

**WEDDING SPECIAL**

**Grooms: Get involved without going crazy!**

You've asked for her hand in marriage and she said, "Yes." So, now what happens? Do you just show up at the church at the appointed time and say, "I do?"

No, gentlemen, it has only just begun. You have to get involved, you have to help make all the preparations for that special day.

But, as many people have found out, planning a wedding has often canceled a few. That is to say, planning a wedding is a stressful process that can keep two people from getting married.

Have no fear; we are here to show you how to get involved without going crazy.

First, make a budget and then work on the things that interest you, allowing the bride and her support group to focus on other details.

By setting up a budget and dividing the work, both of you profit by decreasing individual workloads and establishing a

greater sense of agreement through allowing both of you to have input into the details of the entire day.

The first thing to remember is that communication is essential. Always discuss information before decisions are made. When you've written down the information on that stretch limo with the pool in the back and the free champagne, make sure you talk to your loved one before you put down the deposit. She may have been thinking about a classic open air Rolls-Royce to show off her new husband and her beautiful dress. Marriage is all about the joining of two lives, your planning needs to be the blending of two opinions as well.

Perhaps you could also arrange for the punch bowls, tablecloths, tables, silverware and other assorted items for the reception. The tuxedo rentals, of course, are

a primary concern. Be sure to pick the appropriate type of tuxedo and arrange for each of your groomsmen to be fitted. Enlist the help of your best man for this - it makes the job easier.

Your best man may be able to assist you in picking up and then returning the various rental items of the day, allowing you and your wife time to concentrate on other matters.

Teamwork is the key. You are one of two quarterbacks, so you need to decide together the right plays before you call them and see that they are properly executed. The better organized you are, the easier it will be for you to gather all the necessary information.

Above all, keep cool. Nothing spoils a good wedding like an overheated groom or bride. Keep the communication lines open and everything will be just fine.

**Mystic Meadows Event & Conference Center is taking reservations**

Owners, Jamal and Carolyn Ross have brought new life to this lovely Event Center located only minutes south of downtown Colorado Springs along the gorgeous corridor of State Highway 115.

The beautiful and unique Mystic Meadows Event Center is situated in the midst of a 10-acre country paradise surrounded by a charming, white wooden fence.

The scenic outdoor amenities of Mystic Meadows feature several magnificent groves of trees with fields of rolling green grasses surrounding a shimmering pond. Among several stunning settings for wedding activities, the white gazebo offers the

perfect ceremony atmosphere with a picturesque view of the pond and exquisite backdrop of tree covered red rock mountains.

The Event Center's rustic cocktail lounge is connected to the mountain lodge atmosphere of a spacious dining room with full in-house custom cuisine and event planning services available. An attached sparkling white grand banquet hall features soaring ceilings with large windows and skylights designed for receptions, mitzvah's, quinceañeras, conferences and parties. Double doors lead to a large patio expanding the access to the outdoors. Attached at the lounge entrance, a new party deck leads to

the volleyball/ badminton court, horseshoe pits, croquet court and huge outdoor stage and party area.

Jamal and Carolyn also offer limousine services and professional DJ, MC, sound and lighting to complete any event.

Mystic Meadows brings a romantic, warm and cozy ambiance, an elegant but festive environment, a business retreat setting or just the perfect reunion or party getaway event center to Southern Colorado; available 7 days a week! Pictures are available at [www.mysticmeadows.biz](http://www.mysticmeadows.biz). Private tours and reservations can be scheduled by calling 1-866-974-2444.

**Blooming Veils provides the final touch**

Blooming Veils, is where you want to go for that unique look you have been searching for. You can take part in designing your own veil or choose from their large selection of ready-made bridal veils and headpieces.

All of which were beautifully

designed by Linda Quinn. They also carry tiaras. So if you need some advice or even some ideas, just give them a call. You'll be glad you did.

Linda Quinn has over 26 years of experience making veils and working as a bridal milliner for local bridal

shops. Because she operates her business out of her home, she can give you better prices and appointment hours.

Don't buy your veil until you've seen what she can do for you. Trust a professional who cares.

**Traditions of the Lazo, Arras & Padrinos**

When planning the wedding ceremony, brides and grooms often want to honor their families by including symbolic traditions passed down through the generations.

The wedding ceremony traditions of the lazo, las arras and the padrinos symbolize the significance of the union taking place and the inclusion of these traditions keeps the heritage alive.

Many Latino brides and grooms embrace the importance of selecting padrinos to be part of the celebration of their union. When choosing the padrino and madrina for the lazo, the bride and groom

can select a couple whose marriage represents the holiness of the vows.

The padrinos are the witnesses of the new relationship to which the bride and groom are committing themselves.

The two loops of the lazo, adorned with pearls and flowers, are placed around the bride and groom as they kneel.

This tradition reflects that they have chosen as separate individuals to become one in marriage. This represents a greater union of their souls, for the lazo symbolizes a new union and a deeper relationship as wife and

husband. Las arras are a dowry to be presented to the bride by the groom as a symbol of abundance and prosperity to be shared with each other and with others.

These 13 gold coins in a beautiful small box are given to the bride as a gift from the groom during the wedding ceremony.

The padrinos chosen for this part of the ceremony are selected because they have practiced shared abundance in their marriage and with others.

**Sangre de Cristo Arts & Conference Center**

Transform your dreams into reality with the ambiance of the Sangre de Cristo Arts & Conference Center's exquisite surroundings.

With numerous settings to select from, weddings at the Arts Center are truly memorable.

From the beautiful and spacious Jackson Conference Center Ballroom

to a 500-seat theater, from the exquisite fine art galleries and the unique Buell Children's Museum to the lush and naturalistic Jackson

Sculpture Garden, discover a variety of accommodations for guests ranging in number from 10 to 500.

Plus, the center offers personal assistance helping you customize your

event with your choice of caterer.

Call Lorrie Marquez at 719-295-7212 for more information about how the Arts Center can make your day extra special.



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**Cinco de Mayo Issue April 28th**  
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