
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

www.friendsandcompanyblog.typepad.com

NEW

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What's New?

Greetings Everyone! Can you believe that it is fall already? Where does all the time go? I love fall and all that it has to offer. The colors are glorious and the air is crisp and clean. Piles of leaves make me think back to years ago when we would play hide and seek in the piles of leaves. Yes, there were that many. Oh happy days!!

It has been a busy year for us here at the shop and it is expected to be busy for what remains in 2008. Our 11-year anniversary celebration is scheduled for September and our second Oktoberfest is October 25th. We'll host our annual craft show in November and that brings us to our holiday open house. Seems like there is not enough time for everything we'd like to do but we do what is possible and are very glad that you are all a part of it. Please continue to keep us in your travels so we can continue to grow.

Our Customer Appreciation BBQ and my 39th forever young birthday celebration were a huge success. Many thanks to all of you who took time to stop in and enjoy some refreshments with all of us. It was tons of fun and I really did not want the day to end. We may not have to wait another whole year until we can do this again. Who is to say that we can't BBQ in January??

We've all been busy at the shop placing orders, attending trade shows, and whatever else might need doing to get ready for fall followed by the holiday season.

We have a ton of new "stuff" as you will see later in this newsletter. 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 I have mentioned this many times before, I can never say enough just how much we appreciate you. We are all aware that the economy makes us quake in our shoes and that you have many choices when choosing somewhere to make your everyday purchases. Many thanks to all of you for making us a part of the routine you have for keeping your toolboxes full and loaded with fun. We can't predict the future and with fluctuating gas prices, the rocky road may continue for sometime. Thank you for hanging in there with us and for all that you do!!

11-Year Anniversary

Sat, 13 Sep 2008

10:00 – 4:00

Demos, Door Prizes,
Discounts, Fun, Fun,
and More Fun.

Come and spin the
WOWZA wheel for up
to 25% off your entire
purchase!!

"New" Stuff. Just a couple of weeks ago, we attended a trade show in Vancouver, WA, with many of our great manufacturers in attendance. It was loads of fun and we did our share in getting new orders in for the shop. Read on for just some of the highlights.

Our catalog sales for the month for July with Stampers Anonymous were a huge success. We placed a very large order with them and do expect it to arrive any day now; so, be looking for not only what you ordered specifically, but for many that we also ordered just for the shop. Many designs are those of Tim Holtz so we are excited!!

We have received some holiday rubber stamps from the Lockhart Stamp Company. Their limited edition is due by mid-September so if you would like one reserved, please do let us know. Karen's new designs include new inchies for you to play with. Lots of stuff for lots of people so stop in to take a look. Friends and Company is continuing to showcase selected design kits from the Lockhart Stamp Company which include a completed "original" card, the rubber stamp(s) used in the sample card along with materials to make an additional three cards. The list is growing but we are still operating in a limited mode but watch for more.

We have received our auto-ship from Inkadinkado which includes Halloween designs and a small handful for Thanksgiving. Some of

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the fillers, such as scrolls and flourishes, also arrived from them and since they are very "hot", don't wait too long before checking them out.

Memory Box has exploded with new designs and new papers. We can hardly keep up with them. They have a whole host of new penguins that are so cute and cuddly we are sure that you will love them also. We have received packs of 10 envelopes and 10 note cards bundled together which makes card making so very easy for anyone in a hurry. With lots of colors to choose from, they are very handy to keep in your toolbox for on the go card making.

We are so excited to have connected once again with the Northwoods Rubber Stamp Company. We have already received 2 of the 5 sample boards exclusive to the holidays. They have been a BIG hit and certainly do take us back in time since it's been 1999 since our last order with them. We love them and hope you will as well.

We have a small selection of character rubber stamps, such as some of the Disney characters whose design rights belong to the All Night Media Rubber Stamp Company. These are in very limited quantities at the moment so, if you have been looking for any of the Disney stamps, now may be the time to make your purchase.

We just received a big order from the Outlines Rubber Stamp Company. Many of their designs are new but we also included some of the old standbys for new comer's who might like what they see. There is a ton to look at.

There is more and lots more. As mentioned earlier, we've all been busy ordering and stocking up to give you lots of choices and selections when making your

purchasing decisions. Penny Black, Rubber Soul, and Rubber Moon have either arrived or will soon. Gretchen has several new designs available and Romy also has her second holiday design now available. It's GREAT!!

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 September'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.

O *Accessories and More.*

We really can't keep up with accessories but we sure do try. The market is constantly being flooded with new "stuff" and some of it we just gotta have!! Here are some of the highlights:

More of the new Sticker King line is on its way. This has proven to be a very popular line of stickers in part because the price point is great but also because they have something for everyone. Chipboard from them has just been ordered so we should see this soon.

