

# FALL 2016 discover Rio Vista first



2016  
Rio Vista Bass Festival  
October 7-8-9

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# Boats 'N Bridges

## Potter Yachters Sailing Bridges Tour

By Bud Kerner and Jan Vick Photos by Bud Kerner

There are many bridges crossing the rivers and sloughs of the Delta. Some cross major highways like Route 12 or 160; others span roads that are less frequently traveled. Some bridges raise their decks, while others swing to let boat traffic pass. And then there are the fixed bridges that can only be navigated with small boats.



Rio Vista Bridge



Isleton Bridge



Georgiana Bridge



Three Mile Slough Bridge

Every fall the Potter Yachters, a loosely formed sailing club, spends two days sailing the Delta. Their sail always starts in Rio Vista and ventures either south down the Sacramento River to Three Mile Slough Bridge, or north under the Rio Vista Bridge to towns and brides upriver. The boats are small, ranging in size from 14 feet to 21 feet. They are, however, sailboats with masts as high as 20 feet. This requires that all bridges on the route be able to open. If there is an object to the sailing trip, it is to go under as many bridges as possible in two days.

On the first day of the tour, Potter Yachters encounter several bridges following the northern route. The first bridge on the Delta and the first bridge to

navigate is the Helen Madere lift bridge, known locally as the Rio Vista bridge, built in 1944.

Upriver on the Sacramento River from Rio Vista is the town of Isleton. North of Isleton is a bascule bridge built in 1923 and reconstructed in 1953. This interesting bridge has heavy concrete weights on either end that descend as the bridge deck goes up.

The next community on the Sacramento is Ryde. The Ryde Hotel, which is on the river, has a guest dock and on weekends offers a very nice buffet. During the week there is a full service bar to enjoy. Many years ago the hotel was very popular and had a somewhat scandalous reputation.

Continuing upriver, the next town encountered is Walnut Grove. This river town boasts two bridges within the town limits. The "Sailing Bridges Tour" turns right onto Georgiana Slough just prior to town. The Georgiana Slough Swing Bridge is very close to the junction with the river and opens sideways without raising to let river traffic through. Georgiana Slough winds back south through the Delta and like many of the sloughs there is abundant wildlife and vegetation. The next bridge, and the last for the first day, is the Tyler Island swing bridge, an old bridge built in 1942 that has very little traffic. The Oxbow Marina, a short distance from the Tyler Island Bridge, is a nice place to stay overnight.

On the morning of the second day, continue down Georgiana Slough to the Mokelumne River. Here, there is another bridge that crosses Highway 12, the Mokelumne River Bridge, built in 1942 and rehabilitated in 1978 and more recently in 2015. This swing bridge marks the line between Sacramento and San Joaquin Counties.

Follow the Mokelumne River as it empties into the San Joaquin River and then follow the San Joaquin towards the ocean. On the right is the Delta Loop, where many resorts and restaurants can be found. Past the Loop, where the river makes a turn to the left, leave the San Joaquin river and turn north onto Three Mile Slough heading towards the Sacramento River. Three Mile Slough Lift Bridge is the last bridge to navigate before the end of the sailing cruise. This bridge was built in 1949 and just recently painted and re-decked in 2015-16. Head north for just under three miles back to the Rio Vista Delta Marina and the city launch ramp.

This "Sailing Bridges Tour" includes six Delta bridges, but there are many more to explore. The bridges on the main shipping lanes are operational 24 hours a day year round. The slough bridges like Tyler Island or Steamboat Slough operate from May to October. To get under one of these bridges when they are not manned, call the Rio Vista Bridge and request an opening. Allow a three hour lead time. Cruising the Delta, whether in a sailboat or a power boat, offers a wide variety of vistas, wildlife, and of course bridges.

This year's sail reverses the route described above, so the first bridge encountered is the 3 Mile Slough Bridge. Come to the Rio Vista launch ramp on Saturday morning October 22 at 10:00 a.m. and watch the boats launch on this fun tour.



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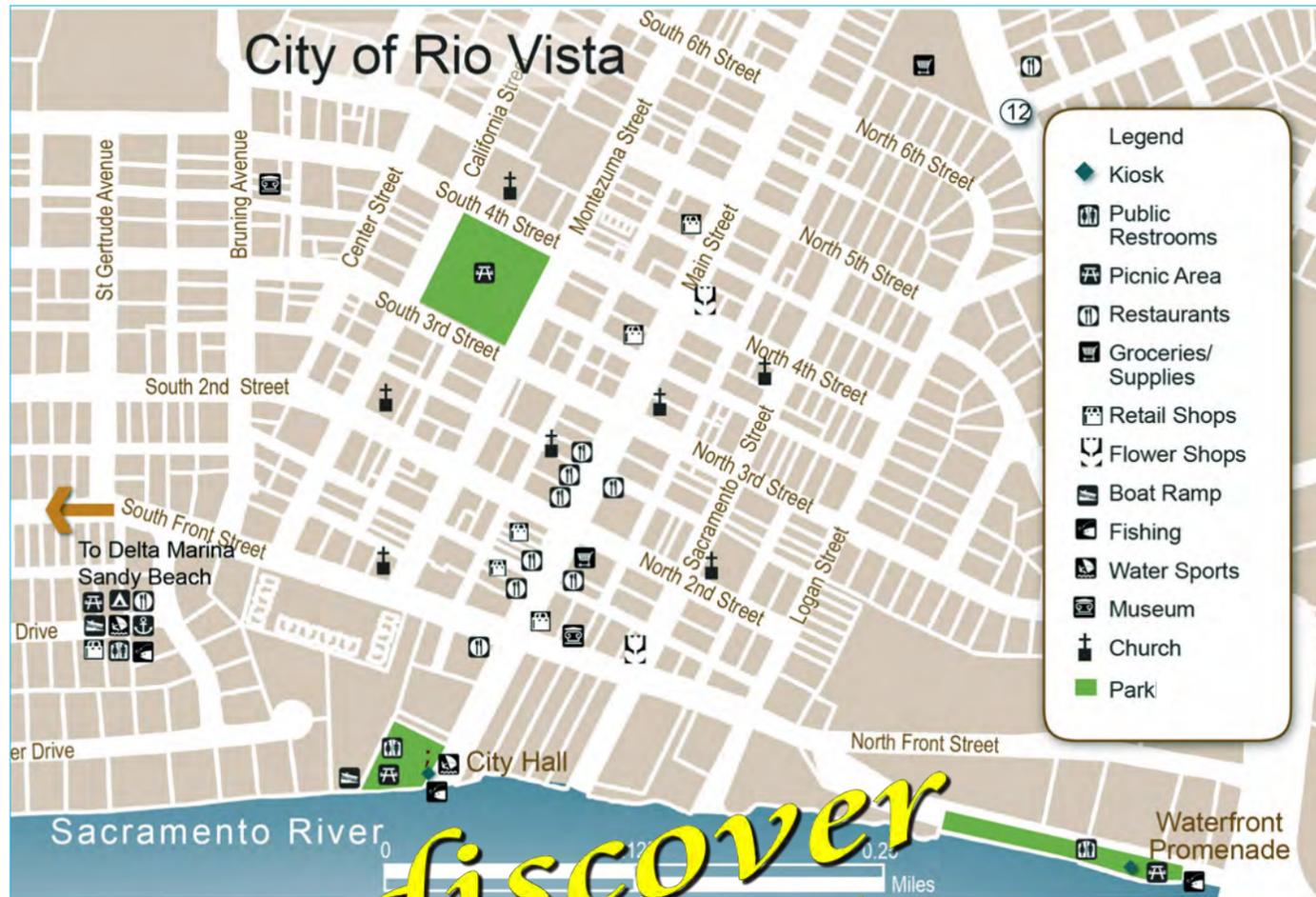
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# New *discover Rio Vista first* Web Site!

