

Contest winner announced



Alfons Schfer is the winner of the word search puzzle contest and his subscription to the *Byte* has been extended a year. Congratulations Alfons! We thank everyone who entered — 13 of you! The answer was “CARAWAY”.

It has been decided to publish the puzzles monthly, but a “contest” will only be held once each quarter starting in January. So this month’s puzzle is practice — then you’ll be ready for January.

Are YOU ready for winter ??

Leo Chaloux

Looks as though winter is finally getting here. Some of the mornings are getting kind of cold and even producing some frost on the ground and slippery conditions on the roads. Now, with the coming of winter and the knowledge that before things get better they will get a great deal worse is the time to start doing a little planning. We have been very fortunate as there has not been a real significant snow storm in our area in several years. In fact the last several ones although they were rainy were rather warm winters.

The last real good snow storm occurred in 1990. That storm deposited about 2 feet of snow at the Fire Station and about 4 to 5 feet at the east end of the District around Log Cabin Lane. The storm started late Thursday evening and really dropped a lot of snow early Friday. The snow was so deep by Friday morning that many people could not get to work due to the roads being covered by several feet of snow.

For the entire day of Friday the snow continued to come down becoming a major inconvenience for everyone on the hill. By the time Saturday came and the storm had dropped another foot of snow the inconvenience for many had turned into a hardship for some. I was surprised at how many phone calls we received at the Fire Station requesting all kinds of help. During the winter it is not uncommon for the fire department to respond to 10 requests for help in a month. From the Friday morning until Tuesday morning when it became possible for some people to get out to town we received over 120 calls for help.

These calls were varied with some becoming very immediate due to medical problems and others as easy as making sure people were home when their family from out of the area could not reach them due to down power and phone lines. We did several searches and rescues as people would leave their stuck vehicles and simply start walking away not knowing where they were going. Fortunately, no one was seriously hurt, no ones house caught on fire, and everyone eventually survived the experience. In talking to some of the long time residents of this area I was told that this one storm use to be a fairly common event and that we have not really had a serious winter storm come through here in over 40 years. That kind of makes me think we are about due.

“...how many people on this hill are prepared to handle an event that could knock out the power and phone systems, the transportation routes, and even food supplies for a period of two weeks.”

I have found that surviving an experience and learning from it are two different things. I am wondering how many people on this hill are prepared to handle an event that could knock out the power and phone systems, the transportation routes, and even food supplies for a period of two weeks. These events such as, winter storms, wild land fires, power grid problems, the year 2000 computer programming problems are all possibilities. For an event to last two weeks is also a strong possibility, in fact the time frame could be longer.

With the storm in 1990 several things really surprised me. One was the number of people who called the fire department two days into the roads being blocked telling me they were out of food. With this storm occurring on a Friday many people were not able to get their paychecks and purchase their groceries. With not being prepared they were out of food in less than two days. Many people did not know how to store their foods thawing in their refrigerators. Fortunately, being a winter storm they could put them into ice coolers and store them outside in the snow. Many people found themselves without



heat due to no electricity to operate their central heating systems. Some were not even able to get to their fire wood supplies as they were covered in snow or became too wet to use. People found their pellet stoves useless without electricity and they had no battery back up for them. Some had not purchased or could not find their gas lanterns for light and a few did not have any fuel for them. Those on wells soon found themselves without water and no ability to melt snow. My greatest surprise in all of this was the numerous individuals who just had to get to town regardless of how blocked the roads were with snow, down power lines, blown over trees and the biggest problem being stuck and abandoned vehicles on the roads.

For me this one event was a learning experience and I know when it happens again, and that is a guarantee, my life will be a little difficult for a period of time but not impossible. What I learned and what I suggest is that everyone living up here needs at least a two week supply of food for each member of their family, a month supply would be even safer. Drinking water should also be stored or a back pack water filter system be purchased. Those family members who require certain medications should have at least a two week supply if possible. A Coleman lantern and Coleman stove are extremely valuable and with enough fuel to last at least two weeks be kept in good condition and available for immediate use. If the only heating source is propane and it is dependant on electricity to work, then considerations for a generator should be made. A wall furnace with a pilot light could be installed and used as a back up source. All fire wood supplies need to be covered and available. Contingency plans for your entire family need to be considered, discussed and implemented.

