

The Houston Cake Club

January 26, 2010

Larry's Arts and Crafts

Pasadena, Texas

Pat Wiener demonstrated butter cream roses and a fantasy flower.

Sandy Cook provided refreshments.

Lori Gust called the meeting to order at 10:55 am with 30 members and 3 guests present.

The question for this month was what is a favorite decorating theme or idea for this time of the year. A sheet was sent around to procure ideas for the question of the month.

Lori Gust reminded everyone that membership expires on January 31, 2010. She explained membership renewal benefits for 2010.

The minutes for November were presented. (There are no minutes for December because of the Christmas party). Kathy Brinkley moved to accept the minutes and Mary Nichols seconded the motion. The minutes/motion passed.

Helen Osteen presented the Treasurer's report. She said that there are spaces available for the Cricut class scheduled for next month. Helen explained the expenses listed on the report. She said that we now have 41 members for 2010. Bonnell Templet moved to accept the Treasurer's report and Sandy Cook seconded the motion. The report/motion passed.

Lori Gust said the sign-up sheet for refreshments, demos, and photo albums for 2010 would be passed around. She asked that everyone make an effort to participate. Kathy Brinkley mentioned that a demo is needed for February.

OLD BUSINESS

Lori Gust asked for feedback on the Christmas party. She explained that "teen" gifts were collected for the Shriner's Hospital. Bonnell Templet took the gifts to the hospital and said that 17 teens received gifts that would otherwise have been left out of the gift exchange. Lori Gust said that we received a thank you note from the hospital that would be posted on the website.

Lori Gust mentioned the Cricut play day scheduled for January. Helen Osteen said reminders were sent out for the play day; however, there were not enough paid attendees by the cutoff date causing the event to be cancelled. She said that there were 2 people who expected to just show up and pay at the door. Helen said that the rules for the play days and classes are that fees must be paid in full ahead of time. Lori Gust said that the play day will be rescheduled. She said that if you are interested, you need to sign up ahead of time. Lori said that you can sign up and pay for events online, by mail, or at the meetings. Helen Osteen said that fees are returned if the events are cancelled.

Lori Gust reminded everyone that the Cricut software class scheduled for 2/21/10 is a full day class with hours being 9am-5pm (8:45 am to power up computers). She said that you will go home with a CD that will help you load software. You will receive a trial version (Sure Cuts A lot), but you can purchase a regular version online. Martha Hicks said that Cricut is producing a cake makers (food grade) version due out in April. Lori reminded everyone that the cost for the class is \$65 for members and \$85 for nonmembers.

NEW BUSINESS

Lori Gust mentioned that February is our Thank You Luncheon for Larry's employees. She said that there are 10 employees that we need to prepare food for. Helen Osteen will send out a reminder about the luncheon next month.

Lori Gust said that 1/31/10 is our fiscal year end. With the beginning of our new year on 2/01/10, vendors have approached our club with information that there will be a decrease in our discounts. The club's discount at Larry's will now be 10%. Lori said that Make A Cake and Cake Craft Shoppe have not notified us of a decrease in discounts, however, she cautioned everyone to not be surprised if there is a change with them.

Lori Gust said that the club has received an e-mail from a high school student who makes cakes for people who don't normally get birthday cakes on their special day. She has been providing all supplies for the cakes by herself. Lori said that she has been receiving such an overwhelming response that she is asking for help. Her business is called Iced Capades and would love for local clubs to contribute to her cause. Lori said that a sheet would be sent around, and asked that members who wish to participate give your name and phone numbers. Lori said that she would pass the information on to her. She also said that her information would be put in next month's newsletter.

Lori Gust said that Debbie Brown is coming for 5 days of classes in September. She said that she would probably teach 3 individual classes with a repeat of 2 classes. Helen Osteen said that she will be here 9/12/10-9/17/10 for our CDE. Debbie will send pictures so that we can narrow down class subjects.

Lori Gust mentioned that we are negotiating with Elinore Rielander for classes. She said that she teaches gum paste flowers. Lori said that Elinore is waiting for information from her insurance company before she can give definite class dates. Helen Osteen said that she will be in the states before ICES. Helen said that Elinore is also teaching in Abilene while she is here. They want us to schedule our class dates first. Helen said that the available dates are 7/19-7/23/10 or 7/27-7/30/10. Lori Gust and Helen Osteen mentioned that she provides a big variety of things to teach.

Sandy Cook inquired about classes with Jill Maytham. Helen Osteen said that they are still working on details with Jill. Helen said that it is looking like class dates for Jill will be around the middle to the end of August.

Helen Osteen said that our own Dena Bryngleson has been accepted for a segment on TLC's Ultimate Cake Off. Helen said that she would let us know the show date.

Lori Gust said the 2 year term for the board is ending. She said that we nominate for the new board at our January meeting – we send the information/nominations out in the February newsletter and we vote at the February meeting. Lori said that you can vote by e-mail, send a paper ballot by mail, or vote at our February meeting. All positions are available. Lori said that none of the positions have term limitations.

The nominations are:

PRESIDENT - Lori Gust

VICE PRESIDENT – Sandy Cook and Kathy Brinkley

SECRETARY – Jan Hutto and Retta Pryor

TREASURER – Helen Osteen

PARLIMENTARIAN – Casey Marchan and John Hartley

Lori Gust said that nominations can be accepted online for 1 more week.

Casey Marchan mentioned that www.Houston Cake Club.com is not working. She also said that the club's website will not come up when you do a search. She said the only way she was able to access the website was through Larry's site. Lori Gust said that she would check on the site and get it fixed.

Lori Gust announced last call for raffle tickets. Sandy Cook won the raffle.

Meeting adjourned at 12:12 pm.

Minutes recorded by Jan Hutto, Secretary.

