

"...y la familia?"

Volume 16, Issue 5

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*Needed for
Future Issues:*

*"Stuff" about
you and yours...*

Announcements:

*New baby
Engagement
Graduations
Promotion
New address*

***Upcoming
Events:***

*family parties
Reunions
Weddings*

***Article, Photos
and Fillers:***

*Nostalgic stories
Photos and art-
work*

*Original poetry
Vignettes on
your imme-
diate family*

*Favorite family
recipes*

*Cute things your
kids have
said*

*Funny stories
Prayer Requests*

Diana's Dream

Like several other members of our family, Diana Del Orbe is an entrepreneur. Not long ago, she heard an inspiring account from her pastor of how he was earning extra money to pay for his daughters' college expenses. It was through a company called Ambit Energy, which provides electricity and natural gas services in deregulated markets across the United States, primarily marketed through a direct sales channel of more than 150,000 Independent Consultants. Those states currently include Texas, New York, Maryland, Illinois, New Jersey, Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Pennsylvania.



Intrigued, she investigated further, and after praying about it for a week, Diana took the plunge. Today she is reaching her goals and is excited to share about the Ambit opportunity with family and friends. Ambit is ranked #390 in *Inc.com's* list of the 500 fastest growing private companies in America, and it reached more than 700,000 customers in the first quarter of 2012. Read Diana's letter on page 5 to learn more about what drives her to want to succeed in her business.

"I didn't add how it could also be good for fundraising," says Diana. "We accept affiliates for fundraising like school funds, school trips, books, computers for the children and even for those who are raising money for cancer awareness and other foundations they wish to donate to. There is so much that Ambit offers!"

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I Remember... *¿...y la familia?* Being in Junior High *by Norma Pettit*

Nowadays, it's not called "Junior High," though. It's called "Middle School," and I've been a middle school teacher for the past ten years. Considering that my own school experience during those early teen years was less than idyllic, it's quite ironic that I ended up in this position. It was with much trepidation that I accepted the job when it was offered. I would have preferred to continue teaching second grade, so it took some adjustment, but now I love it.

Searching for something to write about for this column, I flipped through my 1966 diary. I was surprised that my entries didn't match the memory of me as a young teenager. I knew I was a giant geek, so I didn't think I gave boys much thought, and I believed I had been pretty studious. Surprise! Here are a few entries from my diary.

Friday, February 11, 1966: Dear Diary - Today was a pretty eventful day, in a sense. First of all, in Science I had the thrill of talking to Paul Cruz. How 'bout that! He asked Mr. Truch how many natural elements there are. Mr. Truch answered but I didn't hear. Anyway, I said to him—"How many?" And he answered back "92." How 'bout that! Also, he asked me to pass back a note to Sandy Ferrero. (I didn't like that, but I did it.) Still, I don't worry cause Sandy is going steady with Bob Olsen (Susan's brother). The only one I worry about is Estelle Baum. She's nice (except I hate her). She has a pretty good figure and she's smart, too. Oh, well.

Wednesday, March 9, 1966: Dear Diary - Ruben [my brother] got a note that I had received from Laurie some time ago. It said, "I was really surprised to hear that you liked Paul Cruz." Well, that did it. How could I back my way out of that?

Thursday, March 17, 1966: Dear Diary - Today Mom, Ruben, and me were watching "One Step Beyond." The guy says that they just had a funeral for a boy. He says his name is Paul. Ruben looks at me and I gave him a sad look and we both laughed cause I know he knows I like Paul Cruz.

Saturday, April 2, 1966: Dear Diary - I forgot to tell you yesterday but as it was April Fool's Day we played a trick on Mr. Frye [my algebra teacher]. When he went out of the room we put salt in his coffee and stirred it with a pencil! When he drank some of it he laughed and said it must be last week's coffee. Then he threw it out the window! He looked back out the window and said, "Sorry, Ma'am." It was really funny.

Tuesday, April 5, 1966: Dear Diary - Mom and me went shopping today. We spent \$106.01! How 'bout that! And \$53 of it was all on me. Wow. Here's what I got: *Easter Outfit
*Skirt: Blue, A-line, with pockets in the front. Skirt: Green, A-line *Blouse: White, ruffles at the collar and cuffs. *Slip: Just an ordinary full length slip! *Garner Belt: Just a garner belt! Socks: White, crew
*Sweater: Cardigan, beige *Purse: Shoulder, beige *Hat: white, beret

Sunday, April 10, 1966: Dear Diary - Wow! Some Easter. We got up at 3:00 a.m. to get dressed. At 4:00 we left for Mt. Davidson. When we were climbing up the paths it was all muddy from last night's rain and we all got our new shoes muddy. The sunrise service was real nice. After breakfast we left again. We went to Belmont, taking Auntie Helen with us and there met the Riveras and Mamá Otilia. We then went to San Jose. Daniel and Emily Hernandez were being baptized today, so we celebrated Easter with the Hernandez family.