All in all we need to realize the process of living should include many experiences, with some being great and others being difficult. We need to plan for the negative experiences and when they occur handle them. One thing that seems to be somewhat prevalent in our society is the attitude that government or some public agency will take care of "everything." The reality is that government and public agencies can only take care of "most things." We all need to be responsible first to ourselves, to our families, and then to our community. If we are capable of taking on that responsibility than the next bad thing that happens will just end up being another one of those experiences we all live through.

Operation Strobe Light

Call toll free to schedule delivery of your free strobe light 1-877-OSL-4-LIFE (1-877-675-4543)

Charting our future

Mosquito Community Action Plan
Kerri Timmer

Hi! My name is Kerri Timmer and I have the privilege of working with you, the residents of Mosquito-Swansboro, on an action plan to help guide the future of your community.

I wanted to take this opportunity to introduce myself and let you know what will be happening over the next few months as we work together on this project.

The overall goal of the project is to evaluate existing conditions and — based on your input regarding your needs, desires and vision for the community — recommend potential actions and alternatives to achieve your goals.

I'll be developing a survey, with MVFD and SCPOA's help, which will be sent out to all residents in early January. We'll be asking everyone to fill out and return the survey to give us information on how you view your community, what your strengths are, and areas where you believe Mosquito-Swansboro could use some improvement.

Once we get the surveys back, we'll host a series of town hall meetings in March and April to present the results and brainstorm ideas together. The process should be complete by the end of April or early May.

I may be calling on a few of you individually for more information. If you have any questions for me or information you'd like me to have, please don't hesitate to call me at 530-273-7329 or e-mail me at kvttimmer@oro.net.

I look forward to meeting you all as we work together on this project!

Christmas Baskets

LaVonne Moser



Each year we provide assistance to those in the Mosquito/Swansboro Community who may need cheering up at Christmas time. Your help in providing canned goods and monetary donations will be greatly appreciated. Donations may be taken to the Fire Station by December 16th. If you know of anyone who may be in need this time of year please contact Leo at the Fire Station. Call LaVonne at 622-6337 if you have any questions.

VET CLINIC

Dr. Lisa Couper will be at the Fire Station on Sunday, January 3, 1999.

Kudos to the Fire Department

To the Mosquito Fire Department

Our family would like to thank each member of the Mosquito Fire Department for the great job they did in protecting our home during the fire on Oct. 6. We had just celebrated our one year anniversary for moving to Swansboro. This house is quite the historical landmark. Most people refer to it as the ranch house or the big white house when giving instructions on how to get around Swansboro. To our family is it 'Home'. It is the place where we will raise our two daughters, make our memories and retire someday. Because of your dedication to this community and the great job you did on Oct. 6 ... We still can!

The Chapman Family

AND

On Sunday, October 25, 1998, one of our worst fears came true when a fast moving brush fire threatened our home. We would like to give a BIG thank you to Officer Smith and the men of C.D.F., the crew from Growlersburg, our neighbors Greg and Dorothy Gardiner and Sally Long-Johns. Most of all we would like to express our heartfelt thanks to our Mosquito Fire Department. WHAT A TEAM!!

We were very fortunate not to sustain any damage to our property due to the swift action of our firefighters and the fire was extinguished within two hours. Fire Chief Leo Chaloux came to our house the day after the fire to make sure everything was fine. Thank you Leo for that "personal touch".

We very much appreciate the hard work of these men and women. Our community is most fortunate to have them looking out for us!

Thanks again,

Michael, Wanda and Brett Edson

SCPOA Board meeting date changed — and nominations needed

There will be a regular Board of Directors Meeting at the Fire Station at 10 A.M. on Thursday December 10, 1998. The meeting has been rescheduled to this time because of scheduling conflicts. An agenda will be posted in the usual places by the 6th of December.

At the annual SCPOA membership meeting in February 1999, we will be voting to fill four openings on the Board of Directors. The nominating committee is currently seeking residents who are able to devote the time required and can commit to serving for two fiscal years, March 1999 through February 2001. If you are interested in being a candidate, please send your resume to SCPOA, 6770 Sluice Street, Placerville, CA 95667.

Georgetown Christmas Bazaar

Hazel Smith

Georgetown Divide Health Care
Auxiliary Christmas Bazaar

Saturday, December 5th 11:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
IOOF Hall, corner of 193 and Main Street,

Georgetown

Profits from this bazaar go to the three fire districts on the Divide which includes the MVFD. Please donate baked goods of all kinds including home made bread. Jellies, jams and pickles are always welcome too. Please label items and package them in non-returnable containers and deliver them to the Fire Station by 9:00 a.m., Saturday, December 5th.

