
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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May/June 2007

What's New?

Greetings Everyone! It is so difficult to believe that another two months have escaped us as we begin to enter into warmer weather with anticipation that summer will be full of warmth and bright sunshine. The memories of sand piles and lots of other frolic during summer are always in the fore front this time of the year. We love it and can only hope that you all do as well and are enjoying the thought of no more school and "let's hit the pool!".

We have lots and lots of activities, classes, and other "stuff" planned over the next couple of months. Please be sure to review this newsletter carefully so that you do not miss out on a single thing. We are sure that you will want some of your summer to include classes and/or other fun things that are being planned. Hang on for the ride. It's an explosive one!

Our annual Arts Triathlon is sprucing up quite nicely. If you have not registered and plan to do so, please hurry as spaces are going quickly. We are pleased to have Claire Hampton, Hampton Arts Senior Educator, as our out of state guest instructor for this event. Although Claire resides in England, she will be in the U.S. during the month of July and is excited to touch down in Seattle for a spell. Just for your information, Claire is not related to Hampton Arts but rather works for them and coincidentally both have the same last name. We expect to be able to offer other classes by Claire, not

only at Friends, but also around the area so don't miss this great opportunity.

We have been very busy here at the shop planning events and stocking shelves with lots of great new "treasures". We have been grateful for your visits and will look forward to seeing many of you in the upcoming months. Take some time to review the class schedule, register while you are thinking about it, and get your summer started with great possibilities! All of us here at the shop hope you have a fabulous summer!

Sun, 24 June 2007

"BBQ"

Lots of demos, hot dogs,
chips, soda, and fun!

*Details To
Follow*

O "New" Stuff. Lots of new goods are coming in on a daily basis. We are really pleased to be seeing some new rubber stamp companies and also grateful for our tried and true manufacturers as well.

The Lockhart Stamp Company continues to enhance what we already have and has brought us lots of great new images that everyone is raving about. We now have them all in their own section so it's easy to see exactly what this

great company is up to. We were very fortunate to have Karen here in person for our last demo day. It was terrific to have her share her talent with so many of you. We hope you enjoyed Karen's visit as much as we all did. Her newest designs continue to include the sophisticate along with much fun and even a little mischief! We've got them all so stop by for this must see collection!

A huge order from Printworks has just been received and includes many new sentiment stamps. The hand writing style of these cool rubber stamps is unique and whimsical. We've got lots so do check them out on your next visit.

Another order has been received from Inkadinkado and includes many Father's Day stamps. It is never too early to think ahead so have some fun well before you might need that treasured greeting card.

Penny Black's newest brush stroke designs have also been received. Several classes are planned using these much sought after stamps and samples have already arrived in the shop so now it's up to you. As always, early registration is encouraged.

Along the lines of rubber stamps, we've bitten the bullet and are introducing some new unmounted rubber stamps which we hope will appeal to many of you particularly if you are scrapbooking. Check out some great images from Rubber Soul along with many from Clearly Wordsworth. Some of the alphabet sets are not only affordable but they

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allow you to see exactly where you are placing the stamp when used in conjunction with an acrylic block. Please let us know what you think.

More great rubber stamps are expected soon from some of our most reliable rubber stamp companies but if there is something you want and you don't see it, please let us know. We will do our best to get whatever it is that you might be looking for.

O *Accessories and More.*

As always, accessories can be fun to find and also fun to own. Our most recent acquisition of the Zutter Bind It All machine is exactly what we are talking about. It is very practical but also easy to use, very fun and also lets the creative endeavors soar. Best of all, we believe that it is affordable for everyone out there. It's a must see new tool that will allow you to bind to your heart's content books, CDs, chipboard, or whatever you come up with. It can all be done without much effort but with lots of praises and a great return on your efforts.

The Paper Tagger from Around the Block has been fun and now this company has yet released another tool that could easily become a must have. It's called the Tape Writer and is purchased in a kit form to include two font wheels and two rolls of the adhesive backed tape that it requires. Labeling just got a lot easier and now there is no stopping you with possibilities of what to say. It's a clever, fun, and innovative device that even your children would enjoy. Don't we all just love putting labels on everything? We must think that it helps us to be organized. Well, OK, it's a stretch but you gotta see it anyway.

Lots of new colors with matching envelopes are now available from Memory Box. We are well stocked

and hope that this collection will assist anyone with time constraints. With all the coordination done for you, how much better does it get?

Here are some things that you should consider as part of your toolbox:

- Clear "Glaze" pen for adding an embellishment or highlight to any project. It's also writing that you can feel once it is dry. Just fun!
- Lots of new embellishments from K&Company that are very cool. Includes big words, little words, chipboard pieces, tags, and other things that are perfect for adding "glam" to your projects.
- Punches continue to roll in and include many new shapes from EK Success. We love punches and continue to increase our punch corner with many new ones.
- We can't say enough about Versafine archival instant drying pigment ink. These are truly wonderful inkpads that will not disappoint you. The colors are bold and work exceptionally well with very fine and detailed stamps.
- We have added Pentel's Outliner Markers to our growing number of writing implements. Available in five colors, these are gotta haves for any toolbox. We simply love them!
- We have added the Profile Battery Powered Pencil Sharpener for use with all of your colored pencils. Finally, a sharpener that will not chew up your entire pencil!
- It's always about paper and this reporting period is no different. We've got lots of it for both the rubber stamper and the scrapbooker. Pretty soon, we are going to need a separate paper store!!

