
Friends and Company

Rubber Stamping and More...

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What's New?

Greetings Everyone! School's out, summer is here, and now we can let the lazy hazy days of summer begin. OK – who are we kidding. There is much to do not only here at the shop but, from what we hear, also amongst most households. We can't, however, let our creative energies get away from us despite summer and all that there is to do. Keep your creative spirit in mind when planning any event. Keep yourself posted to what is going on if only to make your party invitations or party favors. Some folks use summer as a reason to re-energize themselves by attending workshops and classes. Whatever you might do, just remember to keep it fun! That's what it's all about.

We remain extremely busy here at the shop. Lots of activities and events are planned including our annual Arts Triathlon scheduled for 7 July 2007. We are very pleased to welcome Claire Hampton, Hampton Arts Senior Educator, as our out of state guest instructor for this event. Claire is traveling from England, not only for our event, but also for a 6-week tour of the USA which will include CHA in Chicago in mid-July. We are very excited and hope that those attending the Triathlon will be as well. Claire has also included an additional class on the 8th of July for those who are not able to attend the Triathlon. See class descriptions for more details.

We are also very pleased to welcome Susie Tracey, owner of

Art n' Soul in Olympia and her store manager, Catherine Woodard, as a tag team for one leg of the Triathlon. We are so pleased that both Susie and Catherine have agreed to be part of this most challenging and fun day.

Many of you already know Marjie Brandeen from Graham, WA, who has also accepted the challenge of having fun as the third leg of the Triathlon. Marjie's creative spirit is one that she readily passes on to her students in all of her classes so we are delighted to have her join our team.

Lots of other folks are involved in all that leads up to the Triathlon and, of course, the day of, and also for many days following this big event. Our staff, volunteers, and of course our valued attendees all make the Triathlon happen. We are extremely grateful for such a wonderful team of individuals and can never say enough just how grateful we are. As part of our ongoing motto, we need to keep it fun!

We remain very busy here at the shop planning events and stocking shelves with lots of great new "treasures". Get your summer started with a visit or two to the shop even if only to say hello. We love your visits and any brainstorming you have to offer. There is never a dull day at the shop and, once again, all of us here hope you have a fabulous summer!

O *"New" Stuff.* Many hours out of the day are allocated to just receiving. We

have lots of new stuff arriving almost daily. CHA is just around the corner and we know lots of new stuff will be exposed at this annual Chicago event as well. Read on for just a glimpse of what is going on.

Karen Lockhart and the Lockhart Stamp Company must never sleep. Although Karen has given us a glimpse of what's to come, her new enhanced line of rubber stamps is still at the manufacturing stage but you can be sure that they are fabulous and so very fun. We can hardly wait so you can see them for yourselves. Karen expects to have them available at or near the 4th of July so come and get them – just in time for summer!

We have been trying to "beef up" the the rubber stamp section which represents "verses" so we have finally connected with Verses Rubber Stamps. "Just In" is brimming with their great selection of verses so there should be something for everyone!

Memory Box has outdone itself again. The recent release of penguins and the matching verses are outstanding and so full of whimsy and fun. Very cool line and one not to be missed.

Our second order from Paper Bag Studios has just arrived and it is a stunning collection. These rubber stamps have proven to be real winners so take some time to look yourselves while there are plenty!

More rubber stamps are expected from some of our most reliable rubber stamp companies but if there is something you want and you

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don't see it, please let us know. Some of what we are expecting is from Stampington and Company, Magenta, Impression Obsession, Hero Arts, Inkadinkado, Penny Black, and who knows what else. Stay tuned.

O *Accessories and More.*

Accessories are, of course, always popular for any crafter. We especially love all the "baubles" that the scrapbooking industry has developed. They are just so much fun and really enhance or embellish any special project that you might be working on.

We have recently connected with some fantastic companies that offer every imaginable "bauble" or embellishment possible. The largest of these companies is Creative Imaginations. They have simply exploded the market with what is available and include way too many to mention here. Please trust us when we say that this company is making a statement and we are listening!

Here are some things that you should consider as part of your toolbox or just for fun:

- Cosmo Cricket's Lacing Card Kit which includes lots of printed chipboard and ribbons.
- K&Company continues to WOW us with all their very cool embellishments and glitz.
- Lots of paper stacks from Die Cuts with a View in varying sizes. What better way to complete a project quickly.
- The Opaque StazOn inkpads are a well kept secret.
- Glue Dots in four sizes ready for any project.
- Prismacolor pencils in different set sizes along with the battery operated Profile Powered Pencil Sharpener. If you have not tried them, now is the time. They result in lots of great art!

- There is so much paper that we were required to order yet another 6 paper racks which equates to over 100 slots for 12" x 12" paper. Some very fun papers for summer.
- Don't forget about Dew Drops in all the Brilliance colors. Great for taking on the road and those small areas in your project that require small inkpads.
- Glossy Accents from Ranger Industries. Great for adding some "gloss" to any project.
- We now have over 20 designs in the Penny Black great line of stickers. These stickers make a statement when incorporated in any project.

