
Friends and Company Rubber Stamping and More...

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

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What's New?

Greetings Everyone! We hope you are all enjoying the oh so lazy days of summer. All of us at the shop are operating on our usual summer schedules which include many days of play with friends and family. We recommend it for sure and are enjoying the time together and hope that all of you take some time to enjoy summer also. We do remain focused, however, so don't despair. Lots of new stuff continues to arrive almost daily.

Our summer schedule includes a reduced class schedule but you will see that the classes being offered continue to be top notch and are sure to please. As we have stated many times before, we have a very talented lineup of instructors, all of whom are dedicated to providing you with some fun, invigorating and challenging classes. We are also very pleased to welcome Tim Holtz from Product Performers as a guest instructor in August. Tim is traveling from CA and we are sure he has some neat tips. We are also sure you won't be disappointed. Please check out the schedule.

We are nearly at the half-way point for the year 2003. Time is moving quickly and there continues to be a lot of ground to cover before the year ends, so, hang on for the ride. We have included some "save the dates" so you won't miss a single adventure. Mark your calendars early. We are excited and looking forward to the balance of 2003. Our 6-year anniversary is on the horizon with plans well underway for a festive and fun filled

experience for everyone. It is just really hard to believe that so much time has passed since we first ventured into this fabulous industry. For as long as we are all having fun, we will continue to forge ahead. When the fun stops, well, we'll talk about that later. Have a GREAT summer!

Hot *Sizzling* Fun and Summertime *BBO* (Third Annual)

**Mark Your Calendars
Saturday, 26 July 2003**

10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Come and enjoy a hotdog (or two) (while supplies last), chips, and a refreshment along with lots of great camaraderie

**Lots of Demos Too!
Watch For More Details**

**Special Discount on
your entire purchase**

(excludes magazines and already discounted items)

O "New" Stuff. With the Puyallup well behind us, much of what resulted from our fabulous day of poking around is now beginning to flourish. We tried lots of new things, met lots of old time friends and reunited or formed new relationships with many of the vendors that were

present. Simply put, we had loads of fun but now the work has begun.

Copper Leaf Creations from Chandler, AZ, was an exciting booth to visit. Many of their designs include southwest images that work well together. Our very own Debbie Royer worked very hard demo'ing to make sure you were able to see what a great line of rubber stamps this company carries. We are thrilled to have so many of them already on the shelves. You can expect to see many of them used in classes as well.

We were also delighted to visit with the folks from Savvy Stamps from Vancouver, WA. Their line of rubber stamps is very popular and, once you see it, you will understand just why. Simple and clean appear to be the basis for their designs which lend themselves to quick and easy greeting cards suitable for all occasions. Loads of fun!!

Also sporting a new look at the Puyallup was Lost Coast Designs. Collage artists will be thrilled to see this new line of rubber stamps with a very eclectic look but one that we simply fell in love with. At press time, our order had not arrived but we are hoping that by mid-August, we will see them adorn our shelves so stay tuned.

Last but not least is a company called Rubber Romance also visited by us at the Puyallup. As you might expect, romantic designs suited for many of your rubber stamping projects are included in their terrific line. Another warm welcome to a very nice company!

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Since the Puyallup, we have also connected with Little Fish Rubber Stamps, a local company who sports a look of simplicity and easy to use rubber stamps. Although a new line for us, we are thrilled to have them on board. Check it out!

As you can see, we've been busy. The "just in" is stocked full with new arrivals from Stamp-In-The-Hand, Rubber Stamps of America, Impression Obsession including Alesa Baker Designs, Hero Arts and many more of the old time favorites. Arrivals are expected anytime from Penny Black, Magenta, PSX (recently bought out by Duncan Enterprises), and Stamp Oasis to name only a few.

O *Accessories and More.*

We saw many accessories at the Puyallup, however, brand new ones were a rare breed. Our most successful find was the Color Cutter which proved then, and is proving now, to be extremely popular for rubber stampers and scrapbookers as well. The color cutter is a marker which comes in various colors, including clear, with a blade imbedded into the felt part of the marker. It can be used to cut your project into several parts creating a mosaic with color on both sides of the cut. Sound intriguing? You bet - just ask for a demo on your next visit to the shop.

The Marvy Matchables were, as expected, a huge hit at the Puyallup. These dye based inkpads are fabulous for stippling or simply stamping in a range of incredible colors. When watching a demo, we are always reminded just how useful this line of matchables can be. Coupled with the Marvy Markers, these products are a must have for the toolbox!

