

HAPPY NEW YEAR !!!

The staff and editors of the *Byte* wish all of you many good things for the New Year.

Have you made your resolutions? How about adding "I will take direction signs down when any event I have is over" and "I will take trash cans in as soon as possible" and "I will keep my dog on my own property"? Hint — hint!

Ed. Note: Leo is on vacation so we twisted Devery's arm and he came through with an article for us. Thanks Dev!

Happy New Year I hope this article finds everyone in good health and high spirits.

1998 was quite an odd year. I say that because around here it was anything but normal. The Fire Department experienced some changes, some good, some sad and some yet to be seen. All around though, I would say most were for the better.

1999 is here and as the last year of the century, it promises to be anything but dull.

Before 1998 leaves our memory and we get on with the business at hand, I'd like to take a minute and give some people a much deserved thank you. These people are anonymous to anybody in particular but are probably people that you and I know.

These people are volunteers. Not as in Firefighter or Support Group members, although they too deserve a thank you, but are every day people like you or your friends or neighbors.

I'm referring to the kind of people that selflessly give to those around them and expect nothing in return. The kinds of things these folks do include, but are not limited to, helping to get your car unstuck, picking up children at bus stops, getting someone a gallon of milk in town, a ride to or from town, or stopping along Mosquito Road to check and see if you are alright.

As you can see, the list could go on forever. It's the little things that make the most difference.

Usually these things warrant a thank you at the time, but we soon forget and that's as far as it goes. In a time when negative thoughts and acts seem the norm, these "random acts of kindness" really do make each others lives a little brighter.

I have spent most of my life here at Mosquito and I know this is what sets us apart from the rest of the world and makes it a good place to live.

Those of you who volunteer for these jobs, and you know who you are, THANK YOU, and keep up the good work.

Have a safe and happy 1999.

SCPOA NEWS

SCPOA Board Meeting — December 10, 1998

The Treasurer's Report was given by Jo Thomas. There is \$10,615.25 in the Savings Account and \$1,500.00 in the checking account as of December 10, 1998. It will be decided, by the Board, at the February meeting if an audit or a review will be done by SCPOA's auditor Karl Gunther.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Airport: Jo Thomas will have the Secretary obtain a copy of the "Tree Letter," being sent to all persons living adjacent to the airport runway. CPM will be looked into the maintenance work that needs to be done on the runway.

Budget & Long Range Plan: Discussions were held concerning the adjustments made to update the LRP to reflect the changes in assessments and the planned 1999/2000 expenditures. It was motioned to approve the SCPOA Long Range Plan Annual Budget Projection with revisions along with the SCPOA Pro Forma 1999/2000 budget and passed unanimously by the Board. Signatures of the board for the approval of the Long Range Plan will be obtained before the yearly packet is mailed.

Fences: Repairing the fences will be tabled until the next year.

Roads: A discussion was held earlier concerning snow removal and sanding. It was estimated the cost for snow removal by a snow plow is about \$800.00 and for sanding the roads it costs about \$400.00. More is charged for the snow plow if it is used on a weekend. The decision to sand or use the snow plow will be decided by the President and the Road Committee.

Nominating Committee: Roy Doll put up signs to remind members to run for the SCPOA Board. At this time no one has expressed an interest, except for Barbara Mikel whose term will be up and will run again.

OLD BUSINESS

Status of School Site. A copy of a letter that was sent from the Department of Transportation addressed to Mr. Don Helms was discussed. A deeded avigation easement is needed. Sharon Hern will write a letter stating that we have heard through different sources that Swansboro Property has been abandoned as a source for the school site and will obtain a formal written letter from Mr. Helms stating this and ask if an avigation easement is still needed.

EID Summerfield Ditch. Debbie Harris and Barbara Atkins attended the Mosquito Volunteer Fire Department's Finneron meeting and Debbie Harris attended the Mosquito Fire Department's District meeting. It was reported that the ditch issues have been put on hold as EID has other problems to attend, but nothing will be done without EID first notifying SCPOA.



