

# The Dialogue



Quarterly Newsletter of the Worldwide Marriage Encounter Community of the Austin Diocese

November 2004

## MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER FULL CIRCLE

One couple's love inspires two generations

by Emma Moya

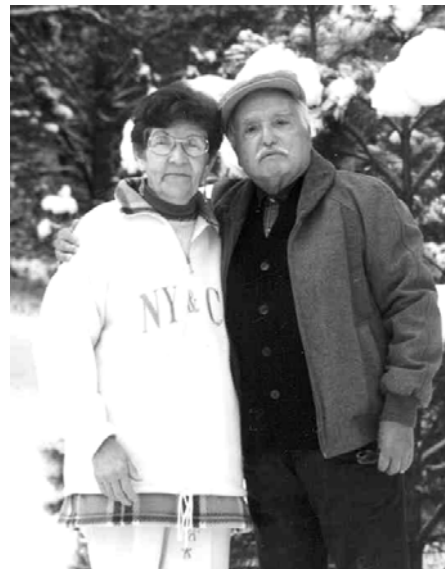
My husband Louis and I went on our first Marriage Encounter weekend on September 24, 25 and 26 of 2004. Our presenting couples were Mike and Renee Furtado, Steve and Linda Jaramillo, and Raul and Dora Gonzalez. And, much to our pleasant surprise, our former pastor at St. Ignatius Martyr, Fr. Larry LaVasseur, was also a member of the team. My parents, who live in El Paso, had been gently nudging us towards taking this step ever since we got married, which coincidentally, was 26 years ago on September 25 and thus we celebrated our anniversary at Cedarbrake.

When we arrived home on Sunday evening, I called Mom to tell her about our ME weekend experience. She was almost as excited about hearing what I had to say as I was about telling her. When I told her the names of our presenting couples, she didn't let me finish when I got to Raul and Dora. She finished their name for me. I said, yes, how did you know? And so, my story really begins.

My parents went on their very first ME weekend on April 23, 24 and 25 of 1976 in Mesilla Park, New Mexico. Their presenting couples were the Bencomos, the Olivas, and Raul and Dora Gonzalez. Yes, the very same Raul and Dora whose loving relationship and commitment to each other had made such a life changing impact on my parents, 28 years ago, had just worked their magic on Louis and me.



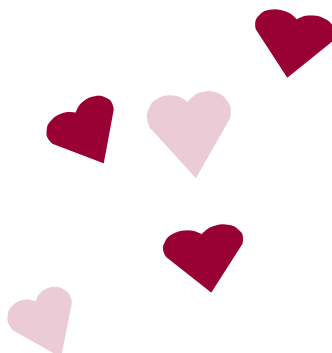
*Louis and Emma Moya recently attended a Marriage Encounter Weekend at Cedarbrake. They had one more surprise waiting for them when they returned home and called her parents to tell them about their weekend...*



*Aurora and Jose Manuel Martinez, the parents of Emma Moya, attended their first Marriage Encounter weekend in 1976 in New Mexico. Currently they live in El Paso.*

### Contents

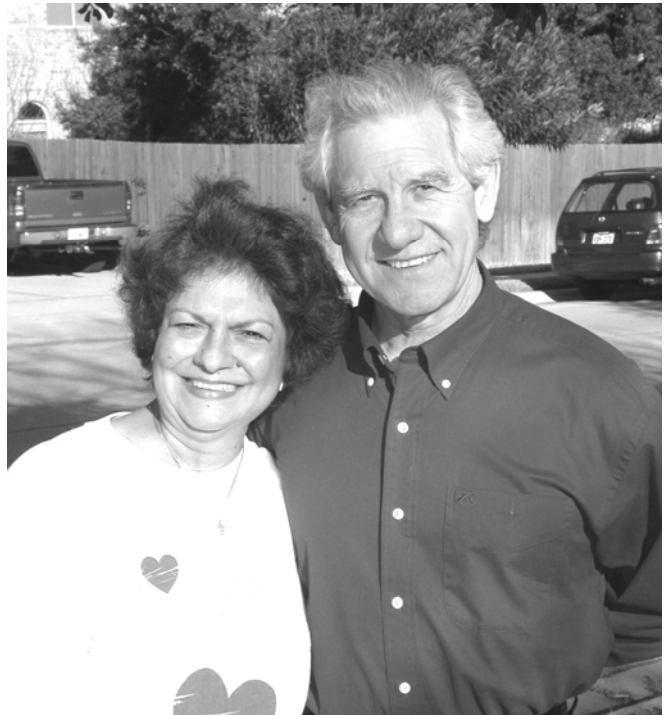
Marriage Encounter Full Circle	1
Upcoming ME Events	2
Communication	3
Circle Contacts	4



