



# THE Rio Rotarian

If you don't read the newspaper you are uninformed;  
if you do read the newspaper you are misinformed.

~Mark Twain



Wild California Poppies

## Welcome

- Pres. Jon calls us to order. We pledge, pray, and Gene leads us in "Country Roads" modified to include Rio Vista, Mt. Diablo, and Sac. River.

## Our guests

- We greet our speakers, Jacob Blanchard and Ed Butchas.

## Treasurer's report

- \$30,787–Charitable; \$4,770–Regular.

## Late arrival

- Tom K. spins wheel, pays \$5.

## Golf Committee report

- Patty & Hector report that applications are ready. Patty says get your gift baskets in, or she will make one for you. Value should be ~\$50. Remember, this is a separate item from your team's donation to the live auction.
- Hector reports on total expense to run the tournament versus entry fee. Your editor's take: we assume lots of risk versus expense. We need to sellout PLUS bring in substantial revenue from live and silent auctions plus Ball Drop.

## Camp Royal

- Molly says Camp will be on Zoom, this year due to pandemic.

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## Confessions

- Patty says she and Jay travelled to Albuquerque, NM, last week to aid Jay's ailing 97-year-old mom. They assisted in admitting her to hospice care. While out of state, they took the opportunity to visit Taos.
- Eddie returned from an extended road trip throughout CA and NM resembling a grizzled prospector from the Old West. While on the road, again, he paid a visit to Jim Lira who was in, of all places, Palm Springs. He also enjoyed Yuma and Tucson, and he pays \$50 fine.
- Eddie has graciously assumed the eminent duties of being our Program Chair. Thank you, Eddie! Welcome back.

## Interact Club



Tuck Forbes Colin Lira Kayla Delk Fisher Lyon Jorie Forbes



Lacey Myer Sophia Saldana Sam Esperson Jessica Mingay John Peterson

- Jorie Forbes says the prom will go on! It's scheduled for Juniors and Seniors, although lower class members may attend if space in quad permits.
- Kayla Delk touts Art Auction for Art Club.
- Fisher Lyon notes it may be possible to hold All Star Game.

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- Tuck Forbes says RVHS will start Intramural Sports.
- Sophia Saldana reports that A. P. testing starts.
- Colin Lira remarks that only 5 swimmers attended recent meet.
- John Peterson says Boys team wins.
- Sam Esperson reports that Baseball team will play Vs. Edison Stockton, next Tuesday.

### Zoomers

This morning Leon, Gary, and Gil (and maybe others) attended via Zoom. Leon sent Bob a special "conference mic" to help Zoomers hear our voices better. Bob relocated his computer/mic to see if that also would help.

### Program

Derek "the Cub" Abel presents Jacob Blanchard and Edward Butchas, Directors of the Wildlife Companions Tiger Sanctuary, located in the nearby Montezuma Hills.

This amazing facility serves as a retirement home for tigers who's lives were spent as professional entertainers while living in captivity.

Running this establishment is a labor of love for these two gentlemen. Their entire motivation is to provide a really great place for these beautiful animals to thrive and enjoy their retirement, living at ease in a peaceful and comfortable environment.

Jacob describes the history and the challenges of operating the facility, which is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization. Some of the tigers end up there due to owner's neglect. The facility boasts its own fire engine plus 50,000 gallons of water tanks



SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

Reporter: Patty Huyssoon

Editor-Publisher: Bob Bard

(cont'd. from below, left)

to fight area wild fires. Infrastructure rehabilitation is constant, due to wind damage and trees toppling onto fences and structures.

Unlike other cats, tigers like to play in water, so the facility obtained 16 tomato tanks and uses them as "swimming pools" for the big cats.

The facility also seeks donations like forklifts, outbuildings, a kitchen, as well as technicians such as plumbers, HVAC techs, solar panels, etc., to carry on its work.



Above: Mutt and Jeff duo, Jacob Blanchard-Markow (left) and Edward Butchas, discuss the Tiger Sanctuary in the Montezuma Hills.

Depending on donors and volunteers, the 168-acre facility is being renovated. It's been a non-profit for 21 years, and is certified by the AZA (Association of Zoos & Aquariums.) Jacob does IT consulting, and his wife farms eggs. Facility is not licensed to exhibit animals. There are 3500 tigers left in the wild. Computers select mating of captive tigers.

John donates \$25 to Interact.

### Marble Draw

Gil has lucky ticket, but unlucky marble.

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