

discover Rio Vista

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.

Contact Laurie Oleksiewicz at MinmayInc@aol.com to place an ad or reserve space for a subsequent edition.

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Summer 2015 Edition

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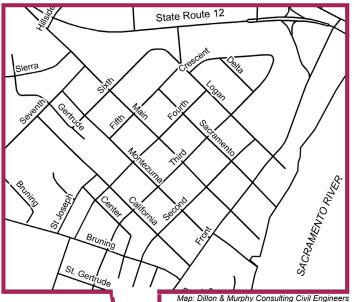
For additional information about RioVision: http://riovistavision.com www.facebook.com/riovistavision

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ON THE COVER: Photographer Lori Makabe used her SPL housing to capture this image at the Dirty Water Classic held at Sherman Island County Park.

Downtown Rio Vista

Welcome to the City of Rio Vista, "the Gateway to the Delta." Rio Vista is located in the heart of the California Delta on the Sacramento River. Visiting us is as easy as a short drive, a flight into our airport or a cruise to our city dock or Delta Marina. Rio Vista is located on State Route 12, about 15 miles from Interstate 5 and 25 miles from Interstate 80.





This
100 km (61 miles)
round trip tour
from Rio Vista
starts with a ferry ride
and takes you on quiet
levee roads through classic
Delta landscapes to the town of
Clarksburg, home to 400 people and
no less than ten wineries.

Start your tour from 2nd and Main
Streets in Rio Vista. Heading east toward the
river, turn left on Front Street and continue under
the bridge approach to River Road (Hwy. 84) where
you turn right. Look for signs here that tell you if
the ferries are running. Continue along the bank of
the Sacramento River, past several industrial sites
including Dutra Dredging, to the Real McCoy II Ferry
(2.8 miles from start). This ferry runs every 20 minutes
and is one of only 2 ferries operated by Caltrans. There
is no charge to take it across Cache Slough to Ryer
Island. The other ferry, the J Mack, was not operating
at the time this article was written, but is scheduled to
be back in service at the end of June 2015 and goes
from Ryer Island to Grand Island.

From the Real McCoy II Landing on Ryer Island, turn left heading north on Ryer Road, which is narrow and winding, but very lightly traveled. At mile 7.7, Route 220 goes off to the right and takes you across Ryer Island to the J Mack Ferry. Our route, however, continues north on the levee road (still designated as Hwy. 84). This is quintessential Delta scenery, with the slough and scenic islands on your left and rich bottomland on your right, where the current trend toward converting cropland and orchards to vineyards is evident. At mile 10 is a large grain processing and loading complex, no longer functioning but testament to the region's agricultural past.

At mile 12.6, stay on Hwy. 84 as it turns left across the Miner's Slough Bridge onto Prospect Island. You can take a .9 mile diversion here by staying left and departing Hwy. 84 for a short jaunt to Arrowhead Harbor, a boat launch and small marina that has portapotties, water and picnic tables. Upon returning to Hwy. 84, continue north (left) off of the levee and onto bottomland and a straightaway that turns right onto Courtland Road. At mile 20.5, turn left onto Jefferson Blvd. and continue 2 miles then turn right onto Netherlands Road. Enjoy a very scenic ride through a shady lane with a canal, passing Heringer Estates Winery at mile 26.2 and into the town of Clarksburg.

Pass the
Delta High
School (mile
27.8) and continue
through the small town
until the road rises to meet
another levee road, S. River
Road. You are now on the west bank
of the main channel of the Sacramento
River.

