
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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What's New?

Greetings Everyone! We're not certain that everyone would agree, but, it seems as though 2006 has been moving faster than a flying bullet! Here we are in the May and June timeframe and yet it seems we just turned the corner into 2006. Time is precious as we likely all know so hopefully everyone is making the best of it and having fun at the same time. Before this newsletter period ends, schools will be closing for the summer so please be sure to include lots of great fun along with rubber stamping and scrapbooking into all of your plans for the summer.

We remain rather busy here at the shop. The 2006 Arts Triathlon is in the planning stages and is scheduled for 24 June with guest instructor Cheryl Darrow from Ten Seconds Studio in TX. Also included in the terrific lineup of instructors is our very own Gretchen Ehrsam, designer for Rubber Moon, and John Petersen owner of Inkcogneato in Kent WA. It will be a fabulous day so do register early as it will fill quickly.

We are also pleased to welcome Joyce Hazen, artist and designer for "A Stamp In The Hand". Joyce is very well known for all her convention demos and famous techniques that she has shared with us for many years now. We are extremely excited and honored to have her host two classes in the month of May here at Friends and Company. Do check out the schedule of classes.

This newsletter and the class schedule are full of new stuff so

please take the time to look it all over. We cannot, of course, forget about the annual Puyallup Rubber Stamp Convention either. More on that further into the newsletter.

Although we just rounded the corner into spring, the summer is trying to make its way in. Let us have it happen and rejoice in the warmth of summer and the lazy, hazy days that come with it.

We continue to feverishly pursue another suitable location for all of us but nothing has come up so far. It is anyone's guess as to what is possible so stay tuned. We will definitely keep you posted as this particular "event" evolves.

As always, we continue to wish you well in 2006 and hope that your creative spirits are soaring high. Remember to keep it fun and to also include many friends and family in all the fun and frolic.

"New" Stuff. We have been in search of some very new and exciting rubber stamp companies. With so much new "stuff" showcased at the CHA back in February, it really is difficult to spread the wealth.

One company that we have not seen in a very long time is Coronado Island. This company produces fabulous rubber stamps, many of which are in different sizes. We were especially pleased with the selection of animals and ethnic rubber stamps. Many of these gems are featured in the "Out of Africa" leg in the 2006 Arts Triathlon so do check them out.

Although we have not received our rubber stamps from AM Stamps (often referred to as After Midnight), we are confident that this particular line, which is new to us, will be pleasing and just what many of us are looking for. The images are gorgeous and will round out our shelves quite nicely.

We are looking into some of our old standbys such as Penny Black, Hero Arts and Inkadinkado as well. We are expecting some of these orders to ship very soon. Stay posted and visit often to see for yourselves all the new "stuff"!

O *Accessories and More.*

Accessories are pouring in and include many items which have not been available for a while. We are happy to note that we have restocked on all inkpads and some of the reinkers as well. Lots of new 12" x 12" papers have arrived and sit along our already great existing stock! Lots more is expected any day now to include a huge order from K&Company. Here are some things to watch for:

- Restock of the very popular 12" Zision Paper Trimmer. It cuts slivers and cuts them straight – imagine that!! We have lots of replacement blades. Always a good idea to keep an extra blade on hand.
- New brads include the classy pearls from K&Company. A very elegant embellishment on any project.
- A ton of punches have arrived including corner rounders, tags, rounds, squares and lots more but most importantly the new

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card creators from EK Success that everyone is asking for. If you have not seen the card creators, stop in and ask for a 1-minute demo. We think they are very cool. Also on the block of new punches are the bubble punches making it so easy to record any special message.

- If you have every wanted to make your own stickers, now is the time with the Xyron 150 sticker maker. What a fabulous tool and it's as easy as 1-2-3!
- We certainly don't make many mistakes (hee!hee!) but when we do – it's UnDu to the rescue. It will "unstick" just about anything, even gum!
- We just stocked some huge foam alphabet stamps with each letter being a different shape/size. Very cool for that scrapbooker and/or rubber stamper who thinks outside the box. At some point, everyone will likely want these very affordable foam mounts .
- We just received some great stickers that are 3-D and represent all branches of the military. Excellent for special one-of-a-kind cards or that extra special scrapbook page.
- We have all 8 colors of the spray bottle walnut inks from Tsukineko. They come in packs of four.
- We now have a much larger selection of adhesives so that you have more choices. Lots of 3-M products, including the original double stick tape; Pritt from Henkel Adhesives which include the tape runners; Tombow, including multi-purpose and tape runner adhesives; and Adhesive Tech, Hampton, NH, which includes several types of adhesive.
- More and more paper arrives every week in various textures and sizes. Don't forget to include the Friends and

Company line of pre-scored paper packs. They are definitely quick and easy.

