



August 06

The Aisle Report

Brought to you by the Maid of Honor, Sarah Bartash

BE SURE TO VISIT NORAH AND BRIAN'S WEBSITE:

<http://norahandbrian.weddings.com>

Please sign the guest book!

Thanks to those of you well-meaning people who pointed out the fact that the first issue of this newsletter was called the ISLE report. "Is it because Norah and Brian live on French Island?" "Is it a subliminal reference to the Isle of Capri Casino?" All good thoughts, but no, the M.O.H. just can spell.

Introducing the wedding party –

Bride: Norah Katherine Bartash

Groom: Brian James Mauss

Maid of Honor: Yours truly, Sarah Bronise Bartash, older sister of the bride

Bridesmaid: Lucy Gervais Bartash, younger sister of the bride

Bridesmaid: Stacy Marie Mauss, eldest of the groom's younger sisters

Bridesmaid: Charity Catherine Mauss, second of the groom's younger sisters

Bridesmaid: Belinda Jean Mauss, youngest sister of the groom

Just announced!

Flower Girl – Cali, cousin of the groom

Ring Bearer – Caleb, cousin of the groom

More to be announced soon!

Planning Ahead:

Planning a wedding can be a daunting task: guest lists (currently in construction), wedding gowns, reservations, food, cake, entertainment... and don't forget, there's a budget! By choosing their

(continued)



Countdown to **07/07/07**



Planning Ahead (continued)

wedding date a full 2 years after their engagement, the bride and groom-to-be were able to have plenty of time to plan. And don't think they haven't made use of it! For instance, how many modern brides can claim to have the time and the forethought to cultivate flowers for her own wedding? Norah, with the help of her mother, Pat, planted lilies soon after the engagement, and has noted when they bloomed this year in order to be able to use them in the wedding next summer – bearing no horticultural upheavals, be sure to look for them at the big event!

How We Got Engaged: (from their website)

Brian and Norah got engaged at his family's cabin in rural Freeburg, Minnesota. This is also the spot of their first 'date' when Norah drove down to the cabin with Brian and Danica Bauer to take a walk back in the early the summer of 1996. On the morning of Norah's 25th birthday (May 7, 2005), Brian convinced her he'd forgotten his wallet at the cabin. Brian got down on one knee in the rain and proposed on the bridge he'd built with his dad (see background of engagement photo)!

Traveling in from out of town?

Courtyard by Marriott is our hotel of choice:

<http://marriott.com/property/propertypage.mi?marshaCode=LSECY>

500 Front Street
La Crosse , WI 54601
(608) 782-1000

We have blocked 10 rooms at this location.
Book by Date: June 7, 2007
We are working on a negotiated rate.
(bring your swimsuit!)



Countdown to **07/07/07**



The Bride's Calendar:

August -

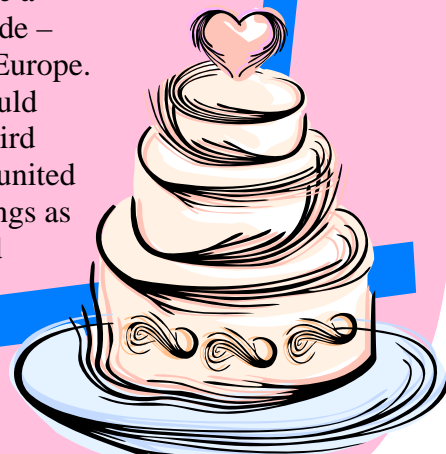
Well, there are a number of things on the "12-6 months" out list that have already been taken care of, including finding and purchasing the **wedding dress, bridesmaid dresses, gifts for the bridesmaids, reserving the reception hall, guestbook, décor, ring bearer pillow and flower girl basket**. Here are some of the other things that are keeping Norah busy right now:

- ✓ Make an appointment with Clergyman / Officiant.
- ✓ Compose a guest list.
- ✓ Set time, location of Ceremony, Rehearsal
- ✓ Choose / contact Photographer
- ✓ Obtain Floral & Music estimates; book services if possible.
- ✓ Register with gift registry.<MOH taps her foot impatiently...>
- ✓ Pick a honeymoon destination: (renew passports & inoculations.)
(we have some ideas which will be announced as we get closer to the date!)

Wedding lore and legend!

The Wedding Ring: This symbol of never ending love dates back to ancient Egypt, where woven reeds were the first such rings in existence. The circle is a symbol of eternity and those ancient people wore it, as we do today, on the third finger of their left hand because of a belief that a vein in that finger ran directly to the heart.

As European civilizations rose, metal was eventually accepted as the main material for the ring. Men did not typically receive a wedding ring in return for the one they place upon their bride – the exception was the gemmal ring used in 14-15 century Europe. It included 3 interlocking rings – one of which the man would wear, the second of which the bride would wear, and the third was held by a witness until the wedding. They would be reunited at the ceremony and given to the bride. The exchange of rings as we know it came about during WWII as a way for men and women to carry tokens of love while apart.



Stay tuned for more wedding news in September!