

This is an inviting idea from Bill & Mary Ann Vena
Section 11
LA East

A new recruiting tool; it is called the "Fire". Two weeks ago, we had 7 couples scheduled for our February Weekend. We had started our team meetings in December with none, we started brainstorming and dreaming and decided that if we, the team, did not make our Weekend happen, it probably wouldn't. So we started calling couples from years ago who made a Weekend in the 70s and 80's. On the phone, we didn't just ask them to attend the Weekend, we talked for 1/2 hour to each couple and encouraged them, loved them, drew out of them what they wanted for their marriage, and then accepted their YES. We (the three teams) started on a mission of talking, calling, and doing the pulpit talks, and today, three weeks ahead of time, we have THIRTY COUPLES SIGNED UP FOR OUR FEBRUARY WEEKEND. I knew you would all be so excited so we had to share it with you.

Please share the POEM at the end of this letter (it is a poem Bill and I wrote to our teams as our excitement grew and grew). Meeting with our teams two months ahead of time was really the match that lit the fire. That was very important. Our prayers were fervent, our enthusiasm was contagious and away we all went.

Please share at the Section level that we could all have 30 couple Weekends if we, personally, one by one, never stop talking and sharing the gift we received on our Weekend, and most importantly take on the responsibility ourselves of putting couples on a Weekend PERSONALLY. We can not look for the new couples to do it, or other people to do it, or the leaders to do it, or the community to do it, or the bulletins to do it or anything or anyone else, WE HAVE TO DO IT personally.

The New Year has begun, new dreams we will share.
We'll work on our dialogue, and show others we care.

We'll forgive all the hurts and the pains of the past.
We'll give hugs and big kisses, and a love that will last.

We will reach out to others, and be generous and kind.
And we will change our own world, ONE COUPLE AT A TIME.