*Marriage Encounter Full Circle...continued from page 1*

My parents went on to be active in El Paso's ME community for 20 years, hosting circle meetings, raising funds, and recruiting couples. They signed up for a second ME weekend a year after their first one. Their third weekend was about 10 years later. Their fourth was last year, February of 2003, a gift from members of their weekly rosary group, all Encountered Couples, who pitched in to send them on that weekend as a 51st wedding anniversary gift.

My parents are no longer active in ME (Dad is 79 and Mom just turned 75), but there is no doubt ME had a wonderful and positive impact on their marriage. Marriage Encounter has now had a positive impact on our marriage, and Dora and Raul Gonzalez helped make it all possible. From Jose Manuel and Aurora Martinez in El Paso and Louis and Emma Moya in Austin, thanks Dora and Raul and God bless you.



*Raul and Dora Gonzalez gave the gift of Marriage Encounter to two generations: Jose Manuel and Aurora Martinez in 1976, and their daughter and son-in-law (Emma and Louis Moya) in 2004.*

Consider being a prayer couple during a Marriage Encounter Weekend for one of the attending couples. If you are interested, please contact Mark and Nell Reinberg (979-693-4808 or markandnell@cox-internet.com).

## UPCOMING MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER EVENTS

November 5-7: ME Weekend, Cedarbrake Retreat Center, Belton, TX.

December 12: Austin ME Community Christmas Party at Nathan and Mary Ausley's, Caldwell, TX, all welcome, please call 979-535-4867 for details.

February 4-6: ME Weekend, Cedarbrake Retreat Center, Belton, TX.

April 1-3: ME Weekend, Cedarbrake Retreat Center, Belton, TX.



### December 2004

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

### January 2005

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

### February 2005

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					



*...And the two of them become one body.*

*-Genesis 2:24*

**COMMUNICATION: The Games We Play**by Jack & Karen Baker (excerpted from [www.eMatrimony.org](http://www.eMatrimony.org))

On the Weekend, you were encouraged to develop good communication through observing non-verbal communication, listening with your hearts, risking and having trust in your spouse, and sharing deeply with one another. Yet, there is more to communication. We can use all of the above qualities and still find we have gaps in how we relate verbally with one another. Sometimes we unknowingly play games with our communication. For instance, there are times when one of us is thinking about a topic or issue and then attempt to engage our spouse in that topic, only to find we are starting in the middle of our thoughts and our spouse has no idea what we are talking about. Or, how about talking to one another from separate rooms? As our voices rise to be heard, we find that the raised voice is misunderstood as anger and hurt feelings and angry words may result.



One of the biggest challenges to every day conversation from this Helper and Thinker duo comes from not being clear with one another. One of us, usually the Helper, hesitant to be too direct, will say something like, "The garbage needs to go out". The Thinker, in his earlier days, might say to himself, "Sure does—if she wants me to do it she will probably ask", and go about his business. The Helper, who doesn't want to rock the boat, will wonder why the Thinker did not get the hint and take the garbage out, and [will] begrudgingly gather the garbage and take care of the chore herself. After years of this "game" we finally learned that each of us must be clear about what we are saying and state our expectations. The above scenario might now more often be said as (Helper to Thinker), "I would really appreciate it if you would take the garbage out." The Thinker might respond with, "Sure, I'm going that way anyway." Or, if the Helper falls back to the old pattern of "The garbage needs to go out", the Thinker could check out the message by saying "What I hear you saying is you would like me to take it out". From the Helper, "That would be nice, thank you." One secret to this response is the tone of voice. A sarcastic sounding pitch of the voice can undo all the good that checking out the statement can make.

