
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.

NEW

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NEW

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What's New?

Greetings Everyone! The year 2008 is certainly getting away from us all as we roll full swing into the holidays. We have never been able to totally figure out why it goes so quickly. All of us here at the shop love the holidays and all the spirited events that go on over the holiday season as well. Our West Seattle Food Bank Barrel has been replenished twice already and it's barely November. The needs are great so it is very heartwarming to see so much giving during these turbulent economic times. It just goes to show that sharing is just a normal part of our human nature. Many thanks to all of you who have donated and a thanks in advance to all of you who plan to donate over the next couple of months.

Our Sweet Willey fund is doing well also. We are climbing to our \$1,000 goal quite nicely again this year with \$640.00 already achieved. It is extremely gratifying to know that there is so much that is possible out there despite what I call once again these turbulent economic times. As an incentive to help us in reaching our annual goal, don't forget that anyone matching my \$100 pledge receives a 25% off shopping spree anytime in 2009. Along with a tax write-off, how much sweeter can it get?

There are many opportunities for giving and these are just two of them. We hope that while you are planning some of your end of year "events", that these fundraisers will be included in your planning. We

totally appreciate ALL that you do no matter how big or how small. It all adds up to lots and lots!!

Thank you to everyone who participated in our 11-year anniversary celebration. It was lots of fun and an event we wish we could repeat often. The demos were fabulous and, along with all of our demo artists, they represented some of the best in the industry. We hope you all enjoyed the day as much as we did. Only 10 months to go before we can do it again!!

We remain very busy here at the shop. We have kept our shelves well stocked and our paper selection is so dynamic that we are being forced to order yet another batch of trays. Our class lineup includes at least one new instructor and, as always, our already great lineup of dedicated instructors is fabulous! Check it out and do register early!!

Although the economy has been on many of our minds, we feel very blessed here at the shop to have such loyal and dedicated individuals (that would be you!) who, collectively, are helping us to keep this industry going strong. Shopping locally (versus the internet as an example) makes us feel warm and fuzzy all over because we know that you are doing your part to help in whatever way you can. Thank you for hanging in there with us and for all that you do!! We totally appreciate all of your participation all year long in all of our endeavors.

Craft Show

Fri, 14 Nov, 10-7

Sat, 15 Nov, 10-5

Sun, 16 Nov, 10-5

Lots of great gift items to choose from including beads, jewelry, journals, kitchenware, stained glass, greeting cards, clothing, stocking stuffers, wood products, knitted items, the forever famous potholders, quilts, and so much much more!!

Mark Your Calendar Today!

2008 "Passport" Sale

As many of you are well aware, we introduced our passport program earlier this year with lots of amenities associated with it. Anyone who purchased a passport in 2008 has enjoyed lots of discounts and fun stuff that the passport has had to offer. One of these extra special amenities is our annual 40% off sale (on regularly priced items) which any passport member can enjoy on Wednesday, 26 November 2008 all day long. This was one of our enticing features to owning the passport. Please note that we will **NOT** be offering our annual "black Friday" 5:00 am event this year and hope that this new approach will work

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well for everyone so please make note of this major change. We will be open our normal hours of 10:00 am until 7:00 pm so if you are a passport holder, now is the time to stock up with an incredible discount.

“New” Stuff. We have been doing our best in helping to keep our terrific manufacturers afloat during these economic ups and downs. Our shelves are full and there is lots to choose from in both accessories and rubber stamps. Here are just a few highlights.

We currently have every rubber stamp available from the Lockhart Rubber Stamp Company. After completing a thorough inventory, Karen has filled in all of the gaps. We are also beginning to showcase Lockhart “kits” which include an original greeting card colored with Prismacolor pencils and enough of the materials to make three additional cards. They are doing very well so it’s a sign to us that we need to continue making them available. Stay tuned for more!!

A new Stampers Anonymous order was just received which included many pre-sold stamps but with each of those, we ordered another so there is lots available. Many are the Tim Holtz line of rubber stamps which remain very hot. Come and see for yourselves.

Our auto-ship from Inkadinkado never disappoints us. This auto-ship includes fabulous holiday designs and we also ordered a range of other rubber stamps from them. We’ve included every one of the children’s sayings which are an absolute hoot! Many are already gone but we plan to place another order soon to replenish these very whimsical and funny children’s sayings. If nothing else, they simply make people smile!