The new *Discover Rio Vista* website is up and running! While it's meant to encourage visitors to Rio Vista, there is a great deal of information for existing residents — especially if you're new to town. Check out [www.discoverriovista.com](http://www.discoverriovista.com). RioVision is happy to hear suggestions for improving the site... You can send an email right from the website. The website is a companion piece to this quarterly *Discover Rio Vista* magazine. In fact, many articles from past issues are on the website. The current issue of *Discover Rio Vista* magazine is also viewable on the website.



## *discover Rio Vista first*

*Discover Rio Vista* is a quarterly magazine published by the RioVision Promotions and Communications team that provides information about events, activities and places of interest in and around Rio Vista.

### Fall 2016 Edition

**Editor:** Susan Whitesell  
[tapestrypt@comcast.net](mailto:tapestrypt@comcast.net)

**Asst. Editor:** Jan Vick  
[seawingjan@gmail.com](mailto:seawingjan@gmail.com)

**Advertising:**  
Carolyn Azbell  
[azbellc@ymail.com](mailto:azbellc@ymail.com)  
Laurie Oleksiewicz  
[MinmayInc@aol.com](mailto:MinmayInc@aol.com)

### Writers & Contributors

Nora Crane  
Debbie Dorn  
Monica Gianini  
Linda Jensen  
Bud Kerner  
Teri Malkin  
Noel O'Brien  
Stacia Olson  
Phil Pezzaglia

### Ed Truthan

Jan Vick  
Susan Whitesell  
Robie Williams

### Reviewers

Donna Armanino  
Julie Hartford  
MaryEllen Lamothe  
Laurie Oleksiewicz  
Cyndy Schroeder  
Ellen Weis

### Photographers & Artists

Nora Crane  
Richard Flink  
Bud Kerner  
Diane King  
Teri Malkin  
Doris Noriega  
Noel O'Brien  
Jan Vick  
Susan Whitesell  
Robie Williams

See the *Discover Rio Vista* website at: <http://discoverriovista.com>

For additional information about RioVision see: <http://riovistavision.com> and [www.facebook.com/riovistavision](http://www.facebook.com/riovistavision)

RioVision is a non-profit 501(c)(3) group. Donations are tax-deductible.

**ON THE COVER:** A collage of photographs depicting various activities from the 2015 Rio Vista Bass Derby and Festival by local photographers Richard Flink, Diane King, Doris Noriega and Jan Vick.

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- Find restaurants and lodging, RV parks, campgrounds and more!
- Look here for upcoming events!
- New to town? Check out schools, churches, clubs and more!
- Delve into Rio Vista history here!

Find out more about RioVision, the organization responsible for this great web site and *Discover Rio Vista* magazine.

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# Historic Miyazaki Osento *Charming Japanese Bathhouse*

Story by Susan Whitesell Photos by Doris Noriega

Historic Walnut Grove is just a short drive upriver from Rio Vista. Once you arrive, however, it's easy to imagine yourself in a different culture and era.

Walk the streets and imagine the vibrant Japanese community that once flourished here in the early 1900's. Busy Japanese run shops such as the Kawamura Barber Shop, Ben's Drugs, Hayashi Company and others lined the streets. And the Miyazaki Osento, a traditional Japanese bathhouse, played an integral and cultural role in the community. In it's heyday, co-owner Eugene Phillips explains, "You could have 40 workers or more come through the bathhouse in an evening." Workers arrived, eager to cleanse their bodies, soak tired muscles, and socialize after a long day in the fields. Phillips continues, "The men would take over both sides [of the bathhouse]. Back in the day, customers would all soak together as this is the typical ritual." In the morning, both tubs were used by the women and children and in the afternoons, one tub was used by females and the other by males. (In those days there was a partition between the tubs.)

After Executive Order 9066 forced people of Japanese ancestry from their homes into internment camps in the 1940's, the once thriving Japanese community began to decline after World War II. Left to deteriorate, the Miyazaki Osento was almost lost but for the vision and efforts of Eugene Phillips and Montserrat Wassam, who lovingly salvaged this remnant of Japanese culture in the Delta. Phillips, an expert in Victorian home restoration in San Francisco, purchased the bathhouse in 2002 and worked on the restoration in his spare time until it was finished in 2010. Phillips and Wassam gathered the history of the building from historical documents and photos, talking with local or former Japanese residents in the area, and Sacramento historian Barbara Takei.

Today, enter the Miyazaki Osento, the only functional traditional osento, or Japanese public bathhouse, in the U.S. today. A soothing Japanese instrumental plays in the background. Walk to the left into the light-filled art gallery (formerly a store), where art exhibits change on a regular basis. Currently, hand sewn pre World War II kimonos hang from suspended bamboo, telling an intimate tale of Japanese history. Nearby, nestled in the top drawer of a travel trunk, are letters written to a family while in an internment camp from their neighbors back home. An authentic rickshaw sits in the corner. Displays and artwork aside, it's fascinating to see and appreciate the amazing restoration work done by Phillips, such as the unseen but innovative shear panels that reinforce the outside walls, the unmatched but lovely tongue

and groove overhead and the attractive handicap accessible restroom.