This example is just one of the many "games" most of us play with the communication in our marital relationship. Perhaps you can think of others. Hopefully, your awareness of "communication games" has caused you to look at positive changes you can make in your relationship.

**About the authors**

Jack and Karen Baker, the *eMatrimony* editors, were married in Omaha, Nebraska on November 8, 1969. They made their WWME Weekend in August 1978 in Lincoln, Nebraska. Jack & Karen have two adult children, and they all live in Bellevue, Washington. The Bakers have been involved in WWME while living in Nebraska, South Dakota, Colorado, Texas and Washington.

**A dialogue question:**

When was a time that  
I realized I did not  
communicate accurately with you.

How do I feel about that?

**Marriage Encounter Dialogue Calendar**

Are you looking for a convenient source of great questions for your daily dialogue? Check out the Marriage Encounter Calendar. There are scripture-based questions and opportunities to expand dialogue to include your entire family. Calendars are available from Charlie and Mary Copeland.

Information: 512-388-4616 or [copelands@pressroom.com](mailto:copelands@pressroom.com).

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Quarterly Newsletter of the  
Worldwide Marriage Encounter  
Community of the Austin Diocese



NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
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AUSTIN, TEXAS  
PERMIT NO. 2585

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Mission Statement: Worldwide Marriage Encounter's mission of renewal in the Church and change in the world is to assist Couples and Priests to live fully intimate and responsible relationships by providing them with a Catholic "experience" and ongoing community support for such a lifestyle.

## Austin Diocese Marriage Encounter Circle Information:

### **Austin Central: Matt Kerwick and Lynne Kammer**

7805 Harvestman Cove, Austin 78731 ph: 512-527-8178  
email: lynne@visionaryresearch.com  
Meets 3rd Friday of every month.

### **Austin South: Raul and Dora Gonzalez**

10511 River Plantation Dr., Austin, TX 78747 ph: 512-280-1002  
email: rpiegonzo1@aol.com  
Meets various times.

### **Austin Westlake Hills: Barry and Kathleen Meyer**

11800 Lake Stone Drive, Austin, TX 78738 ph: 512-402-0740  
email: barry@meyerbox.com, kathleen@meyerbox.com  
Second Saturday every month, 7:00pm.

### **Caldwell: Nathan and Mary Ausley**

5760 CR 324, Caldwell, TX 77836 ph: 979-535-4867  
email: nmausley@tconline.net  
Meets various times.

### **College Station: Randy and Irene Light**

2100 Bent Oak, College Station, TX 77845 ph: 979-693-1931  
email: light@brain-doc.com  
Meets bi-monthly.

### **LaGrange: Louis and Mary Frerich**

1002 Nink Road, Smithville, TX 78957 ph: 512-369-5127  
email contact: Dave & Dorinda Hickey, ddhickey@prodigy.net  
Meets various times.

### **Pflugerville: Michael and Laura Cowan**

17909 Dansworth Drive, Pflugerville, TX 78660 ph: 512-251-6797  
email: lauraanncowan@hotmail.com  
Meets 3rd Saturday of every month.

### **Round Rock: Marcos and Marie Palacios**

1109 North Riviera Circle, Cedar Park, TX 78613 ph: 512-918-1931  
email: marcospalacios@yahoo.com, mariepalacios@yahoo.com  
Second Friday every month, 7:30pm.

### **San Marcos: Michael and Renee Furtado**

PO box 1733, San Marcos, TX 78667 ph: 512-396-3620  
email: mfurtado@grandecom.net  
Meets various times.

### **Temple/Killeen: Jim and Miriam Ortiz**

710 Livingston Ct., Temple, TX 76502 ph: 254-780-3116  
email: Anjell7107@aol.com  
Meets various times.

### **Waco: Jim and Anna Fitzpatrick**

3812 Austin Avenue, Waco, TX 76710-7344 ph: 254-753-2745  
email: jafitzp@msn.com  
Meets various times.

### **West: Eddie and Charlotte Klaus**

2575 Brickyard Rd., West, TX 76591 ph: 254-826-5604  
email: eddieklaus@aol.com  
Meets various times.