

Mosquito

JANUARY 2000

YOUR SUBSCRIPTION EXPIRES WITH THIS ISSUE! RENEW TODAY! SEND A CHECK FOR \$8.50 TO: MOSQUITO BYTE 2300 MOSQUITO CUT-OFF RD PLACERVILLE CA 95667-9081

VOLUME 13 #6

HAPPY NEW MILLENNIUM!

Many thanks to all the many volunteers who help make this community a very special one. We especially thank the contributors to the *Byte*. Without you there would be no monthly news.



will continue to try to do better at my job in the New Millennium.

Have a wonderful and safe New Year, and I look forward to seeing you at the Station.

I LIKE MY JOB

Devery Minor

I'm writing this as 1999 comes to a close and I find myself reflecting on my job at the Fire station. I was a volunteer for more than 10 years, but I had no idea what it was really like to work on a day to day basis.

In my former career I was a logger. I also worked two seasons as a firefighter for the State of California. As a woodsman I learned many skills. At the top of the list was Hard Work followed by More Hard Work. Along the way I learned how to fix everything from chainsaws to log trucks and anything in between. Twenty years worth. The one thing I never did much of was dealing with people. I don't mean I lived in a cave, but I didn't greet the public every day like I do now. I wouldn't say this job is easier just different. I'm the kind of guy that likes to get a certain amount of work done and I like to set a goal for the day and get started. Lots of luck!

Just when you get started the phone rings, probably for Leo. He's busy so I'll answer it. Yes it's for Leo so I'll get something done now. Wait a minute someone needs directions. OK back to work. "Did you know there are two cows in the middle of Rock Creek Rd?" And so it goes on any given day at the Mosquito Fire Station. Not quite the same as spending the day cutting logs. Throw in a couple of medical aids and a fire or two and you just never know what the day holds for you. The best laid plans...

I really do enjoy the job, I just have a lot to learn about people and myself. Everyone has been very supportive, especially Leo.

My Grandad taught me to help your neighbors and this job allows me to do that. It's the sort of thing that makes my life better. Maybe that's why I was a volunteer for so long. Nah, I get a thrill out of fighting fires.

Well I don't believe in New Year Resolutions, but I

FIRE PROTECTION BOARD VACANCY

Applications to fill a vacancy on the Board of Directors of the Mosquito Fire Protection District will be accepted until 5:00 PM on January 13, 2000. Please send to 2300 Mosquito Cut-Off Road, Placerville CA 95667.

MOSQUITO VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS

Debbie Minor

We hope that you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving. The Board would like to wish everyone Happy Holidays and a safe, happy New Year!

The Christmas Potluck was on December 18, 1999. As it turns out everyone had a grand time. There was lots of good food and good company. In fact we had such a good turn out this year that we had to find extra chairs. I don't think, in all the years I have been attending the potluck, that we have had so many people. It made us all feel so good to see so many gathering for this occasion.

I would like to thank Lee Hair for all his hard work. Thank you to the kitchen crew who kept drinks available and did the clean up. And to all of you who helped set-up and then put everything away when the evening was done. Of course we must thank Santa and Mrs. Claus as well. Thank you everyone for teamwork is what makes all of our functions run smoothly.

The Calendar of Events for 2000 has been established, so mark down the dates now so that you will be able to join us!

Awards Dinner	February 19, 2000
Easter Egg Hunt	April 1, 2000
Mexican Food Feed	May 15, 2000
Chili Cookout	June 24, 2000
Annual Picnic	July 22, 2000



PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY
THE MOSQUITO VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fall Spaghetti Feed September 23, 2000
Halloween Party October 28, 2000
Christmas Party December 16, 2000

As you can see we have changed a couple of last years functions to different themes.

From our Board to you:

Have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

There is someone in our community who makes the most wonderful cabbage salad...it was there again at the Christmas Potluck. I am dying for the recipe! Could you call me (621-0508), mail me (7249 Slab Creek Court), or e-mail me (lkeene@inreach.com), the recipe? Thank you!

