



Mosquito Byte

December 2002

VOLUME 16 #5

TO START WITH

Correction: In an editorial in the November 2002 Mosquito Byte it was stated that members of the Operating Engineers Union installed the Finnon water line. The Laborers Union 185 did the work. We thank them for their work and apologize for the error.

OUR FIRST STORM

ARRIVED!

Chief Leo Chaloux

The rainstorm a couple of weeks ago did a pretty good job of officially ending the wild land fire season. At the least CDF down staffed all their stations and shut down all the aircraft for the winter. We were very fortunate this past summer as we did not have a single wildland fire. That is the first time since I have been Chief that we have gone an entire summer without at least one wildland fire. For information I have now been Chief for over 15 years so that is a long time. We did respond to fires outside of our district during the summer as mutual aid request to other fire district. In fact we sent an engine with three fire fighters to fires in Placer County, Amador County, Sacramento County, Rocklin and El Dorado Hills.

For awhile there I was beginning to wonder if winter was ever going to come and then all of a sudden we had one real tough storm blow in. As we all know that storm knocked out the electrical power to the District. Some damage was caused in and about the area but not much. When I left in the morning to go to the fire station I knew I had some problems when I saw composition shingles all over my front yard. I went up on the roof and found I had lost about 30 square feet of my roof. I did manage to get a tarp over it so there was very little water damage. What burns me the most is having the time to fix the darn roof, as there are many other things I would rather be doing.

When I arrived at the fire station that same morning there was still power there and then once Mary (our new secretary) arrived the power went out. However, our phone did not go out and I really hate that. It isn't so bad if the power and phone go out but

when just the power is gone it becomes miserable. Mary sat down at the desk and spent the rest of her day answering the phone. I wasn't surprised when the first call came in within three minutes. The caller had but one question, "When will the power be back on?" From that point on it only got worse. What many people do not seem to realize is that those of us working at the fire station only have the same amount of information they do. We do not have a crystal ball. One thing we will not do is give out false or unknown information. If anyone is going to make a fool out of themselves I prefer it to be PG&E.

After the power had been out for a while the phone system in parts of the district started to fail. There is a battery back up system that keeps the phone lines going for about 8 hours after a power failure. What the phone company does if the power is going to be out for longer than that is bring up generators to run the system and charge the batteries. Well that is exactly what they did; they brought out four of them. No sooner had they been put out when some scumbag stole three of them. Here is a large company and some hard working people trying their best under some nasty conditions to provide all of us with a service and a real classic scumbag rips them and all of us off. When this was done the phone company employee told me he had to go back and try to find some more generators. He was concerned for we would be up here with out 911 service, he personally cared about that fact.

He had not been gone five minutes when someone came down to the fire station ranting and raving at how inept, inconsiderate, and lazy the phone company was. I kind of lost it and told the bozo to go away, get in his car and go out and be a real hero and find the scumbags that stole the generators. If anyone out there has an idea of who the jerk was that ripped off the generators please contact the sheriff. This action threatened the safety of all of us; all of us in this community were fortunate as no one had an emergency that required the use of 911.

One other thing, the east side of our district is supplied with power from a line that comes down from Camino across the river and back up near Slab Creek Court. The west side gets its power from a line that starts over by Kona Way, goes down across the river and back up behind Finnon Lake. Usually if just one line goes down PG&E can supply the entire

district from the other line by just throwing switches. In this case they couldn't because the outage was a massive one throughout the County. So what we have to realize is that when a nasty weather event comes through it not only affects us but the entire County, heck maybe the whole State. So there is nothing wrong with doing a little planning, getting together a few supplies, some lanterns, flashlight and radio batteries, and above all else some common sense.

I do not have a crystal ball but I do know and even guarantee there will be other storms and that they will knock out the electrical and phone services. Preparing for it, planning to get through it and utilizing common sense to do it is something we all need to work at doing. I can also guarantee that the people working for the Phone Company and PG&E will be working on getting it all back to us.

Take care, winter is here and the roads can get you.

BRING 'EM BACK!

Pacific Bell/SBC had three generators stolen during the recent storm. There were two Yamaha generators 5500 wattage and one Honda 5000 wattage. If you find any of these generators please take them to the fire station and they will be returned to the telephone company.

