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# 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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Volume 4 Issue 2

March/April 2004

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## *What's New?*

Greetings Everyone! Our miniature daffodils are already in full bloom here at the shop so we think Spring has already sprung. We are, however, looking forward to the balance of what Spring has to offer. The explosion of color and fresh fragrances that only Spring has to offer are reminders of just how quickly time passes as we continue to look forward to each and every day. We sincerely hope that you all are as well and the plunge into 2004 has been a GREAT one!

Lots of new stuff is happening at the shop and tons of things are planned so please take the time to review the newsletter. We do not want you to miss out on anything.

A quick snapshot of events in the planning stages includes an "Arts Triathlon" with a guest appearance by Tim Holtz, Product Educator for Ranger Industries. Two other legs to this first ever triathlon are in the works and full disclosure of details will be made by mid-March. Some folks will want to register early without the details so we do welcome them to do so!

For the scrapbooking enthusiasts, a "SCRAP"acular event is also in the works with a full day of classes and loads of fun, food, and creativity. This event is the first of its kind here at the shop and we are really looking forward to connecting with our scrapbooking friends.

Plans for a new and innovative paper club called "The Paper Connection" are also underway. This is a members only club full of fabulous surprises and treats that

your eyes will feast on all month long until the next package arrives the following month. We expect members to thoroughly enjoy the selection of terrific papers and paper products that are going to be just plain fun.

Our second "ENVY"lope contest is currently underway. This is a wonderful way to share our creative spirit with the community of West Seattle as entries will be posted once again at the Hotwire Coffee House north of the shop along California Avenue. We are very excited and hope you will be also.

More details are available at the shop on all of these events. Our hope is that these will become "traditions" for all of us to look forward to and hope they will include you as a participant. We are very excited about all of these events and are looking forward to them. We hope you will hop along for the ride and will be eager to participate in all this fun "stuff". It promises to be exciting.

**O "New" Stuff.** The Hobby Industry Association (HIA) annual convention has come and gone for another year. All the manufacturers, both new and old, representatives, and you name them all flocked to Texas this year in the hope of attracting businesses to their booth. Our representatives returned with lots of great new stuff and products and we are excited to share them with you.

We are very excited to have made a connection with Memory Box, local to Seattle, who sports a very clean line of rubber stamps for the "let's

keep it simple" enthusiasts. These have been extremely popular and a must see. Their line of great papers has been an excellent addition to our Paper Emporium as well. A definite must see!

Amuse Art Stamps continue to amuse (no pun intended) all of us with their whimsical and fun line of rubber stamps. Their sample boards have been extremely popular and provide a good basis for your creative juices to flow.

Ann-ticipations, Acey Duecy, and Hero Art are some of the most recent acquisitions but lots of spring and Easter rubber stamps have been arriving from many of our other regulars as well. We just purchased another dozen glass shelves to accommodate all the new stuff and have slightly reconfigured the shop to be able to include way more so stop by and pay us a visit. We always look forward to seeing each and every one of you.

## **O Accessories and More.**

Accessories are fun to find and own and also to be able to explore their worth!! Some are terrific, some are wonderful, some great, some just OK, and some not OK. We really try hard here at the shop to carry only the top of the line products that this industry has to offer so we try to do our homework. Here are some of the things that came out of HIA or that have surfaced in the last few weeks. We do like what we see!!

All new Sakura Gelly Roll Glaze art pens. They take a minute or two to

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

dry but have an “embossed” effect without heat embossing.

We have stocked lots of very fun and well designed embellishment trims called Paper Bliss suited to both the rubber stamper or scrapbooker. These Westrim Craft embellishments will make anyone smile. They are too cute!!

We now have the new and improved permanent Tombow Mono adhesives along with their refills. We are expecting the temporary ones very soon. These applicators are quick and provide an instant bond to all types of artwork, photos and much more. Also acid-free for those of you who want them for scrapbooking!!