Craft sale a success!

Sharon Hern

Our first date of November 7 & 8 was rained out at High Hill. We were given a space for the next weekend, November 14 & 15. We had an extremely successful weekend, even though we almost froze to death. Saturday sales were \$575.90 and Sunday sales were \$234.10 for a total of \$810.00 for the weekend. On Sunday when we arrived to set up for the second day, some of the other craft people came running over to see what new items we had for sale. All of this would not have been possible without all of you who have supported the Craft Projects by coming to our Craft Workshops and all of you in the community who have made items at home and donated them to us. Everyone who took the time to ask "where in the world is Mosquito or is there really a place called Mosquito", were given a glowing report on the location of Mosquito and what a wonderful community we live in. Believe me there are a lot of people who now know there is a place called Mosquito.

Because of all of your support, we have made \$1556.40 on the 2 Craft Sales and \$368.50 for the Donation Drawing for the 3 beautiful Quilts, for a total to date of \$1924.90. I want to again thank all of you who have supported our Craft Projects and made it a reality to earn so much money for our Fire Department and we are not through yet. The drawings will be held for the 3 Quilts at the Christmas Party at the Fire Station this month. Tickets will be sold right up to the time of the drawing.

I will not be able to take on the role of co-ordinating the Craft Projects for next year, so we need another willing person to step forward and guide the projects through the year. Our first Craft Meeting of 1999 will be on January 21, 1999 at the Fire Station to put plans together for next year. Please plan to attend, at 9:00 am - (No potluck this time, but refreshments will be served)

New MVFD Board members elected

Leslie Keene

I'm back, and I'd like to express my heartfelt and sincere thanks to Patti Penrod and Diane Brady who held it all together in my absence! (Not to mention the rest of the Board of Directors who pitched in to help where needed, making my recuperation as stress free as it could possibly be!)

We sure hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving! Last year when I wrote the December column I mentioned that it was summertime outside, not so this year, it's rainy, cold, foggy, and windy!

The annual meeting and election of the Mosquito Volunteer Board of Directors was held on November 5, 1998 with the following results: representing the Firefighters are Diane Brady, Lee Hair, and Jean McLain; representing the Support Group are Doreen Frazier, Leslie Keene, and LaVonne Moser; and representing the Community-at-Large is Debbie Minor. The officers for the next year are Leslie Keene, President and Debbie Minor, Vice-President. Also formally elected as the chairperson of the Fannon Lake Project is Diane Brady. Lois Pearson continues to be our Secretary/Treasurer, without whom we could not function; and Chief Leo Chaloux is our mentor and advisor, and the Board truly appreciates both of them! We were sorry that Patti Penrod and Karen Bennett chose not to stay on the Board, we appreciate their efforts and commitments over the years and know that they will continue to help us out when they can.

The Community Christmas Party is being held on December 19th this year and you will find further details in this issue. It's a community potluck held at the fire station and is always an event where you can mingle with your neighbors in a very festive atmosphere, and enjoy wonderful food as well! This will be the event where we finally award the winner of the firehouse print and the quilts... tickets will be available then, if you haven't already bought some. Please plan on joining us!

Also in this issue are details about our Christmas Basket program. This is a time for giving and helping the less fortunate in our community. Please open your hearts and help out with donations. The Mountain Fellowship group has expressed interest in working with us on this project, an effort that we really appreciate. If you have any questions regarding this program, please contact Leo Chaloux or Karen Bennett.

We'd like to thank the Mountain Fellowship for pitching in and helping to repair and upgrade the few tables we have available for community use. They are now reinforced with strong plywood and should last even longer! But remember, loaning the tables and chairs out to the community, which we enjoy

doing, causes a lot of wear and tear, so if you borrow the tables and chairs and feel moved to donate to the Table and Chair fund, we would really appreciate the thought! And to those folks who have donated, many, many thanks!

One of our Board members is pursuing job training and to accommodate her schedule, we have changed the Board meeting dates for the next four meetings. Therefore, our meeting dates will be: December 4th, January 8th, February 5th, and March 5th, all Friday evenings, at 7:00 p.m. Following that, we will return to our normal first Thursday of the month schedule.

Have a wonderful holiday season and let's look forward to a successful and accident-free and fire-free 1999!

Remember the Mosquito Bridge Community Action Committee?

Leslie Keene

Wanted: We are looking for former members of the now disbanded Mosquito Bridge Community Action Committee to attend the next regular meeting of the Mosquito Volunteer Fire Department Board of Directors being held on Friday, December 4th at 7:00 p.m. at the fire station.

