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# Friends and Company

## Rubber Stamping and More...

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### *What's New?*

Greetings Everyone! Yeah!! It's finally summer in all of its glory. I'm feeling refreshed and beginning to also feel re-energized by what summer has to offer. I love the warm and lazy-hazy days that only summer can bring. I, like everyone else, was beginning to think that it would never arrive but the fresh local fruits and veggies are starting to pop up all over as a sign of the reality. For those of you who are not aware, West Seattle offers a wonderful farmer's market every Sunday from 10:00 am until 2:00 pm. Even if you are not located in West Seattle, it is worth a trip to see what it's all about. While here, there are many dining opportunities so do check them out. Of course your trip to West Seattle would not be complete without a stop in one of the most favorite stamping stores in all of WA. We just love what we are doing so do visit often and share in all the excitement. We are beginning to explore lots of what Issaquah has to offer as well so you can be sure we will be reporting on our findings there as well.

Many thanks to all of you who participated in our week long Grand Opening events in Issaquah. It was an explosive week with tons of demos, make-n-takes, food, fun, frivolity and, of course, great camaraderie was shared by many. The WOWZA wheel was kept busy and it was great fun to introduce it

at our Issaquah location. It's "makeup" with all the wheelchair parts simply blew people away. We love it!! Congratulations to all of our door prize winners as well. We gave away more than \$1,000.00 in fabulous gifts and prizes. It was a very fun time. Congratulations to Leola Johnston from Puyallup, WA, who won the BIG door prize with over \$300.00 worth of product. It was humungous. It was so big, in fact, that we're not sure how Leola got it to her car!!

We remain excited with our decision to open in the Issaquah area. Please continue to help us spread the word via your own e-mails or by whatever method you can. We still have a lot of community to reach and we are confident that you will help us to get the word out. A HUGE thank you to all who have already visited the Issaquah shop. We hope to see you many times in the future. Don't forget to check out classes while visiting. We continually have a GREAT lineup of instructors and this summer is no exception. A reminder that the Passport Program, gift certificates, class certificates, and punch cards can all be used at either location. We continue to remain busy and are planning lots of fun events for what remains of 2009. Save the dates as noted on the last page of the class schedule.

One of our events (date to be determined) is a farewell party with

Karen Lockhart as the honored guest. Karen and her husband, Scott, have sold their house and are relocating their family and business to California. Although we are guaranteed to see Karen often, it'll never be the same as when she was located just next door. We want to wish Karen and Scott all the best so as soon as a date is determined, an Open House in their honor will be held at the Issaquah location. Be on the lookout for details. In the meantime, the Lockhart Rubber Stamp shelves will continue to be full of Karen's great products.

We all know that times continue to be turbulent for some as layoffs and uncertainties continue to abound. We are very pleased when the training room (at either location) is used as a respite from some of these uncertainties. Doing "art" is a great reprieve from some of what is going on so check out training room availability at either location and get some projects started and/or completed. Keeping your artful spirit alive is one way to navigate through tough times.

### **Used but Not Abused Rubber Stamp Sale**

**In Issaquah**

**Sat, 1 August 2009**

**10:00 – 2:00**

Lots of gently used rubbers stamps so come early for the best selection.

## Friends and Company Rubber Stamping and More...

**“New” Stuff.** We continue to receive orders but much less so than when we opened the Issaquah location. The shelves are well stocked with lots of great rubber stamps and a ton of accessories. Here are some of the highlights.

We continue to showcase lots of penguins along with many of the other Memory Box rubber stamps. Rumor has it that they are working on their holiday line so plan on being excited because we just know that they are going to be great. Their line of papers continues to be front runners in the world of paper so be sure to check it out as well.

The Lockhart Rubber Stamp Company just released nine new designs for the summer of 2009. Our order is in and should arrive soon at both locations. In the meantime, you can check them out on the Lockhart website just to see what is up!

We have received a huge order from the Outlines Rubber Stamp Company. Both locations shared this order but there is lots. It's been a while since we'd ordered from them so we made up for lost time. If you are an Outlines fan, now is the time to stock up.

Our auto ship from Inkadinkado is always a pleasant surprise. We carry a great assortment of the Inkadinkado line including all of the children's sayings which have become a rage. They are fun, tell it like it is, and really bring a point home. Just plain fun really!!

We have also received a huge order from Stampscapes. These rubber stamps are definitely a must have for any scenic stamper. The stamps are so well suited for creating scenes and offer a wide range of options for what the scene might look like. Two workshops are being offered on our summer

schedule so do not miss out on this opportunity for creating some great art. Early registration is encouraged.

