scheduled Executive Council meetings throughout the years.

By 8:00pm Peter Grove, Hamilton Branch, had gathered a couple of dozen people around his table where he demonstrated "Basket Weaving" techniques. Peter has always generously shared his talents and time with those interested in honing their leathercraft skills.

Meanwhile, in the room with all the beautiful leather, Associates and Fellows began the daunting task of judging the finely made leather articles. This year's pieces were numerous, diverse and showed CSCL members' superlative skills. Pieces worthy of Craftsman, Salon ribbons, and several Special Awards, were finally decided upon.

On a bright Saturday, April 20th, CSCL members gathered together to hear Nancy Durham, President of CSCL begin the 52nd Annual Meeting by welcoming the largest gathering of CSCL members in years. Joyce Scruton, Convenor of the Annual, brought greetings from the Mississauga group. Joyce reminded everyone to get lots of draw tickets this year for a large array of prizes.

The Annual Meeting proceeded with business from last year, through the various reports of Executive officers. Some lively debate occurred following the Treasurer's report that was prepared by David Windeyer, but was read by Kevin Armstrong. David's report indicated that CSCL is losing money each year due to a variety of reasons- such as declining membership, higher expenses for the Annual Meetings, as well as other expenses, and low interest rates. Jack Meharg presented a Notice of Motion that will be brought up next year at the 2003 Annual suggesting we consider an increase in Membership Fees. Although nothing was changed this year, members are now aware that CSCL needs more members and ideas for fund raising just to cover our expenses.

Dorothy McPherson and Kevin Armstrong announced the 2002 Ontario Volunteer Service recipients-Irene Girling, Member-at-Large, Carol McLean, FCSC, Woodstock, Loreen Manuel, Woodstock, Beula Reynolds, ACSC, Woodstock, Dorothy Stanton ACSC, Woodstock (posthumously) and Muriel Strongman, ACSC, Hamilton. The Official Awards will be presented at a ceremony, yet to be announced.

Bill Whittingham, Chair of the Council of Fellows, then presented Peter Grove of Hamilton with his Fellow Standing. Peter had achieved his Associate standing just last year and now has reached his Fellowship - Well Done Peter!

Bill Whittingham invited all CSCL Members to participate in the upcoming "Leather 2002" Biennial Exhibition to be held June 6 to September 5, 2002 at the Etobicoke Civic Centre Art Gallery. Judging date will be May 6th with Bill Whittingham, FCSCCL and Dorothy Muma, FCSCCL judging for the various Awards that are available at each Biennial. Members received their "Call for Entry" in their registration package.

Phyllis McHale, 1st Vice-President, read the "History of the Weston Trophy" and then presented the Weston Trophy to the Woodstock Branch. Accepting the award and ribbons were Beula Reynolds, Heather Atkinson, Loreen Manuel, and Madeleine Mitchell the crafters of the 4 piece entry.

The new Executive was presented to the members by Bill Whittingham, as Past President and the camera flashed as the new President, Phyllis McHale collected her "Navy". The business meeting adjourned at about 11:45 am

By 1:30pm, members had reassembled for the demonstrations. Della Chynoweth of the Toronto Branch, along with Sandra Roberts of Norland presented "Leather Pyrography". During their demonstration members in attendance were given an opportunity to try leather "burning". On the other side of the room, Peter Hooker made "Knife Sharpening Look Easy" - he made the chore of knife sharpening an art! During the afternoon, Joyce Scruton and side kick, Jack Meharg sold tickets and drummed up the excitement by starting the drawings for the famous "Draw Table". CSCL member made short work of clearing off the table.

Following the break, Nancy Durham, ACSCL, demonstrated "Dyeing Techniques" with various ideas that decorate leather while letting the beauty of the leather shine through. At another table, Paul Kitchener shared his "Carving and Tooling Techniques", teaching some of the old CSCLers some new tricks. The Annual Banquet, although delayed for a while, allowed members and guests to reminisce and relax. It was especially pleasing to have Ruth Haig, FCSCCL attend in view of her recent health concerns.

An entertaining speaker followed the dinner providing a multitude of tips on how to decorate your home and garden on a shoe string.

