

J. SCOTT CATERING & RADNOR HUNT

"On the most romantic day of your life, we pledge to bring the same passion and love for our work as you do for your partner and growing family." J. SCOTT WALSH

Photo credit: Campli Photography

BY APRIL O'DAY

When little girls gather to explore dreams and hopes for magical faraway times, invariable topics include careers, wardrobes, boys, and love. Perchance, most significant of all subjects is their wedding. They gush about gowns, grooms, and idyllic settings for the ceremony and reception. For young women born and raised in the Philadelphia area, a most poetic panorama is Radnor Hunt. The august Malvern landmark enhanced by enthralling country grandeur and laced in legendary history is backdrop for the finest weddings.

PIECES OF THE PAST

Robert Brooke, an early American settler, arrived in Maryland in 1650. With him came his family, 28 servants, and a collection of hounds, which were bred for foxhunting. Brooke was the first recorded Master of Foxhounds in the colonies.

The next century, hunt-minded men imported red foxes from England to wake up the chase and eliminate the need for bushy-tailed native greys, animals proven to be too cantankerous for the game. George Washington's diaries connote his favorite sport was mounted foxhunting. He kept a cadre of hounds at Mount Vernon where hunting parties sometimes lasted for several weeks.

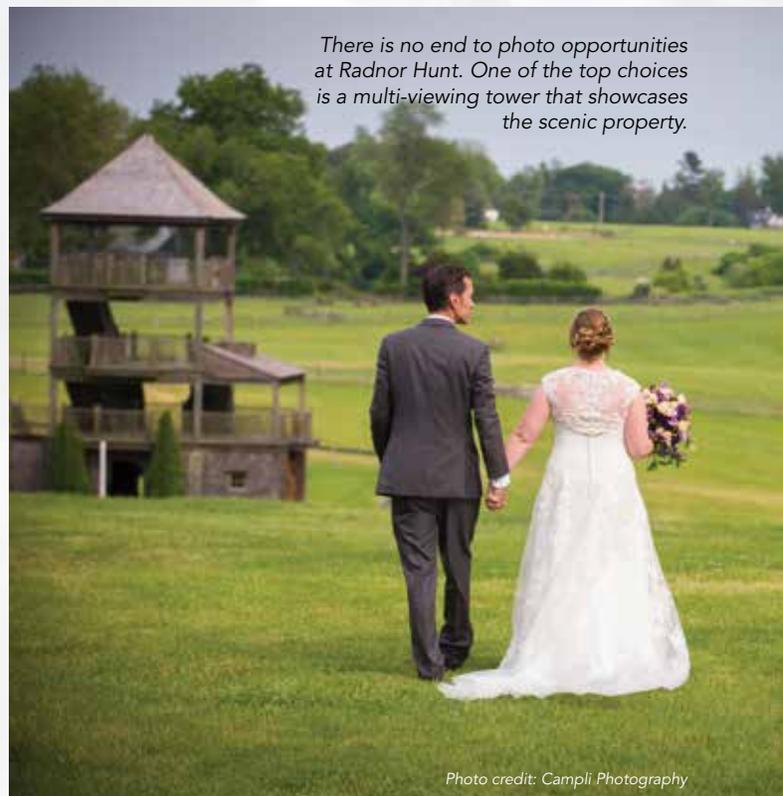
Over the next 300-plus years, foxhunting evolved and flourished. Radnor Hunt, which was established in 1883 by Pennsylvania Railroad icon Alexander Cassatt and J.G. Brill & Company magnate James Rawle, operated at a sprawling property at the intersection of Darby-Paoli and Roberts Roads. Today, it is distinguished as the oldest continuously active foxhunting club in the United States.

In 1919, women were admitted as active members. Just five years later, Ellen Mary Cassatt, favorite model of her Aunt Mary,

the renowned American painter, wed Radnor Master of Foxhounds, Horace Binney Hare. The marriage was called a merger of foxhunting royalty. Ellen Mary spent many happy hours at Radnor Hunt, which moved to its present location in 1930 after the club purchased Gallagher Farm. She was photographed there serving tea some 40 years after her nuptials.

Among other Radnor Hunt legends are Betty Moran, Bonnie Van Alen, and George Frolic Weymouth. These influential individuals were steadfastly committed to land preservation, and today Brandywine Conservancy is a chief beneficiary of Radnor Hunt activities. Another dignitary, Cortright Wetherill, hosted the Earl and Countess of Dudley at Radnor Hunt in 1977. The countess was prominent British film star Maureen Swanson. Former *Philadelphia Inquirer* columnist Dorothy Storck captures Radnor Hunt moments the same year. The journalist's

Weddings Beyond Compare



There is no end to photo opportunities at Radnor Hunt. One of the top choices is a multi-viewing tower that showcases the scenic property.

