

# A Toast to You

This annual special issue is our wedding gift to couples from here and away.



**THE FIRST WEDDING** that I ever attended was in 1972. I was in grade school, and my aunt, who was totally *ancient*—she had just graduated from college—was getting married. I was a junior bridesmaid, and I wore a little plaid jumper. I remember sitting in the corner of her bedroom while the bridesmaids twittered around me, getting dressed for the big event. Carole



King's *Tapestry* was on the stereo, and at one point, my aunt breezed into the room, gave me a kiss, and said, "Isn't this album *groovy*?" (It was.) The music during the ceremony was, of course, the classic *Wedding Song*, written in 1971 by Paul Stookey, of Peter, Paul and Mary fame. *Wedding Song*, a heartfelt tune if ever one was written,



has generated more than \$2 million for charities worldwide—Stookey decided from the beginning to donate all proceeds— and it's now available through a Vermont nonprofit as a beautifully packaged wedding favor ([www.pdfoundation.org](http://www.pdfoundation.org)). These two musical memories, more than 35 years old, illustrate the staying power of a wedding weekend. Vermont consistently ranks in the top three states for destination weddings, and the reason is clear: Our gorgeous scenery, our picture-postcard communities, and, most of all, our friendly and world-class wedding professionals, make any Vermont wedding one to remember. Have fun planning yours!

Kathleen James  
EDITOR

**EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**

JOSEPH HEALY  
editor@vermontmagazine.com

**EDITOR**

KATHLEEN JAMES  
kathjames@verizon.net

**ADVERTISING DIRECTOR**

THOMASINA MAGOON  
advertising@vermontmagazine.com

**ART DIRECTOR**

LESLIE NOYES  
CREATIVE CONSULTING, INC.  
lmnCreate@verizon.net

**PRODUCTION MANAGER**

BONNIE MARSH  
production@vermontmagazine.com

**PRODUCTION ASSISTANT**

JILLYN LINDSTEAD

**SUBSCRIBER SERVICES**

CINDY COLVIN

**ADVERTISING ASSISTANT**

LAURA REED

**PUBLISHING CONSULTANT**

JOE MIGLIORE

**THE VERMONT MAGAZINE  
PUBLISHING GROUP**

**PRESIDENT**

CHRISTOPHER BELNAP

**VICE PRESIDENT**

JOSEPH HEALY

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P.O. Box 900, Arlington, VT 05250  
(802) 375-1366

[www.vermontmagazine.com](http://www.vermontmagazine.com)

[info@vermontmagazine.com](mailto:info@vermontmagazine.com)

[subscribe@vermontmagazine.com](mailto:subscribe@vermontmagazine.com)

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TOP TO BOTTOM: Lee Krohn; David Gariem; Cyndi Freeman