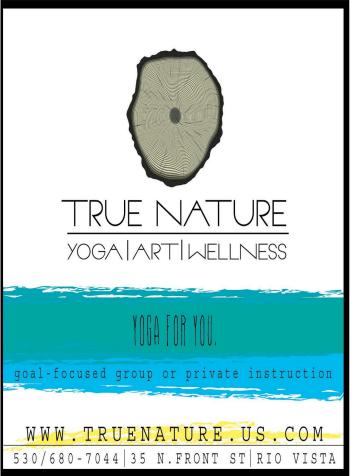
At this junction (mile 28) is a building marked on the side, Husick's Hardware and General Store, in existence since 1890 and originally built as a shipping center for local produce of all kinds. It now houses a BBQ and tap house with 14 handles of draft beer, including local microbrews, and local wines plus barbeque selections served Thursday through Monday from 11:00 AM to 7:00 PM. They gladly prepare a take-out lunch to enjoy at one of the local wineries. Katherine Van Diest, the proprietor, has a wealth of information about the amazing little town that still houses the oldest Boy Scout lodge in the West. She reports that Clarksburg expects to have a bike shop opening in June, 2015.

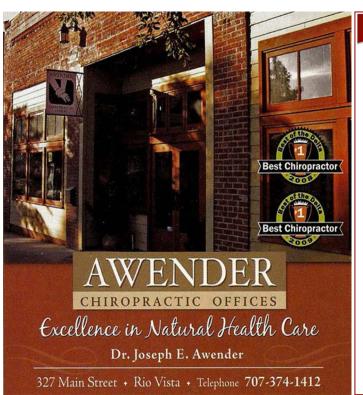
A short jaunt to the south of town takes you to Bogle Vineyards, the 11th largest wine producer in the U.S. Head south on S. River Road for .8 miles, turn right onto Road 141, then left onto Road 144 along Elk Slough to the winery (mile 31). The tasting room here pours samples without charge, and the grounds have picnic tables and chairs under large trees.

The safest return route is to backtrack. There are many lightly traveled roads that can eventually get you back to Rio Vista, but avoid Hwy. 160 as it is heavily traveled.

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Delta Delights in Summer

By Pamela Hayes Photos by Susan Newberg

The Delta delights in summer. Enjoy the leisurely lifestyle, admire the river, watch the boats and scenery, take walks, go fishing, and enjoy good food. Many Delta restaurants feature live entertainment and dancing on the weekends, especially in the summer! There is plenty to explore on the Delta. Most of these places are easily reached by either water or land. Therefore, you can choose to go by yacht, small recreational boat, bicycle, motorcycle, or just hop in your car or RV and drive.



Peaceful harbor

A good place to start your exploration is the Delta Marina in downtown Rio Vista off South Second Street. This is a full service marina complete with fuel, gift shop, boat ramp and service center. There is also RV parking for overnight stays. Dining at The Point Restaurant provides stunning views of the river and the Rio Vista Bridge. The food is consistently good and there is live music and dancing on Friday nights.



The beginning of the Delta Loop off Highway 12

Begin your Delta Loop tour in Rio Vista on Highway 12. Drive east until you come to Jackson Slough Road

and the Delta Loop. Many places can be found on the Loop, and something is bound to catch your interest.

Turn right at the old boat and follow the road to the levee. Turn left onto Brannon Island Road where you find Owl Harbor, Bruno's Island, and Island Time Marina. Continuing on, you see Delta Bay Marina and Campground, operated by KOA. As you round the corner you are on the San Joaquin River.

Down the road is the Spindrift Marina, restaurant, ship store and mobile home park. The inside of this restaurant is decorated with old ship hardware complete with a helm wheel, nautical compasses, model ships and rigging. Enjoy karaoke on Sunday afternoons as well as live music some weekend nights.



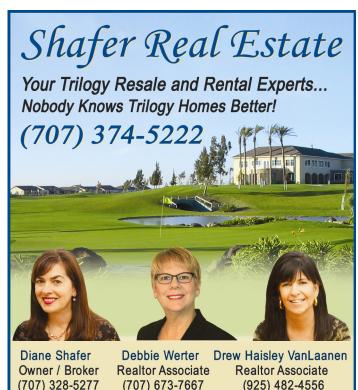
Korth's Marina

On the way to Korth's you see some nice houses. Korth's Pirate's Lair is another marina with a little café, gift shop, fuel and launching ramp located on the Mokelumne River owned and managed by the third generation of the Korth family. Originally purchased in the fall of 1931in hopes of using it as an asparagus farm, it is now a recreational marina and mobile home

Moore's Riverboat Marina, with its restaurant and courtesy boat docks, allows you to tie up and eat on the balcony while taking in the scenery. Moore's is actually a floating restaurant because it is part of the dock. They also have good food, live music and dancing on the weekends.