Photo credit: Campli Photography

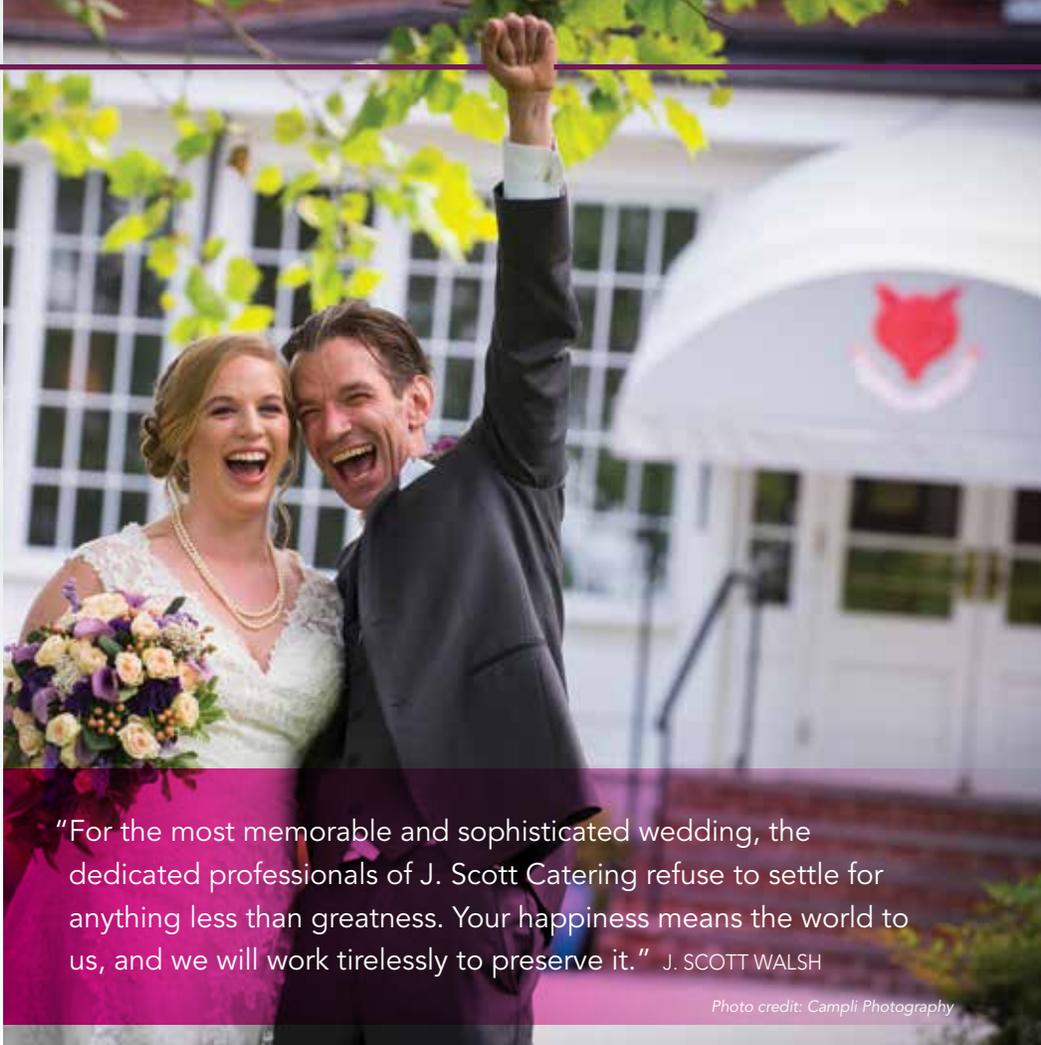
impressions are recalled in *Bright Hunting Morn*, a book written by Collin F. McNeil to commemorate the 125th anniversary of Radnor Hunt:

We are savoring champagne and strawberries under a yellow and white striped awning, while far below us on the gentle slopes, tiny horsemen ride their tiny mounts into fair hunting country. We are a still life in languid motion; we are a Currier and Ives. We are perfect in our time and place. We are charming. We are the Radnor Hunt club races.