Leslie Keene

SCPOA CORNER

Deborah H. Arsenych

At the SCPOA meeting held October 23, 1999, John Kingsbury and Ray Larsen representing the El Dorado Irrigation District tried to answer the question "What is going on with our water system"? The presentation given concerned the conversion of the Summerfield Ditch customers to a potable system, voted on by the E.I.D. Board of Directors. A cross-country pipeline was constructed and pumps were connected. The proposal by E.I.D. is that the wells are no longer any use to them and they want to give the wells and the equipment to run them, to the Community. A power cost to maintain the pumps will be available from E.I.D. in November. The land that the pumps are on is leased to E.I.D. and this information will be also be available in November. The cost to run the entire 21 miles of Ditch was approximately \$60,000.00 last year and generated about \$600.00 for E.I.D. An explanation by Ray Larsen as to why Twin Lakes is dry was that they were filled by the leakage from the Summerfield Ditch and now that the ditch is closed there is no more leakage to keep the lakes full. There was a discussion as to how much water is actually needed for Dyer and Finnon Lakes. Finnon Lake was the tail end of the ditch system. No water was ever sold to Finnon Lake. E.I.D. board members are considering a signal storage system to pump water into Finnon or a turn-out from the domestic system. The status of the storage tank on Stope is that it is shut down at this time. E.I.D. plans to rebuild the tank next year. It will be an online storage system for water pumped from across the canyon. It was decided that more discussions are needed between both the Community and E.I.D. John Kingsbury will plan a Community meeting. It was decided that George Kellison, Barbara Mikel and Bob

Castleberry will represent the Swansboro Board.

An update to this report, as of December 18, 1999, the SCPOA Board has not received any information from E.I.D., as promised.

KIDS CORNER

Deborah H. Arsenych

As I am still learning the names of the children in the Mosquito Area, a couple were left off the Honor List last month. My apologies. Patrick Krueger who is in the sixth grade at Markham and Marie Beckett who is in the 7th grade made the Scholastic Honor Society with a G.P.A. of between 3.5 and 3.9. Congratulations to both and keep up the excellent work.

HILL HAPPENINGS

Jo Thomas

Isn't this a fascinating time to be living, as the 1900's become just another part of our history and the 2000's our present and future! Congratulations to all of us who got to partake in this transition, and also to the youngest addition on the hill, born to **Barry & Ann Gaschler** on November 15th. Seven year old Tony now has a new brother named Thomas John.

Did everyone party hearty? I know **Steve & Lori Loree** went to a "natural" happening. They have a friend in Sacramento who has a special Christmas party every year for those near and dear to her. Each year she creates a different theme and plays it to the hilt. One year the room was an interpretation of heaven, with a harpist too! This year the room was transformed into a forest where guests drank from gourds while a flutist entertained, silverware was wrapped with vines, salt and pepper were in walnut shells and so on. Our condolences to the Loree's as Lori's grandmother passed away a couple weeks before Christmas. (Amber and Mark were here for the holidays)

Dick & Darlene Rood had a big Christmas bash which initiated their grand new home. This party included action by our volunteer fire department, and not because **Chris Chaloux** arrived in a "bright and sparkly" red coat. **Lela Edson** noticed a table cloth on fire, **Dean Edson** raced over and put it out with a cup of water and all this was accomplished while our fire chief, **Leo Chaloux**, was merrily chatting away downstairs. (He has the confidence of knowing his crew is prepared for any situation) Darlene would like to remind everyone that while we all love to have burning candles the lesson learned is: Don't light candles unless someone will always be in that room in case something goes awry. Also be aware of what is under and around a burning candle. As wax becomes hot it may run or drip, and candles can also topple over.

And speaking of the Chaloux's, did anyone over-

hear Leo humming the tune "Put on your red dress, baby"? Everywhere I went I was told about a new red dress that Chris was planning to wear to a New Year's Eve party, and then take off. (Was our fire chief prepared to handle this??) But knowing how Chris likes to be "bright and sparkly", I'm sure she merely meant she would then change into something more comfortable.

Ron Kemp, a chronic pain patient, spent a couple weeks in the hospital in St. Helena last month going through different programs to see if they could ease his pain or give him some relief. Sandy said he wrote another poem while he was there and I'd like to share with you, with Sandy's permission, a poem he wrote in 1990:

"High in the mountains before a cross
I stood to pray and thank God
for a beautiful day.
Down in the valley the sun shown bright
on the new fallen snow
that had fallen that night.
The sun filtered through the trees all around,
and I knew that God up above
had blessed the earth with his love."

Also condolences to the Kemps as Sandy's sister in Cameron Park passed away the day before Thanksgiving.

My husband took me to the Christmas celebration in El Dorado where we got to enjoy the Suzuki Kids Violin Concert under the direction of our own **Linda Reams**. These children were wonderful and so cute. The smaller the child, the smaller the violin. The concert would have been even more wonderful if the two garage doors along the street had been closed to muffle the ever present motorcycles and loudspeakers on the street. Linda even performed with the children on some pieces, under what seemed like trying circumstances, but truly wonderful just the same. Linda has fifty students who range in age from 3 to 18, and while in the audience we were told that Linda is a revered instructor. (Gail was home from New York for the holidays)

Fred & Mary Ann Brodrick had their picture in the newspaper showing them cutting holly for the holiday wreaths they make. I guess it was Fred, as his hat covered all but his nose, mouth and dimple.

