
Friends and Company Rubber Stamping and More...

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M-F 10:00a.m.-7:00 p.m. Sat 10:00a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Sun 12:00 noon- 4:00 p.m.

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July/August 2005

What's New?

Greetings Everyone! There has been so much going on since our last newsletter and there is lots to be thankful for. Our Australian friends did indeed receive a huge welcome and their stay in the United States was "delightful and a one-of-a-kind opportunity". Many thanks for your participation during their two-week stay. We all had a blast here at the shop and look forward to one day seeing them again – maybe in Australia!!

The annual Puyallup Rubber Stamp Convention was not as large by way of either vendors or participants but we did manage to spend the entire day looking at all the "goods" and meeting many of you in the process. The chartered bus was nearly full of not only passengers but also full of mischief and frivolity. Two of our major sponsors for this event were Clearsnap from Anacortes, WA, and Judi-Kins from Gardena, CA. Clearsnap donated a substantial "goodie" for each of the 47 goodie bags given to each passenger. WHAT A GIFT!! Judi-Kins donated many of the door prizes given out along the way as well. Collectively, both of these companies donated hundreds of dollars worth of products which exceeded any of our expectations. Please make a point of remembering their generosity when filling your toolboxes. We would also like to thank all of the sponsors who remain behind the scenes including yours truly – the shop - all of its employees, staff, and instructors. Many donations and/or contributions were also made by these folks. We are extremely grateful to them as well.

Guest appearances by Terry Medaris, Prismacolor artist from AZ, and Kevin Nakagawa, Owner, Stampscapes located in CA, were both well received and classes well attended. Both guest appearances added a great deal of interest and pizzazz to our already terrific lineup of classes for June. Their efforts and enthusiasm are applauded loudly by many including all of us here at the shop.

Preparations for the Triathlon are well underway. We are extremely pleased that Tim Holtz has agreed to be our guest instructor again this year. Tim's new book, entitled "distressables", is HOT and is a "must have"! Tim is in Seattle only on 9 July 2005 but will be available throughout the day to autograph your copy so be sure to call the shop to reserve yours early.

Personnel is changing at the shop but we all know that change is often good which is very much the case here. Diane Walter, who has been very visible at the shop for better than a year now, has recently accepted a position from a local business that is better suited to her and her household, i.e., more money and health benefits!! Yeah!!! We would like to say "THANK YOU" Diane for all that you have done over the last year. Diane has been instrumental in helping to facilitate some major changes at the shop and her dedication and leadership will be missed. We wish you well Diane and much success as you enter the second phase of your career.

As you can see, we are indeed busy but never too busy to take time to say hello and swap stories on any one of your visits so do stop by!

"New" Stuff. In most of our newsletters we report on new rubber stamps and their associated companies, however, for this reporting period we are going to do just the opposite and not report on anything or anyone when it comes to rubber stamps. Instead, we are planning and scheming to liquidate, move along, close-out, or whatever it will take to clear off the shelves. Yes, we want empty shelves so that we can bring in lots of brand new "stuff". Read on for our 4th of July sale and how about that West Seattle Street Festival and the buy 3 get 1 FREE extravaganza?? We also can't forget about our annual BBQ and demo day. Lots is cooking (no pun intended) so don't make these a missed opportunity. Be sure to clearly mark your calendars now!

O *Accessories and More.*

A huge trade show is taking place in Chicago during the month of July and we are on the edge of our seats to see what great stuff is expected to pour out of this annual event. Our reps are revved and ready to go so you can bet that we

will be seeing lots of new stuff as the year continues to unfold. For now, look at all this great "stuff".

Not new to McGill but new to us at the shop is the "TA TA" or so it has been coined! This single hole paper drill has proven its efficiency and ease in binding journals, books, albums, scrapbooks, reports and so much more. The TA TA is very easy to use and has won the hearts of many already. It has a sliding adjustable hole position and will drill 1/4-inch or 1/8-inch (separate drill head available) up to 250 text

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weight sheets. Now that is a lot of paper. The 3-hole TA TA is also available.