The Houston Cake Club

February 23, 2010

Larry's Arts and Crafts

Pasadena, Texas

Rita Duval demonstrated a smocking technique.

Lea Bryant provided refreshments.

Lori Gust called the meeting to order at 10:53 am with 28 members and 2 guests present.

The question for the month was how long you have been decorating cakes and how did you get started in the field.

The minutes for January were presented. Kathy Brinkley moved to accept the minutes and Shar Baker seconded the motion. The minutes/motion passed.

Helen Osteen presented the Treasurer's report. She explained the expenses and income. She said that the \$50.00 pay out by the club for Mark's class was due to the fact that more members than non-members attended the class. Helen noted that we now have 78 club members with 58 being active members. Pat Wiener moved to accept the Treasurer's report and Kathy Brinkley seconded the motion. The report/motion passed.

Lori Gust said that Kathy Brinkley would pass around the demo/refreshment signup sheet. She noted that our garage sale would be next month, so, there probably wouldn't be a demo. She said that we need demos for April and June-October. Lori stressed that a demo can be anything you're interested in sharing, and that you have up to an hour to present it.

Lori Gust explained the concept of the club's garage sale. She said that we should price our "stuff" and asked that we enter Larry's thru the back door and not thru the store. She said each individual is responsible for having the necessary change etc.

Lori Gust reiterated the purpose of the Thank You Luncheon for Larry's employees. She said it is a great way to show our appreciation for the meetings, classes, play days etc. that we hold there. She reminded us that our store discount is 10%.

OLD BUSINESS

Lori Gust asked for feedback on the Cricut software class. She said that 19 people attended the class and said that there was a lot of information provided.

Lori Gust said that every 2 years we hold elections for our board members. The positions and nominees are: President – Lori Gust, Vice President – Kathy Brinkley and Sandy Cook, Treasurer – Helen Osteen, Secretary – Jan Hutto and Retta Pryor, Parliamentarian – Casey Marchan and John Hartley. She asked

that the candidates running with opposition give a speech about performing the duties involved with the specific positions. She remarked that our club rules state that you must be a member for 30 days before you are allowed to cast a ballot for the board. In other words, if you joined or renewed your membership after last month's meeting, then you are ineligible to vote in the election today. She reminded everyone that all voting is by secret ballot, whether it be by mail, e-mail, or ballots presented at today's meeting.

Ruby Ott asked if the club had had any feedback in regards to our cookie drive for the troops. Lori Gust said that they went to an army unit Chaplain in Iraq and was surprised that we hadn't received any word back from them.

NEW BUSINESS

Lori Gust confirmed that Debbie Brown is booked for classes for the week of September 12th. She will do 5 one day classes (Monday – Wednesday, Thursday will repeat Monday's class and Friday will repeat Tuesday's class) and will also demonstrate at our CDE (Cake Decorating Extravaganza). Lori said that she will send pictures of possible class subjects. She urged everyone to take a look at her work on-line for class possibilities. The fees for the classes will be in line with past classes - \$75 - \$85 per class per day. Lori mentioned that those fees are a bargain compared to the prices elsewhere for Debbie (Austin \$275, and Cal Java \$899). She said that we will have registration information at the next meeting. Helen Osteen mentioned that this will be her 4th trip here, and that the classes are always full. Lori said that we will be able to pay on-line by PayPal, and she thinks that there will be a price discount if you attend 3 days.

Casey Marchan asked if we could set up a payment plan for the class fees, so that members wouldn't have to make a big payment for classes all at once. Lori said that usually the club requires ½ of the class fee up front to hold a spot, but, said that we could discuss the payment possibility at the next meeting.

Lori Gust asked for future class and play day suggestions. Kathy Brinkley inquired about Jill Maytham classes. Helen Osteen said we had not heard back from her or Elinore Rielander in regards to classes. Yessenia Jusso asked about Buddy Valestro. Paul Haskins suggested we ask him to teach a Black Magic Rose. Guadalupe Ochoa asked for a repeat of the Cricut class. Lori said that we can repeat the software class in April or May – tentatively scheduled for May 23rd. She also asked about a Cricut play day repeat in March – tentatively scheduled for March 28th. There are some websites where the equipment and cartridges can be purchased on sale – Cricut machine.com, and Provo Craft.com.

Lori Gust said that she received an e-mail suggesting that we get Dena Bryngelson to teach a sculpted cake class. Helen Osteen said that her schedule is very full right now between demonstrations at several Days of Sharing as well as taping an episode of TLC's Ultimate Cake Off.

Lori Gust explained the criteria for a play day. She said that it must be inexpensive, easy to do, have a short supply list, and we should be able to be complete the project in 3 – 4 hours. Helen Osteen said that play days are held on Sundays so that members who work during the week have an opportunity to participate in a club event.

It was suggested to hold a play day for modeling chocolate. Pat Wiener will hold a modeling chocolate play day on June 13, 2010. A supply list will be made available at a later date.

Paul Haskins said that Barnes & Nobel has paperback books that contain themed designs, cutouts and a cd located in the back of the book that can be downloaded into your computer. Helen Osteen asked that he e-mail a couple of title examples so that she can include them in the newsletter.

Susie Jahn said that she would like to have a play day on tools that we don't know how to use. Lori Gust/Helen Osteen said that we could incorporate that idea into club demos. Lori Gust suggested that everyone bring a couple of items from our own cake tool collection, and we could pick a couple to demo or hold a play day. Helen Osteen said that we would have to categorize them by time requirement to determine if we wanted to hold a demo or play day.

Helen Osteen asked that anyone who wishes to contribute to the newsletter this month to please do so on an earlier date as the ICES Mid-Year meeting coincides with normal newsletter distribution date. Lori reminded everyone that if you contribute to the newsletter, you receive 1 free raffle ticket.

Ruby Ott won the raffle.

