

MOSQUITO

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JANUARY 2001

VOLUME 14 #6

HAPPY NEW YEAR !!

We hope you all have a happy, prosperous and safe 2001. Our question is – did anybody see where 2000 went??

BE PREPARED

Chief Leo Chaloux

First of all, I hope everyone had a good Christmas. It is just hard to believe how quickly the year has passed. It just seems that we were recently trying to figure out how we were all going to survive the great 2000 millennium problem. Well we did survive despite all the doomsday hype that went along with it.

As we look back over the past year there is a great deal we do have to be thankful for. The winter was a great one as it was rather warm with just enough rain to get us through, compared to some winters where there has been either too much rain or not enough, or way too much snow with all the problems that brings. The summer was a terrific one. It started out somewhat hot with all kinds of predictions of California burning up. Ended up being a little below normal temperature wise and a little above normal humidity wise. As far as the fire season went it was very quite not only for our District but for the State in general. Compared to the rest of the country, California was very fortunate as it turned out to be one of the slowest fire seasons in many years. From a medical standpoint the District had fewer than normal responses and the majority of the ones we did have were not as tragic as we have seen them in the past. We did have several members of our community pass away and they are missed. We also had a few born and they are truly welcomed.

All in all the past year even though it was supposed to start out with all kinds of new problems turned out to be nothing more than an average one and for that we should all be grateful.

Now, when looking at next year we are once again getting dire predictions of bad things happening. The main terrible forecast being the one of electrical rolling blackouts and the shortages of fuels such as propane.

If these events come true then we have no choice but to roll with the punches and do our best to get through it. A rolling electrical blackout should be handled the same way as a winter storm. Losing power up here is not as common as it used to be but still does happen and we should be prepared for it. Extra flashlights, candles, lanterns should be available and in working condition. If you haven't tested your lanterns lately now is a good time. Also, check the amount of fuel you have available. If your heating system requires electricity to work try to obtain a backup-heating source. A wood stove is the most common up here. Before you use it though it should be checked for safety reasons and the chimney cleaned. As far as propane, I don't think it will be as scarce as it will be expensive. Over the past several years there has been a move in our community to go from wood and electric heating sources to propane. Now, I believe that about 80% of the homes in our community use propane as the main heating source. Beside paying the price the only other recourse is to use an alternative heating supply and again up here that is probably a wood stove. Maybe one good thing will come out of this energy manipulation and shortages scenario we are being forced to deal with and that will be the development and utilization of other energy alternatives.

If anyone is dependent on an oxygen generator to support they're breathing or requires electricity for health needs please let us at the fire department know. We have a portable emergency generator for that specific reason and we are willing to bring it to your house to run your oxygen or other medical equipment. We also have extra oxygen tanks at the fire station as a back up. So please let us know, we can help. This generator is only for emergency use, it will only be available for emergency reasons.

The Sheriff's Office has told us that rolling black outs may be a reality for the next several months. They have also assured us that Marshall Hospital, certain critical County buildings, and the phone system will not be impacted. So if you do have an emergency and need help please call 911. We will then be dispatched and on our way.



Published monthly by the MOSQUITO VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

In the meantime lets take life one day at a time, be safe in the process of doing that, hope for the best, and plan for the worse. Be careful and have a good New Year.

SCPOA REPORT

John Moalli

The SCPOA board has been busy dealing with a number of issues including roads, ponds and our long-range plan. You may have noticed some patching work going on along various roads. Our maintenance man, Paul Hinds, along with his sons, have been busy applying the patch material to holes and torn-up areas. No major overlay work is being done this year. A lot of brush adjacent to roads has also been cleared. This was performed by Paul Hinds as well as an outside contractor. We have received many favorable comments about the increased visibility and good looks after removal of the brush.

The board also commissioned a study of our various ponds, which came back with a number of recommendations for removing weeds and other growth to keep the ponds beautiful and healthy for the next several years. We will likely be doing some of the recommended work in the near future.

Our long range plan is also in full swing. We are required by law to create and maintain such a plan so that our common areas and possessions are properly planned for and maintained in the future.

Finally, we will have a number of vacancies on the board next year. If you are interested in keeping your community in ship-shape, consider running for the board; any property owner can !

