



February '07

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 leave a message in the guest book

February is the shortest month of the year, the month of love and Valentine's Day, named after the Latin *februum* meaning "purification". Well, to me it just means, Oh My Gosh! Where did the time go!?! It seems only yesterday I started writing the AR, and here we are, almost 4 months away from the big day. Amazing. In this issue, find some plans revealed, some check list items checked, and the story behind the honeymoon!



ALERT: RESERVE YOUR HOTEL ROOM NOW

La Crosse's annual Riverfest celebration will be held July 4 - 9 (instead of 6/30-7/4 as previously reported). **So reserve hotels early!**

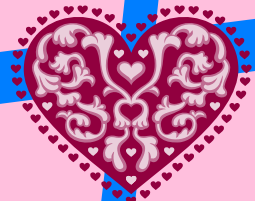
- Ed.SB aka MOH - reach me at sb@bellethecat.com

The Story of Saint Valentine

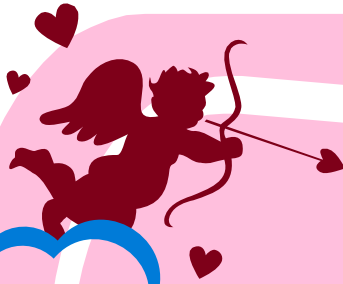
In ancient Rome, Emperor Claudius II outlawed marriage to any man of prime fighting age. He had realized that young men with families were less inclined to act superiorly on the battlefield. However, a priest named Valentino, who was an early convert to Christianity, continued to perform marriages for lovers in secret. He was eventually found out and, when he refused to acknowledge the Roman gods, was thrown into jail to await his death sentence. While in jail, he formed a relationship with the jailer's daughter, a blind and deaf girl who still found ways to serve as caretaker to many of the prisoners. His miracle was restoring her sight and hearing. When his day of execution finally came, he left her a note thanking her for the love she had showed him.

He signed it "From your Valentine."

In 496AD, once Rome had become entirely Christian, February 14th was declared St. Valentine's Day, the anniversary of Valentino's martyrdom.



Countdown to **07/07/07**



Bride's Checklist:

Wow, are we really that close? I hope you are all getting excited (and making your hotel / camping reservations!)

- ❖ Cake reserved! Yum!
- ❖ Music for ceremony and reception booked!
- ❖ Choosing cocktail tunes
- ❖ Rehearsal dinner scheduled.
- ❖ Shower and Batchelorette party being planned
- ❖ Planning honeymoon!

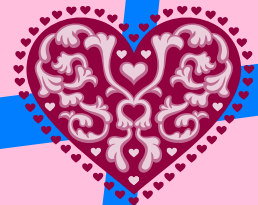
Click here for [Norah and Brian's Wedding Weather](#)

Wedding lore and legend! The Honeymoon -

What does it have to do with the moon? Is there honey involved? The first vacation taken by a newly wedded couple actually dates back to a time before tourists. One theory is that a husband, after stealing a wife away from a rival tribe, wanted to hide her away after he captured her. The more plausible origin was just that it was a time for the bride and groom to have some "alone time" and get to know one another. The first definition of the English word "honeymoon" was penned in 1552 and spoke about love waxing and waning like the moon. As to what the honey represents, it may refer to the sweetness of love, but more probably it has to do with beer. Well, not beer exactly - a different sort of alcoholic beverage called mead. Ancient tribes would celebrate with honey mead for a month (a moon) after the wedding. Another more cynical story is that the father of the bride would give his son-in-law all the mead he wanted in the first month of marriage (but I choose to ignore this one since it's not really saying a lot for the quality of the bride.)

Wedding humor:

- Q. What is the recipe for "Honeymoon Salad"
A. Lettuce alone.



Stay tuned for more wedding news in March!