

» Hillary Scott's «

SURPRISEWEDDING

THE LADY ANTEBELLUM SINGER TIES THE KNOT IN A ROMANTIC WINTER WONDERLAND' CEREMONY IN UPSTATE NEW YORK

he bride originally had her heart set on a spring wedding, but after a year of dating and a sixmonth engagement, Hillary Scott and drummer Chris Tyrrell just couldn't wait any longer to become husband and wife. Surrounded by family and just a few close friends, Scott and Tyrrell, both 25, exchanged vows Jan. 7 at the historic Appel Inn near Albany, N.Y. "It was a surprise!" says one guest of the under-the-radar ceremony. "They were just ready to be married. It was a wonderful day."

In fact, it wasn't until the next day that the couple let the cat out of the bag in a video posted on Lady A's website. "I'd like to introduce you to Mrs. Hillary Scott Tyrrell!" the groom announced. A giddy Scott flashed her new bling and added: "We're so excited to be starting our life together."

The supersecret nuptials were so impromptu that even

Scott's Lady Antebellum bandmates Charles Kelley and Dave Haywood, who were away on long-planned vacations, couldn't make it. But pal Steven Curtis Chapman sang for the couple at the reception, where the decor featured twinkling lights and flocked trees. "It was winter-wonderland romance theme," says a source. "Hillary was beaming. She and Chris were both just radiant and very excited."

Adding to the fantasy of the day was Scott's custom-made Vera Wang mermaid gown, which featured a lace underlay, layered tulle skirt, hand-cut lace appliqués and crystal-and-pearl beading. "While the dress was very tailored, the lacework was extremely feminine," says Wang. "She was a contemporary vision of a traditional bride." Scott completed her bridal look with an embroidered cathedral-length veil trimmed with hand-cut Chantilly lace, and Tyrrell wore a gray suit by

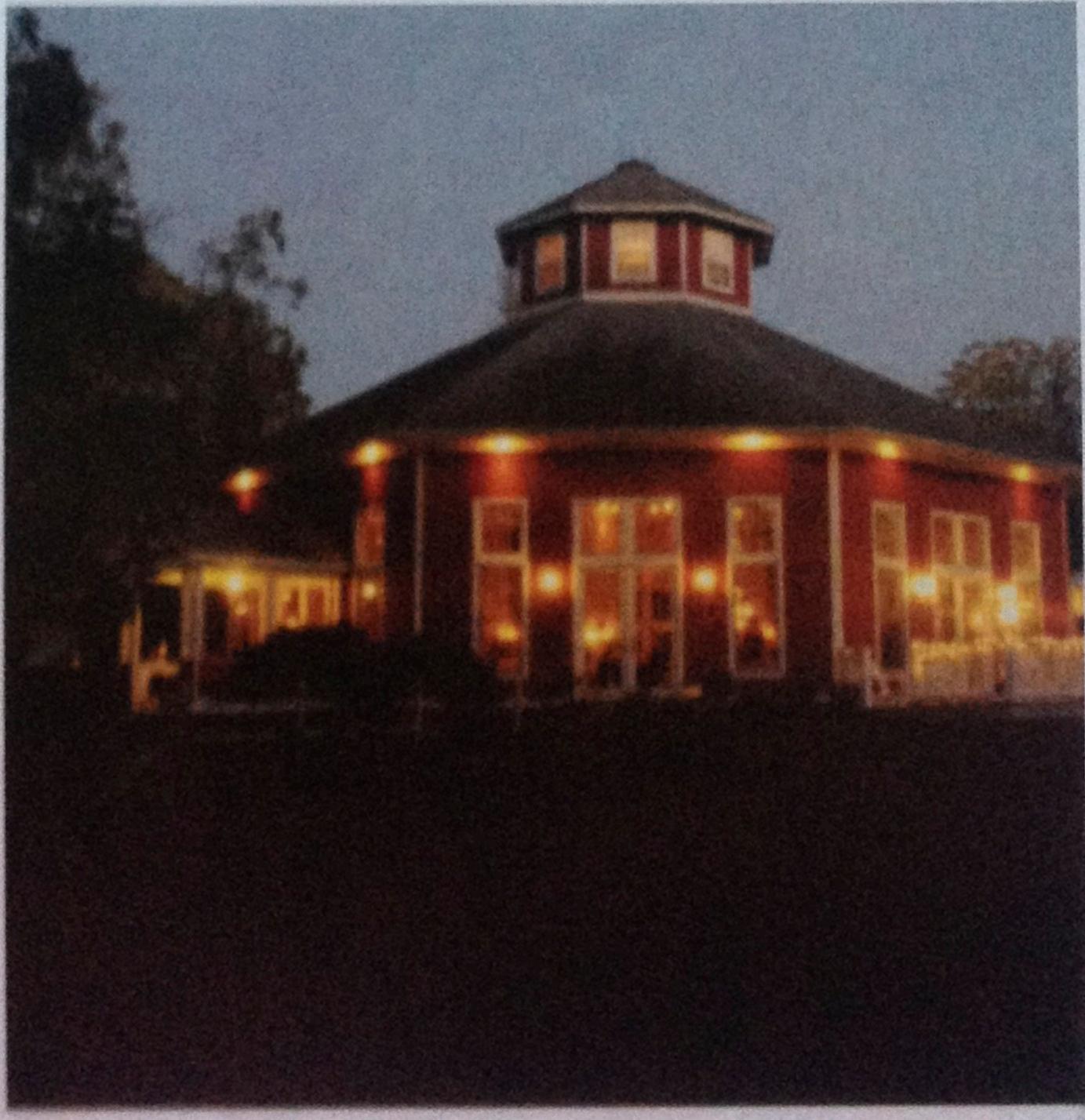
Ermenegildo Zegna with a black shirt and gray tie.

And while Kelley and Hay-wood couldn't be present for the big day, they were there in spirit. "They sent champagne flutes and a really nice bottle of Dom," says Scott. "It was what we toasted with right after we said our vows. The bottoms are sterling silver with our monogram and the date we got married. They're beautiful."

Now, settling into married life in the midst of Lady A's Own the Night tour (Tyrrell has officially joined their backing band), the couple has already expanded their family. "He is a miniature goldendoodle, and he is 7 months old," says Scott. "His name is Hobbs. Everybody loves him."

THE SETTING The romantic Appel Inn, about 10 miles outside Albany, N.Y., is near the groom's family home. The couple exchanged vows in a heated tent on the inn's back deck. Afterward, guests toasted the newlyweds inside the distinctive red barn on the 30-acre property.





66 WE FEEL BLESSED THAT GOD SENT US EACH OTHER.
WE'RE LOOKING FORWARD TO FOREVER TOGETHER" -HILLARY