Continue through the entry area (formerly a candy store and preparation kitchen) and step into the bathhouse. An amazing scent of Alaskan cedar delicately entices your senses. It is here that Phillip's loving restoration and Wassam's authentic touch are most apparent. Natural light streams down from two large overhead skylights. A lovely Japanese fresh floral arrangement immediately draws the eye. Once again, Phillips meticulous restoration is evidenced throughout... from the beautiful cedar surround, to the restored tile work (most of which is original) and the arch overhead.



The two tubs dominate the bath. Guests may choose to have the tubs filled with hot and cold water or whatever arrangement they prefer. An assortment of oils, minerals and herbs may be added to the tub. In a traditional Japanese bathhouse the tubs are only for soaking. Guests sit on the wood stool at the low faucet and wash off with soapy water, then rinse using the bucket and ladle or shower head before entering the tub.

A romantic bathing ritual for two immediately comes to mind but

Phillips and Wassam often have as many as eight people use the bath at once. And rather than the wild orgy that might be imagined, guests often wear bathing suits or the light cotton robes from the changing room into the water. Guests head to the adjoining steam room, to "enjoy" temperatures up to 110 degrees (and where the cold water tub becomes mighty enticing).

After each session, the space is totally cleaned and prepped for the next guests.

With a typical "2-hour Soak and Steam" you are warmly greeted by your hosts, and depending on the season, poured hot or iced flowering tea and lychee fruit tea, given a tour of the premises, and an explanation of the traditional bathing ritual. You are also provided water, juices and cut fruit. The entire downstairs is available to guests, where there is complete privacy and the doors are locked. Wassam says, "It's a wonderful experience."

The former family home and boardinghouse upstairs is also available for rental. The space includes small but lovely bedrooms, a charming full kitchen, dining room and old world tea parlor.

For more information about the services, rates and packages offered by the Miyazaki Bath House & Gallery, visit the website at [www.miyazakibathhouse.com](http://www.miyazakibathhouse.com), call (916) 776-4290 or e-mail [info@miyazakibathhouse.com](mailto:info@miyazakibathhouse.com).

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# Historic Dr. Aloysius John McKinnon Home

By Phil Pezzaglia Photos from the Rio Vista Museum

One of the most striking older homes in Rio Vista is the former home of one of the most prominent doctors in Rio Vista's history, Dr. Aloysius John McKinnon. The two-story shingled home with detached garage is located on the corner of South Second Street and Santa Clara Street, across from Riverview Elementary School. More than a century old, the home is remarkably well preserved and the interior retains much of its original detailed woodwork, cabinetry and hardwood flooring. Its many spacious rooms reflect the architectural design of the era while serving two purposes: raising a family and supporting the office of a hometown physician and surgeon.

Aloysius John McKinnon, born in 1870, was a native of San Francisco. As a young man Aloysius, known as A.J., worked for his uncle in the San Francisco lumber firm of MacDonald & McKinnon. A.J. had a much different vision for his future and before long departed from the family business and enrolled in the Medical Department of the University of California. In 1900, Aloysius McKinnon took Mary Elizabeth "Lizzie" Ruble as his wife and the newlyweds made their home in the San Francisco Mission District, until A.J. completed his education in 1903.

In 1903 Aloysius graduated from the distinguished University of California Medical College. The featured commencement speaker was President Theodore Roosevelt. Upon graduation, Dr. McKinnon became a staff member of San Francisco County Hospital. He held this position, until he decided to relocate to Sacramento, where he became associated with Dr. John White, the superintendent of the Sacramento County Hospital. McKinnon remained on Dr. White's staff for the next three years.

During this time, Aloysius and his wife decided to buy property and relocate to Rio Vista, where Mrs. McKinnon's family still resided. On March 14, 1905 Dr. and Mrs. McKinnon purchased four lots, or one quarter of a block, located at the corner of Second and Santa Clara Streets. The doctor bought the land from Felix and Maria Drouin for the sum of ten dollars in gold coin.

Relying on his working knowledge of the lumber business and the type of craftsmanship that he wanted in his new home, Aloysius hired well-respected local builder Weston Campbell to construct his home. Campbell had constructed homes in Rio Vista for some of its most prominent citizens:

Albert Church, Lars Larsen, Jesse Thomas, and James Sullivan, to name just a few. (The Church and Larsen homes were the subject of earlier articles.)

When completed, the McKinnon's home was considered one of the most beautiful homes in town. Erected on lots 1 and 2, lots 3 and 4 were used to create a large yard, the source of much enjoyment for the McKinnon couple. The home had one of the finest gardens in town and both Aloysius and Lizzie enjoyed their hours planting and working in the gardens. The lot across from the home was vacant. The Rio Vista Joint Union Grammar School, as it was originally called, was not constructed until 1918.

When the home was finished and the McKinnon's moved in, the doctor became an associate of Dr. W.S. Makemson in the operation of the Rio Vista Sanatorium. During those early years of the twentieth century, "house-calls" were part of the physician's normal routine. McKinnon made these early house calls by carriage or on occasion by launch, if it was to a home up or down river. With the evolution of the automobile, the doctor was able to make his calls in a much quicker manner. In due course, the good doctor established a private practice in the Christensen building on Front Street. Currently this building is occupied by an accountant. However, being on call 24 hours a day, the doctor also kept an office and practiced medicine in his home with his business sign placed upon the cement wall in front of his entrance stairs.

Besides the medical profession, Dr. McKinnon had a good head for business investments. Through the years he had such diverse business ventures as: organizing and holding the position of President of the short lived First National Bank of Rio Vista (1915 – 1921), investing in the Rio Vista Hotel Company as well as the Ruble McKinnon Pear Orchard, and organizing a local reclamation district partnership in a sloop named "Melrose."

As busy as he was, the McKinnon couple raised five children in the family home: Lewis Ruble, Louise I., Malcom, Donald, and Kenneth. Unfortunately, Lizzie McKinnon's life was cut short in 1916, passing away at the age of 41, preceding her husband's death by seventeen years. After Aloysius's passing in 1933, his son Malcolm and daughter-in-law, Irma (Anderson), moved into the family home. Irma was the last McKinnon to live in the home, residing there until her passing in December 2000. The family sold the home in 2001, after which it has had two owners.