The results for the board election are as follows:

President - Lori Gust

Vice-President – Kathy Brinkley

Treasurer- Helen Osteen

Secretary- Jan Hutto

Parliamentarian- Casey Marchan

Congratulations to the new board members.

Meeting adjourned at 12:20 pm.

Minutes recorded by Jan Hutto, Secretary.

The Houston Cake Club

March 23, 2010

Larry's Arts and Crafts

Pasadena, Texas

There was no demo this month in lieu of our member's garage sale.

Sandra Hughes and Melissa Karabanoff provided refreshments.

Lori Gust called the meeting to order at 10:42 am with 25 members and 1 guest present.

The question for the month was what is your favorite cake flavor and filling.

The minutes for February were presented. Kathy Brinkley moved to accept the minutes and Mary Nicholas seconded the motion. The motion/minutes passed.

Helen Osteen presented the Treasurer's report. Pat Wiener moved to accept the Treasurer's report and Sandra Hughes seconded the motion. The motion/report passed.

Lori Gust explained the active member vs. member statistics.

OLD BUSINESS

Lori Gust said that Debbie Brown has confirmed the dates she will be here. They are September 12, 2010 for our CDE (at which she will be our main demonstrator), and September 13-17 for classes. Debbie e-mailed 3 pictures for classes, which were passed around the meeting. Debbie determined that these would have the most techniques to teach in the classes. Helen Osteen mentioned that the pictures had the broadest appeal of any other possibilities that had been e-mailed.

It was mentioned that our own Dena Bryngelson and Pat Daigle would be participating in the April 12, 2010 airing of TLC's Ultimate Cake-Off.

Lori Gust said that Debbie Brown had confirmed that her class pricing would be the same as the last time she taught here. It would be \$85.00 per class for members and \$150.00 per class for nonmembers. The fee for all 3 classes would be \$200.00 for members and \$400.00 for nonmembers. Lori mentioned that we pay for Debbie's hotel, food and transportation (she pays for the flight). Retta Pryor asked for class details. Helen and Lori said that a supply list would be provided prior to the beginning of the classes, that they are held at Larry's with breakfast and lunch provided, and they run from 9 am - 5 pm. Helen Osteen said that you can pay the fees by ½ or 1/3, but the entire class fee must be paid by August 12, 2010. Helen also said that Debbie will autograph any of her books that you already have at home.

Helen Osteen said that Elinore Rielander and Jill Maytham will not be coming. She said that leaves the club with no scheduled gum paste classes. Lori Gust suggested that we have Glenda Galvez teach some gum paste classes. She said that Glenda would be willing to teach her hydrangea spray and rose. Lori

also mentioned that due to ICES obligations, she would not be able to teach until the end of October or November. It was mentioned that Glenda will only require a minimum of 10 students to hold class. Kathy Brinkley moved that Glenda Galvez teach the hydrangea and rose October 17-18, 2010 with a fee of \$70.00 for one class and \$125.00 for both classes for members and \$90.00 for one class and \$175.00 for both classes for nonmembers. Kim Warren seconded the motion. Discussion followed motion. Helen Osteen said that she will get pictures to post on our website. She also explained our class pricing. She said that the CDE is our main fundraiser for the club. Helen said that the majority of the bank money goes back into the members for classes. We offer rates lower to members than we pay the instructors, so the difference comes from the club bank account. The motion passed. Helen said that she will put the classes on the member's only section of the website until Friday, and then she will post the class to the public after that.

NEW BUSINESS

Lori Gust explained our CDE (Cake Decorating Extravaganza). She said that last year the fee was \$35.00 for early registration and \$45.00 at the door. She said that we have about 6 demonstrations (Debbie Brown being our main demonstrator this year) which are at different skill levels. Breakfast, lunch and drinks are provided by the club. She said that we also have vendors and raffle prizes. We also have a sharing table set up as well as a display table. Lori said that the sugar pieces put on the display table are eligible for the \$50.00 people's choice award. She said that we also have goody bags for each CDE participant. Casey Marchan moved that the fee for the CDE be \$35.00 for early registration and \$45.00 at the door. Maria Inafuku seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Retta Pryor asked about the thank you notes. Lori Gust explained the concept of the thank you notes. Sandra Hughes moved that thank you notes be used again at this year's CDE. Melissa Karabanoff seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Kathy Brinkley asked about catering services for the CDE. Lori Gust said that 2009 was the 1st year that we had a catered lunch (which was well received). She also said that members were responsible for breakfast and dessert. Ben's Chuckwagon was the caterer last year. Pat Wiener moved that we use Ben's Chuckwagon to cater the lunch for this year's CDE and Retta Pryor seconded the motion. Motion passed. Kathy Brinkley will get prices/menu choices from Ben's.

Casey Marchan asked about updating our website/design. She feels it does not represent the club very well. Lori Gust said that the website is in the process of being moved from Westcam to Network Solutions.

Helen Osteen mentioned that Grace McMillan has opened a Face book page for ICES. Helen Osteen said Debbie Brown's Face book page is receiving a lot of questions regarding classes. She said that Debbie's page could be linked to a Face book page for HCC.

Casey Marchan asked if the website would be available to update on Network Solutions. It was mentioned that newsletters, pictures, and patterns be left on our website.

Lori Gust/Helen Osteen said that this Sunday's Cricut play day has only 3 people signed up. Lori said that if more people do not sign up, it will be moved to May 2, 2010 from 1 pm – 5 pm.

Pearland DOS (Day of Sharing) will be held on May 16, 2010.

Sandra Hughes asked about the Cake Cricut. Lori said that she saw a prototype and it is the same size as the expression, however, the blades and housing are different. She said the Cake Cricut will probably be \$399.00. Martha Hickman said that she saw the new Gypsy for ½ price – it has not been a good seller. Melissa Karabanoff said that Hobby Lobby will be carrying the Cake Cricut. Heather Campbell said that Cutting Edge Cake Art.com has a side by side comparison for Cricut equipment. It was also mentioned that Attwood Bakery.com should be checked out for Cricut info. Lori said that play day fees are \$10.00 for members and \$15.00 for nonmembers.