GEORGETOWN BAZAAR

Evelyn Potter

Two pick-up truck loads of "white elephants" were taken to Georgetown by Ed and Betty Kinney and Fred and Evelyn Potter. It was later reported to us that without our donations, there might not have been a "white elephant" sale at the bazaar and they sent many thanks to the people of Mosquito.

On December 2nd, Hazel Smith and I delivered some wonderful baked goods to Georgetown for the bake sale, that same day. The back of the Bronco was loaded with pies, cookies, cakes, muffins and much more. Thank you so very much to the ladies (and gentlemen) who baked and delivered these items to the fire station.

Once again, the ladies at the bazaar send their thanks to all the Mosquito people who contribute to the success of the Georgetown Bazaar.

MVFD INCIDENTS November 10-December 14

- 3 public assist
- 1 medical aid
- 1 structure fire

CALLING ALL DEER WATCHERS!

Sally Bozeman

If you see a buck running around with some white rope wrapped around his antlers don't be too upset.

A few weeks ago I was watching the birds out my dinning room window and I noticed a deer messing with my single person hammock swing. Well, since the deer are in rut, he attacked it with gusto. When he became tangled up in it he began swinging back and forth. As the hammock got more tangled, his front feet were no longer touching the ground.

Needless to say I became really upset and asked Mark to do something. He said the only thing he could do was shoot him. That didn't sit too well with me so I called the ever-faithful Mosquito Fire Department.

What I wanted to know was if the deer had to be shot, was there a needy family on the hill that would want the meat. During my conversation I moved away from the window so I didn't have to watch the deer struggle. While Devery was explaining to me that he had a deer tag and would come over and take care of my problem, I took another look out the window and the deer and my hammock were gone.

On Monday December 11th, Devery called to say he had seen my hammock still on the deer's head. Others have seen the deer drinking in Dyer Lake. He still has the wooden pole from the hammock swing hanging in his antlers. He is able to eat and drink with his adornment.

If he should lose my hammock in your yard, please let me know. The deer and my hammock have become my special friends.

EMT CLASS

Starting in January the Mosquito Fire Protection District will be putting on an Emergency Medical Technician class. This class will be open to anyone in the community. This class is 112 hours long and will be held from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. twice a week with a few 8 hour Saturdays. If you live in the Mosquito Community there will be no charge for the class. If you would like to participate and become an EMT please contact Leo or Devery at the Fire Station (626-9017) for additional information and to sign up.



IS IT WINTER YET?

Norman Benes

Christmas should be over (except for the bill-paying) and the midnight bash known as New Year's Eve is just a few days away when this edition of weather news arrives.

The last six months of 2000 were relatively quiet. We did have those snow sprinkles around Veteran's Day, but 'twas more of a tease than anything else. Even the raindrops were somewhat scarce... no deluges ("frog stranglers"... "gully washers"). The six-month total is close to normal.

The average six-month total for this portion of the Sierra Nevada foothills is about 12 to 18 inches ranging from 11.50 in Auburn, 11.75 at Sonora to near 13.66 at Placerville. To the north, Nevada City and Grass Valley are the "damp" ones. At 3150 feet elevation, Nevada City's average half-year total is nearly 20 inches (19.86) and Grass Valley's is 17.90. My current year total through December 19th is 12.36 inches. Compare that with the six-month normal of 13.03. One minor rarity did show up: in the records the first six months of 1995 had rain only in November and December. The National Weather Service's winter period out-look for November through January is near normal precipitation, so we will have to see what the rest of December and all of January bring.

The chill (cold?) hangs on. Low temperatures around Thanksgiving were in the middle 30's. There was a brief warm-up around December 7th but then the temperature went down to the lower 30's. The coldest temperature was on the morning of the 18th at 31°. And, would you believe that the highest temperatures were on the 20th of November, 71° and just one degree off on December 3rd at 70°. For the month of November I averaged a high of 59° and a low of 34°. That rounds out to a monthly average of 47°.