Mel & Sieglinde Joyner's three daughters were home for Christmas. One came from Australia whom they hadn't seen for four years. What a Christmas present!

I talked to Gloria Hockensmith recently regarding a book she is writing about our famed "goat doctor", to be called "Goat Doctor of the Sierras". I read about her project just over a year ago and wondered how she was coming. She has been at it for a good five years now but during that time she has had many

situations to deal with, including the death of her husband after 2 ½ years of fighting cancer. She said when it comes to researching the goat doctor, it was like someone took a puzzle up in an airplane and scattered it all over the canyon. But she feels she pretty much has his complete story now and is putting all the anecdotes in order (over 600 of them at this point) and they are being proofread by author Phyllis Gemes. She is expecting the book to be ready by spring or summer of 2000. She said if anyone has anything new, she can still squeeze it in and would appreciate it being sent to PO Box 327, Weimar CA 95736, or call her at 530 637-4228.

Be sure to tell all your friends and neighbors to subscribe to the *Mosquito Byte* as they never know what we may be saying about them! Wishing the best for everyone in the New Year.

WANTED: Horse buddies who want to ride. I am starting a club for horse people in Mosquito. We could get together for rides and also to talk horses and help each other out. If interested please call Yvonne McGregor at 642-8753. I will make us a web page also.



IN A HURRY - HERE'S SUPPER!

This only takes minutes to put together and about an hour to bake. You can vary the size to suit the number of people you need to feed!

Mix 1 can cream of mushroom soup, 3/4 can water and 3/4 cup raw rice. Spread in 7" x 9" baking dish. Put 2 chicken breasts or four thighs or legs or whatever chicken amount you want on top. Bake in 350 degree oven. Check in 45 minutes to see if rice is tender. Bake a little longer if needed, If you have a lot of people - use two cans of soup and increase rice and water accordingly. This is a very forgiving recipe

ANNA'S HUMMINGBIRD



This hardy little bird is a **PERMANENT** resident in our area, staying through the winter. Be sure and keep your hummingbird feeder filled all year round.

CRAFT GET-TOGETHER

Hazel Smith

Come join us on Thursday, January 13th at 10:00 a.m. at Betty Kinney's, 3463 Stope Dr., 621-1879, for an informal meeting to socialize and talk about the craft activities for the new millennium! We welcome all new comers, old and new crafters. See you there.

WEATHER NOTES

Jim is having computer problems, so we got a brief report via telephone. Although it seems to be very dry, the rain we have had has been enough so that we actually have an above average amount to date. However the temperature has been much above average for the last few weeks. Jim recorded a high of 68 degrees on the 20th of December. Tell the trees not to start blooming!

MOSQUITO KARATE

Al Raymond

Congratulations go to the three that stuck it out. They have finished their first section of their karate training and passed their test with their parents bearing witness. They were honored with belt presentation and elevated to the rank of yellow belt. Once again, we honor Bow Etheridge age ten and Dusty Etheridge age seven and Tony Gaschler age seven.

We will be starting the next class on Saturday January 8th at our regular time of 2:00 PM at the Mosquito fire station. Feel free to come and check it out. You would not believe how it changes people.

STREP INFECTIONS AND YOUR PETS

Lisa S. Couper DVM

Although not the most common source (humans are the main natural reservoir) for bacterial infections caused by group A streptococcus, if exposed, dogs and cats can harbor the organism in their tonsils and transmit it back to you. One study showed that only 1-10% of dogs carried the bacteria in homes without human cases of strep throat etc. In homes with human infections 30% or greater of the pets harbored the bacteria. This is important because although the infection initiates with humans, pets can be a source of reinfection and cause the people in the house to suffer through multiple bouts of strep throat and associated diseases. If the pets are cultured this can be confirmed or the pets in the household can be placed on the appropriate antibiotics for 10-14 days. (I personally had this happen in my household a few years ago.)

If you are interested in learning more about zoonoses, infections we can get from our pets, please let the editors know so that we can include more such articles. If you have a disease that you want to know about and that falls into this category please let us know.

THANKS TO OUR WONDERFUL FIRE DEPARTMENT

Most of us living in Swansboro and Mosquito really don't know what all happens at our Fire Station. That is, until something happens to us personally.