- We have always carried the Brilliance Inkpads from Tsukineko but now we also have them in Dew Drops ideal for small areas. Another way to look at these Dew Drops is that you can afford more colors in the smaller pad size. What a steal!!
- Prismacolor Verithin colored pencils are great for the finest of detail. Their thinness and hardness are hard to resist.

There is lots and lots more so take some time just for you and stop by to see things for yourself!

The Paper Connection

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**

Friends and Company, along with Liberty Bell Printing and owner,

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Michael Hoffman, has announced its 2007 "Envy"lope contest . It is simple and it is easy and you still have time to get in on the action. 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 Liberty Bell Printing. Cost is \$5.00 per entry. A complimentary 50 pack of size 10 envelopes (retail value \$4.00) will be issued to the first 20 entries so hurry on in!! Envelopes will be due back in the shop by late May at which time they will be displayed for voting. The popular vote winner will be announced in the July/August newsletter.

Class Notes

Our class lineup for May and June 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.
- 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 10:00 a.m. 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 will accommodate many folks who have requested this change. Please let us know how we are doing! Please also note that one class per month is also being taught at DayStar located across the street from Target at Westwood Village. DayStar welcomes new class participants and can be reached at 937-6122 . Please ask for the Activity Director, Beth Matson, who will take your registration.

MONDAY CLASSES

- 7 May-Die Cuts w/View
w/Diane Radischat
- 14 May-Penny Black XIV
w/Diane Radischat
- 21 May-All Occasion
w/Doris and Sandy
at DayStar
- 4 Jun-Embellishments
w/Diane Radischat
- 18 Jun-Ribbons
w/Diane Radischat
- 18 Jun-All Occasion
w/Doris and Sandy
at DayStar

Carolyn's Corner

Dear Carolyn – I think I have an easy question but one that I have wondered about ever since I started buying rubber stamps. Seems like lots of people have opinions on this but wondered what yours might be. I'm interested in knowing what the best product is for cleaning my rubber stamps. Betty

Dear Betty – In my experience, I have not found one product to be any better than the next. Many companies claim that they have the "ultimate" in a cleaner but I'm still rather fond of your basic baby wipe. I've never been one to clean

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my rubber stamps back to a perfect condition once they have been used so baby wipes suit my purpose very well. Tsukineko's StazOn All Purpose Cleaner is a good one, not only for StazOn, but for other inks as well. There are many others on the market so I would suggest that you check in with your local stamp store and see what they carry. Using a old toothbrush under running water is also a method but be sure to dry off your rubber stamp immediately otherwise it will likely warp. Hope this helps.

Dear Carolyn – I am having trouble finding decorative 8-1/2" x 11" paper. There is lots of 12" x 12" paper to choose from but it seems the smaller size is becoming obsolete and retail stores are not carrying as much as what they used to have. As a rubber stamper, I need the smaller size for my projects and find that there is too much waste with the larger size. Is it going away forever and what are my options? Sophie

Dear Sophie – I do believe that many manufacturers of decorative paper are becoming less and less enchanted with the 8-1/2" x 11" size. Seems like there is more demand in the larger size and the consumer is probably who is really driving this train. As more and more scrapbooking paper is required and or requested, these manufacturers are responding. The good news is that as a rubber stamper you are able to extract several greeting cards from a single piece of the larger size. From my standpoint, it is at least available and has not gone obsolete altogether. Perhaps some better planning on your part would create less waste and make the larger sheet more economical in the long run. I just love all the options of so many designs for every possible occasion, event, or milestone. These options are much greater than in the 8-1/2" x 11" format so consider splitting

the larger size paper with a friend. Divided, you can easily create at least two A-2 sized cards as the baseline. Just take a moment to reevaluate your process and you might just see that these papers are exactly what you need! The market for 12" x 12" paper is growing every day.

Important Dates

- 1 May-"Envy"lope Contest Continues for 2007
- 1 May-Paper Connection Pickup Date
- 12 May-ATC Club Meeting
- 11 May-Scrapbooking Crop
- 18 May-Balcony Bash
- 19 May-Puyallup Rubber Stamp Convention
- 20 May-Puyallup Rubber Stamp Convention

- 1 Jun-Paper Connection Pickup Date
- 2 Jun-Artlenz Class with Gail Ellison
- 8 Jun-Scrapbooking Crop
- 9 Jun-ATC Club Meeting
- 15 Jun-Balcony Bash
- 24 Jun-BBQ Demo Day**

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.

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.

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 Did you know that we have an AccuCut die cutting machine? Our list of dies is growing and the ones that we have are fun! Stop in for a demo or come in to check out the samples.

o Did you know that embossing pens are available? The next time you want your project to "pop", try using an embossing pen to highlight a balloon, a pair of glasses, a vase, or any part of the design that might need a lift.

o Need a one-of-kind saying that you'll use over and over again? Get it custom made at a relatively inexpensive price. You'll be happy to own a rubber stamp exclusive to you! Designs are also possible.

o Marvy Matchable pen getting a little dried out? Using pliers to remove the top, add a drop of the re-inker into the well to rejuvenate the pen making it like new!

o Make someone happy and send them a handmade greeting card!

HAPPY STAMPING!!

Until the next time,
Take Care – Doris