Petite Motifs has introduced several new patterned papers in both 8-1/2-inch x 11-inch and also 12-inch x 12-inch. Many of the colors are well suited for spring and Easter and, to make your choices even more difficult, they are also available in 4-1/4-inch x 5-1/2-inch sets. Great find!!

We have loaded up on the Memory Box coordinated papers that include pre-scored cards with cut out circles, squares, and ovals. This is another great find which includes all the complimentary “flat” sets to accommodate the circles, squares, and ovals on the pre-scored cards. Some must haves for the toolbox!

One of the newest and more popular finds are the new colored brads in many shapes and sizes. They make embellishing very easy and fun – especially if you don’t like the “hammer” that eyelets require. Do check them out.

Some things that we should not forget about include:

- The Color Cutter in many fun and useful colors.
- Four-ply Linen thread in lots of color choices great for embellishing cards or jewelry projects.

- Mini metallic bead chain for hanging tags and charms or for fun embellishments.
- The popular Southwest punch.
- Temporary Tattoo Stencils and inks.
- Clear glass Picture Pebbles for highlighting or craft projects.
- Page pebbles in different shapes for adding detail.
- An assortment of sterling silver jewelry findings.
- Versacolor pigment inkpads in a ton of colors.
- StazOn Inkpads ideal for metal and many other surfaces.
- U.S. Art Quest Pearl Ex-Press Watercolor Palette with 10 different colors in each palette.

There is lots and lots more so take some time just for you and stop by to see things first hand!

### The Paper Connection

Looking for some fun? Looking for some surprises? Looking for something different? “The Paper Connection” may be exactly 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 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 membership card which is 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. Shipping begins in early April so don’t delay.

### “ENVY” Lope Contest

Friends and Company, along with the Hotwire Online Coffeehouse, is announcing its 2004 “Envy”lope contest. It is simple and it is easy. Let your decorated envelope be the “envy” of everyone else’s in this fun and energizing contest. A guaranteed first place \$100 gift certificate will be awarded to the winner by popular vote at the Hotwire Coffeehouse. Cost is \$5.00 per entry. A complimentary 50 pack of size 10 envelopes (retail value \$4.00) will be issued to the first 25 entries so hurry on in!!

### DO THE PUYALLUP

Friends and Company is pleased to announce that we once again have tickets available for purchase for the annual Heirloom Rubber Stamp Convention scheduled for 15 and 16 May 2004. A limited number of tickets are now available on a first-come, first served basis at \$5.00 each for a one day pass and \$8.00 each for a two day pass. Tickets can be mailed to you if you provide a self addressed/postage paid envelope along with a check made out to Friends and Company at least 14 days prior to the show.

Here are some early convention reminders for both the seasoned and the new convention goers.

- Be prepared for a huge crowd.
- Bring at least one water bottle. Refills can be made at water fountains.
- Bring a sack lunch. Food can be expensive and we don’t always want to take time out to eat but you

# Friends and Company Rubber Stamping and More...

gotta keep your energy up. Bring a snack or two also.

- Be sure to bring a backpack or something similar to carry all the stuff you collect.
- A good pair – no, not good – a GREAT pair of walking shoes is a must.
- If going with friends, don't try to stick together. There is tons to see so make plans to meet periodically instead. Cell phones can be very handy.
- Remember that there are two full floors of fun and activity so pace yourself..
- Take advantage of all the free demos, class events, and similar activity.
- Most of all–HAVE FUN!!

## Class Notes

Our class lineup for March and April is fantastic. It definitely presents many opportunities and challenges for all levels. 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, 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.
- 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.
- 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.

- 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 know that you understand the need for them.

