

HEART of TEXAS ★ HEART of TEXAS



HEART of TEXAS
LEATHER SHOW

HOSTED BY

LEATHER CRAFTERS' JOURNAL



2025 Last Minute Leather Shootout Winner Travis Coddington

WACO, TEXAS - AUGUST 7th & 8th, 2026

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Trade Show Week • At a Glance	2
Workshop Timetable	4
Waco Convention Center	6
Last Minute Shootout	7
Workshop List - by Instructor	8
Workshop Registration	9
Heart of Texas Reception	10
Workshop Descriptions	11
Instructor Bios	41
Workshop Sponsors	46



HEART *of* TEXAS LEATHER SHOW

Workshop
Registration



City of
Waco, Texas



LEATHER
CRAFTERS JOURNAL

TRADE SHOW • AT A GLANCE

FREE ADMISSION TO THE SHOW

*All of the workshops and the trade show will
take place at the Waco Convention Center.*

TUES AUG. 4TH	Workshops:	8:00 am ~ 9:00 pm
---	------------	-------------------

WED AUG. 5TH	Workshops:	8:00 am ~ 9:00 pm
--	------------	-------------------

THURS AUG. 6TH	Workshops:	8:00 am ~ 5:00 pm
	Trade Show Set-Up:	8:00 am ~ 5:00 pm
	Heart of Texas Reception:	5:30 am ~ 10:00 pm

FRI AUG. 7TH	Workshops:	8:00 am ~ 5:00 pm
	Trade Show:	9:00 am ~ 5:00 pm

SAT AUG. 8TH	Workshops:	8:00 am ~ 5:00 pm
	Trade Show:	9:00 am ~ 5:00 pm

HOSTED BY

LEATHER
CRAFTER'S **JOURNAL**

TRADE SHOW INFORMATION



Friday, August 7th: 9:00 am ~ 6:00 pm
Saturday, August 8th: 9:00 am ~ 5:00 pm



August 4th ~ August 8th

TRADE SHOW LOCATION



WACO
CONVENTION CENTER

WACO CONVENTION CENTER

100 Washington Ave
Waco, TX 76701

TRADE SHOW & WORKSHOPS

DIRECTIONS FROM I-35:

- West on S. Martin Luther King Jr Blvd
- Left (south) on Franklin Ave
- The parking lot for the Waco Convention Center is located on Franklin Ave and S. 3rd St

HOST HOTEL

Waco Hilton

113 South University Parks Drive
Waco, Texas 76701, USA
Phone 254-754-8484
Group Code HOT (Heart of Texas)

HOST HOTEL

Courtyard by Marriott Waco

101 Washington Ave
Waco, TX 76701
254-752-8686
Group Code HOT (Heart of Texas)

WORKSHOP

	Ranger 106	Ranger 107	Ranger 108	Ranger 109	Ranger 110	Lone Star 104	Lone Star 105
TUE A.M. 8/4							
TUE P.M. 8/4							
TUE EVENING 8/4							
WED A.M. 8/5	Alligator Wallet B. VAUGHAN		Make a Tooled Duck Strap GRIFFITH	Introduction to Floral Drawing Patterns VAN HORNE	Photography 101 for Leather Crafters JAMES	Professional Holster Making with Slickbald ANDRE	
WED P.M. 8/5							Modifying Floral Stamps MILLER
WED EVENING 8/5	All About Using Alligator B. VAUGHAN		What to Do with the Back Side GRIFFITH	Craft a Booth that Sells WILLIS	Getting Intense Depth with Tooling CORRAL	Slickbald's Demystifying the Stitcher ANDRE	Introduction to Leather Tattooing FORRESTER
THU A.M. 8/6	Alligator Belt and Watch Band Set B. & C. VAUGHAN		Pocket-sized Custom Tally Book Cover BENNETT	Knotting and Plaiting GORE	How to Use Social Media CORRAL	Professional Sheath Making with Slickbald ANDRE	Precision Stamping with Barry King KING
THU P.M. 8/6							
FRI A.M. 8/7	Pattern Making for Leather Craft	Bookkeeping Nitty Gritty BENEFIEL	Carving the Sandhill Crane	Introduction To Leather Braiding	How to Start Tooling CORRAL	Modeling Spoon Magic	Color Patterning on Leather
FRI P.M. 8/7	REACH	Exotic Critters Family Workshop GREENSPAN	GRIFFITH	GORE	Tooling Celtic Knots with Style CORRAL	TOUSSAINT	WILLIAMS
SAT A.M. 8/8	Concepting Your Work with A.I. REACH	Apple Pencil + iPad	Coloring the Sandhill Crane GRIFFITH	Introduction to Rawhide Braiding	Tooling Realistic Tentacles		
SAT P.M. 8/8	Modeling Spoon Finesse REACH	VAN HORNE	From Maker to Entrepreneur BENEFIEL	GORE	CORRAL		
	Ranger 106	Ranger 107	Ranger 108	Ranger 109	Ranger 110	Lone Star 104	Lone Star 105

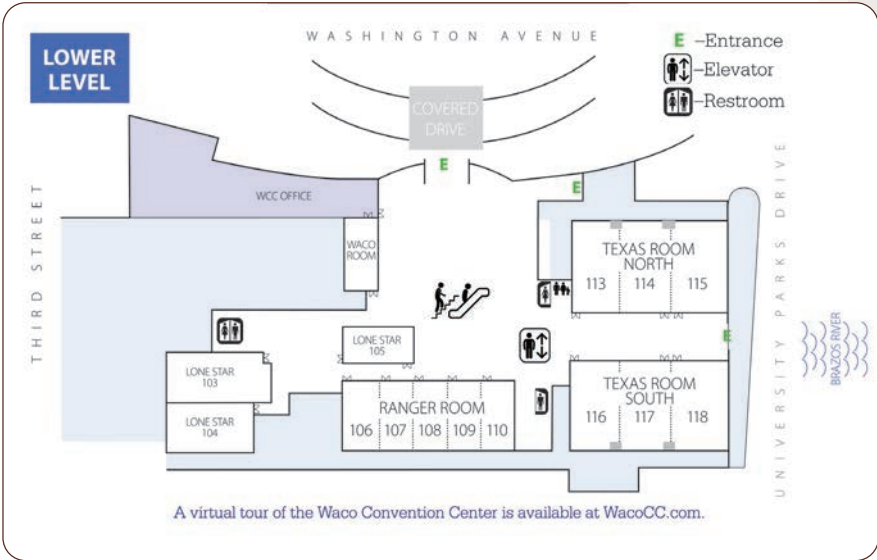
TIMETABLE

TX North 113	TX North 114	TX North 115	TX South 116	TX South 117	TX South 118	
	Designing Custom Liners for Bags MARTIN	Floral Pattern Drawing GONZALES		Overnight Bag HEIZER	Tooled Rifle Sling MELING	TUE A.M. 8/4
Shotgun Chaps Pattern Drafting BAUGHER						TUE P.M. 8/4
	All About Piping MARTIN				Getting the Most From Your Leather Investment: Breaking Down a Side of Veg Tan MELING	TUE EVENING 8/4
Building the Chapron BAUGHER	Drop-in Liner Style Purse MARTIN	Floral Carving Depth and Realism GONZALES	Pictorial Carving with Barry King's Stamps LINNELL	Building the Pony Express Satchel HEIZER	Draw & Tool Basic Flowers MELING	WED A.M. 8/5
						WED P.M. 8/5
	All About Zippers MARTIN				Getting the Most From Your Leather Investment: Breaking Down a Side of Veg Tan MELING	WED EVENING 8/5
No-Sew Purse BAUGHER	Half Moon Clutch MARTIN	Beginner's Floral Carving GONZALES	The Challenge of Stohلمان LINNELL	Advanced Bookbinding for Beginners HEIZER	Making Decorative Cuts with a Purpose MELING	THU A.M. 8/6
		Pattern Development for Handbags GREENSPAN				THU P.M. 8/6
Build a Chap Purse BAUGHER	3-Ring Binder with Zipper MARTIN		Introduction to Figure Carving LINNELL			FRI A.M. 8/7
		BtW: Build a Better Business CLACK/MAGNUS				FRI P.M. 8/7
SCL'S Intro, to Leathercraft for Youth GIRSH	Cowboy Hat Hanger MARTIN	BtW: How to Market Your Business CLACK/MAGNUS	Fearless Swivel Knife Use LINNELL			SAT A.M. 8/8
SCL'S Workshop for Veterans GIRSH		BtW: Shopify CLACK/MAGNUS				SAT P.M. 8/8
TX North 113	TX North 114	TX North 115	TX South 116	TX South 117	TX South 118	

WACO CONVENTION CENTER



100 Washington Ave – Waco, TX 76701



2026 SHOOTOUT



This contest is intended to replicate a real world scenario where we as craftsmen and craftswomen don't always have an abundant amount of time to plan out and create a perfect project. This project must be completed between the date of the announcement and the due date. This year, we are not giving out an entire project, forcing everyone to make the exact same project. However, there are guidelines and rules which the project must fall within to be a valid entry.



Details will be announced
Wednesday, July 1st, 2026



ARTISTS MUST preregister online
with the Leather Crafter's Journal
by **Thursday, July 28th**



Judging will take place on
Wednesday, August 5th



The artwork will be displayed
during the trade show
**Friday, August 7th, &
Saturday, August 8th**

WORKSHOPS *(Instructor)*

INSTRUCTOR	WORKSHOP	DAY(S)	TIME OF DAY	FEE
Andre	Professional Holster Making with Slickbald	WED	8:00 am - 5:00 pm	\$200
Andre	Professional Sheath Making with Slickbald	THU	8:00 am - 5:00 pm	\$300
Andre	Slickbald's Demystifying the Stitcher: Classes 4 and 26	WED	6:00 pm - 8:00 pm	\$95
Baughner	Build a Chap Purse	FRI	8:00 am - 5:00 pm	\$300
Baughner	Building the Chapron	WED	8:00 am - 5:00 pm	\$300
Baughner	No-Sew Purse	THU	8:00 am - 5:00 pm	\$300
Baughner	Shotgun Chaps Pattern Drafting	TUE	1:00 pm - 5:00 pm	\$175
Benefiel	Bookkeeping Nitty Gritty	FRI	8:00 am - 12:00 pm	\$125
Benefiel	From Maker to Entrepreneur	SAT	1:00 pm - 5:00 pm	\$125
Bennett	Pocket-sized Custom Tally Book Cover	THU	8:00 am - 5:00 pm	\$150
Clack/Magnus	BtW: Build a Better Business	FRI	1:00 pm - 5:00 pm	\$125
Clack/Magnus	BtW: How to Market Your Business	SAT	8:00 am - 12:00 pm	\$125
Clack/Magnus	BtW: Shopify - Build and Improve Your Online Store	SAT	1:00 pm - 4:00 pm	\$125
Corral	Getting Intense Depth with Tooling	WED	6:00 pm - 9:00 pm	\$125
Corral	How to Start Tooling	FRI	9:00 am - 12:00 pm	\$125
Corral	How to Use Social Media	THU	9:00 am - 5:00 pm	\$185
Corral	Tooling Celtic Knots with Style	FRI	1:00 pm - 4:00 pm	\$125
Corral	Tooling Realistic Tentacles	SAT	9:00 am - 5:00 pm	\$185
Forrester	Introduction to Leather Tattooling	WED	6:00 pm - 9:00 pm	\$95
Girsh	Silver Creek Leather's Introduction to Leathercraft for Youth	SAT	9:00 am - 12:00 pm	\$0
Girsh	Silver Creek Leather's Workshop for Veterans	SAT	1:00 pm - 4:00 pm	\$0
Gonzales	Beginner's Floral Carving	THU	8:00 am - 12:00 pm	\$165
Gonzales	Floral Carving Depth and Realism	WED	9:00 am - 5:00 pm	\$250
Gonzales	Floral Pattern Drawing	TUE	9:00 am - 5:00 pm	\$250
Gore	Introduction To Leather Braiding	FRI	9:00 am - 4:30 pm	\$200
Gore	Introduction to Rawhide Braiding	SAT	9:00 am - 4:30 pm	\$250
Gore	Knotting and Plaiting	THU	9:00 am - 4:30 pm	\$225
Greenspan	Exotic Critters Family Workshop	FRI	1:00 pm - 5:00 pm	\$90
Greenspan	Pattern Development for Handbags	THU	1:00 pm - 5:00 pm	\$150
Griffith	Carving the Sandhill Crane	FRI	9:00 am - 5:00 pm	\$125
Griffith	Coloring the Sandhill Crane	SAT	8:00 am - 12:00 pm	\$125
Griffith	Make a Tooled Duck Strap	WED	8:00 am - 5:00 pm	\$200
Griffith	What to Do with the Back Side	WED	6:00 pm - 8:00 pm	\$50
Heizer	Advanced Bookbinding for Beginners	THU	9:00 am - 5:00 pm	\$250
Heizer	Building the Pony Express Satchel	WED	8:00 am - 5:00 pm	\$325
Heizer	Overnight Bag	TUE	8:00 am - 5:00 pm	\$325
James	Photography 101 for Leather Crafters	WED	9:00 am - 5:00 pm	\$175
King	Precision Stamping with Barry King	THU	8:00 am - 12:00 pm	\$125
Linnell	Fearless Swivel Knife Use	SAT	8:00 am - 12:00 pm	\$125
Linnell	Introduction to Figure Carving	FRI	9:00 am - 5:00 pm	\$175
Linnell	Pictorial Carving with Barry King's Stamps	WED	9:00 am - 5:00 pm	\$175
Linnell	The Challenge of Stohلمان	THU	8:00 am - 5:00 pm	\$195