There is lots more and the shelves are brimming so take some time just for you and stop by to see things for yourself! We think you will be pleased!

The Paper Connection

OK, stop the presses. We are looking for new members to this terrific club and you may be just the right candidate. Read on for more information. Please take time to join and register today. It's loads of fun and its value is great also!

Looking for some fun? Looking for some surprises? Looking for something different? "The Paper Connection" may be exactly what you are looking for! So, exactly what is it all about? The Paper Connection is an innovative, fun, and perhaps unique approach to owning paper and is made up of club members who just love paper, love getting packages in the mail, or simply do not have access to some of the rich, vibrant, and high quality paper now available on the market. The club consists of membership with monthly dues of \$19.95. Each month, members receive a mystery package delivered directly to the address of their choice full of fun surprises

and "stuff" which is all about paper. Membership also includes bonus items that will enhance your paper collection each month. With each six month membership, members receive a 10% discount at Friends and Company on all stocked paper products during the time of membership. Sound appealing? We think so! More details are available at the shop, so do stop by or call to check it out.

"ENVY" Lope Contest

The "ENVY"lope contest for 2007 is now closed. All entries are posted at the shop waiting for your vote. Please take time to vote for your favorite on your next visit. You will find that all the entries are rather exquisite, intriguing, and masterfully done. The first place winner will receive a \$100 gift certificate to the shop so the winner would appreciate your vote!

Class Notes

Despite the onset of summer, our class lineup for July and August is fantastic. It definitely presents many opportunities and challenges for all levels. We offer a wide range of techniques and class themes that we are sure you will enjoy. We have several guest instructors so take a look at what is being offered. Also please make note of the following guidelines:

- Receive a class discount of 10% off your purchase the day of class. Excludes already 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.
- A 3-day grace period for called in registrations is provided, however, the space must be held with a credit card until the payment is received.

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- Class cancellations require a 3-day notice for a full refund. Classes exceeding 3 hours in length require a 5-day notice. Classes with guest instructors require a 3-week cancellation and events such as the Balcony Bash or Scrapbooking Crop require a 2-week cancellation.

- 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.

- Please refrain from wearing perfumes and/or similar fragrances while attending classes. This will help to ensure that all students who are allergic can attend without cause to worry. We very much appreciate your cooperation for the enjoyment of all.

- 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. If a class requires you to bring a supply list, please be sure to distinctively mark your items to make certain of ownership.

We appreciate your becoming fully aware of these class policies and know that you understand the need for them.

Happy Birthday

Receive 25% off on any one rubber stamp or stamp set as our special gift to you for your birthday. This offer is good only for rubber stamps we have in stock and can be used any one time during the entire month of your birthday. We will continue to verify your special day with your driver's license or other

appropriate ID. Don't forget to change the batteries in all your fire alarms as one part of your automatic celebration!

SENIOR NEWS

Our senior classes continue to be lots of fun. Classes begin at 10:30 a.m. (note change) with pre-registration required. The fee per class is \$12.00. All other class guidelines apply.

PLEASE NOTE THAT SENIOR CLASSES HAVE BEEN MOVED TO MONDAYS.

We hope this move and time change will accommodate many folks who have requested these changes. Please let us know how we are doing! Also, please note that Daystar classes are on sabbatical for the summer.

MONDAY CLASSES

- 2 Jul-All Occasion
w/Diane Radischat
- 16 Jul-Just for Fun
w/Diane Radischat
- 23 Jul-Florals
w/Doris Goulet
- 30 Jul-Pleats
w/Diane Radischat
- 6 Aug-Masking
w/Diane Radischat
- 13 Aug-Thinking of You
w/Doris Goulet
- 27 Aug-All Occasion
w/Diane Radischat

Carolyn's Corner

Dear Carolyn – I hear so much about distressing these days. Why is this technique so hot and what can I do to make it happen for me? I do like what results when people distress but I cannot seem to get the same look. Is there a kit or something available that would help? Connie

Dear Connie – I love the distress look also and there are many approaches for making it happen. One method is simply using Distress Inkpads manufactured by

Ranger. These inkpads come in several colors and are perfect for that direct to paper approach. Another easy and inexpensive method is to crumple up the paper you are using (this breaks down some of the fibers) and then smooth the paper out again. Using a dye based inepad, hit the peaks of the paper with the ink again using the direct to paper method. Another inexpensive method is to have a cup of tea and use the teabag as the "inkpad" for edging your paper. Some of the paper could warp depending on how much water content there is in the teabag but, again, this adds to the vintage look and can be rather appealing. I'm sure that more methods are available but these should get you started. Be sure to ask others what they do and what is their favorite method. This could lead to some serious distressing!! Have fun!