Tuesday, May 10, 1966: Dear Diary - We got our report cards today. This is what I got: P.E., B; Algebra, B+; Social Studies, C+; Science, C+; Band, A-; English, A

Thursday, June 9, 1966: Dear Diary - Guess what? Did I ever tell you what my future ambition is? ...I always wanted to write books. If that doesn't work out, I could always try something else like working in a publishing firm. I'd like that. I'm going to start another story this summer. I just feel like writing!

“¿...y la familia?”

The Way We Were...

Easter Pictures



The Merritts in S.F.

1954



Joi

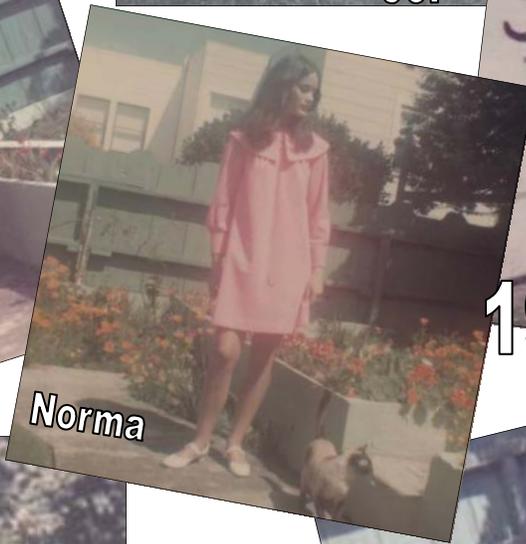


Uncle Angelo

1960



1967



Norma



1968



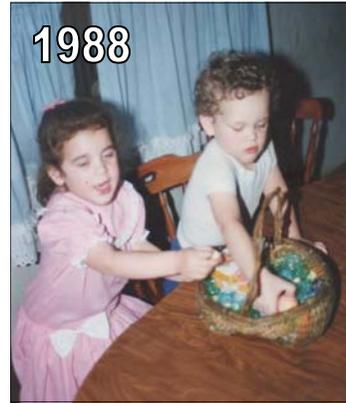
Auntie Helen De Nardo

1968



Anita Garcia

The Way We Were... More Easter Pictures



At This Time in Our Family History

- **April 3, 1875**—Pedro José Rivera Maldonado was born. He was a brother of our family patriarch, “Papa Flor.” Pedro only lived for 15 months, though, dying on July 10, 1876.
- **April 9, 1912**—Auntie Marie, baptized as María Perfecta, was born in Barrio Santo Domingo of Peñuelas, Puerto Rico. She was one of Papa Flor’s daughters and the matriarch of the Nicholson clan.
- **April 13, 1839**—María Inés Vilá married Marcelino de la Cruz. Her father, Pedro Vilá, was born in Cataluña, España. They were the grandparents of Papa Flor’s wife, Ana Cruz García.
- **April 22, 1946**—Oscar Cruz García of Peñuelas, Puerto Rico, married Ana María López Maldonado of Adjuntas, Puerto Rico. They were married in San Francisco, CA, and were the parents of Olga, Ruben and Norma.
- **April 22, 1986**—Florencio Rivera (“Guar”) died in Ponce, Puerto Rico.
- **April 23, 1995**—Oscar Cruz García died of emphysema in Ponce, Puerto Rico. He was 84.
- **May 5, 1909**—Máximo Cruz, father-in-law of Papa Flor, married his second wife, Genara Maldonado. He was widowed from his first wife, María Engracia García.
- **May 22, 1914**—Elena Sevilla was born. She was Tío Guar’s wife, and the mother of René, Roberto, Raúl, Milagros, Lilliam, Reinaldo, Luz, Heriberto and Edwin.

Hello Family,

My name is Diana (González) Del Orbe. I am the daughter of Oscar González and Myrtelina Nogueras. I wanted to personally introduce myself to you again. I am sure that you have read my testimony in one of the family newsletters, along with my daughter's testimony (Daisha Caristo). When I wrote my testimony I shared the experience I had knowing that God is in control of all things, especially when God called my son home to be by his side. In the family newsletter you have also read the testimony of my brother Juan Gonzalez and his trials daily while being incarcerated because of the wrongful accusations that took away (now) 23 years of his life.

