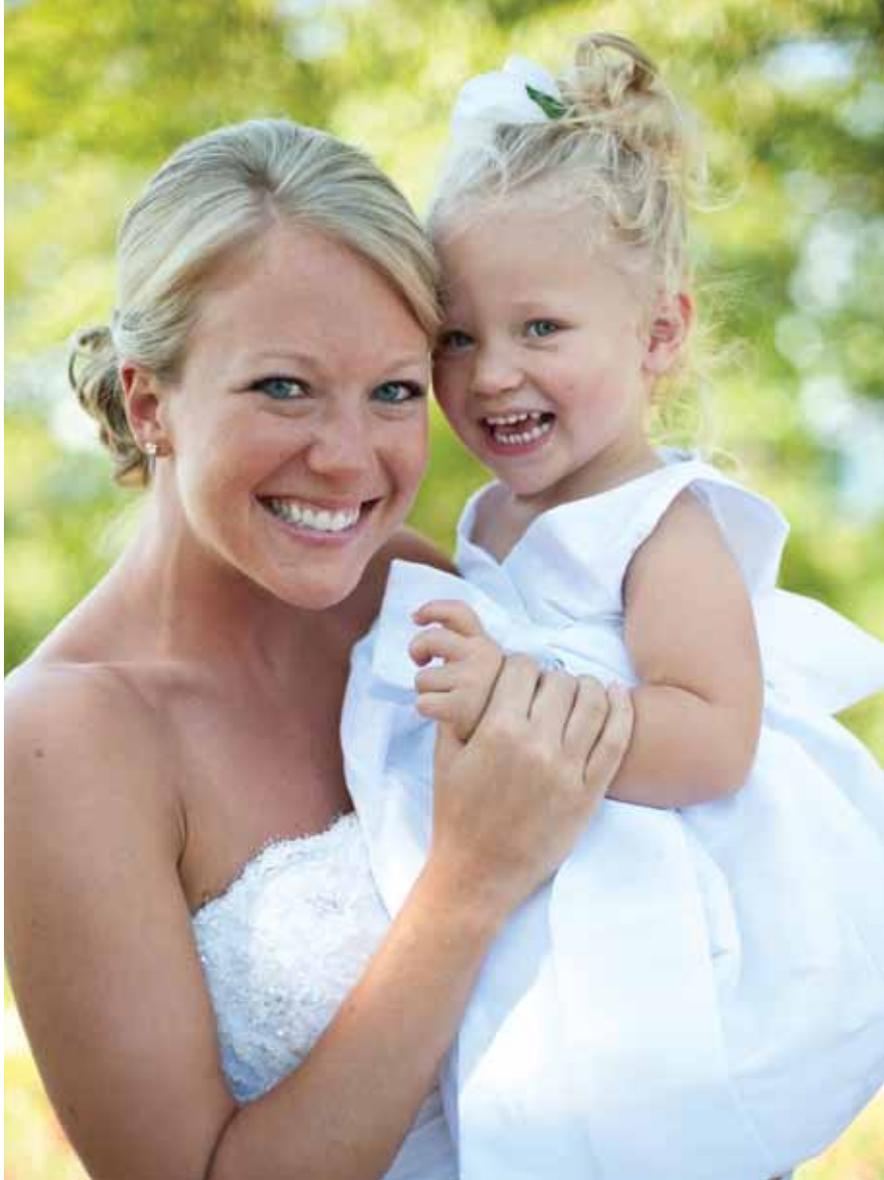




The Homestead

STORY BY RENEE RUDZEWICZ • PHOTOGRAPHY BY KATE KRUEGER





Karyn Bartels Dan DeKorne

August 28, 2010

THE HOMESTEAD
GLEN ARBOR



There's a hint of romantic destiny in a story Dan and Karyn like to tell. While they both grew up summering at family cottages on Glen Lake, they didn't meet until the summer after high school—though their great grandparents knew each other well enough to flick their porch lights “good night” to each other from across the lake. Eventually, their grandmothers introduced the two. The rest is a love story that was sealed at The Homestead's mountain top amphitheater with its drop-away view of Lake Michigan on one side and its Glen Lake panorama on the other.