NEW BUSINESS

Annual Meeting Packet, Discussion and Revisions: The "Berding and Weil Community Association Disclosure Checklist" was used to assure that SCPOA is sending out to the members everything that is required by law. SCPOA members will be getting their yearly packet the first of the year.

Members to serve on the Nominating Committee for 1999/2000. After some discussion a motion was made, to accept Barbara Atkins, Sharon Hern and Norm Nestor to serve on the Nominating Committee for 1999/2000. It was passed by a unanimous vote by the Board Members.

Elect two Board Members to vote the proxy Ballots. It was suggested that Debbie Harris and Barbara Atkins be the two Board members to vote the proxies ballots and they were voted in unanimously by the Board.

MVFD BOARD CLOSES OUT '98 AND SETS CALENDAR FOR '99

Leslie Keene

We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and that we all have a safe, happy, healthy, and fire-free 1999!

The annual Community Christmas Potluck was as wonderful as ever, with an enjoyable evening of visiting with our neighbors and enjoying the delicious potluck. The excitement was intensified by the prize drawing of the year-long gifts. The Firehouse Print was won by Pat and Leslie Keene and the quilts by Donna Love of West Virginia, Pat Relfe and The Suddith family. We'll have more year-long prize drawings in 1999, so stay tuned for news of what the gifts will be!

The MVFD Calendar of Events for 1999 has been established, so mark down the dates now so that you will be able to join us! We have added a new fundraiser, called Books and Bagels. We will be holding this event outside at Finnon Lake on a nice, warm sunny day and it will give the community a chance to socialize as well as to pick up a few paperbacks for enjoyable reading throughout the year! If you'd like to donate paperbacks for this event, please give Jean McLain a call or drop them off at the fire station.

- MVFD Awards Dinner – February 27 (Diane Brady)
- Community Easter Egg Hunt – April 3 (LaVonne Moser)
- Spring Spaghetti Feed – May 15 (Doreen Frazier)
- Books and Bagels – June 26 (Jean McLain)
- Community Fireman's Picnic – July 24 (All of us)
- Fall Spaghetti Feed – September 25 (Leslie Keene)
- Community Halloween Party – October 23 (Debbie Minor)
- Community Christmas Potluck – December 18 (Lee Hair)

If you'd like to help out at any of these events, I've noted the chairperson's name beside each event. Please give them a call, they'd love to hear from you! The Annual Picnic will be held at Finnon Lake again this year, with an even better picnic than ever, if that's possible! There will be lots more fun and games than in the past, with many thanks to Byron Moser who has dedicated himself to this task and started months ago working on it!

As I mentioned last month, our meeting schedule has been changed for the next three meetings. The meeting dates are 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. The community is always welcome at our meetings!

**IN MEMORY OF
ROGER "JUDD" MILLS**

IS IT GOING TO BE WARM OR COLD, WET OR DRY?

Jim Hinds

ATMOSPHERIC

How does one settle down to a computer and a bunch of figures, data and other mundane objects on a beautiful day as today? This is the 17th of December. All I know is that there are a million things to do and this is not one of my favorites. There is absolutely no complaint about the weather from this station. I cannot visualize a nicer series of days and nights than has been our good fortune to enjoy over the past week or so. It is more like spring than "almost" winter. Believe it not winter is on the way and on December 21 at 5:56 PST our Earth reaches a position in its travel around the Sun where we are closest to the Sun. This is known as the Winter Solstice. It is the shortest day of the year in the Northern Hemisphere and the longest day for those in the Southern Hemisphere. It is also the first day of winter or summer depending where you live on Mother Earth. It our beginning of Winter in this Hemisphere which means us.

This is a list of the past four years of rainfall. You can see there is a variation from year to year that is difficult to predict. However worldwide, they, (the *meteorologists*) are working on the problem. Some problems are being solved while others are brought on by the very fact that one or more has been solved.