You probably are wondering why I am bringing up all of this again. The reason for this is because I have just started my own business by the grace of God which He placed in front of me after a week-long prayer. I have attended many meetings to help me get motivated. In one of the meetings, an Executive Consultant asked two questions: "Why?" and "What are my goals to make my WHY become a why NOT?" It got me to think. These are my answers to "Why?"

- My daughter Daisha Caristo's college tuition and savings for my eldest daughter (Evie) and her four beautiful children (my grandkids).
- My brother, Juan González; who will need a job when he comes home. I don't want him to get discouraged if any interviewer might turn him down because he cannot give accountability of his lack of employment for 23 years.
- My mother—she has suffered enough and she needs to sit back and relax before God calls her home. That means we need more free time to spend with her.
- Financial freedom, where I and my husband can spend more time together with the family because time is so short and I do not want to lose another minute away from my loved ones. That includes being able to go to the family reunions.



To so many, financial freedom means having millions. To me, financial freedom means having enough monthly income to pay off all my monthly bills and have a little extra to save. With this business it will be possible for me and my *Why?* will become *Hey, why not?* My goal is to become successful with this business and help everyone in my down-line (family and friends) (Juan, Daisha, Mom, grandkids, and more). Of course I also want to be able to be a blessing to those in need as I am blessed by God. This is why I need all of your help. I managed to get started by the grace of God and through much of His guidance. I ask and pray that you can help me and allow me to help you, too. Please visit my website at: www.dgd.Energy526.com www.dgd.whyambitworks.com www.dgd.joinambit.com or you can e-mail me for more information at dianadelorbe2007@yahoo.com. I could be found in Facebook under Raul Diana Del Orbe, or you may call my home at (718)478-6345. Even if you are not interested maybe you can share this information with your associates and family. There are opportunities for work to reach your goals in life, or just to become customers. "Why not earn money helping others save money?" I truly am praying that God will guide your decisions, too. God bless you and thank you for reading my testimony/plea.



Your relative,

Diana González Del Orbe
Independent Ambit Consultant

¿...y la familia?

Other Family News



Alexis Valentín finished up his tour of duty in Seoul, Korea, and is home on leave until April 16th, at which time he heads to Ft. Bragg, N.C.

Alexis plans to be at the family reunion if he is not deployed.

Let's pray that he will be at the reunion so that we can all hug him and thank him for his service to our country!

Anniversary Cruise

Need an incentive to book a cruise? Join us (Randy and Norma Pettit) on our 30th anniversary cruise to Alaska. We are going on the Carnival Spirit, leaving Seattle on July 31st and returning on Tuesday, August 7th. For more information about the cruise, visit www.Carnival.com or e-mail Norma at mamanony@sbcglobal.net



Julian Alexander
2 years Old
We thank you for your prayers and support!

Our Prayers Have Been Answered!

Thank you for the support and prayers Julian received from all of you. It has made a big difference in our lives. Julian is on the way to recovery after 43 weeks of treatment. He is doing great and his future is starting to shine! From all the Rivera-Otero family we thank you from the bottom of our hearts, but for you our hearts have no bottom. We are looking forward to seeing you at the family reunion in South Carolina. Thank you all.

"And whatsoever you ask in prayer, you will receive, if you have faith!" —Matthew 21:22

From,
Julia Rivera (mom)
And Yolanda Otero (grandma)

Cousin Carol Sells Store

On Feb. 29th, Carol (Medina) Wright sold her consignment store, Circa Vintage, to her 27 year old store manager.

"I will work there for a few weeks part time for the transition. Larry is looking forward to having his wife back, and, I can't wait to be a housewife again. I will still be doing custom hats to sell at the store. Rosa and I are working on our vintage inspired clothing line to continue selling in the store. I will be busy, but in a more relaxed way."

In a more recent update, Carol added, "Retirement is short. My hat line took off and I have 20 on order."



*Congratulations to **Ruben A. Quiñones**, who completed his Masters Degree in Education. Well done!*

Ruben teaches Spanish and ELD

(English Language Development, or ESL)

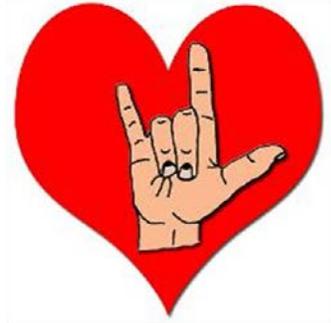
at Mt. Diablo High School in Concord, CA.

He is also Department Head for the Foreign Languages and ELD departments.