On any given weekend from September through April, Radnor Hunt comes alive with horses, hounds, and happiness. The calendar is replete with other events, too, such as point-to-points, prestigious car shows, horse trials, and more. And – weddings in glorious splendor are held all year long.

FOUR SEASONS OF SPLENDOR

J. Scott Walsh, founder and President of J. Scott Catering, is enchanted by every square inch of the 100-acre Radnor Hunt, which is surrounded by an additional 6,000 acres of pristine Chester County forest and countryside. As exclusive caterer for the popular



“For the most memorable and sophisticated wedding, the dedicated professionals of J. Scott Catering refuse to settle for anything less than greatness. Your happiness means the world to us, and we will work tirelessly to preserve it.” J. SCOTT WALSH

Photo credit: Campli Photography

Wedding ceremonies are frequently held outside beneath a majestic Kentucky coffeetree, with its branches creating a natural canopy.

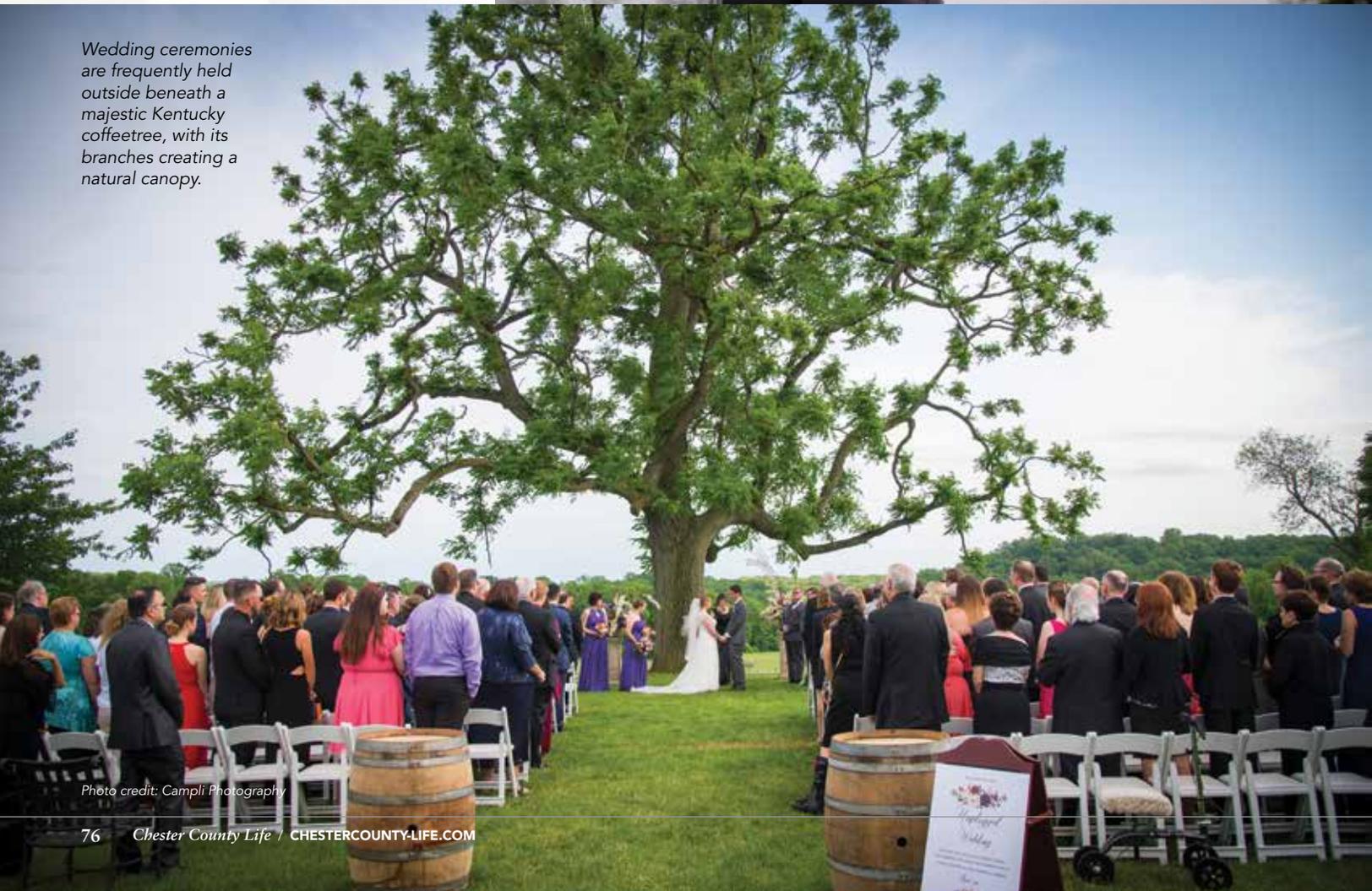


Photo credit: Campli Photography

Hallmark of J. Scott Catering

TURNING WEDDING FANTASY INTO REALITY

"Experience has taught us that dream weddings are realized through facilitation. They are brought to life by doing our part in accentuating your design and imagination. We create dream weddings through diligence and devotion to our craft. On the most romantic day of your life, we pledge to bring the same passion and love for our work as you do for your partner and growing family."

CULINARY INNOVATION

"Our menus are demonstrative of the energy and passion that we bring to the world of catering. From appetizer and entrée to dessert and drinks, our custom culinary creations reflect your wedding with a distinct dignity and grace."

REFUSE TO SETTLE

"Service calls us. Experience informs us. Creativity drives us. Your story inspires us. For the most memorable and sophisticated wedding, the dedicated professionals of J. Scott Catering refuse to settle for anything less than greatness. Your happiness means the world to us, and we will work tirelessly to preserve it."

J. Scott Walsh, founder and President of J. Scott Catering, is enchanted by every square inch of the 100-acre Radnor Hunt, which is surrounded by an additional 6,000 acres of pristine Chester County forest and countryside. As exclusive caterer for the popular wedding venue, he is forever mesmerized by million-dollar views.

Photo credit: Campli Photography

Even more impressive than postcard pictures is food by J. Scott Catering. "We serve countless plated meals, and food stations are making a comeback," notes Walsh.



Photo credit: Campli Photography

CATERING



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"Couples have Radnor Hunt for the entire day. We provide a full-time planner to help coordinate and take care of every detail the day of the wedding. Brides may bring gowns the night before and get dressed and complete hair and makeup in the bridal suite. There's a groom's lounge, as well, that features leather couches and includes a bar." J. SCOTT WALSH