Sandra Hughes asked if it was more advantageous to buy a regular Cricut and modify for cakes. Lori said that you would need the longer blade and will have to move 2 plastic things with the regular Cricut vs. the expense of the new Cake Cricut.

Paul Haskins won the raffle.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:11 pm.

Minutes recorded by Jan Hutto, Secretary.

The Houston Cake Club

April 27, 2010

Larry's Arts and Crafts
Pasadena, Texas

Demonstration by Lori Gust began at 10:15 am on how to use Logic Pic System stacking cakes. Lori also demonstrated Sugar Veil ideas. Donation by Straws by M Inc. to cake club and everyone was given samples.

Refreshments furnished by Susie Jahn.

Lori Gust called the meeting to order at 11:15 am.

The question for the month was "Do you own your own shop or bake out of your home?"

Next months question is "What technique or tool would you like to learn to use?"

The minutes for April were presented. Casey Marchan moved to accept the minutes and Pat Wiener seconded the motion. The motion/minutes passed.

Helen Osteen presented the Treasurer's report. Sandra Hughes moved to accept the report and Melissa Karabanoff seconded the motion. The motion/report passed.

OLD BUSINESS

Debbie Brown's classes were extended from 5 classes to 6 to add a second sculpted car class on Saturday, September 18th.

Glenda Galvez' classes were changed from October 17-18th to October 24-25th because of schedule conflicts. After the classes appeared on Facebook, we had several requests to have Glenda stay another day and teach a Gerbera daisy class. Kathy Brinkley made the motion to accept this new schedule and add the Gerbera daisy class on Tuesday, October 26th. Susie Jahn seconded. The motion passed.

Single class rate for members for one class is \$70, two classes is \$140 and all three classes \$195.
Single class rate for nonmembers for one class is \$90, two classes is \$180 and all three classes \$265.

The dates are October 24 (hydrangeas) October 25 (rose) October 26 (Gerbera Daisy).

Kathy Brinkley made an amended motion to accept this new schedule and price change and Mary Nicholas seconded. The new schedule and price change was passed.

Ben's Chuckwagon was contacted and a message was left. No return call as of yet. Kathy and Helen made deposit and will be contacting them.

San Jacinto College was confirmed to use the same room for cake extravaganza on September 12, 2010.

NEW BUSINESS

Notice Network Solutions – time to renew hosting for website. It was decided to extend for 3 years. Helen made a motion to accept this extension and Kathy seconded. Motion passed.

Sign up sheet for snacks, photo book and demonstrations was passed around and Lori explained the importance of demonstrations.

It was stated that Eleanor Rielander and Jill Maytham are not coming to teach this year, but Glenda Galvez is teaching gumpaste flowers.

It was suggested that Dena Bryngelson or Sharon Zambito could come and demonstrate. Susie Jahn will contact Dena. Casey Marchan expressed an interest in learning special effects like they use on Ultimate Cake Off. Susie will ask Dena about that as a possible class.

Card was purchased and signed to congratulate Dena on her cake challenge win.

Casey Marchan asked if we could have a stringwork demo at the Cake Decorating Extravaganza. It was suggested that perhaps we could do that as a play day instead.

Lori has contacted Laura Kitchens about teaching her muppet class.

Charlotte Hare won raffle.

Meeting adjourned at 12:20 pm.

Minutes recorded by Retta Pryor for Jan Hutto, Secretary.

The Houston Cake Club

May 25, 2010

Larry's Arts and Crafts

Pasadena, Texas

Pat Wiener demonstrated molded sugar.

Bernadette Jenkins provided refreshments.

Lori Gust called the meeting to order at 10:58 am with 25 members and 3 guests present.

The question for the month was what is a good idea for a Father's Day or guy cake?

The minutes for April were presented. Kathy Brinkley moved to accept the minutes and Pat Wiener seconded the motion. The motion/minutes passed.

Helen Osteen presented the Treasurer's report. Pat Wiener moved to accept the minutes and Mary Nicholas seconded the motion. The motion/report passed. Lori Gust explained that the ending balance on the report is large due to the fact that we have not paid Debbie Brown and Glenda Galvez for the classes they are going to teach. She said that the balance in our account should be around 5K.

Lori Gust said that our demo for June would be decorating with fruit.

OLD BUSINESS

Helen Osteen said that we still have openings in Debbie Brown's classes as follows:

2 – Thursday, 1 – Tuesday, and 2 – Friday

Lori Gust said that Glenda Galvez is coming in October. She will teach for 3 days and the classes will be the Hydrangea, Rose, and Gerbera Daisy all with and without wires. She said that we have a few spots left in those classes as well.

Susi e Jahn will contact Dena Brygelson about possibly teaching classes here.

Lori Gust reminded us that we have a modeling chocolate play day with Pat Wiener coming on June 13, 2010. She said that you can look in the display case in Larry's lobby to see samples of the play day's subject.

Kathy Brinkley talked to Ben's Chuck wagon in regards to the food for our CDE. She said that he still has various menu selections and prices for his catering services. She said that Italian themed meal starts at \$6.50 per person, Beef/chicken fajita dinner is \$7.00 per person, CFC or CFS + 3 sides is \$6.50 per person, Grilled chicken/roast +3 sides is \$6.75 per person, BBQ plates range from \$7.50 - \$8.00 per person. After discussion, it was decided that fajita leftovers were easier to transport back to Larry's to use as lunch for classes during the next week.

