

# SOCIETY TEXAS



## LOVE IS IN THE AIR

Weddings You'll Adore

PERFECT NUPTIAL GIFTS  
To Give And Receive Now

DALLAS' STYLE DYNAMO  
Rhonda Sargent Chambers

PASSIONATE HOLIDAY  
Romantic Valentine's Day

THE NEW OPTIMISM  
How To Be Your Best

**60. LOVE, ACTUALLY**

The Nuptials Of Sarah Elizabeth Requa and Samuel Finley Ewing IV  
In Carmel

By Lance Avery Morgan Photography by Liz Banfield

**66. SOME KIND OF WONDERFUL**

Frances Carolina Roberts And Andrew Jackson "AJ" Lewis IV Wed  
In San Antonio

By Lance Avery Morgan Photography by Sarah Kate

**72. A LOVE MATCH**

Meredith Bond And Matthew Taylor McCord Wed  
In Fort Worth

By Natalie Bond Bloomingdale Photography by Stephen Karlisch

**78. IT WAS ALWAYS YOU**

Mary Alex Knight and Carter Mizell Marry  
In Houston

By Leanne Raesener Photography by Marco Wang

**82. GARDEN OF DELIGHT**

Macon Blount Marries John McColm  
In San Antonio

By Eleanora Morrison  
Photography by Caroline Jurgensen Photography

**88. A CHANCE ROMANCE**

Wendy Bowman and Chantz Butler Tie The Knot  
In San Antonio

By Eleanora Morrison Photography by Jessica Rose

**92. WE'VE ONLY JUST BEGUN**

Madison Fuller And Drew Evans Marry  
In Tyler

By Lance Avery Morgan Photography by Jillian Hogan Photography

**96. ALL YOU NEED IS LOVE**

The Marriage Of Madeline Cummings Noal And Samuel Dustin Dunham  
In Austin

By Lance Avery Morgan Photography by Kristen Kilpatrick  
and Marshall Tidrick



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## 28. contribute

It takes a village to create this magazine and our digital media platform, *SocietyTexas.com*. Here's a look at some of the many talented dynamos who make it happen, as we dive into 2021's year of fun ahead.

## 32. editor's letter

Editor-in-Chief and Creative Director Lance Avery Morgan shares his always optimistically sunny disposition for the New Year of excitement that is upon us.

## 35. introduce

A brief look at this exciting issue full of gorgeous brides and dashing grooms.

## 36. browse

The best books for the winter? They are as varied as snowflakes, according to our resident bibliophile, Lance Avery Morgan, who shares his very favorite recommendations to add to your own style library.

## 38. thrive

Austin-based Resonance Repatterning expert Mary Schneider shares her views, optimism, and how integral it is to have these days, for all of our sakes.



42



Monique Lhuillier Margot champagne bucket at Pottery Barn



22

Princess Grace and Prince Ranier, 1956



Courtesy of Harper Collins Focus

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## 40. glow

Our beauty insider, Ana Bribiesca Hoff, recommends the best new make-up trends for the big day, and all the bridal festivities leading up to it.

## 42. present

Our Ms. Social Graces, Sharon Schweitzer, J.D., offers insight into life's most challenging social situations, and we can always use her refreshing advice, can't we?

## 44. inspire

Eleanora Morrison, of Eleanora.co, recommends some of her favorite finds to have for the wedding day, the honeymoon...and beyond.

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## 46. polish

Mr. Etiquette Guy, Jay Remer, takes a look at navigating both small and large weddings and how both can be right, depending on the goals of the families.

## 48. divulge

When it comes to All-American style in Dallas, we immediately think of chic Rhonda Sargent Chambers. Here, she shares the things she loves most with our Lance Avery Morgan.

## 50. pursue

Join us as we choose the best things in life to know and experience...that are happening right now, both near and far.

## 52. list

With so many style choices and trends from which to choose in 2021, Rank & Style.com's CEO Jamie Chandlee makes it easy by sharing her favorite must-haves for the new year ahead.