Photo credit: Campli Photography

wedding venue, he is forever mesmerized by million-dollar views. "Although October is our most popular wedding month, there is never a minute when Radnor Hunt isn't gorgeous. Spring and summer scenes are lush and green, autumn brilliant in burnished tones, and winter glistens in serenity."

Wedding ceremonies are frequently held outside beneath a majestic Kentucky cove-tree, with its branches creating a natural canopy. Guests move to the covered porch

or patio for cocktail hour and then enjoy the reception in either the grand or small ballroom. "The couple has Radnor Hunt for the entire day," points out Walsh. "We provide a full-time planner to help coordinate and take care of every detail the day of the wedding. Brides may bring gowns the night before and get dressed and complete hair and makeup in the bridal suite. There's a groom's lounge, as well, that features leather couches and includes a bar."

Walsh notes there is no end to photo opportunities at Radnor Hunt. One of the top choices is a multi-viewing tower that showcases the scenic property. The cove-tree, rustic stable, or almost anywhere in the main quarters are also artistic selections. "For a small fee, the wedding couple may bring one of Radnor Hunt's groomed horses to cocktail hour for photographs," reveals Walsh. "Another dazzling shot is our sparkler send-off held along the circular drive."

CUSTOM-TAILORED MENUS

Even more impressive than postcard pictures is food by J. Scott Catering. "We serve countless plated meals, and food stations are making a comeback," notes Walsh. "Some of our most requested entrées are West Coast halibut, my personal favorite, and aged beef tenderloin wrapped in bacon. We make everything from scratch, and each menu for every single wedding is customized," exclaims Walsh with a sweep of an arm for emphasis.

Last year, one wedding menu that guests still extol featured a passed hors d'oeuvres medley of roasted tomato bisque with grilled cheese wedge, seared Kobe beef, Thai chicken skewers, and fried chicken and waffles. Entrée pleasures were pan-seared strip steak, filet of black sea bass, seasonal vegetable risotto, haricot verte bundles, and truffled mashed potatoes. Stationary hors d'oeuvres included a raw bar, slider trio, and an Asian assortment. The nostalgic *back-to-childhood* dessert table appetizingly amused guests with donut cakes, milk and cookies, and mixed berries.

This example was just one wedding. Imagine what yours will be like if you select the incomparable combination of Radnor Hunt and J. Scott Catering. It will be even more perfect than you imagined when you and your friends fanaticized about it all those years ago. **CCL**

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