

The Houston Cake Club

January 25, 2011

Larry's Arts and Crafts

Pasadena, TX

Celia Diaz demonstrated a shoe cake.

Kathy Brinkley provided refreshments.

Lori Gust called the meeting to order at 11:12 am with 44 members and 2 guests present.

The question for the month was: how do you organize your cake equipment.

There was no minutes/meeting for December. We will have November's minutes at next month's meeting.

Helen Osteen presented the Treasurer's Report. In 2010 we had 132 members with 100 being active. As of today's meeting, there are 27 members with 20 being active. She said that there is \$6683.81 in the bank. Kathy Brinkley moved to accept the report and Sandy Cook seconded the motion. The motion/minutes passed.

Lori Gust said that the demo/refreshments sheet would be passed around. She said that we need people to demonstrate for 2011. Melissa Karbanoff will be our demonstrator next month.

OLD BUSINESS

Lori Gust asked for feedback from our Christmas party at Chabucca's. She said that there were 38 people in attendance. Lori said that we received a Christmas card as well as a Thank You card from San Jac College for our donation to their culinary program. They are very excited about our club and the chef/instructor is going to encourage his students to participate more in our event next year. Lori also mentioned that we received a Thank You from The Ronald McDonald House. She said that Debbie Brown's class piece was a raffle item at the Christmas party. We collected \$79.00 for the raffle, and an informal vote was held to increase that \$79.00 to \$100.00 to be given to the Ronald McDonald House along with our item donations.

Susie Araya's "painting on fondant" play day was held on January 9, 2011. There was an overwhelming response calling for Susie to hold a full day class. Lori Gust said that Susie is considering a full day class consisting of 2D Bas Relief to be held sometime in March. Lori said that we would like to keep the class fee around \$50.00. Details for the class will come next month.

Lori Gust said that the Cake Decorating Extravaganza will be held on September 11, 2011. She explained the CDE concept to our new members. Susie Araya mentioned that the photographer who attended the event last year was excellent and should come back this year. The demonstration committee presented several possibilities for our event. Martha Hickman said that the committee had contacted Sandy

Sheppard, Dena Bryngleson, Dawn Parrott, Sharon Zambito, Edna De La Cruz and Karen Vasquez. Martha also mentioned that some of the ladies mentioned would be willing to hold classes before and after our event. Kathy also said that Glenda Galvez would be happy to demonstrate at our CDE. Lori Gust asked that more pictures/information be provided next meeting so that we can all vote on the demonstrators who can also hold classes.

Kathy Brinkley said that she had Mary Lou Klinkhammer, LeeAnn Briceno, Ximena of Cakes by Ximena were interested in coming to the event as vendors. Dawn Parrott said that she would ask ECG to attend the event.

Casey Marchan said that she and Marissa Beltran were working on donations for the CDE.

NEW BUSINESS

C.J. Clay suggested that Lori Gust and Helen Osteen hold a Cake Decorating 101 class or play day.

Lori Gust said that the monthly meeting in February is traditionally the time the club holds an appreciation dinner for the employees at Larry's. She said that it is a potluck lunch provided by the club members to thank them for allowing us to hold our meetings and classes in the store. She said that we set out lunch and allow the employees to eat and then club members have lunch. Lori said that Helen will post a reminder for the lunch in the newsletter.

Ruby Rodriguez asked about the November meeting date. Lori said that we would discuss it at a later date.

Lori Gust reminded everyone that there will be a cupcake sculpting play day on February 20, 2011 from 1pm – 5pm at Larry's. The fee for the play day is \$10.00 for members and \$15.00 for nonmembers. She said that there are still a few spaces available for the event.

Lori Gust announced last call for raffle tickets. Carol Griffin won the raffle.

Casey Marchan donated \$20.00 to the club to raffle. She said that she used an idea she had received from club members for a cake project. Itala Chaeara won the \$20.00 raffle.

Meeting adjourned at 12:20 pm.

Minutes recorded by Jan Hutto, Secretary

The Houston Cake Club

February 22, 2011

Larry's Arts and Crafts

Pasadena, Texas

Melissa Karabanoff demonstrated cake pops.

C.J. Clay and Eunice Estrada provided refreshments.

Lori Gust called the meeting to order at 11:05 am with 33 members and 2 guests present.

Lori reminded everyone of the benefits of membership in HCC. She said that our membership card enables you to receive a discount at Larry's, Cake Craft Shoppe, and Make a Cake. Pat Wiener reminded everyone that you must have your card with you in order to receive the discount at Larry's.

The question for the month was: how do you make a sketch for your cake and make it real. How do you determine what someone wants when they describe their cake?

Lori Gust said that sheets would be passed around for the question of the month, refreshments, demos, and photo albums. She encouraged everyone to participate.

The minutes for November were presented. Casey Marchan moved to accept the minutes and Sandra Hughes seconded the motion. The motion/minutes passed.

The minutes for January were presented. C.J. Clay noted that his request for a Cake 101 class wasn't addressed at the meeting. Lori said that it would be addressed in today's meeting. Shar Baker moved to accept the minutes and Kathy Brinkley seconded the motion. The motion/minutes passed.

Helen Osteen presented the Treasurer's report. She said that there are no outstanding debts at present, leaving a balance of \$7528.64 in the club's account. She said that we have 77 members at present with 55 being active. Kathy Brinkley moved to accept the Treasurer's report and Pat Wiener seconded the motion. The motion/report passed.

Lori thanked Eunice and C.J. for the refreshments and Melissa for the demonstration.

OLD BUSINESS

Lori Gust mentioned the cake carving play day held on February 20, 2011. There was a positive response for the day by attendees.

Lori Gust explained the concept of the Cake Decorating Extravaganza for our new members. She said that the event would be held at San Jac College (off Uvalde and I-10) on September 11, 2011. She explained that any demonstrator who lives more than 100 miles from Houston would receive \$100 and a thank you gift. Any local demonstrator would receive a thank you gift only. Lori also said that classes

held both before and after the CDE tended to have attendance issues. She said that the club found that classes after the CDE tended to be better attended.

Lori Gust asked for a report from the Demonstration Committee. Martha Hickman reported that Ximena Sempertegui and Dawn Parrott had agreed to demonstrate at the event. She said that we had 3 demonstrators who were interested in holding classes as well as demonstrating at the event. Dena Bryngleson will demonstrate a sculpted hot dog cake. Martha said that Karen Vazquez (Kakes by Karen) and Sandy Sheppard (Confectionary Arts) would demonstrate as well. She encouraged everyone to look online to familiarize themselves with their work. Martha said that Karen wanted to teach a tiered wedding cake with various techniques (including structural issues) for \$100.00 per student with 15/20 students. Martha said that Sandy Sheppard would demonstrate the Oriental poppy at the CDE and then hold 1 or 2 ½ day classes teaching 4 wireless gum paste flowers with 12 students per class.

Lori Gust said that ½ day classes are problematic. She said that with set up/clean up time involved, a student really only gets about 2-1/2 hours of actual class time. After discussion, Martha said that she would talk to Sandy about doing full day class with a maximum of 15 students and a possible price increase. There was some confusion as to the club's monetary responsibilities to our instructors. Lori Gust said that the club pays for the instructor's meals while they are here. She said that the instructor's airfare is their responsibility.