Dr. Aloysius John McKinnon (1870 - 1933)



Mary Elizabeth (Ruble) McKinnon (1875 - 1916)



Dr. A.J. McKinnon Home - 540 South Second Street, 1910

# Fish, Food & Festivities!

## 69th Annual Rio Vista Bass Derby & Festival

By Noel O'Brien Photos by Richard Flink, Diane King and Noel O'Brien

The end of summer marks not only a change in the weather as it begins to cool, but also the excitement and anticipation of the annual fishing derby and festival held in Rio Vista California! This year is the 69<sup>th</sup> annual Rio Vista Bass Derby and Festival from Friday, October 7 through Sunday, October 9, 2016. This Bass Derby and Festival, the longest running derby on the west coast, is the highlight of the year for the city of Rio Vista. Known as "The Gateway to the Delta," Rio Vista's idyllic location on the California Delta is a perfect setting for this challenging but rewarding fishing tournament and festival.

The Festival is a living expression of the Rio Vista community. The Festival is a continuous event, starting with the ribbon cutting and grand opening of the Rio Vista Visitor's Center on Thursday, October 6, followed by a Kick-off Celebration and American Legion Fish Fry. Live music is performed by the well-known and locally established groups, Afterglow and Double Down. Live music continues day and night with performances by The Derek Abel Band, Solid Gold, The Primates, The Desert Moon Band, Livin Daylites, Double Down, and Mobility (from Travis Air Force Base). The music alone is a great draw throughout the Festival.

There's much more... The Fishing Derby starts Friday, October 7 at 6:00 a.m. and runs through Sunday, October 9 at 5:00 p.m. On Saturday, October 8 at 7:00 a.m., the Lion's Club holds their traditional Pancake Breakfast at the Fire Station. The Classic Car Show starts at 8:00 a.m. Saturday on Main Street and Second Street on both sides of Main. For great home-baked goodies, stop by the annual Bake Sale at the Senior Center, next to the Farmer's Market at the end of Main Street. The quaint Bass Festival Parade begins Saturday, October 8 at 4:30 p.m. on Main Street. This year's parade theme is "Hooked on the Delta." And, of course, the Carnival runs throughout the event.

There are many local food vendors offering quality food and drinks during the Festival. Get together with friends to enjoy the variety of food offerings. First-timers to this incredible Festival are in for a treat! Numerous vendor booths offer unique and specialty items from which to choose.

The Rio Vista Food Pantry hosts a huge daily "Catch of the Day" rummage sale. The proceeds benefit the needy right here in Rio Vista. Enjoy fireworks over the picturesque Sacramento River starting at approximately 9:00 p.m. Saturday. The fireworks are a remarkable display year after year that you won't want to miss.

Sunday marks the final day of the Rio Vista Bass Derby and Festival. However, by no means is it a quiet day. The vendors continue to delight the Festival goers; and the Downhill Racers Derby gets underway at noon. Live music also starts at noon with an open mic event later in the day. Then, the Fishing Derby Awards and Ceremony commences at 4:00 p.m.

Now, on to the foundation of the Bass Derby itself... Striped Bass are migratory and return in great numbers to the waters of the Delta from late summer to December, then again in the Spring, while some remain local throughout the year.

Avid fisherman and fisherwoman love the challenge of this voracious and hard fighting game fish.

If you haven't had the

opportunity to fish for this spirited, great tasting fish, seek out one of the many local experienced guides who are ready, willing and able to present you with the first of many fantastic Delta angling experiences.

The Rio Vista Derby also hosts King Salmon and Sturgeon fishing. The King Salmon run continues to be one of the strongest salmon fishery runs on the west coast. Recent efforts by the California Dept. of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) promote continuously greater numbers of returning salmon in the years to come.

The Department, with the assistance of local conservation and sport fishing individuals, releases salmon smolts at the old Army Base next to the Coast Guard Station in Rio Vista at select times. This approach affords these young salmon a greater opportunity to reach the Pacific Ocean to begin their 3-5 year developmental growth and eventually to return to the Delta waterways. The salmon population remains strong in numbers despite the ongoing drought.

Sturgeon, the ancient diamondback denizen of the local waters, continues to thrive and may be increasing in numbers. The

sturgeon can grow to an enormous size – seven feet long and greater. The CDFW has imposed a size limit for those wishing to keep their catch. In the past years it has been 40 inches to 60 inches, anything under or over that size is released to grow and breed. This conservation effort

There are three species of fish in this year's Derby: Striped Bass, Sturgeon, and King Salmon. Derby participants must deliver their fish to the Weighmaster's weigh-in station at the water's edge on Main Street in Rio Vista, by Sunday, October 9 before 3:00 p.m. This event draws a wide range of fishermen and fisherwomen, from beginners to professionals, seniors, children, and all players in between. The competition in various age and skill categories can be fierce. As the Derby continues, the excitement builds as the fish are brought in to be recorded.

A separate youth entry keeps the Derby exciting and fair. For a cost of only \$5.00, youths 15 years and younger can participate in the Striped Bass or Catfish categories. This is a great opportunity for families with children to compete and win prizes. It also involves our youth in events such as this Bass Derby and Festival, encourages the sport of fishing, and opens up opportunities for the next generation to be on the water in this Delta. It is truly an experience to cherish for years to come.

The Derby competition uses a target slot size measurement for the striped bass and sturgeon. This protects the species for future fishing quality and promotes good sportsmanship. The target size is determined at the beginning of the Derby and announced for participants to use as a goal. Instead of going for the largest size fish, the fish that measures closest to but not over the posted size wins. This keeps the large fish in the water to breed and the smaller fish to grow. It takes approximately 5-7 years for a Striped Bass to grow to the legal limit of 18 inches.

The measurement for Striped Bass is from the tip of the nose (mouth closed) to the fork of the tail. Sturgeon have been measured this way for many years; this is the second year for this measurement change in the Bass Derby for Striped Bass.

The Derby runs continuously day and night from Friday, October 7 at 6:00 a.m. until Sunday, October 9 at 3:00 p.m., which is the deadline for the official weigh in and measurement recording. It is a very good idea for those participating in the Derby to review the rules and regulations. Tickets are sold at various locations throughout the Bay and Delta area. Find detailed entry information and a listing of all the ticket locations at [www.bassfestival.com](http://www.bassfestival.com). The Rio Vista Chamber of Commerce at 33 North 2<sup>nd</sup> Street is the main point of contact for information. You can also reach them at (707) 374-2700.