Pat Wiener moved to have Ben's Chuck wagon provided a fajita meal for our CDE. Eunice Estrada seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Lori Gust said that we can keep expenses down if the club provides breakfast and desserts. She said that we will also invite attendees to bring a dessert to our CDE. The club will provide sodas, juice, coffee and water. She mentioned that some clubs charge for breakfast, snacks and drinks and there is negative feedback from this practice. She said that by not charging for these items, attendees are more likely to spend more money on the raffle.

Lori Gust explained the CDE for our new members. It will be held September 12, 2010 at San Jacinto College North off Uvalde and I-10. She also said the 10% of our registration fees go to the culinary program at the college.

Lori Gust said that another Cricut class was held on May 23, 2010. She said that it was an overview of software use for the machine. She said that we might want to think about a full day class on the use of Inkscape and editing.

Lori Gust mentioned the ICES convention coming up in August.

Bonelle Templet said that she attended the DOS in Pearland. She said that the big ticket item had its own raffle ticket (\$5.00) separate from the general raffle and thought that might work for our CDE. Helen Osteen said that a lot of people are not willing to spend that much for only 1 ticket. She said that she thought it would be a good idea to keep all tickets the same price.

It was mentioned that in past years, tickets were drawn and placed on the prizes, making it the responsibility of the winners to come claim their prizes. Many times the prizes were either not claimed or claimed by someone who did not win that prize. Helen Osteen said that by calling off the winner's name, more interest is generated to purchase tickets. Lori Gust said that we will call out the winner's names this year.

Mary Nicholas asked about the vendors. Lori explained that they do not have to be cake related, but, we usually try to make sure that some of the vendors are related to the field. Susie Jahn mentioned that we should try to get eco-friendly goodie bags when our present bag stock runs out. She mentioned that Whole Foods donated bags to the Pearland club for their DOS.

Lori Gust said that we will begin assigning CDE duties in July. She asked that we begin thinking about where we want to help.

Lori Gust announced last call for raffle tickets.

Meeting adjourned at 12:09 pm

Minutes recorded by Jan Hutto, Secretary.

The Houston Cake Club

June 22, 2010

Larry's Arts and Crafts

Pasadena, Texas

Eunice Estrada demonstrated decorating with fruit.

Susie Araya provided refreshments.

Kathy Brinkley called the meeting to order at 10:45 am with 28 members and 2 guests present.

Kathy Brinkley passed around the sign-up sheets for demos/refreshments/photo albums. She said the 2010 is almost full, but, said that you could begin signing up for 2011 on the back of the sheet.

The minutes for May were presented. Casey Marchan moved to accept the minutes and Sandy Cook seconded the motion. The motion/minutes passed.

Helen Osteen presented the Treasurer's report. She said that we have 102 members with 75 being active. Helen mentioned that we had some cancellations for the Debbie Brown classes. We have (1) for Monday, (2) Tuesday, (2) Wednesday, (4) Thursday. She said the Saturday car class was full. Bonnell Templet volunteered to give up her spot on Saturday to anyone who was interested. Helen also mentioned that we have openings left in the Glenda Galvez classes. She said that the classes will be held as we have enough participants to make all the classes. Marissa Beltran moved to accept the Treasurer's report and Mary Nicholas seconded the motion. The motion/report passed.

OLD BUSINESS

Kathy Brinkley asked for feedback on Pat Wiener's modeling chocolate play day which was held on June 12, 2010. Pat said that it went well, and that it was a full house. C.J. Clay suggested that members consider taking Pat's wedding cake class – he said that it was great.

Susie Jahn said that she is going to contact Dena Bryngelson about teaching a class here.

Kathy Brinkley said that our CDE is coming up on September 12, 2010 at San Jacinto College North. She said that we will begin to assign duties during next month's meeting. Kathy said that lunch will be catered; however, we will need members to help provide breakfast and dessert for the event. She asked that we think about where we want to help with the event.

Helen Osteen mentioned that the CDE is our only fund raiser for the year. Its profits help provide the club with the funds for our Christmas party and to allow us to offer discounted prices to our members for the classes held here. Helen explained the concept of the CDE to our new members. She also said that if any member knows of anyone who is willing to donate items to the club for our raffle or goodie bags to please bring the donations.

NEW BUSINESS

Kathy Brinkley mentioned that the ICES convention is coming up on August 12-15, 2010 in San Diego, CA. Helen Osteen said that online registration ends on June 30, 2010. She explained that there are demos and vendors at the convention. Susie Jahn said that she has the itinerary and vendor list for the convention and will pass it around.

Kathy Brinkley asked if anyone has any ideas for another play day. Susie Araya will present a painting on fondant play day on October 10, 2010. Helen will post a picture and supply list on the HCC website as soon as Susie puts it together. Helen Osteen explained the play day concept. She said that the events are held on Sunday afternoons from 1-5pm and the cost is \$10.00 for members and \$15.00 for nonmembers. Casey Marchan moved to have a painting on fondant play day by Susie Araya on October 10, 2010 and Pat Wiener seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Susie Jahn asked for the names of the demonstrators for our CDE. Helen Osteen said that she will print the list in next month's newsletter.

Kathy Brinkley announced last call for raffle tickets.

Susie Jahn won the raffle and she also won the raffle for the fruit arrangement provided by Eunice Estrada.

Meeting adjourned at 11:25 am.

Minutes recorded by Jan Hutto, Secretary

The Houston Cake Club

July 27, 2010

Larry's Arts and Crafts

Pasadena, Texas

Guadalupe Ochoa demonstrated a purse cake.

Lori Gust called the meeting to order with 35 members and 4 guests present.

The question for the month was what techniques do you use to make your cakes more even and fluffy. A sheet was passed around to procure ideas for future questions of the month.

The minutes for June were presented. Casey Marchan moved to accept the minutes and Kathy Brinkley seconded the motion. The minutes/motion passed.