There is a remaining bank account of \$297 collected by this Committee. It has been suggested by the Swansboro Country Property Owners Association Board of Directors, who continue to receive the bank statement, that these funds be donated to the Mosquito Volunteer Fire Department for use with their Mosquito/Swansboro Community Action Plan. We are interested in input from former members and are also seeking any member who might have been a signatory on the bank account.

If you are unable to make the meeting, but would like to provide input, please call Leslie Keene at 621-0508 prior to the meeting.

We have smart "kids" on the hill

Deborah H. Arsenych

Grades came out at the end of October. The kids are doing great as usual. We have some new inductees into the Report Card Hall of Fame that will be added to the list of children who have that incredible thirst for knowledge. The sixth graders new to Honor Roll are Amanda Susmill and Caroline Veerkamp, with Stan Okumura being inducted into the Scholastic Honor Society. The seventh graders making Honor Roll are Elizabeth Frazier, Amanda Pearson, Jonathan Skaggs and Gregory Stuhr. Seventh graders in the Scholastic Honor Society are Zoe Arsenych, Stephen Loree, Daniel Norman, and Tawnia Peissner. Nate Chaloux made Honor Roll for

the eighth grade and Ashley Levine made the Scholastic Honor Society. If you see these kids give them a pat on the back and job well done. Keep up the great work.

The 1998 Fall Concert was held at Markham School on November 4th. In the Beginning Band and performing in there first concert were Katelyn Aspenleiter, Dorothy Callahan on Clarinet and Chelsea Norman on Trombone. Performing in the Intermediate Band were Caroline Veerkamp on flute, Daniel Norman and Amanda Pearson on clarinet, Jonathan Skaggs on trombone and Stacey Sorensen on French horn. It was a great concert that showed the progression of maturity from the beginning band and the more experienced intermediate band. The Chorus and Concert Band at Markham gave there Fall Concert on November 19th. Rex Hays, a new resident on the hill, is in the chorus, with Zoe Arsenych on base clarinet, J.K. Gallemore and Nate Chaloux on clarinet and Stephen Loree on trumpet. The Western Slopes Music Educators Association Honor Band had its first concert on November 8th at Sierra Ridge School. Zoe Arsenych was one of 14 students from Markham Middle School who had the chance to play her base clarinet at this concert. The performers practiced together for 9 hours over 2 days and gave a wonderful concert. You could tell it was mostly parents and grand-parents in the audience because of the never ending smiles, toe tapping and hand clapping. What a great way to spend an afternoon.

We have some real toe tapers in the Mosquito area. Daughters of Ron and Nancy Stone are dancing with the Foothills Dance Studio. Merideth is in Jazz Dance and Elizabeth is in Ballet. Merideth also sings for the Sierra Symphony. They will be performing in Cameron Park and the Gold Country Retirement Center the Christmas. For information on times, Nancy said you could give her a call.

I'd like to take this time to offer a big THANK YOU to everyone that bought Poinsettia plants from me in support of my daughters vollyball club. We sold over 125 plants and I hope you enjoyed them as much as I enjoyed having that many plants at my house at one time. They were everywhere and for two days my house was a Christmas fantasyland. I should of had a party. A very Merry Christmas to everyone and especially to those hard working kids out there.

Leonid meteors — where were you ?



Jim Hinds

My hands have thawed to the point where my fingers are working again. Therefore I shall start this article about the Sky and Weather. I just came in from a look at the night sky to try once again to see

all these Leonid meteors that are supposed to be visible. I hope, if you went out to look, your luck was better than mine. I will admit the timing was a little early so will try again before turning in.

The Associated Press Article of 11/15/98 referred to this shower as a "blizzard" of particles the size of a grain of sand or smaller, which would rain down on us for a period of about 10 hours on Monday and Tuesday. Well, this "storm" is over and it will be another 33 year period before we will be having another. I don't intend to wait for it. As you know these tiny particles burn up in the atmosphere prior to getting to our level and what we see is the streak of light made by their burning.

It is true that some larger ones do make it to earth. That is an entirely different story. The concern on this shower was that it might cause some of our Communication Satellites to be damaged or burned out. These small projectiles are traveling at a speed of more than 155,000 miles per hour. They have a destructive force of a .22-caliber bullet. They could do a lot of damage to our satellites. We would need them badly, were we to go to war with Iraq. It still could mess up TV programs and telephone communications.