As Rio Vista continues to develop with care and consideration, connecting the past to the present, there is a solid foundation that shows the integrity of the people and the City of Rio Vista as one moving toward the future. This year's 69<sup>th</sup> Annual Bass Derby and Festival is another hallmark to the dedication of the people of Rio Vista. Come and join us as we enjoy one of the great Rio Vista activities of the year.

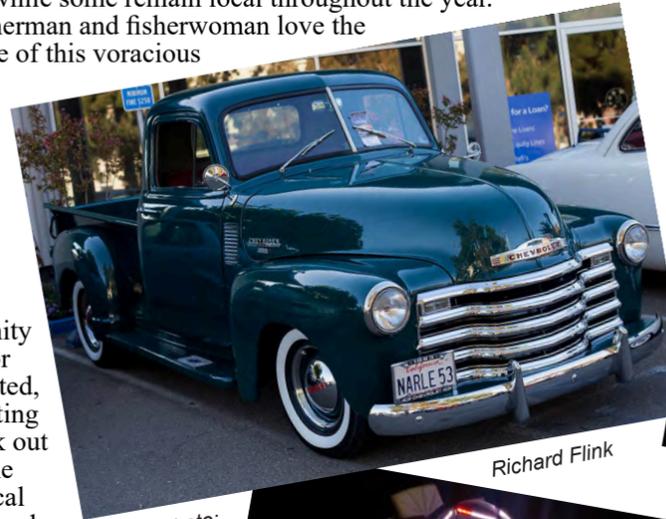


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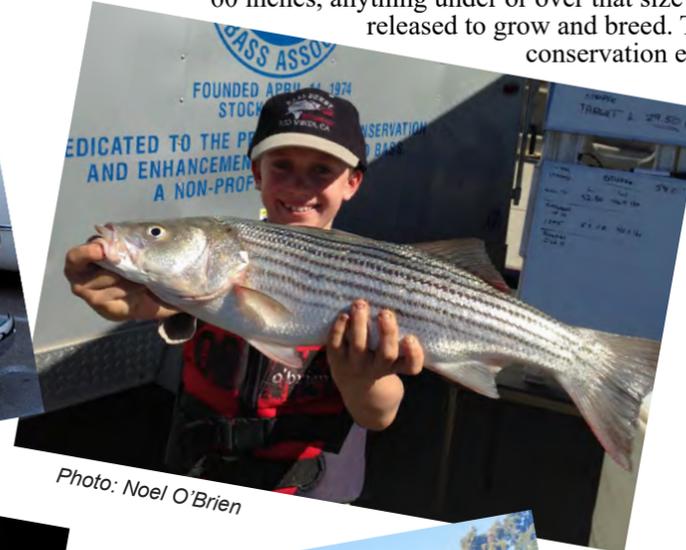


Photo: Noel O'Brien



Photo: Diane King



Photo: Diane King

supports the future of sturgeon recreational sport fishing. These efforts and commitment promote a healthy foundation for the sturgeon in our waters, ensuring

that Sturgeon remains a strong and vital sport fish within the complex waters of San Francisco Bay and the Delta Region.

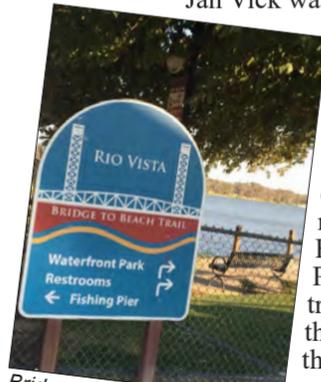
The California Delta is an intricate and multi-leveled ecosystem that affords our community the opportunity to fish in both salt and fresh water – with a combination of both as the tides and currents ebb and flow throughout the system. Add to that the strong winds and inclement weather, making the Delta a worthy challenge to any sportsperson who takes it on. To further add to this challenge, the Derby includes all waters connecting to the Delta from the Golden Gate Bridge to Sacramento and Stockton.

# Bridge to Beach Trail

## A Path With a View

By Robie Williams Contributions by Jan Vick Photos by Jan Vick & Robie Williams

Before starting your tour, delve first into a little history of how the Bridge to Beach Trail came about. Former mayor Jan Vick was part of a “charrette,” an intense period of design or planning activity, which included local citizens, community organizations, City of Rio Vista staff, an architectural firm, and City Council members, who collaborated in 2005 on a walking route from the Helen Madere Bridge to Sandy Beach County Park. Starting with an idea, the trail was planned by volunteers, then built and implemented through a federal grant.



Bridge to Beach Trail Marker

Using the Bridge to Beach Trail map,

begin your tour near the Helen Madere Bridge, winding along the promenade with a view of the bridge, the Sacramento River and the Department of Fish & Game’s Fishing Pier. Stroll away from the promenade where it ends on Front Street to the Gordon Hansen Company building, constructed in the Art Deco style of the time. A little further south on Front Street is the Rio Vista Museum displaying Rio Vista historical artifacts.

Continue up Front Street to Main Street where a right turn leads you to Foster’s Bighorn, a landmark bar and restaurant founded by Bill Foster in the 1930’s. Open the doors to reveal a collection



Foster's Bighorn

of over 300 wild game trophies and old photographs from this avid hunter. Continue up Main Street to the Hotel Rio Vista built in the 1920’s (no longer a hotel), and the Striper Café with an iconic 1950’s neon sign, recently restored to its original splendor. Further north at the corner of Main and Third Streets stands the Windborn Church, built in 1919 in the classic Mission Revival style. Just past the church are two local fire stations serving the Rio Vista community and surrounding foothills. Take a moment to admire

the mural depicting a scene from 9/11 and section of steel girder taken from the disaster site and sent to Rio Vista by the NYFD.

Cross back to the south side of Main Street and head toward Second Street passing the Vista Theater Building, which operated between 1925 and 1974 as a local movie house.

Turn right onto Second Street from Main Street and walk south to view several historic homes along the trail. At the corner of Second and California Streets stands the first apartment building in Rio Vista, where Fraser Meat Market was originally located on the ground floor. Across the

street is Bailey House, considered one of Rio Vista’s oldest homes, built in the 1870’s. On the next corner at Bruning Street is a prominent Queen Anne home built for Captain Larsen and his family in 1897. At Second and Gertrude Streets stands the home of former Senator McCormack, completed in 1902. In the next block, admire the lovely three-story Thomas Home, constructed in 1910. Further down Second Street at the corner of Santa Clara is the classic wood shingled home of Dr. Aloysius “A.J.” McKinnon, currently a real estate office and residence.



