



**Roy Givens**, a charter member of CSMA, was given a special tribute for his years of saddle making and his long time support of CSMA. He was presented with a photo album made by Kay Orton,. Each corner on the album was on tooled by a fellow CSMA member. Rick Favinger (left) Roy Givens (middle) and Roy's son (right)



**Jesse Smith receives the 2007 Howard Munsell award** from the 2006 recipient Dick Gilbert. Each year the Munsell award is given to an individual showing extraordinary dedication to the CSMA organization. Jesse certainly fits this description! Jesse is a master saddle maker that is always right there to teach at each seminar, he has taken the lead in organizing the "Art of the Saddle Maker" saddle show for several years, and has served as Vice President of CSMA for the past three years. Congratulations Jesse!!!!

## Colorado Saddle Makers Association 2007 Fall Seminar by Rick Favinger

Colorado Saddle Makers Association (CSMA) held it's 2007 Annual Fall Seminar at the Chaffee County Fair Grounds in Salida, Colorado on October 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, & 14<sup>th</sup>. The seminar consisted of two and a half days of hands-on demonstrations with plenty of food and conversation for all that attended.

Friday's half-day session was led off by Pete Gorrell talking about different stirrup types and how they can affect the riders position and comfort. Bob Klenda followed this session up with a demonstration on covering stirrups using a lacing technique. Following a dinner of pizza and soda's, with plenty of lively conversation, the Board of Directors met to discuss CSMA past and future business.

Saturday and Sunday were also filled with excellent presentations. Tree Adjustment Session Leader Ned Norton gave an informative talk on how the saddle maker can request different specifications from the tree maker to better fit the horse and rider. Bob Klenda then presented us with different samples of geometric stamping techniques and described how the border, field, and negative spaces should work together to present a pattern that is pleasing to the eye. Following Saturdays lunch, Shane Dettler showed all of us how to use monofilament fishing line to take the place of the old hogs bristle needle. Jesse Smith then gave a talk on different types of rigging and how they are fit to the tree. Ned Norton closed out Saturdays session with a discussion on cinches. Following Saturday evening supper, Kay Orton held a demonstration and practice session for the local 4-H group.

During our Saturday night session CSMA gave a tribute to Roy Givens. Rick Favinger presented a short run down of some of the things Roy has accomplished in his life time and Kay Orton presented Roy with a personalized custom tooled leather photo album. Bob Klenda then awarded Jesse Smith the Howard Munsell Award for his dedication and service in promoting CSMA. This was followed by the "Ask a Saddle Maker" forum with Pete Gorrell, Ned Norton, Bob Klenda, Jesse Smith, and David Rowland who fielded questions from the audience.

Sunday morning started off with a good breakfast and our annual members meeting where the members were informed of what the Board is doing and where CSMA is heading. We also held our annual election of officers with Duncan Clark being elected as the new Southeast Director and Judith Rowland being elected as the new Southwest Director. All other officers retained their seats on the Board. After this meeting Ned Norton presented a session on swivel knives and blades. Following lunch, Dick Gilbert provided our members with various ideas on marketing and selling their products.

Tonya Favinger made sure that everyone was well fed during the seminar by providing a great home cooked BBQ beef supper on Saturday and breakfast burritos on Sunday morning.

CSMA would like to thank all of the above mentioned people for helping us to have a very successful 2007 Fall Seminar. We would also like to thank the Chaffee County Fair Grounds, especially Fair Manager Jim Mick, for providing us with great facility.

CSMA's 2008 Fall Seminar is already scheduled for the weekend of October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>, 2008, and will be held again at the Chaffee County Fair Grounds. We look forward to seeing all of you who attended again and hope that some of you who were not able to make it this year can come join us next year.



Shane Deeders demonstrating



Ned Norton



Bob Klenda