
Friends and Company Rubber Stamping and More...

4540 California Avenue, S.W.

Seattle, WA 98116

(206) 932-3891 FAX (206) 932-3983

email: topstamp@msn.com www.friends-n-company.com

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 5

November/December 2005

What's New?

Greetings Everyone! It's very hard to believe that the frenzy of yet another holiday season is nearly upon us once again. Just where did 2005 go – does anyone know? It seems just like yesterday we were celebrating the new year and yet here we are about to turn the corner into 2006.

This past year has proven to be another explosive year here at Friends and Company. It included many very rewarding challenges for us here at the shop and hopefully resulted in many events and activities that you enjoyed being a part of. We have enjoyed show stopping products all year long with great techniques and the "how to's" of what to do with much of the product. Our manufacturers are like little elves in the North Pole just cranking out one goodie after another. We have much to thank them for so that we can all keep this environment fresh and exciting. They are doing a magnificent job and so are you, our valued customers, in not only keeping up with the product itself but also with all the support and camaraderie given to all of us here at the shop. We are so blessed and can never say it enough times. "Thank You" for such a great year and also for all the love and support that has been expressed repeatedly throughout the year.

As we all plunge toward this holiday season, all of us here at the shop hope you have a very wonderful and totally fulfilling holiday season. Be sure to take

some time for what matters most and include many friends and family in all your planning. May your holidays be warm and snugly and full of all that you want! Let us know how we can help you to make it fun and frolicky and to keep it that way!

Holiday Open House

Sun, 18 Dec 2005

12:00 -4:00

Fun, fun, and more fun
along with some great
refreshments!

"New" Stuff. It is always fun to see what is new and exciting in this industry. A recent road trip to Memory Trends in Las Vegas, NV, has resulted in an explosion of new companies which, in turn, results in tons of new product. We have made contact with many new and exciting manufacturers whose product will soon be filling our shelves. It was a fun and rewarding trip and one that we are sure will continue to follow us for a long time to come.

Lots and lots of new Peddlers Pack rubber stamps are now at the shop. Peddler's Pack was one of the showcased companies at the recent Auntie Amy Rubber Stamp Convention but we made sure to overstock so that everyone could

enjoy this great line of rubber stamps. Nearly all of the great background stamps we have all come to love are currently available but we expect not for long. Coupled with H2Os, these make wonderful gift packs or for your everyday shoebox of greeting cards. They are absolutely stunning!

A recent visit from Kat, owner of A Stamp In The Hand paid off not only for their company but also for us as many of their great line of unmounted stamps housed in a CD case are now gracing our shelves. This is a great line of rubber stamps at very affordable prices. We also have in stock the acrylic blocks that are used to accompany these rubber stamps. Some great designs are available and are sure to fit your budget as well.

We are expecting lots of new stuff in the coming weeks so stop by often to see for yourselves. We love to see you smile!

O *Accessories and More.*

Memory Trends showcased hundreds and hundreds of vendors who all have accessories that are a "must have" or specialize in certain lines of paper and just so much more. The growing attention to Scrapbooking is evident by attending Memory Trends so we want to do our best to help accommodate this fabulous outlet as well. Stay tuned for some very exciting and different products that are now available.

Friends and Company Rubber Stamping and More...

The "Fastenator", now available at the shop is quite fascinating. It is simply a stapler that will attach 1/8" staples to any of your projects. Stapling with regular staples has become a hot trend so using decorative staples will undoubtedly add lots more pizzazz. We were also introduced at Memory Trends to some great new designs so we can hardly wait to get them.

Everyone has their favorite paper cutter but recently we were introduced to the Zision Trimmer by Provo Craft and have found it to be the steal of the year. At an extremely affordable price it's almost surprising to know that it works beautifully. It also includes a scoring blade that will astound you.

Another wonderful find is the Work Surface from Adhesive Technologies, Inc. This 18" x 18" work surface cleans-up easily and is a non-stick and non-skid surface which also protects the work area. A "travel" size of 8" x 8" is also available: A must have for the tool box.

