
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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September/October 2004

What's New?

Greetings Everyone! With summer quickly coming to a close, we are excited to embrace fall, our most favorite time of the year. The air is crisp, spirits are up, the color schemes are fantastic, children are excited to be returning to school, and there is so much flurry and activity everywhere. We almost hate to mention that the holidays are just around the corner but we encourage early planning to lessen the hectic pace of the holidays so consider it mentioned!

We have lots of very cool and fun classes lined up to help get you where you want to be. There is, without doubt, something for everyone so be sure to take a look at the class schedule. We have also included another scrapbooking event that we think will be explosive so we would encourage you to register early. We are very excited to bring this opportunity to you and we know that you will find it challenging and fun all at the same time.

"The Paper Connection" is continuing to flourish. There are many paper enthusiasts out there and we are very happy to see so many of them. This is a new and innovative paper club that we suspect is going to far exceed our initial expectations. Be sure to get on board early so that you do not miss out on any of the monthly themes. They are proving to be exciting and full of creative energy.

September welcomes our annual anniversary celebration and we are very excited to celebrate our first

seven years. It seems hardly possible but it is a fact. We have lots of "hoopla" planned, including our "Wowza Wheel" along with lots of demos and giveaways so be sure to mark it on your calendar as a "must" event for September.

As our eighth year unfolds, we know that there will be much to discover in this fabulous world of rubber stamping, scrapbooking, altered books, jewelry making and so much more. Together we are innovators at all levels who are all willing to share our creative spirits to make this environment better for everyone. Thanks so much for wanting to be a part of it!!

Seven-Year Anniversary Celebration

Sat, 11 Sep 2004

10:00 – 5:00

Sun, 12 Sep 2004

11:00 -4:00

Demos, Door Prizes,
Discounts, Fun, Fun,
and More Fun For
Two Full Days

"New" Stuff. We had lots of fun participating in the Art Retailers show in August. This is a local

show which gives us the opportunity to meet many of our manufacturers in person. This type of encounter makes the overall show that much better for us. We enjoyed brainstorming with them and having them to bounce ideas from in our own backyard.

We are continuing to work with many of our favorite rubber stamp companies who are constantly working to improve their images making our selections that much more difficult.

Our holiday selection of rubber stamps will include Outlines, PSX, Magenta, Hero Arts, Judi-Kins, AMuse, and many many more. They are just beginning to arrive at the shop. New shelving is being arranged to make sure we have room for all of the new stuff. Check it out for yourselves.

O *Accessories and More.*

There is no doubt that accessories are an important element of our toolboxes. Because of this, we take pride in the diversity of the products that we carry here at the shop. We recognize that enthusiasts at all levels and in many different mediums are out there so we are constantly striving to be sure that what we carry will suit each specific need.

If you do not own a Xyron 150, what are you waiting for?! The smallest of the Xyron family and, from our perspective, the mightiest of them all. This is truly an exceptional tool for adhering smaller, hard to handle, pieces that

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can lead to frustration and unnecessary anxiety. It is a great tool for anyone who works with small pieces, such as what QuicKutz produces. Making your own stickers is a breeze and clean-up is a piece of cake. We think you will be amazed so do check it out!

Ezy Lock Craft Mates are an efficient way of keeping your collections in some state of order. Each style has a varying number of compartments and will not open accidentally so they are great for storing smaller items like beads, brads, eyelets, and even embossing powder as demonstrated by Tim Holtz. Lots of different sizes to choose from.

The new Opalite inkpads from Tsukineko are making a big splash. We have highlighted them before but wanted to stress just how terrific they are. These reflective interference inks are a dream come true on very dark papers and can be used to make some very impressive backgrounds with the direct to paper approach. You will want to own them all!

A recent visit from Tim Holtz proved again that the Hot Pots are not just for melting ultra thick embossing powder. We carry all the associated melt art products that go along with the hotpot including the flex and tools. Stretch your imagination and see just what you can do with it.