Carol McLean, FCSCCL then presented Craftsman and Salon to a good number of CSCL members who achieved excellence in crafting and design. Special Awards were also presented to Bill Whittingham and Peter Grove. A complete list of prize and ribbon winners will follow this article.

April 21st found a group of CSCLers watching Bill Whittingham as he magically created the soft tones and nuances on a Celtic Knot design using Garnett Dyes to their full potential.

Madeleine Mitchell cornered a few CSCL members with her video camera to record some of their thoughts and memories of their careers in leathercraft. The end result of the videotaping will not be available for some time, but, should someday provide some valuable insights into why we love Leather!

Many Thanks to Joyce Scruton and her Mississauga team who put together a delightful Annual Weekend for 2002!

Respectfully submitted, *Madeleine Mitchell*

Craftsman Ribbons presented at the 2002 CSCL Annual

Heather Atkinson	(1)	Pen Stand with Maple Leafs
Marianne Crawford	(1)	Phone Book
Della Chynoweth	(1)	Baby Bird Picture
Sean Dalgetty	(3)	Stingray Note Book, Red Belt Punch, Black Rifle Sling
Nancy Durham	(3)	Mache Duck Decoy, Kidney Shaped Pen Stand, Black & Tan Basket Weave Belt
Silva Fox	(1)	Carved Key Case
Peter Grove	(5)	Red Moulded Pinwheel Bowl, Handbag, Mask Book, Business Card Case, Moulded Bowl
Lauchlan Harrison	(2)	Moose & Wolf Trimmed Mitts, Red Dyed Picture Frame
Peter Hooker	(1)	Suitcase
Paul Kitchener	(4)	Carved Cowboy Boots, Embossed Eagle Picture, Embossed Horse Head Picture, Braided Belt
Dee MacLeod	(3)	Lined Cowhide Vest, Plain Handbag, Mocassins with Beaded Toes
Don McLeod	(1)	Knife Case
Loreen Manuel	(2)	Hummingbird Wall Hanging, Bookends
Jack Meharg	(2)	Mini Flashlight Case, Celtic Weed Pot
Madeleine Mitchell	(2)	Inlay Morocco Notepad, Round Box
Beula Reynolds	(3)	Morocco Photo Binder, Bark Sculpture with Butterflies, Oak Leaf Pen Stand
Sandra Roberts	(3)	Indian Wolf /Leather Burning, Father Christmas, Indian Dolls
Adam Smith	(1)	Unicorn Picture
Bill Whittingham	(2)	Celtic Knotwork Painting, "Highwayman" Mask

Salon Ribbons presented at the 2002 CSCL Annual

Sean Dalgetty	(2)	Stingray Notebook, Red Belt Pouch
Silva Fox	(1)	Carved Key Case
Peter Grove	(4)	Red Moulded Pinwheel Bowl, Handbag, Mould Bowl, Mask Box
Lauchlan Harrison	(1)	Red Dyed Picture Frame
Paul Kitchener	(3)	Cowboy Boots, Laced Belt, Embossed Eagle Picture
Dee MacLeod	(1)	Cowhide Lined Vest
Loreen Manuel	(1)	Hummingbird Wall Hanging
Madeleine Mitchell	(1)	Round Box
Bill Whittingham	(1)	Highwayman Mask

Comments of Weston Trophy Entries... from the notes of Carol McLean, FCSC

Hamilton Branch:

Picture Frame- this piece has a very innovative moulding technique for the picture support. The retainer support on the back leg should have been finished as the others were. The dye job is unique and the edges were finished nicely.

Roses - Skiving on the edged of the rose petals was very well done. It would have been nice to see this grouping of flowers in a leather covered vase. Dyed skiver would have been a much nicer presentation instead of floral tape on the stems. The petals are contoured nicely and the overall shape of the flower is true to nature.

Unicorn Picture - This picture has a nicely flowing background design, beautiful carving and extensive tooling. There is a real flair to the design showing the wind in the mane.

Coffee Table Album - The choice of leathers are suitable to the project. It is nicely carved with a good dye job and finish. The stitching is well done.

