
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.

Volume 6 Issue 2

May/June 2005

What's New?

Greetings Everyone! Every day that passes reminds us of just how quickly the year is flying. Here it is May 2005 already and what a very hectic and explosive time for all of us here at the shop. We are preparing to welcome our Aussie friends, and, yes, if you've heard the number nine, then you heard it correctly. You can read more about this invasion and what it might mean to you later in this newsletter. It's a visit definitely full of fun and frolicking surprises that you will want to be a part of.

The annual Puyallup Rubber Stamp Convention is also just around the corner. The ripple effect of waiting and the anticipation level of such a convention can be felt all around. Whether you are new to this industry or are an old hand, the convention promises to bring you many delights so don't pass up the opportunity to see it all first hand. Some convention tips can be found later in this newsletter and it would be wise for anyone to take special note for a successful day.

Our third annual "ENVY"lope contest is looking to get off the ground throughout May and June and with a minimum guaranteed gift certificate to Friends and Company of \$100.00, we are expecting lots of input. This is a wonderful opportunity to share all your creative spirit with the community of West Seattle as entries will be posted once again

at Coffee To A Tea just across the street from the shop. More details are included so please do check them all out.

Our creative journey continues to unfold for 2005 and we want you to be a part of it. We are expecting a guest appearance in June from Terry Maderis, a well known and respected artist who will travel from Arizona to share his experience and talent with all of us. We are honored to welcome Terry for the second time and hope you will find his classes challenging and fun. More details are provided in the class section of this newsletter. As with most classes, early registration is encouraged.

We would like to take a moment to thank all of you who participated and contributed in whatever way to the Garden Party held in early April. Much success is attributed to all of you who helped demo, coordinate raffle items, collect silent auction items, and, of course, attended the event. We are pleased to announce that our garden pots full of great rubber stamping fun and all about the garden were well received by our three lucky winners. Your donations for this fund raiser were greatly appreciated. Our raffle alone raised \$152.00 toward the Emily Williamson fund raiser. For those of you not familiar with Emily, she is a local community member diagnosed with breast cancer and has few funds to help ward off this disease. It turned out

to be a fabulous community event and, as always, we know that we are so blessed with such wealth that sometimes sharing even a nickel with someone else can make a difference. THANK YOU from the bottom of our hearts.

Preparations for the Triathlon in early July are well underway. Reservations are being accepted and are limited so please register early. All the details are expected to be available by the end of May.

Well, we have already loaded you down with lots of information but there is more so do read on. In the meantime, have a GREAT spring and enjoy all that it brings!

"New" Stuff. With spring in full swing, we have been focusing on garden fun and anything that reminds us of this time of year. We have also showcased our efforts in the selection of new accessories. There is always something going on in the rubber stamping industry and here is just a little bit of it!

Some trade "scoop" includes a recent announcement by our friends at "AnnTicipations" that they are closing their doors after 15 years in business. We were saddened to learn of this closure but also understand that moving on is sometimes what is best for everyone involved. If you have been holding off picking up any of their rubber stamp line, now would be the time before it is too late.

Friends and Company Rubber Stamping and More...

Another order from our friends at Hero Arts is expected at any time. They have some great stuff and their rubber stamps are always very popular not only in the classroom but in those toolboxes as well. As always with Hero Arts, we can count on them for their great designs, fast delivery and low prices!

We don't mean to sound like a broken record but another order from Penny Black is also expected. Their wispy, solid, and brush designs have been very "hot"! Great line of stamps for the fast and furious with great results too!

We continue to stay tuned to trade "gossip" and always enjoy passing it on to you in one form or another. Please keep us posted on what you see out there and let us know what you would like to see on our shelves. We love to hear from you!

O *Accessories and More.*

Because scrapbooking is so popular and what it has done for this industry, more and more accessories are hitting the marketplace than ever before. Lots of new, improved, and fun stuff has surfaced since CHA in February. The following is just a sampling.

Judi-Kins has introduced a new adhesive applicator with a unique three sided shape which includes three different widths of adhesive tape all in one dispenser. It applies precise and straight layers of adhesive to any project – especially important if straight is what you are attempting to achieve.

Penny Black has introduced yet more of their very classy stickers. Many of these stickers include

some of their popular stamp designs and words to go along with them with different floral themes. We also have a whole host of stickers that fit exactly into a bottle cap. Both the stickers and the bottle caps are simply fun and make a great embellishment.

We have also introduced a whole line of products from inkogNEATo located in Kent, WA. Lots of book construction kits are now available as well as all the components for making the accordion books.

Another new product to us is the Un-Du adhesive remover which instantly removes stickers, tape, labels, gum and much more. Although we think it is a definite "must have" for any toolbox caution needs to be exercised when using this product and all labels should be read before using. It is photo safe and acid free and does an amazing job!

Some things that we should not forget about include:

- More new designs using the Creative Cutter. We now have the Kimono pre-cut for iris folding.
- Fine Point Sharpie Permanent Marking Pens in packs of eight with many new colors.
- Lots of little "stuff" like mini dice, dog tags, buttons, brads in lots of colors, and tons more.
- Art Accentz Terrifically Tacky Tape in several widths.
- Color Dusters for stippling or to create delicate shading and background effects to projects.
- Style Stones from Clearsnap. These classic embellishments add dimension, special effects, or lots more to your art projects. Very fun stuff!

- Ranger's mini ultra soft rubber brayer. Don't forget that you can also purchase replacement rollers. It's a great way to experiment with carving your own designs.
- Some very cool chipboard monograms (alphabets) from Li'l Davis designs. Way cool!
- We are always on the lookout for new and cool papers and we think we are doing a great job so do let us know!

