

MONTHLY MESSAGGERRO

Conveying the most important messages between the DIY, fashion and independent arts communities and yours

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 1



FEBRUARY 2010

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Decorate a Hat, A Derby Bout, San Diego Living Craft Segment & Craft Night!

The CHA Show aka The Craft and Hobby Association, Winter Trade Show was Amazing!

My experience at CHA every January is amazing! I have found that it's a trade show that most people don't know about. To go to the show, you have to join CHA membership or pay a high door fee. I work with my mom at her bead store, Dancing Bear Indian Trader and we joined the CHA so that we could get more wholesaler connections.

We found about the show 3 years ago and it's been a great experience every time we go. There's usually hundreds of wholesalers who sell beads, arts, crafts, and scrap booking supplies. We've met amazing people and a lot of the suppliers have demonstrations with new products & make and take projects. We took a few breaks during the show, we made a Monster Tree topiary, Hot Fix crystal T-shirt, Feather hair accessories, & some polymer clay buttons, with all of walking & talking, you need to eat chocolate for energy & crafts for fun!

The show usually starts on Sunday and ends mid Wednesday. It can be grueling, since there is SO much to see, I never thought that I would ever be tired of going to a local craft or fabric show, it's overwhelming. What's fun about the shows are the samples! We love getting those. This tradeshow is a little bit like Disneyland. You know how people go and buy funny hats or wear feather boas, etc, except people don't buy them, they are given away. This year, Cricut introduced a machine that will cut fondant designs for cake decorating, so they gave out free chef hats, <http://www.cricut.com/shopping/ProductDetails.aspx?id=906&s=1&sc=1>. During the show, you would see groups of ladies and gentlemen wearing chef hats with the hope that they would win a free Cricut machine.



Crowds gather to get into the CHA 2009 Winter Show

Makin Clay: Air dry Polymer clay, <http://www.makinsclay.com/US/eng/home.htm>, Craft Lace: like Rex Lace, but made in the USA <http://www.tonercrafts.com>, Tulip introduced fabric paint that absorbs UV rays and changes color when it's "charged" <http://www.ilovetocreate.com>.

To sum it up, we got to talk to & meet some great people, found a bunch of new products I would love to buy for my mom's store, enjoyed exploring & seeing new things, didn't get a chef hat cuz I would have felt silly, & ordered a bunch of new things! It was a great show this year, & I can't wait to go again next year!

-XOXO Svea Komori-Ang, Founding Member, San Diego North Park Craft Mafia



I love talking to the designers of the products they sell. I met Crafty Chica, <http://www.craftychica.com>, the first year I went.

This year there are so many COOL new products that are available, the Silhouette: like the Cricut, but you can designs on your computer <http://www.silhouettemachine.com>,

CRAFTY EATS:

GET CRAFTY WITH YOUR TV!

There are so many places out there to get crafty inspiration from and one great way is your TV. Sadly a lot of my favorite TV Craft Shows have gone the way of the dinosaur, but there is one that I really enjoy watching called "That's Clever." It plays on HGTV every weekday morning at 7:30am. This is perfect for me because I just throw it on while I am getting ready for work in the mornings. Each episode features 3 crafters who each show you a project. These are not TV professionals, they are everyday crafters like you and me. This format really allows to see a really wide variety of crafts! I have seen everything from scrapbooking, felting, metal working, fused glass, sewing, pottery, the list just goes on and on. Of all of the craft TV shows I have ever seen this has always been the best one for variety. They also have a really useful website where you can actually watch segments from the shows, and get further details about the crafts you might have seen.



Host of "That's Clever", Angela Martinez.

So if you're feeling crafty check out: <http://www.hgtv.com/thats-clever/show/index.html>

CREATE FUN JEWELRY WITH MODGE PODGE!



Mod Podge is a crafter's best friend and a great tool to redesign and recycle just about anything! Mod Podge is a glue, a sealant and a finish all in one and is so easy to use! For this month's crafty how to, I Mod Podged an old, chipped bracelet to make it new and exciting again and here's how:

step 1) collect cool paper, fabric scraps and images from old photos and magazines

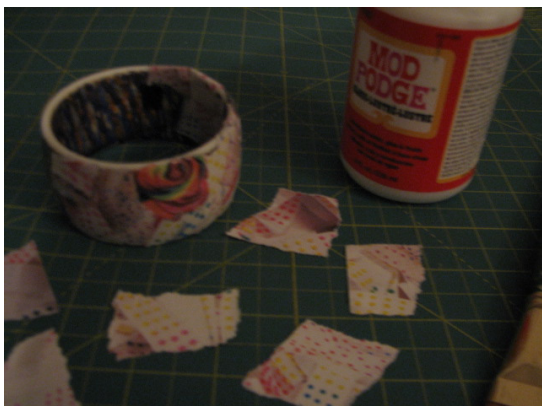
step 2) using a paintbrush, coat the surface of the item you will be decorating lightly with Mod Podge

step 3) place your cutouts where you want them, sticking them to the Mod Podge like glue

step 4) one more coat of Mod Podge on top to work as a sealant

step 5) let it dry!
(Mod Podge will appear white and opaque but will dry transparent)

Enjoy your new re-decorated bracelet!!!