We have the entire line of the new Tim Holtz products including all of his 9-inch x 9-inch and 12-inch x 12-inch papers. We have plenty of his new "distressables" book and don't forget that he will be available for autographing on the 9th of July. We have lots of his "doo-dads", mounts and tags, mini folders, and also all six of his print blocks. Very cool stuff!

Li'l Davis Designs has come up with some wonderful chipboard monograms that are fun, eclectic, and perfect for many of our rubber stamping and scrapbooking projects. Many sizes and colors are currently available. Just a heads up that these are being used in one of the Triathlon projects so check them out early!

Li'l Davis has also provided us with several "custom collection" rub-on fonts in various colors. These are great when needing to make truly unique embellishments such as on ribbon for that special project. Don't just stop at ribbon, however, but keep going to wood, fabric, metal, and so much more!

A new product we found at the Puyallup convention is called "Tamp-A-Tiles. Although difficult to describe, these acrylic tiles are used to create unique backgrounds with some associated stippling or sponging and are very easy to use. Many shapes are available and will add lots of interest to many of our projects. We would love to see what you can come up with so give them a try and let us know.

Other things include:

- More new designs using the Creative Cutter. We now have flip flops, ice cream cones, and parasols. Let the summer begin!
- Un-Du adhesive remover. A must have for all tool boxes!

- Style Stones from Clearsnap are a fun and easy way to add embellishments to any project and are also easy to use for making jewelry and other fun things. Lots of designs to choose from as well.
- Several new colors have been introduced from the makers of Twinkling H₂O's and more colors are coming.
- Many single Quickutz dies for creating your own add-ons. Don't forget about the Quickutz club!
- A newly engineered micro torch is now available from CarvedStamps.
- The professional adhesive applicator known as the TRIO.
- Four different sized Glue Dots.

There is lots more so stop in soon!
Accessories arrive frequently.

READ ALL ABOUT IT!

Distribution of our newsletter in its new form appears to be working rather well for you and all of us here at the shop. For those of you who might find it difficult to pull from the internet or can't make it into the shop as often as you would like, an easy solution is to provide us with six pre-addressed and pre-stamped envelopes. We will get your newsletter out pronto! Members of The Paper Connection automatically receive a copy in their monthly boxes. Another great reason to become a member!

Important Dates

- 1 Jul-Paper Connection
Pick Up Date
- 4 July-Closed-Happy 4th
- 9 Jul-Triathlon
- 12 Jul-ATC Club Mtg
- 15 Jul-"Envy"lope Contest
Ends
- 15 Jul-WS Street Festival
- 16 Jul-WS Street Festival
- 17 Jul-WS Street Festival
- 21 Jul-QuicKutz Club Mtg
- 23 Jul-BBQ and Demo Day
- 1 Aug-Paper Connection
Pick Up Date
- 9 Aug-ATC Club Mtg

18 Aug-QuicKutz Club Mtg
31 Aug-Auntie Amy Tacoma
Convention Ticket
Sales Begin

EXTENDED

"Envy"lope contest

Many other events have overshadowed this particular event, so we have decided to extend this contest a bit longer. Read on.

Friends and Company, along with Coffee To A Tea, is announcing their third annual 2005 "Envy"lope contest. It is simple and it is easy. Let your decorated envelope be the "envy" of everyone else's in this fun and energizing contest. A guaranteed first place \$100 gift certificate will be awarded to the winner by popular vote at Coffee To A Tea (across the street from the shop). Cost is \$5.00 per entry. A complimentary 50 pack of size 10 envelopes (retail value \$4.00) will be issued to the first 25 entries so hurry on in!! Entries must be postmarked by 15 July to qualify.