About a month ago, I was having excruciating pain early in the morning. I had Barbie call 911 and in about 3 minutes our Fire Chief, Leo, and Devery, Lee Hair and George Kellison were in my bedroom asking me questions about my pain. At the same time they gave me oxygen and began taking my vitals. It would be hard to find Doctors more caring than this group!

The ambulance arrived in about 25 minutes and these fellows took over and continued to prepare me for the trip to Marshall Hospital. The emergency doctor said everyone must have done things right, because I was a very sick person who needed immediate medical attention.

It's good to be home and I'm gaining strength each day. I just wanted to say "Thanks" again to the guys who came to my aid. We are so lucky to have Chief Leo and Devery and all the folks who volunteer to fight our fires and save our lives. Also a "Thanks" to all of you who sent notes and made calls to encourage me to get well. We have a lot to be thankful for this Season

Tom Atkins

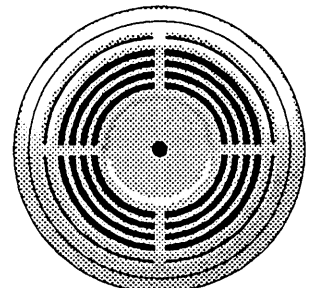
(ed. note: Tom has been flying so we know he is smiling!)

The *MOSQUITO BYTE* is available by subscription and is mailed first class to subscribers. Cost of subscription is \$8.50 per year. Mail check to 2300 Mosquito Cut-Off Rd, Placerville, CA, 95667. 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 - 530-626-8265 edson@foothill.net
FAX: 530-295-1589
Pat Relfe - 530-622-6436 relfe@inforum.net

Don't forget to change the batteries in your smoke alarms!



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.

MEETING

QUILTERS' MEETING, Thursday, January 20, 10:00 AM til Noon. Sandy Nester's, 6680 Peycos Dr. 642-9865.

SERVICES

Want to get all caught up on your photo albums in the year 2000? Start the new millennium with all your pictures organized and preserved for future generations to enjoy. Come join others here in Mosquito who are committed to getting it done. Get fresh ideas and motivation to help you along the way. Diana Adams, Creative Memories Consultant. 642-9441.

HORSESHOEING: Hot, cold or therapeutic: Call David Greenlee at 647-9100.

WINTER'S COMING: I'll split your wood for you. \$20 per hour. 626-8856.

VACATION HOUSE WATCHING: Services include bringing in mail and/or newspapers, turning lights on at dusk and/or off at dawn, watering plants, feeding/walking pets. Please call Stan Okumura at 626-5321.

COMFORT CONTROL HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING: Sales - service - installation. Free estimates on replacement. 10% senior discount. 530/642-0987 or 1-800-770-7747.

GOODTYMZ ENTERTAINMENT: Offering the newest and best music for dancing and for karaoke singing. Private parties, corporate parties and clubs. Reasonable rates and service with a smile. Call John or Lee-Ann Becton at 642-1444 or e-mail at gOodtymz@pacbell.net.

ROBERTI ROOFING License #754951. Call Nick Roberti at 626-7116 or 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.

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.

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 621-3998 OK to leave message

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.

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, Inc. 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. Coldwell Banker, 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.

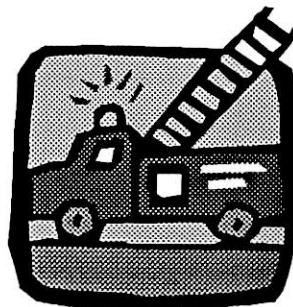
FOR SALE

Two 10-gallon fish tanks with accessories \$10.00 each. Two 20-gallon fish tanks with tropical fish and all accessories \$25.00 each. (To the lady who wanted them--we lost your number!). Classical guitar, \$10.00. Illustrated Encyclopedia of Animal Life (16 vols.) free. Golden Book Encyclopedia (16 vols.) free. Call 642-9441 after Dec. 28.



1 twin bed, dark solid wood, original owner \$35. One box spring is free. 622-9492

CRAFTSMAN 10" RADIAL ARM SAW. Model #113-29441. Motor, single phase, 60 cycles, 115/220 volt. Saw mounted on steel stand with rollers. Five (5) blades. Excellent condition. (530) 626-5449, Leave message.

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



JANUARY 2000

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
NO SUPPORT GROUP MEETING THIS MONTH						1 
2	3	4	5	6 MVFD BOARD MEETING 7:00 PM	7	6
9	10	11	12	13 MFPD BOARD MEETING 7:30 PM CRAFT MEETING SEE PAGE 3	14	15
16	17 	18	19	20 QUILTERS MEETING CALL 642-9865	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

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