After passing Willow Berm, a private marina, next

See Delta Delights, Page 14



121 Montezuma St. Rio Vista, CA 94571

www.ShaferRealEstate.net

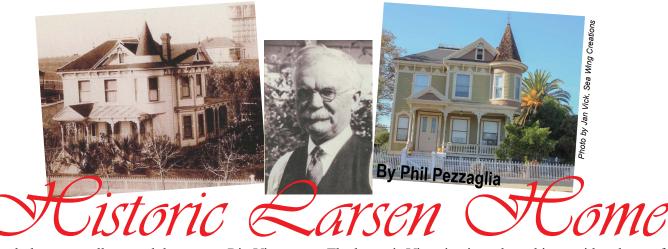
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You only have to walk around downtown Rio Vista to notice the many beautiful older homes that line the historic streets of town. Each of these homes has its own history, built upon those individuals who either built or lived in the houses throughout the years.

One of the finest and most recognizable homes in Rio Vista is the 118 year old Larsen House, located on picturesque South Second Street. To get a real sense of the style and design of the house, you must learn first about the man who contracted to have it built to fit him and his family's needs.

Lars Peter Larsen was born on July 11, 1855 on the island of Laeso, in Denmark. At the age of fourteen he boarded a sailing ship as a helper. With determination and a love for the sea, Larsen gradually worked his way up from the lowest position in the kitchen to captain of Sadie F. Caller, making trips to the South Pacific and Alaska.

After visiting California, Larsen found the 31st state to his liking and decided to stay, accepting a captain's position on Twilight, which ran from San Francisco to Monterey.

Married in 1885, Captain Larsen and his wife Annie arrived in Rio Vista in 1887. Shortly after arriving he purchased half of the lumber company, changing the business' name to Sullivan & Larsen.

In the 1893 vote to incorporate Rio Vista, Larsen was elected town Treasurer by a landslide, with 82 votes, and held this elected position until his death in 1924. Larsen was also one of the founders of the Bank of Rio Vista, serving as bank president from 1904 to 1920. Lars Peter Larsen passed away in 1924 at the age of 69. Larsen's legacy is the fine Victorian home that he built on the corner of South Second Street and Bruning Avenue.

The home is Victorian in style and is considered one of the most beautiful homes ever built in Rio Vista. The property covers one quarter of the block, containing a beautiful yard with a barn and carriage house. The small outhouse still stands under the trees near the rear of the yard.

The home was constructed in the fashion of the day: brick foundation, wood framing, and lathe and plaster interior walls. Larsen hand-picked all of the lumber for perfection and, having amassed a certain wealth, purchased the best that money could buy.

The interior wood work is constructed of all redwood with beautiful hand painted graining, floors are hardwood with decorative feature strip trim, and the fireplace is Italian marble. First floor rooms have 13 ½ foot ceilings while second floor rooms are approximately 12 ½ foot.

The interior of the home has changed very little since its construction over a century ago. One very unique feature of the interior are several original pieces of furniture that Captain and Mrs. Larsen purchased. Each owner since has let those pieces remain with the home as it changed hands.

Noteworthy exterior items are the "widow's walk" atop the home, the Queen Anne corner tower and the carved decorations on the verge boards under the gabled

After Mrs. Larsen's passing in 1952, her son Arthur sold the family home to Floyd Hardwick, an engineer. The Hardwick's sold to Dr. Robert Bader, a local chiropractor, in 1964 and they in turn sold it to the current owners, the Shafer's, in 2005.

After 118 years, the home still remains one of the most beautiful and recognizable historic homes of Rio Vista and a legacy to its original owner.



