



*Brooke Seidelmann &  
Christopher Jaros*  
October 30, 2010, Kiawah Island

Braving the  
*Elements*

*D.C. residents Brooke and  
Chris weather a snowstorm  
and fire to say "I do" amid  
autumn's splendor*



(this page, clockwise from top left)  
**PEEP TOE:** Brooke dyed Kate Spade sandals to match her autumnal color palette. **WARDROBE CHECK:** The bride's search for the perfect vintage bauble ended when she found this Miriam Haskell pendant. **CUSHY SETUP:** Extra rose petals were bedded in the lanterns hanging from shepherd's hooks that lined the aisle. **DOUBLE TEAM:** The Lettered Olive and Studio R embossed off-white paper with harvest-inspired designs for the stationery suite. **NICE MATCH:** Chris's ranunculus boutonniere suited his striking tie. (opposite page) **SEAL THE DEAL:** "I always 'knew,'" says Chris, "It just took me a while to convince Brooke." The couple exchanged vows under an arbor festooned with fall berries.





*(clockwise from top left)* **DINNER'S SERVED:** Kiawah's Cassique Club doubled as caterer, providing savory treats like barbecued duck on cornbread. **COUNTRY TIME:** Miniature pumpkins held place cards and rust-colored napkins added to the fresh-from-the-farm feel of the dinner table. **COZY QUARTERS:** Brooke loved the "romantically rich and warm atmosphere" of the reception tent. **EVENING GLOW:** WED's Ellen Robinson placed clusters of lanterns throughout the reception to illuminate the night's festivities.

TEXT BY *Jacqui Calloway*

PHOTOGRAPHS BY *Marni Rothschild Pictures*

WEDDING DESIGN BY *Ellen Robinson, WED*

When Ohio-native Brooke Seidelmann invited high school pal Chris Jaros to go to prom as friends, she never imagined that years later they'd be holed up in their Washington, D.C. apartment together as the largest snowstorm in the city's recorded history swirled outside. But it wasn't so bad. Chris, an attorney, got home before Brooke, a gallery director, and had transformed their digs into a cozy, fire-lit, cabin-like space, complete with fondue pot dinner—and a proposal.

Soon after she accepted, the two decided that Kiawah—where Brooke had spent childhood summers—was the perfect wedding locale. Their sights were set upon on the island's River Course Clubhouse until Brooke received a call from their planner, WED's Ellen Robinson. "Don't panic," Ellen warned, "but the clubhouse is on fire."

Once the flames receded and Kiawah began to rebuild, island officials shuffled couples to alternate spots nearby. For their part, Brooke and Chris shifted to the picturesque Cassique Course and hosted a tented reception there on Halloween weekend. And though they did incorporate a day-after costume brunch, the couple decided upon a harvest reception theme over a spooky one.

When the day arrived, Brooke glided down a petal-strewn aisle to share "I dos" with Chris under a manzanita branch arbor. Afterward, they celebrated with guests in an outdoor tent lit by lanterns. "From the rehearsal dinner to walking down the aisle with my father and seeing Chris for the first time, the whole weekend was incredible," says Brooke.

*"I wanted to* get married in the Lowcountry so  
I could share my favorite place in the world with friends and family."

—Brooke Jaros





*(clockwise from top left)* **TAKE THE CAKE:**

“I had always admired Jim Smeal’s elegant work,” Brooke says, and this almond, amaretto, orange, and triple sec cake covered in buttercream and a cascade of flowers inspired by her gown didn’t disappoint. **COCKTAIL HOUR:** Guests sipped Arnold Palmers made with Firefly Sweet Tea Vodka and a touch of mint from Mason jars. **GOODIE BAGS:**

Brooke added her own touch to Halloween-inspired paper candy bags, hand-stamping each one with a playful bat. **FOOTLOOSE:** Brooke (who wore Carolina Herrera from Maddison Row) and Chris lit up the dance floor thanks to lessons at Fred Astaire Dance Studio. **TRICK OR TREAT:** Brooke snagged loads of sweets—like candy corn, chocolate-covered pretzels, orange-and-black M&Ms, and more—from CandyWarehouse.com.