WORKSHOPS *(Instructor)*

Martin	3-Ring Binder with Zipper	FRI	8:00 am - 5:00 pm	\$395
Martin	All About Piping	TUE	6:30 pm - 8:30 pm	\$85
Martin	All About Zippers	WED	6:30 pm - 8:30 pm	\$85
Martin	Cowboy Hat Hanger	SAT	8:00 am - 1:00 pm	\$150
Martin	Designing Custom Liners for Bags	TUE	9:00 am - 4:00 pm	\$200
Martin	Drop-in Liner Style Purse	WED	8:00 am - 5:00 pm	\$425
Martin	Half Moon Clutch	THU	8:00 am - 5:00 pm	\$425
Meling	Draw & Tool Basic Flowers - Joe Meling	WED	8:00 am - 12:00 pm	\$150
Meling	Getting the Most From Your Leather Investment: Breaking Down a Side of Veg Tan - Joe Meling - Tuesday	TUE	7:00 pm - 9:00 pm	\$95
Meling	Getting the Most From Your Leather Investment: Breaking Down a Side of Veg Tan - Joe Meling - Wednesday	WED	7:00 pm - 9:00 pm	\$95
Meling	Making Decorative Cuts With a Purpose - Joe Meling	THU	8:00 am - 12:00 pm	\$150
Meling	Tooled Rifle Sling - Joe Meling	TUE	8:00 am - 4:00 pm	\$250
Miller	Modifying Floral Stamps	WED	1:00 pm - 4:00 pm	\$125
Reach	Concepting Your Work with A.I.	SAT	9:00 am - 12:00 pm	\$95
Reach	Modeling Spoon Finesse	SAT	1:00 pm - 5:00 pm	\$95
Reach	Pattern Making for Leather Craft	FRI	9:00 am - 5:00 pm	\$175
Toussaint	Modeling Spoon Magic	FRI	9:00 am - 5:00 pm	\$225
Van Horne	Apple Pencil + iPad: Better Carving Pattern Designs	SAT	9:00 am - 5:00 pm	\$185
Van Horne	Introduction to Drawing Floral Patterns	WED	9:00 am - 5:00 pm	\$185
Vaughan	Alligator Belt and Watch Band Set	THU	9:00 am - 5:00 pm	\$425
Vaughan	All About Using Alligator	WED	6:00 pm - 9:00 pm	\$75
Vaughan	Alligator Wallet	WED	9:00 am - 5:00 pm	\$375
Williams	Color Patterning on Leather	FRI	9:00 am - 5:00 pm	\$175
Willis	Craft a Booth that Sells	WED	6:00 pm - 9:00 pm	\$125

PAYMENT / REGISTRATION OPTIONS:

Register via our website:

leathercraftersjournal.com

1. Add workshops to your cart and pay online safely with PayPal or Credit Card
2. We will confirm your registration(s) via email after receipt of payment

Call us! 715-362-5393

1. Call Monday-Friday, 08:00am - 5:00pm CST and pay with credit card or PayPal
2. We will confirm your registration(s) via email after receipt of payment

Registering for someone else? Be sure to record their name as the student in the Order Notes box (located under the Shipping Address) when you check out.

ALL STUDENTS need to check in before their first workshop at the Box Office.

CANCELLATION POLICY

There is a \$25 administration fee for canceling a workshop.

The cost of each workshop will be refunded minus the \$25 fee.

No refunds for workshops after July 24, unless otherwise noted.

HEART *of* TEXAS RECEPTION

Thursday August 6th, 2026

5:30pm to 10pm



215 Cotton Dr
Waco, TX 76712

Free Shuttle



WORKSHOPS (Alphabetical)

All About Piping

\$85.00

LEANDRA MARTIN

All skill levels welcome! – Student Limit 25

In this class Leandra will show you how to create your own piping for use in bag making and other leather applications. You will create your own piping sample piece as well as observe Leandra's techniques for applying this skill to bag making. You will use the Cobra Class 26 for sewing and Leandra will demo the NP4 Bell Knife Skiver to create thin strips of leather for piping. {You'll be using a COBRA Class 26 sewing machine and the NP4 Bell Knife Skiver; if you are interested in purchasing COBRA equipment at the show, call Leather Machine Company by August 1 to pre-order at +1 (866) 962-9880. Deposit required.}

Materials to Bring: Scissors and note taking materials.

Materials for this workshop donated/provided by:

Leather Machine Co., LLC



Tuesday

8/4

6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Waco Convention Center

Texas North 114

All About Using Alligator

\$75.00

BRODERICK VAUGHAN

All skill levels welcome! – Student Limit 15

If you have ever wanted to learn about premium alligator leather, Broderick Vaughan with Vaughan Gators is the person to learn from. Not only does he catch his own leather, he processes it, sells the meat to local restaurants and walk-in customers, prepares the green skins for the tannery by pressure washing and salting them, and then turns those premium tanned skins into luxurious, high-end products. During this discussion, he will teach you the techniques on how to use the appropriate areas of the skin that work best for different projects (such as belts, wallets, purses, boots, and saddle seats); how to layout and cut the skins to obtain the most yield; and will demonstrate the techniques he uses to dye a piece of crust (tanned, but not dyed) skin, re-dyeing a finished skin sample, and block dyeing, as well as explaining the benefits of using a crust skin. As an added bonus, and during the discussion, there will be a drawing for a custom alligator belt that Broderick will build for the lucky winner, demonstrating to the class some of the techniques that will be discussed. After attending the alligator talk, you will have the knowledge and confidence to visit Broderick at the Vaughan Gators booth to select hides from the plethora of colors and sizes that he has to choose from.

Materials to Bring: Notebook, pencil/pen, camera and questions.

Materials for this workshop donated/provided by:

The Fiebing Company and Vaughan Gators



Wednesday

8/5

6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Waco Convention Center

Ranger 106-107

WORKSHOPS *(Alphabetical)*

3-Ring Binder with Zipper

\$395.00

LEANDRA MARTIN

Intermediate - Student Limit 15

In this workshop, participants will construct a Trapper Keeper®-style three-ring binder with a zippered closure. Instruction will focus on professional-quality construction techniques, including skiving, lining, sewing, installing a zippered gusset, and burnishing edges. As this is a construction-based class, we will not have time for tooling. Students are welcome to bring their own tooled panel to class if they wish. Please email Leandra at martin.leandra@gmail.com for patterns. Tooling pattern packs are also available from Steve Yezek. Please email him at nlp63@gmail.com to purchase. If you do not wish to tool your binder, we will be using Hermann Oak English Bridle leather. Each participant will leave with a finished binder and a reusable pattern for creating future products for their customers. {You'll be using COBRA Classes 4, 20, and 26 sewing machines, a COBRA burnisher, and the NP4 Bell Knife Skiver; if you are interested in purchasing COBRA equipment at the show, call Leather Machine Company by August 1 to pre-order at +1 (866) 962-9880. Deposit required.}

Materials to Bring: Notebook, pencil, sharpie, silver pen, scissors, rotary cutter, 3/4 binder clips, small edger, wing dividers, stitch groover, small cutting mat, glass or granite surface for skiving (tooling stone works perfectly,) skiving knife, French edger, and clear quilter's ruler (4" x 12" is a great size, but bring whatever you have handy). Please put your name on the ruler.

Materials for this workshop donated/provided by:

Hermann Oak Leather Co., The Fiebing Company, Leather Machine Co., LLC, Renia, Weaver Leather, and Duffs Leathercare



Friday
8/7

8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Waco Convention Center
Texas North 114

Advanced Bookbinding for Beginners

\$250.00

AARON HEIZER

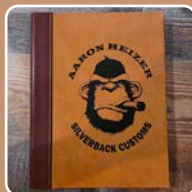
All skill levels welcome! - Student Limit 15

Ever wanted to create a book or journal from scratch? Then let's get to it! Aaron will show you first how to build your paper 'signatures', sew them together, and then add an attractive cover for a very professional look. It's a fun class that can quickly have you hooked on expanding a new skill that has limitless possibilities!

Materials to Bring: Ruler/quilter's square, sharp knife, small edge beveler, cutting board or mat, bone folder, scratch awl. *If you do not have all these tools, do not worry; Aaron will bring plenty to share.

Materials for this workshop donated/provided by:

Hermann Oak Leather Co. and Maker's Leather Supply



Thursday
8/6

9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Waco Convention Center
Texas South 117

WORKSHOPS *(Alphabetical)*

All About Zippers

\$85.00

LEANDRA MARTIN

All skill levels welcome! – Student Limit 25

In this hands-on and demo class Leandra will show you how to create your own made-to-length zippers using YKK solid brass zippers. You will create your own length of zipper and learn how to carefully remove teeth and add a slider and end stops easily. Leandra will then demo pocket construction using leather and fabric for the liner. {You'll be using a COBRA Class 26 sewing machine; if you are interested in purchasing COBRA equipment at the show, call Leather Machine Company by August 1 to pre-order at +1 (866) 962-9880. Deposit required.}

Materials to Bring: If you have your own pair of side cutters, bring them. Leandra will also have side cutters available for purchase.

