



HAPPY NEW YEAR! Can you believe how quickly this past year has flown by? It seems like just a few days ago we were all in Omaha, enjoying the ICES Convention.

Now we must look forward to the Midyear Meeting in St. Charles, Illinois! I hope everyone has already registered. If not, you'd be wise to do that as soon as you read this. You may visit www.icesreps.com and download the Registration Packet on the "Upcoming Events" page, or go to the ICES web site (www.ices.org), click on "Coming Events" and scroll down to the Midyear Registration subtitle.

In addition to all of the work we hope to accomplish in St. Charles, I want you to start anticipating a few fun demos that different ones have agreed to conduct. Fran Tripp is always a class act; she has a fun demo for you ... as does B. Keith Ryder. Those who enjoyed Keith's demo last year will be delighted to learn that he has agreed to do another fun demo this year.

You will be glad to hear and pass along that ICES membership numbers are starting to rise, in anticipation, no doubt, of the expected turnout in Orlando. This means that now is the time to focus our attention on retaining those members and actively involving them in local ICES events.

We've "shaken up" some of the scheduling for the Reps' meetings. To save time and increase efficiency and productivity in both the Reps' meetings and the Board meetings, we have scheduled the Reps' business meeting for the very first day! And the reason I am telling you this NOW is so that you may come prepared for that change in scheduling. The business meeting is the opportune time for you to discuss items that are of interest to you as ICES Representatives. This is the time to present concerns that will be made known to the ICES Board of Directors. This is the time when you can gain input and knowledge and experience from others who are in the "same boat" and face the same challenges as you do.

There are several items of business we'll need to discuss this year at the Midyear Meeting; the major item being Bylaws revisions. It will be a jam-packed meeting this year; be sure to bring comfortable clothes and shoes!
--Grace

Don't Forget

- If you would like to pick up the new ICES brochures at Midyear, please contact Felicia Pritchett to let her know how many you'd like. You may e-mail Felicia at pastrylace@aol.com or call 704-392-4033.
- Internationals: check the ICES Reps web site (www.icesreps.com) and click on "Internationals" for updated information.
- Sign and return the Rep's contract to Grace McMillan, 324 W. Seward Rd., Guthrie, OK 73044. Funds will not be reimbursed until a signed contract is on file.
- Fill out and return the Rep's Questionnaire to Grace McMillan, 324 W. Seward Rd., Guthrie, OK 73044.

ICES CONTACTS

President

B. Keith Ryder
Ph 703-538-6222
E-mail bkeith@bcakes.com

Reps Liaison/Newsletter

Grace McMillan
Ph or Fax 405-282-3003
E-mail IcesEditor@aol.com

ICES Treasurer

Maureen Cleveland
Ph 518-877-5697
E-mail cclevela@nycap.rr.com

Address Changes: Membership Coordinator

Gayle McMillan
Ph 318-746-2812
E-mail gvmcmillan@aol.com

REPS SUPPORT

Reps Moderator

Beth Lee Spinner
Ph 860-228-8595
E-mail blspinner@sbcglobal.net

Reps Secretary

Bonnie Blackburn
Ph 519-922-2713
E-mail truckncake@georgian.net

International Liaison

JoAnne Beauvais
Ph 860-774-0930
E-mail jbeauvaiscakes@yahoo.com

Hall of Fame Nominations

Do you know someone who deserves to be in the ICES Hall of Fame? Is there someone who has made an impact on the world of sugar art that has made your work easier? Do you find yourself referring to a particular book, video or tutorial over and over again? Do you have a favorite tool that you simply could not do without? Who

Board Communiqué to ICES Reps

invented that tool, or wrote that book or made that video? Is that person an outstanding example of what ICES stands for?

Look at the list of current members of the ICES Hall of Fame on the ICES web site (www.ices.org). If the person you admire most is not on that list, this is your opportunity to acknowledge their contribution to our art and say, "Thank you," in a permanent way.

Download and complete a nomination form and send it to the Hall of Fame Committee Chairman before the deadline of January 15. Let's give credit where credit is due. Please mail or e-mail your completed nomination to:

Glenda Galvez
ICES Hall of Fame Chairman
glenda@auntglendascakes.com

Board Nominations

Hello, Reps!

As the Nominations/Elections Chair, I need your help. You are "in the field" with ICES and have a great opportunity to know who would make good members for the ICES Board of Directors. Please put on your thinking caps and make some nominations. We would like to have a lot of nominees so members may have a real choice when electing the Board. Nominations are also being taken for the Executive Offices: President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer. Those nominees must come from 2nd and 3rd year Board Members. If you need a nomination form, please contact me. An article will be in the February ICES newsletter giving more details, or you may

contact me directly at:

