

# Style Spotlight~Building Memories to Last a Lifetime



assured. Premier Events can help coordinate the day of the event itself, but also offers a full service option, which includes planning the event, contacting and meeting with vendors, setting up for the event, assisting with the event itself, and handling the clean up afterward.

"This has always been a passion of mine. I love helping people and making them happy. I also

love throwing a good party!" Lacy confided. Many years ago, a close friend encouraged Lacy to start her own party planning business, which led to the opening of Premier Events in 2004. "My friend predicted I would plan her wedding for her one day, and I am! She's getting married this fall." She is thrilled to be orchestrating all the details to help her friend experience the magical wedding of her dreams.

Lacy really enjoys meeting new people and working with new venues. She has arranged everything from the annual convention for Virginia funeral directors to an intimate wedding in DC for

a couple who loved the city so much, they decided they wanted to walk to their wedding venue.

She also has the flexibility and presence of mind to think on her feet when things are not going as initially planned, able to make last minute changes as needed that still deliver the desired effect, resulting in delighted and satisfied customers.



At a wedding reception in northern Virginia, the venue forgot to include a prohibition on open flames in the terms of their contract, so Lacy was busy setting up candles on all the tables and the mantle, when she was informed of the new policy. She immediately went into high gear, racing to a nearby store to obtain LED candlesticks and votives, and still managed to get everything set up and ready on time. "The bride was so happy with how it all turned out," Lacy revealed with a triumphant grin. "You work with difficult people at times, but working together and getting the job done for our clients is what it's all about."

It is easy to think of the benefits of utilizing a party planning service for large and complex events, such as for a wedding or convention, but Premier Events can help with smaller occasions too. Many people find themselves in the position of

hosting an event of 25-30 people, whether for a special birthday or anniversary, a holiday meal with extended family, a graduation party, or other special occasion.

Most of us struggle through it, sometimes calling on friends or family to share the burden by bringing dishes, coming early to help with preparations, or staying late to help clean up afterward. However, the hostess often has difficulty actually sitting down and enjoying the event, because she is busy handling the refreshments and is worried about trying to make sure everything runs smoothly and everyone enjoys themselves. No matter how perfectly the hostess carries out her duties, she usually ends up exhausted afterward.

Thus, even the consummate hostess could benefit from Lacy's services, because she takes care of all the stressful details, allowing her clients the freedom to relax and enjoy the festivities. "They can celebrate the moment and make memories with their families and friends, instead of worrying about preparing and distributing the food, along with all the tedious setup and clean up duties," Lacy observed. "Those tasks are for us to handle. I encourage people to give small businesses a chance."

To find out how Lacy can make your next special occasion even more magical and far less stressful, check out her website at [www.premiereventsbylacy.com](http://www.premiereventsbylacy.com), call 804-928-2043, or send an email to [info@premiereventsbylacy.com](mailto:info@premiereventsbylacy.com), Find her on Facebook at Premier Events, LLC. *Photos courtesy Premier Events.*

By Katherine Bavuso

**L**acy Whittaker is dedicated to helping people orchestrate the various special occasions in their lives, allowing them the freedom and peace of mind to truly enjoy themselves, while building memories that will last a lifetime. She owns and operates Premier Events, a local small business with experience planning weddings, meetings, corporate events, baby showers, birthday parties, and other social gatherings for 25-250 people.

"As a small business, you have our personal attention 100% of the way, through every detail. We respond quickly and are well organized," Lacy

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