Martha Hickman said that Dena Bryngleson would also teach classes. She said that she would teach a 2 day carved crawfish pot cake for \$100.00 with a 6 student minimum and 15 students maximum. Martha said that the student would be responsible for providing the material to make the veggie/crawfish mold, but, Dena would provide the other materials. Martha said the Dena would also teach a 2 day class on a 3D sculpted deer head. The class would be \$150.00 with a 6 student minimum and 15 students maximum. Dena would provide the butter cream, support system, and the wood base. Lori Gust asked if Dena would be interested in teaching one of these classes at the CDE and the other one at a later date. After discussion, Dena agreed.

Martha Hickman recapped the demonstrators – Ximena Sempertegui, Dawn Parrott, Dena Bryngleson, Karen Vazquez, and Sandy Sheppard. Glenda Galvez was mentioned as a possible demonstrator, but, it was noted that she wanted to teach classes as well. Discussion followed concerning classes. It was decided that Dena Bryngleson would teach 1 class after the CDE and 1 class at another time. With a show of hands, Dena will teach the sculpted deer head after the CDE and the crawfish pot at another time. She also mentioned that if interest in the crawfish pot was low, she could teach a 2 day sculpted boustierre cake for \$150.00. Martha said that she will contact Karen Vazquez with the terms of \$125.00 per student on Friday before the CDE (if that fills we can push another class to Thursday) with Karen being responsible for her airfare. Martha will contact Sandy Sheppard with the terms of \$100.00 per student (15 students) for a 6 hour Saturday class with Sandy being responsible for her airfare. Lori Gust said that we typically have 6 demonstrators at the CDE and our list only includes 5. Mary Nicholas said that she would talk to Susie Araya about doing a painting of fondant demonstration.

After discussion, Dena Bryngleson will tentatively teach the crawfish pot class on November 6-7, 2011.

Lori Gust said that due to the length of the meeting, we would table discussions on club shirts and Cake Decorating 101 class until next month. Martha Hickman suggested that we skip the question of the month in March due to the amount of items we need to discuss.

Lori Gust announced last call for raffle tickets. Judy Francois won the raffle.

Meeting adjourned at 12:55 pm.

Minutes recorded by Jan Hutto, Secretary.

The Houston Cake Club

March 22, 2011

Larry's Arts and Crafts

Pasadena, Texas

Martha Hickman demonstrated several types of bows.

Melissa Karabanoff and Sandra Hughes provided refreshments.

Lori Gust called the meeting to order at 11:06 am with 29 members present. She explained the importance and benefits of membership.

The question for the month was: how do you get the icing smooth on a cake?

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

Helen Osteen presented the Treasurer's report. She said that we have 91 members with 61 being active. She said that all expenses had been paid out and that left \$7968.25 in our club account. Shar Baker moved to accept the Treasurer's report and Sandra Hughes seconded the motion. The motion/report passed.

Lori Gust mentioned that Kathy Brinkley was not in attendance to send the demo/refreshments/photo album signup sheets around. Lori said that there is no demo for next month. After discussion, Lori and Helen will do a Cake Decorating 101 demo (as requested by C.J. Clay).

Lori Gust asked that there be no side conversations during the demos/meeting as it is distracting to other attendees.

OLD BUSINESS

Martha Hickman gave a CDE demo/teacher committee report. She said that Sandy Sheppard agreed to teach 2 more hours with the cost being \$100 per student. Martha said that Sandy will teach a minimum of 15 students and a maximum of 20. Martha said that Karen Vazquez agreed to a rate of \$125 per student (15 students minimum 20 maximum). Martha said that both were informed that each would be responsible for their own airfare. Susie Araya will be our 6th demonstrator at the CDE.

Lori Gust said that we need to begin putting information out to the public in regards to our CDE. Mary Nicholas will provide bio information and Martha Hickman will provide demonstration information to Helen Osteen so that she can put it on our website. Lori said that demos are 45 minutes long and we usually like to have 3 out-of-town and 3 local demonstrators. Lori mentioned that upcoming shows include Winnie on 4/3/11, Dallas on 4/30/11-5/1/11 and San Antonio on 5/1/11.

Lori Gust said that we need volunteers for demos for our club meetings. Susie Araya will demonstrate in June and Dawn Parrott will demonstrate in July.

Lori asked that a contact person be named from each CDE committee. Martha Hickman will be the contact for the demo committee, Casey Marchan will be the ccontact for the gift/donation committee, and Phillipa Jenkins is contact for the vendor committee.

NEW BUSINESS

Lori Gust said that we need to set rates for the classes being held in conjunction with our CDE. Lori said that the club's policy is that you have to be a member for 6 months before the start of the class in order to receive member rates. She said that if a person joins the club after the March meeting, nonmember class rates will be in effect for the CDE classes.

Dena Bryngleson will teach a carved moose/deer head cake September 12-13, 2011. Dawn Parrott moved to set the member class rate for Dena's class at \$135 and the nonmember rate at \$175. Bonnell Templet seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Sandy Sheppard will teach a 6 hour non-wired flower class on September 10, 2011. Mary Nicholas moved to set the member class rate for Sandy's class at \$80 and the nonmember rate at \$150. Shar Baker seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Karen Vazquez will teach a 3 tiered wedding cake class on September 9, 2011 (with another class opening up on September 8, 2011 if the 9th class fills up). Bonnell Templet moved to set the member class rate for Karen's class at \$100 and the nonmember rate at \$150. Dawn Parrott seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Lori Gust said that you can pay ½ of the class fee to hold your spot in each of the classes. She said that the balance of the fee is due 30 days before the class commences. Lori said that each instructor is paid at the end of the class day. Lori said that the deposit amounts are: for Sandy \$40 member, \$60 nonmember; for Karen \$50 member, \$75 nonmember; for Dena \$70 member, \$90 nonmember.

Lori mentioned that we need to create a flyer for the classes and demonstrations for our CDE. Shar Baker volunteered to put a flyer together for the upcoming Winnie DOS on 4/3/2011.

Lori said the many new members have asked about club shirts. She described the shirts we presently use. Mary Nicholas will check our shirt prices and bring that information to next month's meeting. Lori mentioned that it is always a good idea for members to wear a club shirt so that guests at our CDE can spot members easier in the event they have questions or need assistance.

Lori Gust said that we need to have a publicity committee. She would like them to get our event information out to the public. Martha Hickman said that she would put it on face book and Elizabeth Hunt volunteered to head the committee. C.J. Clay mentioned that in addition to local papers etc., we should also include Hobby Lobby and Michaels as good places to post flyers.

Lori Gust asked for suggestions for play days and classes. She mentioned that Susie Araya has volunteered to teach a 2 dimensional BAS relief class. Shar Baker moved to hold Susie's BAS relief class on May 15, 2011 with the class rate set at \$40 for members and \$75 for nonmembers. Melissa Karabanoff seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Lori Gust mentioned that she had been approached with the idea of placing advertisements from outside sources in our newsletter and on our website. She said that traditionally we have not done this. She said that the person who has requested this wants to promote a 7 day Bahaman cake decorating cruise. Sandra Hughes mentioned that if we accept ads, we cannot discriminate against anyone who might want to advertise with us. Martha Hickman suggested that Lori tell this person to promote her cruise on face book, as there are a great number of cake decorators on there. Lori Gust said that she would tell her that we will not accept any advertising.