The Paper Connection

"The Paper Connection" continues to exceed our expectations. The Friday Connection classes have been a real hit and will continue to be showcased in our wonderful lineup of classes. Voting in our one-year anniversary contest is currently underway at Coffee To A Tea (directly across the street from the shop). Please cast your vote and with the most votes, one lucky member will receive a 6-month membership for FREE.

If you are looking for fun and surprises, "The Paper Connection" may be just what you are looking for! This is an innovative, fun, and perhaps unique approach to owning paper and is made up of club members who just love pampering themselves. The club consists of membership with monthly dues of \$19.95 (plus tax and shipping). Each month, members receive a mystery package delivered directly to the address of their choice full of

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fun surprises which is all about paper. Members receive a 10% discount at Friends and Company on all stocked paper products during the time of membership. Sound appealing? More details are available at the shop.

July Madness Sale

Fourth of July Sale

Sat, 2 July 2005

Sun, 3 July 2005

For two full days enjoy savings of 20% off your entire purchase of accessories!

WS Street Festival Sale

Thursday, 14 Jul 2005

Fri, 15 Jul 2005

Sat, 16 Jul 2005

Sun, 17 Jul 2005

During all four days, buy three rubber stamps and get the fourth one free. Free stamp must be less than or equal to the lowest value of the stamps selected.

BBQ and Demo Day Sale

Sat, 23 Jul 2005

10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Hot Dogs, Chips, Sodas, and Treats including 40% off on any one item in the shop

(Please Note: July Sale Month sales apply to regularly priced merchandise only)

“STUFF”

O Looking for something different for a birthday party? Need a place to meet monthly? Want to get together with some of your friends but don't want to clean the house? Renting the balcony at the shop might just be the answer for any stamping or scrapbooking related activity. Call the shop for details.

O Interested in forming a rubber stamping club? Why wait any longer – call the shop and we'll help you with acquiring members.

SENIOR NEWS

Our senior classes continue to offer a variety of techniques and lots of fun and camaraderie. Classes begin at 10:00 a.m. with pre-registration required. The fee per class is \$10.00. All other class guidelines apply.

WEDNESDAY CLASSES

27 Jul-Part 1-A ZigZag*
w/Doris Goulet

3 Aug-Part 2-A ZigZag*
w/Doris Goulet

17 Aug-Part 3-A ZigZag*
w/Doris Goulet

FRIDAY CLASSES

8 Jul-All Occasion
w/Diane Radischat

22 Jul-Chalks
w/Diane Radischat

19 Aug-H₂O's
w/Diane Radischat

* Please Note: This is an all-new class and is a 3-part class to build a one of a kind treasure known as the ZigZag. Each session is \$10.00 and lots of supplies provided but bringing some of your own will also be required along with photographs (or copies).

Auntie Amy's Rubber Stamp Convention

Friends and Company will pre-sell tickets for the Auntie Amy Unconventional Rubber Stamp Convention scheduled for, Saturday, 1 October 2005, at the Tacoma Dome. Tickets will be available by 31 August on a first-come, first-served basis at \$4.00 each. Friends and Company is currently accepting self addressed and postage paid envelopes for mailing immediately upon the receipt of tickets so do it NOW!!

Carolyn's Corner

Dear Carolyn – New things crop up all the time but this one really has me baffled. I've just read an article on altered trading cards and I'm still wondering about them. Have you ever heard of these? I must admit that I'm intrigued so I would love to learn more about this alternative art. Margie

Dear Margie – Your timing is certainly good in that more and more information is being made available on this alternative form of art. Probably my best advice to you is for you to attend a ATC swap (as

they are referred to) as an observer or visitor to the group. Participants will likely provide you with far more information than you bargained for. An ATC club meets at Friends and Company (for whom I write this column) once a month so call them to get further information. I'm told that ATCs are very fun and like with anything else in this industry - addictive!