The most likely damage would be electrical. The high speed impact of a meteor creates electrical discharges that cause the satellite to short out and could permanently damage the craft. There have been no reports of damage to any satellites or to the Hubble Space Telescope so far today (11/18). All instruments and satellites were shut down or turned away from the direction of impact during the hours we traveled through the debris (dust) left by the comet Tempel-Tuttle earlier this year. Few collisions were expected and none were reported. "We rate the possibility of anything catastrophic as minimal, but we can't rule it out," said Maj. Perry L. Nouis of the U. S. Air Force Command at Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado, the mission control center for the nation's 150 or so military satellites. He further indicated that one or two of the world's 600-plus satellites would be destroyed during the Leonid storm.

I realize this is all after the fact, and that the Leonids are now history. However, some of the material is from an article copyrighted by The Associated Press dated November 15th by Paul Racer. It is from the Internet and it did not get top billing in either TV or news print articles. It may not be complete here since the article covered four pages. An attempt was made to give you more details.

By the way I did go back to the dark sky after midnight last night and saw a few airplanes fly over, a beautiful sky with the winter Constellations beginning to appear and the tail end of the summer ones disappear. I did not see one meteorite. I can assure

you that it was mighty chilly out there.

Are the rains coming— lots or not lots ?

As of the 17th of November we have recorded 4.52 inches of rain. The season began on July 1, 1998. We had no rain in July or August - September, 1.22"; October .93"; November to date 2.37". This is about normal. By the end of November 97-98 we had 5.86 inches and 7.46 inches by the end of November 96-97. So we have some catching up to do in the next twelve days. We ended the 1997-98 weather season after a wet winter that extended almost to the cut-off date of June 30. So with May coming through with almost 8 inches of rain and June with 1.31 inches the dry weather for the rest of the Summer was quite welcome. The Summer was not too hot nor too cold. In fact, it was a very nice season, as summer seasons go.

El Niño is not being discussed so much these days but La Niña is cropping up in the news now and then. We have Global Warming and Global Cooling and conferences all over the World about CO² gasses and what must be done to fix all the coming problems caused by burning barbecues in the Los Angeles Basin, etc. It is a tough call to make but I am sure our fearless leaders will find a solution and lead us into the 21st Century with all bridges burned behind us. (I hope.) Just so they do not burn the one to 21st Century ahead of us.

White Chili



Peggy Vogele

- 1 lb. white beans
- 6 cups chicken broth
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 medium onions, chopped
- 1 tablespoon oil
- 2 - 4 ounce cans mild green chilies, chopped
- 2 teaspoons ground cumin
- 1½ teaspoons oregano
- ¼ teaspoon ground cloves
- ¼ teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 4 cups diced cooked chicken breasts
- 3 cups grated Monterey Jack cheese
- salsa and sour cream

Combine beans, broth, garlic and ½ the onions in a large pot. Bring to a boil, lower heat and simmer for 3 hours until beans are soft. Add more broth if necessary. In a skillet, saute the rest of the onions in oil until tender. Add chilies and spices. Add to bean mixture with chicken and simmer 1 hour. Serve topped with cheese, salsa and sour cream.

Try this delicious dish on a cold winter night!

SEE YOU AT THE CHRISTMAS PARTY

December Wordsearch Puzzle

No prize — just for fun and practice

W	E	L	L	W	I	S	H	E	R	D	E	L	S	T
N	E	T	F	I	G	D	E	C	O	R	A	T	E	Y
A	R	H	A	K	U	N	A	H	C	M	B	K	I	L
M	T	F	I	R	E	P	L	A	C	E	A	L	D	L
W	P	S	E	W	B	G	R	A	S	C	S	L	O	O
O	H	R	Y	A	S	E	N	E	T	O	K	A	O	H
N	Y	E	E	T	S	D	L	I	E	L	E	C	G	P
S	A	P	O	S	Y	T	U	E	K	D	T	O	E	L
R	D	L	T	O	E	R	C	H	C	C	N	S	R	O
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R	D	C	M	E	V	I	T	S	E	F	D	G	T	R

- | | | | |
|-----------|----------|------------|-----------|
| BASKET | BOUGH | CALL | CANDY |
| CELEBRATE | CHANUKAH | COLD | COTO |
| DECEMBER | DECORATE | DEEM | DINE |
| DINNER | DISTANCE | DREG | EGGNOG |
| FATHER | FEAST | FESTIVE | FIREPLACE |
| FRUITCAKE | GIFT | GOODIES | HELPERS |
| HOLIDAY | HOLLY | HOST | MAGI |
| MISTLETOE | NEWYEAR | PARTAKE | PRESENT |
| REDNOSE | REINDEER | RUDOLPH | RUER |
| SLED | SNOWMAN | STOCKING | |
| TINSEL | TREE | WELLWISHER | |

Solution — nine letters. Answer next month!