Some things that we should not forget about include:

- Glossy Accents used as a clear dimensional embellishment.
- The Ultimate Crafter's Pick Glue which adheres to metal, plastics, glass and lots more.
- Adirondack Alcohol Inks in all the yummy colors.
- Amy's Gold Leaf Flakes.
- The Rollabind Personal Hand Punch. Don't forget that the discs are very cool for creating

typewriter style letters. These look great in projects, including scrapbooking pages.

- Lots of charms, beads, and jewelry making tools. We think our tool set is the best price in town!

There is lots more so stop in soon!

The Paper Connection

As we mentioned earlier, "The Paper Connection" has already exceeded our expectations. If you are looking for some fun and some surprises or for just something different, "The Paper Connection" may be 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 papers now available on the market. 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 fun surprises and "stuff" which is all about paper. Membership also includes bonus items that will enhance your paper collection each month. Minimum membership is six months. Members receive a membership card valid for 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.

If you do not want to be a member but would like the opportunity for purchasing select "pizza boxes" a non-membership fee of \$24.95 is available while supplies last. We make a limited number of extras each month so just ask at the shop.

Important Dates

1 Sep-Paper Connection

Pick-Up Date

11 Sep-7-Year Celebration
12 Sep-7-Year Celebration

1 Oct-Paper Connection
Pick-Up Date
2 Oct-Auntie Amy Tacoma
Dome Unconventional
Convention
9 Oct-A "Scrap"acular
29 Oct-A "Spooky"
Halloween Event

"ENVY"Lope Contest

Congratulations to Stephen Ridder who took First Place in our annual "Envy"lope contest. Stephen's mother is especially pleased because she is the lucky recipient of the \$100.00 first place gift certificate to Friends and Company. WAY TO GO!!

A congratulatory note is also extended to our second place winner, Vivian Yamakoshi, who was awarded a \$15.00 coffee card from the Hotwire Online Coffeehouse.

Friends and Company would like to thank all individuals who participated. The entries are all fabulous and will continue to be posted at the shop. We would also like to thank the folks at Hotwire for their continued support and unique partnering in this endeavor. It simply means more fun for more people. Thanks Hotwire!!

Auntie Amy's Unconventional Rubber Stamp Convention

As usual, Friends and Company is pre-selling tickets for the Auntie Amy Unconventional Rubber Stamp Convention scheduled for Saturday, 2 October 2004 at the Tacoma Dome. Tickets are now available on a first-come, first-served basis at \$4.00 each. Friends and Company is accepting self addressed and postage paid envelopes for mailing if you cannot make it to the shop. We have a limited number of tickets so do plan early!

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Some additional rules to live by for a successful convention include the following:

- Wear comfortable walking shoes and clothing.
- Carry a water bottle for some refueling.
- Be prepared with cash for a quick getaway at the crowded registers.
- Bring a sack lunch. Food is expensive and takes time waiting in long lines. Include a snack or two.
- Drag a tote along with wheels or a backpack or something that does not require carrying to put all your treasures in.
- Practice patience and remain composed with the large crowds. That will make for a fun day.

Carolyn's Corner

Dear Carolyn – First off, let me say that I do enjoy reading your column. You are always so helpful with your ideas and suggestions. I don't really have a question but instead was wondering why the Post Office charges extra postage for odd shaped or square envelopes. I have become very fond of the Wildcard Templates from Wordsworth and wonder why the extra postage when the weight is the same? I guess I do have a question after all. Any thoughts?

Dear Julie – Well now Julie, that would be two questions! All kidding aside, many individuals are not aware that it does take extra postage for odd shaped or square envelopes so maybe this column will be helpful to many others. I have shared many moans with individuals whose invitations were returned for this very reason. Short of contacting the Post Office, I suspect that the handling of the envelopes is where the extra work comes into play, hence, the extra postage. These shapes are not easily

processed at the post office. A secret to getting past the extra postage is to put your finished, odd shaped card, including its envelope, into a regular envelope using just the regular amount of postage.

Your recipient will receive the exact same card and your pockets will be a little richer. The same can be done with a square card by using a slightly larger regular envelope to place the square card into. I hope you can make sense of what I am suggesting that you can do. I would hate to ruin my reputation after your great comments on my column. Spreading the wealth of information is my motto so thank you for the kind words!

