

looking the east side of Devil's Lake in Lincoln City, the afternoon was full of good food — El prepared a spread of fancy sandwich fixings, salads, fruit and antipasto — good music, provided by a local DJ, and a selection of beer, wine and punch. Laurel had chosen forest green tulle and strings of tiny Christmas lights to compliment El's mix of fall flowers, which included sunflowers, calendula and cosmos. She wore cream-colored lace, and Mark wore a sharp, olive colored suit. A second sister-in-law of Laurel's provided tiny bottles decorated with dried flowers and filled with bubble mix to use in place of rice to send the happy

couple off at the end of the day.

Of the actual wedding and the notion of remarriage, Laurel says, "It was still scary [this time], but in a different way. When I was younger I went into marriage with the idea that it was forever, and was ill prepared

'We were less worried about perfection, I think, knowing that everything would be fine and we would be surrounded by people who had known us for years.' – Laurel Neighorn

when it wasn't. This time I was more scared because I knew what kinds of things could happen, merging two adult families, etc. But, we were less worried about perfection, I think, knowing that everything would be fine and we would be surrounded by people

who had known us for years and thinking this was a great day, no matter what." Mark adds simply, "The first time, I was just an accessory to my own marriage. This second time was about Laurel and me and our friends and loved ones."

There are tons of resources available for those of you planning an encore wedding ceremony of your own. Check out www.GettingRemarried.com to get started. There are also etiquette books by authors such as Emily Post (*Emily Post on Second Weddings*) and Jill Curtis (*How to Get Married Again*) that may be useful in planning your own celebration. ■

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