



It's the personalized touch that makes Kentners Catering a well respected business in Halton Hills. Here, Gerry checks to ensure a wedding cake is properly iced before it will be displayed.

(Herald photo)

# After you tell Dad then call caterers

The first person you should go to after telling your parents you're getting married is a caterer, says Dave Kentner.

The Georgetown-based Kentner's Catering has been in operation for 10 years and Mr. Kentner, along with his wife, Gerry, estimated they've served at 500 weddings.

An engaged couple can let a firm like Kentners do all the preparations for them, such as looking after booking a banquet hall, choosing a D.J. and setting up bar facilities Mr. Kentner says.

If you pay for a complete package such as one of Kentner's plans, the caterer can solve all of the problems that might arise, he says.

Many young couples both work and this may apply to their parents also, so a totally-catered wedding can save time and worry, he says.

The first question most couples ask is how much will the reception cost. The Kentners refer them to their catalogue and will usually sit down and talk with them for anywhere from one-half to three hours.

Prices depend on what type of food is served, whether or not banquet facilities such as china and linens are provided, plus the number of guests invited.

The Kentners say their business stresses flexibility, reliability and a personal touch. "You can't afford to forget the bride at num-

ber three wedding wants peas instead of carrots, says Gerry.

The Kentners say about 35 per cent or more of their business consists of catering to wedding receptions. Wedding speeches today are shorter, more 'off the cuff', with more humor in them, says Mr. Kentner.

His advice from years of experience is that wedding etiquette isn't as important in the '80s as it once was. Do what you feel comfortable with at your reception, he says. Many young couples ask him if a pay bar is "tacky". Mr. Kentner says a pay bar is fine as long as you tell your guests beforehand so they won't come with \$2 in their pocket.

One trend the Kentners have noticed is that they are handling more second weddings. Most wedding receptions average about 100 people, but second marriage couples invite perhaps 25-40 people, they say.

Couples getting married for the second time usually have more elegant tastes in choosing their reception needs, Mr. Kentner says.

No two weddings are alike and each has to be handled differently, the Kentners say. "Our service is much more complete than just buying food," Mr. Kentner says.

If you'd like information about catering, the Kentner's phone number is 877-1113.

### HOLD CAMERA STEADY

To take good available-light wedding pictures, say Kodak photo experts, keep your camera as steady as possible. Even with an ultra-high-speed film, you're liable to use slow shutter speeds and that means you can blur your pictures by moving the camera.

To avoid moving your camera during a picture brace it on top of a pew or railing, or along a wall or column. You'll be pleased with the difference.

photographer, etc., be very clear about what you want and don't want.

## Tips on watching the costs

— Know what the average wedding costs in your area are - if your friends will tell you. Though we can give a national figure, prices vary tremendously.

— Talk openly about the possibility of both families sharing expenses. Then, get everyone's idea of how much they think the wedding should cost.


— If cash is limited and your guest list enormous, scale down visions of prime ribs and an open bar, rent a hall big enough for everyone and serve cake and punch instead. (The punch can still be spiked!).

— Consider wedding packages that may save time as well as money - packages where flowers, cake, liquor, etc. are included.

— Do work with a budget, but leave a portion of money unmarked to deal with all the little things that come up (cake boxes for the groom's cake?).

— If you must pare the guest list, agree on a formula that's arbitrary. For instance, no first cousins; no business clients. Apply the rule to both families.

— When working with the bridal shop or salon owner, the florist, the



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