Materials for this workshop donated/provided by:
Leather Machine Co., LLC and Weaver Leather



Wednesday
8/5

6:30 pm – 8:30 pm

Waco Convention Center
Texas North 114

Alligator Belt and Watch Band Set

\$425.00

BRODERICK VAUGHAN & COLBY VAUGHAN

All skill levels welcome! – Student Limit 20

Brand New Offering! For the first time ever, join Broderick and his son, Colby, as they teach you to build your own custom belt and watch band set! Anyone who knows a thing or two about exotic leather, especially alligator leather, knows that a quality alligator belt from a reputable company or maker will cost a minimum of \$400...and the price only increases from there. However, in this special workshop, you will not only build your own belt, but also a coordinating alligator leather watch band as well! Beyond the finished pieces, you'll gain invaluable and in-depth knowledge about alligator leather (and alligators in general) from Broderick and Colby, including how to properly layout and cut the hide for maximum yield, avoid extremely costly mistakes, line and stitch alligator leather (which behaves differently than veg tan!), finish edges for a clean, professional burnish, plus much more. After this workshop you will feel confident purchasing and working with your own alligator hides. You'll begin with a plain crust alligator hide and select from the dyes provided in the workshop to create a belt and watch band in matching or complimenting color schemes. Save thousands of dollars by taking this one workshop that will teach you the skills needed to create high-end products using this premium material. After registering, contact Broderick at broderick@vaughangators.com to let him know what type of watch you'll be bringing. An Apple Watch band die will be used for the class; however, you may also bring your existing band to use as a template. (Hardware for the Apple watch band can be supplied if the watch version and preferred hardware color is provided to Broderick 2 weeks in advance of the class.)

Materials to Bring: Sharp scissors, any related hand stitching supplies, such as stitching pony, needles, etc. (as the watch band will be hand-stitched)

Materials for this workshop donated/provided by:
Hermann Oak Leather Co., The Fiebing Company, Leather Machine Co., Inc., and Renia



Thursday
8/6

9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Waco Convention Center
Ranger 106-107

WORKSHOPS *(Alphabetical)*

Alligator Wallet

\$375.00

BRODERICK VAUGHAN

All skill levels welcome! – Student Limit 15

Come make an exotic man's or woman's wallet – you choose! Have you ever been curious about alligator skins and how easy or difficult it would be to make a product out of it? If the thought has given you any anxiety, Broderick will put your mind at ease. In this workshop, he will demonstrate how versatile the alligator skin can be while making a wallet from alligator. The workshop will include the student dyeing a crust alligator skin pattern and assembling the wallet, which will include installing a zipper and gusseted pocket. Students will be machine sewing this project and finishing the edge. Broderick will also show you his techniques on how to cut an alligator skin for maximum use. All materials will be provided for this workshop, including printed instructions and a pattern for future use. Are you also taking the Alligator Belt workshop? Match your wallet to the belt! Email Broderick when you register to let him know which wallet pattern you would like (men's or women's) at: broderick@vaughangators.com {You'll be using COBRA Class 26 sewing machines; if you are interested in purchasing COBRA equipment at the show, call Leather Machine Company by August 1 to pre-order at +1 (866) 962-9880. Deposit required.}

Materials to Bring: Notebook, pencil/pen and questions. Cameras and video are welcome. You will need a cutting mat, knife and scissors. If you prefer to hand-stitch your item you will need your pricking irons, needles, mallet, pounding board, etc. Don't forget your makers mark if you have one.

Materials for this workshop donated/provided by:

Hermann Oak Leather Co., The Fiebing Company, Leather Machine Co., Inc., and Renia



Wednesday
8/5

9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Waco Convention Center
Ranger 106-107

Apple Pencil + iPad: Better Carving Pattern Designs

\$185.00

KARLA VAN HORNE

Intermediate – Student Limit 20

This workshop is designed as an introductory course to the iPad, the Apple Pencil, and a program called Affinity Photo (downloadable as a trial application before the workshop). Karla will go into this program with you in detail and will include a booklet along with hands-on instruction for laying out a pattern to include cutting patterns, manipulating and correcting patterns, and filling patterns with traditional western elements. Bring a sense of humor, and Karla will bring hers, too.

Materials to Bring: An iPad and Apple Pencil updated and compatible with Affinity Photo. Affinity Photo may be downloaded as a free trial or at a reasonable price. Should you decide to purchase the program it will be yours and will not require monthly ransom fees to keep it.



Saturday
8/8

9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Waco Convention Center
Ranger 107

WORKSHOPS *(Alphabetical)*

Beginner's Floral Carving

\$165.00

DON GONZALES

Beginner/Intermediate – Student Limit 18

This beginner-level workshop is focused on working to develop a quality foundation in leather floral carving and stamping. The patterns that you will use in this workshop are designed to teach you the proper techniques for carving and developing a pattern. Students will focus on proper swivel knife skills and smooth beveling, which is the basis for a properly tooled piece of floral work. You will also work on backgrounding, pear shading, and decorative cutting to finish a pattern that looks beautiful. If you are new to floral carving or want the opportunity to step back and work on fundamentals, then this workshop will be very helpful. Bring your tools and Don will bring the leather and patterns. Let's stamp some leather! (New patterns and content for 2026!)

Materials to Bring: Floral carving and stamping tools, tooling stone, mallet/ maul, swivel knife, spray bottle or sponge & water dish, and a strop.

Materials for this workshop donated/provided by:
Hermann Oak Leather Co.



Thursday
8/6

8:00 am - 12:00 pm

Waco Convention Center
Texas North 115

Bookkeeping Nitty Gritty

\$125.00

ANGIE BENEFIEL

All skill levels welcome! – Student Limit 20

This is the class you want to take if you want to learn more about the day-to-day aspects of bookkeeping for your business. We will discuss the importance of bookkeeping software, a chart of accounts, bank reconciliations, coding of transactions, quarterly reporting, year-end reporting, 1099's, financial statements, and payroll. This is the nuts and bolts of bookkeeping. Come learn tips from the Leather CPA and bring your questions!

Materials to Bring: Note taking materials.



Friday
8/7

8:00 am - 12:00 pm

Waco Convention Center
Ranger 107

WORKSHOPS *(Alphabetical)*

BtW: Build a Better Business

\$125.00

MICHAEL MAGNUS & ODIN CLACK

All skill levels welcome! - Student Limit 20

Running a leather business is more than making great products; it's about having a clear plan for success. In this strategy-driven workshop, Beyond the Workbench (BtW) co-hosts Odin Clack (Odin Leather Goods) and Michael Magnus (Elktracks Studio, Magnus Opus) will help you step back and think bigger about your business. You'll learn how to define your direction, refine your product mix, set meaningful goals, and create a roadmap that works for where you are today and where you want to go tomorrow. If you've ever felt like you're busy, but not always moving forward, this class will help you find clarity and momentum. While it pairs perfectly with How to Market Your Business (which covers the promotional tactics to grow your reach), Build A Better Business gives you the big-picture foundation that makes every marketing effort more effective.

Materials to Bring: Note taking materials.



Friday
8/7

1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Waco Convention Center
Texas North 115

BtW: How to Market Your Business

\$125.00

MICHAEL MAGNUS & ODIN CLACK

All skill levels welcome! - Student Limit 20

Your business won't grow if people don't know about you. In this tactics-focused workshop, Beyond the Workbench (BtW) co-hosts Odin Clack (Odin Leather Goods) and Michael Magnus (Elktracks Studio, Magnus Opus) break down practical steps to market your leather business effectively. You'll learn how to build a strong brand, connect with customers locally, and promote yourself online through social media, digital advertising, and search engine optimization (SEO). This class is designed for makers who want to see results from their promotional efforts without wasting time or money. While it stands alone as a marketing deep dive, it works even better alongside Build A Better Business. Together, they give you both the strategy to set your direction and the tactics to get noticed.

Materials to Bring: Note taking materials.



Saturday
8/8

8:00 am - 12:00 pm

Waco Convention Center
Texas North 115

WORKSHOPS *(Alphabetical)*

BtW: Shopify - Build and Improve Your Online Store

\$125.00

MICHAEL MAGNUS & ODIN CLACK

All skill levels welcome! - Student Limit 20

Selling online doesn't have to be overwhelming. In this hands-on workshop, Beyond the Workbench (BtW) co-hosts Odin Clack (Odin Leather Goods) and Michael Magnus (Elktracks Studio, Magnus Opus) will help you understand, improve, or troubleshoot your Shopify store in real time. Bring your laptop and work alongside the instructors as they share practical tips, answer questions, and give direct feedback on your site. Unlike a traditional lecture, this class is designed as a working session. Whether you're just getting started or already have an online shop, you'll leave with real progress made during class, plus actionable advice for driving sales, streamlining your setup, and making your store more professional and customer-friendly. This is a rare opportunity to get expert eyes on your business and walk out with results, not just ideas.

Materials to Bring: Note taking materials.



HEART of TEXAS
LEATHER SHOW

Saturday

8/8

1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Waco Convention Center

Texas North 115

Build a Chap Purse

\$300.00

JULIE BAUGHER

All skill levels welcome! - Student Limit 12

Build a Chap Purse with Julie while learning some skills you never thought you needed to know! This bag is 12" wide x 14" long, and includes all of the leather and hardware. You will learn a bit of layout and design along with how to install an interior pocket. This handbag is a flat style with no gusset. If you have ANY questions at all, please give me a holler! The colors will be exactly like the ones in the photo. You will go home with a template and full instructions on how to build this style of handbag! NO REFUNDS for this workshop will be given after July 24, 2026. {You'll be using COBRA Class 20 and 26 sewing machines; if you are interested in purchasing COBRA equipment at the show, call Leather Machine Company by August 1 to pre-order at +1 (866) 962-9880. Deposit required.}

Materials to Bring: Large cutting mat, cutting tools of choice, skiving tool, tape measure or a measuring grid of some kind, flat hammer, double-sided tape, straight edge for cutting fringe, and leather scissors.

Materials for this workshop donated/provided by:

LEATHERwks, Inc., Leather Machine Co. LLC, Renia USA, and Weaver Leather



Friday

8/7

8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Waco Convention Center

Texas North 113

WORKSHOPS *(Alphabetical)*

Building the Chapron

\$300.00

JULIE BAUGHER

All skill levels welcome! – Student Limit 12

Let's build an apron, or better yet, a Chapron! In this workshop, you will be building a leather apron that looks like a pair of chaps. We will be using Hermann Oak's 1881 Heritage, water resistant leather that they will be graciously donating, and their latigo for the yoke tops! These aprons will ALL be the same size; one size fits all. You get to determine the pockets that will be going on them and the configuration you would like to use! If you want to tool or stamp your yokes, you'll need to get a hold of Julie at least 6 weeks in advance so she can send you the yoke template you will be using! (jbdleatherschool@gmail.com) NO REFUNDS for this workshop will be given after July 24, 2026. {You'll be using COBRA Class 20 and 26 sewing machines; if you are interested in purchasing COBRA equipment at the show, call Leather Machine Company by August 1 to pre-order at +1 (866) 962-9880. Deposit required.}

Materials to Bring: Cutting mat, preferred cutting tools, tape measure, 6 x 24 quilter's grid, edger, and leather shears. (Please put your name on your grid.)

Materials for this workshop donated/provided by:

Hermann Oak Leather Co., Leather Machine Co. LLC, Renia, and Weaver Leather



Wednesday

8/5

8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Waco Convention Center

Texas North 113

Building the Pony Express Satchel

\$325.00

AARON HEIZER

All skill levels welcome! – Student Limit 15

Let's make a timeless classic, designed to remind us of the satchels and bags carried by the riders who carried messages across an unsettled country. This bag is large enough to tote around a table or small laptop, as well as all the other stuff you might need throughout your day. The bag is rugged, easy to use, and gets compliments everywhere it goes!

Materials to Bring: Note taking materials, scissors, rivet (post and washer type) setting tools (if you have them), 1/8" hole punch, punching or cutting surface, maul or mallet. If you do not have any of these items, we will have several sets available for folks to share.

