



Buffalo Stamps & Stuff (Sharon A. Klima)

3314 Sheridan Dr.
Amherst, NY 14226
buffalostamps.com
Opened 2003

1. We would love to hear about your background story! Tell us about your humble beginnings!

In 1991, with a \$250 start-up cash, my sister-in-law and I started our business. Back then, they didn't even have heat guns for embossing, we actually used light bulbs! We went to local craft shows selling rubber stamps from Personal Stamp Exchange, Hero Arts, All Night Media, Printworks, and Inkadinkadoo. Do you remember these companies?

2. What made you decide to start your paper crafting business?

We soon found out that people needed to see how to use the rubber stamps so we started doing home parties. We went into people's homes and set up mini-stores in their kitchens with the latest rubber stamp products at the time. We would do a 45-minute demonstration showing basic stamping and other techniques. After the demo, customers were able to purchase products right then and there and go home and play! They loved having something in their hands when they left. We did that for many years and, eventually, my sister-in-law went back to college and it was just me.

3. That did sound like it was a lot of fun! Can you tell us about the people behind your amazing team?

I continued doing craft shows with the help of my husband, Mark. I also began teaching rubber stamp classes from my house and continuing ed classes at local schools. Then in 2003, I rented a small space in a scrapbook store and my business kept growing. Three years later, I opened my own location. In the beginning, it was just myself and one other team member. Currently, there are 7 amazing women in my team who share the love of what we do!

4. Do you have a business motto or a mission statement you live by?

The heart and soul of our store is really our teaching and education. Being a place where people can come to be inspired is our motto! We offer a wide range of classes weekly where people come in, learn, and share their love of rubber stamping.

5. What brought you to Altenew and made you carry our products in your store?

As a store owner, I find it extremely important to go to the CHA / Creativations shows to look for new products and companies to share with our customers and to get inspired myself. Four years ago, I discovered Altenew! Your stamps were completely different from everything else that I had seen. I just knew that I loved your designs and that our customers would love your product line, too!

6. What is the biggest joy you have in running your business?

I'm truly blessed to be able to share my love of rubber stamping with so many people and create wonderful friendships along the way!

7. This is just for fun - please share your all-time favorite Altenew product with us!

To this day, I think my favorites are the layering flower sets. I can't just pick one because I love them all!