Much, much warmer were parts of southern California on December 18th. Check some of these 8:00 AM temperatures: along the coast from Long Beach to Oxnard and inland to Camarillo, readings in the lower 60s. And, Camarillo had that northeasterly Santa Ana wind gusting to near 40 miles per hour. But wait, there is more! Let's go to the northern plains and Rapid City where a northwesterly wind gusting to nearly 50 miles per hour brought a bone-chilling, frigid 18° temperature. The wind-chill: minus 35°. Brrrr!

Not much wind in California's Central Valley. No wind and a cold morning equals fog. Bakersfield with mist, became fog as 34° was both the temperature and the dew point. Fresno had a grey blanket as did Merced and Modesto, with temperatures in the mid 30s. Farther north in "Foggy Bottom" or "Foggy Hollow" was SMF...Sacramento International Airport. The 8:00 AM observation had the visibility down Runway 16 at only 1800 feet. And that, lads and lassies is one of the reasons why so many of us live in this part of California!

In addition to the Happy New Year, welcome the increase in the length of daylight!

WINTER RECIPE

Evelyn Potter

This recipe may have been in our *Byte* about two years ago. I'm not sure when, but it is so very good – and easy – that I thought it is worth reprinting for this winter season.

SWEET POTATO PUFF

3 cups cold mashed sweet potatoes (nothing added)

½ cup granulated sugar

½ cup butter or margarine, melted. **Do not use low fat spread.**

2 eggs, well beaten

⅓ cup milk

1 tsp. vanilla extract

½ cup coconut – flaked or shredded

Topping

½ cup brown sugar, packed

½ cup chopped pecans

2 tbs. butter or margarine, melted

¼ cup all purpose flour

In mixing bowl, beat potatoes, sugar, butter, eggs, milk and vanilla until fluffy. Stir in coconut. Spoon into a greased 2 ½ quart baking dish. Combine topping ingredients in small bowl until well blended. Sprinkle over sweet potatoes. Bake, uncovered at 350° for 35-40 minutes.

All of you good cooks out there – would any of you like to take over the recipe column and give all of us the benefit of your culinary talent? If so, please call Lela at 626-8265 or Pat at 622-6436.

MOSQUITO RESIDENTS START NEW COMPANY

George Kellison and Craig Arsenych have started up a new Internet Service company in town. It is called HiTech Networks. They provide dial-up connection to the Internet from over 600 cities throughout California for \$99 per year, that works out to just \$8.25 per month. They also have a national plan that allows their customers to connect from most anywhere in the US and parts of Canada as well as throughout California. That plan is just \$150 per year or \$12.50 per month. No other provider in the area even comes close to their prices! Every account includes e-Mail and a Web Site. They also host Web Sites for their clients on their high-speed servers located in Placerville.



MOSQUITO ROAD ASSOCIATION MEETING

Ron Stone

During the past years Mosquito Road has become increasingly more damaged due in part to the increase in traffic and in part to the lack of maintenance. This problem with Mosquito Road has prompted a desire to pressure the Department of Transportation into performing some very needed repairs and changes. As with everything there is strength in numbers. So it seemed appropriate to form an association to present to DOT a list of changes and repairs that our community felt was necessary to provide as safe a road as possible into our Mosquito community. Our first meeting was on Wednesday the 29th of November at 7:30 at the Fire Station. There was a great turn out, 38 residents present. Here is a sincere Thank You to all who attended. We had a fairly positive and orderly meeting, with an abundant flow of great ideas. I was so pleased to see such a diverse group of our community join together to tackle the task of prioritizing needed repairs and changes to our road. Of the more than a dozen items listed as major issues, to my amazement road signs topped the list! I didn't expect road signs to have such importance, but after hearing the discussion it seemed appropriate for signage to take first seat. Please keep in mind this group had early on decided that our best approach would be to address those issues that had the greatest chance of being accomplished. We also felt that if we started with items that DOT could accomplish we could express our appreciation and hopefully increase cooperation between DOT and our community.

The type of signs which appeared to be of importance included those to redirect large vehicles to our alternate route (Rock Creek) to Placerville, a sign to remind motorist to yield to uphill traffic. Others were a yield sign at Rock Creek and Mosquito Road intersection, icy road sign north and south of the area between Mosquito Creek and the Goat Doctors. Also it was determined that a sign advising pedestrians that foot traffic on Mosquito Bridge was not advised. There were others discussed, including a sign at 193 and Rock Creek showing that our community really is at the end of the never ending road.