## 56. marketplace

A look at the new events, people, places, and things that we have on our radar, such as our collaboration with the Partners Card retail happenings in Dallas this month.

## 100. savor

Our editors Lance Avery Morgan (Austin), Cynthia Smoot (Dallas), Jennifer Roosth (Houston), and Eleanor Morrison (San Antonio), are on the scene to recommend their favorite eateries across the state.

## 104. exhibit

Looking for more culture as winter begins? Who isn't? Take a look at some offerings from our state's finest museums and cultural institutions, according to our arts arbiter, Leanne Raesener.



Rhonda Sargent Chambers. Photo by Thomas Garza. Hair and make-up by Brite Beauty



Flowers by Venus et Fleur

Photo courtesy of Dirty Bartender Candles



MFAH Kinder Bldg, Houston Photo by Richard Barnes



Bar Loretta, San Antonio. Photo by Shanna Hickman

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# When I Fall In Love

Weddings, and the festivities that surround them, are **the most exciting times** to share with those who are most important **in our lives**. No matter what the world looks like, there will always be **love to celebrate**. Join us as we proudly present some of the **most glorious weddings** of the season to inspire you.

By Natalie Bond Bloomingdale, Lance Avery Morgan, Eleanora Morrison, and Leanne Raesener

Photography by Liz Banfield, Jillian Hogan Photography, Caroline Jurgensen Photography, Stephen Karlisch, Sarah Kate, Kristen Kilpatrick, Jessica Rose, Marshall Tidrick, and Marco Wang



60

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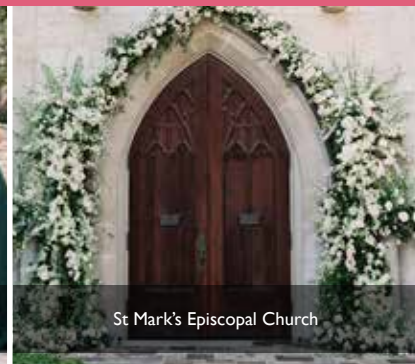
**ALL YOU NEED IS LOVE** ∞ Madeline and Dustin Dunham  
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The Bridal Party



St Mark's Episcopal Church



AJ Lewis and Liza Lewis

WHEN THE INVITATION TO THE wedding was received by 894 guests, everyone knew they were in for something spectacular. Frances "Carolina" Roberts, the daughter of Elizabeth and Barry Roberts and Andrew Jackson "AJ" Lewis IV, the son of Liza and Jack Lewis, all of San Antonio, enjoyed a two and half-year courtship and a one-year engagement, after initially meeting through the San Antonio German Club, a brahman social club in the city.

The couple was engaged in a truly fitting Texas-style...on the groom's family ranch. With a bottle of 1995 Dom Perignon and monogrammed cups by his side, AJ asked Carolina to be his life mate while overlooking the ranch perched on the Pedernales River. "Before I knew it, I turned around and saw AJ on one knee, with a ring in his hand. It turned out our families were all waiting for the green light so they could come and meet us where we were. They came bolting down the hill with bells and whistles," enthused the bride, Carolina Lewis.

The evening wedding, which occurred before the COVID-19 pandemic began, took months of planning for the grand weekend to happen in San Antonio. Billinda Wilkinson of Wilkinson Rhodes event production company and her team of international designers creatively directed the event, and Danny Cuellar of Trinity Flowers collaborated to execute a magnificent design for the church. The wedding weekend's festivities began with the rehearsal dinner for the family, wedding party, and out of town guests, at the Coates Chapel at the Southwest School of Art. The wedding venue, St. Mark's Episcopal Church, was a magnificent setting with a mix of the bride's favorite flowers. Under the direction of Wilkinson Rhodes, Danny Cuellar created the bride's vision of an English inspired design for the church including a floral armature structured

with a bounty of orchids, roses and hydrangeas.

