



Champagne Cake This is a great way to mix it up at your New Year's Eve party!

Ingredients

Cake

- 3 c. all-purpose flower
- 3 tsp. baking powder
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1 c. (2 sticks) unsalted butter
- 2 c. sugar
- 1 tsp. vanilla extract
- 6 egg whites
- 2 c. champagne

Champagne Buttercream Frosting

- 3/4 stick unsalted butter (room temp)
- 2 c. confectioners' sugar
- 1/4 c. champagne
- 1/8 c. whole milk
- 1/2 tsp. vanilla extract

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease and flour two 9-inch cake pans (or cut parchment paper to fit).
2. In a bowl combine flour, baking powder + salt. In a mixing bowl beat butter and sugar 3 to 5 minutes until light and fluffy.
3. Add vanilla and beat in the eggs one at a time.
4. Beat in flour mixture and champagne in three alternating additions, starting and ending with flour to prevent curdling.
5. Pour batter into pans and bake 35 minutes or until a knife inserted in the center comes out clean.
6. Let cool.
7. Make the frosting while the cake cools: in a mixing bowl beat butter 1 minute. Gradually add the powdered sugar, champagne, milk and vanilla and continue beating until smooth and creamy.



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We also added a second Hydraulic Roll Grooving Machine for Vick Pipe; this machine produces factory grooves on 1.5"- 24" Schedule 10 and 1.5"- 24" Schedule 40 steel pipe. On the plumbing side, we added several new fab tables for carriers and water closets.

Technology is marching forward at a rapid pace, and the industry must always be one step ahead of it. Smart systems are becoming increasingly common, creating new requirements for contractors. From smart cars to smart meters, it seems that almost everything is becoming connected in today's world. Pre-fabricated material is no exception, and the industry will need to continue to stay abreast of networked mechanical systems and how to handle them.

As Welch and Rushe prepares for the future, advances in our Fab shop will help us keep-up as technology advancements and social changes evolve.



If you have article ideas for next Quarter's newsletter, such as recipes, new family member, personal accomplishments, etc., email Sarah at skoch@welchandrush.com for details.

Employee of the Quarter

Melanie Spence

Service Administrator
Started January 2012

"Melanie assists with all aspects of Service from taking calls, scheduling appointments, giving out PO's, handling our new electronic tablets and time entry. She has always gone above and beyond her job description by answering the phone after hours and on weekends without complaint, usually without anyone knowing. She assists the techs with problems, she is capable of handling and keeping the techs and most of us in the office in line. She is normally quiet and doesn't garner attention to herself and needs little to no supervision - she is really good at her job and is an integral part of the Service Department." - Bob Callow

Congratulations, Melanie! Thank you for all the hard work you continue to put into Welch and Rushe.

Pre-Fab Expansion By: Sarah Koch & Melissa O'Neill

Twelve years ago, Welch and Rushe, Inc. started a brand-new Pre-Fabrication Shop with only two employees. It was set up to be flexible, with the ability to expand and contract according to the company's workload. There are many reasons the company originally invested in a Fab Shop, one of the most important reasons being safety. Keeping our men and women safe is very important and the controlled environment of the Fab Shop helps us keep safety paramount. Providing a high-quality product with a quicker turnaround time is another great reason. Our customers receive a high-end product which can be built prior to the actual project starting, which minimizes install time, material loss and labor for material handling.

Welch and Rushe has been enjoying steady growth for the past few years. Four months ago, that growth made its way to our Fab Shop. The Fab Shop now encompasses our entire warehouse giving it close to 20,000 square feet of space.



We have also increased the manpower to nine fitters and two plumbers. Two new offices have been built where the old archives storage rooms used to be, giving Hank Shepherd, our Fab Shop Manager, a bird's eye view of everything happening in the Fab Shop. The second office will be for our spoolers, who are being brought down from the Coordination Department to assist Hank and the folks in the Fab Shop.

The piping systems are pre-fabricated in sections called spools, which are an assembly of pipes and components. Spool pieces are delivered to the construction site for faster assembly. The spool drawings act as a guide for the plumbers and fitters while they work on site. The spool drawings are used to provide all information required by the Fab Shop for accurate manufacturing and assembly. We are also investing in new equipment for the Fab Shop and have acquired a Vernon Tool.

The new Vernon Tool is a robust and proven pipe profiling solution that greatly increases the Fab Shop's productivity. They can convey raw metal pipes onto the machine bed to be cut and profiled by a single operator. The roller bed CNC pipe profilers have proven to be more efficient and safer for everyone involved in the prefabrication process. Some of the other benefits of this new tool include preprogrammed shapes and holes with color graphics, work point or baseline offsets.