The next item was the narrow stretch of road just above the Cement Bridge (waterfall) on the Placerville side of the American River. There were a few people in attendance who had blown a tire while dodging an on-coming motorist. The group felt that if the ditch was cleared and the pavement extended to the hill, there would be approximately two feet more roadway.

Our third issue was the edges of the road and our turnouts. As we all know, we must drive on the edge of the road. But with the increase of damage to these edges more and more people are driving in the middle of the road. This practice is making travel on Mosquito

Road increasingly dangerous. With the edges repaired we could drive in an area that would provide a safe distance between motorists. The turnouts are also of great importance. I have been proud of how our community, over any other I've seen, uses turnouts. This practice is very considerate to other drivers, and shows the thoughtfulness of the members of our community. With the degradation of the roadway it has become increasingly difficult to use our turnouts.

Our next issue was the repair of dangerous corners. There are many corners, which are blind and/or have rock out-croppings on the inside area. These include the turn prior to the switchbacks where the guardrail is, and also the turn where Mosquito Cut-off Road intersects Mosquito Road. Our group felt that repairing these turns would increase the safety factor on our road greatly. Other turns include the one at Mosquito and La Paz and the switchback prior to the bridge.

Our last issue was the chip seal of the entire stretch of Mosquito Road from Union Ridge to the end of the pavement. The resurfacing would help with the icy areas as well as provide a seal to prevent water from undermining what road we have left. There were other issues that need to be addressed, but it seemed advantageous to start with the issues presented so as not to totally overwhelm DOT. As further information is gathered and as the list is addressed by DOT, I will present the information via the *Mosquito Byte*.

The next meeting of the Mosquito Road Association will be held on January 17th at 7:30 at the Mosquito Fire Station. Thanks to all who gave up their evening to address this needed road problem. For more information or comments you may call me (Ron Stone) at 622-1585

THANK YOU

Lee and Pat Hair wish to say "thank you" to all those people who expressed concern on Pat's recent mishap.

GOST INCREASE

Due to increased printing and postage costs, the price of a year's subscription to the *Byte* has been increased to \$10.00. We're sorry to increase the price but we do not want the Mosquito Volunteer Fire Department to defray any of the cost of publishing the *Byte*. The editors' and reporters' salaries remain the same - \$0.00! Not even a free subscription!

PHONE BOOK TIME IS COMING!

We hope to have the Mosquito Phone Book updated in a few months. This book is sponsored by the Mosquito Volunteer Fire Department and contains information on residents in our community. If you are not listed in the April 1999 book please contact us. Names are listed with the consent of the resident. If your name was in the last book and you wish to not have it in the update, again please let us know. Do you have a new neighbor? Ask them if they want to be in the phone book and let us know. If you have any suggestions for additional content please contact us. We appreciate your assistance!

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The *MOSQUITO BYTE* is available by subscription and is mailed first class to subscribers. Cost of subscription is \$10.00 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*. The Mosquito Volunteer Fire Department accepts ads from subscribers without endorsement.

See the phone book article for editor information.

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.

MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Square dancing lessons for new dancers, every Thursday at 6:30 p.m. at the IOOF Hall in downtown Placerville, 469 Main Street, upstairs dance floor. For further information call Loren at 626-1231.

SERVICES

LOCAL INTERNET SERVICE PROVIDER: \$99 per Year - Lowest Price Around; No Set-up Fees (\$35 Savings); No Monitoring; No Limitation; No Hidden Fees - Just Good Service; Free e-Mail / Free WEB Site; Call TODAY (530) 295-8590. HiTech Networks, 681 Main Street, Suite 204-A, Placerville, CA 95667 Visit our WEB site <http://www.hitechnetworks.net>
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CHIMNEY SWEEP for hire, 27 years experience. Wood stoves - pellet stoves - fireplaces - dryer vents - gutters. Repairs - installations - problem solving. Richard Smith 622.2990.

VICK'S PLUMBING: Call Victor Garcia at 530-626-6493.

