

VALLEY BROADCAST

May 2021 Update

A Question with No Easy Answer

When can we return to the Club Pheasant? Good question, no easy answer. Sure, most of us have been vaccinated and we're seeing life getting back to more-or-less normal: dining out, sporting events, gyms, live music family reunions ... But we're still not there yet when it comes to venues like the Club Pheasant being allowed to welcome large groups in an indoor banquet room where social distancing is impossible. Your VBL board is hoping we'll be back at the Pheasant in October, but there are no guarantees. In the meantime, our June meeting will be via Zoom, and we're considering an outdoor picnic-in-the-park for August, assuming we can reserve a city or county park by then. Anyone got a really big backyard?



Coming Attractions—June 10

Our June Zoom meeting will feature former astronaut and Stockton native **José M. Hernández.** A classic American success story, José is the son of migrant farmworkers who went on to earn a master's degree in electrical engineering. After a career at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, he was accepted by NASA for the Space Shuttle program. José was part of the crew of STS-128 in 2009 and among his many distinctions, was the first person to send a tweet in Spanish from space.

Read more about José's remarkable career in the June VBL newsletter. In the meantime, thank you to Legend **Rich Ibarra** for suggesting this terrific guest!

Good Times at the April VBL Zoom-fest

It started with a time zone SNAFU and ended with a chicken joke—and in between, we had 90-some minutes of good times at our April 8 VBL Zoom gathering. What started as a potential bummer—a mix-up over time zones with guest **Steve Kornacki** of NBC News—turned into a classic case of "the show must go on." Steve apologized profusely and instead of appearing live, answered a set of pre-recorded questions posed by our resident political insider, **Steve Swatt.** We also paid tribute to Sacramento's own **Joey Mitchell**, who had just retired after an amazing 51-year career in local radio. The last of the old-time zany radio DJs, Joey provided plenty of laughs. We came away both informed and entertained.



Watch for your next full newsletter arriving on June 1