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

Important Dates

- 1 May-Paper Connection
Pick Up Date
- 9 May-ATC Club Mtg
- 14 May-Mother's Day
- 18 May-Joyce, A Stamp In
The Hand, Teaches
at F&C
- 20 May-Puyallup RS Show
- 21 May-Puyallup RS Show
- 23 May-Joyce, A Stamp In
The Hand, Teaches
at F&C
- 27 May-Sale-Watch for Info
- 28 May-Sale-Watch for Info
- 29 May-Sale-Watch for Info
- 29 May-Memorial Day
Closing at 5:00 pm
- 1 Jun-Paper Connection
Pick Up Date
- 13 Jun-ATC Club Mtg
- 18 Jun-Father's Day
- 24 Jun-2006 Arts Triathlon

The Paper Connection

If you have ever wondered how best to support the store, joining "The Paper Connection" may be just the answer you are looking for. Being a member of the Paper Connection benefits both of us by providing you with a wonderful monthly themed pack of paper and collectibles and providing us with what we need to operate each month. Membership, coupled with the Friday Connection classes, has far exceeded our expectations and we are confident that as a member, you will enjoy its rewards.

This innovative, fun, and perhaps unique approach to owning paper is made up of club members who just love pampering themselves. 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 of fun surprises which are all about paper. Members receive 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.

We are now including several color copy samples using the current theme to help get your creative spirits flowing. One might refer to it as "A Class In A Box". These are easily replicated samples. It's really a Win/Win so check it out!

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

- 10 May-Everyday Cards
w/Diane
Radischat
- 17 May-All Occasion
w/Doris Goulet
- 24 May-Easy Fancy Folds
w/Lindy Combs
- 31 May-1 Stamp-2 Cards
w/Doris Goulet
- 7 Jun-Chalking
w/Lindy Combs
- 14 Jun-Penny Black
w/Diane
Radischat
- 21 Jun-Happy Birthday
w/Diane
Radischat
- 28 Jun-Any Day Cards
w/Doris Goulet

"Envy"lope contest

We are indeed happy to announce the fourth annual Friends and Company "Envy"lope contest for 2006. 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 here at the shop. Cost is \$5.00 per entry and includes a complimentary 50 pack

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of #10 envelopes (retail value \$4.00) and also a coupon for a complimentary 12-ounce coffee/tea along with a mini cupcake at Coffee To A Tea (across the street). Entries must be postmarked by 31 July 2006 to qualify.

Carolyn's Corner

Dear Carolyn –I never thought I would be writing to a “column” but here I am. I’m looking for help with adhesives. There are so many available that I just don’t know what is good and what is just OK or what I should be using. Some of what I have already bought either curls the paper or in the case of attachments, well, they just fall off. Can you help me with this dilemma? Tiffany

Dear Tiffany – Well Tiffany, you have certainly hit on an “emotional” topic. What I really mean by emotional is that most people finally settle down to what adhesive works best for them but up to that time, they have and likely need to investigate what is on the market and this can become difficult because of all the money you are spending along with all the advice that may come with it.

The following tips are not necessarily to convince you that they are the best but simply to get you to view your adhesive in maybe a different light.

Let’s take embellishments for example. A glue stick is clearly not strong enough for charms and/or embellishments no matter how much of it you use. A better choice is to use something like “The Ultimate” which is very strong for gluing embellishments even as heavy as charms. Not good for paper, however – at least in my opinion. Just too wet for paper like most of the liquid glues.

Double stick tape on the other hand is a good option for mounting paper to paper and is available in many forms. Some are tape runners

available from many manufacturers or even something as heavy duty as an ATG Tape Dispenser from 3-M. This one is really heavy duty but once you’ve used it, you’re not likely to go back to anything else. I find that double stick tape is the best to use when making greeting cards or projects that required a nice, smooth finish. Beware, however, that double stick is unforgiving in that once it is down – it is down and hard to pick up if your placement is off.

You are likely going to make up your own mind once you get going. You have already learned from some of your purchases so now it’s time to put those down and move ahead to something else. I’m confident that anyone working in a rubber stamp or scrapbook store will be more than willing to help you learn more about adhesives and what they might have on their shelves. Don’t hesitate to use the stores as a resource anytime you have a question. The more progress you make, the clearer it will get. Hope this helps!

