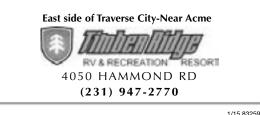


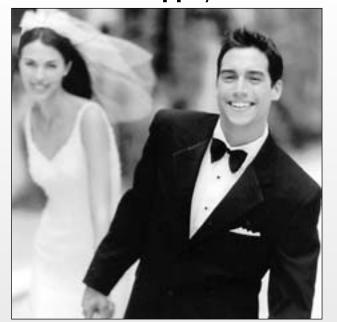
Stone Fireplace Seating for up to 135 Cabins and RV sites available

IDEAL FOR

Receptions • Reunions • Meetings Open Houses • Celebrations



40 Years of Happily Ever After



For forty years now, engaged couples throughout Northern Michigan and far beyond have relied upon the Captain's Quarters in downtown Traverse City to assist in their all important wedding plans. As a preferred "After Hours Dealer", in additional to having the most extensive collection of men's formal wear in the state of Michigan, their professionally staffed alteration department assures a perfect fit every time. The Captain's Quarters well earned reputation for quality garments, the latest styles, unequalled service and surprisingly low prices has enabled literally thousands of couples to "live happily ever after" with just one visit to the "One Men's Store that Really Does Care!"

Captain's PQUARTERS 151 E. Front St. Traverse City, MI 49684 231-946-7066

Open til 8 p.m. evenings, Sunday noon til 4 p.m. www.captainsquarters.net email cqtc@sbcglobal.net

Clothing FROM PAGE 7

"Bridal salons must be ready to cater to all," Trombly said.

Both salons offer an extensive selection for this age group, with women's sizes and a wide choice of necklines and coverage available.

At the Captain's Quarters, Traverse City, the bride and groom are invited to confer with the staff on what the men will wear, said owner Maurie Allen. In northern Michigan, fashion tends to dictate choices. Classic timeless selections, such as the notch collar, peak lapel and shawl collar remain popular, with variations like longer jackets or slanted pockets increasingly seen.

Vests and ties can be chosen to match or coordinate with the bridesmaids' dresses. Although black is the dominant color, silver, charcoal and platinum go well with most of the girls'



fashions, Allen said. The Captain's Quarters also provides suits for ring bearers, beginning at size three.

Some final words of advice from the experts were:

■ Attend community bridal shows for information.

■ Begin planning early, allowing yourself time to find what you want.

The importance of fit is critical. Have measurements taken by a reputable salon and try everything on. Make your decision based on how something looks, not by the number inside.

Personally, I thought I knew what I wanted when I went into To Have and To Hold of Traverse City earlier this year. One of the owners of this new salon showed me a dress from the bridesmaids' collection —where I never would have looked — in indigo, a color I never would have chosen. I knew right away that I had found my dress — and it was even a perfect fit.

Sheila Garrett is a local freelance writer.

