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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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September/October 2006

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### *What's New?*

Greetings Everyone! There is lots to report on, however, the most important and/or critical news that we have for this reporting period is that our attempt at developing a transition plan for a move in early fall has gone awry. At press time, no other news was available for a revised transition plan but as soon as something is known, we will relay that information to you. We regret all the confusion and uncertainties but please know that this decision did not come easily. We do believe, however, that it was a great decision and was made with all of you in mind. Please rest assured that we will make all attempts possible for our continued success and that of yours as well.

Now with that said and done, we are happy to report that the shop is operating at full force with lots of new stuff coming on board. We are working feverishly on our 9-year anniversary celebration which has always been planned for September here at the shop despite any impending move so please be sure to mark your calendars now so that you don't miss out on all the frivolities that are being planned.

In other news, we are expecting to host another visit by Cheryl Darrow, owner of Ten Seconds Studio, in October, for a series of classes and some convention fun. Please see the class listings for all the details. Cheryl will participate with us in the last Auntie Amy Convention hosted by Auntie Amy. As many of you have already heard, Heirloom Productions will

now host and sponsor any convention originally hosted by Auntie Amy as they have bought out Auntie Amy and all of her conventions. Big industry news but we are all being reassured that it will benefit all of us as consumers and the industry as a whole. We are excited to see it all evolve.

We are also expecting to host an Octoberfest celebration, similar to the Triathlon but on a much smaller scale so stay tuned for those details. The date is locked in for 21 October so be sure to pencil that date in your calendar! We'll keep you posted.

Lots of classes are available for September and October. A lot is going on so check them out and register early. We are happy to report that we have included a class for beginner's scrapbooking that we are sure will tickle your fancy. Camille Parry, our newest employee and long time friend, is very well versed in scrapbooking so we are confident that you will totally enjoy what Camille has to offer. Whether you are scrapbooking or not, please take some time to welcome Camille to the shop.

The year 2006 continues to progress with record speed. As the lazy hazy days of summer become less and less tense with heat and all that it brings with it, we, here at the shop, will welcome fall as it is our most favorite time of the year. Those raging colors just can't be beat!! As always, we wish you

well as the year unfolds into autumn and hope that you will remember to keep it fun. That's what it should be all about!

## Nine-Year Anniversary Celebration

Sat, 9 Sep 2006  
10:00 – 5:00

Sun, 10 Sep 2006  
12:00 -4:00

Demos, Door Prizes,  
Discounts, Fun, Fun,  
and More Fun For Two  
Full Days

*“New” Stuff.* Because we were facing a move, we intentionally slowed our purchases down hoping to take early possession and have “things” delivered there, but, as you now know, that plan is sunk! We have placed several orders in the hope that they will arrive prior to our anniversary celebration. As a result, we will keep you guessing and hope that you will stop in soon to see it for yourselves.

Some of our old time favorites continue to grace us with their presence. A substantial order from

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Hero Arts was recently received with many of their new designs with holiday designs arriving soon.

Gretchen Ehram, a West Seattle designer for Rubbermoon, has been busy creating lots of great new images. We currently have some excellent choices and will undoubtedly have more new ones for our anniversary celebration. We just received an updated catalog insert.

We hope you will enjoy what you see on your next visit and will include our anniversary celebration as one of your visits this fall. See you soon!

### **O** *Accessories and More.*

We love to have lots of accessories on hand but we can never have enough. There is so much that is possible out there it is sometimes hard to know just where to start. We have recently picked up a few new things and have lots of our old time favorites on hand as well. We are always looking for new and fun stuff so here are just a few!

- The Crop-A-Dile from WeR Memory Keepers is probably the latest “gadget” on the market. Often referred to as a crocodile, this is the newest method for hole punching, eyelet setting, and snap setting as well. It is very portable, very silent, and very strong. There are no mats or other tools required so if you just love eyelets, this may be the tool for you.
- Our rack for the Ten Seconds Studio products is bursting at the seams. We recently received a full slate of tools, molds, and all of the wheels that are extremely popular among the clay artists. There is a lot to choose from in this most recent delivery so stop in

to take a look. A class using lots of these products is scheduled for 12 October so get registered now!