Materials for this workshop donated/provided by:

Maker's Leather Supply



Wednesday

8/5

8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Waco Convention Center

Texas South 117

WORKSHOPS *(Alphabetical)*

Carving the Sandhill Crane

\$125.00

ERIK GRIFFITH

All skill levels welcome! – Student Limit 20

Students will learn techniques for figure and floral carving while creating a stunning picture of a sandhill crane. Whether you're a beginner wanting to learn figure carving or a veteran leatherworker wanting to hone your skills, this workshop is for you. (Recommended as a follow-up course: Coloring the Sandhill Crane)

Materials to Bring: Students should bring a tooling stone, swivel knife, modeling spoon, medium to small floral carving tools (camouflage, pear shaders, bevelers, veiners, seeders, mulesfoot, shell tools, backgrounder), figure bevelers, a pebble background tool, your favorite texture matte type background as well, mallet or maul, spray bottle, and strop.

Materials for this workshop donated/provided by:
Hermann Oak Leather Co.



Friday
8/7

9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Waco Convention Center
Ranger 108

Color Patterning on Leather

\$175.00

CARLOS WILLIAMS

Beginner – Student Limit 10

Join Carlos to learn his bespoke leather dyeing style! Be the first to join him for a day applying color to tooling leather in the bespoke style that he's known for, and then molding and shaping the leather into trays. Your tray will be finished with a properly burnished edge, creating a centerpiece fit for any room!

Materials to Bring: #2 edger and a hand slicker.

Materials for this workshop donated/provided by:
Hermann Oak Leather Co. and The Fiebing Co.



Friday
8/7

9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Waco Convention Center
Lone Star 105

Coloring the Sandhill Crane

\$125.00

ERIK GRIFFITH

All skill levels welcome! – Student Limit 20

Erik will demonstrate how to use dye and acrylics to bring depth and realism to a carving. For students who complete the Carving the Sandhill Crane workshop, they can participate by adding color to their own carving. However, anyone can sign up for the demonstration and take notes.

Materials to Bring: Note taking materials and your favorite brushes, if you prefer them.

Materials for this workshop donated/provided by:
The Fiebing Company



Saturday
8/8

8:00 am - 12:00 pm

Waco Convention Center
Ranger 108

WORKSHOPS *(Alphabetical)*

Concepting Your Work with A.I.

\$95.00

DANIEL REACH

Beginner – Student Limit 30

Three hours of hands on, AI for leathercraft! As a group we will use AI to learn by doing—no lectures, just creating together. Generate design concepts for bags belts and patterns with prompts iterating and editing in real time as a group. Solve practical calculations like bullet loop lengths, pattern scaling, and leather estimates by prompting AI on your own tricky problems. Create simplified tooling and carving patterns from references, turning ideas into usable line art. Explore quick extras like color suggestions marketing ideas and project brainstorming through live prompting.

Materials to Bring: Pen, notebook, and snacks.



Saturday
8/8

9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Waco Convention Center
Ranger 106

Cowboy Hat Hanger

\$150.00

LEANDRA MARTIN

Intermediate – Student Limit 15

In this workshop, you'll create a leather magnetic cowboy hat hanger designed to hang from the backrest of a pickup seat or from a hanger inside your vehicle, providing a secure and convenient place to keep your hat while traveling. The magnetic hanger will be constructed using Hermann Oak English Bridle leather. The project will consist of an outer leather piece and a liner, which will be buck stitched together for strength and a clean, classic appearance. (The class project will not be stamped like the example photo.) You'll also install high-powered magnets designed to provide a strong, reliable hold to help keep your hat securely in place while on the road. Throughout the class, Leandra will cover cutting and preparing the leather, buck stitching, magnet installation, edging and burnishing, and proper assembly techniques to achieve a clean and professional result. Patterns will be included, allowing you to recreate this hat hanger for future projects for your customers.

Materials to Bring: Wing dividers, small edger, trim knife, 1/8" buck stitching chisels, fid, maul, buck stitching needles, cutting board or other surface to back buck stitching chisels, needle nose pliers, small molding tool, pencil, and a notebook.

Materials for this workshop donated/provided by:

Hermann Oak Leather Co., Leather Machine Co, Inc., Renia, and Silver Creek Leather/Realeather



Saturday
8/8

8:00 am - 1:00 pm

Waco Convention Center
Texas North 114

WORKSHOPS *(Alphabetical)*

Craft a Booth that Sells

\$125.00

AMANDA WILLIS

All Skill Levels Welcome! - Student Limit 25

Learn how to design a booth that truly showcases your craft. Step into a collaborative studio environment with Amanda Willis of Grit Mercantile for a hands_on workshop that blends creative play, practical merchandising skills, and supportive group critique. Together, we'll explore what makes a display work—and how to fix what doesn't—through real_time practice and shared brainstorming. You'll leave with a refined eye, fresh ideas, and a booth plan ready for showtime. Learn more and connect at gritmercantile.com. Join Amanda's weekly livestream each Wednesday at 2pm CT at [instagram.com/gritmercantile](https://www.instagram.com/gritmercantile).

Materials to Bring: Bring a notebook, pencil/pen, and photo samples (digital or print) of your current booth setup. Students may bring a few products for on-the-spot display strategy.



Wednesday
8/5

6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Waco Convention Center
Ranger 109

Designing Custom Liners for Bags

\$200.00

LEANDRA MARTIN

Intermediate - Student Limit 15

In this class, Leandra will walk you through how to design a custom, drop-in style liner with a leather-trimmed upper for an existing bag. This is primarily a design and demonstration class, where you'll learn the process of creating a liner pattern that fits your bag well and looks clean and intentional. She'll start by taking measurements from a tote bag, drawing up a custom liner design, and discussing ways to refine and perfect the pattern. Then, she will demonstrate the full process on an unlined tote bag, including how to prepare the bag for a drop-in liner using techniques like skiving, folding, and taping, so the liner sits neatly inside the bag. Time will also be spent discussing leather choices and liner fabric options, and how those materials affect both the look and structure of the finished liner. Students are encouraged, but not required, to bring a tote bag or another similar basic-style purse so you can take measurements and begin sketching a custom liner design specifically for your bag. Along the way, Leandra will talk through design considerations, fit, and the small adjustments that help create a polished final result. This class is a great opportunity to learn the thought process behind designing custom liners and gain confidence in adding them to your own bags.

Materials to Bring: Tailor's measuring tape, 2 white poster boards (or 24" x 18" artist heavy weight paper), 6" x 24" quilter's ruler (or similar size), pencil, eraser, and a notebook. Optional: Bring an unlined bag that you have made that you would like to learn to design a liner for.



Tuesday
8/4

9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Waco Convention Center
Texas North 114

WORKSHOPS *(Alphabetical)*

Draw & Tool Basic Flowers - Joe Meling

\$150.00

JOE MELING

Beginner to Intermediate - Student Limit 20

Enjoy the freedom of drawing your own flowers. In this workshop, you will learn simple guidelines to help you draw balanced flowers. You don't have to be super artistic if you follow a framework. Then, we will move to tooling and work on some practical ways to make your flowers stand out. Make your flower centers stand out and bring petals to life with small adjustments to your shading and decorative cuts.

Materials to Bring: Drawing pad, pencil, & eraser. Tooling stone, mallet/maul, stylus, swivel knife, spray bottle or sponge & water dish, tools for carving (checkered bevelers, vertical lined thumbprint, veiner, mules foot, flower center, backgrounder), and note taking materials. (Also bring a headlamp if desired.) If you don't have the exact tools, that's ok. I'd rather teach you to tool with what you have than you thinking you have to buy a bunch of stuff just for this class.

Materials for this workshop donated/provided by:

Hermann Oak Leather Co.



Wednesday
8/5

8:00 am - 12:00 pm

Waco Convention Center
Texas South 118

Drop-in Liner Style Purse

\$425.00

LEANDRA MARTIN

Intermediate - Student Limit 15

In this workshop you will be making a classy, bucket-style purse with a drop-in liner and grommet strap connectors. You will learn how to construct a professional-quality handbag by learning how to reduce the bulk in seams, turn raw edges, and create a fabric liner with a great fit. We will discuss leather options for giving this bag structure without excess bulk, fabric options for the liner that easily wipe clean, and other materials for bag construction that will help your understanding in bag making and design. You will go home with a complete purse and pattern to make future products for your customers. {You'll be using COBRA Class 20 and 26 sewing machines, a COBRA burnisher, and the COBRA NP4 bell knife skiver; if you are interested in purchasing COBRA equipment at the show, call Leather Machine Company by August 1 to pre-order at +1 (866) 962-9880. Deposit required.}

Materials to Bring: Pencil and notebook, 4x12 quilter's grid (or similar size), silver pen, Sharpie, scissors, rotary knife, cutting mat, edger, and wing dividers. (Please put your name on your quilter's grid.)

Materials for this workshop donated/provided by:

Hermann Oak Leather Co., Leather Machine Co., LLC, Renia USA, and Weaver Leather



Wednesday
8/5

8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Waco Convention Center
Texas North 114

WORKSHOPS *(Alphabetical)*

Exotic Critters Family Workshop

\$90.00

NOA GREENSPAN

All skill levels welcome! – Student Limit 10

Are you tired of your kids dragging you to the booth with the little hand sewn animal dolls, only to see your face drop when they hear the price? No longer! In this workshop for parents AND kids, you and your child(ren) will collaborate on a project, spend quality time, learn to work with soft chrome tanned leathers and leave with their very own handcrafted sea creature. With a variety of patterns to choose from and a selection of colorful leathers, you and your little one(s) will be cutting out patterns, threading needles, and hand sewing using glover's needles. WARNING Glover's needles are diamond point and sharp enough to sew through leather without pre pricking holes. It can cause bleeding when fingers get pricked. For that reason, every child present MUST have a designated adult with them for the entirety of the class.

Materials to Bring: You will need to bring leather scissors or a knife, a silver pen, and patience to help your little one get through the project.

Materials for this workshop donated/provided by: Pan Am Leathers



Friday
8/7

1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Waco Convention Center
Ranger 107

Fearless Swivel Knife Use

\$125.00

JIM LINNELL

All skill levels welcome! – Student Limit 25

If you are one whose hand tenses up when touching a swivel knife and a bit of fear brushes the pit of your stomach when your swivel knife touches the leather, this is the workshop you need to take. This workshop begins with the basics and then takes participants beyond what they ever dreamed they could do with a swivel knife. Once the fear of the swivel knife is conquered, cutting a pattern, decorative cuts, and even complete designs will be handled with confidence. By the end of the workshop, students will complete a piece of leather art using only their swivel knife. Jim promises to get the novice started down the right path and the experience to be challenged. This is one of those workshops that always sells out, so don't wait until the last minute.

Materials to Bring: Favorite swivel knife, spray bottle, stylus, strop, note taking supplies and all the questions you've ever had about mastering the swivel knife.



Saturday
8/8

8:00 am - 12:00 pm

Waco Convention Center
Texas South 116

WORKSHOPS *(Alphabetical)*

Floral Carving Depth and Realism

\$250.00

DON GONZALES

Intermediate and Advanced - Student Limit 18

This floral carving workshop is designed for those at the intermediate to advanced skill level in floral tooling, with a focus on further developing those skills. During this class you will work on improving depth and realism of main elements within a pattern as well as maintaining natural and elegant flow of your vine work. Quality swivel knife work and beveling are foundational to the quality of any floral pattern. Don will have multiple patterns of varying degrees of difficulty to choose from for use on Hermann Oak leather panels, so that we can work on your area of need in your floral carving. You can work on any technique issues in tooling that come up, as well as work on some techniques that you may not be aware of. Don will discuss and demonstrate techniques of carving, beveling, backgrounding, decorative work, and other areas of tooling that will help to refine your floral carving. In the end, you will have spent the day tooling together with Don and working to become better floral carvers through demonstration and hands on experience. There will surely be discussions on tool selection, casing leather, pattern design, and many others. Load up your tools, bring your questions and let's tool some leather together. (New patterns and content for 2026!)