Bonnell Templet suggested asked if we could use our discount cards as name badges in our meetings. She said that there are so many new members; we need a way to learn everyone's name. Lori said that we have had name badges in the past and most have been lost. Helen Osteen said that she would bring the badge punch and clips next month.

Shar Baker mentioned that she found a vendor in Baytown for cupcake boxes. She said that he will sell them in batches of 100 for \$1.19 each. She said that they are square with pegs to divide the cupcakes and are stackable. If anyone is interested, please see Shar.

Lori Gust announced last call for raffle tickets. Martha Hickman won the raffle.

Meeting adjourned at 12:13 pm.

Minutes recorded by Jan Hutto, Secretary.

The Houston Cake Club

April 26, 2011

Larry's Arts and Crafts

Pasadena, TX

Kathy Brinkley demonstrated baby bed cake toppers.

Nikki Banjoko provided refreshments.

Kathy Brinkley called the meeting to order at 10:41 am with 24 members present.

Kathy Brinkley welcomed the new members present. The question of the month was: how do you get your corners straight on a square cake.

Kathy Brinkley said that the demo/refreshment sign-up sheet for 2011 was full.

The minutes for March were presented. Helen Osteen moved to accept the minutes and Judy Francois seconded the motion. The motion/minutes passed.

Helen Osteen presented the Treasurer's report. She said that we have figures listed twice (they are class fees we have collected which are on hold until the class is held). She said that those fees will be returned if the class minimum is not met. Helen said we have 107 members with 89 being active. Melissa Karabanoff moved to accept the Treasurer's report and Casey Marchan seconded the motion. The motion/report passed.

OLD BUSINESS

Helen Osteen said that she still doesn't have any pictures for the demos for the CDE. She said that she would like to include them on the club's website for the CDE information. Helen Osteen said that we need to start publicizing our event. She needs pictures for Karen's, Sandy's and Dena's demos from the committee. C.J. Clay said that Shar Baker had a flyer for our CDE at the Winnie DOS.

Kathy Brinkley said that since Mary Nicholas and Martha Hickman were not in attendance, we would get a committee update at the next meeting.

Kathy Brinkley said that we would table the club t-shirt discussion until next month since Mary Nicholas was not present.

Kathy Brinkley said the vendors that were going to be at the CDE are Ximena, LeeAnn's Cakes, Cake Things, and Heather Campbell. Kathy said that if any member knows someone who would like to be a vendor at our event, to please contact her. She said that the vendor's form must be filled out and the booth fee must be paid in full in order to guarantee a spot. C.J. Clay mentioned that the ladies at the Winnie DOS have high expectations for our CDE.

Marti Enriquez said that she has had inquiries about our club and its meetings and events. She said that she sends them to the website for information and receives complaints back that it is not updated. Casey Marchan said that Marissa Beltran has sent Lori several e-mails requesting access to the site in order to update the information, but, has had no reply. Casey also asked if any final decision had been made in regards to changing the club's logo. Casey said that Marissa Beltran would be glad to update the website if she can get access. Kathy Brinkley said that she had also heard complaints about our site. Casey added that Marissa had done some site work and Kathy Brinkley asked if Casey would bring a laptop so that members could see the work.

Helen Osteen asked Casey Marchan about the gift/goodie bag/raffle donations. Casey said that the letter had been drawn up and is ready to go out. She said that Pat Wiener is assisting her. Casey said that she and Pat were sending letters out to vendors who were different than in the past. Kathy Brinkley said that she goes to Cake Craft and Make a Cake with donation requests. Casey said that she was not aware that her committee was responsible for teacher/demonstrator gifts; Heather Campbell volunteered to take care of those gifts. Casey asked if anyone had made vendor donation inquiries to please let her know in order to avoid duplicating requests. C.J. Clay stressed that communication needs to be a priority here.

Casey Marchan asked if there was anything specific that members would like to see in the raffle. Some suggestions were: sheeter, airbrush, pasta machines, ECG dust (it was mentioned that they have gone to wholesale distribution). Casey said that Kim Dukes Warren had contacted ECG and was waiting for a response. Melissa Karabanoff said that Hobby Lobby was going to get a large electric pasta machine that would be in the clay aisle.

NEW BUSINESS

Helen Osteen said that there were still spaces available in the CDE classes. As of today, the number of people attending the classes is: Karen - 15, Sandy - 9, Dena - 19, and Susie - 13. Helen said that she would take names for a waiting list for Dena's class. Kathy Brinkley said that Helen was taking deposits for these classes.

Kathy Brinkley asked Elizabeth Hunt about advertising for our CDE. Elizabeth said that she had spoken to the Houston Community Newspaper and said that the price is dependent upon the number of papers we want our ad to be posted in. She said the fee for posting in 2 area papers for 1 week is \$172.64. Elizabeth said that fee also includes posting on-line for 1 week. Casey Marchan suggested that Channel 13 & radio stations will post a free public service announcement. Stephanie Williams said that we can get flyers and post them on our face book page with an open invitation. C.J. Clay said that the San Antonio DOS would be a good place to put out a flyer. Elizabeth said that she would report back next month.

Celia Diaz encouraged everyone to write to their state representatives in regards to the Texas Bakers Bill. She said that a similar bill had already been passed in Arizona. Helen Osteen said that members from the Austin Cake Club were really pushing for the passage of this bill. Heather Campbell mentioned that a group actually went to Austin to show support for this bill.

Marti Enriquez gets calls for cakes and finds that she has to turn some of them down. She asked if she could give referrals for club members for those cakes she passes on.

Susie Araya inquired about the caterer for our CDE. Kathy Brinkley suggested that everyone bring ideas and prices for caterers to the next meeting. Susie suggested that we get prices from Marti's husband as he has a catering business. Marti will check with her husband and bring prices next month.

Kathy Brinkley announced last call for raffle tickets.

Maricela Vilchis won the raffle.

Meeting adjourned at 11:45 am.

Minutes recorded by Jan Hutto, Secretary.

The Houston Cake Club

May 24, 2011

Larry's Arts and Crafts

Pasadena, TX

Rita DoVal demonstrated fondant flower pots.

Ruby Ott, Alice Lopez and Celia Diaz provided refreshments.

Lori Gust called the meeting to order at 10:59 am with 34 members and 1 guest present. The question of the month was: what kind of cake have you designed for Father's Day/man.

Kathy Brinkley announced that the demo/refreshment sign up sheet for 2011 is full. She said that we still have spaces available on the photo album sheet.

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

Helen Osteen presented the Treasurer's Report. She said that we have \$3250.00 on hold for classes, making our balance \$7616.74. Helen said that if the classes do not make, the money is returned. She said that we have 111 members with 91 being active. John Hartley moved to accept the Treasurer's report and Rita DoVal seconded the motion. The motion/report passed.

Lori Gust thanked everyone for the goodies and Rita DoVal for the demonstration. Lori mentioned that Susie Araya will be our demonstrator next month.

OLD BUSINESS

Lori Gust reminded everyone that our CDE (Cake Decorating Extravaganza) is in September. She asked the demonstration committee provide pictures for the demos by the end of the week so that they can be put on our website and face book.

