

# Take a Bite Outta This!

## Al the Wop's Wins "Best Burger" Contest

By Susan Whitesell    Photos by Jan Vick

The Discover Rio Vista Spring edition ran a "Best Burger" contest, which played out in unexpected ways. For his contest participation and nomination of Al the Wop's, reader Tom Wardell receives a \$50.00 RV Chamber gift certificate.

It all started with a friendly wager.

A few months ago while leading a tour of the Delta, Barbara Daly, contributor to "The Hidden Delta" series, casually remarked that the Dinky Diner in Clarksburg made

the best burger on the Delta. Discover Rio Vista Editor Susan Whitesell and Assistant Editor Jan Vick took umbrage to this



Second, obviously the Delta is a favorite spot for we bikers, however, given that, to be fair, I've not sampled ALL the Delta establishments which offer burgers, but among those I've tried, the best place so far is clearly Al The Wop's."

Jim goes on to say:

"... if you are so inclined, you can pass these accolades on to Al's crew. That just might help so that when any of us visit there again, they will continue serving their great meals, including their

Best Burgers, in the fun and terrific atmosphere of Al's place, and naturally, also enjoying the pleasure of the charming and historic town of Locke ---- in my opinion, that's definitely an unbeatable combination..."

declaration, citing several venerable burger institutions in the Rio Vista area they thought should have this distinction.

To settle the dispute in a highly unscientific manner, Discover Rio Vista announced the "Best Burger" contest in the Spring 2016 edition, encouraging readers to weigh in on this friendly upriver versus downriver rivalry.

Little did Discover Rio Vista know that the "Best Burger" brouhaha was just about to begin.

An unknown but very creative individual posted information about the contest in Al the Wop's men's bathroom in Locke. (To be absolutely fair, was the contest also posted in the women's bathroom?)

Obviously, burgers are serious business in the Delta!

Here is one of the more creative responses about the contest to Assistant Editor Jan Vick from reader Jim Chakedis.

"Hi Seawing Jan,

Shhh, don't tell anyone, but I got your email address off the scraggy chalkboard in the restroom --- such as it is --- at Al The Wop's on Main Street in Locke.

Not only was your email address on the wall, but whomever wrote that also scribbled there that they wanted folks like me to tell you who we think serves the Best Burger in the Delta. Well, before I tell you my favorite I probably should make a couple of confessions to be fair in this burger fight to the finish.

First, I'm somewhat prejudiced about Al's as I've been enjoying their repast for almost 50 years now. That goes back to long before they even began serving their tasty burgers with grilled bread... how's that for dating myself.

It turns out that many Discover Rio Vista readers agreed with Jim. Al the Wop's, and specifically their cheeseburger, is the clear contest winner.

### "Best Burger" Contest Results

Al the Wop's	22
Burgerlicious	8
Spindrift	5
Lucy's	3
The Point	3
Hwy 12 Diner	3
Tony's Place	3
Outrigger	3
Peters Steakhouse	2
Dinky Diner	1
Wimpy's	1
Sir Flair's	1
Moore's Riverboat	1

**Total (12 restaurants)      56**

Whether or not these results are due to Al the Wop's bizarre bathroom post, er creative advertising, is anyone's guess.

Discover Rio Vista encourages you to take a bite outta a few of these nominated Delta burgers and decide for yourself!