- Walnut Inks remain very popular. All 8 of the Walnut Ink Antiquing Solutions are currently on hand. These are great fun for all paper craft projects – even wood!
- Lots of new punches are on hand and lots more are coming. We have connected with EK Success and are expecting our order soon.
- No matter which medium you may work in, paper is definitely a passion. We see this every day as countless pieces of paper leave these premises. We love to see you smile when it comes to paper so you can expect that the Paper Emporium at the shop will just continue to grow and grow. Paper is one of our passions also. If you really love paper, you should consider joining the “Paper Connection”. More details are available on the “Connection” later in this newsletter.

There is lots more so stop in soon! If we don't have it and you want it, please do let us know.

### **Important Dates**

- 1 Sep-Paper Connection Pick Up Date
- 9 Sep-9 Year Anniversary
- 10 Sep-9 Year Anniversary
- 12 Sep-ATC Club Mtg
  
- 1 Oct-Paper Connection Pick Up Date
- 10 Oct-ATC Club Mtg
- 12 Oct-Special Class Event w/Cheryl Darrow
- 14 Oct-Auntie Amy Rubber Stamp Convention
- 21 Oct-Octoberfest
  
- 5 Nov-Christmas Workshop
- 6 Nov-Christmas Workshop
- 17 Nov-Annual Craft Sale
- 18 Nov-Annual Craft Sale
- 19 Nov-Annual Craft Sale

### **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. “A Class In A Box” as it is being referred to with easily replicated samples. It's a Win/Win so check it out!

### **“Envy”lope contest**

The fourth annual “Envy”lope contest for 2006 is now closed and voting is currently underway at the shop. Participation was not as great as we had hoped for but the entries are magnificent. We are certain that the winner will appreciate your vote so do so before 30 September 2006. Our winner will be announced in the next newsletter.

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## 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 \$12.00 which reflects our second increase in 9 years. We hope you understand the need for such an increase and will continue to support our senior endeavors. All other class guidelines apply.

### WEDNESDAY CLASSES

- 6 Sep-All Occasion  
w/Diane Radischat
- 20 Sep-Quick Fall Cards  
w/Lindy Combs
- 27 Sep-Accordian Folds  
w/Diane Radischat
  
- 4 Oct-Autumn Fun  
w/Doris Goulet
- 18 Oct-Halloween Folds  
w/Lindy Combs

## Carolyn's Corner

Dear Carolyn – I have been contemplating buying a craft iron from Clover but I am not convinced that I really need it. I love gadgets and such and the craft industry certainly has its share of them but please convince me that I really need this particular item. Sheila

Dear Sheila – Well, I certainly got a robust laugh from your letter. I could easily say “well, of course you need this iron” and let it go at that but I think you already know that and are just looking for some validation. If it is in fact validation that you want, well, what can I say but “you’ve got it”. The Clover Craft Iron is actually a very nice tool for your craft toolkit. Two of its greatest features from my perspective are that there are no steam holes and that it stores flat. It transports easily and has that wonderful stick resistant sole plate that we all love so much. I really do think it is a reasonable

investment and with the holidays just around the corner could be included on your “wish list” of things you gotta have! Keeping it fun Sheila is important and I get the sense that you are good at it. Keep up the FUN work!

Dear Carolyn – I don't particularly like stickers for my projects but the price is often right. I do a variety of art and would like a classy sort of look. The stickers with dimension are too expensive for me but I do like how they look. Any ideas for taking stickers up a notch? Diane

Dear Diane – Well, I can certainly tell you what I do with stickers and really love the look. I will often select my stickers so that they are easy to cut. I will begin by sticking them down onto cardstock followed by mounting them up with mounting tape. You will immediately get a different look. If you leave margins on either side, you could then add embellishments such as brads, eyelets, sequins, etc. If they are easy to cut, you could cut the sticker out after sticking it to cardstock and before mounting it up. Stickers are very classy looking these days and very affordable. I would also suggest watching for sales and making them stretch as I have suggested. Stickers are not just for potty training anymore. On the contrary, they are made to create and embellish already wonderful art!! Just keep it fun!

