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# Friends and Company

## Rubber Stamping and More...

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M-F 10:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m. Sat 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Sun 12:00 noon- 4:00 p.m.

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### *What's New?*

Greetings Everyone and a very Happy New Year! Although the year 2004 is just beginning to unfold, it is already full with fun and exciting things to come. We are looking forward to another great year in this industry and hope that you will be as excited as we are as the details are exposed. Stay tuned for all the planned events but, first and foremost, please don't forget to renew your newsletter delivery by returning your mailing label in one form or another. More details are available on this as you explore the newsletter.

We hope your holidays were all that you wanted them to be. It was a hectic time for us here at the shop. We were thrilled, however, to see so many of you over the holidays and really appreciated all the goodies, gifts, holiday greetings, and good cheer that so many of you extended to us. It is definitely each of you that we want to thank. We want you to know that we really appreciate your business and thank you for being a part of our world. We continue to love it here and are working to make your rubber stamping world the best it can be.

We are very happy to introduce a range of materials and classes for the scrapbooker and hope you will delight in them as well. Our modest bead corner has continued to grow and has proven to be a welcomed corner in the community so you can be sure that this area will continue to grow as well. You can also expect some changes in the rubber

stamping world for 2004. New shelving is planned so we can carry a larger assortment of rubber stamps and we are always on the lookout for new accessories.

Our scaled down newsletter is not indicative of anything just in case you are wondering. We have been scurrying just trying to get it out so that you don't miss out on any of our terrific classes that are being offered to kick off the new year. We promise to get back in full swing in the very near future.

With the challenges of the holidays now behind us, we can all take some time to assess our goals for the new year and proceed from there. One of the promises we have made to ourselves here at the shop is to have more fun in this environment because it has so much to offer. Now that's our story and we're sticking to it so you all have a GREAT year as well!

### Newsletter Renewal

As usual, our first order of priority for the new year is to update our mailing list. We love to introduce new folks to rubber stamping, however, the database is rather large so updating helps us to minimize associated costs. Each January we ask you to return your mailing label so that the database can be updated. As an incentive, we include a **40% off coupon** good for any rubber stamp that we have in the shop (excludes holds) valid for the **entire month** of January. Your mailing label is the actual coupon so refer back to it when coming to the shop. If we do not

hear from you, you will be archived so please take a minute to let us hear from you. If you are unable to make it to the shop, simply give us a call. We want to make sure that all our valued customers get all the information they need to have a fun and fulfilling year so don't delay. The newsletter is now also available on the internet. Our internet address is listed in the header above this page. We are also planning on using e-mail for many of our special events so we are requesting that you provide us this information as well. Hopefully this approach will work for all of us as special events are planned.

**O** *"New" Stuff.* The holidays were a busy time and new stuff arrived on a very regular basis so lots of rubber stamps and accessories continue to be available. The shop continues to sport lots of the old time favorite rubber stamp companies and is now expecting to have arrivals which include many Valentine designs and also some for Spring. Stop by if you get a chance to see for yourselves all the new stuff that will be arriving on a regular basis for 2004.

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

We are always on the lookout for new and exciting accessories. We are expecting to see many new items once the Hobby Industry Association (HIA) convention is held in early February. Our reps have promised

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to share with us all the new items that are introduced so stay tuned!

In the meantime, some of the regular items that we carry and/or have back in stock that we can't forget about include:

- Non-stick Craft Sheet which has tons of uses.
- Many inkpads and associated re-inkers include: Brilliance, Marvy Matchables, Memories, Adirondack, Ancient Page, Colorbox, Fabrico, Kaleidacolor, and Versacolor to name a handful. Some folks do not realize that re-inkers are available for most inkpads so keep that in mind.
- The Fiskars Ultimate Craft Rotary Paper Trimmer.
- The 12-inch Carl Professional Rotary Trimmer.
- 9-inch x 12-inch Cutting Mat.
- The Rollabind binding system.
- 3-D Crystal Lacquer
- Lots of new colors to choose from in the embossing powder department.
- 100% sterling silver jump rings sold individually or in a lot of 200.
- Creative Paperclay as well as Premo Polymer Clay.
- Barr None in various sizes. Please note that the company which produces these has gone out of business so when these are gone – they are gone. We are currently well stocked but the stock will undoubtedly dwindle so hurry on in!
- Eyelets in tons of colors.

There is lots more so take some time just for you and stop in!

### **THANK YOU**

Many thanks to all of you who donated non-perishable food items during our annual holiday food drive. It was a huge success with more than 500 pounds collected. The West Seattle Food Bank has

extended its gratitude as well. Something of this magnitude cannot be done without your participation. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your generosity.