Dave Breathauer at Memory Box continues to wow us with his

wonderful range of rubber stamps, including new penguins and lots of new papers. Rumor has it that his run of paper is a one time shot so if you see it and like it, do not hesitate to pick it up. It will not last long!

The boards from the Northwoods Rubber Stamp Company are absolutely exquisite. We are so delighted whenever one comes in the mail. We are now proud owners of all five boards which are the makeup of their holiday designs. The response has been tremendous so we know we are on the right track. Many of the designs take us back to our humble beginnings when coloring was the very best. We continue to love coloring and these designs will do just that for you and let you color to your hearts delight. Lots of glitter and blitz is included!!

We have also currently received lots of filler rubber stamps from our buddies, Elaine and Clive, at the CarvedStamps rubber stamp company. They always have a nice selection to choose from and also have many holiday stamps to select from. Elaine is collecting “art stuff” for shipping to Iraq. If you find yourself with “extras”, please consider donating them to Elaine. One of the hospitals in Iraq has recently set up an art room so any supplies they receive are welcomed.

There is always lots more and way more than we can really describe in these small columns. Stop in to say hello and take a look. We are sure that you will be happy with what you see. Let us know how we are doing and if there is anything we can do for you!!

For passport holders, please do not forget to bring your passport while making purchases. With a passport, several “things” are possible and include a 10% discount on your entire purchase of regularly priced merchandise, get

your passport stamped for November’s travel escapade, and pick up one of your monthly mini cupcakes from Coffee To A Tea. It’s a win win all the way around. Your passport must be present for our annual 40% off sale so be sure to tuck it into your carrier!

O *Accessories and More.*

Accessories have become the love of our lives!! With so many on the market, there is lots to choose from for any project we might be involved in. Making some of our own embellishments from already made embellishments can really be fun also. Buy an embellishment for a starting point and continue to embellish it until you have exactly the look you are trying to achieve. It’s totally fun!!

We are still waiting on our order from the Sticker King line but have been promised it will arrive very soon. When it is received, there is tons so there should be something for everyone. If you have been waiting for this product, call the shop ahead to make sure that it has been received. We are not sure just where it will go on the shelves since there is so much but watch us. We always seem to manage and just love new stuff!!

We can’t say much more about paper other than we have tons. The Paper Connection continues to be very popular and would make a fabulous gift for any hard to buy for person. Consider a 6-month subscription for a friend and also one for you while you are at it making your holiday gift giving rather easy and painless. We ship as far as New Jersey these days so we’ll ship to just about anywhere! Remember that as a member, the Paper Connection is an excellent way for keeping your stash well stocked and is a HUGE support to the shop at the same time. As a member of the Paper Connection

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and the 2008 Passport Program, members receive 20% off on paper purchases all of the time. Another big plus for savings all year long!

Here are more fun things for your toolbox or just for fun:

- The new "Round-it-All" from Zutter, the manufacturers of the very popular "Bind-it-All". The Round-it-Alls come in ¼" and ½" for all your corner rounding needs. It works on very heavy duty paper including chipboard. A great addition to any toolbox.
- Zutter has also introduced a new tool kit called "Cool Tools" which is anyone's answer to the basic kit syndrome. It includes more than you will ever need for any of your basic working tools. Makes a GREAT gift idea also.
- Two new products have been added to the already great line of Tsukineko products. These "dazzle" Watermark inkpads combine all the great qualities of the original VersaMark with added shimmer to give your paper projects an easy touch of elegance. WOWZA!!
- Marvy Uchida has developed a nice fine line marker called "LePen". It comes in several colors and is smooth, sleek and also smudge proof. A great add-on to your toolbox!
- The new Memento inkpads from Tsukineko's are proving to be very popular. We are attempting to keep all 24 colors on hand but they move quickly so if you see whatever color you are looking for, be sure to pick it up. The inepad colors are yummy and a definite must have!
- We not only have all complete paper lines from Basic Grey for the "Offbeat", "Urban Prairie", and "Ambrosia" collections, but we also have

all the matching chipboard to coordinate with these lines. In one word – FABULOUS!!