### Convention Tips Auntie Amy's Rubber Stamp Convention

Friends and Company is pre-selling tickets for the 14 October 2006 Auntie Amy Unconventional Rubber Stamp Convention at the Tacoma Dome. Tickets are available on a first-come, first-served basis at \$5.00 each and are

expected to be available just after Labor Day weekend. Call ahead if you are coming from a distance to be certain that we have received them. We are currently accepting self addressed and postage paid envelopes for mailing immediately upon receipt so do it NOW while it's fresh in your mind!! The names of anyone purchasing their tickets directly from Friends and Company will be tossed in a bucket for a chance to win a \$25.00 gift certificate to the shop. Amy is also throwing in an assortment of her Auntie Amy's Embossing Arts Rubber Stamps which will be a real “catch”. This will be Auntie Amy's last trip to the dome so let's make it a GREAT one for her to remember!

Each pre-purchased ticket includes an unmounted die, early entry by a 1/2 hour, and a savings of \$2.00. If anyone is interested in scrapbooking, check out the Auntie Amy site at [www.auntieamy.com](http://www.auntieamy.com). Information on the day long crop can be obtained at this site. The crop is all day long and runs parallel to the show. Another great convention opportunity!

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

- Wear comfortable walking shoes and clothing.
- Carry a water bottle for some refueling.
- Be prepared with cash for a quick getaway at the crowded registers.
- Drag a tote along with wheels or a backpack or something that keeps your hands free to put all your treasures in.
- Practice patience and remain composed with the large crowds.
- If going with friends, don't try to stick together. There is a

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ton to see so make plans to meet periodically instead. Cell phones can be very handy.

- Take advantage of all the free demos and class events.
- Most of all – HAVE FUN!!

## Class Notes

Our class lineup for September and October presents many great opportunities. It is full of terrific ideas and many opportunities for fun and getting projects started or completed for gift giving all year long. We are pleased to include a beginners scrapbooking class so do check it out. 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.

## Annual Fund Raisers

### **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 1<sup>st</sup> and ending December 30<sup>th</sup>. 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.

### **SWEET WILLEY ROUNDUP**

As most of you already know, we have been hosting the Sweet Willey “roundup” for all of 2006. We are about to expand our roundup (dropping change into the jar) to mimic our fund raising effort for Sweet Willey similar to that of last year. Here is the challenge. Help the thermometer reach the top. Last year’s donation topped \$1000.00 and we’d like to

do it again. Each \$10.00 donation pops the mark up one notch. But wait – there is more. Anyone donating a tax deductible donation of \$100.00 or more will receive a one-time 25% off their entire shopping spree at Friends and Company. All donations of any size are tax deductible. We’d like to hear from you before 31 December 2006 to make your donation count!

## “STUFF”

- o Looking for something different for a birthday party but don’t want to clean the house? Need a place to meet monthly? Want to get together with some of your friends? Call the shop for details on using the balcony for any of these events.

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

## **Tips and Things**

- o - If you would love to have rubber stamps exclusive to you, consider custom made ones. They are inexpensive and fun to own. With the holidays just around the corner, what better way to get your holiday projects done with rubber stamps that are all your very own!

- o – Add a hint of color to your project by using a coordinated color from the project along with a Tombow, Marvy Matchable or like marker and edge each side of your project. Adds the perfect touch to complete your project.

- o If you have lots of “stray” ribbon, use an empty paper towel roll to keep all these stray ribbons in one place. Thanks Camille for that great tip.

- o Got a tip – let us hear from you!
- o Pass our website on to anyone. It’s [www.friends-n-company.com](http://www.friends-n-company.com)

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