

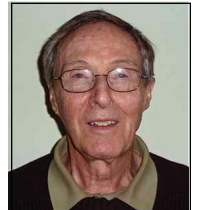


"One person's trash is another person's treasure" Mt. Diablo Recycling Center

# THE RIO ROTARIAN

Proudly serving Rio Vista, CA, USA, RI District 5160--Since 1953

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Bob Bard, Ed



I told ya, we run a squeaky clean shop.



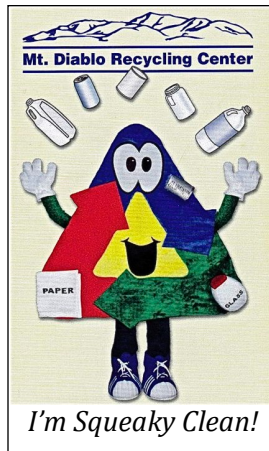
Lee, Bob, Edwin, Gary, Dan, Hector, Evelyn, Sue, Tim, Jim Hale & Derek.

The lunch was free...and GREAT!

Kudos to Rio Vista Sanitation and Mount Diablo Recycling Center for an artful, informative, inspired presentation and a fantastic meal. Gary Lazdowski, Operations Manager, along with his cohort, Sal, hosted our club to a wonderful trip to scenic Pittsburg, CA, aboard a luxurious coach, where we were treated like the VIP's that we were.

There, nestled amongst a jungle of commercial and industrial buildings, we were introduced to one of the largest recycling plants on the west coast. The cavernous building, which was formerly owned and operated by Continental Can Co., now hosts a state of the art separation and baling facility that processes 200 tons of material per day. Each bale weighs about 1,500 pounds, and the plant makes 240 of them every day it operates. Each aluminum bale contains 13,000 cans. That's a whole lot of beer, folks.

Upon arrival, Gary and Sal conducted our group up to a large conference hall boasting huge picture windows on one wall which provided a panoramic view of the entire operation. The plant was shut down, today, which no doubt provided a much more quiet and relaxed atmosphere for dining and conversation.



I'm Squeaky Clean!

The presentation was educational!

Our hosts, Sal and Gary, demonstrated that they really have a handle on their operation. Quoting facts and figures and passing out tables, charts and graphs, we all got a thorough lesson in the art and science of recycling.

Gary stated that Rio Vista is conforming well with green waste recycling requirements that will not even go into effect till 2020. But, he said, that's due to California Vegetable Specialties' contribution of spent chicory roots, and there's still a lot more we could be doing. The green waste that we now dump in our local corporation yard containers is often hauled to wood chip processors by Gary's company. It ends up as bark chips that we all put in our gardens.

The Center separates and bales cardboard, aluminum cans, plastic and glass. Tires go elsewhere to be ground up for playground materials. Our hosts discussed cogeneration and anaerobic digesters to produce natural gas. Most materials go to China and Viet Nam, but glass and aluminum stay here, and 40% of our waste stream gets recycled.

The machinery is fully automated with few break downs due to rigid maintenance procedures.



The cuisine was exquisite!

**COMING ATTRACTIONS**

DATE	SPEAKER/EVENT	PROGRAM CHAIR
Friday May 2	Golf Tournament—no regular meeting, today	Evelyn Wilson
Friday, May 9	Pam Donoghue—Wheelchair Project	Walt Stanish
Friday May 16	First Five Solano—monitoring the first 5 years of childhood	Linda Lannon
Saturday, May 17	All GM Car Show—Abel's	To be announced
Friday, May 23	Don Beno, Superintendent, RDUSD	Harvey Felt