



RIO VISTA MUSEUM NEWSLETTER

www.riovistamuseum.com

January 2026

Message from Museum President Peter Hamilton

Happy 2026! Last year the Rio Vista Museum celebrated its 50th anniversary, and we look forward to our next 50 years. The Museum continues to be an important resource for people wanting to know about the Rio Vista area.

For the last few years, the Museum has been undergoing a number of repairs. A few years back we fixed a drainage problem alongside the building. This past year we repaired the roof and replaced the skylights. It's nice to not have to worry about leaks from a big rainstorm. Also, the new skylights provide a lot more light to the middle room. We still have repairs we need to make regarding the siding of the building, as well as some general cosmetic improvements. I would like to thank our building manager Josiah Tingey for all the work he does to keep our building in shape.

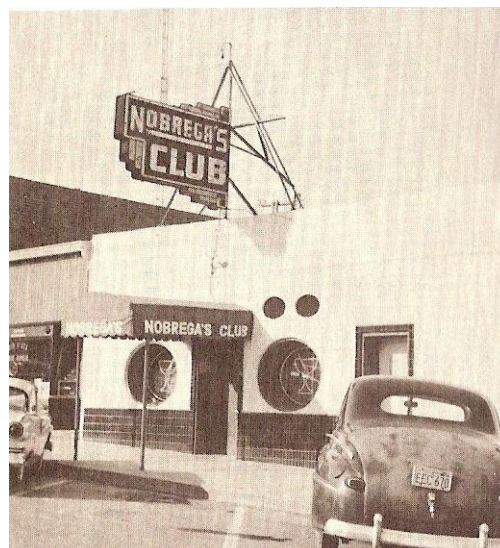
Our annual meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 28, at 6:30 with a social at 6:00. Please come and bring a friend. This meeting is open to the public. Our program will feature the Museum's curator Phil Pezzaglia, who will be speaking about the Rio Vista Library, and how it has served our community. You can always count on Phil to have a number of unusual facts and anecdotes. The Rio Vista Library has been an important part of our community for many decades. As many of you remember, a person used to sign her or his name on a library card when checking out a book. I always liked to see who had read the books I checked out, or in the case of the dinosaur books, how many times I'd checked a book out compared to my friend Martin.

If you can't make the January meeting, please come visit us some other time during the year. We are open on Saturdays and Sundays from 1:30 to 4:40 pm. If you have a group that needs a place to meet, consider the Museum. Just this past year we have had several service clubs and social clubs hold a meeting at the Museum. If you have a group that would like to visit the Museum during the week, we are happy to work to make that possible.

Enclosed you will find a membership envelope. Thank you for your continued support of the Rio Vista Museum. The Museum operates almost entirely on donations. Your giving makes it possible for us to preserve our community's past.

We are always looking for photographs!

Do you have any old photographs of Rio Vista? People, houses, businesses, inside or out. We would love to see them and scan them. You do not have to donate them to us. We can scan them and return them to you and your family. Thanks!



The Rio Vista Museum

A Place of Community

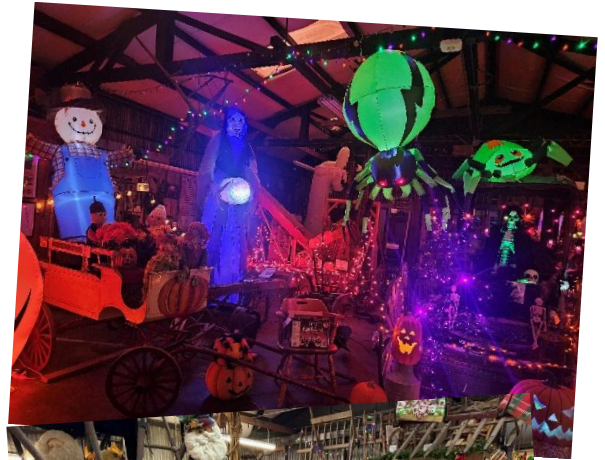
Community. Community is a word we hear often, and it is something that I believe many of us strive for – a sense of belonging, to a place or a social group or a set of values or a cause. Some find a sense of community in their church or their civic organizations or their workplace.