The destination wedding drew nearly 200 of the couple's family and friends to the Glen Lake area—many of them staying at The Homestead—for a weekend of wine tasting, boutique browsing, golfing, boating and playing on Leelanau County's gorgeous beaches. “We wanted people to come and see why we love Up North so much,” Karyn says.

The ski chairlift whisked the entire wedding party to the top of Bay Mountain for the ceremony. Karyn and her father rode together, and as they skimmed the treetops he turned to her and asked: “Are you ready kiddo?” She was, and walked down the outdoor aisle beaming her cover girl smile. After the ceremony, guests lingered on the hilltop enjoying the breathtaking view while sipping wine from Leelanau County's Black Star Farms and grazing on hors d'oeuvres.

Then it was back down on the chairlifts for the reception at The Homestead's charming Mountain Flowers Lodge where guests mingled at food stations that included Asian stir fry, carved tenderloin of beef, pasta and salad. Two DJ's had the dance floor rocking until late into the evening.





Opposite page: Karyn with flower girl Bella Barnett who shared her duties with Ava DeKorne. Field of Flowers Farm in Lake Leelanau provided flowers; the bridal bouquet was created with Fair Bianca and hybrid roses, miniature calla lilies, and hydrangea florets. The bride wore Kate Spade shoes. The engagement ring, by LeMasters Jewelers in Rockford, proved its seaworthiness when Dan swam out with it into Glen Lake to propose to Karyn.

This page: The bridal party atop Bay Mountain; Karyn's silk taffeta wedding dress was Jasmine Couture from To Have and To Hold in Traverse City. The bridesmaids' deep-blue raw silk dresses were from Nordstrom; the bridesmaids carried David Austen and hybrid roses with antique hydrangeas in shades of coral, salmon and pink. The bride at her cottage on Glen Lake.





This page: Mountain Flowers lodge at The Homestead. As a wedding present to his bride, Dan hired artist Greg Sobran to paint the ceremony—a picture that captures the mingling of the sky, water and sand landscape with the bridal party colors of khaki and blue. Dan and Karyn both attended Calvin College in Grand Rapids. They now reside in Kalamazoo where Karyn is a pharmaceuticals rep and Dan owns two businesses in Grand Rapids.





This page: The groom and his groomsmen wore khaki suits by Woodland Tailoring in Grand Rapids. The bride wore her grandmother's diamond earrings. The ski hill chairlift whisked the family, friends and bridal party to the top of Bay Mountain to the ceremony. The cake, baked at The Homestead, was Bavarian cream and French vanilla with raspberry filling.

PHOTOGRAPHY: KATE KRUEGER PHOTOGRAPHY,
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Wedding Notebook

THE HOMESTEAD



A ceremony at Bay Mountain

We invite you to visit

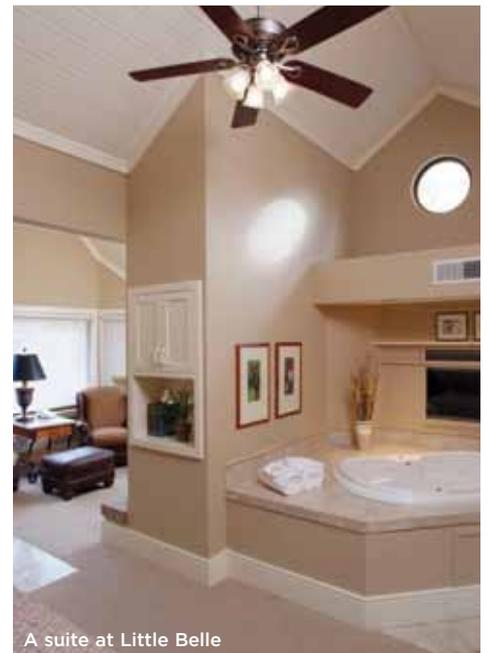
a special place where generations of lovers have shared whispered promises, their faces caressed by Lake Michigan breezes, hearts touched by the vision of shimmering islands, souls stirred by watercolor sunsets over Sleeping Bear Bay and the world's largest moving sand dunes. Here, at The Homestead, you'll feel waves of emotion wash over you, as you discover the most wonderfully romantic and luxurious setting for your destination wedding. We've borrowed nature's gifts to create three