There is lots more so stop in soon! Accessories arrive frequently.

READ ALL ABOUT IT!

Distribution of our newsletter in its new form appears to be working rather well for you and all of us here at the shop. For those of you who might find it difficult to pull from the internet or can't make it into the shop as often as you would like, an easy solution is to provide us with six pre-addressed and pre-stamped envelopes. We will get your newsletter out pronto! Members of The Paper Connection automatically receive a copy in their monthly boxes. Another great reason to become a member!

Important Dates

- 1 May-Paper Connection Pick Up Date
- 1 May-"Envy"lope Contest Begins
- 5 May-Used Rubber Stamp Sale
- 6 May-Aussie Reception
- 7 May-Letter Carriers Food Drive
- 8 May-Mother's Day
- 14 May-Heirloom's Rubber Stamp Convention
- 26 May-QuicKutz Club Mtg
- 1 Jun-Paper Connection Pick Up Date
- 19 Jun-Father's Day

Friends and Company Rubber Stamping and More...

23 Jun-QuicKutz Club Mtg
30 Jun-"Envy"lope Contest
Ends

Convention Tips **Annual Puyallup Rubber Stamp Convention**

Friends and Company is pleased to announce that we have tickets available for purchase for the annual Heirloom Rubber Stamp Convention scheduled for 14 and 15 May 2005. 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 if you provide a self addressed/postage paid envelope at least 7 days prior to the show.

Friends and Company has also chartered a coach air-conditioned bus for your door to door convenience. Space is still available but going quickly. \$25.00 includes entry to the show, transportation, and a make 'n take lunch. Reserve your space today!

Here are also some convention reminders for all of us and especially if this is your first ever convention.

- 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 gotta keep your energy up. Bring a snack or two also.
- Be sure to bring a backpack or something similar. Rolling carts may not be allowed so be sure to check with Heirloom before proceeding in this direction.

- 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 here.
- Remember that there are two full floors of fun and activity.
- Take advantage of all the free demos, class events, and similar activity.
- Most of all – HAVE FUN!!

"Envy"lope contest

Friends and Company, along with Coffee To A Tea, is announcing their third annual 2005 "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 Coffee To A Tea (across the street from the shop). 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!! Entries must be postmarked by 30 June to qualify.

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Used But Not Abused Rubber Stamp Sale

Thousands and thousands of used rubber stamps will be available from a host of vendors selling their own stock.

Mark Your Calendars

**Thursday, 5 May 2005
6:00 pm – 8:00 pm**

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

O Interested in forming a rubber stamping club? Why wait any longer – call the shop and we'll help you with acquiring members.

The Paper Connection

"The Paper Connection" continues to exceed our expectations. We are having a great time and hear that the same is true for members. We are currently hosting a membership contest to celebrate our one-year anniversary with a first place prize of club membership for 6 months FREE. 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

Friends and Company Rubber Stamping and More...

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? More details are available at the shop, so do stop by or call to check it out.

Carolyn's Corner

Carolyn is on sabbatical until late May. We expect for Carolyn to return to her column at that time. If you have any questions for Carolyn, please feel free to bring them to the shop and we'll get them to her.

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

- 4 May-Penny Black
Diane Radischat
- 18 May-Florals
w/Doris Goulet
- 25 May-Iris/Quilt Folds
w/Lindy Combs
- 1 Jun-Part 1-A ZigZag*
w/Doris Goulet
- 8 Jun-Part 2-A ZigZag*
w/Doris Goulet
- 15 Jun-Man, Boys, Boats
w/Lindy Combs
- 22 Jun-Part 3-A ZigZag*
w/Doris Goulet

FRIDAY CLASSES

- 20 May-Birthdays
w/Sandy Huff

27 May-Simply Stylish
w/Doris Goulet

24 Jun-True Blue
w/Sandy Huff

* Please Note: This is a 3-part class to build a one of a kind treasure known as the ZigZag. Each session is \$10.00 and lots of supplies provided but bringing some of your own will also be required along with photographs (or copies). Several theme selections will be made available. More details will be available at the shop one week prior to starting class.

Round It Up Fundraisers

As we announced in our last newsletter, our fundraisers have been very successful so we have decided to continue with our “Round It Up” efforts and continue accepting change and donations to our perpetual giving jar. This is an extremely painless way of helping where help is often desperately needed. It is amazing how it can add up by simply tossing your change into the jar.

Our collections through June are targeted for “The Sweet Willie Foundation”. If you are interested in more information, we are very happy to provide it to you. Larger donations are also gladly accepted and are tax deductible!

Aussie Invasion

Please help us to welcome our
Australian friends on

6 May 2005

7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Refreshments and Other Stuff
Everyone is Welcome!

Nine Australian women are traveling to America to participate in a series of rubber stamping classes and other events during the two-week period that they are here. They are attending the Puyallup Rubber Stamp Convention as well and are traveling in the chartered bus so this is another opportunity to meet them and make new long distance friends. Please join us!

Class Notes

Our class lineup for May and June 2005 is very exciting and presents many opportunities for fun and getting many projects started or completed. All levels of rubber stamping are presented. Please note the following guidelines:

- Receive a class discount of 10% off your purchase the day of class. Excludes 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

Friends and Company Rubber Stamping and More...

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.

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

- Have electrical needs? Contact Michael MacDonald, the shop's electrician at (206) 762-1183. He does "light" hauling also! No pun intended there!

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