

AUGUST? ALREADY??!!!!

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by Carol Bower Foote*

Know the feeling? Back to School just around the corner. Pears ripe for picking. The sense of time slipping by like a fast current under still water, as we work toward deadlines, joyfully or dreadfully anticipate or prepare for future events, long for escape from the summer heat. Let's stop for second...take a deep breath...feel our feet on the ground. Let's come together in a moment of appreciation for the life in our veins and the love in our hearts. This is something we can all share. "What can anyone give you, greater than Now, right here in this room, when you turn around?" (William Stafford, poet)

While we are stopped and appreciating, RioVision has a few things to celebrate with you...

Our Hog August Bites community event, benefitting programs for local youth, is shaping up beautifully for August 19th. NOTE! AUGUST 1st is the DEADLINE for entering the rib or chili cook off for a chance to earn "bragging rights", or reserving a food or art/crafters vendor booth! Don't let this go by! Volunteers still needed, too. Applications and information are available @ <http://hogaugustbites.net>. Popular live bands are lined up from noon to 8pm including Senior Edition, Jazz Artistry, Solid Gold, and the Derek Abel Band, with youth-run Radio Rio providing music in the morning and late evening. Over 15 street vendors have already signed up, including Iron Steed Harley Davidson and some returning for their fourth year! Family fun for the kids is also coming together.

Stop a second to notice the bright new bike rack in front of the Bakery on Main St., replacing the one that had been damaged! Then pop inside for something tasty!

Thanks to our volunteers at Riverview Farms who have completed the 12 boxes. Once a gardening shed is built, fruit trees planted and a compost pile started, Phase 1 will be complete. The next phase has been approved and includes developing Bocce courts for use by all. Stay tuned!

THANK YOU to the 20+ citizens who came by the Hwy 12 Diner as potential RioVision volunteers on July 18th for our successful Meet and Greet. Especially exciting were guests new to Rio Vista and eager to engage. Displays and hand-outs were available with pictures and descriptions of what we do, the kind of volunteer help we need, and skills that we're looking for to provide general support for the RioVision non-profit organization, as well as on-going programs, special projects, and events. Board members and program and project leaders were on-hand to answer questions and create dialog. The exchange was lively, productive and energizing, a gift of Now.

On display at the Meet and Greet was RioVision's newly renovated website which is NOW LIVE! Working with the RioVision organization, Deb Popping has brought together information, pictures, and links to create an "easy to navigate", helpful, interesting on-line destination for potential volunteers, sponsors, and community members curious about how we began, what we aspire to, what we do, who we are, and the resources we have. Take a minute to check us out at <http://riovistavision.com>.

After taking a look, you can volunteer anytime to work with RioVision by contacting us @ info@riovistavision.com. "Lift this new glimpse you've found; carry into evening all you want from this day." (Wm Stafford)