



# FAIRYTALE WEDDING

STEVEN GLADSTONE & JAN RITCHIE

by LINDA AYERS TURNER KNORR

**O**ur 2015 social calendar ended on a high note with the wedding of Steve Gladstone and Jan Ritchie.

The vivacious Gretchen Bernardi conducted the sunset ceremony in Islamorada, meaning *the purple island*, in the Florida Keys.

Seven-year-old Arianna Ritchie, Jan's precious niece from Rehoboth, Delaware, was the flower girl. Chuck McWherter and Marie Cotton, whose beachfront home was the breathtaking sight of the whole affair, escorted the exquisite bride. Matron of Honor, Rita Holloway, and Best Man, Neil Gordon, were all smiles as the skies had just cleared for a picture perfect setting.

Family and friends oohed and awed when the surprise "Ring Dogs" appeared. Ch. Territch Best Evidence, a Smooth Fox Terrier and Aragorn's Dave Bluebeck, a Cardigan Welsh Corgi, were accompanied by Jo Callahan and Chris Berg. Both ring bearers were co-bred by Steve and Jan.





Nuptials were followed by cocktails, a spectacular dinner and lots of dancing. As the bride and groom danced for the first time, the Ignite Band from Miami played "It's A Wonderful World." I was sitting with Ron Menaker and Lee and Ro Arnold. We looked at each other in amazement, as the singer sounded exactly like Louis Armstrong. When Steve hit the dance floor with his beautiful, tall and elegant mother, Laurel, many were smiling through tears. What a lovely sight!

The floor was packed. You should have seen the moves of Paula Spector, Rita Holloway, Kenny Saenz, Charlie and Lynn Garvin, Jaimie and Carl Ashby, Angela Reilly, Vivian Moran and Carmen and Nancy Battaglia. Oh, what fun!

Adorned with multiple species of orchids, the key lime wedding cake complemented the Florida Keys affair. Varying shades of purple accentuated the theme of Islamorada.

Steven Gladstone is a member of our American Kennel Club Board of Directors and serves as the AKC Delegate of the Waterloo Kennel Club. Jan is also an AKC Delegate representing the Richmond Dog Fanciers Club. Both are attorneys.

In their vows to one another, Steve and Jan expressed their good fortune in finding love through their shared passion and the sport of purebred dogs. What a blessing!

May they live happily ever after... ■

