

# The Scrapbook Sentinel

A Free Newsletter For The Friends of: **Imagine That! Scrapbooks & Gifts**

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*“A best friend is like a four leaf clover: hard to find and lucky to have.” - Author Unknown*

## Celebrate the Luck of the Irish by Going Blarney on Your Pages!

St. Patrick's Day. Now there's a holiday for you. What kind of crazy holiday can take a whole country and turn them into corned beef eating, green beer drinking, shamrock toting Irishmen?

In our family, we come from hearty Irish stock, and the Van Winkle last name is Dutch. But that doesn't stop Ronnie from enjoying the fun of our "Irish for a day" holiday. Ronnie loves any good Irish pub- and a good logger!

As most of you know- We have been in Houston at MD Anderson for since the end of January, when Ronnie was diagnosed with a very rare cancer.

We are blessed with so many good friends and family, we need the luck of the Irish. But it's not luck that will get us through this- It is BELIEF and PRAYER. Ronnie and I thank everyone for their continued prayers.

If you have not had the opportunity to visit his website – please do so by clicking on the following link <http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/ronnievanwinkle> He loves to read all the messages sent. Thank You All!

### And Now On To Some Shamrockin' Scrapbookin'

Don't you just love a fresh stack of printed papers? I'm not talking cherry-picked mish-mosh, oh, this one looks good, isn't that one cute, kind of thing... I mean, a good, solid stack of papers in great prints and colors that ALL LOOK GREAT, and WORK TOGETHER for the common good (that being the happy completion of your project.)

It just seems that when I work on any project, whether it be a mini album, greeting cards, or even just my next stack of pictures for my family album, when I approach my project with a single theme, or designer of papers, I enjoy the process so much more. Less stress when it comes to choosing layouts and colors, less fumbling and struggling for the right "look" because everything already matches everything else!



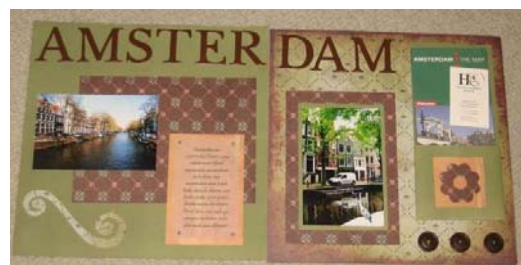
That's what I love about Paper and Cardstock stacks and tablets. If you've ever used them before you know. It's like someone took your favorite printed paper, multiplied it by 25 or 50 and handed it to you in a stack. The tablets come in 12x12 and 8x8 sizes... you can even get them in 5x7s, for perfect matting every time.

For me, the most frustrating part of scrapbooking and card-making is when I know what I want to do, but have run out of (or never had in the first place), the right paper for what I want to do.

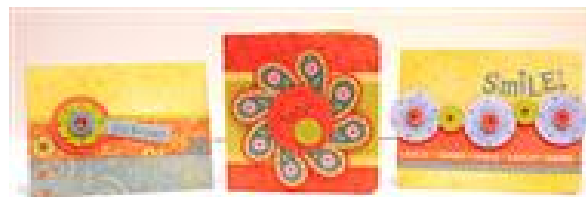
The most basic and dependable use of paper tablets is as an aid in completing your album. Here are some simple ideas that will have you completing stacks of 2-page spreads in no time.

### Getting The Most Out Of Your Paper Stacks

1. The absolute simplest approach is to wallpaper (cover the entire page) with matching prints on facing pages. Then you can mat 2-3 of your favorite photos with papers from a 5x7 tablet, add a journaling box, a few (optional) embellishments, and you're done. This technique works great with 12x12" albums, and is especially striking and satisfying in 8x8s.
2. Make ½ wallpaper pages. Rip a printed sheet by hand, or use a ripping tool for a more uniform edge. Use half along the far left side, and the other half on the facing page. The insides of the pages can be left blank, or covered with a coordinating solid. Again, use a 5x7 tablet to mat a few of your favorite photos. And Voila!