It is that time again to enjoy the incredible winds and weather of the Rio Vista waterfront on the Delta. Rio Vista's strong thermal winds of summer make it a premier spot for windsurfing. This summer's Rio

Vista Grand Slam event held from July 10th - 12th is a revival of events held in past years during the earlier heyday that brought the first wave of windsurfing enthusiasts to the Sacramento/San Joaquin Delta area. The stiff and steady summer winds in this lower Sacramento River

location provide that sizable chop and swell that windsurfers love to find.

Now there is a new generation of windsurfers who are learning from their

more experienced elders and are ready to join them as they hit the waves, show their stuff, learn new tricks and develop their acrobatic skills. This event will draw a wide range of windsurfers, from the pros through beginners, seniors to children, with competition in various age and skill categories. There will be plenty of room for spectators and fans to observe this outstanding windsurfing presentation.

The competitive windsurfing events as well as the many demonstrations will introduce the sport to

> those unfamiliar with this most exciting of wind/water sports. Windsurfing is performed on a large surfboard with sail attached, and demands the knowledge and skill of both sailing and surfing. Even the best of windsurfing pros are continually learning new skills and tricks as they travel

> > the international circuit of great windsurfing sites in Maui, Hood River Oregon, and the San Francisco Bay and challenges within the sport create an



to watch. Windsurfing is also a demanding sport that requires stamina, strength and an ability to push endurance levels.

riovistagrandslam.com

The Grand Slam will feature speed, slalom and freestyle events, the latter being held close to shore which will allow spectators a really good view as

participants execute jumps, inverted loops, spins and other freestyle moves. The event will also include an introduction to racing for young kids who will get a chance to try their skills at rounding up a couple of

buoys near the beach area.



riovistagrandslam.com

Located at the Sherman Island Regional Park at the western tip of that island, there is no admission fee to come and watch the event. There is a parking fee inside the park. Parking outside the park along the levee is free. Tickets for

the dinners on Friday and Saturday night can be purchased at Delta Windsurf and Watersports shop, located on Sherman Island Road just off Hwy. 160, and at the event headquarters in the county park. Saturday night's dinner will feature live music by the Sloggin' Johnsons, a raffle and an auction with great prizes. The schedule of events will continue to be updated based on the number and categories of participants, and on weather conditions. Check the website at riovistagrandslam.com for updates and more details at: riovistagrandslam.com. This event offers you an opportunity to experience firsthand the sport of Windsurfing.



Sales

Lessons

Rentals



3729 West Sherman Island Rd. Rio Vista, CA 94571 916-777-2299



info@deltawindsurf.com www.deltawindsurf.com

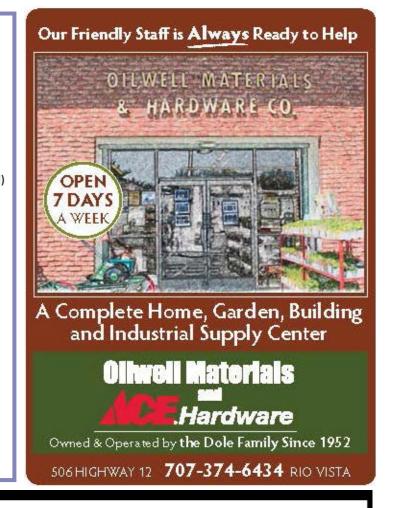


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25 South 3rd Street, Rio Vista (707) 374-6491 www.richards-realestate.com



By Linda Jensen

Rio Vista CARE will be rounding up fun and funds at "Round Up for CARE" on Saturday, August 8, 2015. Beginning at 4:00 PM at Veteran's Memorial Hall (610 St. Francis Street in Rio Vista), "Round Up for CARE" guests will enjoy wagon rides driven by Danielle Simpson and her World Class Simpson Percherons.