Helen Osteen presented the Treasurer's report. She said the money listed at the top of the report is in the bank, but, cannot be spent as it is for classes that have not occurred. If the classes are cancelled, the money will be refunded to the parties involved. Helen said we have 85 active members (that number is greater than in 2009). She said that the painting on fondant play day with Susie Araya is full. Helen said that we will try to schedule another play day early next year. She said that we will be able to sign up on-line or at our meeting. Marissa Beltran moved to accept the Treasurer's report and Sandra Hughes seconded the motion. The report/motion passed.

Lori Gust said the demo/refreshment sheet is full for 2010; however, the photo album sheet still needs volunteers.

Lori Gust thanked Guadalupe Ochoa for the demonstration. She said that Susie Jahn will demonstrate making your own silicone molds next month.

OLD BUSINESS

Lori Gust said that our CDE (Cake Decorating Extravaganza) is coming up quickly. She explained that lunch will be catered, however, we need our members to bring breakfast and dessert items. Lori went on to explain the CDE concept for our new members. Our demonstrators for our event will be Debbie Brown (with classes the week after the event), Fran Tripp, Wray Nell Mosier, Juanita Rhone, Ruth Kermser, and a mini demo by Heather Campbell, and a possible mini demo on the Cricut.

Lori Gust asked that everyone sign up to help at the CDE. She explained duties involved for the areas in which help is required. She also said that signup sheet s for the Debbie Brown classes would be passed around. She said that class participants bring breakfast and lunch for the classes and the club reimburses the member for their expenses.

Helen Osteen said that there are a few spaces left in Debbie's classes. She said that some of our out-of-town members need a Saturday sculpted car class rather than the Wednesday class. She asked for

volunteers to trade with these members. The cost of the classes is \$85 for members and \$150 for nonmembers.

Lori Gust said that the HCC website hosting has been renewed for 3 years at a cost of \$335. It was brought to her attention that the calendar on the site was incorrect; she said that it has been corrected. She also mentioned that someone had sent pictures to be posted on the site, but, she did not receive them. Lori suggested that you resend them if you do not see them on the site within a week. She mentioned Retta Pryor's newspaper article that was posted, and reminded everyone that she will receive a free raffle ticket for her participation. Lori also said to e-mail her or Helen if you see incorrect information on our site, and it will get corrected.

Lori Gust introduced Allison Nguyen and her mother from Iced Capades Cakery. Allison explained that she makes birthday cakes/cupcakes for shelter residents. She asked that members volunteer to help with this task. Their e-mail address is Iced Capades Cakery @ gmail.com.

NEW BUSINESS

Lori Gust said that we will schedule a 2nd play day with Susie Araya when we see her. Lori also asked for ideas for other play days.

Retta Pryor said that she is looking for a portable building to purchase. If you have any information in this regard, you can contact her.

Heather Campbell has made cake cross stitch coasters as possible gifts for our CDE demonstrators. Mary Nicholas moved that Heather Campbell make the cross stitch coasters as thank you gifts for our CDE demonstrators and Kathy Brinkley seconded. The motion passed.

Sandra Hughes asked if we would have thank you cards at the CDE. Lori Gust explained the thank you card concept and acknowledged that we would have the cards again this year.

Pat Wiener said that Mailbox News is no longer being printed. She said that the present issue will be the last. She also said that American Cake Decorating will no longer be sold in stores; it will only be available by subscription.

Lori Gust announced last call for raffle tickets.

Meeting adjourned at 12:10 pm.

Minutes recorded by Jan Hutto, Secretary

The Houston Cake Club

August 24, 2010

Larry's Arts and Crafts

Pasadena, Texas

Susie Jahn demonstrated making your own silicone molds and sugar bottles.

Nikki Banjoko, Marissa Sosa, and Kathy Brinkley provided refreshments.

Lori Gust called the meeting to order with 31 members and 4 guests present.

The question for the month was what do you use to flavor your cakes.

The minutes for July were presented. Bonnell Templet moved to accept the minutes with corrections and Casey Marchan seconded the motion. The motion/corrected minutes passed.

Helen Osteen presented the Treasurer's report. Helen called our attention to the money earmarked for classes in the top section of her report. Kathy Brinkley moved to accept the Treasurer's report. The report stands accepted.

OLD BUSINESS

Lori Gust passed around signup sheets for the Debbie Brown classes. She said that we need volunteers to provide breakfast, lunch, set up/clean up, and transportation for Debbie.

Lori Gust said that our CDE is next month. She said that we still need quite a few volunteers for various duties. She asked that everyone take time to volunteer. Lori said that we will be at the venue on Saturday to do some early set up. She said that the time for the Saturday set up would be posted on the club's site.

Lori Gust explained the CDE for our new members. It will be on September 12, 2010 from 9am – 5ish pm. She explained that lunch is provided, however, members are asked to bring breakfast and dessert items to share. She said that we have full length demos, mini demos, vendors, a sharing table, a display table and lots of socializing.

Mary Nicholas inquired about club t-shirts. Lori Gust explained that if you attend the event, it is a good idea to wear your club shirt (if you have one) so that our guests can easily identify club members in case they have a question or need help. We have a few left in storage and they are \$25.00.

Lori Gust said that students are allowed at our function. She reminded everyone to bring their cameras.

Lori Gust mentioned that if anyone knows people/companies who are willing to donate items for our CDE, to please bring the items to San Jac on Saturday so that they may be included in our goodie bags.

NEW BUSINESS

Lori Gust said the demo for September will be making fondant roses without a mold by Blanca Keister. Bonnell Templet and Penny Sanchez will be providing refreshments.

Lori Gust thanked Susie for the demo today, and also thanked Nikki, Marissa, and Kathy for the refreshments.

Lori Gust said that school supplies are still inexpensive at this time. She said that the club bought 100 spiral notebooks for our goodie bags last year. She asked if it would be a good idea to do this again this year. Bonnell Templet moved to purchase 100 spiral notebooks for the goodie bags at our CDE with a cost of no more than\$.30 each and Kathy Brinkley seconded. Lori Gust amended the motion to 125 notebooks. The amended motion passed.