Materials to Bring: Complete floral carving/stamping tool selection including stamp lifters, strop board, swivel knives, pencils, sketchbook, transfer film or paper, mauls and/or mallets for stamping, stylus, headlamp if needed for better lighting, tooling stone, spray bottle or sponge & water dish, notebook for notes, and petal lifters if you like using those as well.

Materials for this workshop donated/provided by:
Hermann Oak Leather Co.



Wednesday
8/5

9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Waco Convention Center
Texas North 115

Floral Pattern Drawing

\$250.00

DON GONZALES

All skill levels welcome! - Student Limit 15

You will work along side Don Gonzales in this workshop to learn how to draw and lay out floral tooling patterns for leather projects. We will discuss the elements of floral pattern design, flow, and balance, as well as decision-making within any project as to how to fill odd-shaped spaces with elegant floral artwork. This workshop is designed as Beginner to Intermediate level, but all experience levels are welcome! This is a paper and pencil class designed to give you a good foundation for designing your own floral carving patterns.

Materials to Bring: You will not need any leather tools for this class. You will need a sketchbook, pencils (mechanical or #2 pencils), erasers, circle jig of some sort for making circles, tracing paper, and any other drawing tools or supplies you may want to bring. If you have trouble with lighting, you may bring a head lamp as well.



Tuesday
8/4

9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Waco Convention Center
Texas North 115

WORKSHOPS *(Alphabetical)*

From Maker to Entrepreneur

\$125.00

ANGIE BENEFIEL

All skill levels welcome! – Student Limit 20

This course offers a comprehensive basis for the accounting aspects of launching and managing a small business, with a specific focus on financial literacy and regulatory compliance. It details the steps for launching a new business, including choosing between business structures (like LLCs or corporations), hobby vs. business, record keeping, and an explanation of financial statements and how they correlate to an income tax return. Ultimately, the course serves as a practical guide for entrepreneurs to understand the business accounting structure, reporting, and regulatory compliance within that structure. More importantly though, this class is taught by a CPA who explains the accounting jargon in everyday terms so that every student is comfortable in the class.

Materials to Bring: Note taking materials.



Saturday
8/8

1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Waco Convention Center
Ranger 108

Getting Intense Depth with Tooling

\$125.00

BRANDON CORRAL

All skill levels welcome! – Student Limit 20

People often assume Swift's (Swifthammer Leather) bold, dramatic tooling comes from working with heavy leather — but the truth is, it's all about technique. In this class, Swift shares the methods he uses in every single project to create powerful contrast and the illusion of depth, even on medium-weight leather. Students will learn how to layer cuts, bevels, and textures in ways that make a design feel three-dimensional and dynamic. These "secret sauce" techniques can be applied to almost any style, whether you want subtle shading or dramatic, eye-catching depth. Swift's fresh, non-traditional teaching style keeps the process approachable, entertaining, and full of practical takeaways. By the end of class, students will understand how to make their tooling stand out with clarity and dimension, and will have the skills to add this professional polish to every future project.

Materials to Bring: Swivel knife, strop, mallet, slab, spray bottle, and any available bevelers, lifters, modeling spoons, ballpoint stylus, pear shapers, and backgrounders you may have. For reasons you'll find out in class, simply bring what you have. We're focusing on technique in this class. Tools only make the job more convenient; it's the technique that does the work.

Materials for this workshop donated/provided by:

Hermann Oak Leather Co.



Wednesday
8/5

6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Waco Convention Center
Ranger 110

WORKSHOPS *(Alphabetical)*

Getting the Most From Your Leather Investment:
Breaking Down a Side of Veg Tan - Joe Meling

\$95.00

JOE MELING

Beginner to Intermediate - Student Limit 0

Making the investment in a full side of leather is a big investment. That investment can be scary when you're not certain on how many projects you can get out of it, where to cut those projects out, or how to minimize waste. Buying by the side isn't referred to as a big investment because it's expensive. It's referred to as a big investment because there can be a big return on your money if you utilize it correctly. At 23+, they break down over 25 sides of leather each month. In this class, Joe is going to show you how they do that to get the most yield out of a side, how to work around blemishes, or where to work them in. Learn to minimize waste and get the most projects out of your leather. {This workshop will become available when the Wednesday evening workshop is full.}

Materials to Bring: Note taking materials. Bring patterns from some of your projects that you often make. You don't have to, but I'd love to personalize this class as much as possible & show you how I'd break a hide down if I was in your shoes.

Materials for this workshop donated/provided by:
Hermann Oak Leather Co.



Tuesday Or Wednesday

8/4 Or 8/5

7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Waco Convention Center
Texas South 118

Half Moon Clutch

\$425.00

LEANDRA MARTIN

Intermediate - Student Limit 15

In this workshop, participants will construct a stylish half-moon clutch featuring a zippered closure and wristlet. The interior will be fully lined with Hermann Oak English Bridle leather and include credit card slots, a slip pocket, and gussets designed to keep contents secure. As this is a construction-focused class, there will not be time for tooling during the session. Participants who wish to tool the exterior panel in advance may contact Leandra at martin.leandra@gmail.com to request the pattern. Tooling patterns are also available for purchase from Steve Yezek at nlpm63@gmail.com. Each participant will leave with a completed clutch, a reusable pattern for future projects or custom work, and valuable instruction on achieving clean, professional-quality construction. {You'll be using COBRA Class 20 and 26 sewing machines, a COBRA burnisher, and the COBRA NP4 bell knife skiver; if you are interested in purchasing COBRA equipment at the show, call Leather Machine Company by August 1 to pre-order at +1 (866) 962-9880. Deposit required.}

Materials to Bring: Notebook, pencil, sharpie, silver pen, scissors, rotary cutter, small edger, wing dividers, stitch groover, small cutting mat, glass or granite surface for skiving (tooling stone works perfectly,) skiving knife, French edger, and clear quilter's ruler (4" x 12" is a great size, but bring whatever you have handy). Please put your name on the ruler.

Materials for this workshop donated/provided by:
Hermann Oak Leather Co., The Fiebing Company, Leather Machine Co., LLC, Renia, Weaver Leather, and Duffs Leathercare



Thursday

8/6

8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Waco Convention Center
Texas North 114

WORKSHOPS *(Alphabetical)*

How to Start Tooling

\$125.00

BRANDON CORRAL

Beginner – Student Limit 15

This class is designed for absolute first-timers — no tools, no leather, no experience required. Students will be provided with everything they need and guided step by step through the basics of leather tooling. Swift (Swifthammer Leather) starts from square one: how to prepare and stabilize your leather, transfer an image cleanly, and avoid common mistakes that can trip up new artists. Instead of being boxed into traditional floral patterns, students will work on a non-traditional design that feels fresh, fun, and approachable. Along the way, Swift will show how each tool works and why it matters, giving you the confidence to keep practicing at home with the set you take home. Known for his clever, non-traditional teaching style, Swift makes the learning process lighthearted and stress-free while laying down a strong foundation for your future projects. Just show up — everything else is covered.

Materials to Bring: Note taking materials. Battery operated lighting/headlamp is not required but will be helpful.

Materials for this workshop donated/provided by:
Hermann Oak Leather Co. and Silver Creek Leather



Friday
8/7

9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Waco Convention Center
Ranger 110

How to Use Social Media

\$185.00

BRANDON CORRAL

All skill levels welcome! – Student Limit 20

If words like “Facebook” and “Instagram” feel confusing, this class is for you. Swift (Swifthammer Leather) is a full-time leatherworker whose videos online reach millions of people every week, and he’s here to show you how simple these platforms can really be. This isn’t a fancy marketing talk — it’s a down-to-earth walkthrough of what social media is, how it works, and why it can be useful for makers, artists, and small business owners. You’ll learn the basics of setting up an account, posting a picture or video, and connecting with people who share your interests. Swift keeps things fun and easy to understand, with plenty of laughs along the way. By the end, you’ll feel comfortable using social media instead of avoiding it, and you’ll see how it can open the door to sharing your craft with a much bigger world.

Materials to Bring: Note taking materials.



Thursday
8/6

9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Waco Convention Center
Ranger 110

WORKSHOPS *(Alphabetical)*

Introduction to Drawing Floral Patterns

\$185.00

KARLA VAN HORNE

Intermediate - Student Limit 15

This workshop will cover pattern layout and flower drawing with pencil and paper. Karla will discuss the basics of drawing flowers and using existing flowers and patterns. Layout will be talked about and demonstrated. Students will then lay out basic patterns, following along with the instructor. After this, the student will be set free to use what they have learned to create a pattern of their own in class, and will be able to lean on Karla for help wherever needed.

Materials to Bring: Pencil, pencil sharpener (or spare leads if using a mechanical pencil), tracing PAPER pad, eraser, circle stencils or compass, ruler, and a metal or plastic square. A small roll of Scotch tape or narrow masking tape is optional.



Wednesday
8/5

9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Waco Convention Center
Ranger 109

Introduction to Figure Carving

\$175.00

JIM LINNELL

Beginner - Student Limit 15

If the idea of adding figure carving to your floral carvings is something you have wanted to do, this is a class you should consider. To someone who has never tried it, that can be an imposing challenge, but in this class, Jim will walk you through the basics that everyone needs to know to add realistic-looking figures to their work. If you are wanting to do more than just another floral carving like everyone else, come learn how to add a new look to your work with some figure carving.

Materials to Bring: Stamping surface, swivel knife, spray bottle or sponge & water dish, strop, mallet, stylus, wing dividers, modelling spoon, your favorite floral carving stamps plus figure carving bevelers such as F890, F891, F895, F902, F976, F910, F898, and F899.

Materials for this workshop donated/provided by:
Hermann Oak Leather Co.



Friday
8/7

9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Waco Convention Center
Texas South 116

Introduction To Leather Braiding

\$200.00

SCOTT GORE

Beginner - Student Limit 12

This full day workshop will introduce students to the art of leather braiding. Students will make 2 braided kangaroo leather bracelets that are theirs to keep. This is the perfect class for those who have never braided before and want to get their feet wet. No previous braiding experience needed.

Materials to Bring: Please bring note taking materials and enthusiasm to learn. All tools and materials are provided.

Materials for this workshop donated/provided by:
Scott Gore Rawhide



Friday
8/7

9:00 am - 4:30 pm

Waco Convention Center
Ranger 109

WORKSHOPS *(Alphabetical)*

Introduction to Leather Tattooing

\$95.00

DENNIS FORRESTER

Beginner - Student Limit 12

Tattooing 101 introduces the fundamentals of leather tattooing using the Weaver x 21GRAMS Tattooing Machine. In this class, students will learn how traditional tattoo design translates onto vegetable-tanned leather and how to apply those principles through controlled line work and structure. Dennis Forrester, founder of 21GRAMS and creator of the tattooing method, will guide students through the core workflow: preparing leather, understanding tattoo-influenced composition, transferring designs, and executing clean, readable line work with the machine. Students will watch live demonstrations and complete guided practice focused on line control, depth, and structure. Emphasis is placed on clarity, repeatability, and building confidence with the tool. This class is designed for beginners and leatherworkers curious about incorporating tattoo aesthetics into their work. By the end of the session, students will understand the core principles behind tattooing and how to begin applying the technique in their own projects.

Materials to Bring: All materials provided.

