



# Mosquito Byte

November 2002

VOLUME 16 #4

## MEET THE CANDIDATES NIGHT

Mosquito Fire Station  
Wednesday, October 30.  
7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

The format to the night will be as follows:

Each candidate will be allowed a 2 minute introduction, with a 3 minute explanation of what that candidate will plan to do if elected to the position they are running for.

After all candidates have given their speech we will open it up to the floor to ask questions. Each person asking a question will have one minute to state his or her concern or inquiry. The response to the question will be no longer than 2 minutes.

We ask that all attending please follow this format so that we will be able to give all who wish to speak a chance.

## INSURANCE SERVICES OFFICE RATING

Chief Leo Chaloux

Lately I have been receiving many phone calls regarding the ISO. So I thought I would take this opportunity to explain exactly what this acronym stands for. The ISO is the Insurance Services Office, an organization that provides information and services to the insurance industry, to insurance brokers, writers, underwriters and financial organizations.

One very important service the ISO offers is the testing and rating of Fire Departments throughout the country. With this rating an insurance company is able to look at a prospective property that is requesting insurance and determine what the possible risk and therefore what the insurance premium cost for that property may be. The ISO has developed a rating scale that ranges from 1 to 10 with 1 being the best possible rating a fire department can have to a 10 which is the worse. To get an ISO 1 you just about need to have a hydrant in your front yard, and a fire station with two full time engine companies across the street.

In determining this rating schedule the ISO developed a method of testing a fire departments ability to suppress a structure fire. Being a rating service for the insurance companies all they care to

test and thus judge is a fire departments structure suppression ability. They do not take into account what the department's wild land fire suppression capabilities, what additional public services are offered or even what kind of emergency medical services are provided. Not only does the ISO judge the fire department but it also looks at the water supply capability of the area being served by the fire department and the dispatch agency the fire department uses. In fact the ISO has a scale of 100 points and if it is determined the fire department has been judged to have 100 points then the rating would be a ISO of 1. Of the 100 points a fire department can be given 50 are from the actual capability of the fire department, 40 are from the water supply in the area, and 10 are from the dispatch center. This is a lot like taking a test with the person sitting next to you earning 40% of your score and someone in the next room being responsible for 10% of your total. No matter how smart you are the most you as an individual can hope to do is 50% and with most tests that is a failing score.

All fire departments strive to get the lowest possible ISO rating they can. It is a measure of your department's abilities as compared to other departments throughout the country. That has been the goal of the Mosquito Fire Protection District since

it became a fire district. In 1981 the District was tested and was found to have an ISO 6 rating in the areas of Swansboro that had a hydrant system. The remainder of the District had an ISO rating of 10. The main reason for having the ISO 10 was due to the fact the department only had one rated pumper at the time and a water tender that only carried 2000 gallons of water. In order to get a lower rating than a 10 a fire department has to have the capability of pumping 200 gallons per minute for 20 minutes without using water hydrants. With only one water tender in 1981 it was impossible to do. In 1987 when I became Chief with the support of the Board of Directors a goal was set to lower the ISO 10 to that of an ISO 8. That was done when the District purchased a 3000 gallon water tender in 1990. This new tender gave us that capability of pumping the 200 gallons per minute. I requested ISO test our department and since they have a policy of testing every 15 years that test came about in 1996.

I learned a great deal from that testing process. The ISO tester spent five days testing the District with two of those days looking through my files at training records; pump test, inventories, and engine age and ability. One day was spent at Camino Dispatch where their capabilities were evaluated. One day was spent looking at the hydrant water system. That process was interesting as we were penalized due to EID not having the ability to supply the 650 gallons per minute fire flow rate needed to put a structure fire out in our District. Also, the water storage tank was not full enough and the wells supplying the EID system just could not keep up with normal demand. However, we were able to keep the ISO 6 but were not able to get any rating better no matter how many more engines or fire fighters we had. The water supply was just not there. The last day was the actual testing of the fire department and its ability to pump that magic 200 gallons per minute for 20 minutes. For us even though we had two engines we just used one along with both tenders. The test was a breeze and we were able to do it very easily. That earned the District an ISO 8; in fact it is called a Rural 8 and that is the best rating we can get unless a water system is put in by EID. Even if we had two more tenders and 10 more engines the best we could do without a hydrant system is a Rural 8. This is not only our problem but also one that exists through out the country.

In 2011 we should be coming up for another ISO test. We now have three Class A engine pumpers with each capable of pumping 1000 gallons per

minute and two water tenders that can transport 5000 gallons of water. All in all we carry 7000 gallons of water to a fire. I am confident in 2011 the fire department will earn all 50 points of the 100 possible. Camino Dispatch is now considered a state of the art multi-jurisdictional Dispatch center so there are another 10 points. I just hope EID expands its system through out the District so that everyone can have an ISO 6.

One other note. As stated the ISO does not care about a fire departments ability to provide emergency medical services, auto extrication, or any other public services. Since as with most fire departments 70% of what we do is medical an emphasis has been made by the Board to provide EMT services to the people. It is too bad the ISO does not rate a fire department on its total abilities but then they just care about your house and not your life.

## In Memory of Clarence Bernards

### MOSQUITO VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS

Debbie Minor

This issue of the *Byte* will be going to the press before the Halloween Party on October 26th, but I am sure that it will be a great success. It is still not too late to help with this event. Contact Belinda Brent or show up the night of to help.

On November 7<sup>th</sup>, the Mosquito Volunteer Fire Department Board of Directors will be holding their regular monthly meeting and annual elections. We still have one position open for a person from the Support Group if any of you within that group are interested. The meeting is at the Fire Station at 7 p.m. and elections occur at the end of the meeting. Our primary responsibilities are fund raising for the Fire Department, events for the community and our Fannon Lake Project.

Our Italiano Night was a great success. Many members of our community showed up to eat all that wonderful food. I would like to personally thank everyone that helped to make this event come together as magnificently as it did.

It's a honey of a fundraiser for the Mosquito

Volunteer Fire Department and local honey representative Tom Harshman of Hidden Canyon Ranch as they host a Honey and Biscuits Breakfast on November 16 at the Mosquito Fire Station. Donation is \$5.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children. Proceeds from the Honey and Biscuits Breakfast will go to the Mosquito Volunteer Fire Department. The event is part of a national effort to raise money for volunteer fire departments around the country. Contact Chris Dillender, Ron Stone or Debbie Minor for more information.

Happy Halloween!

## THANKS FROM OUR MOSQUITO KIDS

Nancy Stone

Our Mosquito kids say THANK YOU to each and every person who came to our Wish Wash, Car Wash. You were all so patient and supportive of us. Our oldest car washer was 12, and our youngest car washer was 2. Our super washers were Ryan and Sven Joesph, Adam Minor, Amber Stender, Stephanie Stienbauch, Sidney Kellison, Samantha Lawson, Meredith and Elizabeth Stone.



Together they raised \$280 for the new PLAYGROUND they hope to have at Fannon Lake. Our Mosquito children would like a fun playground to play, and share with the camping children. We also want to thank all you customers who helped wash your cars and other peoples vehicles. We thought you were awesome. But, our absolute favorite rig that we washed was the Big Red Fire Truck. Thank You Chief Chaloux. We hope to see all of you again at our next car wash this spring!

Thanks Again, Your Mosquito Kids

### VET VISIT

Dr. Lisa Couper, mobile veterinarian will be at the Mosquito Fire Station on Sunday, November 17 from 9:00 am 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.

## Graft Report

Sharon Hern

We need to have as many crafts to sell as possible. We 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 drop them off at the Fire Station All of our proceeds go to our Mosquito Volunteer Fire Department, so please help support your fire community.

Our last Craft Sale for this year will be at the First Baptist Church on Cold Springs Road, Friday, November 8<sup>th</sup> - 10am to 6pm and Saturday, November 9<sup>th</sup> - 10am to 3pm

We need volunteers for these sales. If you would be able to help us out on any of these dates please call Sharon Hern at 626-5268.

We need the following items: 8x10 picture frames & 5x7 mats. If you have any of these to spare please give me a call. Thanks.

Meetings:

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

Next Meeting: October 25

Time: 9:30 - 11:30 am

Location: 2211 Swansboro Road

Dates: October 25 and November 22

## Georgetown Divide Health Care Auxiliary

The annual Georgetown Divide Health Care Auxiliary Christmas Bazaar on December 7, 2002. Is approaching. We will be collecting "useable" white elephants and baked goods.

White elephants are those items that you no longer need or want that are not broken. No furniture or clothing please and only small appliances that work. Books, Games with all of the pieces and Toys that are not broken are needed.

The proceeds from this event are distributed to the 3 Fire Districts in the Divide area.. Our Volunteer Fire Department uses this donation towards medical equipment or medical supplies. So once again please support your Mosquito Volunteer Fire Department.

We are now collecting the White Elephant items, so give us a call for pick up or drop them off at the Fire House.

We will need the following items for the bake sale: Cakes, Cookies, Pies, Breads, Candy and homemade Jellies. These items will need to be at the Fire House no later than 8:30 am on Saturday December 7<sup>th</sup> I will be happy to pick up your baked goods on Friday, just give me a call. If you have any questions please call Sharon Hern at 626-5268.

**The following candidates for the Mosquito Fire Protection District Board of Directors have submitted articles regarding their candidacy. The articles are in alphabetical order.**

#### **Dean Edson**

My candidacy for Director, Mosquito Fire Protection District is based on a long standing interest in seeing the response to both fire and medical emergencies become among the best in El Dorado County. I have been a resident of Mosquito for more than 20 years having moved here after retiring from the U. S. Geological Survey as Chief of Cartography.

I served as a volunteer Fire Fighter with the Mosquito Fire Department for over 15 years and am now a member of the Support Group. I have been on the Mosquito Fire Protection District Board for over 10 years.

The problems we face in maintaining the most comprehensive and fastest response for emergencies have increased dramatically in the past ten years. State and County mandates along with the increase in population in our District have proven to be a real challenge when operating on a limited income. These and other issues will face our community in the future and I believe I have the on-site experience to insure the continued cost effective growth and improved performance of our Fire Department. I ask for your vote in the up coming election to insure that we are not left behind in any aspect of our critical emergency response.

#### **Ralph E. Hern**

For the last 6 years it has been my pleasure to serve the residents of Mosquito/Swansboro as a board member of the Mosquito Fire Protection District. I am seeking re-election because I want to continue to provide the experienced, common-sense leadership that has helped this District meet El Dorado County's highest standards for fire and emergency medical response.

After 29 years, I retired from a career with the Sunnyvale Department of Public Safety which included service as a Fire Battalion Chief and then as the Chief Officer. I earned a MA degree in Public Service Administration from the University of San Francisco. I have been in this area since 1978. First as a "part-time" homeowner and the last 9 years as a permanent resident.

We are a Fire District with very limited funding. Yet we are faced with many challenges now and in

the future. We must provide the resources necessary to keep pace with the increased demands placed on the District. We must address our aging fleet of fire apparatus. We must provide state of the art protective clothing and personal safety equipment for our volunteers. We must maintain our existing station and look to future needs. And, we must continue to look for ways to improve service that are within our limited resources. This is what I have done for the past 6 years and it's what I'll continue to do for the next 4 years.

We currently have a Volunteer Fire Department that's second to none in this County. As your representative on the Board, my pledge to you is that I will continue to make fiscally responsible decisions based upon realistic and achievable needs to maintain that exemplary status.

I respectfully ask for your vote on November 5<sup>th</sup>. If you have any question, please call me at 626-5268.

#### **Joseph Snyder**

As a candidate for a director position on the MFPD board, I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Joseph Snyder, 52 yrs. old, and a retired California peace officer. I was a sergeant in the US Army Military Police Corps, 3<sup>rd</sup> in my class at the Seattle Police Academy, and retired from the California Department of Corrections. I have two and half years of business credits from West Virginia University and I have just completed a year of accounting and computer courses at Folsom Lake College maintaining straight A's.

The following are some of the views I support:

√ The proposal of training **Enhanced EMT's** capable of administering noninvasive medications. This makes better economic sense than having a 24/7 local ambulance service that according to the El Dorado JPA would cost \$455,000.00 per year to maintain.

√ Replacing one of our 3 Engines every 7 yrs to maintain usable equipment and allowing us to keep up with technology.

√ A second unmanned station on the property that the Department already owns on Stope near Dogwood Lane.

√ ISO ratings are determined by 10% Communication Center, 40% Water Supply System, and 50% Fire Department. Half of Swansboro is a 6, other half is a rural 8. If EID were to expand the water supply system to the rest of Swansboro then a full 6 can be achieved. With a second station a 5 could possibly be realized.

√ Let's by all means vigorously pursue what state and federal grants that are available to us. But we need to realize that they're not realistically dependable for long term recurring yearly expenses.

When I first moved to this community 15 yrs. ago I knew I was home. We can be proud of our fire department with its dedicated Chief and unselfish volunteers. Now that I'm retired and have the available time to commit, I would be honored if you were to support my candidacy and allow me the opportunity to serve out community.

#### Mike Villarreal

My career has included service in industry and education. Twenty years were spent teaching in the Bay Area. Before and during that period I received a B.A. from Valparaiso University in Indiana and a Masters from Stanford.

I first "discovered" Mosquito in 1971 through my brother Bob. That same year, while living in the Bay Area, my wife and I bought our acreage here. Subsequently, many weekends and summers were spend clearing brush and trees and we soon built a cabin.

Some of my earliest memories of Mosquito include helping pour the cement flooring for our fire station, fighting occasional brush fires and assisting Orval Beckett cut new roads in the community.

After retiring and moving here (1983), I built my home. Since then, I am proud to have served Mosquito in various ways. My 12 year tenure as a member of the Mosquito Fire Department Volunteer Support Group has allowed me to better understand the needs that confront us and has offered me many interesting and satisfying opportunities to improve our community and help make it a better place to live.

In addition, I have served 4 years on the Mosquito Fire Protection District Board of Directors and am now seeking a second term. My aim is to help continue the growth, coherence and accomplishments of the Mosquito Volunteer Fire Department

#### TO THE EDITOR:

When you vote in the Mosquito Fire Protection District election, be sure you KNOW who you are voting for. Vote for someone who actually owns and lives on his own land, who is a homeowner with long time roots in our community. Don't vote for someone who is a "tenant", rents and can cause damage, then move on. We need people who own their own

homes, with "Roots" here that will love this community like we do and vote for the best, most reasonable options. Not just "politicians" that have a way with words, for their own ego and will leave us with the problems and bills they may produce with big, political ideas. Vote for the people who have a lot to live for that actually reside here permanently! Think about it, research it. Then vote! Thank you.

*A long time community homeowner*

#### EDITORIAL

Supervisor Penny Humphreys continues to support the Mosquito community. She was instrumental in securing money for us from the Community Enhancement Fund - \$40,000. for the Mosquito Fire Protection District and an additional \$40,000. for the Mosquito Volunteer Fire Department to be used for the Fannon restoration. She arranged for the services of the Operating Engineers Union whose members installed the Fannon water line across Rock Creek Road. She was a great help with the process of obtaining the Building Permit for the Fannon restaurant and recommended a willing architect who did a good job of drawing the plans for the remodel of the building.

The *MOSQUITO BYTE* is available by subscription and is mailed first class to subscribers. Cost of subscription is \$11.00 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.

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#### 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.

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**MEETINGS AND EVENTS**

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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.

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LARGE SATELLITE DISH and receiver \$100. TWO TOILETS - one white with oak wood seat and one light green. \$20.00 each. 622.9492, 2749 La Paz Road.

RIMS - 1 set chrome rims, 1 set alloy rims. Make offer. Call Lionel at 622.7472.

COMPACT PA SYSTEM: 2 Sunn twin speakers and powered 4 channel mixer. Also hot spot monitor, 2 mikes, stands and cords. Excellent quality in very good condition. \$200. Call Gary at 916-339-9130.

BOAT: 12 ft. aluminum Starcraft with launch wheels. Includes classic Johnson 5½ h.p. motor. \$225. Call 621-4613 after October 10<sup>th</sup>.

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ESSENTIAL OILS for sale \$3.00 each or 2 for \$5.00 Please call Connie at 845-0678 for more information.

HYDRAULIC FRONT LOADER for Craftsman garden tractor. 16/18 horsepower horizontal engine drive. Complete with

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**Phone book update**

correct phone number for Arnie Vreeland 622-8666

**FIRE HYDRANT  
DESIGN/PAINTING CONTEST**

We are asking everyone, from children to professional artists, interested in designing and painting a graphic for a fire hydrant to submit their design. We have 30 hydrants to paint and want to have a patriotic theme - so use only red, white and blue. An 8 1/2 by 11 inch hydrant graphic is available at the fire station. Be sure to put your name and phone number on your completed design. Call Kim Purcell at 621-1049 if you have any questions.

**THE FENCE**

There was once a little boy with a bad temper. His father gave him a bag of nails and told him to hammer a nail in the back fence every time he lost control.

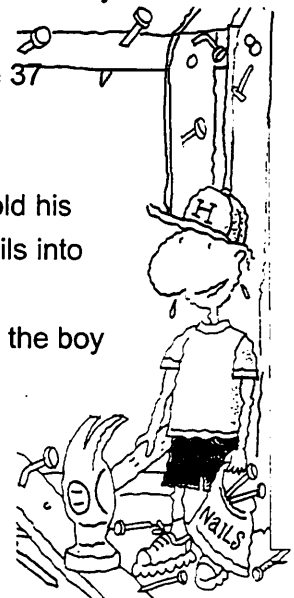
The first day the boy drove 37 nails into the fence. Then it gradually dwindled down. He discovered it was easier to hold his temper than to drive those nails into the fence.

Finally the day came when the boy didn't lose his temper at all. His father suggested that the boy now pull out one nail for each day that he was able to hold his temper.

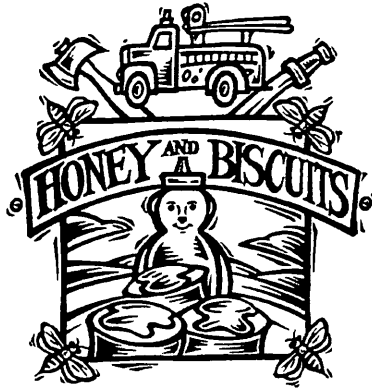
The days passed and the young boy was finally able to tell his father that all the nails were gone. The father led his son to the fence.

"You've done well, but look at the holes in the fence," he said. "When you say things in anger, they leave a scar just like the nail holes. You can put a knife in a person and draw it out. But it won't matter how many times you say you're sorry. The wound is still there. A verbal wound can be just as bad as a physical one.

Source: Unknown.







# Breakfast , Honey?

Join us for  
**Honey and Biscuits**  
**A Community Breakfast**  
**Benefitting Mosquito**  
**Volunteer Fire Department**

**November 16, 2002**  
**Mosquito Fire Station**  
**7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.**  
**\$5.00 adults and \$3.00 children**

*Breakfast includes biscuits, honey, eggs, sausages and beverages.*

*What's better than honey and biscuits for breakfast? Honey and biscuits with all of your neighbors at a breakfast event that will benefit the Mosquito Volunteer Fire Department.*

*"The Mosquito volunteer fire department is here to protect all of us," said Tom Harshman local Honey grower. "We all depend on the sacrifices they make throughout the year to help keep our homes and lives safe. The Honey and Biscuits breakfast provides an opportunity for Mosquito residents to taste and enjoy locally produced honey and a way for those of us in the honey industry to say 'thanks' by giving something back to the people in our community."*





*We as the Volunteer Board would like to salute people in the community like our local honey producers who support us and help us do our job better.*

*All proceeds will benefit the Mosquito Volunteer Fire Department.*



# NOVEMBER 2002

All Meetings are at the Mosquito Fire Station unless otherwise noted.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			October 30 Candidates Night See page 1		1	2 SUPPORT GROUP 10:00 am
3	4	5 	6	7 MVFD BOARD MEETING 7:00 PM	8 CRAFT SALE, SEE PAGE 3	9 SCPOA BOARD MEETING 9:00 am CRAFT SALE, SEE PAGE 3
10	11 	12	13	14 MFPD BOARD MEETING 7:00 PM	15	16 HONEY BREAKFAST SEE PAGE 9
17 VET VISIT SEE PAGE 3	18	19	20	21	22 CRAFT MEETING SEE Page 3	23
24	25	26	27	28 	29	30 



MOSQUITO BYTE  
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