



photos by Mike Ross Photography

Anthelion at the lake is one of, if not the, newest and most exquisite wedding and reception venues in the entire Southeast. Anthelion, located on Smith Lake near Birmingham, Alabama, is the brainchild of Robby and Yolanda Tolbert. The couple spent about 2 years working on the design aspects of the house (Robby is a Consulting Engineer by trade) and another 2 years to actually build the 6,700 sq. foot antebellum style beauty. The home, along with its pavilion and suspended concrete deck, has many features that add a superior level of detail that really make Anthelion stand out as being above-and-beyond.

The home benefits from several unique

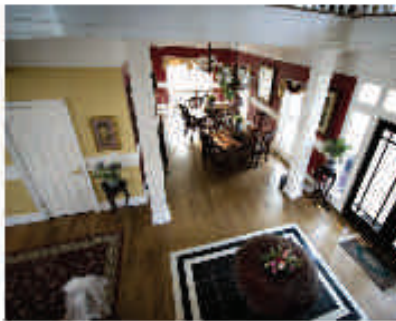
features that the couple and their two youngest sons built in, such as; Two full house length porches (one facing the lake, the other the road) with six huge columns stretching toward the sky on each porch, four balconies, a beautiful courtyard that houses a magnificent 12 foot water fountain and a extra large concrete cantilevered deck featuring a large pavilion that includes a fireplace and a full outdoor kitchen, perfect for your picturesque wedding... event. And... that's just the outside!

The inside of Anthelion is graced with many distinctive attributes of it's own. These include a breathtaking foyer with 30 foot ceilings and a custom built staircase that

winds all the way through the remaining 3 floors. The couple literally cut the trees, had them milled, then cut, lay and finished the hardwood flooring, seventy-two stair treads and newel posts. The home also includes a home theatre, well equipped game room, six bedrooms, six baths, a huge great room and a kitchen fit for a master chef. All topped off by a 5th floor sun room overlooking beautiful Smith Lake.

The couple also own a lake house-within view- that is available for rent, along with several other Smith Lake rentals that can also be arranged for when leasing Anthelion.

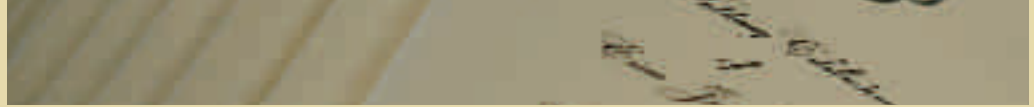




To assist in bringing your big day together, the owners of Anthelion can make your entire event a success by handling many other aspects of your day through special vendor relations that they have built with other service providers (from cakes to catering to floral arrangements to chair covers- they have a trusted connection for all of them). This benefit, along with the remarkable

beauty of Anthelion and Smith Lake, makes this a perfect setting for your wedding-whether you are located near or will be coming from afar.

For more information or to lease Anthelion for your special day call Yolanda Tolbert at (205) 221-3987 or visit them on the web at antebellumweddings.net



AFTER THE WEDDING CHECKLIST

- Thekla Wilkinson

So you think the wedding is over and everything is going to go back to normal, right?... well guess what? There are probably just as many preparations that need taking care of after the wedding as before it. All bridal magazines have checklists to help you organize every facet pertaining to your wedding day, but have you ever thought about what needs to be done after all the fun, festivities and hoopla of the wedding are over?

All of the "after details" that need addressing can be broken down into three simple categories: the wedding day, after the wedding day, and after the honeymoon. By following these steps you will find yourself on a much better path of organization and hopefully be able to make sense of all the madness of the wedding aftermath.

TO DO: AFTER THE WEDDING

- Designate who takes home any remaining food from the reception.
- Designate who takes home any remaining drinks or alcohol present.
- Designate who takes home any remaining wedding cake.
- Designate who is responsible for freezing the top portion of the wedding cake that belongs to the bride and groom.
- Designate who is responsible for taking down any decorations, collecting disposable cameras, gathering up centerpieces, flowers, extra favors and other items that need to get to a certain person or place.
- Designate who will be responsible for collecting any gifts that may have been brought to the reception; and where they need to go.
- Make arrangements to have the bridal bouquet correctly preserved.

TO DO: THE FIRST BUSINESS DAY AFTER THE WEDDING

- Return of Rentals; linens, tables, chairs, cake plateaus, tuxedos, and anything else that has to be returned after the wedding.

Remember, not getting these items back on time usually means a charge to whoever was in charge of renting them.

- Have the bridal suite or hotel room checked over and any left over items taken for safe keeping until the couple return from their honeymoon. This may include formals that need to be returned by the next business day.

TO DO: AFTER RETURNING FROM THE HONEYMOON

- Have wedding dress cleaned and preserved.
- Check with the photographer for wedding proofs and online viewing.
- Check with the videographer for wedding video date completion.
- Develop pictures taken with guests' disposable cameras passed out at the reception.
- Write thank-you notes to all your wedding vendors for making your day come together.
- Write thank-you cards to everyone who gave gifts and hosted or attended showers and other functions.

Remember, proper wedding etiquette is to send "thank you" cards to all that attend parties and showers... not just those who gifted you.

By following these simple guidelines you will find that everything will go much smoother and you will get through the entire "after wedding" process with ease.