3. Layer different sizes and shapes of interesting prints with coordinating solids. I LOVE-LOVE the look of strips, blocks and squares layered on a page, to provide beautiful color, while maintaining a clean and simple appearance. (This is a great way to incorporate 8x8 and 5x7 papers into your 12x12 layout.)
4. Wallpaper your 2 page spread, then add any combination of 1" – 6" strips in all different prints, as a border along the far left and right margins of the spread.
5. You can also create this kind of border along the top and bottom of your page(s). (Helpful hint: Our eyes like variety. If you run strips anywhere across your page, make sure they are very different in width – use a 4" strip paired with a 3/4" strip across the top, while along the bottom, choose a 3<sup>rd</sup> pattern cut 1" wide.
6. When you're combining prints, remember that big, bold patterns pair up nicely with smaller prints.



complete, because I am just following the same pattern for each one. So, instead of MAYBE... completing only one card after an hour of hunting and (mis) matching whatever scraps and left-overs I can find, my trusty Paper and mat stacks give me a dependable assortment of colors and patterns that eliminate both frustration and stress from the creative process!

2. Pick any of the scrapbook layouts I suggested, just sized down for your card. (I sometimes add pop-dots, a ribbon, or a couple eyelets if I'm feeling ambitious.)

3. Squares are also easy to use on cards, and make great focal points. Give your card some flash by layering a large sticker over two or more square mats in graduating sizes. Use a 3<sup>rd</sup> pattern for the main background of the card.

4. You can also punch a row of three squares (or circles, or hexagons!), and decorate them with smaller stickers or stamped images. Accent your shapes with additional paper strips to liven things up.

5. With any card you make, you have the option to leave the inside blank for the time-being, only stamping your sentiment when you're ready to use it. With a good assortment of clear-stamp sentiments, the same card can say, "Thank-You", "Happy Birthday," or "Just Because" – depending on your needs.



### Paper Stacks Are Your Ticket to Card-Central

Do you love to make cards, but just don't have the time to create 2 hour works of art on each? 8x8 Paper Stacks provide a BOUNTY of resources for all your card-making needs.

I'm a simple girl. Don't get me wrong; I love to create, but I also like to get things done. I just don't have the stamina for 3 hour greeting cards. "Simple but Pretty" is my motto. So, when I find a sheet of stickers, rub-ons, or clear stamp set that I love, I match it up with a tablet of coordinating prints and solids, and go to town.



### My Quick and Easy Card Making Process

1. I pick a formula I like. A formula is the pattern I will follow when I make each card. For example, a formula might be to scallop-punch a flower, and center it over a horizontal strip. I can vary the stickers, colors and prints I use, but the design will remain the same for each card. I like this approach, because it allows me, within a relatively short amount of time, to create a stack of 6 or more cards, *all unique, while at the same time, all using the same simple formula!* Every card is different and beautiful, because I have an entire stack of different – BUT COORDINATING – papers to choose from. And, at the same time, the cards are SIMPLE and QUICK to

### Welcome New Scrappers!

Here are the new people that became members of our scrapping family this last month! We'd like to welcome you publicly, and wish you all the best!

Barbara G., Jenny M, RickV, Kerri P,  
Lynette ., TerriD., Katie L., Leslie B.,  
Sammy B, Michelle B.

# The Legend of the Leprechaun

A Leprechaun is an Irish "elf". Leprechauns are small in size, and some say they look like a tiny, old man in a top hat and red beard. They are tricky fellows who like to play pranks on unsuspecting people. They are also well-known for their cleverness and ability to get themselves out of trouble.

When the Vikings inhabited Ireland, they stored hordes of treasure all over the land. According to the legends, when they left, they forgot to take several stashes of gold with them. The leprechauns found the gold and divided it among themselves. But they knew the riches of the Vikings had been collected through wicked deeds, and this deepened their mistrust of humans.