Martha Hickman gave the demonstration committee's report. She asked if there would be another wedding cake class on Thursday, September 8th since the Friday class had 16 students registered. Lori Gust suggested that we have a July 15th cut-off for Karen's class in order to determine if there is enough interest to warrant opening a second class date.

Elizabeth Hunt talked to the TV stations about a public service announcement regarding our CDE. She said that they want to have access to a link to our website.

Lori Gust asked for information from the vendor committee. She said that no one who has expressed interest in being a vendor at our event has paid their registration fee. Lori said that you are not a confirmed vendor until the fee has been paid in full.

Casey Marchan was not in attendance, therefore a raffle committee report was not available.

Lori Gust asked about gifts for the demonstrators/teachers. Heather Campbell will be responsible for providing the gifts.

Lori Gust said that in the past, the club has paid a \$100 fee to any demonstrator who lived more than 2 hours away. She said that we also have given them a small gift. Martha Hickman suggested that all demonstrators be paid the \$100. Kim Dukes Warren said that the local demonstrators should be paid a fee also. She suggested that a demonstrator who lives 100 miles or more away should receive \$100, and a demonstrator who lives less than 100 miles away should receive \$50 and a gift. Tina Belden felt that if a demonstrator is also teaching a class, a gift should be sufficient. If the demonstrator is not teaching an additional class, then Tina felt the \$100 would be good. Martha Hickman felt that if we did not pay our demonstrators, then perhaps the club could pay for the demonstrator's supplies. Helen Osteen thought that would get too complicated; she was concerned that demonstrators might turn in a reimbursement request for supplies that were not used. PJ Jenkins felt that demonstrators not teaching should be paid. Martha Hickman moved that demonstrators who travel more than 100 miles to our CDE be paid \$100 and those travelling under 100 miles are paid \$50. Mary Nicholas seconded the motion.

Kathy Brinkley said that every club handles the situation differently. She said that most people are happy to have the honor of being asked to demonstrate. She felt that if you were more than 2 hours away, you should be paid \$100, otherwise, a small gift should be sufficient. She said that participation gives you exposure to people who might not otherwise know you and your skills. Kim Dukes Warren suggested that we give a prepaid Visa card instead of cash for our appreciation. Rita DoVal said that the money should be enough, and an additional gift shouldn't be necessary. C.J. Clay said that our CDE sets the bar for many other clubs' events. Martha Hickman withdrew her motion for today. Lori Gust said that we would put the topic on next month's agenda. She felt that we were opening a big can of worms by paying our demonstrators.

Mary Nicholas reported on club shirts. She said that she had looked at the website for Port Authority and there were 5 shirt styles for the color pistachio. She said that she needed help finding the one that the club had already purchased. Kathy Brinkley said that she had the catalog and would e-mail Mary the shirt information. Lori Gust said that the end of July would be a good cut-off date for ordering club shirts. She said that the shirt prices last time we ordered were approximately \$25 (with HCC), \$30 with your name added, and about \$5-\$7 additional charge if a logo was added to the shirt.

Lori Gust mentioned that in the past, the fees for vendors booths were \$50 (includes 1 registration), if the vendor required an assistant, then an additional \$35 was charged. PJ Jenkins moved that the fees for our CDE be set as follows: vendor's booth fee is set at \$50 (with an additional \$35 being charged for an assistant), early bird registration is set at \$35, and door registration is set at \$45. Helen Osteen seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Kathy Brinkley inquired if we voted for items for our CDE. Martha Hickman suggested we include a Canon printer and a \$100 set of edible ink cartridges from Kopy Kake. Lori Gust said that we will discuss

big ticket raffle items next month. Martha Hickman said that she wanted to donate Cricket videos and other cake stuff.

Lori Gust announced last call for raffle tickets.

Martha Hickman won the raffle.

Meeting adjourned at 12:17 pm.

Minutes recorded by Jan Hutto, Secretary.

The Houston Cake Club

June 28, 2011

Larry's Arts and Crafts

Pasadena, Texas

Susie Araya demonstrated face modeling from molds.

Elizabeth Hunt provided refreshments.

Lori Gust called the meeting to order at 11:07 am with 30 members and 1 guest present.

The question of the month was: what kind of play days would you like the club to have?

Lori Gust explained the play day concept. She said that the fee is \$10 for members and \$15 for nonmembers.

Lori Gust encouraged everyone to sign the attendance book going around. It tracks your attendance so that you can receive your club discounts. Lori said that club membership expires on January 31st. She said that dues is \$20 for the 1st qtr. \$15 for the 2nd qtr. \$10 for the 3rd qtr. and \$5 for the 4th qtr.

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

Helen Osteen presented the Treasurer's report. She said that we are beginning to receive fees for the CDE and classes. Helen said we have \$3860 in fees and class deposits, leaving an approximate balance of \$7700. Kathy Brinkley moved to accept the Treasurer's report and Pat Wiener seconded the motion. The motion/report passed.

Lori Gust said the sign-up sheet for demos/refreshments/photo albums would be passed around. She asked that everyone please participate.

Lori Gust thanked Susie for the demo, and Elizabeth for the refreshments. She said that Dawn Parrott would be presenting next month's demo and Imelda Duran and Maricella Vilchis would be providing refreshments.

OLD BUSINESS

Helen Osteen explained the CDE (Cake Decorating Extravaganza) concept for new members. She said that the event is the main fundraiser for the club. The event allows us to offer class discounts. Helen said that if you are a member for more than 6 months and have attended 2 club events (meetings, play days, classes, etc.); the club subsidizes your class fees.

Lori Gust asked for a report from the CDE demo committee. Martha Hickman said that Heather Campbell is obtaining the supply list for Sandy Sheppard's classes. Karen Vasquez's list should now be

available. Ximena will not be able to demonstrate, but, will be a vendor. The committee is already working on a replacement. Martha Hickman said that Karen wants to buy her plane ticket. Martha suggested that we lower the class maximum to 25 total. Lori Gust said that in essence the club will be guaranteeing the extra spots that are not yet filled. She said the if they don't fill the spots; the club will be committed to paying Karen for those spots. Helen Osteen said that because we have a liberal refund policy, we could end up paying for more unfilled spots (due to people dropping out of the class). Pat Wiener said that this could obligate us for this policy for other instructors.

Lori Gust said that we set a minimum for classes 30 days ahead. She said it is the teacher's responsibility to determine if the class is cancelled. Lori said that there is 1 spot remaining in Friday's class and 6 spots remaining in Thursday's class with the fee balance due by 8/8/11. Lori said that we are risking \$750 of the club's money to guarantee those spots to Karen. Lori said that we need to address Martha's question of guaranteeing 25 spots for Karen's classes. Kathy Brinkley said that means committing \$750 of the club's money whether we fill the spots or not.

Bonnell Templet said that Friday's class is full & Thursday's class is not full. She said that we could cancel Thursday's class if it doesn't fill. Lori Gust said that it's not a problem to open the Thursday class; the problem is guaranteeing the money. Kathy Brinkley suggested we open the class, but we cannot guarantee that the class will fill. Lori Gust said that we would open Thursday's class & asked that you let Helen know if you want to move to Thursday's class.

Mary Nicholas has the sign-up sheets for class duties. Lori gust said that Helen Osteen reimburses you for the food expenses you incur for the classes.