MADAME CRAFTINA'S
HOROSCOPE

VALENTINE'S MONTH IS SURE TO BE SWEET

For Valentine's Day this year, craft your lover a fun heart-shaped card and don't forget to include candy!!! Madame Craftina has candy suggestions for your valentine according to their astrological sign!

Aquarius (born Jan 23-Feb 18) Aquarians appreciate uniqueness so different and strange candy would impress them. Get them something they've never tried before like chocolate covered insects, freeze-dried ice cream or lavender infused truffles.

Pisces (born Feb 19-Mar 20) Pisces love all natural things including nature's own candy: fruit! Chocolate covered cherries, blueberries, raisins and banana chips will be the perfect sweet valentine treat!

Aries (born Mar 21-April 19) Dark chocolate is a favorite for Aries. They love bold and strong flavors so the darker and more bitter the chocolate, the better! Or give them chocolate covered espresso beans.

Taurus (born April 20-May 20) Tauruses require extra attention. Make chocolate fondue for dessert or feed them chocolate dipped strawberries and they would love to be your valentine!

Gemini (born May 21-June 20) The twins like to be surprised leaving monotony out of the question. Get your Gemini lover an assorted box of chocolates so every little bite is different than the next!

Cancer (born June 21-July 22) Your artistic and romantic side will impress a Cancer. They would love homemade heart shaped cookies or a cookie bouquet.

Leo (born July 23-Aug 22) Leos love being praised. Give them M&M's in their favorite color scheme or printed with their initials and they will surely melt in your mouth!

Virgo (born Aug 23-Sept 22) Bring your Virgo valentine organic candies and chocolates. They appreciate all healthy things and will take notice of your thoughtfulness.

Libra: (born Sept 23-Oct 22) Libras are pleased by anything, for them it's the thought that counts. You could easily bring your own favorite candy and they'd be happy to share it with you.

Scorpio (born Oct 23-Nov 22) Your Scorpio valentine appreciates anything having to do with water. Using this as inspiration, they might like dried watermelon (so sweet and yummy) or red swedish fish!

Sagittarius (born Nov 23-Dec 22) Sags love the freedom to choose. This Valentine's Day take them to a Sweet Factory or a vintage candy store and let them decide what their sweet tooth desires!

Capricorn (born Dec 23-Jan 22) Fine chocolates will impress a Capricorn. An expensive or imported milk chocolate bar is sure to make them smile.

MA MANGIA

THIS VALENTINE'S DAY, GIVE YOUR VALENTINE
DEATH BY CHOCOLATE – CAKE, THAT IS!

INGREDIENTS:

- 8 oz (225 g) dark semi-sweet chocolate (40-50% cocoa)
- 2/3 cup (140 g) butter
- 1 cup (210 g) sugar
- 4 eggs
- 4 heaped tablespoons (1 dl) all-purpose flour
- 4 tablespoons unsweetened cocoa powder
- 1½ teaspoon baking powder or 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 4 tablespoons sour cream

INGREDIENTS FOR
FROSTING:

- 2/3 cup (1.6 dl) heavy cream or whipping cream
- 9 oz (260 g) semisweet chocolate (40-50% cocoa)

DIRECTIONS:

1. Preheat oven to 350 deg F (Gas mark 4 or 180 deg C).
2. Line a circular 10 inch (25 cm) cake tin (3 inches tall) with grease proof or other non-stick paper and grease the tin. (Please note that the cake will rise to 3 inches and collapse somewhat when cooled. If your cake tin is less than 10 inches wide and 3 inches tall we recommend that you use two cake tins.)
3. Break the chocolate into small pieces and melt it with butter over hot water.
4. Beat the eggs with sugar, mix with flour, cocoa powder, baking powder and vanilla extract.
5. Slowly fold in the melted butter and chocolate and the sour cream.
6. Bake at 350 degrees until a wooden pick inserted in center comes out clean, approximately 40 to 50 minutes (if using 2 cake tins 20-30 minutes may be sufficient).
7. Cool the cake completely. When it has obtained room temperature place it in the refrigerator for at least 30 minutes before removing the cake from the tin (the cake is sticky and difficult to cut when it is warm!) Remove the crusted surface on the top of the cake, and cut in half, horizontally.