Gayle McMillan
Nominations/Elections Chair
gvmcmillan@aol.com

International Members

Dear International Member,

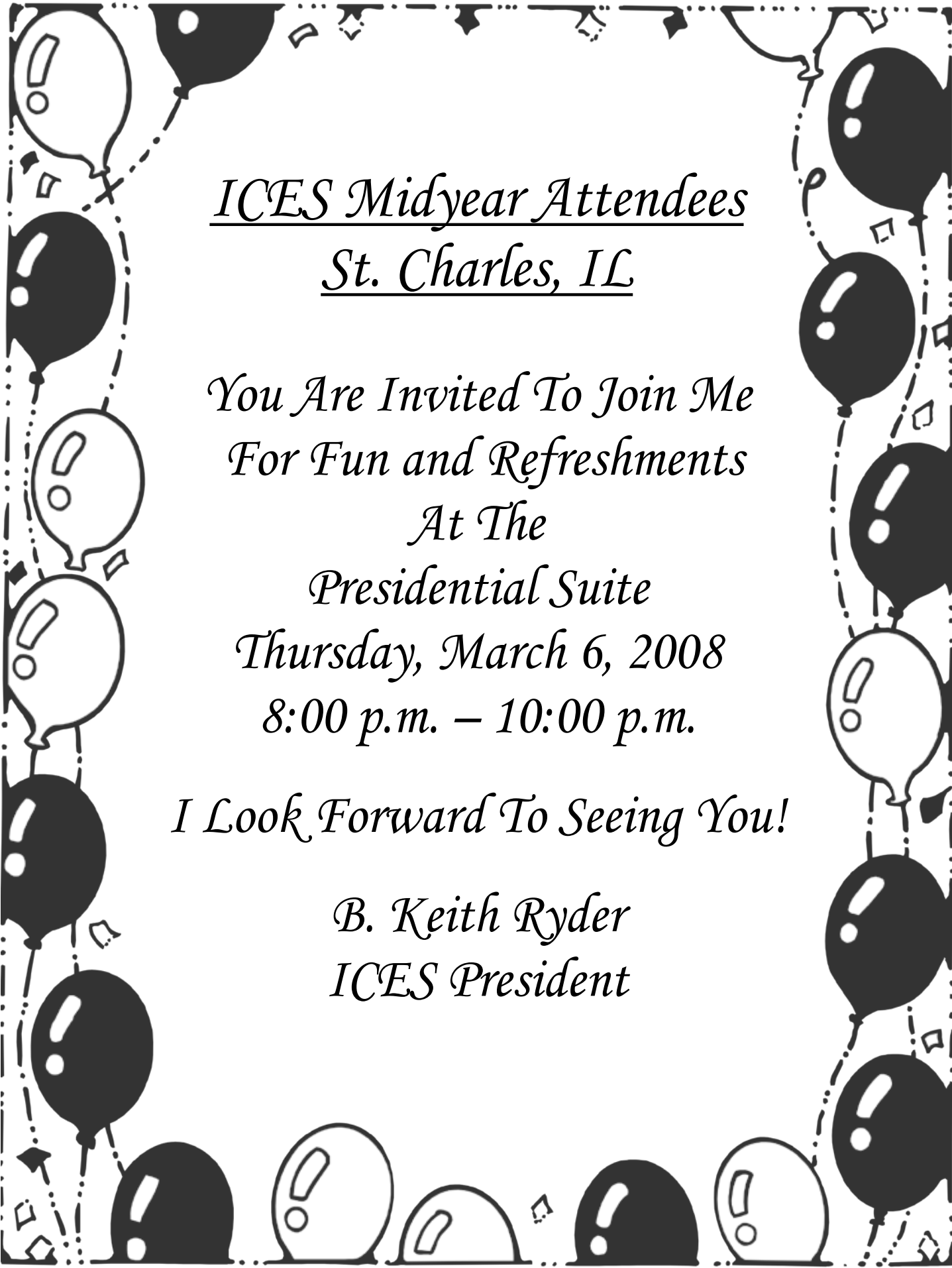
We are so looking forward to our Orlando Convention and Show. Lots of new ideas are being shared and shown in this year's convention. I just read on our web site (www.ices.org) that all the vacancies for the new certification program have been filled. You'll be able to purchase a ticket to view this new facet of the convention. How exciting!

Let me remind you that your requests for a Letter of Invitation should be done early. The visa process might be long and I would not like to hold up that process for you because of this paperwork. This document takes 10 to 14 days to arrive by US mail. I also need a few days to get it to the mail. If you're thinking of coming, send the request today. The final day to request a letter is April 15, 2008.

You may register for the Orlando convention on February 1, 2008. You must register first. Only then can you book a room at the Disney Contemporary Resort, which is the main hotel for the convention. It will be a beautiful time to have "sugar fun in the sun."

Happy New Year. May you have good fortune and may your cake decorating dreams be fulfilled in 2008.

JoAnne Beauvais
ICES Board of Directors
International Liaison



ICES Midyear Attendees
St. Charles, IL

*You Are Invited To Join Me
For Fun and Refreshments
At The
Presidential Suite
Thursday, March 6, 2008
8:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.*

I Look Forward To Seeing You!

*B. Keith Ryder
ICES President*



REMINDERS

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UPCOMING EVENTS

ICES Rack Cards

If you need ICES rack cards to hand out at Days of Sharing or to potential new members, contact Felicia Pritchett. Please let her know how many rack cards you need and she'll bring them to the Midyear Meeting.

Felicia's contact information is as follows:

Felicia Pritchett
8706 Holly Creek Court
Charlotte, NC 28216
704-392-4033
pastrylace@aol.com

Chapter Logos

Any changes/revisions to existing chapter logos need to be sent by e-mail to Logo Chairman, Gwendolyn Scroggins at c5cakesbygwen@aol.com.

Some chapter logos are still outstanding. If you're a chapter without a logo, please have one created and submitted for approval as soon as possible.

Bonnie Blackburn to hold an Orientation Session for those interested in running for the ICES Board of Directors

If you are interested, or even just toying with the idea of running for the Board of Directors in the near future, you'll want to attend the special Midyear Orientation Session on Thursday at 4:00 p.m.!

Francine Snodgrass has agreed to conduct that session, and as anyone knows who has ever attended one of her orientations, the class will be informative and fun all at the same time.

Midyear Meeting March 6-9, 2008 St. Charles, IL

If you have not received your Midyear Registration packet, visit icesreps.com and click on "Upcoming Events."

You may contact your IL Show Directors any time.

Barbara Evans
309-274-4472
be.ices2009@gmail.com

Samantha James
708-447-6015
ices_samanthajames@yahoo.com

Register for Midyear and make your room reservations early! If you have not already done so, why don't you just take a moment and do it right now?