There is always lots more and this is just the tip of the iceberg. Stopping in just to say hello is great for us so that we too can say hello. Maybe you'll be able to sit a spell and enjoy what is happening at the time of your visit. Hope to see you soon.

As previously mentioned, be sure to bring your passport with you when planning to make any purchases. With a passport, several “things” are possible including a 10% discount on your entire purchase of regularly priced merchandise so by bringing your passport with you, it insures that you will be able to enjoy this great discount. You can also get your passport stamped for each month's travel escapade and pick up one of your monthly mini cupcakes from Coffee To A Tea. Don't forget that fabulous cup of soup from West 5 and why not begin your yearly gift giving by stopping by Terjung's Studio of Gifts where you'll find a host of great kitchen items. Liberty Bell has been a huge supporter of our passport program and continues to offer copy services as well as the great line of Bergsma products. It's a win for everyone!! Come see!!

As many of you already know, the Paper Connection is a major priority for us here at the shop. The Paper Connection comes to you from the West Seattle location and has reached its 5<sup>th</sup> birthday if you can imagine that. We are optimistic that our friends in the Issaquah area will want to become members as soon as they are able so do let us hear from you. We take pride in our monthly themes and are extremely pleased with the response that the Connection has received. We keep looking for new members so read all about it later in this newsletter. Our paper shelves at both locations

are very well stocked. At last count, we had over 1200 paper slots in West Seattle and are already exceeding 500 in Issaquah. Now that is a lot of paper!!

### **O** *Accessories and More.*

When it comes to accessories, we just love them and are sure that you do as well. Any project can go over the top with just the add-on of a little bling as an example. The foundation of our toolbox is made up of accessories so keeping new and fresh ones will make your life easier when working on a single project or a multitude of projects. Lots of accessories are stocked at both locations and, as usual, they continue to grow as more items are introduced into the marketplace. Here are just a few of the old and a few of the new items as well.

- What we carry in stickers is rather large already but we continue to order new and fun stuff to keep our creative juices flowing. We have something for everyone and for every age and for every project. There are tons and we continue to get more all of the time. Do check them out!
- Along with tons of other Tim Holtz embellishment, baubles, and the like, we now carry the Alcohol Ink Fillable Pen. You can easily fill it with whatever combination of alcohol inks you desire creating multitudes of custom colors. Great fun!
- The Pentel Metallic Brush pens are very popular for creative handwriting for adding that personal touch to any project. We carry all 9 colors.
- We've got lots of different inkpads, including Momento and Stazon from Tsukineko, Colorbox, and Ranger inks as well. When choosing inkpads, be sure to determine if you

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need a dye based or pigment inks. Both are extremely useful but have each of their own unique niche in the marketplace. We also stock re-inkers for all the inkpads that we carry.

- It is not our plan to carry polymer or unmounted rubber stamps, however, we do have all 5 of the Gretchen Ehmsam alphabet sheets which makes owning a set of alphabets affordable. Some of these mount easily on dowels or even tiles available from most hardware stores.

There is always more and our shelves are full. Please let us know if there is something that you just "gotta have". Now take some time just for you and stop by. You'll be very glad that you did!!

### **2009 Passport Program**

The Passport Program continues to surpass our expectations. We will continue to make it available at both locations with limited "local finds" for Issaquah like what is available in West Seattle. We'll need to settle in and see just what is possible and that will take some time but with just the 10% discount that Friends and Company is able to extend, we think it's something everyone will want to be a part of. The passport will continue to be offered all year long at both locations at a cost of \$12.00. Please note that owning a passport is now the only means for receiving a discount following a class. This is a major change in our classroom policies but we are sure you will understand the need for this change. Other opportunities are available for class attendance so do read all about them in our class discussion later in this newsletter. As a passport member, here are some of the other highlights...

- o Receive 10% off your entire purchase of regularly priced

merchandise all of the time – yep, every day, all day long at either location.

- o Attend 12 classes and receive a class voucher worth \$20.00 towards a future class (in 2009). A new change in 2009 is that the \$20.00 voucher is good for EVERY 12 classes. Vouchers, however, cannot be combined.

- o Indulge in up to 6 mini cupcakes of your choice on six different visits to Coffee To A Tea each month all year long!

- o Liberty Bell Printing extends to us up to 100 color copies at only 39 cents each one at a time or all at one time! Paper is high quality 8-1/2" x 11" 25 pound text weight.

- o Liberty Bell has also extended a 20% discount on any Bergsma product one time each month.