Paper is a given for us here at Friends and Company. Our paper club not only keeps us in the know when it comes to paper but also, because we just love paper, we have plenty of it. If you are not already a member of the Paper Connection you might want to consider joining. It really has its advantages. As a member, the Paper Connection is an excellent way for keeping your stash well stocked and is a HUGE support to the shop. As a member of the Paper Connection *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:

- Super Seal aerosol acrylic sealant spray used to help protect photos, paper crafts, scrapbook pages, inkjet prints, vellum, plastics, metals and so much more. A great toolbox item to have on hand.
- The 1-1/2" sticker maker from Xyron which is wonderful for making anything that size into a sticker.
- Scor-Pal has added a two-sided Scor-Mat to its line for use with the Scor-Pal scoring tool. The Scor-Mat nestles in the Scor-Pal and can be used as a self healing cutting mat on one side and a work surface perfect for stamping on the other side. A great new add-on to an already fabulous tool!
- Punches are always a fun add-on to any toolbox and now Marvy Uchida has added yet another giga mega giga (or whatever) to its already large line of punches. These are on their way and will arrive soon!
- We now stock all 24 colors of Tsukineko's Memento Inkpads along with their re-inkers. These colors are yummy and are proving to be a must have dye based ink for that toolbox. We have also re-stocked all Versafine inkpads along with the Brilliance inkpads and the Brilliance re-inkers.
- Scor-Tape is back in and in all available sizes which include 1/8", 1/4", 1/2", 1-1/2", and 2" (for those ATCs). Now if we could only convince them that we need 1" also.
- If by some chance you lost your bone folder for the Scor-Pal or you've used it to death, the bone folder is now available separately.

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- All Cuttlebug folders for fall and the holidays are expected in any day. There are many and they are "HOT". If you want any of them reserved for you, better let us know early.
- We have a huge assortment of the waxed linen thread used for a multiple of purposes including bookmaking and jewelry. We have learned that these are hard to get so now come and get 'em!
- We have received a ton of stickers and rubons with a host of themes and/or topics from various manufacturers. We think that we have something for everyone!

There is always more and our shelves are full. Please let us know if there is something that you just "gotta have". We'll be happy to look into it. 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. Passports will be offered all year long so do let us know if you would like one. As a passport member, here are some of the highlights...

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!

SENIOR NEWS

Our senior classes, now on Wednesdays, 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.

MONDAY CLASSES

- 10 Sep-Get Well Soon
w/Diane Radischat
- 17 Sep-Pumpkin Patch
w/Doris Goulet
- 24 Sep-Fall In the Air
w/Diane Radischat
- 1 Oct-Holiday Cards
w/Diane Radischat
- 8 Oct-Happy Feet (Penguins)
w/Sandy Huff
- 15 Oct-Halloween Fun
w/Diane Radischat
- 22 Oct-I Need A Card
w/Diane Radischat
- 29 Oct-Bleaching
w/Diane Radischat

Happy Birthday

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

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.

Class Notes

The lineup for September and October 2008 is loaded with lots of classes. A \$20.00 class coupon will be awarded (compliments of your instructors) to any 2008 Passport

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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 – There has been a lot of discussion in magazines and

on the internet lately regarding discontinued or no longer available rubber stamps that are used in different projects. I just need to have that exact rubber stamp that is being used by the artist. It is frustrating when I cannot get it and it is no longer available. How can we get artists to stop using these rubber stamps for the sake of us consumers? Margaret

Dear Margaret – There is likely no way to prevent rubber stamps from being used in projects that are being used anywhere. This often applies to classes in different rubber stamp stores as well; however, a store owner can better control what is being used versus not being used. My best advice to you is to try to change your personal mindset that would allow you to visualize other stamps being used in place of one that is discontinued. In order to be successful with this new mindset, you will need to practice. I totally understand what you are saying but if the rubber stamps are not available, then no matter what you do, you will just continue to drive yourself crazy. Some options might include eBay, yard sales, and used stamp sales to name a few of the places that might be possible for you to look into. Just don't give up because you just never know where any of these stamps might show up.

Dear Carolyn – I am interested in selling some of my work using primarily rubber stamps in my projects but I have heard that companies frown on this kind of endeavor because of copyright policies. Is there some way to get around such policies? Karen

Dear Karen – This particular topic is rather complicated for a small column such as this one. My best advice to you and anyone who wants to conduct similar business is to contact each company whose rubber stamps you expect to use to get their own copyright policy.

Many companies will allow you to use their rubber stamps provided no mechanical reproduction is used. Although it initially might be painful to contact each of the companies, it is worth the trouble to keep you out of any potential legal battles in the future. Be sure to keep the policy statements from each company on file in the event you should need to make reference to it at any time. Best of Luck!!

"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 and will undoubtedly make it difficult to choose!!

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 Sep-Paper Connection Pickup Date
- 7 Sep-Altered Dex Club Meeting
- 13 Sep-11-Year Anniversary Celebration
- 13 Sep-ATC Club Meeting
- 26 Sep-Scrapbooking Crop
- 1 Oct-Paper Connection Pickup Date
- 5 Oct-Altered Dex Club Meeting
- 11 Oct-ATC Club Meeting
- 24 Oct-Scrapbooking Crop
- 25 Oct-Ocktoberfest
- 23 Nov-Holiday Workshop
- 24 Nov-Holiday Workshop

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 to get started.

HAPPY STAMPING!!

Until the next time,
Take Care – Doris