Lively western music will be provided by the RV5's and Dennis and Renee Souza. Dinner will be delicious barbeque, western style, catered by Texas Roadhouse from Fairfield. Scot and Erin Byers, local square dance teachers, will bring the VacaValley Ramblers for a square dance exhibition, and then, brush off your dancing shoes because you'll be invited to join the fun! Silent and live auctions will feature unique and beautiful items to tempt every cowboy and cowgirl in the crowd. You'll have a chance to win a raffle prize or buy a Lucky Horseshoe to receive a mystery gift or a gift certificate from a local merchant.

Rope your Early Bird Tickets before July 15, 2015 for only \$40 (or \$75 for two). Or, buy a "square" (a table of 8 tickets) for only \$250. To order, call 707-374-5243 or come to the Rio Vista CARE offices at 628 South Montezuma Street (corner of Montezuma and 7th).

All proceeds from this event benefit Rio Vista CARE, the only non-profit Mental Health Counseling and Family Resources Center serving youth and families of the Lower Sacramento Delta. This is CARE's major fund-raiser for the year, so pony up your support for this vital organization.

This year, Rio Vista CARE celebrates 30 years of service to children, adults and families in Rio Vista and the surrounding Delta communities. CARE has served over 12,000 children and families with professional counseling, PALS mentoring program, grief interventions, parent support groups and youth programs. The Family Resource Center provides families with assistance in obtaining health insurance. coordinating community services, budget planning, translation services, and more. New referrals are received weekly and scarce funding has resulted in waiting lists for these vital services.

Tequila Y Mas

By Hector De La Rosa

On Saturday, July 25, 2015, the Rio Vista Rotary Club will hold its third-annual Tequila Y Mas event. The event will be held at Rio Vista's Trilogy community in the Delta Club at 990 Summerset Dr.



Photo by Rotary Club of Rio Vista

The tequila tasting event will highlight various artesian tequila brands and foods from local restaurants. More than a night of sipping, "Tequila Y Mas" will be a learning experience; a night of expanding one's knowledge and palate about a product that is growing in popularity, interest, and market share in the spirits industry.



Photo by Rotary Club of Rio Vista

Experience the history of tequila manufacturing, the unique aromas, tastes, and finish of each brand. Tequila's flavors come from the harvesting of select Blue Agave plants at their prime, capturing the sweetness and earthiness of the high and lowlands regions in which the agave is grown. With each sip of the different profiles (Blanco, Reposado, Anejo, & Extra Anejo) you will taste distinct flavors of citrus. fruit, spices, honey, vanilla, butterscotch, pepper, and oak. These tastes come from the process used to make tequila as well as the barrels (oak, bourbon, whiskey) used to store the tequila.

See Teguila Y Mas, Page 14

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Spotlight On By Laurie Oleksiewicz Photos by Monica Giannini

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



Owner Walt Stanish

After almost 12 years Walt Stanish, moved his Pets 4 All store from Brentwood to Rio Vista in the Fall of 2010. He decided to open at 167 Main Street, Rio Vista after many of his Brentwood customers retired to Trilogy at Rio Vista, a 55 plus retirement community.

As boy in Michigan, Walt was always bringing home a variety of animals for pets. One day his mother had had enough. She told him, "Don't bring home any more animals. When you get older and can afford them you can have as many pets as you want." At 16, his first job was in a pet shop. With his love of animals,

working with them in a retail setting clicked. All grown up, he is now living his dream.

And, as Walt said, "None of this would be possible without all of our faithful customers and the friends we've made along the way."



A pet looking for a home

What sets Pets 4 All apart from other pet stores is: First, they carry lines of merchandise and products not available in the big box stores. Second, they can special order most products they don't stock from one of their many vendors. And third, they can answer most pet care questions from their years of experience. Their motto is

"Where Pets Always Come First."

Then too, there's Walt's personal touch. "We are not here just to stock the shelves. We know how important our customers are and especially how important their pets are to them."



A satisfied customer

Walt and his Pets 4 All staff listen to what their customers want and will continue to adapt their services and products to fit their customer's needs.