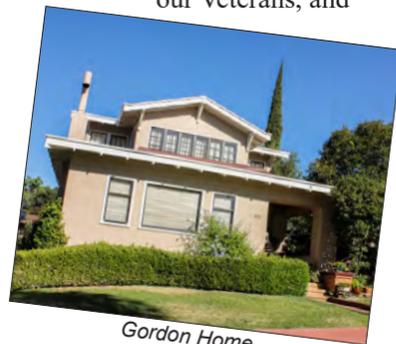
Bailey House



Welcome Rio Vista to the Bridge to Beach Trail

Turn left from Second Street onto Hamilton Avenue past the middle school. Walking back toward downtown, turn left again on S. Front Street. On the left is the Gordon Home built in the 1900’s, and modified with a second story in 1919 by George Gordon, Sr. Farther along S. Front at the corner of St. Gertrude is a small classic Tudor Revival home, a popular style in the 1920s and 1930s. The last house of note is a charming two-story home of Victorian design with decorative brackets and varying paint colors emphasizing architectural details.

From S. Front Street turn right onto Main Street The walking tour ends in front of City Hall where a small plaza includes memorials our Veterans, and



Gordon Home

for the Pony Express, the well-known visit of Humphrey the whale in 1985.

The original Bridge to Beach Trail plans continued on to Sandy Beach County Park. Yet to be completed, you can still get there from downtown by walking or driving about 2 miles. Head south on Second Street, turn left at Beach Drive, past the old Army Base, fenced and abandoned in the 1970’s and the Rio Vista Coast Guard Station, arriving at Sandy Beach Campground. The park is well maintained with clean grassy picnic areas, large RV parking areas, plenty of parking, a large boat launch and beautiful views of the river... and a fence made of driftwood! Well worth the 2 mile walk or drive.

Pick up a Bridge to Beach Trail pamphlet at the kiosk in front of City Hall or print it from the City of Rio Vista’s website at <http://riovistacity.com/images/visitors/WalkingGuide.jpg>. The pamphlet contains pictures, detailed descriptions and information about Rio Vista. Truly, A Path With a View.

# Spotlight On Wood Real Estate

By Ed Truthan Photos by Wood’s Real Estate

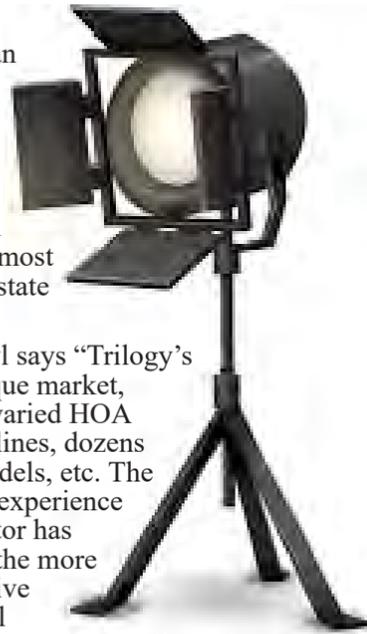
Welcome to “Spotlight On,” your chance to learn about some of Rio Vista’s unique businesses, and the people who own and staff them.

Though the Active Adult development of Trilogy (currently being developed by Shea Homes two miles west of Rio Vista) is considered by many long time residents to be the “new” part of town, it’s now been 20 years – an entire generation – since the groundbreaking occurred in 1996.

With over 2,700 occupied homes and several hundred more still to be completed, Trilogy now represents a whopping half of Rio Vista’s 8,000+ population and is now a maturing tree lined community of individuals from all walks of life and all points on the globe.

Few realtors can boast to have been intimately involved in Trilogy’s growth and development from its inception, but Cheryl Wood, owner/broker of Wood Real Estate, is one of them. Cheryl moved to Rio Vista in 1989 as a newly licensed realtor, and after engaging in a wide host of community involvements, joined the Trilogy developer’s new homes sales team in 1996.

By 2001, with the need for an experienced Trilogy resale brokerage becoming increasingly evident, Cheryl left the builder and opened the first dedicated resale brokerage for Trilogy, Wood Real Estate, now one of the most successful and trusted real estate resources in the community.



Cheryl says “Trilogy’s a unique market, with varied HOA guidelines, dozens of models, etc. The more experience a realtor has here, the more effective they’ll likely be for their clients.”

From a technical standpoint, that makes perfect sense. Cheryl adds, “Due to the age of many residents there are numerous situations that require special care. Those who’ve recently faced the loss of a spouse, decreasing health, or other issues, often experience a great deal of fear and anxiety. Navigating the complexities of selling or leaving their homes often increases that stress. Sensitivity to a client’s emotional needs is critical. Whole families are sometimes involved. It can be very challenging. I’m honored to help make that adjustment as effortless and successful as I can.”

In 2012 Cheryl turned 55, purchased a home in Trilogy, and finally became a Trilogy resident herself. Along with her associate Realtors Chris Boothe and Al Morton (Trilogy homeowners themselves), Cheryl’s team is available 7 days a week to help residents and newcomers alike with all their real estate needs.

“Our clients are our neighbors.” Cheryl says. “That’s what keeps it personal, professional, and rewarding.”



Chris Boothe, Al Morton and Cheryl Wood



A Wood Real Estate listing at Trilogy

For more information visit Wood Real Estate at [www.WoodListings.com](http://www.WoodListings.com) or call (707) 374-3456.

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# 2nd Annual Turkey Trot

## Walk or Run this 5K for a Great Cause!

By Teri Malkin Photos by Teri Malkin and Susan Whitesell



© Can Stock Photo Inc.

The average person consumes 3,000 calories on Thanksgiving. Why not get a jump start on your diet and offset those calories by participating in Rio Vista's 2nd Annual 5K Run/Walk!

The timed 5K race starts at The Gym in downtown Rio Vista. Walk, run or

even trot across Main Street past the tree-lined streets, manicured lawns and historic houses on South 2nd Street. Turnaround at Sandy Beach Park, then head back to the starting line.

Last year over 200 runners and walkers participated on the crisp and sunny November morning, decked out in their Thanksgiving attire and all had a fabulous time.