The leprechauns decided that humans could not have the gold because of what their greed would make them do. They stored the coins in pots and buried them deep underground where humans could not find them. However, according to the stories, a rainbow will end where a leprechaun has hidden his pot of gold.

Legend says that Leprechauns are shoemakers. Curiously enough though, they only make one of each type of shoe. You can tell a Leprechaun is near if you hear the tapping of his hammer.

A captured leprechaun will grant you three wishes or a gold coin to bribe his way to freedom, but if you are lucky enough to catch a leprechaun you'll also need to be outsmart him. Here are some helpful hints when dealing with a captured leprechaun.

Never take your eye off him even for a second. You must be careful to blink only one eye at a time, or he will vanish.

Never listen to what the leprechaun says, no matter what. The leprechauns are great mind players and will say anything to confuse you into making the wrong wishes. Once, a man named Seamus from County Mayo wished to be the richest man on a tropical island. But when his wish came true he suddenly realized that there were no shops or pubs on the island with which to spend his money or even people to talk with. Unfortunately Seamus became bored after a few hours on the island and had to waste his third wish to return to Ireland.

If you ever do spot a leprechaun, you may be better off to pass him by without taking notice. You might end up with more trouble than you bargained for, as the people of Ireland know only too well.

## Guinness: The World's Irish Ale

### 1759:

The Guinness Brewery opens in Dublin and is given a 9,000 year lease on its property, at a perpetual rate of 45 Irish pounds per year.

### 13 Million:

Estimated number of Guinness pints sold every St. Patrick's Day (more than 150 per second).

### A Weary Soldier...

fighting against Napoleon at Waterloo wrote in his diary: "When I [could] take some nourishment, I felt the most extraordinary desire for a glass of Guinness." Doctors wrote in to say that they found Guinness good for everything from "insomnia, neurasthenia, debility and constipation" to an "effective aid for nursing mothers."

(Guinness tried to get stout admitted into the U.S. during Prohibition as a medicine, but the Treasury Department coldly said no.)



## Luck of the Irish Scrapbooking Quotes

“St. Patrick's Day is an enchanted time - a day to begin transforming winter's dreams into summer's magic.” -*Adrienne Cook*

“Tis better by far at the rainbows end to find not gold but the heart of a friend.”  
- *Author unknown*

“A man loves his sweetheart the most, his wife the best, but his mother the longest.” - *Irish Proverb*

“When Irish eyes are smiling, 'tis like a morn in spring. In the lilt of Irish laughter, you can hear the angels sing.”  
- *Olcott and Graff, “When Irish Eyes Are Smiling”*

“As you slide down the banister of life, may the splinters never point in the wrong direction.” – *Irish Blessing*

“Youth likes to wander.” – *Irish Proverb*

“Drink is the curse of the land. It makes you fight with your neighbor. It makes you shoot at your landlord and it makes you miss him.” – *Irish Proverb*

“May your thoughts be as glad as the shamrocks, may your heart be as light as a song, may each day bring you bright, happy hours that stay with you all the year long.” - *Irish Blessing*

## March's EXTRA LUCKY Coupons!



Imagine That! Scrapbooks & Gifts  
**MARCH GIFT TO YOU!**

**Buy 1, Get 1 Half Off  
On All Our Paper Tablets!**

Offer good **3-1-09 through 3-31-09.**

Item must be of equal or lesser value. May not be used in combination with any other coupons or special offers.



Imagine That! Scrapbooks & Gifts  
**MARCH GIFT TO YOU!**

**Buy any 2 St. Patrick's Day items,  
Get 3<sup>rd</sup> one Half Off!**

Offer good **3-15-09 through 3-31-09.**

Item must be of equal or lesser value. May not be used in combination with any other coupons or special offers.  
(Including any store special events, classes, etc.)