Dear Carolyn – I have been rubber stamping for about a year or so now and I have collected a rather extensive collection of rubber stamps that, at one time, I dearly loved. It seems now that my interests are changing and what I once thought of as something I really liked, I no longer care for. The designs no longer have their original appeal or I have outgrown the design altogether. I have thought about donating them to a local school but I would like to know what others do in this situation. It would be wonderful to recoup some of what I have invested. Any thoughts? Beverly

Dear Beverly – Well, you certainly are not alone. Most of us have, or will go through, what I refer to as a growing period. This growing period is likely to last you a lifetime because so much is available and a technique you use today may become passé tomorrow. I for one have never been able to part with a stamp regardless of whether or not I have ever used it. It is just a thing

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with me that I must have loved it at some point in my life. There are, however, numerous ways of distributing your rubber stamps (and accessories) for a small profit.

First off, a donation to a non-profit organization will yield you a tax write-off but be sure to get a receipt if you go this route so that it can be registered properly during tax time.

Another great way of recouping some funds is to host a yard sale. Although this method is more time consuming than some, you will likely get a nice return on your used rubber stamps and accessories.

Connecting with a club can often yield high returns. If you are not a member of a club, check with your local rubber stamp store which could likely point you in their direction.

My favorite suggestion to anyone, however, and also most painless way I believe, is for you to participate in a used rubber stamp sale at your local stamp store. Not all stores see the benefit(s) in hosting such an event but check it out at your local store and encourage them to host the event. It is lots of fun and provides many opportunities for others to enjoy rubber stamps that you once enjoyed.

Additionally, some nursing homes and assisted living facilities host regular craft classes or craft events. These facilities are a great option for donations of this sort. Their budgets are generally not directed to these creative endeavors so any help they can get is hugely appreciated. This, of course, would be a non-paying alternative except that you would likely get a payoff in the heart! Hope this helps.

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. Street parking on Sunday is unlimited but lots are monitored.

Our very kind friends at Village Woodworks have given us the green light to use their great store as a walk-through from the old Penny's lot. For those of you not familiar with this lot, it is directly behind the shop. This will save many steps and makes accessing our store easy from the back.

Exchange Policy. We will very gladly **exchange** unused items within **30 days** of sale but a sales receipt **must** accompany your request. No returns are allowed. We are sure that you understand the necessity for these policies and will support them.

Important Dates

- 1 Jul-"Envy"lope Contest
Closed - Please Vote
- 1 Jul-Paper Connection
Pickup Date
- 7 Jul-2007 Arts Triathlon
- 13 Jul-WS Street Fair
- 14 Jul-WS Street Fair
- 14 Jul-**NO ATC Club Meeting**
- 15 Jul-WS Street Fair
- 27 Jul-Crop 'Til You Drop

- 1 Aug-Paper Connection
Pickup Date
- 11 Aug-ATC Club Meeting
- 24 Aug-Balcony Bash
- 28 Jul-B-line Classes
Details to follow
- 31 Aug-Crop 'Til You Drop

Puyallup Rubber Stamp Convention

The second annual Rubber Stamp and Scrapbook Expo at the Puyallup Fairgrounds is scheduled for 21 and 22 July 2007. We have a \$2.00 off admission card so stop in to pick one up if you plan to go. For more information, go to rubberstampandscrapbookexpo.com.

Tips and Things

o Lose your newsletter? Go on-line to www.friends-n-company.com.

o Glenn Huff and Phil Smith –both friends, both retired, both bored. Looking for small handyman jobs that no one else wants to do

because they are too small. Call the shop today and we will get you connected. They are also building references if you require any!

o The AccuCut has gotten quite a workout these last few months. Did you even know that we have an AccuCut die cutting machine? Our list of dies is growing and the ones that we have are fun! We recently purchased a ton of dies from our friends at Bellevue Art and Frame. They are fabulous! Stop in for a quick demo.

o Don't forget that ribbon adds a special touch to any project. Great to keep a stash in the toolbox just in case you need some at midnight!

o Have a favorite envelope size? Take it apart and use it as a template with all types of paper.

o Use the head of a pencil to make dots. Experiment with it.

o Use the bottom of a jar or can as a stamp. The effects are amazing and can almost mimic the vintage look if using the proper inks. Circles will not be perfect but at the same time will be perfect. Don't be too critical – just keep it fun!

o With summer here and kids "bored" with nothing to do, set up a craft table. Load it up with lots of your scrap paper and let the kids have at it with some Decoupage. They can make up lots of "new" paper by decoupage scraps onto a larger sheet creating a whole new sheet of paper. Follow it up with a card creating afternoon using all their new papers. Store their treasures in a shoe box so that when they need a thank you card it is readily available for them. Instant success and tons of fun for everyone – including the recipient!

o Make a point of attending a class or two over the summer. Great way to get rejuvenated and electrified for anyone. Bringing a friend along makes it that much more fun!

HAPPY STAMPING!!

Until the next time,
Take Care – Doris