The proceeds help fund Soroptimist International of Rio Vista's Project Heart & Sole, started in 2014 to inspire middle school students to be confident, healthy and self-respecting individuals. The program promotes leadership and character education while instilling the importance of individual health and well-being through running. Students meet once a week after school for twelve weeks from September to November. The training program consists of 2-3 mile routes around Rio Vista. After each run the group participates in a huddle with community members who cover life skills such as goal setting, nutrition, positive thinking and sportsmanship — lessons that can be used throughout their life. As a goal, the kids participate in five 5K races, ending with the Rio Vista Turkey Trot.

During last year's race the parent of one of the runners commented that the Heart & Sole Project helped his son gain confidence in himself and that running is something he could take with him throughout his life.

Come out and support the kids of Riverview Middle School. Register early for a free t-shirt during the Bass Derby Festival in front of Foster's Bighorn, Saturday, October 8 or at [riovista5K@eventbrite.com](mailto:riovista5K@eventbrite.com). Entry fee for adults is \$25.00 (\$30.00 after November 1) and \$15.00 for youth (ages 13 and under). A \$50.00 award is given to the top female and male runners. Medals are given to the top three in each age category.



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Veterans Memorial Building  
610 St. Francis Way, Rio Vista



Contact: 707-374-6554  
americanlegion178ca@gmail.com  
www.americanlegionpost178.org

American Legion was created by Congress to support US veterans.  
Rio Vista Post #178 is serving veterans and the Rio Vista Community

# Holiday Happenings in Rio Vista!

By Nora Crane, Debbie Dorn, Monica Gianini, Linda Jensen and Stacia Olson

"It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year" is a popular Christmas song written in 1963 by Edward Pola and George Wyle. The song, popularized by singer Andy Williams, comes to mind when contemplating the holiday season in the City of Rio Vista, gateway to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. Events kick off Saturday, December 3 when the Rio Vista Museum hosts their annual Olde Tyme Christmas Faire. Later that day the Main Street Holiday parade marches down to the waterfront Christmas tree lighting ceremony, followed by a lighted boat parade. Enjoy the antique, collectibles, consignment and clothing boutiques along the way and don't forget to stroll the beautiful waterfront promenade.

## Fall Gift, Craft, Art Faire & Jewelry Show

November 19, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.



Photos: Susan Whitesell

Don't miss out on this convenient yet unique selling and shopping experience at Trilogy — just in time for the holidays! Enjoy musical entertainment in the Grand Living Room 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Plus, the Café Vista is open until 3:00 p.m.! Raffle sales and drawings are held throughout the event with all proceeds to benefit Meals on Wheels.

Would you like to receive the vendor registration notice for the next semi-annual faire? Ask Member Services at the Vista Club to add you to the e-mail list. If you have questions, contact Member Services at 374-4200 or Debbie Dorn at [ddorn@actionlife.com](mailto:ddorn@actionlife.com).

## Rio Vista Museum Olde Tyme Christmas Faire

December 3, 10:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
December 4, noon - 4:30 p.m.

Visit the annual Rio Vista Museum "Olde Tyme Christmas Faire" at 16 N. Front St. Enjoy Christmas music and revel in the holiday atmosphere while experiencing our intriguing museum. Local artisans sell hand-crafted items including pottery, ornaments, soaps, wreaths, jewelry,

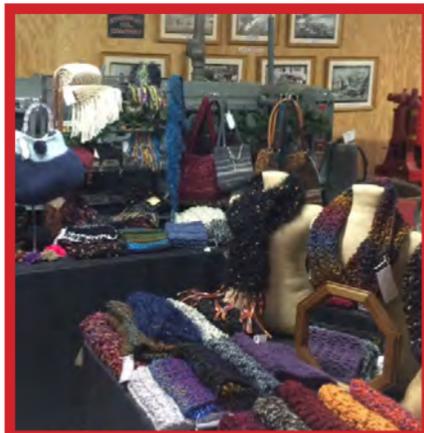


Photo: Nora Crane



Photo: Nora Crane

quilted and knitted items, and local homemade jams and jellies. The popular bake sale features truly scrumptious homemade holiday confections and goodies you can't pass up.

Interested vendors can contact Nora Crane at (797) 334-6191 or [onetwin1960@gmail.com](mailto:onetwin1960@gmail.com).

## Main Street Holiday Parade

December 3, 5:00 p.m.

Is there anything more charming than a small-town Christmas parade? The Rio Vista Chamber of Commerce hosts the Christmas Parade on Main Street in downtown Rio Vista Saturday, December 3. Get cozy with blankets



and chairs on Main St. to watch, or better yet, be a part of this wonderful festive event! Dig out your most garish holiday outfits, dress up your kids, spruce up the dog or deck out your bikes. Better yet, pull together a group of your closest friends to entertain the crowd! Entrants assemble at 4:30 p.m. at Lira's and the parade begins at 5:00 p.m. Parade participation is free. Pick up your entry forms at the Chamber office at 33 N. 2nd St. after October 31. For more information email the Chamber at [info@riovista.org](mailto:info@riovista.org) or call the office at (707) 374-2700.

## Hospice of San Joaquin Tree of Lights

December 3, 5:30 p.m.



Photo: Diane King

The Hospice of San Joaquin holiday tree lighting event takes place at the end of Main Street in front of Rio Vista City Hall. Bring your family to this beautiful ceremony to begin your holiday season. Dedicate a light to remember or honor a loved one by donating at [www.hospicesj.org/treeoflights](http://www.hospicesj.org/treeoflights).

Your donation buys a light for the tree and supports the agency's programs of nursing care and bereavement services for terminally ill patients and their families throughout San Joaquin County and neighboring communities.

## Lighted Boat Parade

December 3, 6:00 p.m.

Enjoy the annual Christmas lighted boat parade in Rio Vista, a magical holiday tradition for all ages, unique to our waterfront community. Sponsored by the Delta Marina Yacht Harbor, the parade began during the 1980s and took a hiatus for a few years, returning every year since the mid-1990s.



Photo: Monica Gianini

Starting at 6:00 p.m., decorated boats depart the marina's guest dock and head north toward the bridge for a beautiful show of lights and music on the water. The boats make a few rounds and head back to the marina for the awards at The Point Restaurant for best decorated boat.

Boats can be seen along the waterfront from the marina up to the public fishing pier and new promenade area. Please allow up to 15 minutes for the boats to get out of the marina and up to Main Street area, as they navigate very slowly and carefully in the dark.