The *MOSQUITO BYTE* is available by subscription and is mailed first class to subscribers. Cost of subscription is \$8.50 per year. Deadline for news and advertising is the 19th of each month.

The editors reserve the right to edit, limit or refuse any article submitted for publication in the *Mosquito Byte*.

Editors: Lela Edson - 626-8265
Pat Relfe - 622-6436

ADVERTISING 

There is no charge for advertising in the *Mosquito Byte* for our subscribers. Deadline for advertising is the 19th of each month. Call Pat at 622-6436 or Lela at 626-8265. Ads in the "For Sale" department will run for three months unless you call to say the item has been sold, or you want the ad extended.

LOST:

Probably lost at the Fire Station — watch with gold wedding band on it. They were a 10 year anniversary gift. Please call 621-3533 if you have any information.

FREE:

One California King-size Waterbed, including frame, mattress, and heater. The water bed is dismantled but easy to re-assemble, all you have to do is come get it! Call Pat or Leslie at 621-0508.

RAFFLE

MOUNTAIN FELLOWSHIP is holding a prize drawing for a cord of wood. Proceeds will be used to purchase chairs for the youth group. Tickets \$1.00 each of 6 for \$5.00. Call Shirley at 642-2143 or Sharon at 621.4383. Drawing will be January 1, 1999.

MEETINGS

QUILTER'S MEETING No meeting in December.

WANTED

BODY PARTS for 1964 thru 1967 Chevy El Camino and Chevelle. Please call Travis at 421-4107 after 6:00 p.m. weekdays.

CLEAN FILL DIRT: Call Doug 642-2118.

SERVICES

ROBERTI ROOFING License #754951. Call 957-6399.

NOTARY PUBLIC- Anytime, Anywhere: I live in Mosquito and will come to your house to do notary work. Call Elaine at 621-2433.

WORKER AVAILABLE: Honest, dependable, hardworking man seeks work gardening, weedeating, house cleaning, painting, odd jobs. Call 621-1762.

SOCIAL SERVICES MINISTRY: For help in times of crises. If you or anyone you know is in need of food, clothing, transportation, abuse intervention drug dependency,

emergency housing or any other need, please call Sharon McCoy 621-4383 or Mountain Fellowship 621-4282. All requests will be confidential and needy parties are treated with respect. Your help and support are needed. Call us to assist in this ministry or to donate food, clothing, cash or other usable items.

VACATION CARE: Going on vacation? Need any pet care, or taking care of plants? You have found just the one: me, Amanda Pearson. I love animals and am great with plants. Call me at 621-1653. If I'm not there, leave a message.

PLUMBING: Vick's Plumbing, license No. 605357. Victor Garcia, 626-6493.

CLEANING: Swansboro resident for 7 years to clean your home, meal preparation or errands done with TLC. Reasonable, experienced, references. Call Renee at 626-3280 OK to leave message

NUTRITIONAL AIDS and free information. Call Teresa at 626-6970.

BABY SITTING: Need a sitter? Call Teen-Sitter now! CPR CERTIFIED. Amber Meadows, 642-2044 or Kirsten Lietz 622-3296. Call evenings after 5:00.

PROSPECTOR PLUMBING: Plumbing for your propane and natural gas needs. Hot water heaters, gas lines, leak repairs, etc. Licensed, bonded and insured. 622-1241.

COMPUTER HELP: Need Help with your computer? A+ certified computer technician. Upgrade, troubleshooting, repair, hardware and software. Call Mike at 622-1336.

CARETAKER/DOOR SHAKER SERVICE: Available to vacation/vacationing homeowners at modest cost, daily, weekly, monthly. Reference available. Call "Critter" Don Reid, 622-7622.

DON'S CRITTER CARE: Pets, livestock and gardens, too. While you're away. Reasonable rates, references. Call 622-7622.

BACKHOE AND TRACTOR WORK: Trenching and driveways. Call Jim at 622-6414.

BUSINESS CARDS: Small quantities, 10 to 100. Designed for you. Cost plus \$5.00. Call Lela, 626-8265.

ANIMAL OUTREACH: Cats for adoption. Low cost spay, neuter and vaccinations. Call Pat Hair at 642-1944 for information.

