

charleston

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weddings

Your Lowcountry bridal guide from the publishers of charleston magazine

Summer 2010

Special Issue!

20+

Real-Life Weddings

Spectacular Cakes, Flowers, Gowns, & More

Secrets for Big Day Savings

{ Weddings from \$7K to \$26K }

Pretty as a Princess

Shot on location at the Governor Thomas Bennet House (page 116)



Sharing the Love

The Charleston wedding community showers their talents on a special couple

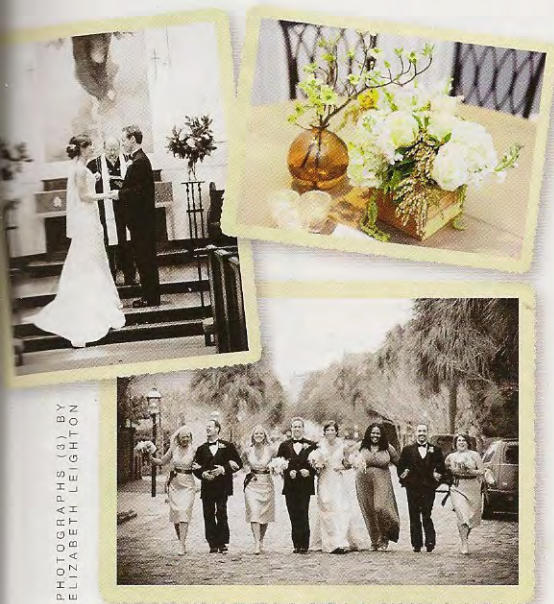
Deborah Singer met Craig Stuart in 2005, 11 years after she was diagnosed with breast cancer. Shortly after Deborah moved to Arkansas to be with Craig, he proposed. Both are beach lovers and Deborah, a Charlotte native, had vacationed in Charleston as a child. **And although Deborah's battle with cancer was thankfully behind her, she still faced huge medical bills that made a celebratory destination wedding seem impossible.**

Thus Deborah and Craig entered the 2009 Charleston Visitors Bureau's wedding giveaway, submitting their heartfelt story. They came in second place (Jaime Dugan and Erik Huffman of *Survivor China* won), but their tale struck a nerve with vendors near and far. **So much so that event designer and planner Hannah Alexander from WED donated her services and enlisted fellow donors like The Cake Stand, Charleston Video Service, Lee Edwards Entertainment, and Snyder Event Rentals to pull everything together.** "When Deborah told me her story I knew I wanted to help," says Hannah. "My family had been plagued with breast cancer, and I had to have a tumor removed when I was 21."

Deborah also had the help of Florida photographer

Elizabeth Leighton **and Charleston photographer Tomme Hilton, both of whom waived their fees.** As for the brick and mortar, Redeemer Presbyterian Church charged its member rate, Robert Lange shared his gallery for the couple's cocktail hour, and McCrady's donated The Gallery room for the reception. So, wearing

a Pronovias gown (bought at sample cost) and with an upswept 'do (at a discount by Allure Salon), **Deborah wed Craig on March 14, 2009 in just the kind of nuptials she had always dreamed of, thanks to our big-hearted local wedding pros. —Buren Kelley**



PHOTOGRAPHS (3) BY ELIZABETH LEIGHTON

Vendors, friends, and family all pitched in—from discounts to just being there—for Deborah and Craig's Lowcountry affair.

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PHOTOGRAPHY

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