As always, this event is "weather permitting."

# Event Calendar

(Part 1)



Third Thu, 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM

**Third Thursday**

Oct 20, Nov 17 & Dec 15, Downtown

Experience art, entertainment, fun activities and the Rio Vista Museum while leisurely shopping our quaint downtown.

Sat, through Nov 19  
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

**Farmers Market**

End of Main Street at waterfront

Enjoy locally grown fruits, vegetables, artisan baked goods, specialty foods and gift items while overlooking the picturesque



Sacramento River.

Sat, Oct 1, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

**Trilogy Community Garage Sale**

Trilogy, 55+ community west of Rio Vista

Open to the public, this is the biggest semi-annual garage sale in the Delta! Hundreds of houses participate! Furniture, kitchen appliances, yard equipment, clothing, housewares, antiques and more!

Please, there is no entrance to the sale prior to 9:00 a.m.

Thu, Oct 6, 4:30 p.m.

**Visitor Center Grand Opening**

33 N. 2nd Street

It's official! Rio Vista has its very own Visitor Center, a cooperative effort between the Chamber of Commerce and RioVision, located at 33 North Second Street. Join the celebration and ribbon cutting.

Fri – Sun, Oct 7 – 9

**69th Annual Bass Derby & Festival**

Downtown

"Get Hooked on the Delta" at the 69th annual Bass Derby & Festival. Try your hand at the longest running fishing derby on the west coast, enjoy the Lion's Club traditional pancake breakfast and check out the classic car show. Caren on carnival rides, enjoy great food and drink, the quaint parade, and Downhill Racer competition. Rock to great live music throughout the festival while soaking up our small town atmosphere on the Sacramento River.



Fri, Oct 7, noon – 8:00 p.m.

Sat, Oct 8, 9:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Sun, Oct 9, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

**"Catch of the Day"**

**Rummage Sale**

Downtown

Buy all you want with a clear conscience! Browse furniture, appliances, art, kitchen items, tools, sporting goods, jewelry and more! Proceeds support the Rio Vista Food Pantry.



# Event Calendar

(Part 2)



## Sat, Oct 8, 6:00 p.m. American Legion Bass Derby Fish Fry

Veteran's Memorial Bldg  
610 St. Francis Wy, Rio Vista

You may come up short in the Bass Derby Fishing Tournament but you can still have your fish and eat it too! Doors open at 4:30 p.m. with dinner at 6:00 p.m.

**Weekends, Oct 8 – 23  
10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

## Western Railway Pumpkin Patch

5848 State Hwy 12, Suisun City



Photo: Susan Whitesell

Get your Halloween pumpkins, test your strength on the pumpkin launcher, explore a huge hay bale fortress, and spend a great day at the Western Railway Museum Pumpkin Patch! Catch special "Pumpkin Patch Trains" from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Stock up on amazing baked goodies from Soroptimist International of Rio Vista on October weekends 15-16 and 22-23. Admission: Adults – \$14.00, Seniors (over 65) – \$12.00, and Children (2-14) – \$10.00.

**Wed, Oct 19, 7:30 a.m.**

## American Legion 2nd Annual Golf Tournament

Trilogy Golf Course  
1000 Summerset Dr., Rio Vista



Aid our veterans recovery and beyond. Join the American Legion Post 178

for a day of fun and friendship with cash prizes, longest drive and hole in one contests. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. with a shotgun start at 8:30 a.m. \$80.00 per person or \$55.00 for annual members includes lunch, cart, prizes, mulligans and magic putts! Call Walt Jue at (707) 374-3988, Jerry Armanino at (707) 374-2461 or Dick Popham at (707) 374-4701 for info or tickets.

**Thu, Nov 17, 6:00 p.m.**

## American Legion Turkey Trot Dinner Dance

Veteran's Memorial Bldg  
610 St. Francis Wy, Rio Vista



Enjoy a turkey dinner with all the trimmings and dance your calories off afterward! Doors open at 4:30 p.m. and dinner begins at 6:00 p.m. For more info call the American Legion at (707) 374-6554.

**Thu, Nov 24, 8:00 a.m.**

## Turkey Trot 5K

The Gym, 40 N. 2nd St., Rio Vista

Burn off calories and support Rio Vista youth cross country. Visit <https://riovista5k.eventbrite.com> to register or for more info. Adult tickets are \$25.00 or \$30.00 after November 1. Youth tickets, 14 and under, are \$15.00.



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Photo: Susan Whitesell

## Sat, Nov 19, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Fall Gift, Craft, Art Faire & Jewelry Show

Vista Club, Trilogy, 55+ community west of Rio Vista

Don't miss out on an amazing shopping experience at Trilogy! Enjoy great entertainment in the Grand Living Room 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. and Café Vista stays open until 3:00 p.m.! Raffle sales and drawings are held throughout the event to benefit Meals on Wheels.

**Sat, Dec 3, 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
Sun, Dec 4, noon – 4:30 p.m.**

## Olde Tyme Christmas Faire

Rio Vista Museum  
16 N. Front St., Rio Vista



Celebrate the holidays the olde fashioned way at this charming faire selling hand-crafted items by local artisans and home made jams, jellies and baked goods in our intriguing museum.

**Sat, Dec 3, 5:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.**

## Christmas Main Street Parade

Main St., Rio Vista

Small town charm shines as children march in their holiday regalia down Main St. from Lira's Supermarket to Rio Vista City Hall at the end of Main St.

**Sat, Dec 3, 5:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.**

## Tree of Lights

Main St., Rio Vista



Photo: Diane King

The 12th Annual Tree of Lights benefiting Hospice of San Joaquin tree lighting ceremony begins at the end of Main St. Buy your light in memory of or to honor a loved one at [www.hospicesj.org/treeoflights](http://www.hospicesj.org/treeoflights).

**Sat, Dec 3, 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.**

## Lighted Boat Parade

Sacramento River, Rio Vista



Photo: Monica Gianini

**Sat, Dec 31, 6:00 p.m. – 1:00 a.m.**

## New Years Eve Dinner and Dance

Veteran's Memorial Bldg, 610 St. Francis Wy, Rio Vista



Ring in the New Year with glitter and glam while aiding our veterans. For more info call Ron Waite at the American Legion at (707) 374-6554.

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View listings, search for properties, get Trilogy maps and more at:

[www.ShaferRealEstate.net](http://www.ShaferRealEstate.net)