FROSTING:

1. Heat 2/3 cup (1.6 dl) of heavy cream or whipping cream in a sauce pan.
2. Remove from heat, add 9 oz (260 g) of finely chopped dark semisweet chocolate, stir until smooth, and let it cool until it thickens.
3. Use one 1/3 of the frosting between the two layers, 1/3 on top, and the rest around the cake. Put the cake into the fridge for one hour or more to harden the frosting.
4. This cake should have room temperature when served.

VARITION:

- A. You may add 3 tablespoons of rum to the chocolate and butter mixture.
- B. You may use your preferred chocolate frosting, or the frostings described for [Chocolate Tart](#) or [Devil's Food Cake](#).
- C. You can add chopped walnuts and decorate with whole walnuts for a marvelous nutty treat!



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Source: <http://www.cacaoweb.net>



WHO IS KEEPING SAN DIEGO CRAFTY?

Teresa Salazar of *Velvet Klaw*
www.velvetklaw.com

Svea Komori-Ang of *Belle Pepper Couture*
www.bellepeppercouture.com

Amy Smock of *Designs de Luna*
www.designsdeluna.com

Meagan Rae Longtin of *Meagan Rae Designs*
www.meaganraedesigns.com

THE SAN DIEGO NORTH PARK CRAFT
 MAFIA WAS FOUNDED IN SEPTEMBER
 2007 AND IS DEDICATED TO
 CRAFTING, FASHIONING, STYLING
 AND CREATING THEIR SAN DIEGO.

www.SanDiegoNorthParkCraftMafia.com
info@sandiegonortherparkcraftmafia.com
 P.O.Box 711773
 San Diego, CA 92171

**Now Accepting Vendor Applications
 for the "Spring Line Up" at the North
 Park Festival of the Arts on May
 16th! Are you a crafty vendor? We
 have 10'x10' booths available for ven-
 dors who want to be part of our "line
 up"! Visit us online for more info!
 SDNPCM.com**

Crafty Black Book: Upcoming Events for February



**Feb. is
 National
 Embroidery Month**

SATURDAY FEB 20TH: CRAFTY CHICA HAT EMBELISHMENT

Dancing Bear Indian Trader is kicking off their monthly craft classes with a tip of a hat! This hat project is a fun and easy project to do! The class is \$20 and includes the hat and embellishments! RSVP by Feb. 16 on the website or at the store.
 11am - 1pm in Vista. www.dancingbearindiantrader.com

TUESDAY FEB 23RD CRAFTY CONSPIRACY @ THE RUBY KITCHEN

Do you like to craft & make things? Have a project that you're working on? Great! We host a fun craft night every month where you can hang out with others who share the love of creating. We've got a new location for 2010 - the Ruby Kitchen in Hillcrest! If you haven't been there yet, then you're in for a treat. Not only is it a nice space, they serve up some great "comfort food" dishes. Try the tator tots! We take over their upstairs lounge area, so be sure to look for us there! Last time we had a great attendance, be sure to get there early!!

4th Tues Every Month, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. 1263 University Ave. - 92103

SATURDAY FEB 27TH SAN DIEGO ROLLER DERBY AT SKATEWORLD

The ladies of SDRD will be taking on the Inland Empire Derby Divas in a sure-to-be exciting game of women's flat-track roller derby! The half time show will feature a swing dance performance by local dancers! Tickets are \$12 - children 5 and under are free! Get your tickets online or from Mafia member Teresa aka Velvet Klaw at our monthly craft night event! VENDORS - Want to be a tat any of the games? Just email events@sandiegorollerderby.com for more info!

**Doors open at 5 pm. Game starts at 5:30 pm - 6907 Linda Vista Rd.,
 92111 Get your tickets online at: www.sandiegorollerderby.com**

LOOKING AHEAD!

**April 25 - "Sunday, Crafty Sunday" - Mother's Day
 12pm-5pm @ QUEEN BEES ART & CULTURE CENTER**

May 16 - "Spring Line Up" at the North Park Festival of the Arts

June 24 - Craft Mafia "Fall Fashion & Trunk Show"

October 17 - "Sunday, Crafty Sunday" - Dia de los Muertos Celebration

December 5 - 4th Annual Holiday Hit List