Hamilton's Mark - 71.67%

Mississauga Branch:

Sheepskin Mocassins - this is a good choice of leather for everyday wear. These mocassins should feel very comfy on the feet. the gathering at the toe is not even.

Carved Belt - The three dimensional tooling on the belt is well done. The pattern is not centred on the belt in some areas and the stitching wheel impressions wander a bit. The edges are well finished.

Carved Sharkskin Boots - These are very dramatic. The Celtic dragon pattern is nicely executed. There are some off track needle holes on one of the tabs. The use of sharkskin and decorative lacing up the sides is a very nice touch.

"The Highwayman" Mask - This piece is very well constructed and thought out. The back is wonderfully flat so it will hang on a wall well. The dyeing and shading of the leaves is great and the metal Celtic conchos add to the appeal. There is a real panache to this piece.

Mississauga's Mark - 75%

2002 CSCL Annual - Award Winners

Irva Ford Award for Best Moulded Leather presented to
Peter Grove of Hamilton for his Moulded Bowl

Robert Muma Award for Best Tooling or Colouring presented to
Silva Fox, Mississauga Branch, for her Carved Key Case

Best in Show Award presented to
Paul Kitchener, Mississauga Branch, for his Embossed Eagle Picture

2002 CSCL Annual - Weston Trophy Winners

Woodstock Branch

Photo Binder made by Beula Reynolds, ACSC

- This piece is nicely skived. The morocco was not overworked on the corners and the cover opens and closes easily.

Bookends made by Loreen Manuel

- These bookends sit nice and flat. The lacing is a nice addition but there is a slight problem at the end of the lacing. The tooling and colouration are well done.

Pen Stand made by Heather Atkinson

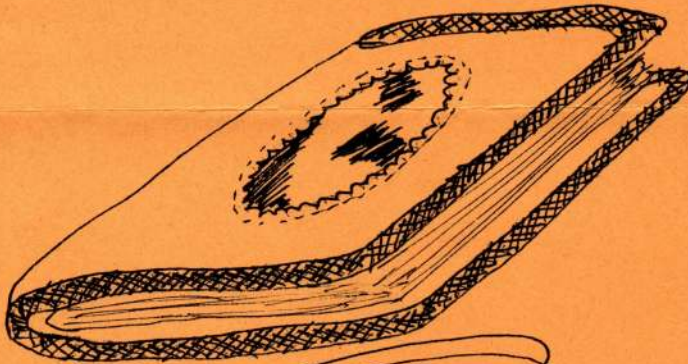
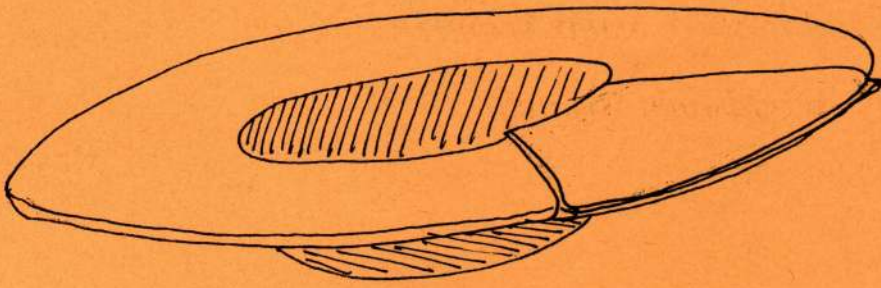
- This is a beautiful piece. We liked the fact that the leaves weren't glued flat. The edges of the stand are not as smooth as they could be. Overall a pleasing effect.

Round Box made by Madeleine Mitchell

- There is a nice lip feature on this box. The skiving is a bit lumpy on the turn unders inside the lid. It has a nice feel in the hand and would make a great mantle piece.

Woodstock's Mark - 77.5%





2002 Fellow Pieces - Peter Grove, FCSC

Ladies Carved Handbag, Decorative Bowl with Large Rim, Journal Book with Moulded Mask, Business Card Case with Hair on Calfskin

C.S.C.L. EXECUTIVE 2002--2003

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