Lori Gust announced last call for raffle tickets. Kathy Brinkley won the raffle.

Meeting adjourned at 12:17 pm.

Minutes recorded by Jan Hutto, Secretary.

The Houston Cake Club

September 28, 2010

Larry's Arts & Crafts

Pasadena, Texas

Pat Wiener and Kathy Brinkley did a demo on flowers.

Bonnell Templet and Kathy Brinkley provided refreshments. Stephanie Williams brought a cake for taste test.

Lori Gust called the meeting to order at 11:03 am with 33 members and 3 guests present.

Retta Pryor led a prayer for the victim(s) of the UT shooting.

The question for the month was: what was your favorite thing about the CDE (Cake Decorating Extravaganza).

Lori Gust asked that everyone sign the book so that attendance can be credited for club discounts.

Lori Gust explained Heather Campbell's mini demo at the CDE on Luck's Products. She asked that everyone sign the Thank You certificate for Heather for her mini demo.

The minutes for August were presented. Pat Wiener moved to accept the minutes and Mary Nicholas seconded the motion. The motion/minutes passed.

Helen Osteen presented the Treasurer's report. She noted that we have 125 members with 90 being active. She said that most of the bills for the CDE have been paid. Helen said we had 144 registered and we fed 150 people. She also noted that we will be paying out the funds collected for Glenda Galvez's classes next month. Lori Gust explained that the ending balance is not what we actually have – she said that the ending balance – classes, books, etc. gives the club around a 7k balance. Lori explained that Debbie Brown receives \$80/student (member rate) plus hotel, expenses, and food costs. She pays for her own airfare. Lori also explained that any demonstrator who travels more than 150 miles to our CDE receives \$100(to be used at their discretion) and a thank you gift; rather than our club paying their expenses and hotel fees. Sandra Hughes moved to accept the Treasurer's report and Susie Jahn seconded the motion. The motion/report passed.

Kathy Brinkley said the demonstration for next month will be by Bonnell Templet with refreshments being provided by Maria Inafuku and Guadalupe Ochoa.

Lori Gust mentioned that next month's meeting is on a class day for Glenda Galvez (10/26/10). She said we need to change our meeting date to resolve this conflict. Dates for our meeting could be 10/19/10 or 10/27/10. Pat Wiener said that 10/19/10 would be a better day for Larry's and their classes. Changing our meeting to 10/19/10 caused a problem for next month's demonstrator (Bonnell), so Retta Pryor will be our demonstrator next month and Bonnell Templet will be November's demonstrator.

Lori Gust said that November's meeting is the Tuesday before Thanksgiving. She asked if we wanted to adjust November's meeting date. It was decided that November's meeting will be held on 11/30/10.

Lori also mentioned that our club's Christmas party is coming soon. She explained that the club pays for each member's lunch & tea/water. After discussion and a vote, the Christmas party will be held on 12/14/10. Members can bring location suggestions to next month's meeting and we will vote on the location. Lori said that we will need menu information and the cost should be about \$12-\$15 per person. She said that we usually have about 30 people in attendance.

Lori Gust asked for feedback on Debbie Brown's classes. Feedback indicated a positive response to Debbie's classes. Lori said Debbie has already committed to returning in 2012. Mary Nicholas asked if we could vote on class content next time. Lori explained that the class selections were suggested by Debbie so that the each project could be completed in 1 day.

Lori Gust mentioned that Glenda Galvez will be here 10/24/10 – 10/26/10 from 9am-4pm each day. We still have spaces available in each class. Sunday – we have 4 spaces, Monday – we have 5 spaces, Tuesday – we have 10 spaces. Supply lists are posted on our club's site. Class fees are \$70/day and \$195/3 days. Class fee balances are due by the end of September.

Lori Gust said the play day scheduled for 10/10/10 with Susie Araya is full. Due to copyright problems, class content will be flowers painted on fondant. A second play day with Susie will be 1/9/11. Fees are \$10/members and \$15/nonmembers with the hours being 1-5pm at Larry's.

Lori Gust asked for suggestions & comments in regards to our CDE. Comments/suggestions were:

More vendors (include some with cutters/tools.). Have vendors who can also be demonstrators.

Change the caterer.

Form committees to help with the event (share the responsibilities).

Set up the room in theater style seating (to accommodate more guests).

Adjust vendor placement. Lori said that we can't put vendors in the halls due to fire codes/college rules.

The video screen/lighting was bad. It was hard to see the demonstrations. Lori explained that the college's new equipment had been hit by lightening earlier in the week, so the old equipment had to be used. Lori said the college has assured us that the equipment would be working properly next year.

Helen Osteen said that we donate 10% of our registration fees to the college's culinary school. Helen moved to give \$500 - \$100 prize (for winning student) so that our total donation to the college would be \$400. Kathy Brinkley seconded the motion. Lori mentioned that we had to pay for video help but, there was no room or clean up fee. The motion passed.

Lori Gust said that we would put club shirts back on the meeting agenda. She also said that it might be a good time to change our logo. She asked that everyone bring logo suggestions to the next meeting.

Bonnell Templet said that the winning cake for Nikki Banjoko shown in the newsletter was incorrect.

Lori Gust announced last call for raffle tickets. Phillipa Jenkins and Juan Flores won the raffles.

Meeting adjourned at 12:35 pm.

Minutes recorded by Jan Hutto, Secretary.

The Houston Cake Club

October 19, 2010

Larry's Arts & Crafts

Pasadena, Texas

Retta Pryor demonstrated chocolate transfers.

Guadalupe Ochoa provided refreshments.

Lori Gust called the meeting to order at 10:50 am with 26 members and 1 guest present.