Materials for this workshop donated/provided by:

Weaver Leather, Hermann Oak Leather Co. and The Fiebing Company



Wednesday
8/5

6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Waco Convention Center
Lone Star 105

Introduction to Rawhide Braiding

\$250.00

SCOTT GORE

All skill levels welcome! - Student Limit 12

Students in this workshop will make a braided rawhide hatband from start to finish. Class will begin with a PowerPoint demonstration on the step-by-step process for making rawhide and transforming it into braided, functional art. Then, we go hands-on, with students learning how to temper dry rawhide, cut and bevel string, and braiding their very own rawhide hatband. All tools and materials provided.

Materials to Bring: Please bring note taking materials and enthusiasm to learn. All tools and materials are provided.

Materials for this workshop donated/provided by:

Scott Gore Rawhide



Saturday
8/8

9:00 am - 4:30 pm

Waco Convention Center
Ranger 109

WORKSHOPS *(Alphabetical)*

Knotting and Plaiting

\$225.00

SCOTT GORE

All skill levels welcome! – Student Limit 8

Instruction for this workshop will be hands-on and focused on how to braid 4, 6, 8, and 12 strands, as well as several basic buttons/knots.

Materials to Bring: Please bring note taking materials and enthusiasm to learn. All tools and materials are provided.

Materials for this workshop donated/provided by:
Scott Gore Rawhide



Thursday
8/6

9:00 am - 4:30 pm

Waco Convention Center
Ranger 109

Make a Tooled Duck Strap

\$200.00

ERIK GRIFFITH

All skill levels welcome! – Student Limit 12

Duck hunting is extremely popular, and this high-end duck strap is the perfect accessory for any duck hunter. Students will learn all of the construction techniques required to build the strap, as well as tool a panel that will be attached to the strap to make it a fully custom piece of functional leather art.

Materials to Bring: Note taking materials, cutting board/mat, scalpel with spare #11 blades, metal ruler/ straight edge, tooling stone, spray bottle, headlamp/magnifiers, small to medium sized floral carving tools (camouflage tools, pear shaders, bevelers, veiners/ wigglers, stop, mules foot, and background tools) modeling spoon, swivel knife, mallet/ maul, wing dividers, stylus, skiving knife, stitching chisels/pricking irons, a stitching pony is also highly recommended.

Materials for this workshop donated/provided by:
Hermann Oak Leather Co., The Fiebing Company, Renia, and Weaver Leather



Wednesday
8/5

8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Waco Convention Center
Ranger 108

Making Decorative Cuts With a Purpose - Joe Meling

\$150.00

JOE MELING

Beginner to Intermediate – Student Limit 20

Have you ever spent hours tooling a project, only to ruin it when you got to the decorative cuts? I remember my work looking like a cat used it as a scratching post. Once I learned where and how to put in decorative cuts, I was able to start making cuts on purpose that actually looked good. In this class we will work on the fundamentals that make cuts work together to add flow and depth to your work. When you leave this class, a good decorative cut won't just be a happy accident at the end of your project. Instead, it will be something that you do on purpose.

Materials to Bring: Swivel knife, spray bottle or sponge & water dish, drawing pad, pencil, & eraser. (Also bring a headlamp if desired.)

Materials for this workshop donated/provided by:
Hermann Oak Leather Co.



Thursday
8/6

8:00 am - 12:00 pm

Waco Convention Center
Texas South 118

WORKSHOPS (Alphabetical)

Modeling Spoon Finesse

\$95.00

DANIEL REACH

Beginner – Student Limit 20

In this fun workshop, you'll carve this wild, expressive goat face using just a swivel knife for precise outlining and a modeling spoon for shaping, beveling, shading, smoothing, and building 3D relief. Beginners learn swivel-knife basics, while everyone explores modeling-spoon techniques. All skill levels welcome!

Materials to Bring: Swivel knife, modeling spoon in small, medium, and large sizes if possible, stylus in multiple sizes, deer foot modeling tool, notebook, pencil or pen, cutting board, head knife, tooling stone, mallet, strop, spray bottle or sponge & water dish, headlamp or magnifier.

Materials for this workshop donated/provided by:
Hermann Oak Leather Co.



Saturday
8/8

1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Waco Convention Center
Ranger 106

Modeling Spoon Magic

\$225.00

BIANCA ISABEL TOUSSAINT

All skill levels welcome! – Student Limit 12

Join me as we carve this horse from a more challenging perspective! Learn how to breathe more life into your figure carving, using just a modeling spoon and very few essential tools. On a thin, flat piece of leather, we'll explore how to create details, optical depth and dimension.

Materials to Bring: Small, rounded(!) modeling spoon, stylus for tracing, swivel knife, beveler (regular angled, one small, one larger), matte beveler (small and larger size), your favorite background stamps, maul, petal lifter, spray bottle or sponge & water dish, and a tooling stone.

Materials for this workshop donated/provided by:
Hermann Oak Leather Co.



Friday
8/7

9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Waco Convention Center
Lone Star 104

Modifying Floral Stamps

\$125.00

CLAY MILLER

All skill levels welcome! – Student Limit 15

Learn ways to modify inexpensive floral stamping tools with out having to buy big, expensive machinery. Clay will demonstrate how to change bevel angles, change stamp shape, add texture and checkering, and how to polish to a smooth surface. Demonstration will be on bevelers, pear shaders, veiners and other floral carving stamps using tools and equipment you probably already have.

Materials to Bring: Note taking materials and a camera or phone to take pictures.



Wednesday
8/5

1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Waco Convention Center
Lone Star 105

WORKSHOPS *(Alphabetical)*

No-Sew Purse

\$300.00

JULIE BAUGHER

All skill levels welcome! - Student Limit 10

This envelope-style cross body purse is put together with a few rivets! It will be VERY easy to replicate at home, no sewing machine needed! 7.25" wide x 5" tall x 1.5" gusset. You will have the option to stamp a border (border only; no full stamping or tooling, as time will not allow for that). The painting is something you can add at home if you like! Wickett & Craig has graciously donated the leather for this class; it will be their chestnut-colored tooling leather, so your purse will be a deeper, richer color than what is pictured. The strap will also be riveted on using no dee rings. If you have any questions about this workshop, don't hesitate to get ahold of Julie by email or phone. (jbltleatherschool@gmail.com; (509) 899-4556)

Materials to Bring: Tooling stone, swivel knife, border stamping tools, stamping maul, edger, small hole punch for rivets, flat-faced hammer for setting rivets, small steel block for setting rivets, maul, and edge finishing supplies. *PLEASE NOTE* Because Julie will fly to this show, she will be unable to supply extra tools.

Materials for this workshop donated/provided by:
Wickett & Craig, The Fiebing Company, and Renia



Thursday
8/6

8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Waco Convention Center
Texas North 113

Overnight Bag

\$325.00

AARON HEIZER

All skill levels welcome! - Student Limit 15

Take home your very own leather duffel bag made by you! Students will construct a duffel bag using various construction techniques and different sewing skills pertaining to each part of the bag. This bag is the perfect size for a quick trip. We'll use some great leather and learn a lot as we sew this one together! Rolled leather handles will complete this bag.

Materials to Bring: Rotary cutter, cutting mat, scissors, leather cutting knife, headlamp (optional), and note taking materials.

Materials for this workshop donated/provided by:
Maker's Leather Supply



Tuesday
8/4

8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Waco Convention Center
Texas South 117

WORKSHOPS *(Alphabetical)*

Pattern Development for Handbags

\$150.00

NOA GREENSPAN

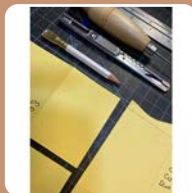
All skill levels welcome! – Student Limit 20

Do you ever wake up with a vivid vision of the perfect handbag—its shape, its structure, its details—only to realize you have no idea how to actually bring it to life? In this foundational handbag-making class, Noa will teach you the core principles of drafting a handbag pattern completely from scratch. Together, you'll break down the anatomy of a handbag step-by-step, explore how each panel and seam works together, and draft and refine your own basic patterns using a ruler, awl, and knife. You'll build essential finishing skills—turning edges, working with interfacings, and handling chrome-tanned leather. And, because this course is led by the Exotics Queen herself, you'll also get an introduction to exotic leathers and learn best practices for laying out patterns on exotic leather. We'll end with time for individual bag and pattern questions. By the close of class, you'll walk away with a deeper understanding of bag structure and the confidence to create the handbags you've always imagined.

Materials to Bring: Knife, awl, ruler (12" or more), bone folder, cutting board, pen/pencil, and notebook.

Materials for this workshop donated/provided by:

Renia



Thursday
8/6

1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Waco Convention Center
Texas North 115

Pattern Making for Leather Craft

\$175.00

DANIEL REACH

Beginner – Student Limit 25

In this hands-on workshop, students will learn the techniques and thought processes for creating custom leather patterns from scratch using a pair of shoulder saddle bags as our real-world example with no prior experience required. The first half covers using AI to visualize and concept your project, while the second half focuses on drafting the physical pattern on poster board. By the end, you'll gain the skills and confidence to design patterns for any leather project you can imagine. Participants can choose active participation (by bringing their own tools to draft along step-by-step), or demo/observer mode (to watch the instructor demonstrate, take detailed notes, ask questions, and follow along visually without cutting or drafting).

Materials to Bring: Razor blade, 2 pairs of wing dividers, digital calipers, pencil, scratch awl, leather, cutting mat to protect surfaces during razor work, straightedge or metal ruler, scissors, eraser, strap cutter, tape, notebook pencil or pen, and headlamp or magnifier to help with detail work. If you prefer observer mode no tools are required—just watch take notes and ask questions.



Friday
8/7

9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Waco Convention Center
Ranger 106

WORKSHOPS (Alphabetical)

Photography 101 for Leather Crafters

\$175.00

COBY JAMES

All skill levels welcome! – Student Limit 12

Come learn how to photograph your leather work effectively with tools you already have – your iPhone (or Android), family DSLR, or even a professional level camera that you already have (or would like to have)! We will be discussing and learning how to use “Home Depot” lighting up through professional set-ups to get the image and effects necessary to highlight your work. Coby will teach industry methods for lighting, staging, and producing professional looking images.

Materials to Bring: Image tool of choice: iPhone, Android, point-and-shoot camera, DSLR or mirrorless camera with appropriate lenses. Add a pen or pencil and one small piece of your leather work you want to photograph (belt, wallet, clutch, belt, etc.; nothing large). Coby will be furnishing a booklet of related material that you may keep and also use for notetaking.



Wednesday
8/5

9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Waco Convention Center

Ranger 110

Pictorial Carving with Barry King's Stamps

\$175.00

JIM LINNELL

Intermediate – Student Limit 20

Pictorial Carving can seem mysterious and forbidding to the leather craftsman that has never received some basic instruction on the proper techniques. Once these basic skills are grasped and understood, a new and exciting world of leather carving is opened. Barry King recently started creating a group of pictorial carving stamps. Now that these are available, learning to carve beautiful pictorial scenes in leather is possible for everyone. In this class, we will create a beautiful mountain scene with pine trees and evergreens. You will not only learn how to make a basic tree, but how to illustrate it at various distances. Grass, bushes, rocks, and hills will all be covered in this workshop. If you are ready to take your floral carving beyond geometrics and floral, this is a class you should be in.

Materials to Bring: Stamping surface, stylus, swivel knife, strop, pressurized water sprayer, modelling spoon and mallet. Stamps should include bevellers, matting tools, pointed bevellers, small, fine textured background stamps, and the Barry King pictorial carving set. The Craftool equivalents are A98, A99, F976, F902, F910, F933, F912L, F912R, F913L, F913R, F914L, F914R, F872, F915, and F915.

Materials for this workshop donated/provided by:
Hermann Oak Leather Co.