The Rio Vista Museum has always endeavored to be a place of community. In recent years, it has truly achieved this goal. Anyone who visited this year's Old Tyme Christmas Faire experienced the warm, welcoming feeling of community. This was the 17th annual event which celebrates local artisans. Thank you to all who contributed baked goods to the always popular bake sale. The vendors contribute wonderful items for the vendor raffle. There is the popular Christmas Tree raffle, and this year we had a Christmas Quilt raffle.

The annual Christmas Faire is not the only event at the museum that evokes this sense of community. The popular Hamburger BBQ is an event that goes back even further. As more people choose to take their hamburger plates to go, this feeling of community has diminished somewhat, but with our new location at the Congregational Church, that spirit of community is making a comeback.

And there are newer events that have quickly become popular and anticipated. These include the Mad Hatter's Tea Party and our Halloween celebration. If you have not experienced the Museum Halloween transformation, make sure to visit next year. You do not have to have a young one to visit.

The next event will be our annual membership meeting on Wednesday, January 28th. This meeting is open to all, and we will have wine and goodies. Phil Pezzaglia will be speaking about the Rio Vista Library. Come help us celebrate the beginning of the next 50 years and enjoy a sense of community. — *Suzanne Goldberg*



Upcoming Events



***Check us out on social media ---
Facebook, Instagram and our
riovistamuseum.com website***

When you renew your Museum membership, perhaps you will consider renewing at a higher membership level or maybe you can include an extra donation. Help preserve Rio Vista's history.

Memorials

On behalf of the Rio Vista Museum, we would like to thank those who have made a memorial donation in the past year in honor of their loved ones.

The following were so honored during 2025:

Tony Correia
Dolores Kroutch
Alma Robinson
Robert Weber

Trivia Answers: 1) (a) Lira's (b) Burglarious (c) Ace Hardware (d) Lucy's; 2) Family Feud; 3) Jack London; 4) Super Bowl (with the Denver Broncos, losing both times); 5) A ship hit the Rio Vista Bridge; 6) It was destroyed by a flood

Come on down the rabbit hole for our 6th Annual Mad Hatter's Tea Party at the Rio Vista Museum. Don't miss out on this fun event. Raffle prizes, photo booth, games and delicious food. Saturday, April 18th at 11:30 a.m. Tickets are limited, so act fast! For tickets or information, contact Renee Tingey at (707)374-8455, Dana Lapp at Rio Vista Muffler, (707)374-2484, or Melissa France at (707)564-3303.



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Renee Tingey	Jeanette Williams
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**Phil Pezzaglia to Speak at
Annual Membership Meeting
Wednesday, January 28, 2026
Pressley Vineyards Wine Tasting at 6:00 p.m.
Meeting at 6:30 p.m.**

Come to the museum to enjoy a program with our very own curator and font of Rio Vista knowledge, Phil Pezzaglia, and to elect the 2026 officers and board members. Phil will be talking about the Rio Vista Library.
All are welcome.

**MORE
TRIVIA**

- 1) What are these former Rio Vista businesses now called?
 - a. Don Quick
 - b. Food Farm
 - c. Oilwell Materials
 - d. Jessen's
- 2) In the fall of 1980, Rio Vista Judge Don Balding and his family appeared on a national game show for 5 days in a row. What was the game show?
- 3) What native California writer of adventure novels spent time in Rio Vista and the Delta in the early 1900s?
- 4) What national sporting event did Rio Vista High School grad Tim Lucas twice play in?
- 5) What happened on the foggy night of January 15, 1967?
- 6) What happened to the first Rio Vista?

[Answers on p. 3]