



STACEY SUZANN SCARDINO *to* JAMES TAYLOR THOMPSON ~ JANUARY 23, 2010

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Petroleum Club of Houston membership director Stacey Scardino naturally wanted to wed attorney James Thompson at her place of employment. When she discovered that her chosen wedding date was already booked, she set out searching the city for a "modern but relaxed atmosphere where our friends and family could just have fun." She found all that and more at Hotel Icon, where she, her new husband, dapper in a tux from Al's Formal Wear, and their 180 guests, gathered to celebrate after a traditional Episcopalian ceremony on January 23.



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At the entrance to the Hotel Icon ballroom, done up in a “clean and classic look” featuring candles, off-white linens and white floral centerpieces from Darryl & Co., guests encountered fabric-covered bulletin boards in vintage picture frames, displaying photos of the wedding couple from childhood through the present. A chalkboard in a similar vintage frame held a handwritten dinner menu for the buffet, which featured classic “comfort foods,” including fried chicken, macaroni and cheese, mini burgers and mini baked potatoes.

Following dinner, diners enjoyed a “fabulous wedding cake” from Cakes by Gina with alternating layers of carrot cake, the groom’s favorite, and white cake with raspberry filling, Stacey says. She happily recounts the evening’s other dessert, “a family favorite, Black Cows, otherwise known as root beer floats,” with homemade vanilla ice cream. “My dad has been making them for me since I was a little girl, so it was a fun way to say thanks to him.”

A live band—native Houstonians Stacey and James are both huge live music fans, and the groom plays in two local bands—“played everything from oldies to modern songs and kept the crowd dancing all night long,” Stacey adds.

The newlyweds received gifts from registries at Williams-Sonoma and Bering’s, among others, and honeymooned in the Caribbean.

Stacey, who planned her own wedding with help from her mother, recommends to other brides in her boat: “Stay organized and be realistic about how much you can handle.” And if you’re wondering how to prioritize your budget, “Choose a great photographer,” she advises. “Thirty years from now I won’t be thinking that my linens could have been prettier or that my flowers could have been bigger, but I will be looking at those pictures. I’m so glad I invested in a great photographer (D. Jones Photography)!”