The bride walked down the elongated aisle wearing a dress that was a custom combination creation of Marchesa and Creviax by Javier Castillo. She wore a beaded pearl butterfly brooch, as well as an antique lace train that had been passed down for four McAllen family generations. "One of my favorite parts of the ceremony was when our Reverend Matt Wise asked me and AJ to turn around and look at the audience. He told the audience that the night before (at the rehearsal dinner) he had walked around the room and asked some of the bridesmaids and groomsmen, *What do you love about Carolina and AJ's love for each other?* He then shared with us, and our guests, many of the sweet thoughts our friends' had said the night before," said Carolina Lewis.

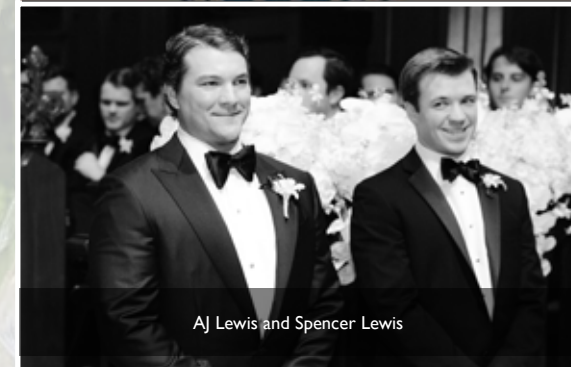
The bride selected six flower girls, four ring bearers, and three attendants who were boys over the age of 10, in addition to her bridal party that were: Alicia Urrutia Amberson, Margaret McAllen Amberson, Lillian Foster Calvert, Claudia Luedemann Kiolbassa, Hannah Claire Gibson, Lauren Anne Gray, Carroll McLemore Ison, Meredith Anne Knight, Sallie Wolff Lewis, Felicia Louise Mannix, Diana Lynn Rubin, Fannie Lewis Thomas, and Jane Elizabeth Towns. She chose Josephine Tinsley Simpson as her maid of honor.

The groom selected his cousin, Richard Spencer Lewis II, as his best man. The groomsmen who attended AJ were Hunter Hill Comiskey, Robert Menefee Cavender, Jr., Tyler Manning Hays, Dana Gareth Kirk, Jr., Moses McLish Moorman, Stewart Louis Korte, Carlos Federico Longoria, John Argyle McAllen Roberts, George Coates Roberts, Gregory Allen Rubiola, Jr., Charles Clayton Thomas, Jr., John Stuart West, and Burk Ricks Wilson, Jr. The ushers serving him

cont'd...



Photo courtesy of Jerry Hayes Photography



AJ Lewis and Spencer Lewis



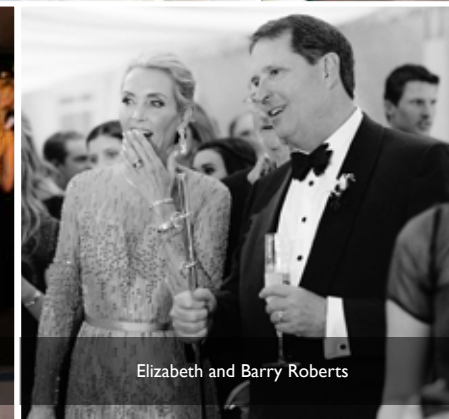
Lilly Calvert, Alicia Amberson, Margaret Amberson, Claudia Kiolbassa, Tinsley LaScala, Fannie Thomas, Jane Elizabeth Towns, Sallie Lewis and Hannah Gibson



Elizabeth Roberts and Carolina Lewis



Frances McAllen and AJ Lewis



Elizabeth and Barry Roberts



Spencer Lewis, Coates Roberts, Tyler Hays, Jay Roberts, AJ Lewis, Stewart Korte, Beau Wilson and Clayton Thomas

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Carolina Lewis and Elizabeth Roberts



AnaPaula Watson and Emma Calvert



The Argyle

were: Barclay Cunningham Adams, Kenneth Stanley Adams IV, Argyle Christian Amberson, Diego Andrés Guerra, Enrique Eduardo Guerra III, Lorenzo Tomás Guerra, John Luke Mannix, and John Thomas Saunders III.