The question for the month was: how do you color your frosting.

The minutes for September were presented. Retta Pryor moved to accept the minutes and C.J. Clay seconded the motion. The motion/minutes passed.

Helen Osteen presented an oral Treasurer's report. She said that we have 130 members with 100 being active. Helen noted that we still have available space left in the Glenda Galvez classes. She also said that the 1/09/2011 play day with Susie Araya is full.

OLD BUSINESS

Lori Gust said that we have a few spaces left in the classes with Glenda Galvez. She said that class members need to volunteer for food duties for the 3 days that include breakfast, lunch, set up/clean up, and escorting Glenda and her husband to dinner. Duties were assigned to various class attendees. Lori said that the supply list for these classes is available on the club's website.

Lori Gust asked for feedback on the 10/10/2010 play day with Susie Araya. The day received an enthusiastic response. She said that the 1/09/2011 play day is full, and said that we could suggest that Susie hold another fondant painting play day in the spring.

Lori Gust said that December is time for our annual club Christmas party. Martha Hickman/Mary Nicholas said that Las Brisas charges \$14.99/person (all inclusive) for chicken/beef fajitas buffet for a minimum of 25 guests. Lori said that we have been to Chabucca's in the past few years. She said that the cost is \$13.50/person for their buffet. Sandra Hughes moved to hold the annual Christmas party at Chabucca's and Melissa Karabanoff seconded the motion. The motion passed. The party will be held on 12/14/2010 @ 11:00 am @ Chabucca's.

Kathy Brinkley suggested that we all take the next few months to look into new venues for the party, and bring documentation and pictures for the club's consideration.

Lori Gust said that Mary Nicholas submitted a new logo design for the club's consideration. Mary said that she can embroider any design on a shirt free with the purchase of the shirt. She said that she could not embroider our current logo on a shirt as she does not have a clear copy of the design. Mary told

Heather Campbell that she can also add the logo onto a club shirt that a member already owns. Lori Gust asked that Mary bring prices for new shirts to our next meeting. She also asked that Mary bring samples of logo sizes for the shirts.

NEW BUSINESS

Lori Gust said that in past years, we have had an optional gift exchange game between club members with \$15.00 being the maximum value of the gift. Mary Nicholas moved that we hold the optional gift game at the Christmas party and Kathy Brinkley seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Lori Gust also mentioned that we have brought optional gifts for charity to our party. She said that last year we chose the Shriner's Hospital for that charity. Food banks, Women's Family Shelters, Shriner's, and Ronald McDonald House were among the charities suggested. Sandra Hughes moved to have Ronald McDonald House as our optional charity gift recipient and Kathy Brinkley seconded the motion. The motion passed. Sandra Hughes will take the items to Ronald McDonald House with Jessica Lopez volunteering to help with the delivery.

Ronald McDonald will take household items and personal items, as well as non-perishable food items. Sandra suggested that you bring your donation to next month's meeting if you are unable to attend the Christmas party.

Lori Gust said we need to vote on the date for our CDE. It was agreed that September is the best month for the CDE with the date being 9/4, 9/11, 9/18, or 9/25/2011. Kathy Brinkley moved to hold our Cake Decorating Extravaganza on 9/11/2011 at San Jacinto College and Sandra Hughes seconded the motion. The motion passed.

At the September meeting Bonnell Templett suggested that committees be formed to help with next year's CDE. Lori Gust said that demonstrators need to be secured by February 2011 in order to prepare for the CDE. Mary Nicholas, Martha Hickman, Heather Campbell and Kathy Brinkley volunteered to be on the demonstration committee. Lori said that vendors should be lined up by the March or April 2011 meeting. Phillipa Jenkins and Kathy Brinkley volunteered to be on the vendor committee. Casey Marchan and Marissa Beltran volunteered for the donation/raffle/goodie bag committee. All committees are open to anyone who would like to help.

Lori Gust suggested that the club approach Eddie Spence for classes. She said that he has been a decorator for about 50 years and specializes in royal icing. Lori motioned that he could teach any number of techniques (examples being writing on cakes, cake plaques, run-out etc.). Lori suggested that the internet could provide some ideas about his work. She said that she was going to inquire about class pricing and details.

Lori Gust announced last call for raffle tickets. Guadalupe Ochoa and Kathy Brinkley won the raffle prizes.

Meeting adjourned at 12:17pm. Minutes recorded by Jan Hutto, Secretary

November Houston Cake Club minutes

Meeting called to order at 10 am.

Question of the Day. Favorite Cookie for Holiday Season? Recipes to be sent to Helen Osteen.

Motion made to accept October minutes by CJ Clay. Seconded by Sandra Hughes. Motion passed.

Treasurers Report given by Helen Osteen. Motion to accept report made by Kathy Brinkley, seconded by Melissa Karanbanoff. Motion passed.

Lori explained that as we have special classes the club helps pay part of the teachers fee for those that have been a club member for 6 months or more.

Bonnell Templett did demo showing how to make a gum paste cup and saucer

December Christmas Party Dec. 14 starting at 11am. Being held at Carrubas This years Chariaty to be Ronald McDonald House. Sandra Hughes will take donations to the Ronald McDonald House.

If bringing a guest to the club party club member will need to pay for their lunch. Let Helen know if bringing a guest.

Debbie Brown's "SPRITE" display to be raffled at the Christmas party. Money to go to the Ronald McDonald House.

Susie Ayala to teach full day class on "Cake Painting". Fee for class to be announced at a later date.

Cake Painting Play day on Jan. 9. 1-5 pm Fee \$10.00 for members and \$15.00 for non members.

Next Play Day will be February 20. 1-5pm Lori Gust will teach Basic Sculpting. A large cupcake will be sculpted in this class.

Suggestion for an upcoming play day, working with rice krispie treats.

Raffle held. Meeting dismissed.