REALTOR: Continuously serving this area with efficient, friendly service. Associated with Coldwell Banker, Gerwer and Assoc., Inc. residential affiliate. Member of Multiple Listing Service, Mosquito Volunteer Fire Department Support Group and Mosquito Volunteer Fire Department Board. Call LaVonne Moser for any of your real estate needs. 622-6337 or 626-3333.

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT: Coldwell Banker, Gerwer and Assoc. Inc. Now has property management services. If you are a

landlord or prospective tenet, please call LaVonne Moser at 622-6337 or 626-3333.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE: Are you stressed to the max about your bills? Are you having difficulty making your monthly payments and the creditors are calling and getting nasty? **WE CAN HELP!** Call Barbara Proctor at Hampton Financial for a FREE consultation at 621-3153.

J. R. PLUMBING: Licensed plumber. Repairs, remodels, new construction. Gas Lines and gas appliance conversions. Local gas company references. Call John at 626-6552.

COMPUTER SERVICE: Frazier Electronics. Computer/printer service and repair. Free estimates. Call Stu at 621-4221.

ROBIN'S NEST CLEANING: Commercial and residential. References. Call Robin 621-1030.

TAX HELP?? Professional Tax Preparation and Electronic filing. Call Don Bates, licensed and bonded tax consultant, 622-1886

FOR SALE

REFRIGERATOR: Amana side-by-side, water and ice in door. Only used for six months. Will sell for \$800, paid over \$1,000. Call Mike at 431-4107 after 6:00 p.m. weekdays.

SECTIONAL FRONT ROOM SET, with arm chair and foot stool, light greens and tan colors. Very comfortable but doesn't match our new house. Call Suzie at 421-4107 after 6:00 p.m. weekdays

1998 and 1999 **KAWASAKI FOUR WHEELERS** Both Lakota 300 cc with all the extras and extended warranty. Only eight total hours on both bikes. Must sell. \$5,000 each. Call Shauna at 626-4671.

WEIGHT LIFTING weights \$20. Call 626-3280.

DODGE STEPSIDE PICK-UP 1978, \$1,500 OBO; **CHAIN SAW,** New Sears 16" with case, \$150; **JOE WEIDER** workout gym, \$45; **ROWING MACHINE** \$10; **CANNON COPIER** \$25; New window **QUASER AIR CONDITIONER,** 7000 BTU, \$275; 1/4 ownership in **WOOD SPLITTER** - personal use only (explanation available!) \$175. Call 304-0423.

WASHER: Maytag Washer, \$40. 622-1886


IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN! Order your Christmas Wreaths and Swags from Mary Ann's Wreaths. They will be handmade and shipped fresh to arrive between December 14th to 23rd for maximum beauty during the holiday season. Swags are \$18.00 and wreaths are \$29.50 including shipping. Custom items are priced according to size. Shipping outside the continental U.S. is an additional cost. Wedding and special occasion flowers are also available. Call Mary Ann at 622-2477.

AVION trailer (like Airstream) 28', rear bath, twin beds. Exc. Condition. **SOLAR PANELS** (2) large. Call 626-4166.

FRESH VEGETABLES Are you interested in fresh garden vegetables this summer? Call Karen at Sunshine Gardens 622-0924. Weekly delivery.

AVON: Call Gwen at 622-9314 for all your AVON needs.

HERBS: Evergreen Herb Garden, 2001 Swansboro Road. Herbs, herb classes, products, plants and books. Call or write for information. 626-9288.



Don't forget !! The *Mosquito Byte* editors now have a scanner so we can scan pictures to enliven the *Byte*. Black and white scans best — but we'd like to have any picture that is community oriented.

The following historical information about our community of Mosquito is reprinted from Paolo Sioli's *Historical Souvenir of El Dorado County, California with Illustrations and Biographical Sketches of its Prominent Men & Pioneers* which was originally published in 1883. The 1998 Sesquicentennial reprint of this book along with an index by Dorothy Martin Bayless has been made available by the Friends of the Library of El Dorado County. If you wish to purchase a copy you may buy one at the Main library, 345 Fair Lane, Placerville and at the branch libraries in Georgetown, Cameron Park, Pollock Pines and South Lake Tahoe.