As many of you have asked - Can we get more cardstock? We heard you and have just stocked the paper emporium with new racks sporting

72 new and delicious colors of paper. These 60 lb cardstock weight papers are from the WorldWin line and are proving to be just what you've wanted.

Memory Makers has a new line of products for the shop and also has something for both the rubber stamper and scrapbooker as well. An entire rack is devoted to their products which range from alphabet charms, page pebbles, metal words, bead chain, eyelet words, shaped clips, charmed photo corners and so much more. All these metal works are great to embellish any project where you might need just a special little touch.

Our bead corner now includes a much wider assortment of sterling silver findings. Swarowski crystals are very popular and are an excellent compliment to any special project for that very special someone in your life. An entire new tray of other beads, charms, and findings has been added to the bead corner so it continues to grow.

Since the Hallmark store closed across the street, we not only have a modest amount of wrapping paper, but also now have a much wider assortment of handmade greeting cards in a variety of themes and designs. Many thanks to all of our good friends who have helped us stock this section. We are also expecting to showcase these greeting cards at the Craft Market targeted for West Seattle during the summer months. Stay tuned.....

Back in stock and/or some of the regular "stuff" that we can't forget about include:

- 140-lb cold pressed watercolor paper
- Punches - both large and small for many of your projects
- Granny's Bitty Bows in dozens of colors - never make another 1-inch bow - EVER AGAIN!
- Lots of tags in different sizes

- Eyelets (new ones on the way!) and all the associated tools
- Magic Mesh in various colors
- Pearl-Ex in small jars
- Metal bold and script alphabets (sold as single letters)
- Paper dominoes
- Galaxy Gel Pens for dark paper

Lots more new product is always on the way so stop in to see it all in person. We love to see you smile!!

INTERNET NEWS

The Friends and Company webpage continues to take new hits everyday. We have been very pleased with the response thusfar and hope you all will continue to visit often. Got any ideas we should incorporate? Just let us know. We love the input and welcome change and progress.

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, 6 August 2003 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 and Company as the baseline is encouraged. Cards will be swapped with participants and a remaining card will stay in the shop for posting.

"STUFF"

O Looking for something different for a birthday party? Need a place to meet monthly? Want to get together with some of your friends but don't want to clean the house? Renting the balcony at the shop

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might just be the answer for any stamping or scrapbooking related activity. Call the shop for details.

O Looking to meet new people? Need a night out just for yourself? Looking for a block of time to work on your projects? Look no more. The Forum, which meets every third Friday of the month at the Paper Zone on First Avenue, is looking for new members. Membership details and other information can be obtained by contacting Diane Walter at (206) 938-2761 or by calling the Paper Zone directly at (206) 682-8644. Do it right now while you are thinking about it!

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 \$9.50. All other class guidelines apply.

WEDNESDAY CLASSES

- 9 Jul-Beach Inspired
w/Diane Walter
- 23 Jul-Birthdays
w/Sandy Huff
- 6 Aug-Friendship
w/Diane Walter
- 27 Aug-It's a Mystery
w/Sandy Huff

FRIDAY CLASSES

- 11 Jul-All Occasion
w/Doris Goulet
- 25 Jul-Florals
w/Doris Goulet
- 8 Aug-Fun and Simple
w/Doris Goulet
- 29 Aug-Bleachy Clean
w/Doris Goulet

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. Make it a practice in your birthday month to replace batteries in your fire detectors. It's an easy day to remember to do this and could save you or your families' lives. We'll even give you a 9-volt battery to start with when you come into the shop to pick out your rubber stamp!

HOLD IT!!

Wish list items which have been received will be held for two weeks only. Held items with no pre-arranged holding plan will then be placed back on the shelves. Thank you in advance for understanding.

Class Notes

Our class lineup for July and August presents many opportunities and challenges and is as terrific as always. It offers a wide range of techniques and class themes and includes a guest appearance by Tim Holtz from Product Performers. We even have a sneak peek into September so be sure to take a look. Always sign up as early as possible and 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 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.
- 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.
- Cancellations require a 3-day notice for a refund.
- Workshops and all-day classes require a 5-day notice for a refund.
- 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 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 and know that you understand the need for them.