Immediately after the ceremony, the newly betrothed couple joined the family dinner upstairs at The Argyle, while the wedding reception was in full swing below. “We enjoyed an intimate dinner with our parents before going out to the reception, which gave us a chance to relax, enjoy a cocktail, and sample all the wonderful foods being served at the wedding reception before greeting our guests,” remarked Carolina Lewis. The colors in the elaborately tented reception were hunter green, white, and blush pink, with shades of gold. It was a feast for the guests’ senses as over-scaled floral consisting of over 50,000 hybrid delphinium, hydrangea, larkspur, phalaenopsis, and garden roses arranged in unique floral designs welcomed guests at every turn. Upon entering the dinner, attendees were enveloped by a floral wonderland spanning the length of the tent. The ceiling was filled with over 5,000 stems of cascading flowers and foliage. The bridal party tables featured lush flower runners with arching floral garlands rising above them.

Since the couple had planned a honeymoon to Asia, there was an Asian flair to the buffet dinner with a selection of food stations astutely provided by The Argyle team. There were gorgeous De Gournay-style framed panels around the reception and a beautiful bar created with a series of brightly colored fans mixed with orchids and other tropical flowers. The bridal couple shares a love of food, especially sushi, so it was a treat to have three sushi chefs freshly preparing various rolls, nigiri, and sashimi, along with an incredible noodle bar with ice-cold Asian beer and sake pairings. The fresh seafood bar was topped with an exquisite ice sculpture of two kissing elephants whose trunks formed the shape of a heart.

The specialty cocktails also beautifully represented the couple with “his” and “hers” drinks. The “his” drink was a traditional margarita on the rocks, called a *Spanish Spark* named after the groom’s favorite drink, the



Barry Roberts and Carolina Lewis



*Chispa*, served at the famous Soluna Mexican food restaurant in San Antonio. The “her” drink was a twist on a French 75 cocktail called a *Purdey Girl* (named after the couple’s English cocker spaniel) and consisted of champagne, vodka, cranberry juice, with a large ice cube with small orchid flowers frozen in its center.

The bride’s cake, created by Cakes by Cathy Young of San Antonio, was strawberry, with blush pink icing and filling. The groom’s cake was custom made by The Painted Cake. Half of the cake portrayed an African scene with a Baobab tree, elephant, campfire and tent, while the other half was a scene from their Fredericksburg ranch with personal touches to the bride and groom, such as their dog, Purdey. The cake was cut with a ceremonial sword from AJ’s maternal grandfather, Brigadier General James S. Billups, from when he attended the United States Military Academy at West Point. The fun continued in the dance tent, where the bar surrounded a two-story tree filled with over 600 stems of elongated, bright white, dripping phalaenopsis orchids, while the tent poles themselves danced with 25 feet of garlands of silver dollar and seeded eucalyptus and more than a thousand roses of different varieties.

Attendees at the reception enjoyed dancing to the Georgia Bridge Water Orchestra, from Jordan Khan Productions, and were also treated to a performance by Cris Cab, who was a wedding guest. The after party was in the Coates Garden, the newest addition to The Argyle, and had guests dancing the night away by music provided by DJ. Rooney G, in from New York.

The couple’s Asian honeymoon took them on an extended journey ranging from Bali to Japan, where they look forward to visiting again soon. They reside in San Antonio, where Carolina, a graduate of The University of Texas at Austin, has just started her own company with two of her cousins, and AJ, a graduate of Texas Christian University, is an executive at his family’s business, Mission Restaurant Supply. “In our spare time, we love to travel, go to the ranch and beach, cook, play with our dog, play backgammon, and spend time with each other’s families and friends,” said Carolina Lewis. 🍷



Carolina Lewis and Purdey



68 The Groom's Cake



Tyler Hays, Chris Calandro, Tyler Keller and Brett Benton