Their business plan when moving to Rio Vista was to add a low cost vaccination clinic, full style dog grooming, bird boarding and doggie daycare. With the completion to their back-yard they intend to carry out that plan early this summer when Doggie Daycare makes its official debut.

Stop by to say hello, view the assortment of supplies for cats, dogs and every pet imaginable. While there you might consider the assortment of birds and fish looking for

a friendly home. Pets 4 All carries many for you to choose from.

Hog August Bites Gearing Up

By Robert McGahey & MaryEllen Lamothe



The town of Rio Vista will close Main St. on August 22nd for a street party like no other. "Hog August Bites" is a full day of events from 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM with a rib and chili cook-off, live bands, a 1970's classic car show, and a Soap Box Derby. To insure no one goes without their favorite snacks, vendors and food trucks will also be there.

Hog August Bites is free and open to the public, although there is a small charge for tasting the rib and chili entries.

A local fund raiser, Hog August Bites originated in 2013 when four friends in Rio Visa decided to showcase downtown Rio Vista with a rib and chili cook-off. The following year they forged ahead signing sponsors, service clubs and convincing friends to do the cooking. An engaging name, "Hog August Bites" along with excellent publicity resulted in an outstanding event attended by 4,000 people.

One of the organizers, Robert McGahey, owner of Foster's Bighorn, said, "We want this to be a family event where everyone has a great time."

Funds raised from "Hog August Bites" last year went to Rio Vista youth groups such as Sister Cities, Baptist Youth Group, the 8th grade Washington D.C. trip, Youth Basketball, Rio Vista Lady Ram Softball Team, Rio Vista Sharks Swim Team and more.

Other Hot August Bites sponsors include: Montezuma Fire Department, Rio Vista Tire, Rotary International, Rio Vista Sanitation, Woodward Drilling, Williams Mobile Service, City of Rio Vista, Bank of Rio Vista and many unnamed business and donors who generously donated their time and talents to the community.

For more information on the event go to the website: hogaugustbites.net or contact Robert McGahey, 707-374-2511 at Foster's Bighorn.

Trilogy Art Guild Annual Show

By Lori Azzolino

Trilogy Art Guild (TAG), located in the retirement community in Rio Vista, sponsors a juried art show August 9th from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM. The juried show is a presentation of artwork from Trilogy residents, featuring original artwork in oil, acrylic, watercolor, pastels, collage, photography, pottery and more by talented Trilogy residents. Framed, student art, loose prints and original pieces are on display in separate areas of the show.



John To 2014 Best of Show Award

Work is judged by an outside group of experienced artists, with awards going to first, second, third and honorable mention places. In addition, guests attending the show are asked to vote for the "People's Choice" award, and to meet and talk with the artists.



Henrietta Ellen LaVaccare 2014 People's Choice Award

Trilogy residents and invited guests may attend the Opening Reception Saturday, August 8th from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM at the Vista Clubhouse, 1201 Clubhouse Drive. The public is invited to attend at no charge on Sunday, August 9th from 11:00 PM to 3:00 PM. A raffle drawing is announced between 2:00 PM and 3:00 PM on Sunday. Refreshments will be served.

Tequila Y Mas

From page 11

A Blanco represents the purest form of the tequila spirit – clear and typically un-aged, where the true flavors and the intensity of the Agave are present. A Reposado is typically aged in barrels from anywhere between 2 months and less than a year. Reposado Tequilas are also referred to as "rested." An Anejo is aged for one year or longer. The Anejo aging process darkens the Tequila and the flavors can become smoother, richer, and more complex. Lastly, an Extra Anejo is aged for more than 3 years and in some cases longer than 11 years.