wedding venues with unmatched natural beauty. Each promises a succession of memorable moments you'll treasure forever. To learn more, we invite you to call us. We will send you information filled with wonderful photos and warm reviews from recent brides. And, we will invite you to come for a visit. When you do, you'll see that your perfect wedding, like your love, can begin with a look and a touch.



accommodations

You'll feel at home in one of our thoughtfully-appointed guest rooms or enjoy the spaciousness of a privately-owned condominium and exclusive setting of a vacation home. Stay in an historic Inn, a rustic retreat inside a modern, hilltop lodge or a romantic getaway nestled in the woods or on top of a lake-facing hillside. Choose a level of luxury that suits your mood and your means. We offer a seasonal range of rates, attractively-priced packages and no minimum stays.



A suite at Little Belle

catering

We've carefully paired our menus with our wedding settings, creating cuisine that complements your style. Choose your favorites during your tasting visit, with the help of your event coordinator and chef. To award-winning local wines, fresh food from local farms and pastries made from "scratch" in our kitchens, we add sparkling table settings and expert service from unassuming staff. These are The Homestead's ingredients for fabulous dining on the most important day of your lives.

event facilities



Mountain Flowers Lodge

Almost touching the sky, and fresh as the flowers that scent its terraces, Bay Mountain offers panoramic views of majestic Lake Michigan, Glen Lake and the Manitou Passage. Guests of up to 180 can be seated here for a ceremony followed by a cocktail reception on another beautiful terrace.

When it's time to dine and dance, we'll whisk you and your groom from the peak to the valley below where you'll find Mountain Flowers Lodge surrounded by country gardens and a sparkling waterfall. This timbered great hall seats up to 180 guests.

A bouquet's throw from the beach, Café Manitou inspires Thoreau-like vows in an intimate, shoreside setting with endless blue views of lake and sky. Outdoor brick terraces welcome up to 50 guests, and an adjoining bistro accommodates the same.

Camp Firefly captures the charm of the north woods, inside and out. Celebrate your day with up to 50 guests on a lush lawn, surrounded by friendly forest and wildflowers, or in the rustic Great Hall of an Adirondack-style lodge set beside a waterfall and pond.



Café Manitou Ceremony



Café Manitou



Camp Firefly



Camp Firefly

destination services



Spa Amira

You and your guests will spend each carefree moment enjoying the resort's many amenities while surrounded by the beauty of nature. Beach. Pools. Tennis. Golf. Kayaks. Fitness facilities. Ski runs and trails. Men enjoy "swinging" bachelor parties at our Orvis® fly fishing school or our Dave Pelz Scoring Game School. Ladies find bliss at Spa Amira, overlooking Lake Michigan, offering therapeutic massage, and lighthearted fun for bridesmaids around a spa pool.

You can welcome your guests with a beachfront bonfire—S'mores and sunsets are included! Or with a pizza party at Beppi's, a sports bar. Your rehearsal dinner, family get-togethers and wedding party luncheons can include sophisticated restaurant soirees or picnics to go. And, you can send your guests home with a bon voyage brunch.

The Homestead™ AMERICA'S FRESHWATER RESORT

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thehomesteadresort.com

Events Coordinator
Barb Ellis & Lindy Kellogg

Event Rooms
3

Reception Capacity
Up to 180

Guest Rooms
225

Viewtiful Weddings

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They meld the majesty
of Lake Michigan with
the beauty of Leelanau.

Choose one...
flavors will swirl,
wines will sparkle
and your day,
your perfect day,
will be made.

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