- We have always been fond of the "Scrapper's Magic Pick-up" which is an adhesive remover but we just recently learned that it works great on glues as well. It work great for removing sticky dots also!!
- We currently have a boat load of Provo Craft's Cricut cartridges. These are in ones and twos and are at a highly discounted price of \$69.95. If these cartridges are on your holiday wish list, give us a call so they can be put aside for you. Only cartridges that are in stock are available at this incredible price! Hurry!!
- We carry the crystal clear plastic sheets (acrylic) in four different sizes – 12" x 12", 8" x 8", 6" x 6", and 4" x 4". These are great for creating albums, books, and so much more. Works great with the Accu-Cut die cutter also!!
- We have well stocked all the inchie art products from "Inchie Arts" including the 1" x 1" chipboard. If you think that these are easy to cut yourself, well, maybe, but we think not!!

There is always more and our shelves are well stocked. 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!!

2008 Passport Program

The new Passport Program that we introduced in January 2008 has surpassed our expectations and we definitely know that it is creating excitement and energy within this already fabulous environment. We will continue the passport program into 2009 and will issue new passports beginning in January 2009. You are welcome to pre-order by just giving us a call.

Passports are being offered all year long (including prior to our 40% off sale) so do let us know if you would like one. As a passport member, here are some of the highlights for 2008. We'll see "new benefits" in 2009 and these will be announced in January.

- o Receive 10% off your entire purchase of regularly priced merchandise all of the time – yep, every day, all day long. Receive 20% off on any themed product for the countries visited each month (see below). We'll do our best to have "specialty" products on hand for each country we visit.

- o Attend 12 classes and receive a class voucher worth \$20.00 towards a future class (in 2008).

- 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 As a member of the Paper Connection and the Passport Program, receive 20% off on all 12" x 12" and 8-1/2" x 11" paper that is 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 2008 Passport giveaway of a brand new Cricut Expression (value \$600.00).

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

Happy Birthday

Receive 25% off on any one rubber stamp or set as our special gift to you for your birthday any time

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during the entire month. 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 part of your celebration!

SENIOR NEWS

Our senior classes, now on Wednesdays and Thursdays, continue to be lots of fun. Classes begin at 10:30 a.m. with pre-registration required. The fee per class is \$12.00. All other class guidelines apply.

Wednesday Classes

- 12 Nov-A Million Thanks
w/Diane Radischat
- 19 Nov-Holiday B/W Cards
w/Diane Radischat
- 3 Dec-Time of Year
w/Diane Radischat

Thursday Classes

- 20 Nov-Giving Thanks
w/Doris Goulet
- 11 Dec-Tags with Glitz
w/Doris Goulet
- 18 Dec-PB Sticker Cards
w/Doris Goulet

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 2008 Passport holders, receive 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. The Paper Connection is a fabulous gift for that hard to buy for person so keep that in mind as well!!

Class Notes

The lineup for November and December 2008 is loaded with lots of classes. A \$20.00 class coupon will be awarded (compliments of your instructors) to any 2008 Passport member who takes 12 or more classes in the year 2008. Just another incentive to be a part of the 2008 Passport Program. Class challenges are available for all levels including new classes for the children in your lives who just love art. A wide range of techniques and class themes are being offered by our outstanding instructors. We are sure you will enjoy many of the opportunities being offered during this newsletter period. 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.
- Payment options are cash or checks made out to the instructor.
- A 3-day grace period 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 "Fests" or 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.

Carolyn's Corner

Dear Carolyn – I hear some wonderful things about an industry hotshot named Tim Holtz. He apparently has his own line of products and the one I am particularly interested in is the ruler that he has designed. Do you happen to know anything about it?
Sherry

Dear Sherry – Tim Holtz is indeed an industry "hotshot" as you put it. He has partnered up (so to speak) with Ranger to design and distribute lots of product that he is a front runner for. The ruler you make mention of is called a "Design Ruler" and is part of his idea-ology line. Here is his definition for this ruler. "Design Ruler (di-zin' roo lar) a clear measuring stick with a straight edge and grid for drawing lines and measuring lengths, a metal strip for cutting, and evenly spaced holes for piercing." The ruler is also 12" long and has the "0" center point on one of the sides. This feature is great when you want to measure a 12" x 12" paper and find the center point easily. Tim's ruler is

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affordable for anyone and is, without a doubt, something everyone should think about owning. I love the piercing segment of it as it makes measuring a snap. Any rubber stamp store (or scrapbooking) featuring products from Tim Holtz should carry this product. If not, ask them to. I'm sure they will be happy to get the feedback! Have fun!!