Carolyn's Corner

Dear Carolyn –I love to dry emboss but it seems that my paper always tears while I am working on it and my projects never come out looking very good. Are there any tips for getting a more polished look? Joyce

Dear Joyce – Dry embossing is an art in itself and does take some practice but anyone can do it. The results can be, without a doubt, striking and very classy looking too. Dry embossing is relatively easy provided that you use the tools and equipment made specifically for this form of art. Adhering your stencil and paper to the light box helps to keep leverage on your side. Using masking tape works well provided that you “dull” the stickiness first otherwise you are likely to tear your paper when removing it. Dulling can be done simply by sticking the tape to your clothing a couple of times. It can also be used over and over again. Using the largest stylus possible on any design is best otherwise you take the chance of tearing the paper. This may be where you have been running into problems. A stylus is best suited to this technique, however, any blunt tip

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like a ball point pen that has run out of ink or any rounded object can do in a pinch. There is no right or wrong side to your stencil. If you flip it over you are able to get a mirror image of the design. This is a fun tip that is nice to have in your hip pocket. Working with delicate designs can be difficult. Avoid lifting the paper to see how the design is coming along because lining it up again can be difficult. Also, place a piece of wax paper over your design. The wax paper allows your stylus to glide around the edge and, again, will less likely tear your paper. Finally, tracing only the outline or edge of the design is necessary. By doing so, tearing is once again less likely to occur. Taking a class on dry embossing might help in getting you an expert to help out. Dry embossing is fun and I encourage you to keep trying until you get exactly the look you want.

Dear Carolyn – It seems that the rubber stamping world is wild about eyelets. I suspect that they have spilled over into the scrapbooking industry as well. I have used them on occasion to mount vellum to cardstock but beyond that have found very little use for them. What makes these itty bitty metal contraptions such a wonder and what other things can they be used for? Marsha

Dear Marsha – Once upon a time, mounting vellum to cardstock was about all that eyelets were good for. There is now vellum tape on the market so eyelets actually get used less and less for that purpose. One of my favorite things to do with eyelets is to embellish a project with them. Some of the fun I have had include using black flat-tops for the berry in a holiday holly design. Purple colored round or flat-top eyelets work great to highlight any grape design. The market now supports all sorts of

eyelet shapes including candy canes, gingerbread boys and girls, shamrocks, butterflies, dragonflies, tulips, daisies, lips, x's and o's, hearts, flowers, pumpkins, ghosts, stars, squares, rounds, snowflakes, balloons, fish, and on and on. Get the idea? All of these also come in numerous colors so you will never get bored. Can you picture your holiday greeting card which includes a Christmas tree decorated with colored eyelets? We sure can so we hope you just have fun and will let us know what sort of things you found to do with eyelets.

Important Dates

- 4 Jul-Closed/Have a Happy and Safe 4th of July
- 11 Jul-WS Street Festival
- 12 Jul-WS Street Festival
- 13 Jul-WS Street Festival
- 14 Jul-Stamp Camp Starts
- 20 Jul-Craft Market Starts
- 24 Jul-Sandy's Play Day
- 26 Jul-Annual BBQ/Demo Day
- 6 Aug-Card Swap
- 13 Aug-Stamp Camp Starts
- 28 Aug-Sandy's Play Day

Congratulations

A very hearty congratulations is extended to our very own Elaine Woodhouse whose first Carol Duvall taping aired on 28 May 2003. Elaine and her family own and operate CarvedStamps.com which features not only rubber stamps but also a great line of metal products which were featured on Carol Duvall. Elaine teaches many classes using her products so check out the class schedule for more details. We have a copy of the tape and a small TV with a built in VCR so take a few minutes on your next visit to the shop and view the tape while sipping on a hot cup of tea!! Three future segments are also expected. Congratulations Elaine.

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 the 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 Lose your newsletter? Go on-line to www.friends-n-company.com.
- o Don't toss out paper scraps. Scraps can be used for punch outs, bookmarks, layering, testing new products, and more. Consider donating paper scraps to a girl scout troop, elder care home, or to your own favorite organization.
- o Next time you finishing using all the sheets in a notebook tablet, don't throw the cardboard on the backside away. Instead, use it to make covers for journals and books. It can be covered with some of the great papers available in the market today. It also works well as a cutting surface for paper or lighter weight products.
- o Create "faux" tiles by using Avery labels in varying sizes. Very appealing and who would know!
- o To rejuvenate a dry Marvy Marker, don't put a drop of water into the well like most people do. Instead, put a drop of the re-inker into the well. The color will remain vibrant and not dulled by the water.

HAPPY STAMPING!!

Until the next time,
Take Care - Doris