Dear Carolyn – I recently bought a new table for my craft room. This was a long awaited purchase and I must admit that I was excited. Unfortunately, one of my kids used a heat gun directly onto the table and now it has been initiated quite well. I have gotten past the initial shock but would like to protect what is left as best as possible. Is there anything that you know of that might help me? Patricia

Dear Patricia – Please keep in mind that, like so many things in your craft room, a table is a tool. This initiation clearly tells me that you have a “working” craft room and pristine it need not be!! So, congratulations on having a room that works for the whole family. There is a product, however, that could help protect any surface in your craft room. It is called a Non-Stick Craft Sheet and comes in a 9” x 12” and a 15” x 18” size. Nothing sticks to this sheet so it is useful in the kitchen area also. Be sure to keep craft and kitchen tools separate. Once any tools have been used for crafts, they should not be allowed back into the kitchen and exposed to or used with food. The craft sheet is also heat resistant with very easy cleanup. Even melted embossing power peels right off. Many craft stores will likely carry this Ranger product so check them out. Just remember Patricia to keep it fun. Like you, your kids will always remember their fun times in that craft room!

Round It Up Fundraisers

As we announced in our last newsletter, our fundraisers have

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been very successful so our "Round It Up" efforts will continue. This is an extremely painless way of helping where help is often desperately needed. It is amazing how it can add up by simply tossing your change into the jar.

Our collections for the "The Sweet Willie Foundation" are going well. Please remember to drop whatever change you might have into our giving jar at the desk. If you are interested in more information on this foundation, we are very happy to provide it to you. Larger, tax deductible donations, are also gladly accepted.

Class Notes

Although our class lineup for July and August 2005 is not as ambitious as in the past, it continues to be very exciting and presents many opportunities for fun and getting many projects started or completed. All levels of rubber stamping are available. Please do note these guidelines:

- Receive a class discount of 10% off your purchase the day of class. Excludes discounted or sale items, magazines, and holds.
- Pre-payment required on ALL class registrations. No exceptions.
- Acceptable payments are cash or checks which need to be made out directly to the instructor.
- Class cancellations require a 3-day notice for a full refund. Classes exceeding 3 hours in length require a 5-day notice. Classes involving guest instructors require a full 14-day cancellation. Other cancellation policies are noted in the class description.
- Should you become ill or are unable to attend for any reason, you are encouraged to send a friend or pick up your packet at your earliest possible convenience.
- Class packets must be picked up for unattended classes within two weeks of the scheduled class. Unclaimed packets will be donated.

- Most classes require cutting. If you have a favorite pair of scissors, please bring them. If you have an OTT light and want to use it in class, please bring it also. Bringing other items to class unless specified could result in the loss of your own tools so please refrain if possible.

We appreciate your becoming fully aware of these class policies and your understanding their need.

Other Stuff!

o A Review on Parking. Please remember that the parking lots are limited to only three hours and street parking is limited to only two. This also includes Sundays. Street parking on Sunday is unlimited but lots are monitored.

Exchange Policy. We will gladly **exchange** unused items within 30 days of sale but a sales receipt must accompany your request. No exchanges can be made for paper products (including magazines), sale items or specialty items. We are sure that you understand the necessity for these policies and will help to support them.

Tips and Things

- Have electrical needs? Contact Michael MacDonald, the shop's electrician at (206) 762-1183. He does "light" hauling also! No pun intended there!
- Alison Katica, whose skills are showcased throughout the shop, is a graduate of Cornish University and has been on staff for quite some time. Alison's photography is exceptional and we are proud to share with you her contact information for your photography needs. Ask to see her portfolio!

alison katica
photography

f i n e a r t
w e d d i n g s
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- Sometimes when cutting paper, the paper cutter will leave a "rough" edge. Instead of cutting your paper smaller, putting it in the scrap pile or worse yet, tossing it, use a plain old emery board to "file down" the rough edge. Works beautifully. Thanks Janet for that fabulous tip!
- When exacto blades have reached their life span, put used blades in film canisters before tossing.

HAPPY STAMPING!!

Until the next time,
Take Care – Doris