AD CLEANING: Always Dependable, Residential and Commercial Cleaning; Free estimates, Reasonable rates; Bonded, California Lic. #025055. Call Edna Cerini 530-344-9432.

CAN'T GET OUT? Mobile beauty services provided for men and women. Specializing in hair cuts, pedicures and perms in your home. 626-0307

IS MOSQUITO ROAD ROUGH ON YOUR VEHICLE? Give "Hippie" a call at *Mosquito Auto*, specialist in transmissions, brakes, tune-ups. 642-2867.

WOOD SPLITTING: Winter's coming. \$20. per hour. Call 626-8856

QUILTING.....Long arm machine quilting in Swansboro. Call Bennett Quiltworks at 642-9626

IF YOU ARE GOING ON VACATION we can do pet and garden care. Call the Pearson's at 621-1653.

I CAN RUN YOUR ERRANDS, do shopping or even help with cooking meals. Call Jean Pearson at 621-1653.

ARTIST: All subjects (portraits, landscapes, animals) all media (watercolor, oil, pencil, pen and ink, etc.) Makes great birthday or anniversary gifts. Call Ann, 622-6447.

DON'S CRITTER CARE: Pets, livestock and gardens, too. While you're away. Also, I do mail box installation and repair. Reasonable rates. References. Call 622-7622.

NEED SOMEONE to take care of your yard, plants, animals when you are away? Or do you need a baby sitter? Then I'm your answer! Responsible, reliable and caring at a low cost. Call Whitney at 295-9190.

FOR HIRE - DUMP TRUCK. Edd Darr 622-8648.

ROBERTI ROOFING License #754951. Call Nick Roberti at 626-7116 or 957-6399.

HOUSE CLEANING Reference available. Free estimates. Lisa Harvey, 626-1524.

DENTISTRY: Dr. Robert Catron, a Mosquito resident, has 10 years of experience in General Dentistry and Orthodontics. Consistent with the past, Dr. Catron donates 5 % of his earnings from Mosquito residents to the Mosquito Volunteer Fire Department. For a no charge consultation, please call and schedule an appointment at 676-7777.

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

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

GOODYMZ 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 g00dtyzm@pacbell.net.

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 295-8112 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.

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. PROPERTY MANAGEMENT: 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.

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

FOR SALE

PINE DRESSER with mirror and display top and 7 drawers and King size **pine 4 poster bed**. Both for \$95.00. 626.9384

'91 JEEP COMANCHE, new clutch, 4 wheel drive, runs great - with camper shell \$3,500. 626-0979.

1985 MERCURY GRAND MARQUIS, 4 door sedan; A/C; power steering, windows and door locks; cruise control; AM/FM/Cassette; Premium wheels. \$2,500. Call 622-9492 or 295-8140.

BRAND NEW GAS DRYER \$100. Call 344-0422

GE Profile, Large Capacity, washer and dryer set, 3.5 years old, \$400. Call 622-6728.

FURNITURE: Country Pine **dinette set** - 6 upholstered chairs/rectangular table/open hutch and serving buffet all for \$1200; Oak informal **dinette set** with 4 chairs \$450; Mauve Victorian style **sectional couch** \$900; **Student desk** hardwood \$500. All furniture in great shape. Call 626-5699.

TERRY TRAVEL TRAILER; 1964, 12' very good condition. \$700 Call Bob 622-5702.

FIRE WOOD Edd Darr 622-8648.

LAWN MOWER high wheel, 5 HP runs great, has broken bolt for blade. \$20.00 622-1336

PRICE REDUCED! Frontier 1980 heavy wood stove, 29 inches high, 26 1/2 by 21 inches square, cast iron. \$200. 622-9492 or 295-8140.

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



JANUARY, 2001

ALL MEETINGS ARE AT THE MOSQUITO FIRE STATION UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 	2	3	4	5	6 SUPPORT GROUP 10:00 AM
7	8	9	10	11 MFPD BOARD MEETING 7:30 PM	12	13
14	15 	16	17 ROAD COMMITTEE MEETING 7:30 PM	18	19	20 SCPOA BOARD MEETING MVFD BOARD MEETING
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

**CALL DEVERY OR LEO AT 626.9017 FOR THE DATES OF THE
ENT GLASSES**



Mosquito Bite
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