Mosquito Valley

A flourishing settlement, exists in Mosquito Valley, about six miles southeast from Garden Valley, or nine miles east from Placerville, having nearly the altitude of Georgetown. The visitor is astonished to find in this hidden place so many enterprising and well-to-do farmers, as may be seen without inquiry, observing the fine dwellings, large barns and thrifty fields of grain and clover; the numerous cattle, sheep and hogs, and fine looking orchards. As early as 1849, mines were discovered in Mosquito canyon and the placers worked; the population of early days settled in two different places or villages; one called Nelsonville, and the other known as the Big House or Lower town, the latter was built and inhabited by Spaniards principally. At Nelsonville two or three stores had a good trade, and one of them was kept by John D. Skinner until later years when it burned out. The mining paid well here in early days, and especially Little Mosquito was noted for chunks of gold found there of from 2 oz. up to 100 dollars weight by Mr. Dickinson and others. At the present day quartz mining is going on to some extent. To provide the canyon with a stream of water a ditch had been built in 1853 or '54, at an expense of above \$20,000, owned by the Mosquito Ditch Co., now the property of James Summerfield; it is 16 miles in length and takes its water out of Slab creek. The water now is used to a great deal for irrigation of orchards and gardens. The first farm work in this district was done by Brown and Palmer, who grew the first crop of potatoes: this however, was only a first trial, by Mr. Dickinson in company with Peter Robinson took it up and to them is due the claim of being the first actual settlers and

cultivators of garden and orchard; their first attempt in agricultural work was made in 1853. And it is well known fact that all standard fruits are doing very well in this canyon; only a light snow is falling here in the winter. A saw-mill was built here in One Eye canyon, — named after the first man engaged there being one-eyed,—in 1851 or '52, by Benjamin Summerfield and John Bennett.

The first school in the settlement was opened in 1862, by Oliver Chubb; he taught school first in a granary owned by John Cobb, on the place now owned by James Summerfield. A Public School district was established here together with a Postoffice, in 1881; the latter with Mrs. Dickinson as postmistress. Mrs. John Agnews from Sidney, Australia, was the first white woman in the canyon, and the first marriage was

that of Waldo. Mosquito has always carried the name of being a quiet peaceful settlement, the record of crimes is very short, but notwithstanding it includes one case of Lynch law: A white man getting out shakes, in early days, had been killed by the Indians, one of the Indians was caught and hung by the excited population.

Mosquito is connected with Placerville by a good wagon road and a suspension bridge across the South Fork of the American river, a trail is running in the direction of Kelsey, the township center. Dixon Summerfield, Adam Melchior, Christopher Finnan, John Selleck, Mrs. Couchlen and John Markel are the present inhabitants.



CHRISTMAS PARTY

MOSQUITO FIRE STATION

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19TH

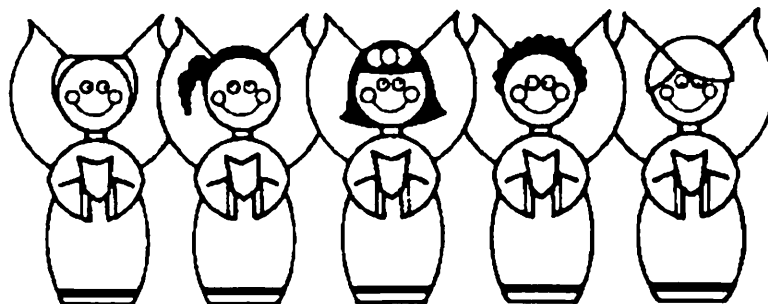


SANTA CLAUS WILL BE THERE FROM 5 TO 6 PM

POTLUCK DINNER FROM 6 TO 8 PM

The winning names will be drawn for the Firehouse Print and the three handmade quilts. A special prize drawing will be held for two Beanie Babies and other great items.

Please bring a main dish, salad or dessert and your own plates and utensils. Punch and coffee will be available.








Mosquito Byte
 2300 Mosquito Cut-off Road
 Placerville CA 95667-9081



Check your
 renewal date!
 Is it time yet?



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4 MVFD Board Meeting 7:00 PM	5 Support Group Meeting 10:00 AM
6	7	8	9	10 SCPOA Board 10 AM MFPD Board 7:30 PM	11	12
13	14 	15	16	17	18	19 Christmas Party See Page 9
20 See below	21 	22	23	24	25 	26
27	28	29	30	31 See below		

Mountain Fellowship: Annual Christmas service. Carols and a community soup and bread luncheon at Koberle's, 7069 Maidu Dr. on December 20th. Progressive dinner at several different homes and party for New Year's Eve at Peissner's, 2817 Darr Ct. 626-8859.