



Best man Everett McDonald (right) and bridesmaid Ruth Driedger toast groom Herb Wales (left) and bride Lille McCann.

Staff Photos by Kathy Murrie

Emphasis on the old

Herald-Tribune staff

A new bride is supposed to wear something old, something new, something borrowed and something blue.

And Saturday morning when Lille McCann and Herb Wales exchanged vows the emphasis was definitely on the old — the very old.

The two local residents were married in the old Glen Leslie Church (built in 1915) east of the city, they were decked out in late 19th century wedding attire and their transportation to and from the church was in open horse-drawn buggy and coach.

It was an old style wedding to reflect older values — weddings back at the turn of the century were to last a lifetime.

The bride wore a gown which her great-grandmother would have admired: of pale peach and cream coloured satin, with a feathery headpiece. She carried a sheaf of wheat and barley — appropriate for the harvest season and an old tradition symbolic of a fruitful marriage. For the chilly carriage ride, she bundled up in a tweed, fur-trimmed cape.

Her bridesmaids, JoAnn Drzewicki and Ruth Driedger, were also dressed in gowns of that era and carried brass coach lanterns.

The groom and his best men — Everett McDonald and Kelly Sutherland — all wore brown frock coats, vests and top hats.

As one would expect of a horseman of his repute, five-time World Professional Chuckwagon Association champion driver Sutherland wielded the reins of the carriage for the trip to the reception at Crystal Creek hall.

"Weddings used to last a lifetime in those days," explained the bride of her choice of the old style setting. The church happens to be less than a mile from the couple's home. The vintage carriage was her own.

Pastor Karl Hedlin of the Sexsmith Lutheran church performed the ceremony. Shirley Olson of Sexsmith provided the musical accompaniment on the church's antique organ.

The couple were joined for the ceremony by some 40 friends and relatives, some also decked out in the 19th century attire.

The tiny, unheated church was warmed by their smiles and good wishes for the couple. They all later retired to the hall for a warming, hearty breakfast of sausages, pancakes and all the extras.



When the bride and groom paused for a kiss outside the church his wristwatch gave away the fact it was indeed a 1986 wedding.

-Wedding Bells-



Photo by Homestead Photography, Grande Prairie

Herbert and Lille Wales (nee McCann) of Grande Prairie, married Oct. 25, 1986.

McCANN-WALES

In a clear, crisp fall morning wedding Oct. 25, Lille McCann and Herbert R. Wales exchanged vows.

Their double-ring ceremony was celebrated by candlelight at the Glen Leslie church, Pastor Karl Hedlin officiating. Shirley Olson provided the organ accompaniment.

The bride, daughter of Inga Oluper of Grande Prairie and Harald Oluper of Brantford, Ont., was given in marriage by her brother, Roland J. Oluper.

Lille wore a period gown with lace collar, front and lower sleeves, which was made especially for her by Barb Fitzpatrick of Sexsmith. Her hat, made by the bride herself, was edged in pearl strands and decorated with a cluster of pearls and ostrich feathers, and veil. She chose matching pearl-accented earrings and a pearl necklace and carried a draw-string purse. Her flowers were from GP Gallery and Crafts, and as her bridal bouquet Lille carried a small sheaf of locally-grown grain.

Her attendants, in complementing Edwardian era attire, were Ruth Driedger of Toronto, in a gown purchased in Edmonton, and JoAnn Drzewicki of Grande Prairie in a gown created by her mother.

Herbert chose a brown jacket and matching trousers, with darker top hat and cravat.

The groom's man was Everett McDonald, with usher Kelly Sutherland, also in outfits of the era. Kelly drove the horse and carriage in which the couple rode to their breakfast reception and afternoon dance, both at Crystal Creek hall.

For the ceremony, the bride's mother chose a lace ruffled blouse with long, black skirt and matching black hat, while the groom's mother wore a long-sleeved blouse and long, plaid skirt and tie.

Among the out-of-town guests were Mr. and Mrs. H. Driedger of Ontario, Judy Wales and family of Edmonton and Darryl Wasylshyn and Cindy of Spruce Grove.

For her travelling outfit, Lille chose a pink sweater and skirt set and lined rain coat.

They took a wedding trip to Fiji and New Zealand, before taking up residence at R.R. 1 in the County of Grande Prairie.