Lori Gust asked for a vendor committee report. Kathy Brinkley said that we have 2 paid vendors (Mark and Heather). Kathy has e-mailed everyone about paying for their booth. The booth fee is \$50 (that includes 1 event admission). She said that she knows LeeAnn will attend and Ximena is sending her husband and a helper as vendors. Kathy Brinkley said that we still have vendor spaces available.

Helen Osteen printed flyers for the CDE. She said she can send you a digital e-mail file so that you can print a flyer for distribution.

Eunice Estrada asked if she could make her own molds to sell at the event.

Lori Gust asked for a report from the raffle committee. Casey Marchan said that she has responses from Chef Rubber and Cake Software. She said she has a line on an edible image printer and a airbrush. She is still waiting for responses for other big ticket items. Casey mentioned that she is waiting to hear from Kitchenaid, Agbay, Provocost, Cake Safe, Make a Mold & Earlene Moore's lace molds. She said that she also sent a letter asking for tickets to the Cake Boss' show here at the Wortham Theatre on 11/11/11 (Buddyon Tour.com)

Lori Gust said that Agbay usually does not donate a cutter. Casey asked if she should send a follow up letter and Lori suggested she wait for responses. Pat Wiener said that in the past, the club has voted to allocate funds for purchases at the ICES convention. Kathy Brinkley moved to allocate \$400 for

purchases at the ICES convention for our CDE raffle. Marcy Nicholas seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Lori Gust said that we got a 6 qt. Kitchenaid mixer last year for under \$300. Casey Marchan moved to buy a Kitchenaid mixer for under \$300 and Pat Wiener seconded the motion. C.J. Clay suggested that Tuesday Morning has a lot of things on sale. The motion passed.

Lori Gust mentioned an airbrush class update. She suggested that we have an airbrush play day on Sunday 8/14/11 @ Larry's from 1pm-5pm. The fee will be \$10 for members and \$15 for nonmembers.

NEW BUSINESS

Lori Gust said we can order club t-shirts today. They have HCC printed on them. The shirts run \$25 for sizes up to XL and \$30 for extended sizes. You can have your name added to your shirt for \$7-\$8.

Bonnell Templet asked if we wanted to consider a new color for our club t-shirts. The Port Authority style numbers are L420 (women's) and K420, TLK420 (men's). Eunice Estrada asked if we could add printing to old shirts. C.J. Clay said that it's easy to identify club members with the green shirts if attendees have questions.

Eunice Estrada mentioned the passage of the Baker's bill.

Lori Gust said that we need to discuss the food for the CDE. Kathy Brinkley said that Luna's Mexican Restaurant would provide food for \$8.95/person, Sudie's would provide food for \$12.95/person. Kim Warren said that Marti Enriquez's husband caters food. Marti said that her husband could do ¼ chicken, green beans, potatoes, salad and a roll for \$7/person. She said that he could do fajitas, beans, rice, pico de gallo, chips, queso and salsa for \$7.50/person. Meals include lemonade and tea. Pat Wiener moved to have the fajita dinner provided by Marti Enriquez's husband and Kathy Brinkley seconded the motion. Helen Osteen asked if the price included set up and serving. C.J. Clay asked if we could have a tasting of the food. Marti said that she would let everyone know about a tasting opportunity. The motion passed.

Lori Gust announced last call for the raffle.

Bonnell Templet won the raffle.

Meeting adjourned @12:35 pm.

Minutes recorded by Jan Hutto, Secretary.

There were no minutes taken at the July 2011 meeting.

The Houston Cake Club

August 23, 2011

Larry's Arts and Crafts

Pasadena, Texas

Pat Wiener demonstrated 3D Color Flow.

Guadalupe Ochoa, Susie Araya, Hermelanda Garcia and Ronnie Bochat provided refreshments.

Lori Gust called the meeting to order at 11:12 am with 33 members and 3 guests present.

The question of the month was: what are you going to contribute to the newsletter next month?

Martha Hickman asked for the deadline to submit items to the newsletter. Helen Osteen said to submit the items 2 weeks before the newsletter goes out (1 week before our meeting).

The minutes were presented. Sandra Hughes moved to accept the minutes as corrected and Pat Wiener seconded the motion. The minutes/motion passed.

Helen Osteen presented the Treasurer's report. She said the account has \$14,618.59 with \$7609.32 of that figure being committed for classes & expenses. There is roughly \$7000.00 in our account. Helen said that she needed to collect all payments on classes today. Pat Wiener moved to accept the Treasurer's report and Kathy Brinkley seconded the motion. The report/motion passed.

Lori Gust reminded everyone to sign the attendance book today. She said it tracks your attendance for club/class discounts (2 events attended allows you to receive discounts at Larry's, Cake Craft Shoppe and Make a Cake, as well as receiving reduced class tuition after 6 months of membership).

Lori Gust said that we need a demo for next month and asked for a volunteer. She also said that the demo sheet would be passed around for next year and asked that everyone please make an effort to volunteer to demonstrate. She said that the demo could be anything related to food or arts and crafts.

Lori Gust mentioned that September's refreshments will be provided by Edit Faris and Elma Vega.

OLD BUSINESS

Martha Hickman said that Kimberly Chapman will replace Ximena Sempertegui at the CDE. Kimberly will be demonstrating gummy technique. She said the demo line up will be Karen Vazquez showing beer bottles, Sandy Sheppard will demo the Oriental poppy, Dawn Parrott will demo coral, Susie Araya will demo painting on fondant, and Dena Bryngleson will demo a carved hot dog cake. Mary Nicholas has the signup sheets to volunteer at the CDE.

Helen Osteen said that she has not heard from Marti Enriquez about the catering for the CDE. She is trying to contact her to finalize details.

Lori Gust said that as of today there are 35 people pre-registered for the event. She estimated that we could have 150 attendees. Lori said that Helen Osteen printed 400 flyers for the event. She said that we should pick up some flyers and distribute them in our area of town. Information regarding the CDE has gone up on Face book as well.

Lori Gust asked for a donation committee update. Casey Marchan said that we have two airbrushes, Earlene Moore products, colored isomalt sticks, stencils, humidity control products from Cake Play, DVDS from Sharon Zambito and Scott Wooley (as well as a gum paste recipe for the goodie bags), donations from Get Sassy, cartridges and edible sheets from KopyKake, an extruder gun from Artway Tools, edible image printer, and packs of piping bags and stencils from Kee Seal. She said that we have had no response from Shilloutte or The Cake Boss yet. Casey said that Kitchenaid said no to donations, and Betty Crocker said that we would have to contact their marketing company that handles the red spoons.

Kathy Brinkley said that she is working to obtain donations from Cake Craft Shoppe, Amazing Cake, Make a Cake, and Satin Ice. She also mentioned that she had no response from Americolor.

Casey Marchan said that Grex requested information about our event. Lori Gust said that we should let them know that this is not a competition show, rather a learning/information sharing show. Casey said that her impression was that they wanted to be a vendor. Helen Osteen said to send the link for the show's flyer to Grex.

Kathy Brinkley mentioned that NY Cake should be contacted. Casey Marchan has sent a request but had had no response. Angie Blackmon said that she would send a follow up request to NY Cake.

Lori Gust said that we needed to focus on goodie bag contents. She said that anyone could donate goodie bag items and the items didn't have to be cake related.