	1998-99	1997-98	1996-97	1995-96
Dec.	2.70"	8.60"	20.24"	11.23"
Nov.	7.32"	.47"	7.46"	.63**
Total	10.02"	12.07"	27.66"	11.86"

*The year 1995-1996 showed no rain for 134 days beginning July 1, 1995

It is time to get to the other half of this article and that is the Astronomic. If you haven't noticed the word meteorology comes from the skies and those particles, large and small which fall to Earth from the skies.

ASTRONOMIC

In January, 1999, NEAR (the Near-Earth Asteroid Rendezvous) spacecraft will reach 433 Eros and will enter orbit around the small, rocky body. 433 Eros is shaped like a giant boat and is 22 miles long, and 9 miles wide. The number 433 indicates its place in the discovery process and the letter designation (A, B,&C,) etc., indicate the composition as indicated by observation and radar images. C-types asteroids are thought to be carbon while S-types are thought to be basically silicon. For example 253 Mathilde gave us the first look at a C asteroid by NEAR. The *Galileo* spacecraft flew by two asteroids. Both were S types 951 Gaspra and 243 Ida. NEAR will spend a year orbiting 433 Eros in an attempt to learn more about its makeup and possible destination. In 1975 it passed within 13 million miles of Earth.¹

Much of our history has been fashioned and/or influenced by the survival of meteoroids through our atmosphere. When they do survive, they become meteorites. 65 million years ago a crater 110 mile in diameter was discovered under

Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula. This was and is the reason considered for the end of the dinosaur epoch as well as most of plants and animals on Earth. The theory of man's development indicates that at some point he developed the art of using tools. This is the beginning of the meteorite theory. At any rate his first tools made from bone, wood and stone, the highest technology available to him until the advent of the "Bronze Age" when he learned that copper and mixed with tin made a more durable tool and a better weapon. Along the way he found Iron coming to him from the heavens, which was superior to bones and bronze. So now it is believed that meteorites started the Iron Age. Many late Bronze Age archaeological sites actually contain artifacts made of 90 percent iron. A famous dagger was found in the tomb of a 14th-century B.C. Egyptian pharaoh Tutankhamen. Chemical analysis found the "impurities" in the dagger were largely nickel a sure sign that the iron came from a meteorite. It is assumed that early metal smiths found and used naturally smelted iron from meteorites. The Hittites and Sumerians called this *iron* "fire from heaven". The Assyrian's term was "metal of heaven".

NASA's robotic missions to other planets show that all solid surfaces in the solar system are heavily cratered. Earth must have been bombarded also. Erosion has been acting against all but 140 known craters beside Chicxulub (the big one in Mexico). In 1818 European explorers found the Inuits in northwestern Greenland using knives, harpoon points, and engraving tools made from meteorite iron. From 1818 to 1883 expeditions looked for the "Iron Mountain". In 1894 Robert Perry was led to a site on Sviksoah Island where a 34 ton meteorite (iron) was found among others. Today 27% of the world's nickel comes from large mines in the Sudbury meteor crater in Ontario, Canada.

Even in my short span of life Canadian nickels were recalled in Canada during WWII because of the nickel shortage. All 5 cent pieces prior to that recall were pure nickel.

They may not have pure nickel but were pure enough to be attracted to a magnet.²

Sorry but time and space do not permit the long history of *SACRED STONES* which was covered in this article. Maybe another time.

¹ *The Planetary Report* Volume XVIII November December 1998

² *Sky and Telescope* December 1998

SUCCESSFUL CRAFT SALE YEAR !

Sharon Hern

Our final event took place at the Community Christmas Party at the Fire House on December 19th. The final tally of money that we received for Crafts was \$1586.40 and the Quilt drawing was \$408.50, for a total of \$1994.90.

Congratulations to you lucky Quilt owners who had the winning tickets at the Christmas party.

I want to again "Thank" all of you who have supported our endeavors this year to support our Fire Department.

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 House** to put plans together for next year. Please plan to attend, at 9:00 am - (No potluck this time, but refreshments will be served)

VET CLINIC

Dr. Lisa Couper, mobile veterinarian, will be at the Mosquito Fire Station on Sunday, January 3rd from 9:00 a.m. until noon for walk-ins. She will make house calls in the afternoon. Call 677-4558 and leave a message to make an appointment for the afternoon or if you have a special request.