Photo by Rotary Club of Rio Vista

Rotary, the world's first service club, was founded in 1905 by Paul Harris with the goal of fellowship and friendship. Rio Vista Rotary began in 1953. Fast forward to 2013, a Rio Vista Rotarian wanted to share his joy of a spirit – Tequila. The concept: to introduce and educate people about the refined spirit that has long been negatively associated with hangovers. The goal was to have a fundraiser showcasing tequila. The "Tequila Y Mas" event continues to grow in attendance since its inception thanks to tequila brand attendees such as Oro De Jalisco, El Llano, Partida, Don Pilar, Gran Dovejo, Manana, Aroma, Peligroso, and many others. The funds raised by the Rio Vista Rotary Club are used for scholarships to graduating high school students. Cumulatively, the Club has raised over \$10,000 dollars which has provided 13 students with scholarships ranging from \$500 to \$1,000 dollars.

Tickets are available for \$35 per person or \$40 at the door. Tickets can be purchased in Rio Vista at Foster's Bighorn, the Delta Dollar Store, Books RioV, and Pets 4 All. To have tickets mailed to you or available at "will call" email Rotaryofriovista@ gmail.com or leave a message at (707) 374-5042.



Delta Delights In Summer From page 5

comes the Lighthouse Resort and Marina with vacation rentals and an RV Park. They also feature a restaurant and kayak rentals.

As you round the far end of the loop, you come to Delta Shores Resort Marina. They have an RV campground and courtesy boat dock.

You can find both boat slips and a haul out yard at Perry's Marina. B & W Resort has boat docks as well as cabins for rent and a small bar/restaurant. This is also known as a really good fishing spot!

Though not on the loop, Sherman Island is south of Rio Vista off Highway 160 at the end of 3 Mile Slough Bridge and left onto Sherman Island Road. Boaters can tie up at the Outrigger Café dock and enjoy the pleasures of the Delta from their deck. There is also fuel available. Sunday afternoon is karaoke time here. They also have great specials on the menu and excellent clam chowder.

The Delta is one delightful adventure in summer. All you have to do is venture out and take advantage of the Delta's great beauty and many attributes.

Events Calendar

Saturdays, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Farmers Market

Main Street Between 2nd & 3rd

Enjoy locally grown fruits, vegetables, artisan baked goods and foods while overlooking the picturesque Sacramento River.

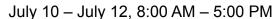


Third Thursday, 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM

Third Thursday

July 16, Aug 20 & Sep 17, Downtown

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



2015 Rio Vista Grand Slam

5147 W Sherman Island Rd

Windsurfing competition is back at Sherman Island! Consistent thermals in the summer make it an ideal spot for slalom, bump & jump and freestyle. The Rio Vista Grand Slam includes a variety of races for pro's. recreational sailors and the next generation (kids)

including: Slalom, Freestyle and Speed. Adding to the fun, a selection of brands will showcase their newest gear and provide demo's.

Saturday, July 25, 6:30 PM – 9:30 PM

Tequila Y Mas 990 Summerset Drive

Taste various artisan tequila brands and delicious foods from local restaurants and expand your knowledge and palate about this unique spirit at this event sponsored by the Rio Vista Rotary.



Saturday, Aug 8, 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM (Trilogy) Sunday, Aug 9, 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM (Public)

Annual Trilogy Art Show Vista Clubhouse, 1201 Clubhouse Drive

Enjoy a juried art show featuring professional works in oil, acrylic, watercolor, pastels, collage, photography, pottery and more by talented Trilogy

residents. The event



Lori Azzolino 2014 Second Place Award

kicks off with a Saturday night artist reception for only Trilogy residents followed by a Sunday afternoon show open to the public.

Saturday, Aug 8, 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Round-up for CARE Veterans Memorial Bldg, 610 St Francis Way

Join in an entertaining evening of Western fun... dinner, wagon rides, music, singing, square dancing, raffle and auctions sponsored by Rio Vista CARE.

Saturday, Aug 22, 10:00 AM - 7:00 PM

Hog August Bites

Groove to Rio Vista's retro downtown, taste rib and chili cook off entries, rock to live music, shop craft booths, ogle vintage cars, and cheer on an old fashion soap box derby while raising money for local youth groups at this family friendly event.



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