Dear Carolyn – I'm toying with a large purchase and would like to know what your suggestions are on it. The Cuttlebug (manufactured by Provo Craft I believe) appears to be making quite the sensation in the rubber stamping industry and I've been thinking about investing in one. It's under \$100.00 and that is affordable to me but I really want to make certain that my investment pays off. Your thoughts? Debbie

Dear Debbie – Your perception is correct, Debbie, in that the Cuttlebug has made a huge appearance in the crafting industry in general. Lots of people now own their own and the manufacturer cannot make folders for it fast enough to satisfy all the demands being made. It's a great tool and one that I highly endorse. I own one myself and just love creating background papers and a host of other great looking projects. It will easily create a great looking A-2 card without much trouble at all. The key is, of course, to own as many of the folders and/or combination of cutters/folders as possible. The more you own, the greater the possibilities. One of the other nice features with this machine is that it works with many of the industry's other dies of similar character. For example, Nestabilities, manufactured by Wizard" work great in the Cuttlebug. This type of exchange increases the Cuttlebug's usefulness to a much greater environment. If you do not want to invest in this tool, I'd suggest including it on

your holiday wish list. I think you would be very delighted with your purchase and/or gift and will wonder how you ever functioned without it!! Keep it fun!!

"ENVY"Lope Contest

Voting in our 2008 "Envy"lope contest is currently underway. Be sure to cast your ballot on your next visit in. Many thanks to those of you who participated. The entries are fabulous!! A winner will be announced in our next scheduled newsletter.

Other Stuff!

o A Review on Parking. Please remember that the parking lots are limited to three hours and street parking is limited to two. Street parking on Sunday is unlimited but lots continue to be monitored.

Important Dates

- 1 Nov-Paper Connection Pickup Date
- 2 Nov-Altered Dex Club Meeting
- 8 Nov-ATC Club Meeting
- 21 Nov-Scrapbooking Crop
- 23 Nov-All-Day Workshop
- 24 Nov-All-Day Workshop
- 26 Nov-Passport Member 40% Off Sale
- 27 Nov-Closed
Happy Thanksgiving
- 1 Dec-Paper Connection Pickup Date
- 7 Dec-Altered Dex Club Meeting
- 13 Dec-ATC Club Meeting
- 19 Dec-Scrapbooking Crop
- 25 Dec-Closed
Happy Holidays
- 1 Jan-Open Noon-2:00 Only Sale-Stay Tuned!

Much Gratitude

We want to take just a moment to say "thank you" to all who donated art, purses, books, paper and much more for our Addie Killam fund raiser. Another special thanks to those of you who made purchases with Addie in mind. Addie, who was in her second year of college and the daughter of Ginger and Bob Killam, was involved in a freak accident back in March which left

her paralyzed from the chest down. Addie reports that she is doing well and we are so thankful to all of you so that we could deliver a check in the amount of \$500.00 to help Addie and her family with mounting medical expenses and also for retrofitting work that is underway. Ginger is a long time friend to all of us here at the shop and is well known for her delectable breakfast feasts that she has hosted at all of our Triathlon events in the past few years. Many thanks to all of you for your continued support and generosity.

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 at (206) 932-7745.

o No plans for the kids on Saturday evening and they are bored? No problem – set out all of your holiday rubber stamps and let them make their own holiday tags for, not only their anticipated gifts, but for other family members as well. Don't worry about the mess. It'll clean up easily!

o Want a special gift for your mother-in-law who loves rubber stamping and such? Give the gift of the Paper Connection for six months or even a year! They will think of you all year long.

o Never throw out a Marvy Uchida Brush Marker again. When it becomes dry, simply remove the top with pliers and drop a couple of ink drops from the matching re-inker to rejuvenate the pen. Really extends the life of these pens.

o Thinking of stacking but hate to cut? Then think punches. There are so many rounds, squares, ovals, and rectangles to meet most of your needs. They also come with scallop edges and cut very cleanly. Great way to embellish a card or project!

HAPPY STAMPING!!

Until the next time,
Take Care – Doris