Wednesday
8/5

9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Waco Convention Center

Texas South 116

WORKSHOPS *(Alphabetical)*

Pocket-sized Custom Tally Book Cover

\$150.00

BOB BENNETT

All skill levels welcome! – Student Limit 10

In this workshop, you will building 2 styles of tally books: a 3x5 flip-style book and a 3x5 notebook-style book with a pocket for note papers, as well as a business card pocket. Time allowing, you can build both books or just focus on one and take the other one home to build. You will learn how to burnish thinner leather and apply a finishing coat. {You'll be using COBRA Class 20 and a COBRA burnisher; if you are interested in purchasing COBRA equipment at the show, call Leather Machine Company by August 1 to pre-order at +1 (866) 962-9880. Deposit required.}

Materials to Bring: Tooling stone, maul or mallet, stamping tools, wing dividers, sharp swivel knife, a #2 edger, spray bottle or sponge & water dish, burnishing canvas or denim, small cutting board, notebook and pencil, and a ruler.

Materials for this workshop donated/provided by:

Hermann Oak Leather Co., Leather Machine Co. LLC, and Renia USA



Thursday
8/6

8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Waco Convention Center
Ranger 108

Precision Stamping with Barry King

\$125.00

BARRY KING & RYAN KING

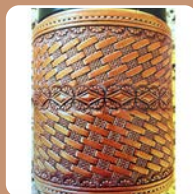
All skill levels welcome! – Student Limit 20

Barry King has produced thousands of basket stamps over the years and he's tried every single one of their designs! This workshop will consist of basic to advanced designs using your tools. Barry will begin with design overview of placing brands, initials, or floral designs into the geometric patterns. You'll learn proper usage of tools to create the designs they are meant to create, and then use the same tools to create new designs. Attention will be given to how to orient the tools so that they line up as well as address how to fit your design within an allocated space (border-to-border). There will be open discussion for any questions on finishing projects as well. Barry will have many tools available to try to see what designs you can create with them.

Materials to Bring: Stamping stone, mallet/maul, ruler, square, stylus, geometric tools, wing dividers, note taking materials and a camera.

Materials for this workshop donated/provided by:

Hermann Oak Leather Co., Barry King Tools, and Tandy Leather



Thursday
8/6

8:00 am - 12:00 pm

Waco Convention Center
Lone Star 105

WORKSHOPS *(Alphabetical)*

Professional Holster Making with Slickbald

\$200.00

CHRIS ANDRE

All skill levels welcome! – Student Limit 12

Learn the fundamentals of professional holster design and construction. Slickbald will focus on a field style holster with thumb break retention. This workshop will cover the fitting of the holster style to the customer, types of holsters and their applications, as well as designing holsters from scratch. Leather selection, liners, wet molding and more will be covered during construction. This workshop will also cover shop tips and production techniques to help the student hit the ground running. NOTE: Only Blue Guns will be allowed in this workshop. {You'll be using a COBRA Class 4 sewing machine and a COBRA MP Burnisher; if you are interested in purchasing COBRA equipment at the show, call Leather Machine Company by August 1 to pre-order at +1 (866) 962-9880. Deposit required.}

Materials to Bring: Students should have their own professional collection of properly shaped, sharpened, and polished tools: pencil, head knife or similar, strop, round punches, one medium-sized (#3/4) French skiver, #3 and #5 common edge bevelers, slicker, and wing dividers. Slickbald will bring tools to try and fill any gaps.

Materials for this workshop donated/provided by:

Hermann Oak Leather Co. and Leather Machine Co., LLC



Wednesday
8/5

8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Waco Convention Center
Lone Star 104

Professional Sheath Making with Slickbald

\$300.00

CHRIS ANDRE

All skill levels welcome! – Student Limit 12

Together with Slickbald you will learn how to design and build a sheath for a Crosswinds Forge (Shaun Woodsum) hunting knife. Each student will receive a new knife to keep, valued at \$180, and for which this workshop is designed. You will learn to design a cross draw pattern from scratch and create a welted sheath stamped with a geometric design of your choosing, complete with a snapping handle wrap. {You'll be using a COBRA Class 4 sewing machine and a COBRA MP Burnisher; if you are interested in purchasing COBRA equipment at the show, call Leather Machine Company by August 1 to pre-order at +1 (866) 962-9880. Deposit required.}

Materials to Bring: Pencil, ruler, well-sharpened round knife or similar, strop, edge bevelers, #2 and #6 push skiver (or close), camouflage stamp, dividers, edgers, geometric and border stamps (if desired), tooling stone and maul/mallet.

Materials for this workshop donated/provided by:

Hermann Oak Leather Co. and Leather Machine Co., LLC



Thursday
8/6

8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Waco Convention Center
Lone Star 104

WORKSHOPS (Alphabetical)

Shotgun Chaps Pattern Drafting

\$175.00

JULIE BAUGHER

All skill levels welcome! – Student Limit 15

Let's draft a pattern for a pair of shotgun chaps! This class will teach you how to take measurements, and then apply measurements to make a pattern for a particular person. We will go over fit, details in fitting including types of leather and how different things like pockets affect fit. You will get a pattern to take home with you and instructions on what the class went over. Generally, Julie also gets to talk about construction order and techniques used to build chaps. Please feel free to bring chaps that you have built so we can go over them. Julie's goal for each student is to give them a good base to go from so they can add to details and learn in an easy format and manner. Please don't hesitate to get ahold of her if you have any questions ahead of time! jblleatherschool@gmail.com

Materials to Bring: Tape measure, cloth tape, 6 x 24" Omni Quilters grid, pencils, eraser, notebook. (Please put your name on your grid.)



Tuesday
8/4

1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Waco Convention Center
Texas North 113

Silver Creek Leather's Introduction to Leathercraft for Youth

\$0.00

JUSTIN GIRSH

Beginner – Student Limit 25

Silver Creek Leather has something new in store for the youth class this year. Young students will be introduced to the basics of leather craft, while building a project from the Realeather product line. Students are guaranteed to go home with finished projects and smiles. Open to youth ages 7-16. The workshop will also include a tooling demonstration for kids by author and legendary leatherworker, Tony Laier.

Materials to Bring: None required; all tools and materials will be provided at no charge.

Materials for this workshop donated/provided by:
Silver Creek Leather Co.



Saturday
8/8

9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Waco Convention Center
Texas North 113

Silver Creek Leather's Workshop for Veterans

\$0.00

JUSTIN GIRSH

Beginner – Student Limit 20

Silver Creek Leather is honored to once again have the opportunity to spread the power of leathercraft to our nation's Military Veterans. Our good friend, and your fellow Veteran, Justin Girsh, will guide the class through the basic techniques of stamping and tooling leather as you tool and assemble a field notes journal.

Materials to Bring: None required; all tools and materials will be provided at no charge.

Materials for this workshop donated/provided by:
Silver Creek Leather Co.



Saturday
8/8

1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Waco Convention Center
Texas North 113

WORKSHOPS (Alphabetical)

Slickbald's Demystifying the Stitcher: Classes 4 and 26

\$95.00

CHRIS ANDRE

All skill levels welcome! – Student Limit 25

More and more, leathercrafters like you are purchasing the versatile Cobra Class 26 or the heavy-duty Cobra Class 4 stitchers for your workshops. For some, this is your first leather sewing machine; for others, this may be in addition to the Class 4 (or other sewing machines). Maybe you're not sure which machine to get. If so, this is the workshop that will answer that question!

Chris will address setting up the machines, finding "home", tension and thread weights (and needle sizes/compatibility), and go over the accessories for each as well. He will teach you how to take care of the machines to keep them running smoothly and help them live a long and productive life. Is your machine skipping stitches? Chris has the answers. Various applications suitable for each machine will be demonstrated. Questions are encouraged and students will have the opportunity to practice with the stitchers on hand. If you have ever been stumped by your Cobra Class 4 or 26, want to know if there is even more you could be doing with these machine, or are planning on purchasing one or both, this workshop is for you.

Whether or not you already own one or both of these stitchers, this workshop will prove to be an invaluable resource for your projects if you know how to operate and troubleshoot the set-up for various projects. Saving time on these machines means fewer headaches and more productivity! This will be an evening well spent at the show! {Chris will be using COBRA Class 4 and 26 sewing machines; if you are interested in purchasing COBRA equipment at the show, call Leather Machine Company by August 1 to pre-order at +1 (866) 962-9880. Deposit required.}

Materials to Bring: Note taking materials.

Materials for this workshop donated/provided by:
Leather Machine Co., LLC



Wednesday
8/5

6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Waco Convention Center
Lone Star 104

The Challenge of Stohlman

\$195.00

JIM LINNELL

Advanced – Student Limit 12

Stohlman said "...these patterns are prepared for those who have already had some experience in leather carving and desire something more challenging." Oh my goodness, he wasn't kidding! Students in this class will be challenged to carve one of Stohlman's detailed wallet patterns. Jim will break down those details and help students understand how they are created. This class is not for a beginner.

Materials to Bring: Stamping stone, additional light, magnifier, mallet, stylus, modelling spoon, swivel knife, fine hair blade, figure carving bevelers such as F890, F895, F902, F976, F898, F900, floral carving stamps such as steep angle bevelers for medium to small work, C425, C428, V461, P234, S932, S931, H907, A98 and other small background stamps of your preference, and a mules foot stamp such as U851.

Materials for this workshop donated/provided by: Hermann Oak Leather



Thursday
8/6

8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Waco Convention Center
Texas South 116

WORKSHOPS (Alphabetical)

Tooled Rifle Sling - Joe Meling

\$250.00

JOE MELING

Beginner to Intermediate - Student Limit 20

Leave this class with a fully tooled rifle sling that will last generations. We will work on refining basic tooling skills to add depth and flow to your work. In addition to tooling, there are some basic construction skills to go over. Punching holes, setting rivets, and slicking edges. The best part about this project is that you can make more of them at home without any machines!

Materials to Bring: Tooling stone, mallet/maul, stylus, swivel knife, spray bottle or sponge & water dish, tools for carving (checked bevelers, vertical lined thumbprint, veiner, mules foot, flower center, backgrounder), and note taking materials. (Also bring a headlamp if desired.) If you don't have the exact tools, that's ok. I'd rather teach you to tool with what you have than you thinking you have to buy a bunch of stuff just for this class.

Materials for this workshop donated/provided by:
Hermann Oak Leather Co.



Tuesday
8/4

8:00 am - 4:00 pm

Waco Convention Center
Texas South 118

Tooling Celtic Knots with Style

\$125.00

BRANDON CORRAL

All skill levels welcome! - Student Limit 15

Celtic knots are often the first designs new leatherworkers try — but most stop at the basics. In this class, Swift (Swifthammer Leather) takes those simple patterns and shows how to bring them to life with over 10 years of developed techniques. Students will learn how to add depth, texture, and character to their knotwork, transforming flat designs into pieces that feel dynamic and three-dimensional. From subtle background treatments to bold illusions of depth, Swift's non-traditional approach makes the process fun and easy to follow, while giving you tools you can apply to any project. Whether you've tooled knots before or you're tackling them for the first time, this class will help you move beyond "beginner basics" and develop a style that's uniquely your own.

Materials to Bring: Swivel knife, strop, mallet, slab, spray bottle, and any available bevelers, modeling spoons, backgrounding stamps, and ballpoint stylus you may have.

Materials for this workshop donated/provided by:
Hermann Oak Leather Co.



Friday
8/7

1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Waco Convention Center
Ranger 110

WORKSHOPS *(Alphabetical)*

Tooling Realistic Tentacles

\$185.00

BRANDON CORRAL

All skill levels welcome! – Student Limit 15

Tentacles might sound like a niche subject, but the techniques behind them are universal. In this workshop, Swift (Swifthammer Leather) breaks down how to tool realistic tentacles with convincing depth, texture, and motion — the same methods that made his viral artwork so popular online. Students will learn how the geometry of curves, suction cups, and flowing forms applies far beyond tentacles, giving them a toolkit they can adapt to countless other designs. Whether you're new to pushing depth or looking to expand your visual vocabulary, this class will sharpen your technical skills, while opening the door to more creative, well-rounded artwork. Swift's non-traditional teaching style makes the process approachable, fun, and surprisingly beginner-friendly, while still offering plenty of new tricks for more advanced leatherworkers.