Casey Marchan said that the Scott Wooley DVD would be playing on a laptop during the event. Kathy Brinkley said that Artway Tools wanted to do a short 15 minute morning demo during the event for their extruder.

Kathy Brinkley said that vendors for the event would include Ximena Sempertegui, Artway Tools, Cake Things, Heather Campbell, LeeAnn from Pflugerville, and Cake Tricks. She also said that a couple of the vendors have requested an extra table. Kathy mentioned that we could charge an extra \$15 for the table. Kathy said that because of our space limitations at the college, we might have to think about looking for a larger facility for next year.

Lori Gust said that we would meet at Larry's on Sunday, September 4th at noon to put the raffle prizes together. Pat Wiener said that any raffle item could be dropped off at Larry's for storage until Sunday.

Lori Gust said that we would meet at San Jacinto College on Saturday, September 10th, at 3 pm for set up. The duty sign-up sheet is posted on the website and she encouraged everyone to volunteer to help. Duties (so far) are as follows: drinks – Eunice Estrada, Dessert/Breakfast food tables – Elizabeth Hunt and Alzena McNeil, coolers/ice – Kathy Brinkley, Guadalupe Ochoa, Philippa Jenkins, Mary Nicholas,

water and soda restocking – Philippa Jenkins, outside signs – Judy Francois and CJ Clay, registration- Sandra Hughes and Melissa Karabanoff, raffle tickets –Jessica Lopez and Mary Nicholas, sugar display tables–Ronnie Bochat, and vendor table assignments –Kathy Brinkley.

Lori Gust said that the club shirts have been ordered. She said that she would bring them to the event.

Philippa Jenkins asked about food cost allowances for the classes being held in conjunction with the CDE. Lori said that they like to try to keep it to about \$5 per person for class meals. She said that you should bring your receipts for the food to Helen Osteen and she would reimburse you for your class food expenses.

Lori Gust announced last call for raffle tickets.

Stephanie Williams won the raffle.

Meeting adjourned at 12:28pm.

Minutes recorded by Jan Hutto, Secretary.

The Houston Cake Club

September 27, 2011

Larry's Arts and Crafts

Pasadena, TX

Susan Shannon demonstrated carved vegetables.

Edit Faris and Elma Vega provided refreshments.

Lori Gust called the meeting to order at 11:05 am with 29 members present.

The question of the month was: what was your favorite thing about the CDE?

The minutes for August 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. She said the CDE income listed is for this month only. Helen said that we got 2 new members at the CDE. She noted that \$2700 had to be refunded due to the cancellation of Dena's class. Helen said that the ending balance still has some CDE expenses that need to be paid. Pat Wiener moved to accept the Treasurer's report and Beth Vaughn seconded the motion. The motion/report passed.

Lori Gust reminded everyone to sign the attendance book. She said that signing the book allows the club to track your attendance which enables members to receive their discounts.

Lori Gust mentioned that Martha Hickman and Bonnell Templet will be providing snacks for October and Helen Osteen and Lori Gust will be demonstrating Cake 101.

OLD BUSINESS

Lori Gust mentioned the survey results sent out after the CDE. She said that 40 people responded. There were 182 people in attendance. She felt that Facebook brought in a lot of people. She said that many people responding to the survey felt the lunch was too spicy. She asked for comments from the members present. Comments were:

Helen Osteen – many people said that they did not get enough meat. Kathy Brinkley felt the food was good, but too spicy. Stephanie Williams said that people at the end of the line got smaller portions. Lori Gust said that the line was too long because it was only on 1 side of the table. She said that we need to utilize both sides of the serving tables, however, the meat needs to be served by the caterer or the meat is gone before everyone gets to eat. C.J. Clay asked about the barbeque we used to have that was prepared by Sandy Cook's husband. He wanted to know why we had stopped having that food. Helen Osteen said that the club had voted not to have barbeque.

Lori Gust asked for suggestions of things that we need to change regarding the CDE. Rita DoVal said that as a cake decorator, she felt that we needed more variety in our vendors. Pat Wiener said that a lot of vendors won't come because of the amount of work involved. Martha Hickman mentioned that the main complaint she received was people wanted more vendors. Kathy Brinkley mentioned that there was not a lot of room for more vendors. Bonnell Templet suggested that we look for a larger space that included a kitchen. Lori Gust suggested that we set up the tables auditorium style to increase space and number of attendees. She said that there are enough seats for 300, or 225-250 with tables and chairs.

Bonnell Templet said that the janitorial service needs to be up to par. She and Martha Hickman said that maybe we need to pay for janitorial services during the event. C.J. Clay suggested that we form a committee to pick up and empty trash every couple of hours. Susie Jahn thought C.J.'s idea of trash can assignments was a good one. Melissa Karabanoff said that large facilities have a large trash bin on wheels that can hold lots of trash bags. She said that we might need to ask the college if they have one we can use on the day of the event. Celia Diaz said that we need to know the location of trash bags and toilet paper at the college, or the club needs to make sure we have those items on hand.

Stephanie Williams said she heard a lot of complaints that people spent \$20-\$30 on raffle tickets and the same people won all the prizes. Kathy Brinkley said that some people spend \$100 on raffle tickets. Rita DoVal said that maybe the raffle drawings should be done on the stage so that people can see the box. Martha Hickman said we should make a note to tell people that the box with the tickets is being mixed up.

Eunice Estrada said that we should have a water source for the coffee pot. She said that she was embarrassed to have people see her fill the coffee pot in the ladies bathroom. Lori Gust asked if the brand of prepared tea was acceptable or should another brand be used. She noted that many people have issues with sweet tea; she said that we should have both sweetened and unsweetened tea. Kathy Brinkley mentioned that we need to have someone man the drink tables as well as the food tables for the entire event. Eunice Estrada said that we need more than 1 or 2 people manning the tables, as we don't want the same people missing the demos because they are cleaning the food tables. Susie Jahn said that there needs to be more breakfast food and fruit. We need to encourage people to bring non sweet breakfast items.

C.J. Clay said that the sound and video was good. Helen Osteen said that we have to consider the A/V equipment setup if we move to a new venue.

Lori Gust said that we need more time between demos. She felt that the schedule needed to be tweaked a bit. Kathy Brinkley said that a motorcycle class was using the parking lot in the morning and that took away a lot of parking spaces from our guests.

C.J. Clay said that we needed to make a duty roster and hold people accountable for those duties. He said that a lot of people ran out when the CDE was over and the same people stayed late to clean. Lori Gust said that there were members who were not helping when others were working hard.

Helen Osteen said that the club needs a larger storage room. She said that a 5'x10' room is \$51 for the year, and if we pay for the year in advance, we get 2 month's rent free. Kathy Brinkley moved to get a 5'x10' storage room for the club and Rita DoVal seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Lori Gust said that Helen Osteen printed 1700 flyers for the CDE. She said that if we had Kinko's print that number of flyers, the cost would have been about \$750. She also said the demonstrators need to turn in their demo information early so that flyers can be placed in goodie bags.

C.J. Clay said that he thought it was a good idea to send the survey out right after our event so that the CDE was fresh on everyone's mind. He also said that Helen Osteen needed to make more pecan pies next year.

