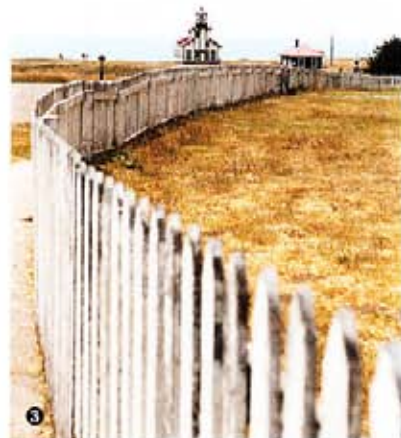


## Allie & Brian

June 21, 2008 | MacCallum House Inn & Restaurant | Mendocino

One fun-loving couple hosts a whimsical wedding marked by exuberant colors, lush flowers, and playful details.

BY LAUREN MATTHEWS | PHOTOGRAPHY BY Q WEDDINGS



1 Allie wore an Amy Kuschel gown, and Brian sported a Ralph Lauren suit. 2 Napa-based artist Nick Cann ([nickcann.com](http://nickcann.com)) designed the invites. 3 The 3 p.m. ceremony was held at Point Cabrillo Light Station ([pointcabrillo.org](http://pointcabrillo.org)). 4 Allie created the programs, which included text from Shel Silverstein's poem "The Romance." 5 The bride's father made the ceremony arch using wood salvaged from an old fence. 6 "At the beach barbecue the night before,

we asked everyone to find a small rock to bring to the ceremony," says Allie. The next day the officiant asked guests to "make a wish" for the couple's future as they were collected. "The vase of rocks now sits in our dining room," she says. 7 Allie carried a bouquet of peonies, dahlias, and chocolate cosmos. "My dad is an incredible gardener and I wanted the flowers to look like they'd just been picked from his garden," she says. All floral design by LR Farm ([lrfarm.com](http://lrfarm.com)).

① As flower girl, the bride's three-year-old niece Hanna Rose got to wear a wreath of orange spray roses and greenery. "I wove a pink ribbon into the top of her ivory crocheted sundress to add a fun touch," Allie says. The couple's chihuahua, Pablo, served as the ring bearer. ② The Blushin' Roulettes (blushinroulettes.com), a local folk and bluegrass group, played at the ceremony. "They really helped set the tone," Allie says. "I arrived a little late, but the music and the whales breaching in the distance kept everyone entertained while they waited!"



③ Post-ceremony, the couple and their 80 guests headed over to the MacCallum House Inn & Restaurant (maccallumhouse.com). "We wanted an intimate, rustic setting on the coast," Allie says. "When we saw this site, we knew it would be perfect." The reception was held in a tent on the property's lawn, Allie's

dad created the centerpiece boxes, which the florist filled with vibrant seasonal flowers. "I love bright colors, and the 'shabby chic' look," Allie says. ④ The couple chose "The Park" by Feist for their first dance. "She's one of our favorite artists, and it's a hauntingly beautiful song," explains the bride. **CONTINUED**



## REAL WEDDINGS



12 "The escort-card table was one aspect that was important for me to personally arrange on the wedding day," says the bride. The cards, designed by Allie and hand-lettered by Nick Cann, were arranged among small hay bales. ("I grew up on a ranch," Allie says.) The table also displayed a garden gnome, a gift from Allie and Brian's friend Jill, who introduced the couple and served as their officiant. 13 The tent was decorated with candlelit chandeliers and orange, pink, and brown fabric panels. 14 Wall Street ([wallstreetdanceband.net](http://wallstreetdanceband.net)), an eight-piece dance band, kept spirits high on the dance floor by playing upbeat music like Motown tunes. 15 "We wanted the wedding to reflect our personalities, childhoods, and hometowns," says Allie. At the reception, guests helped themselves to a candy buffet that featured favorite treats from when they were kids, like wax lips, Zots, Lemonheads, old-fashioned lollipops, and Boston baked beans—a nod to Brian's hometown. "These sweets reminded us of after-school trips to the candy store," Allie says.



16 The MacCallum House Restaurant catered the wedding; the dinner menu incorporated regional, organic ingredients and included a salad with cheese from Cowgirl Creamery in Point Reyes Station; "Liberty" duck breast from Sonoma County Poultry; and fresh sea bass. During the toasts, guests sipped sparkling wine from Roederer Estate, a nearby vineyard. 17 Fun props were on hand during the reception. "We're just silly people with silly friends who like to play dress-up," says the bride. "It wasn't the first time that mustaches and boas have been brought out on a Saturday night, nor was it the last!" Later, the couple and their late-night revelers headed to the inn's restaurant for the after-party. 18 For dessert, guests enjoyed cupcakes made by local baker Sharon Garner ([ssquaredartproductions.com](http://ssquaredartproductions.com)).

