

# Weddings bring back visions of a glamorous era

By LOUISE OKRUTSKY  
PHOTOS BY DICK KELLEY  
Spring doesn't have a monopoly on hearts and flowers.

Brides and grooms are just as likely to be greeted by flame colored autumn leaves.

And this fall's wedding parties could end up sporting enough narrow-lapelled, double-breasted suits, mysteriously veiled hats and padded shoulders to evoke images of Bogart and Bacall in "Casablanca."

Amid all the '40's imagery, men at last capture their share of the glamor of wedding day. Knife-trim tuxedos with lean, little waists and ever-so-wide shoulders bring to life the movie heroes of another age.

To make sure those lean lines lay perfectly, men are turning to designer

wear for that trip down the aisle, according to Tom Nahas, of President Tuxedo in Birmingham.

This fall, Pierre Cardin introduced his line of rental tuxedos. The padded shoulders of his jackets conjure the images of George Brent and Clark Gable.

The wide shoulders narrow into the lean waist. The lean look is accentuated by ever-narrowing lapels.

When the lean action of the jacket ends, the suit pants take up the trend. Pleats are back on pants.

But the wide action legs have succumbed to the fall's narrowing trends, too. Pants take on a trimmer look.

CONTINUING THE trend toward

curt short shapes in men's clothing, the winered shirt collar has flown back into style.

The short pointed collars are accen-

tuated by skinny strap bow ties which nest at the top of the shirt and almost obscure the collar.

Givency carries on the theme this fall with his thin notched lapels and pleated pants. His tux is made of tropical worsted wool.

The influence designers have on a man's wedding attire is the latest expression of the recent male discovery of well cut designer clothes, according to Nahas.

"Designers are the hottest thing that ever happened to formal wear."

Elegant bridegroom and their ushers are opting for oxford grey morning suits with striped pants and grey vests.

A four-in-hand tie completes the trim, self-possessed look.

To complete the effect, men are deciding in favor of matching slip-on patent leather shoes to carry them up the

aisle. Shoe rentals are joining tux rentals.

Despite the well-stated fashion images of fall, bridal couples are paying less attention to Emily Post and more heed to their own ideas about their wedding day and attire, according to Nahas.

"People don't care anymore (about the rules)."

"THEY WANT to create their own picture of what their wedding day will be like."

For one groom, that vision included having himself and his ushers step smartly down the aisle in top hats and canes.

"People are very liberal about these things. You can't be surprised at anything," Nahas said.

While fall's brides are sticking to the transitional visions of white gowns and



lace their bridesmaids are wearing softly padded shoulders to set off their satin gowns. This fall don't be surprised if canberry and rust parade up the aisle. And those rust-colored skirts will often be slit — sometimes to the thigh.

Matching pillbox hats with veils add to the '40's glamor.

Even the mother of the bride has cast aside her dowdy image. This is especially noticeable in fashions for women who wear half-sizes. There is a more youthful look for the mother of

the bride, according to Phyllis Baba of Boulevard Bridal in Birmingham. The store also has a Rochester branch.

Waltz length gowns which graze the ankle are becoming more popular as brides opt for dresses without cathedral trains.

Mother and daughter should match, according to Ms. Baba. If the bride has a formal dress with a train, mothers should choose formal attire, too.

"SHE IS SECOND only to the bride in glamor," Ms. Baba said.



Elegance returns in wedding attire.



Mother of the bride can now wear a contemporary style like this lacy blouse with peasant neck.



Family portraits in the wedding album will reflect each individual's style preference.

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## Where It's At

### Taking the cake

Cheesecake aficionados, take note. The Plaza Deli has come up with some delicious and unusual variations on that all-time favorite dessert. Each cake has a graham cracker crumb crust and a rich, creamy cheesecake filling. Then the fun begins. The Amaretto version features a batter laced with Amaretto almond-flavored liqueur and sliced almonds, while another version features chocolate chips. You can also select a chocolate batter or a batter containing Brandy Alexander liqueur. Individual slices cost \$1, and you can also purchase a 12-inch diameter cake that serves 16 people for \$16. (24 hour advance notice is requested.)

Plaza Deli, Franklin Shopping Plaza, 12 Mile at Northwestern, Southfield, 356-2310.



### Vested interest

Rainbow Lollipop, the children's store that specializes in crafty, unusual clothes, has a terrific item for both little girls and big ladies. You might like to give it as a gift or buy for yourself. It's a group of patchwork sleeveless vests made from authentic American antique quilts. Handwashable, these collector's items would look great with jeans and T-shirts and could also be used as dressy evening wraps. The children's vests (\$22) come in sizes Toddler 2 through girls' 12. The ladies' vests (\$45.50) are in stock in sizes small, medium and large.

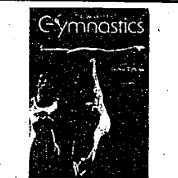
Rainbow Lollipop, Somerset Mall, Troy, 649-3911.



### Club Special

If there's a special child in your life, the Birmingham Bookstore's Children's Book Club is an especially nice thing to know about. You, as sponsor, pay \$30. The recipient then receives three books per year starting from the date of your choice. The books are personally chosen by the store in accordance with the birthdate, grade and interests of the child. (The \$30 fee includes gift wrapping and delivering.) Available for children up to 12 years of age, it's a lovely way to instill a permanent interest in literature.

The Birmingham Bookstore, 263 Pierce, Birmingham, 642-4404.



### Sew biz

You've seen it in House Beautiful and House and Garden. But unless you're extremely handy with a needle and thread, how do you go about decorating your own abode with sheets? What do you do is call Patsy Price who will come to your home, free of charge, with sheet samples, and explain the terrific ways she utilizes sheets for home decoration. Ms. Price can make just about anything you can think of from tablecloths and napkins to shower curtains, bedspreads, dust ruffles, comforter covers, pillow shams, crib quilts and bumpers.

Patsy Price, Designs With Sheets, 851-5623.