### **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 \$10.00. All other class guidelines apply.

#### **WEDNESDAY CLASSES**

- 14 Jan-Thank You  
w/Sandy Huff
- 28 Jan-All Occasion  
w/Sandy Huff
- 4 Feb-Iris Folding  
w/Lindy Combs
- 11 Feb-Quick Valentines  
w/Sandy Huff
- 25 Feb-It's a Mystery  
w/Sandy Huff

#### **FRIDAY CLASSES**

- 23 Jan-Water Bath Fun  
w/Doris Goulet
- 20 Feb-Simple and Fun  
w/Doris Goulet

### **CARD SWAP INFO**

The "Open Theme" card swap is currently underway so stop in and take a look at these great cards. Consider joining this swap to help inspire and get your creative juices flowing. Participants attending the night of the swap receive 15% off their entire purchase.

The next swap is Wed, 4 February 2004 and will begin at 6:00 p.m. The theme is "Stamper's Choice". Each participant needs to make enough cards to equal the number of participants up to twelve. Using rubber stamps *carried* by Friends as the baseline is encouraged. Cards will be swapped with participants and a remaining card will stay in the shop for posting.

## **Happy Birthday**

Receive 25% off on any one rubber stamp 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.

### **Class Notes**

Our class lineup for January and February presents many challenges and opportunities especially from the frenzy that we just experienced with the holidays. We offer a wide range of techniques and class themes that we are sure you will enjoy. 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, holds, and magazines.
- 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.
- There is a 3-day grace period for called in registrations but 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.
- 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.

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- Most classes require cutting. If you have a favorite pair of scissors, please bring them. If you have an OTT light and want to bring it to class, please feel free to do so. 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.

## What's New With The Stamping Forum

### New Name:

West Seattle Forum

### New Location:

4400 42<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, S.W.

One block north and one block east of Friends and Company. Meetings are now held at the West Seattle Christian Church.

### New Day:

Meetings are on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of every month. The next meeting is scheduled for Jan. 9<sup>th</sup>.

### New Times:

The room is available from 4:30pm-11:00pm. Members can attend during these times.

### Other Stuff:

Dues are \$10.00 per month and cover door prizes and food. Paid up members receive a 15% discount at Friends and Company on the day the Forum meets!

Because of the larger location, space is now available to include new members. Contact Diane Walter at 206-938-2761 if you are interested or if you have any questions.

## Carolyn's Corner

Dear Carolyn – I have recently been introduced to brayers and find that I like using them to create some backgrounds but I feel that their cost does not warrant buying any more. I understand that they come in different sizes and some even

have designs on them so I am still open to purchasing more, however, I have only been able to create limited backgrounds with the one that I own which is 6-inches wide. I was wondering what other uses there might be for these brayers. Thanks for your help. Annie

Dear Annie – Brayers indeed can be fun and are really not cost prohibitive once you discover some of their uses. Here are just a few uses that I have enjoyed working with.

- Using markers, make stripes all around the brayer using the same color marker or varying the colors. Remoisten the brayer by huffing on it. This will rejuvenate the ink. You can also try dots, squiggles, double stripes or whatever you can think of.

- Create plaids again using stripes but use a criss-cross pattern. Use a thin marker and a wider marker adjacent to the thin line to create yet a different effect.

- Use glossy paper to really make the colors pop out.

- Using an embossing pad, stamp images, i.e., snowflakes, hearts, dots, etc, and let dry. You can speed up the process by using your heat gun to dry the images. Using any color of dye based ink or a Kaleidacolor inks pad, brayer over the images. The stamped images will resist the dye based ink making a very striking background. This works best with glossy paper. Other resist mediums include crayons, rubber cement, masking fluid, wax resist sticks, metallic pens and, with some experimentation, lots of other mediums. You will probably also need to experiment with the types of paper used. One of my favorite techniques with the brayer is to use wax paper and a stylus tool. Write your message out over the wax paper or create a pattern with your stylus tool.

Brayer over the waxed saying or design and it is like magic to see the ink resist the waxed area of the paper.

- Because there are so many possibilities for working with brayers, I'll stop here but hope that you will continue to explore all the possibilities that the brayer has to offer. It's a great tool and having too many is not likely going to be a problem. Most of all – have fun!

## Important Dates

1 Jan-Closed

Happy New Year!

1 Feb-Valentine Workshop

2 Feb-Valentine Workshop

4 Feb-Card Swap

14 Feb-Happy Valentine's 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 or credits are allowed. We are sure that you understand the necessity for these policies and will support them.

## Tips and Things

o Do not fold your non-stick craft sheet. Folding will cause it to be less efficient and also crack.

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

- o Looking for a wooden stylus tool? Purchase a dowel and trim one end down at an angle or at a point. Perfect for use with surfaces that are not scratch resistant.
- o Make a date with yourself and sign up for one rubber stamping class per month. You won't be sorry and you will likely meet some great folks in the process.
- o Scrunch up Saran Wrap, dip it into inkpad and then onto glossy paper. Great instant background

**HAPPY STAMPING!!**

Until the next time,  
Take Care – Doris