Lori Gust said that registration fees (preregistration and door) were \$6180, and raffle monies were about \$2500. She said that we had about \$3000 in expenses leaving an approximate profit of \$4000. She said that 10% of our registration fees earmarked for our donation to the San Jac culinary program would be \$618. She asked if we should round that figure up to \$625. Susie Jahn moved to pay \$625 to the San Jac culinary department and Mary Nicholas seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Lori Gust said the number of students participating in the event was disappointing. Students said that the instructors didn't get the word out. C.J. Clay said that maybe we need to look at our advertising next year. Martha Hickman said that she had posted on Face book and had sent several e-mail blasts.

NEW BUSINESS

Lori Gust said that Chabucca's has closed; therefore we need to find a new location for our annual Christmas party. Lori said that the venue needs to accommodate 35-40 people. She said that we generally hold our party on the Tuesday of the first or second week in December. Lori suggested that we block out those 2 weeks on our calendar and talk about the location and date next month. Mary Nicholas suggested the Monument Inn. She said that they can do a buffet of our choosing.

Bonnell Templet asked if we could change the November meeting as it falls in the week of Thanksgiving. After discussion the November meeting will be moved to the 15th.

Lori Gust suggested that we table the rest of our discussion items until next month.

Lori Gust announced last call for raffle tickets.

Susan Shannon won the raffle. Susie Jahn won the additional software raffle. Leftover goodie bag raffles were won by Casey Marchan, Eunice Estrada, Beth Vaughn, Kimberly Dukes Warren, and Maricela Vilchis.

Meeting adjourned at 12:05 pm.

Minutes recorded by Jan Hutto, Secretary.

The Houston Cake Club

October 25, 2011

Larry's Arts and Crafts

Pasadena, TX

Helen Osteen & Lori Gust demonstrated Cake Decorating 101.

Bonnell Templet and Martha Hickman provided refreshments.

Lori Gust called the meeting to order @ 11:14 am with 26 members and 0 guests present.

The question of the month was: what do you do with leftover cake?

Lori Gust asked for more suggestions for the question of the month. She asked that you e-mail Helen Osteen or herself with question suggestions.

The minutes for September were presented. Beth Vaughn moved to accept the minutes and Pat Wiener seconded the motion. The motion/minutes passed.

Helen Osteen presented an oral Treasurer's report. She said that there were still some last minute receipts for class expenses. Helen said that the club's storage facility had been moved to a 5'x10' space. C.J. Clay inquired about the price of the larger space. Helen said that the new space was \$51/month where the smaller space had been \$34/month.

Lori Gust reminded everyone to sign the attendance book.

Lori Gust thanked Bonnell and Martha for the refreshments this month and noted that Leigh Bryant and Mary Nicholas will provide the refreshments in November. She also noted that Ruby Rodriguez and Clarissa Lopez will be demonstrating in November.

OLD BUSINESS

Lori Gust mentioned that the club discussed the possibility of changing the venue for our CDE. Bonnell Templet obtained information on a few venues – Jim Burton Bldg. fees were \$500 refundable deposit with an \$85/hr. rental fee, however, money cannot be collected at the door. She said the SPJST Lodge in Pasadena charges \$1800 for 4 hours rental. She said that the Houston Hobby Marriott might be a good idea, but, they usually require that their caterers be used with the rental. Bonnell mentioned checking with fellowship halls at local churches, however, that would not be practical as our event is held on Sunday. Pat Wiener said that facility rentals are expensive because of the fact that the owners must pay insurance and taxes on the building and they try to recoup that fee from the rentals. Susie Jahn mentioned that you can get an insurance rider for about \$300-\$350. Lori Gust said that we could change the venue; however, a high rental fee would not allow us to donate as much to our chosen charity. The more we pay for our venue, the less we donate. Kathy Brinkley mentioned the KOA facility in Montgomery. She said that the building which seats 300-400 rents for \$750 (kitchen included).

Bonnell Templet mentioned that if we move from San Jac College, we will have the added rental expense of A/V equipment. Susan Shannon said that she makes cakes for a banquet facility (The Garden Houston.com) and will check their rental fees.

Lori Gust said that Chabucca's is closed; therefore, we need to find a new place to hold our Christmas party. Martha Hickman suggested the Monument Inn. She said that they would do a buffet at a bulk price. Lori Gust suggested the Lighthouse Buffet in Kemah. She said that they have a large varied selection of food on the buffet. Lori said that they do not have a private room, however, they would section off part of the dining room for our group. She also said that we can eat outside if the weather is nice. Lori said that there is no parking fee during the week. The restaurant is closed on Monday and Tuesday, so we would have to change our party to Wednesday. Sandra Hughes asked how far in advance we have to book our party. Lori said that they require a 2 week advance booking. Lori said that other places are in the \$20/person range and individual menu ordering is difficult for a group as large as ours. Pat Wiener moved to have our Christmas party at the Lighthouse Buffet in Kemah and Beth Vaughn seconded the motion. The motion passed. Lori Gust asked if we want to have our party on December 7th or December 14th. After a show of hands, the party will be held on December 7, 2011 @ the Lighthouse Buffet in Kemah.

Lori Gust said that in the past, we have brought a wrapped \$15 gift to the party to play "rob your neighbor/white elephant." It is not required that you participate. After discussion, it was decided that we would continue this tradition.

Lori Gust said in past years, we have donated to a charity at our Christmas party. Last year, we donated to Ronald McDonald House, but, she said that there a lot of other places we could consider. Bonnell Templet mentioned the food bank. Beth Vaughn said that Weight Watchers just did a donation to the food bank. C.J. Clay mentioned that we donate to the Pasadena Woman's Shelter (The Bridge, Sarah's House). Lori Gust said that we need to look around and bring suggestions for our charity to the next meeting. Helen Osteen reminded everyone to ask about the charities rules for accepting donations. Sandra Hughes said that her literary club just donated to The Bridge and they won't take food or clothing. Dawn Parrott suggested that we donate time and teach skills for jobs. Martha Hickman said that the food banks actually do better with monetary donations as they can purchase food cheaper than an individual can. Lori said that we would vote on our charity at next month's meeting on November 15, 2011.

NEW BUSINESS

Lori Gust said that Glenda Galvez needs to know flower class details. Kathy Brinkley presented pictures of the 3 flowers Glenda would teach. The flowers are the stargazer lily, the peony, and the magnolia. Each flower would be a separate class. Helen Osteen asked if we wanted all flower classes or if we would like to include a class on the pearl edged bow. Lori Gust said that we have some members who don't like to do flowers, so Lori suggested we have Glenda teach a class on side designs and bows. Lori said that would allow more members to benefit from Glenda's skills as she is talented teaching other things. Kathy Brinkley said that the classes would be held on February 6, 7, and 8, 2012 at Larry's. She

said that Glenda requires a minimum of 15 students per class. After discussion, the club voted that we would have the 3 flower classes. After further discussion, Pat Wiener moved that Glenda Galvez's classes will be held on February 6, 7 and 8, 2012 at Larry's with the member rates being set at \$75 per class and \$200 for all 3 classes and nonmember rates being set at \$100 per class and \$250 for all 3 classes. Bonnell Templet seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Lori Gust said that Debbie Brown is booked for 2012. Lori said that she has contacted Debbie and she has tentatively scheduled classes for the club for the 2nd week in September 2013.