With the scrapbooker in mind, we have purchased many "scrapbook in a bag" or "scrapbook in a kit" concepts. These are great ways of Scrapbooking with everything you need in a simple kit. Lots of themes are available and with all the papers cut to size, they can be assembled quickly for some great holiday gift ideas.

Paper continues to be a passion for us here at the shop. It presents such wonderful opportunities for both the rubber stamper and the scrapbooker that we just can't get enough of it. If you are not already a member of the Paper Connection better check it out. It's hot and full of surprises.

We have received lots of new product from Provo Craft to

include dimensional ephemera, stickers, a collection of Rob and Bob studio items, some cool papers for that "eclectic" stranger lurking in you and so much more that you'll just have to check it out.

Around the Block has introduced some fun dog and cat brads for those very special projects. Lots of paper treats are also available to include life sayings and drop brads just in time for those special projects. Just how much easier can it get to include a special embellishment than this?

Some other fun things include:

- Cloud 9 Designs with punch out pieces for easy add-on.
- Assorted Washi and Origami papers for the special project.
- Empty pocket watches for making cool jewelry pieces.
- Buttons in different colors, including clear for added interest to a project.
- Every size and shape available of Page Pebbles. A great way of exploding or highlighting a certain piece of your work.
- Puffalicious which are stickers for embellishing. Way cool!
- Illuminata Art Labels by Paper Parachute. Lots of great designs on acetate that are self-adhesive and create the look of rubber stamping on acetate without all the fuss.
- Several Deja Views paper pack collections for the holidays as well as all year long themes.
- Lots of copper, aluminum, and brass foil metals for all sorts of crafting projects along with accessories to make working with metal easy and fun.
- Tons of eyelets at give away prices!

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

Holiday Craft Sale

Fri, 18 Nov, 10-7

Sat, 19 Nov, 10-5

Sun, 20 Nov, 10-5

Lots of great gift items to choose from including beads, jewelry, journals, kitchenware, clothing, stocking stuffers, wood products, and so much much more!!

Mark Your Calendar Today!

READ ALL ABOUT IT!

The end of December marks a year since we made the decision to discontinue mailing our newsletter. Distribution in its current form appears to be working rather well so it is our intention to continue with this format.

For those of you not familiar with our mailing policy or if you do not have internet access, an easy solution is to provide us with six pre-addressed and pre-stamped envelopes. We will get your newsletter out pronto! Paper Connection members automatically receive a copy in their monthly boxes. Another great reason to become a member!

Rubber Stamp Estate Sale

**Saturday
5 November 2005**

10:00 am-2:00 pm

Important Dates

1 Nov-Paper Connection

Friends and Company Rubber Stamping and More...

- Pick Up Date
5 Nov-Rubber Stamp
Estate Sale
8 Nov-ATC Club Mtg
18 Nov-Annual Craft Show
19 Nov-Annual Craft Show
20 Nov-Annual Craft Show
24 Nov-Closed
Happy Thanksgiving
- 1 Dec-Paper Connection
Pick Up Date
13 Dec-ATC Club Mtg
25 Dec-Closed
Happy Holidays
26 Dec-Closed
More Happy Holidays

The Paper Connection

“The Paper Connection” continues to exceed our expectations. The Friday Connection classes have been a real hit and will continue to be showcased in our wonderful lineup of classes.

Now, if you are looking for fun and surprises, “The Paper Connection” may be just what you are looking for! This is an innovative, fun, and perhaps unique approach to owning paper and 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

“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.

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

- 9 Nov-Holiday Cards
w/Diane Radischat
16 Nov-Holiday Iris Folds
w/Lindy Combs
30 Nov-Hero Arts Christmas
w/Diane Radischat
- 7 Dec-All Occasion
w/Doris Goulet
14 Dec-Gift Giving
w/Lindy Combs
28 Dec-Winter Wonderland
w/Doris Goulet

FRIDAY CLASSES

- 2 Dec-Lots of Tags
w/Doris Goulet
16 Dec-Last Minute
w/Sandy Huff

Carolyn's Corner

Dear Carolyn – I am on the hunt for some sort of adhesive that will work with attaching micro beads to different craft projects. I have tried several tacky types of glue with little or no success. I've seen projects done using these beads on glass, for example, but can't seem to make anything work for me. Any suggestions? Martha