*His wife, **Lisa**, is a doctor at Contra Costa County Regional Medical Center.*



2012 FAMILY REUNION



We are honored to host this year's Rivera Family Reunion in Laurens, South Carolina on June 22, 23 and 24, 2012. Our theme is "I love you forever". Jackie, Waleska, Mom and I have been busy planning and organizing this grand event with what represents what our family is all about—LOVE. We love forever and celebrate every day the love that was passed on by those we have lost but still remain in our thoughts and hearts. We want this Family Reunion to be a joyous event to pass our love on and to be remembered forever. Make your reservations; call Wally to order your t-shirts! (864) 872-1070. WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU SOON!

Tenemos el honor de hospedar La Reunión Familiar Rivera este año en Laurens, Carolina del Sur el 22, 23 y 24, de junio 2012. Nuestro tema es "Te quiero para siempre". Jackie, Waleska, Mami y yo hemos estado muy ocupadas planeando y organizando este evento que representa el gran "AMOR" de nuestra familia. Nos encanta celebrar cada día el amor que fue transmitido por aquellos que hemos perdido, pero aún permanecen en nuestros pensamientos y corazones. Queremos que la Reunión Familiar Rivera sea un acontecimiento feliz para pasar nuestro amor y que sea recordado para siempre. ¡Realiza tus reservaciones; llama a Waleska (864) 872-1070 para su pedido de sus camisetas! ¡ESPERAMOS VERLOS PRONTO!

HOTEL ACCOMODATIONS

\$50/night Economy Inn - (864) 681-1153

120 Bolt Drive, Laurens, S.C. 29360

This hotel is a 2 min. drive to Helen's house and we have initially blocked 10 rooms. Owner has agreed to cut us a deal if additional rooms are scheduled.

\$87/night Comfort Inn - (864) 963-2777

I-385 & Fairview Rd, Simpsonville, SC 29681

This is on the interstate about 26 min. away, close to Wal*Mart, restaurants, etc.

ITINERARY

DATE: Friday, June 22, 2012: LOCATION: Helen's House – 514 Church Street, Laurens, SC 29360

Welcome dinner Southern style with a Puerto Rican twist.

DATE: Saturday, June 23, 2012: LOCATION: Waleska's House – 709 Church Street, Laurens, SC 29360

WEAR YOUR T-SHIRTS!!!! Breakfast will end at 10am. Sharing our love at the Pool, Music, BBQ and RUMBA! Until 3PM

6:00pm I love you forever Dinner, Dancing, and more Loving. Directions will be provided.

DATE: Sunday, June 24, 2012: LOCATION: Waleska's House – 709 Church Street, Laurens, SC 29360

Morning Breakfast.

Family Trip and Tour.

Left over guests over Helen's House for RUMBA!

“¿...y la familia?”

c/o Norma I. Pettit
2426 Meadow Lane
Placerville, CA 95667
Phone: (530) 327-9361
E-mail: mamanony@sbcglobal.net

Visit us on the Web at www.ylafamilia.org.

Birthday Greetings

Michael Barnes (49) - April 1	Vic Stenroos (64) - April 22	Roberto I. Rivera (61) - May 16
Emilio Maldonado (81) - April 1	Dalie Delgado (20) - April 23	Ryan Reinke (16) - May 12
Michael A. Feliciano (46) - April 3	Naiome Campos (8) - April 23	Helen Correa-González (50) - May 12
Catherine Rivera (35) - April 5	Raymond L. Cavino (13) - April 25	Alexis Valentín (27) - May 17
Dustin Cavino (21) - April 4	Hayli Frosheiser (16) - April 26	Kirstin Frosheiser (40) - May 21
Wilma E. Roig (27) - April 6	Daniel Campos (18) - April 27	Riley Hargraves (10) - May 22
Marlynn (Merritt) Krause (64) - April 6	Luz E. Sánchez (6) - April 28	Heriberto Rivera (25) - May 26
Tiana J. Rivera (17) - April 6	George Rivera (39) - April 29	Ada I. Rivera (35) - May 26
Ana V. Pettit (27) - April 8	Mirra Noemí Quiñones (2) - May 1	George Nicholson (67) - May 27
Tom Smith (74) - April 13	Nicholas Rivera (22) - May 5	Lucas R. Pettit (26) - May 29
Jayden Daniel Valentín (1) - April 14	Ted Reinke (75) - May 13	Stephanie (Krause) Thompson (35) - May 29
Elieñith Dessus (24) - April 21	Isidro Rivera (93) - May 13	Cristina Cruz (9) - May 30
Emilio Meléndez (57) - April 21		

Anniversaries



Jana and Orlando Rivera (3)
April 12

Carmen (Feliciano) and
Maximino Carrasquillo (37)
May 16

Cathy (Rivera) and
Eric Montalvo (15)
May 24

James and Erika Frosheiser (5)
May 26

Marlynn (Merritt) and
Paul Krause (42)
May 30