Lori Gust said that in the past years, we have sent Christmas cookies to the troops overseas. She said that we have not had much luck with this. She asked if we would like to try this again or maybe donate cookies somewhere else locally (women's shelters). Lori asked that we think about this and discuss at the next meeting. Lori said that we could meet at Larry's where we could mix and pack the cookies for local distribution.

Dawn Parrott said that she will be teaching a string work class on 3 Sundays in December. They will be 8 hour classes and everything is included in the fee. She also said that she and Jane Cunningham will co-teach a class January 27-30, 2012 at Walt Disney World. The fee of \$735 will include 3 days and 2 nights at Coronado Springs Hotel, Park Hopper pass, class supplies, and an animation studio tour (travel costs are not included in the \$735 fee). The class requires a minimum of 30 students and a maximum of 40 students. A \$350 deposit is required to hold your place in the class, with the balance being due 1 month before the class begins. If you would like to have further information on the Disney class or the string work class, please Dawn Parrott.

Bonnell Templet asked about rescheduling Dena Bryngelson's class. Kathy Brinkley said that she will contact Dena about rescheduling.

Lori Gust said that some members have inquired about club t-shirts. She said that the company will make shirts for us. She asked that you see Helen Osteen if you want to buy a new club shirt.

Kathy Brinkley announced that as the alternate representative for Texas ICES, she will be holding an ICES DOS on February 5, 2012 at the Lone Star Event Center in Conroe, TX. She said that Bronwen Weber, Sheila Brooks, Glenda Galvez, Ximena, and Carolyn Wanke will be demonstrating.

Lori Gust announced last call for raffle tickets.

C.J. Clay won the raffle for the ticket for An Evening with Buddy Valestro.

Susie Jahn won the raffle.

Meeting adjourned at 12:15 pm.

Minutes recorded by Jan Hutto, Secretary.

The Houston Cake Club

November 15, 2011

Larry's Arts and Crafts

Pasadena, TX

Kathy Brinkley demonstrated fantasy flowers from Sharon Zambito's DVD.

Mary Nicholas and Kathy Brinkley provided refreshments.

Lori Gust called the meeting to order at 11:10 am with 27 members and 2 guests present.

The question of the month was: what do you make for Thanksgiving?

Lori Gust said that our next formal meeting will be in January. She also asked for more suggestions for the question of the month.

The minutes for October 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 said that there were still some left over bills from the Cake Decorating Extravaganza (CDE) and classes. Helen said that there was \$750 (\$650 from registration fees and \$100 for the A/V person) for San Jac for the donation to the culinary program. She said that the culinary program students were planning a trip to Italy and some of our funds could be used for that purpose. Kathy Brinkley moved to accept the Treasurer's report and Shar Baker seconded the motion. The motion/report passed.

Lori Gust reminded everyone to sign the attendance book. She said that attendance at 2 club events/meetings allows you to receive the club discounts.

Lori Gust said that the 2012 demonstration/refreshment list needs volunteers. She also reminded everyone to silence their cell phones during the meeting. She said that if a cell phone goes off during the meeting, the owner of the phone must provide a demonstration.

Lori Gust thanked Kathy Brinkley for the demonstration and also thanked Mary Nicholas and Kathy Brinkley for the refreshments. She noted that Martha Hickman would be providing January's demo, and Kim Warren and Judy Francois would be providing refreshments for the meeting.

Casey Marchan inquired about holding a club garage sale. Mary Nicholas moved to hold the garage sale in July 2012 and Dawn Parrott seconded the motion. The motion passed. Lori Gust reminded everyone to bring your items through the back door – she asked that garage sale items not be carried through the store. Lori Gust reminded everyone that February is the appreciation luncheon for all of Larry's employees.

OLD BUSINESS

Lori Gust reminded everyone that the Christmas party would be held on December 7, 2011 at 11:30 am at the Lighthouse Buffet in Kemah. She said that the club would pay for a club member's meal and tea or soda. She said that we would be holding the optional gift exchange (\$15 limit). She asked that gifts be brought to the party already wrapped.

Lori Gust said that we traditionally make a charitable donation at our Christmas party. She asked for charity suggestions. Bonnell Templet said that the hospital had a food drive and said that \$12.50 could feed a family of 4 for a week. She said that donations could be in the form of nonperishable food or cash. SEAMS (Southeast Area Ministries) was also suggested as our charity. Casey Marchan suggested donating to a woman's shelter. Celia Diaz suggested we contact one of the local schools and inquire about donating gifts to needy students. Dawn Parrott moved that our Christmas party charity be SEAMS and Pat Wiener seconded the motion. Lori said that the donations could be in the form of gift cards or cash. She said that we could also have a raffle item at the party and donate the cash collected for the raffle. It was determined that Bonnell Templet would take our donation to SEAMS. The motion passed.

Lori Gust said the club t-shirts could be ordered through Helen. The cut-off date for ordering a shirt is 12/01/11.

NEW BUSINESS

Lori Gust mentioned that the information for Glenda Galvez's classes is posted on the club's website. Glenda's classes will be the magnolia, stargazer lily and the peony. Lori said that you can sign up for the classes on the website or through Helen.

Lori Gust mentioned that we usually make and ship cookies to the troops overseas. She said that we have never heard if our cookies reach their destination. She asked if we would be interested in distributing cookies locally. C.J. Clay suggested donating cookies to the local veteran's centers. Shar Baker suggested we take cookies to nursing homes because most facilities do not budget for holiday treats. Shar also said that we should include sugar free treats in our donations so that the people who are diabetic won't be left out. Lori Gust said that we could separate the regular sweets from the sugar free ones in specially marked containers. Pat Wiener said that we could meet at Larry's to sort and package the cookies. After discussion, the cookie sorting and packaging will be at Larry's on Sunday 12/04/11 at 2pm. C.J. Clay will take the cookies to the veteran's centers and Shar Baker will take cookies to the nursing home. Susan Shannon said that she would not be available on 12/04/11 to bring her cookies, so, Pat Wiener said that Susan (or anyone else that couldn't be at Larry's on the 4th) could drop her cookies off at Larry's and she would make sure they got in the packages on Sunday.

Lori Gust said that Larry's is very gracious to allow us to use the facility for our meetings. She suggested that we buy some extra chairs for our meetings. Pat Wiener said that she thought 1 dozen chairs would be enough to accommodate the club. She said that we can label our chairs with the cake club's name so that they do not get confused with Larry's chairs. Beth Vaughn moved that the club purchase a 12 pk. of chairs from Sam's for approximately \$250 and Kathy Brinkley seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Bonnell Templet suggested that we purchase chairs in a different color so that the club's chairs would not be confused with Larry's chairs.

Lori Gust asked if anyone had found a new venue for our CDE. Casey Marchan said that if we change our location, we will have to pay a larger fee. Dawn Parrott suggested that we rent rectangular tables instead of using the round ones. Kathy Brinkley said that we could have them delivered to San Jac . She also added that renting rectangular tables would be more feasible than finding a new venue to hold our event. Lori Gust reminded everyone that if we pay more for our venue for our CDE, we will make less money. Making less money means that the club will have less money to subsidize classes.

Lori Gust announced last call for raffle tickets.

Kathy Brinkley won the raffle.

Meeting adjourned at 12:10 pm.

Minutes recorded by Jan Hutto, Secretary.