## 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

- 10 Mar-Punch in Spring  
w/Lindy Combs
- 17 Mar-Easter  
w/Sandy Huff
- 31 Mar-Spring  
w/Sandy Huff
- 14 Apr-Fun and Simple  
w/Sandy Huff
- 21 Apr-Northwest Cards  
w/Lindy Combs
- 28 Apr-Birthdays  
w/Sandy Huff

### FRIDAY CLASSES

- 19 Mar-Cards with Style  
w/Sue Cramer
- 2 Apr-All Occasion  
w/Doris Goulet
- 16 Apr-Florals  
w/Doris Goulet
- 30 Apr-Bleachy Clean  
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 to help inspire you and get your creative juices flowing. Participants attending the night of the swap receive 15% off their entire purchase.

The next swap is Wed, 7 April 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 and Company 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.

## 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 Mar 12th.

### New Times:

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

# Friends and Company Rubber Stamping and More...

## Other Stuff:

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

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 love rubber stamping but I really do not have time for some of the more sophisticated cards that are being done by many people. I want fast, easy, and simple cards that are nice to look at and nice to receive. Any suggestions?. Samantha

Dear Samantha – I have received many inquiries similar to yours so please do not feel alone. I do have a suggestion for you and although the magazine is a bit pricey, it will serve you well in the long run. Stampington and Company is a manufacturer of rubber stamps and is also the publisher for a series of magazines that are excellent resources for any level of rubber stamper. The "Take Ten" issue is one that I believe could easily assist you in creating great looking cards that have character and can be very attractive. Two volumes have been issued by Stampington with Volume II being a very recent release. Check with your favorite rubber stamp store to pick up a copy and decide for yourself. All projects, and there are more than 500 samples to look at, are geared for taking no more than 10 minutes on each project. Imagine that – a whole host of greeting cards that take ten minutes or less to produce. I hope this helps and that your creativity will spiral upwards!!

Dear Carolyn – I am interested in finding out what might be available in the way of creating my own stickers. I love the idea to personalize some of the things that I design but find glue and other adhesives less than desirable. Is there anything on the market that is available for this purpose? Linda

Dear Linda – Well, two things come to my mind immediately. The first is using sticker paper which already has the adhesive on it. Simply rubber stamp your design, cut it out, and place it wherever you want it to go. Should be simple enough, however, finding sticker paper could be a challenge. Check with your favorite local rubber stamp store and see what they can do for you in this regard.

The second suggestion is to purchase a "Create a Sticker" Xyron 150. It is a terrific sticker maker and is totally refillable. You will find this method so easy that you will need nothing else except your creativity to work for you. The Xyron 150 is readily available for purchase and is very affordable. Best of all, keep it fun!

## Important Dates

- 1 Mar-"Envy"lope Contest Begins
- 17 Mar-St. Patrick's Day
- 18 Mar-Play Day with Sandy
- 21 Mar-Spring/Easter WS
- 22 Mar-Spring/Easter WS
- 1 Apr-Paper Connection registration begins
- 7 Apr-Card Swap
- 11 Apr-Happy Easter/Closed
- 15 Apr-Play Day with Sandy
- 18 Apr-Somerset Workshop
- 30 Apr-"Envy"lope Contest Ends
- 8 May-First Annual Arts Triathlon\*\*
- 12 Jun-"Scrap"tacular Event\*\*

\*\* Tentative Dates

## 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 Lose your newsletter? Go on-line to [www.friends-n-company.com](http://www.friends-n-company.com).

o Thanks Diane R. for a really great tip on mailing Wildcards from Wordsworth. Because they take extra postage for their odd shapes, simply slip your wildcard and envelope in a regular envelope allowing the postage to remain the same. Great idea!!

o Why not take it a step further and mail square envelopes in a similar way. Simply select a larger sized envelope which requires regular postage and create a seal just below where the square envelope would rest. Sound confusing? Stop in and we'll show you!

o Did you know that the Hot Pot can also be used for melting bits and pieces of crayons? Do we ever throw anything out!!

o

HAPPY STAMPING!!  
Until the next time,  
Take Care – Doris