Dear Martha – I suspect what you are looking for is referred to by several names. The most common name is “Wonder Tape” and is available in most craft and/or rubber stamp stores but call ahead just to be certain that they carry this product. It is also sometimes referred to as terrifically tacky

tape. This product is a double-sided tape that is one of the strongest tapes you can buy. It will hold beads to wood, glass, metal, plastic, paper and many other surfaces. An easy way to identify this tape is to look for a roll that is red in color which is why sometimes it is called red liner tape. This is just the plastic which covers the tape until it is ready to use. One side goes down directly from the roll and when you are ready to attach something you remove the plastic to expose the other side of the sticky. This tape also comes in sheets for larger projects. When you find this tape, be sure to ask for its companion tape that is punchable. Can you imagine the possibilities?

Dear Carolyn – Please help me to understand the fascination with using staples on craft projects. I have seen absolutely beautiful ribbon used in a project with one big ugly staple holding it down. Everyone tells me it's the “in” thing but it leaves something to be desired for me. Am I missing the boat on this one? Sammie

Dear Sammie – Well, I must admit that this one made me laugh. No, I don't believe you are missing the boat at all. For some people, this is the look they want and it's reasonably inexpensive and easy to do. Most people have one stapler or another in their homes. I have seen some projects where a staple is used to hold down whatever object is being used but then covered with an embellishment or something similar to make the project more attractive. There is also a new stapler on the market from EK Success called a “Fastenator” which attaches decorative staples to projects. I recently read that EK Success has also introduced several new styles of staples that can be used. I heard a rumor but have not been able to

Friends and Company Rubber Stamping and More...

validate it so far that one of these styles has a space which allows ribbon to be woven through the staples. It sounded cool but best call your favorite rubber stamp or scrapbook store to make sure they carry this product and have it in stock. It's been around a while but remains a novelty and not necessarily a must have!

Round It Up Fundraiser

Our collections for the "The Sweet Willie Foundation" are going well. Please remember to drop whatever change you might have into our giving jar at the desk. If you are interested in more information on this foundation, we are very happy to provide it to you. Larger, tax deductible donations are also gladly accepted.

ANNUAL HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE

Our food drives have always been a huge success and we would like to make this year no exception. We are planning our annual food drive from September 1st and ending December 30th. Feel free to bring in non-perishable food donations any time during this period. Anyone bringing in five non-perishable food items at one time will receive a 15% off coupon good for their entire purchase of regularly priced merchandise good any time during the food drive. Our annual goal is better than 300 pounds and we would like to fill the Food Bank again this year! You have been extremely generous in years past and we hope to see many of you again this year.

Class Notes

Our class lineup for November and December 2005 is exciting, full of holiday ideas, and presents many opportunities for fun and getting many projects started or completed. 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.
- 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. Classes involving guest instructors require a full 14-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.
 - 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 your understanding of 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 gladly exchange unused items within 30 days of sale but a sales receipt must accompany your request. No

exchanges can be made for paper products, magazines, sale items or specialty items such as beads.

Tips and Things

o Call today to reserve the balcony for your next special event. We custom taylor classes for birthdays (both children and adult), or spend a morning of stamping "thank you" for the bride to be, and you could even consider a stamping bridal shower or stamping baby shower, or whatever else fun you can think of!! We have the instructors, we have the space, and we have the cleanup!!

o Got a "sticky" situation that needs to be unstuck? Try using Un-Du adhesive remover. This product is truly incredible and really works. It is perfect for removing gum, Velcro, grease, tar, tape, stickers and so much more and can be used on paper, glass, plastic, walls, some clothing, and on and on and on. Do check it out!

o Try using photo paper to rubber stamp on. It creates a totally different look and you can easily add color directly from an inkpad with a stylus tip or other tool to enhance the image or simply add color.

alison katica
photography

f i n e a r t
w e d d i n g s
p o r t r a i t s
c o m m e r c i a l

206?240?4820
akatica@msn.com
www.alisonkatica.com

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