- o Terjung's Studio of Gifts (our fabulous neighbors across the street) is new to the Passport Program and extends to each member a 25% discount on any kitchen product that they carry once every month. They have lots of really GREAT "stuff" so make it a point to stop by and check it out. Stock up on your gift giving all year long!

West 5, also across the street, offers a FREE cup of soup with any purchase. Way to go West 5-one of our favorites!

- o As a member of the Paper Connection AND the Passport Program, receive 20% off on all paper products that are in stock all the time. We love our paper!

- o Travel with Friends and Company to 12 different countries throughout the year (one each month) and get your passport stamped for the countries you visit. Validate all 12 countries with our special stamps and you will be entered to win our 2009 Passport giveaway of a brand new Cricut Expression (value \$600.00). We gave one of these away in 2008 and

many more folks are still looking to own one so we'll do it again!!

Sound interesting? Register today. We are happy to e-mail you the registration form!

### **SENIOR NEWS**

Our senior classes continue to be on sabbatical. If you and a group of 3 friends would like a private class, please let us know. We would be very happy to accommodate your group of 4 with a mutually agreeable theme and time. Note that this applies to any class.

### **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! 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 12" x 12" or 8-1/2" x 11" paper products during the time of membership. As an added bonus, members who are also 2009 Passport holders, receive

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a 20% discount. Sound appealing? We think so! More details are available at the shop, so do stop by or call to check it out.

### Class Stimulus Package

Although our summary lineup for July and August 2009 is at a reduced capacity, it is still loaded with lots of classes to choose from at both locations. Lots of changes are also taking place in the classroom that we think you will just love. We are referring to some of these changes as our own economic Stimulus Package for the Classroom.

1) The first is that a \$20.00 class coupon will be awarded to any 2009 Passport member for EVERY 12 classes attended. This includes class packets as well. Yes, you've read it correctly - EVERY 12 classes. We'll depend upon you to make sure your passport is stamped at the time of class and that when you reach 12, you notify us of this major feat!! Are you excited yet? Well, there is more!

2) Attend a class and bring along a friend who has never attended a class at Friends before and receive a \$10.00 credit towards your own class!! Yippie!! Wait, bring along two friends who have never attended a class at Friends before and receive \$20.00 applicable to your own class!! This is a great opportunity for introducing friends to this great environment while getting your own great deal!

3) Need some team building within your group, organization, office, etc.? We welcome team building sessions with your choice of instructors and a mutually agreeable time and theme for the class. With a group of 8, including yourself, this can be an excellent opportunity for everyone including sports teams, 4-H, Girl/Boy Scouts, mother/daughter play days, birthday parties, etc. Way fun!!

4) Names from class attendance for the year (Jan 09 through Dec 09) will be collected and a winner will be selected to receive a brand new Cuttlebug along with 6 folders of the winner's choice (total value exceeds \$100.00).

Whew – this is a lot to absorb but we are hopeful that this stimulus package will be well received and will help you in helping us to support our fantastic and very talented instructors. We have several new instructors on the docket so do check out their samples. By registering for at least one class a month the payoff is great not only for your own personal growth and that of our instructors but also for the chance to be the recipient of some great giveaways!

Class challenges are available for all levels and age groups. We are sure you will enjoy many of the opportunities being offered during this newsletter period. Please make note of the following guidelines:

- As a Passport Member receive a class discount of 10% off your purchase the day of class. Excludes already discounted or sale items, magazines, and holds.

- Pre-payment on ALL class registrations is required. NO EXCEPTIONS PLEASE. Your registration must be accompanied by your payment or credit card hold. We've been pretty lax enforcing this policy, however, we have found the need to strictly adhere to this policy so please, when registering, make your payment as well. We really appreciate your understanding the need for pre-payment on classes.

- Payment options are cash or checks made out 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 with guest instructors require a 3-

week cancellation and events such as "Fests" or similar events, including Scrapbooking Crops, 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.

- 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.

We appreciate your becoming fully aware of these class policies and recognizing the need for them.

### Important Dates

1 Jul-Paper Connection Pickup  
4 Jul-Closed - Happy 4<sup>th</sup>  
5 Jul-Closed - More Happy 4<sup>th</sup>  
5 Jul-~~No~~ Altered Dex Club Mtg  
11 Jul-~~No~~ WS ATC Club Mtg  
10 Jul-WS Street Festival  
11 Jul-WS Street Festival  
12 Jul-WS Street Festival  
18 Jul-Customer Appreciation  
BBQ-Issaquah  
19 Jul-ISS ATC Club Mtg