Dear Carolyn – I get so angry with rubber stamp companies when they do not take the time to make certain that when they mount the rubber onto the wood that it is straight and in line with what is shown on the index. What can we do to get their attention and let them know that we really do want a quality product? Meagan

Dear Meagan – First off, I must admit that I agree with what you are saying. I especially hate a crooked word rubber stamp. I usually end up having to toss out my first card unless I have checked it before. Now I try to remember to check all my rubber stamps before I even buy them. A solution to your dilemma works on a good percentage of rubber stamps. Place the entire stamp into your microwave for about 10 seconds. Try to peel up one corner and if it comes up clean you are good to keep going. If not, put it back into the microwave for another 5 seconds and try again. Most of the mounting will come off clean. If it happens that it does not, remounting the entire piece of rubber is another alternative. I hope this helps. Don't forget that writing to these companies is also an effective method to make them more aware about quality control.

Holiday Fundraisers

ANNUAL HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE

Our food drives have always been a huge success and we would like to make this year no exception. We are planning our annual food drive beginning September 1st and ending October 30th. Feel free to bring in your non-perishable food donations anytime during this period. Anyone bringing in five non-perishable food items at one time will receive a 15% off coupon good for their entire purchase (with a few exceptions) good anytime during the food drive. Our goal is better than 300 pounds and we would love to help fill the West Seattle Food Bank again this year! You have been extremely generous in years past and we hope to see many of you again this year. What better way to help a neighbor in need!

ROUND IT UP

We generally host two fund raisers each holiday season so this year we have selected a group called Network Services. Network Services provide homes for the homeless and a huge need for mattresses has been identified. No we don't want your mattresses but we do want your change. Each time you make a purchase at Friends and Company between September 1st and December 31st 2004, you have the opportunity to round up your purchase and drop the change in our collection box. An example is if your purchase is \$8.70 and you provide us with \$10.00, the change of 30 cents would go into the collection box and the remaining \$1.00 would be returned to you. It cannot get much easier and every little bit helps. We can't imagine

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what is possible here but we do hope to be able to make a difference so please help support us in the endeavor which in turn supports Network Services who are providing essential aid to others in need. We totally appreciate you and your change!!

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

- 15 Sep-Leaves and Fall
w/Lindy Combs
- 29 Sep-QuicKutz "Stuff"
w/Doris Goulet

- 6 Oct-Halloween
w/Sandy Huff
- 13 Oct-Holiday Chalking
w/Lindy Combs
- 20 Oct-Fall
w/Sandy Huff

What's New With The First Friday Forum

Name:

First Friday Forum

Location:

Safeco Jackson Street Center
(23rd and Jackson,
International District)

Day:

Meetings are on the 1st Friday of every month. The next meeting is scheduled for 3 Sep 2004.

Time:

7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Other Forum Stuff:

Dues are \$6.00 per meeting or \$12.00 per year. Projects, light refreshments and fun are available at each meeting. Paid up members receive a 15% discount from Friends and Company on the day of and through the following Saturday that the Forum meets.

Space is now available to include new members. Contact Kiku (206) 325-3120 or Deanna at e-mail deannay2k@hotmail.com if you are interested or if you have questions.

Class Notes

Our class lineup for September and October is very exciting and presents many opportunities for fun and getting a head start on the holidays. All levels of rubber stamping and/or scrapbooking are presented so there is something for everyone. 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.

- Class cancellations require a 3-day notice for a full refund. Classes exceeding 3 hours in length require a 5-day notice. 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.

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 or credits are allowed. We are sure that you understand the necessity for these policies and will support them.

Tips and Things

- Need to highlight a balloon on a project or anything for that matter? Use Glossy Accents by Ranger. This product holds true to form and does not collapse like some others do. In other words, it you put it down round, it will remain round.
- Gift giving a problem? Start early and make up lots of boxed sets of greeting cards. No better way to boost your creative spirit.
- Need inspiration? Take a class and bring a friend or two or three!
- Lose your newsletter? Go online: www.friends-n-company.com.

HAPPY STAMPING!!

Until the next time,
Take Care – Doris