BACK TO BASICS

Peggy Vogeles

Recently I read an article that said you only needed to know 10 basic recipes. Periodically as I try them out I will share them with you.

#1 Basic Chicken Soup

1 T olive oil
1 small onion finely chopped
2 med. carrots cut to 1/4" slices
2 med. celery stalks cut to 1/4" slices
2 cans (14.5 oz ea.) chicken broth
1/8 t ground black pepper
2 med. skinless, boneless chicken breast halves (10 oz)

Step 1 In 4 qt saucepan, heat oil over med. heat. Add onion and cook until tender stirring occasionally.

Step 2 Add carrots, celery, chicken broth, pepper and 3 c water; heat to boiling over high heat. Add chicken to saucepan and reduce heat to low. Cover saucepan and simmer 8-10 min. until chicken loses pink color and carrots and celery are tender. Remove saucepan from heat.

Step 3 Remove chicken from saucepan and cool slightly. Pull chicken apart into shreds.

Step 4 Return chicken to soup, heat throughout. Makes about 8 1/2 cups.

Now, how about one of these variations?

Mexican Chicken Soup Prepare Basic Chicken Soup Steps 1-3 adding 1/2 lime at step 2 with chicken broth. At Step 4 add 1 c corn and 1/2 c fresh chopped cilantro leaves. Remove lime from soup squeezing juice into saucepan and throwing away the rind. Serve with lime wedges, crushed tortilla chips and hot pepper sauce if you like.

Chicken Noodle Soup Prepare Basic Chicken Soup Steps 1-3. At Step 4 add 3 c cooked egg noodles and 1 c peas. Serve with Parmesan Cheese on top if you like.

Asian Chicken Soup Prepare Basic Chicken Soup Steps 1-3 adding 2 slices of fresh ginger 1/8" thick at step 2 with the chicken broth. At Step 4 remove and discard the ginger slices. Add 2 c cooked rice, 1 bunch (about 6 oz) water cress with the stems removed, 2 med. green onions chopped, 1 T soy sauce and 1/2 t Asian sesame oil.



PUZZLE

The answer to the practice puzzle last month was — of course — CHRISTMAS.

This month's is a contest and the prize will be one adult ticket for the Spring Spaghetti Feed.

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

- | | | | |
|-----------|------------|------------|-----------|
| AILS | ARCHAIC | BONN | BYZANTINE |
| CALENDAR | CELEBRATE | CHRONOLOGY | |
| DUMP | EARLY | FINALLY | FOLLOWING |
| FONT | FUZE | GANG | GREGORIAN |
| IMPENDING | INADVANCE | JAPANESE | |
| LATER | LITE | MEET | MIES |
| MOLL | MOON | ONTIME | PAST |
| PLUM | PREMATURE | | SCHEDULE |
| SEASONAL | SITS | SOMETIME | |
| SOON | SUBSEQUENT | | TERMINATE |
| TOMORROW | TRIMESTER | UPCOMING | |
| WEEK | YESTERDAY | | |

The answer has 11 letters.



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.

MEETINGS

QUILTER'S MEETING January 28 at Sandi Miller's 6495 Deer Canyon Ct. 626-0608.

WANTED

BODY PARTS for 1964 thru 1967 Chevy El Camino and Chevelle. Please call Travis at 621-4107 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 621-4107 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 621-4107 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 621-4107.

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

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.





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



Check your
 renewal date!
 Is it time yet?



JANUARY 1999

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 	2 Support Group Meeting 10:00 AM
3 VET VISIT 9:00 AM	4	5	6	7	8 MVFD Board Meeting 7:00 P.M.	9
10	11	12	13	14 MFPD Board Meeting 7:30 P.M.	15	16
17	18 	19	20	21 Craft Meeting 9:00 A.M. No Potluck	22	23
24	25	26	27	28 Quilters' Meeting See Ads	29	30
31						

ALL MEETINGS AT THE MOSQUITO FIRE STATION UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED