

**M
O
S
Q
U
I
T
O**

**B
Y
T
H
E**

Published monthly
by the Mosquito
Volunteer
Fire Department



H O T O F F T H E P R E S S

For those of you who missed the book signing at the fire station for "The Goat Doctor of the Sierras" by Gloria Hockensmith you can check with the Placerville News Company in downtown Placerville across Main Street from the Bell Tower and with the El Dorado County Historical Museum at the Fair Grounds on Placerville Drive.

F R O M T H E C H I E F

Chief Leo Chaloux

As we are two months into the new year the fire department finds that from a membership standpoint we are doing real good. There are 24 active Volunteer Fire Fighters on the roster and 25 Support Group Members. That is a full roster, one we have not had in some time and thankfully we have a lot of new people who have made it possible. The current roster has a mix of seasoned and experienced fire fighters along with those who have just joined and are in the Fire Fighter I class. Together the older and newer fire fighters will get the incident completed.

The Fire Department consists of many members that fortunately work together as a team in order to respond to and solve the many problems that come our way. The most visible members are the

"They (the spouses) are the first providers that care and support the rest of us."

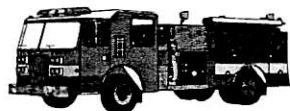
Volunteer Fire Fighters who are the first to step into a situation and carry it out through to a successful end. Enabling the Volunteers to do what they need to do are the Support Group Members. One other group often overlooked, but yet extremely valuable is that group known as the other halves, the spouses. They are the ones that make it possible for a person to be a Volunteer Fire Fighter or a Support Group member. They are the first providers that care and support the rest of us.

Over the past years I have seen on many occasions especially on holidays when a fire fighter was responding to an incident when they were probably being missed at home. Christmas is a prime example, seems something always goes wrong on this special day and I am always impressed with how many fire department members will arrive on scene and do what ever it takes for however long it takes. I know there are wives, husbands and kids at home wondering why they are doing what they are doing and when will they be back.

On the larger incidents such as a wild land fire or when bad weather really has an impact on the community the one fire department group overlooked are the spouses. When the fire fighters are out doing what ever it takes the rest of the family is left alone at home dealing with the uncertainty of what could happen. Many times there is no one checking on them making sure they are alright, we just assume they can take care of themselves and they usually do.

All things are done to make sure everyone gets back home quickly and above all safely after all there is someone waiting for them at home. Those who are at home are special people and they need to be thanked, for if they were not there those who volunteer may not be there.

To all of those who provide the care and support to all members of the fire department, I and those of us in this community can only say thank you.



MOSQUITO FIRE DEPARTMENT TO REPLACE SQUAD 75

Dean Edson

The equipment acquisition history of our Mosquito Fire Department provides a glimpse of how well this community has worked together to establish a "second to none" emergency response capability. When we look back in time 20 years, we see a stable of rolling stock assembled from used parts and, essentially, worn out vehicles and it was only through steadfast determination by the local volunteers that we were able to keep our fleet operating and provide emergency response. Our records indicate that in the year 1981 we received 46 calls for help. Of these 22 were medical emergencies.

Today, the picture has changed considerably. Our response load ration is now more typical of the rest of El Dorado County. Over the past two years, the ratio, on average, is about 85% medical and only 15% everything else.

The change in the type of response has shifted the "first out" load to our Squad 75 which carries all the Advanced Life Support (ALS) equipment along with Over the Bank lines, tackle and auto extraction equipment.

It's interesting to note at this point that Squad 75, a 1975 International, was acquired from the Danville, California Fire Department in 1984 and was retired from their service because it was worn out. So as a "fixer-upper" this unit has served us for many years. And now it's really worn out and time to go.

Our recently approved 10 year plan includes the replacement of Squad 75 with a new Type A engine. This new unit will carry all the ALS equipment plus have the capability of responding to other types of emergencies. The basic specifications call for medical equipment, a 1000 g.p.m. pump with foam capability and a dependable Cummings diesel engine with automatic transmission.

The new engine will become the "first out" unit for any type of emergency including over-the bank rescue, auto accidents involving fire and trauma and of course structure protection, wild land fire and of course medical calls.

You will be able to see this new unit in our Mosquito District sometime this early summer and the Volunteer Fire Fighters will be having an open house to show it off and demonstrate its wide range of capabilities. By the way – it will be fire engine red!

M V F D N E W S

Debbie Minor

We have a new board member. Chris Dillender has taken Jean Pearson's position on the board. Jean has been on the board since November 1998 and has decided it is time to take a break. Welcome to the board Chris!

Also Nancy Miller has decided that she will resign from the board. She has been with the board since November of 2000. In light of this departure we are looking for a new board member and will be seeking someone from either the Support Group or the Firefighters. If any of you are interested please give me a call at 621-3533 or join us at our next board meeting on March 7th. Our meetings are held the first Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the fire station. The meetings are open to the public if you wish to stop in and observe or wish to lend us a hand with upcoming functions or have some ideas you wish to share.

We are having a Pancake breakfast and bake sale on March 9th. See announcement for this event within the *Byte*.

On March 23rd, we are having our annual Easter Egg Hunt. Please mark this date on your calendar. It will start at 10:00 a.m. at Finnon Lake in the campground area. In the event it is raining or snowing that day please go to the Fire Station. We are asking for donations of candy to fill our eggs with or if you prefer you can leave a donation of money. Please drop by either donation to the firehouse no later than Wednesday March 20th. We are **not** doing hard-boiled eggs this year. If you are interested in helping with this event please give Rosemary a call at 626-0979.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THE FOLLOWING MVFD ACTIVITIES

Pancake Breakfast	March 9
Easter Egg Hunt	March 23
Taco Feed	May 4
Annual Fireman's Picnic	July 27
Fall Spaghetti Feed	September 21
Halloween Party	October 26
Annual Christmas Party	December 14

CRAFT REPORT

The deadline for the Mosquito Byte is before our February Craft meeting so this is only an update of planned activities and a correction to the meeting dates.

Our first Craft Sale is set for June 1st at the Cameron Park Airport from 8am to 3pm. We need to have as many crafts to sell as possible. We will be busy doing "summer event" crafts at our meetings, but do hope that you will help us out by not only coming to our craft meetings but work on crafts at home. We will arrange to pick up your items or have them dropped off at the Firehouse before mid May. All of our proceeds go to our Mosquito Volunteer Fire Department, so please help support your fire community.

Meetings:

Future meetings are scheduled for the 4th Friday of each month at Darlene Rood's home

Time: 9:30 - 11:30 am

Location: 2211 Swansboro Road

Dates: March 22, April 26, May 24, June 28, July 26, August 23, September 27, October 25 and November 22

We hope to see you at our next craft meeting on March 22nd. Come and meet your neighbors, share ideas and help make our community even better. If you have any questions or need further information, please call Sharon Hern at 626-5268.

M A N Y T H A N K S

I'd like to thank my friends and co-workers who helped make my 86th birthday a week long event - for all the cards, flowers, gifts and goodies. The surprise at our February 7th meeting was doubly enjoyable. That sugar free cake was fabulous.

Love, Lois Pearson

P H O N E B O O K

u p d a t e

Change

KELLY, Michael

to

KELLEY, Michael and Leslie-Ann

B R E A D T W I S T

R E C I P E

Evelyn Potter

Try this with spaghetti, beans or almost anything.

Not as hard as it appears. Makes 16

¼ c grated Parmesan cheese

½ t dried basil

½ t dried oregano

½ t pepper

1 egg white lightly beaten

1 T cold water

1 can (11 oz.) refrigerated breadstick dough

1. Preheat oven to 350°. Spray 2 baking sheets with nonstick cooking spray. Combine Parmesan cheese, oregano, basil and pepper in small bowl. Mix well and set aside. Beat egg white with cold water, set aside.

2. Unroll breadstick dough; separate along perforation lines.

3. Cut each dough strip in half lengthwise to make two separate strips about ½ inch thick.

4. Pat half of cheese and herb mixture onto dough strips, pressing firmly to adhere.

5. Twist each strip of dough on baking sheet to form bread twist. Brush twists with egg mixture; sprinkle twists with remaining cheese/herb mixture. Bake until golden brown, about 15 minutes. Transfer to wire rack to cool.

Y.A.N.A. - YOU ARE NOT ALONE

This program is designed to provide daily phone contact to individuals with limited family or community assistance. This a free "check-in" call service. Contacting participants on a daily basis helps monitor their well-being and gives them a sense of security. It is maintained by the El Dorado County Sheriff supported by STAR, the Sheriffs Team of Active Retirees. For information regarding this program contact the EDC Department of Community Services, 937 Spring Street, Placerville, 621-6159.

S C P O A

Bill George

Your new SCPOA Board of Directors held a special meeting on Saturday, February 16. The only agenda item was the election of officers. There were no members of the association other than the directors and the Secretary in attendance.

The following officers were selected:

President – George Kellison

Vice President – Rob Kirkpatrick

Treasurer – Pete Stressenger

Directors also were selected to serve on the 8 standing committees:

Architectual Review

Budget & Long Range Planning

Bylaws & DC&Rs

Common Areas/Fences

Nominating

Roads

Runway

Website

Our next regular meeting will be Saturday, March 9, 2002 at 09:00 AM. Please plan to attend, this is your organization, and the members of the Board welcome your input.

F I C K L E F E B R U A R Y

Norm Benes

The first 15 days almost balmy with highs averaging in the low sixties...even a few at 70°. And there was only one day with rain (0.96"). Then on Sunday the 17th a trace of wet, slushy snow in the morning, and a cold, drizzly remainder of the day. What will the rest of this last month of the meteorological winter bring?

The second half of February will have to be much, much colder than the first half to approach a normal month. In the decade of the nineties this area averaged highs in the low fifties and minimums in the mid-thirties. Precipitation was substantial...almost nine inches. But, that rain total was fickle. Consider 17.02" in 1998 yet only 0.95" in 1995. After the heavier rains in the last third of the nineties, the new century is trending toward drier. We'll have to watch the future unfold.

Before a look at an average March, a quick look back at the way January went into the record book. Dry..certainly in the middle of the month. Precipitation was bunched at the beginning and end of the month. Should there be a mention of the ice that stayed, and stayed, and was just worn away? The cold overnight temperatures were in the second half of the month...dragging the monthly minimums three degrees below normal.

Little rain equals fewer clouds. That tends to keep daily high temperatures near normal as sun's rays warmed the ground. The mid-fifties in the first half boosted the near 50° to a monthly average for

maxima to 52.9° at normal.

The nearly cloud-free skies let that daytime heat scoot skyward. Furnaces and wood-stoves must have been on high blower overnight!

What kind of March is the norm for the Mother Lode? On a high note the daily highs are bunched around 62° degrees. Night time lows skid to about 39°. And rain is grouped around 6½"; around 8" in the north and close to 6" in the south. At my place, highs have averaged 62.3°, the lows 36.4° and precipitation 5.27". With a jaunty January and a fickle February could the new year continue in the same vein with a madcap March?

On a darn, dreary, drizzly, damp Tuesday (19th) the snow was falling at mid or higher levels in the Sierra. While there was a weak, upper level (18000 feet) ridge along the northern California coast, very cold air (minus 40° ...either Celsius or Fahrenheit as both identical) was at the head of the Gulf of Alaska. If the weak ("dirty") ridge near the California coast edges away from our coast then that cold, polar air could sweep south bringing a breezy, frigid regime even as far south as the northern portions of Mexico. Shiver me timbers! Provided that extended excursion into the future, then March might usher in as the proverbial lion – going out as the meek lamb.

That meteorological outlook, if followed closely by that Grand Dame (Mother Nature) would have a relatively dry period and just the abnormally cold temperatures. An accurate scenario would keep precipitation to a minimum. The events at February's passing should be quite interesting.

There's a story regarding a gladiator and two doors in the arena: behind one a tiger, behind the other a lady. He has a free choice. What will the Ides of March bring?

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, 95667-9081. 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.

Editors: Lela Edson - 530-626-8265

edson@hitechnetworks.net

FAX: 530-295-1589

Pat Relfe - 530-622-6436 relfe@starband.net

FAX 530-622-6436

A D V E R T I S I N G

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.

HELP WANTED

CAREGIVERS NEEDED - Local home care agency has immediate openings for Homemakers, CNAs and HHAs at every level of experience. Various schedules available. Call (530) 622-9020.

FREE

LIVING ROOM COUCH, only 3 years old, in great shape except for cat scratched edges Call Leslie or Pat, 621-0508

WANTED

SMALL TRAILER OR WAGON to tow behind my all-terrain motorized wheelchair to haul compost, leaf-mulch, firewood, etc. Call Fred Adams at 642-9441.

MEETINGS AND EVENTS

MOUNTAIN FELLOWSHIP Mosquito/Swansboro area residents and visitors can now attend Christian fellowship, Bible studies for all ages, and participate in ministering to the spiritual and physical needs of this area without driving off the hill. The Sunday Bible study begins at 9:30 a.m. followed by a Celebration service at 11a.m. MOUNTAIN FELLOWSHIP is a non-denominational congregation of Christ's church. The Celebration service features contemporary music, prayer, testimony and the Word of God. All events are held at 3342 Stope Drive in Swansboro. For more information about MOUNTAIN FELLOWSHIP call 621-4282 and visit our Web site at <<http://www.cmna.net/mfom>>

SERVICES

CHILD CARE: In my Swansboro home. I can watch infants/children. Please call Connie at 344-9394 or e-mail connietinker@hotmail.com

AVON INDEPENDENT SALES and Leadership Representative would like to fill your shopping needs. To buy - or if you would like to sell Avon products - give me a call. 957-8518.

MASSAGE: Therapeutic Massage* and Infant Massage & Communication Classes offered in Mosquito. Call Samantha Ford, 344-1744 for appointment. *male clients by referral only.

CREATIVE MEMORIES--Is the cold, wet weather keeping you in the house a lot? Now is a great time to pull your photos out of those hidden corners and get them into attractive, photo-safe albums! I can help you do it in fun, fast, creative ways. Host a class in your home and you can earn free products of your choice! Call Diana Adams at 642-9441.

TRACTOR SERVICES: Bush hog, loader, box scraper and snow removal. \$55.00 per hour. Call 642-0338

WEB DESIGN: Need a website? I offer cutting edge graphic design, logos and brochures. www.instep-in.com. Call Seth Ford at 344-1744.

FAX, COPIES AND PHOTO REPRODUCTION services available right here in Mosquito! I'll make regular copies or color copies for you at reasonable prices. Color or old Black & White photos reproduced from originals, wallet size to 8 by 10; enlargements & reductions. Call Fred Adams at 642-9441.

CUSTOM PET PORTRAITURE by nationally renown artist Tamara Burnett. Have your pet forever immortalized in a fine watercolor portrait by Tamara. She is very well known for her highly detailed, realistic, jewel-like watercolor renditions of animals as well as for her uncanny ability to capture her subject's essence through the expression in their eyes. Please visit her web site or call for more information. web site: www.innercite.com/~burnett/Burnett Phone: 626-1884 (days), 626-3686 (eves)

KELLY'S HOUSE CLEANING: For all of your house cleaning needs. Affordable and trustworthy with previous experience. Will have your house sparkling after every cleaning! Weekly, bi-weekly or one time clean. Will also do windows, yard work etc. Anything you need - I'll do! Call for a free estimate today! I have lived on the hill my whole life! References available. Kelly Stults at 621-4168.

CUSTOM BUILT COMPUTERS...In SWANSBORO!! YES, We come direct to your home, 7 Days a week, at YOUR convenience! Call Jeff at: 642-9386 or 9388. email; llranch@hitechnetworks.net

REAL ESTATE SALES ~ personal & professional service! Call agent, Sally Long Johns (530) 295-4641 for all your real estate needs. I won't leave you hanging!

Local HANDYMAN FOR RENT. 30+ years as a carpenter. Also does odd jobs, painting, brush removal, etc. Call and leave a message for Doug @621-3533

PILOTS - ARE YOU CURRENT & PROFICIENT? Flight Reviews and Instrument Proficiency Checks. Also ask me about the FAA Wings Program. Ratings include CFI Single &

Multi-Engine Land and Instrument. Bill George 530-642-8063.

HORSE AND PET CARE TLC Pet sitting, Western Pleasure Show Training; Horse Training, the gentle way; Horse hauling with care. 20 plus years experience. 530-642-9386.

SWANSBORO LAND & HOMES: Specializing in Mosquito/Swansboro real estate. Debbie and Rusty Harris have 32 years experience "on the hill." 530-622-6822

LOCAL INTERNET SERVICE PROVIDER: \$114 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>, e-mail : info@hitechnetworks.net

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.

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

WOOD SPLITTING:\$20. per hour. Call 622-8711

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

HOUSE CLEANING Reference available. Free estimates. Lisa Harvey, 626-1496.

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 g00dtymz@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.

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.

FOR SALE

A LARGE COLLECTION OF RECORDS to choose from. Albums, \$1.00 each, 45's and 78's, .50 cents, each. 45's not yet ready for sale but will arrange for them to be seen soon. Also for sale are vintage Department 56 Pieces and a number of Collector Plates such as B&G, Royal Copenhagen and Wedgewood. Other miscellaneous items as we finish unpacking things that have been packed for years. Please call for appointment to see what's available. Thanks. Larry 530-621-1071

.84 CHEVETTE for sale. New brakes, good tires, runs well. Stored in Swansboro \$ 300. call: 415 - 897-8548

DOLPHIN COLLECTION \$250 or best offer. 295-3355.

CUSTOM LOG HOME for sale by owner. 3 bedroom, including loft, 2 bath, 1330 sq. ft. Incredible view of the American River Canyon, Slab Creek Reservoir and snow capped Crystal Mountain peaks . House is made with 10 inch diameter logs and has an open floor plan with vaulted ceilings. Oak cabinetry, propane heat, water softener and Trex decking. Seller motivated. \$189,500. Call Stuart at 530-409-8996.

1974, 25' TERRY TRAVEL TRAILER, with A/c. \$1,750.00. Call 642-2867.

1980 KINCAID PIANO, Model 2385/20, good starter piano \$200: 1980 HONDA MOPED, in good shape but needs carburetor work \$50: L-shaped EXECUTIVE DESK, in great shape \$75: 1982 Montgomery Ward upright FREEZER \$100: Two L-shaped COMPUTER DESKS, one in great shape, one with minor flaw \$25 each. Call Leslie or Pat, 621-0508

A/C PUMP FOR TOYOTA, new , never used,\$50.00. HYDRAULIC PRESS PLATES, steel, w/ notch. 1x4x10" \$1.50 ea. (Have a bunch) LOCKERS, 1 unit 6 ½ ' tall, 9 1/2' long, 1' deep. Openings are: 36 ea. @12x12x12" and 6 ea. @

12x36x12" - all with lockable doors. \$30.00. SUMP PUMP, 110v, w/float switch, never used, \$40.00 642-1240 or 622-6337

Full size truck CAMPER SHELL. The camper shell is in good condition, needs some dusting. \$75, OBO. FULL SIZE TRUCK TOOL BOX. In good shape, just a bit rusty. \$50 OBO. Call Dominique at 344-1744.

TWO GIRL'S BICYCLES, Good condition. \$30 each. Call 622-0524.

2 SMALL ANIMAL CAGES good for Guinea Pigs - \$10 each. 642-8801

Ornate, dark wood DINING ROOM TABLE, chairs and buffet for sale \$400.00 642-8801

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

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

EASTER EGG HUNT

10:00 a.m. Saturday, March 23

Finnon Lake

(If it happens to be stormy weather or snowing
candy will be given out at the fire station)

Sponsored by the Mosquito Volunteer Fire Department

Please bring donations of candy or money to the fire station by March 20th.

If you would like to help with this event call

Rosemary 626-0979 or Debbie 621-3533



FLAPJACK FRENZY

Pancake Breakfast

Sponsored by the Mosquito Volunteer Fire Department

Saturday, March 9 - 8 a.m. to 11 a.m.

at the fire station

Adults \$4.50 and children over four \$2.00

Menu includes pancakes, eggs, ham, coffee, orange juice and milk

Proceeds will benefit the fire department