Materials to Bring: Mallet, swivel knife, strop, slab (one MIGHT be provided if you can't bring one), spray bottle, whatever tooling bevelers and stamps you have (for reasons you'll find out in class, we can make most things work), modeling spoons, paper and pencil, and ballpoint styluses or modeling tools (not required, but helpful).

Materials for this workshop donated/provided by:

Hermann Oak Leather Co.



Saturday

8/8

9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Waco Convention Center

Ranger 110

What to Do with the Back Side

\$50.00

ERIK GRIFFITH

All skill levels welcome! – Student Limit 20

Let's have a lively roundtable discussion on what to do with the not-so-pretty side of leather, the back side! Erik will also demonstrate a few techniques for toning and firming up the back side...of leather!

Materials to Bring: Note taking materials, a good attitude, and the willingness to participate in an open forum-style discussion.



Wednesday

8/5

6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Waco Convention Center

Ranger 108

INSTRUCTOR BIOS *(Alphabetical)*



Chris Andre

is a professional leather artist and maker in Colorado. Chris works mostly in cowboy action and concealed carry gun leather while dabbling in saddles, cowboy trappings and motorcycle gear. Chris is also an active and competitive member of SASS and Cowboy Fast Draw, and is a lifetime competitive shooter. Chris authors a variety of instruction and pattern packs for gun leather and other items as well as offering workshops in holster making and carving.



Julie Baugher

has been doing leatherwork and building custom leather goods for 43 years. She attended saddle making school at Spokane Falls Community College with Jesse Smith in the early 80's. Her first job was in Laramie, WY, building saddles at The Boardwalk. After running Ellensburg Saddle Company for some years, she started Julie Baugher Leather Design to continue doing custom work; it's now a full-time leather working school specializing in chap making.



Angie Benefiel

lives in Texarkana, Arkansas, and is a licensed Certified Public Accountant with over 25 years of experience in accounting and tax, specializing in tax preparation for small businesses and clergy. She began learning the leather craft in 2015 and started her side business of Holland Leather in 2017. Connecting with and learning from other leatherworkers is one of her favorite parts of the business.



Bob Bennett

owns and operates Rocking Spade Leather and Duffs Leathercare Products in Heber City, Utah. He has been the Northwest director for the CSMA for over 10 years, where he was the recipient of the Howard Munsell Award. He has been doing leather work of all types and projects for over 50 years and for over 15 years, he has turned it into a side business where he builds saddles and does what ever else comes into the shop.



Odin Clack

traded in a cushy corporate job in Digital Marketing in 2017 to pursue growing his small leather goods brand. He first began working with leather in 2012 and quickly caught the bug. It didn't take long for him to merge his two worlds. What started off as an experiment turned into a hobby, then a business, and finally a brand.



Brandon Corral

known as Swift on the internet, is an award-winning leather artist. Having dedicated the past third of his life to leathercraft, Brandon has found a focus on leather tooling and has made it a staple of his career. Having taught marketing for the past two years, his focus has now expanded to also include spreading the knowledge of the subtle art of detailed tooling.



Dennis Forrester

Dennis Forrester is the founder of 21GRAMS Leather Goods and the creator of the tattooing method, a technique that merges American traditional tattoo design with hand-tooled leather craftsmanship. Known for bold, tattoo-influenced leather work, Dennis has built a reputation for pushing the boundaries of traditional tooling while honoring the craft's fundamentals. He teaches workshops across the United States.

INSTRUCTOR BIOS *(Alphabetical)*



Justin Girsh

completed a tour in Iraq before returning to Texas in the early 2000's. Curiosity drove him to Maker's Leather Supply and he felt he had finally "come home". He and the owner, Aaron Heizer, established a friendship, and Justin found himself helping out around the shop on his days off. What he really likes about leather and leather craft is putting leather in peoples' hands who have never worked with it and introducing them to the craft.



Don Gonzales

became interested in leathercraft while in eighth grade, when a friend's father shared some simple skills with him. He went from making sheaths and belts and saddle repairs to eventually owning his own shop and going full-time in 2004. He credits Jimmy Plantt for many life lessons and skills learned, in addition to those from his many online friends. In October of 2020, Don launched a new, weekly podcast, Lost Trade. Don lives in Moulton, Texas



Scott Gore

began his braiding career at age six. One day, his dad was at the barn working a young horse and Scott asked him when he was going to teach him how to braid. He told Scott to find some bailing twine and then proceeded to show him the process of braiding three strands. Scott was instantly hooked, and so began a lifelong love of braiding and creating. Education and preservation of Western Crafts has become a passion.



Noa Greenspan

studied leather handbag and footwear design in Tel Aviv, Israel, in 2012, then moved to NYC and studied accessory design at FIT (Fashion Institute of Technology). In 2017, she started working with exotic leathers and hasn't stopped! She is currently the creative director at Pan Am Leathers.



Erik Griffith

Erik began leatherworking in 2014 as a hobby, quickly developing a deep passion for the craft. What started as a personal passion grew into a desire to share my knowledge with others. Today, he teaches hands-on classes through McNeese State University. These classes are focused on traditional techniques and practical skills. He enjoys helping students of all skill levels discover the joy of working with leather.



Aaron Heizer

began leatherworking around 2001 while serving in the Army. Wherever the Army sent him, you could always count on Aaron having tools and leather in his bag. He retired from that life in 2014 after being stationed in 9 locations and serving two combat tours in Iraq. Since retiring from the Army, he has dedicated himself to teaching and sharing his passion for leathercraft wherever he goes. Aaron was honored to receive the Al Stohman Award in 2025.



Coby James

has been a professional photographer for 30 years, operating a large studio in the Houston area, specializing in commercial (advertising and various media), portrait, and volume photography. Recently retired, he has combined photography and leatherwork, teaching and sharing his skillsets with other craftsmen. Over 40+ years, he has made saddles, tack, hand goods, and boots. He continues to do leatherwork in his shop, making mostly items that he prefers.

INSTRUCTOR BIOS *(Alphabetical)*



Barry King

From his first leather project as a third grader to an artist in his own right, Barry King has remained true to the Sheridan style of carving. Though the majority of his time is spent developing and perfecting tools to carve and stamp leather, Barry, the 1994 Ann Stohman Youth Award recipient and owner of Barry King Tools in Sheridan, Wyoming, still finds time to put his own leather tools to work.



Ryan King

was born and raised in Sheridan, Wyoming, has been doing leather work on and off for a little over twenty years at the family business, King's Saddlery, where Ryan is best known for his wallets. Ryan credits any success in his work to his father, for letting him have a creative use of his mind at work, and to his older brother, Barry, for the hard-to-swallow feedback, and, of course, quality leather tools.



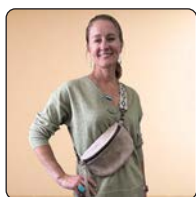
Jim Linnell

was born and raised on a ranch in eastern Montana, and has had leather working in his blood ever since his first visit to the Miles City Saddlery. He has spent over 50 years in the leather industry. Through the business he started in retirement, www.elktracksstudio.com, Jim has instructed Whether in a large group or private classes, He is the 2002 recipient of the AI Stohman Award for Achievement in Leathercraft.



Michael Magnus

is an entrepreneur, marketer, and educator, bringing over two decades of business experience to the leather industry. After working with some of the industry's most well-known brands, he started the podcast "Beyond the Workbench" with co-host Odin Clack to share small-business advice for leatherworkers. He is also the founder of LearnLeathercraft.com, an online learning platform that allows artists to distribute their videos, books, and patterns.



Leandra Martin

Leandra Martin is a leather artisan, designer, and instructor known for her skill in leather bag design and construction. She is now expanding her work into custom cowboy boot making and is currently training with Schwarz Custom Boots. Alongside her work as a maker, Leandra teaches leatherworking classes where she shares her knowledge of bag design, construction techniques, and professional finishing with others in the leatherworking community.



Joe Meling

owns and operates 23+ in Pendleton, OR. He has been tooling leather since 2005. Through his YouTube channel, online courses, and in person classes, Joe specializes in helping beginning leather toolers. The ah-ha moments that students have, continues to fuel his drive to simplify the learning process.



Clay Miller

grew up around race horses, planning to become a race horse trainer. He started doing leatherwork as a way to fill the down time and make a little side money. During a break between race meets, he was offered a job at the local Tandy, which changed everything. In 2010, he began to make tools and do contract leather tooling for several large leather holster and saddle shops. The tool making took off, and now he is making tools full-time.

INSTRUCTOR BIOS *(Alphabetical)*



Daniel Reach

As a lifelong artist, Daniel Reach has dabbled in just about everything, but the two niches that have inspired his creative side more than any others are leatherworking and airbrushing. In his early 20s, he apprenticed under one of the top 10 airbrush artists in the world. As a leather artist, Daniel is a Master Leather Craftsman, and a multi-award winning artist who teaches on two YouTube channels, including Weaver Leather Supply and The LeatherVerse.



Bianca Isabel Toussaint

is a German-born Leather Artist, living in the United States, with a lifelong passion and background in Arts. Her creative journey led her into the world of Leathercraft in 2020, where she quickly discovered a deep appreciation for the craft itself, the medium and its creative possibilities. In 2022, she found her true calling in Figure Carving, which allows her to blend Fine Art with Craftsmanship.



Karla Van Horne

likes to think of herself as 'just another leatherworker'. "I've always felt that what I do isn't about me. Look at the work, not me." At 10, she became inseparable from leathercraft projects. At 14, she started carving. Her whole life has been spent making custom pieces and teaching leathercraft. To that end, she received the Al Stohman Award for Achievement in Leathercraft in 1989. She is currently writing her first series of books. The first, named "Elements", is available at leathercraftersjournal.com/shop.



Brodrick Vaughan

owns Vaughan Gators in Tallahassee, Florida. What started as a new hobby for an avid lifetime hunter turned into a full-time job as a nuisance alligator trapper for the Florida Wildlife Commission. Broderick began tanning all of his own hides at Sebring Custom Tanning. The unique experience of being a part of the entire production process, from capturing the live alligator to making the finished goods, is what led him to develop a passion for leatherwork.



Colby Vaughan

Colby Vaughan grew up learning leatherwork from his dad, Broderick Vaughan, working alongside him through every step of the process—from catching and processing alligators to creating finished pieces. This hands-on experience sparked his passion for crafting high-end alligator leather goods, specifically watch bands, belts, wallets, purses, and shoes. Ironically, he is a true "Florida Gator", graduating from the University of Florida.



Carlos Williams

Growing up with the nature of Hawaii inspired Carlos Williams' color themes that he transfers onto leather. Kauai plant and tree life has had a huge influence with his style of dying. Rainbow eucalyptus trees have also become a huge part of what informs his style of leather work. You can view more of Carlos' work on Instagram at [lospalanileathercreations](https://www.instagram.com/lospalanileathercreations).



Amanda Willis

Amanda Willis is the co-founder of Grit Mercantile, a family-run business offering handcrafted leather goods, patterns, acrylic templates, and tools for fellow makers. With a background in PR, marketing, and book publishing, she blends branding expertise with hands-on market experience to help makers give their work the attention it deserves. Amanda also leads the Artisan Advancement Collective, a community supporting artisan-focused businesses.

WORKSHOP SPONSORS

THANK YOU!