Dear Carolyn – I have heard a lot of people talking about a product called Twinkling H2O’s. I am not sure how they are used and exactly what they are so I was wondering if you could tell me more about them. I did see some completed samples from a friend of mine. She loved the technique but was not real clear on how she got there. She is fairly new to all this stuff. I will be taking a class but before I commit, I thought I would find out more. Thanks for the help. Sammy

Dear Sammy – H2O’s are becoming extremely popular in this market and come in over 100 colors so knowing something about them is probably a good idea before making any purchases.

First, let me say that they are wonderful and one of my own personal favorite mediums. First off, they are non-toxic, archival safe for the scrapbooker, and just plain

simple fun to use. You can purchase small jars but my favorite are the 10 gram jars because their lids are clear so you can easily see all the wonderful colors that are available. The lids on the smaller jars are not clear. H2O’s generally come in sets so it makes it a bit easier to choose colors. Dipping a wet paintbrush into the cake of color will re-hydrate the cake allowing you to apply the color to your project. Spritzing directly into the jar and letting it sit for a bit will penetrate the cake and cause it to muddy a bit. This also makes for some great color to add to your project including direct to rubber with the H2O’s using a sponge or stipple brush. Are you convinced that there are lots of things that are possible? Rest assured that there are so check in with your local rubber stamp store and see what they have to offer. If a class is available, do consider taking it to learn first hand all about these fantastic little paints. Here’s to H2O’s!!

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 20 and 21 May 2006. A limited number of tickets are now available on a first-come, first-served basis at \$5.00 each for a two-day pass. Tickets can be mailed if you provide a self addressed/postage paid envelope by 1 May 2006.

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

- Prepare for a huge crowd.
- Bring at least one water bottle. Refills can be made at water fountains.

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- 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. Don't forget a snack!
- Be sure to bring a backpack to carry all your new goods. It can get heavy after a while and going to the car may not be an option.
- 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.
- Take advantage of all the free demos, class events, and similar activity.
- Most of all – HAVE FUN!!

For anyone who is interested, the Puyallup Paper Zone is hosting an after hours event following the convention on Saturday, 20 May 2006. Here are some of the details. If you need more, just call Annette at the Paper Zone (253-841-0765).

Come and show off your new treasures at a dessert buffet!

Hosted by the Puyallup Paper Zone
4009 South Meridian Avenue
Puyallup, WA
7pm-9pm

FREE, just bring a snack to share!
We'll have a chocolate fountain for you to dip goodies in.

The store will stay open extra late just for this event.

Bring a friend and come join us!

Class Notes

Our class lineup for May and June presents many great opportunities. The lineup is full of terrific ideas and presents many opportunities for fun and getting projects started or completed for gift giving all year long. We are very pleased to include several new instructors so please check out the class schedule.

All levels of rubber stamping are available. Please do note these guidelines:

- Receive a class discount of 10% off your purchase the day of class. Excludes discounted or sale items, magazines, and holds.

- Some classes now require students to bring a "Basic Class Kit" with them to class. Please see the list of class descriptions for more information and what the kit needs to contain. Keeping costs down is essential, therefore, we hope that this new requirement will help do just that.

- Pre-payment required on ALL class registrations. No exceptions. Students who have not pre-paid may forfeit their space in class so please – do pre-pay.

- 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. Classes involving guest instructors require a full 30 day cancellation. 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.

- If you have an OTT light and want to use it in class, please bring it along. Bringing other items to class unless specified, i.e., basic class kit, could result in the loss of your own tools so please refrain if possible. Please make certain that all items in your basic class kit are clearly marked with your own personal identifier.

We appreciate your becoming fully aware of these class policies and your understanding of their need.

Tips and Things

o When using "wet" glue, be sure to lay the top that has been snipped off flat on your paper and pull towards you while squeezing lightly. This will insure a flat smooth line of glue.

o A great tip for keeping your stylus from roughing up your paper when dry embossing came from Camille. Camille keeps a small votive candle in her basic kit so that she can tap her stylus into the wax when dry embossing. This is a very innovative approach, works well, and is extremely affordable. Thanks Camille.

o When adhering micro beads, don't short change yourself. Be sure to use the red liner tape that holds them securely and evenly. Double stick tape simply does not work. Consider owning all widths of red liner tape to create frames and other fun stuff.

o Invest in a magazine as a resource guide for creating, learning, and increasing your creative spirit. Well worth the money spent!

o Pass our website on to anyone. It's www.friends-n-company.com.

HAPPY STAMPING!!

Until the next time,
Take Care – Doris