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Field Employee Shout Out

Tommy King

Plumbing Foreman
Started March 1988

"Tommy has been involved in many projects from small to large installs and ground work in the dead of winter to open decks in mid-summer. His quick response to last minute calls and positive attitude is greatly appreciated." - Josh Graves

We would like to formally thank Tommy for all his years of dedicated service.

Our Growing Company By: Sarah Koch



Patrick Petersen has been a Project Manager for about 18 years. Starting with us in late October, Patrick hit the ground running. On his down-time, he likes to bring his two-year old with him out hiking or camping.

Kevin Harrison started with Welch and Rushe in early December. He is very excited to be here as an Assistant Project Manager. Kevin likes to relax with a few rounds of paintball on the weekends.



Chyna Peacock began her Welch and Rushe career in mid-December as an Accounting Assistant. This is her first accounting position so she's very excited to learn as much as she possibly can. When she's not crunching numbers, Chyna loves to read and watch Sci-Fi

Pet Photo Contest Winner

There was so much love for the Cutest Pet Contest! The winning employee is Megan Dawson (Accounting Assistant) and her pup, Mack!



Congratulations!! Be sure to check out Welch and Rushe's Facebook for more fun stuff.



Wedding Bells



J.C. Talbert (Steamfitter Foreman) and his wife, Holly, were wed on September 21.



Baby Fever

Jeremy Beall (Fab Shop Steamfitter Foreman) and his wife, Britney, welcomed their daughter, Bristol Renaye Beall, to the world November 2 at 9:55am.



Milestones

Happy 5 Year Work-iversary to:

Roberta Christie—Project Manager
(October 2014)

Happy 10 Year Work-iversary to:

Mark McGuire—Project Manager
(November 2009)

Jeremy O'Neill—Steamfitter Foreman
(December 2009)

Jeff Wink—Plumbing Foreman (December 2009)

Happy 20 Year Work-iversary to:

Charlie Panholzer—Project Manager
(September 1999)

Interesting Holiday Dates in 2020

- **Valentine's Day** is on a Friday.
- **Cinco de Mayo** is on a Tuesday, aka Taco Tuesday.
- The **4th of July** is on a Saturday.
- **Halloween** is on a Saturday AND will have a **Full Blue Moon**.
- **Christmas Day** is on a Friday.
- **New Year's Day (2021)** is on a Friday.

2020 is going to be an incredible year for everyone!

Newly Awarded Projects

DIA A3 / B3 Modules (over \$2,000,000)

General Contractor / Prime Contractor: *Greenway Enterprises*

Estimator: *Mike Wilde*

Project Manager: *Eddie Martin*

East & West Gates Security Improvements (over \$1,000,000)

General Contractor / Prime Contractor: *BL Harbert International, LLC*

Estimator: *Chris Riddle*

Project Manager: *Eddie Martin*

Embassy of Japan—AHU Replacement (over \$250,000)

General Contractor / Prime Contractor: *CMTA, Inc.*

Estimator: *Bill Fowler*

Project Manager: *Bill Fowler*

January is National Blood Donor Month By: Melissa O'Neill

Every January, the American Red Cross celebrates National Blood Donor Month and recognizes the lifesaving contributions of blood and platelet donors. As we enter the New Year, the Red Cross encourages individuals to roll up a sleeve to give this month. National Blood Donor Month has been observed in January since 1970, founded by former President Richard Nixon on December 31, 1969. The goal is to increase blood and platelet donations during winter, one of the most difficult times of year to collect enough blood products to meet patient needs. During the winter months, inclement weather often results in cancelled blood drives, and seasonal illnesses like the flu may cause some donors to become temporarily unable to donate. The requirements for whole blood donation are as follows. You must be in good health and feeling well, you must be at least 16 years old and weigh at least 110 pounds in most states.

Blood donation appointments can be made by downloading the American Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting redcrossblood.org or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) to make an appointment or to receive more information. All blood types are needed to ensure a reliable supply for patients. The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides emotional support to victims of disasters, supplies about 40 percent of the nation's blood, teaches skills that save lives, provides international humanitarian aid and supports military members and their families. The Red Cross is a non-profit organization that depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to perform its mission.

Did you know Welch and Rushe, Inc. helped renovate the American Red Cross Building in Washington, D.C.? In July of 2017 Welch and Rushe, Inc. began an almost \$1 million renovation of the American Red Cross Building, Estimated by Mike Wilde. Charlie Panholzer was the Project Manager on this project. This project took just over a year to complete, with Jeremy O'Neill overseeing the work being done onsite.