1 Aug-Used Rubber Stamp Sale  
Issaquah location  
1 Aug-Paper Connection Pickup  
2 Aug-Altered Dex Club Mtg  
8 Aug-WS ATC Club Mtg  
16 Aug-ISS ATC Club Mtg  
23 Aug-Customer Appreciation  
BBQ-West Seattle

### **Carolyn's Corner**

Dear Carolyn – I have been scrapbooking and rubber stamping for just over a year now. I love both hobbies but I have a problem that may be common to many so thought I would take a minute to challenge you for a solution. I will often lay out a page or, in the case of rubber stamping, layer my project and, oops, it's crooked or not exactly where I had in mind to place it. What do people do when this happens. Usually my adhesive is permanent and I cannot get the crooked piece off without tearing

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everything up. I would like to think that someone has invented a solution to what seems like a common problem. Any help would be great. Amanda

Dear Amanda – I can sum up this solution in one word – well, its not exactly a word but rather a product name and that is “Un-du”. This liquid product is sold in most scrapbooking and/or rubber stamping stores and is referred to as a remover of stickers, tape and other types of labels. It is also good for removing grease, tar, gum, candle wax and much more. It’s a great product to have on hand and could probably also be found in a hardware store as well. Keeping a bottle in your tool kit will insure that you will not have this problem happen again.

Dear Carolyn – I find that when I am rubber stamping I do not get an even impression. I am pressing hard on a very solid table so I just cannot figure out what might be wrong. This happens with many of my rubber stamps which suggests that it is not the stamp. Any thoughts? Sharon

Dear Sharon – My one and only thought is that you need a cushion of some sort between your paper and the table. The table may be solid but it could have “divets” or be uneven or a multitude of other faults not seen by the naked eye. Try taking a “foamie” (these can be purchased at any craft type store for less than two dollars) and placing the foamie under your paper before stamping. Another option would be to use a wad of scrap paper or a magazine. In other words, use anything that will give you some give when you stamp. This cushion will provide you some flexibility when stamping and allows for a much more even distribution of all the components, i.e., the rubber stamp, the ink, and other possible disruptions. Give it a try. I do

believe that it will do the trick for you. Report back to me if you get a chance to let me know how it is working.

### *Other Stuff!*

o *A Review on Parking.* Please remember that the parking lots in West Seattle are limited to three hours and street parking is limited to two. It appears that parking enforcement has been very active of late so please be careful when you park. Street parking on Sunday is unlimited but the lots continue to be monitored. Issaquah offers a large parking area with lots of spaces so you’ll currently never have the need to watch the clock there (Yeah!!).

### **Rent A Rack**

Our West Seattle location continues with its “Rent A Rack” program. Each month a featured artist will be able to showcase and sell their work for the entire month in our baker’s rack. A small percent will be returned to the shop making it a win win for everyone including you who will be able to take advantage of some really great “stuff”.

Our artist for July is Kathryn Regalado who will showcase a range of handmade cards, bottles embossed with vintage flair, gift tags, and other things that might be in her craft bag. Stop in to give Kathryn a visit

Our featured artist for August is, once again, Kelly Anable who, along with Jessi Cornwell, will feature their great collection of bead work.

Stop in and help support our local artists. You’ll be glad you did.

### **Tips and Things**

o Glenn Huff and Phil Smith –both friends, both retired, both bored. Looking for small handyman jobs that no one else wants to do. Give Glenn a call at (206) 932-7745.

o .Did you know that there are re-inkers for almost any inkpad on the market? Don’t buy another inkpad, just buy a re-inker. The inkpad should last a very long time. When you are required to buy a new inkpad for whatever reason, try to buy the reinker with it at the same time. This saves lots of time tracking it down when needing a re-inker.

o Brads are a very cool alternative to eyelets in helping to keep a layered project together. They are very easy to use, look great, and come in many different sizes as well as shapes.

o Can’t find that perfect ribbon to go along with your project? No problem. Simply cut a strip of contrast paper and use it instead. It’ll even add a different look if you deckle each edge or cut each edge with any of the decorative scissors that are on the market today. Way cool!

o Need some inspiration? Join an existing group, start your own group, or just participate in various swaps that are happening at most craft stores and even on the internet. Being active like this will likely keep you inspired and also provide you with an outlet for your work.

o Can’t find just the right star, cloud, flower, or whatever? Pick up some eraser carving material and carve it out yourself. There is nothing better than to see your own work in action.

o If you are done rubber stamping for the evening and you do not have ink on your fingers or fingernails, then you need to start over and do it right. Inky fingers are happy fingers.

o Having to do jury duty? Stamp everything ahead of time and bring your markers along with you. Keeps it interesting!!

HAPPY STAMPING!!

Until the next time,  
Take Care – Doris