HALLOWEEN FUN HAD BY

ALL!

Belinda Brent

The Annual Halloween Party was, once again, a hit with kids of all ages. We had some new games as well as return of some old favorites. Many thanks to all the volunteers who helped set up and kept the games running smoothly.

This year we offered nachos and hot-dogs at no charge so many people had a dinner of something besides candy that night! A big thank you to Mary Joseph for taking care of the food.

We would also like to thank the following for their donations. The Nesters, Penny Humphreys, Mike Sargent, and Debbie from Swansboro Builders all donated cash, which helped us come in way under budget. Cabot Construction donated the game board building materials. We also had loan of some spooky decorations from Samatha Ford. Last but certainly not least, the wonderful Mosquito community came through with donations of more candy and baked goods than we ever expected! The baked goods for

the cakewalk were outstanding. There are some truly talented and artistic bakers here. As for candy, we had enough for goodie bags, game prizes, give-aways, volunteer snacks and even a little left over for the Christmas Party!

FINNON UPDATE

Mary Joseph

We've been working on the restaurant inside and out, day in and day out. There are people over at the project putting their talents to work daily. For those of you who just drive by and see the outside, the final coat of stucco is going on the building now! Thank you to the gentlemen who have diligently worked on this and got a lot done before the storms came. On the inside of the building the tape and texture is well on it's way to being to complete. This job required someone with exceptional patience and we are fortunate to have that person. Soon we'll be painting the walls and then after that, the flooring and fixtures go in. As always, we really could use more volunteers even if it's just moving the new appliances in when the restaurant is complete. We're wearing out the regular guys. I can tell because they're walking funny!

MVFD BOARD NEWS

Debbie Minor

Hello once again. It is almost Thanksgiving and Christmas is around the corner and I wonder where did the year go.

The first Honey and Biscuits breakfast fundraiser held on November 16th was a sweet success. The event was one of several throughout the country coordinated by the National Honey Board and the National Volunteer Fire Council. Local honey producer Tom Harshman donated wildflower honey from his Hidden Canyon Farm to help make the event successful. If any of you liked his honey please pay him a visit at his place to purchase more. His business is located at 3600 Newtown Road. He also sells Christmas trees and beeswax candles. We are grateful for all the help we received in making this event a success. Everyone really did his or her part and we had a great time enjoying a delicious breakfast with everyone who attended.

I must mention that almost at the end of the function we had a call about a fire. Our firefighters were there and on the scene in no time at all. Our breakfast was almost finished and was in need of cleaning up and all the crew were out on the fire. Guess who took care of the cleaning up of the tables and chairs? Our firefighters children, of course! It was wonderful to see those little guys doing what there parents would have been doing if they had not

been out on the fire. No one asked them to do it; they just got right in there and started working. I would like to thank Devon Hern, Elizabeth and Meredith Stone, Nate Chaloux, Adam, Marjorie and Orval Minor for all the work they did. Not only did they clean up but the girls helped to take orders and serve breakfast. Way to go!

Not much else going on Board wise. The restaurant is coming along nicely. We had election of officers at the beginning of the month. We have two new board members. John Bell and Iris Saxon. Welcome to the board. Mary Joseph has stepped down as a board member and I would like to thank her for all that she has done for the board and community. We will miss her.

Our next event is our annual Christmas Party on December 14, 2002. Please mark your calendars to attend that evening. We will have Santa there for the kids and of course a wonderful meal afterwards. Look for more details within the *Byte*.

I would also like to say that you don't have to be a board member to help out with our yearly events. If anyone is interested in helping or even chairing an event please come to our meetings and let us know. We will be glad to have the help.

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving!

CRAFT REPORT

Sharon Hern

I am very happy to report that the Firehouse Crafters are well on their way to meeting their goal of raising \$2500 for our Fire Department, with one last sale scheduled for December 14th at the Church of the Foothills located at 2830 Merrychase Drive, Cameron Park from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.

We have earned to date a total of \$2423.25 and I would like to THANK the following community members for their help in making crafts at home, at our craft meetings, for helping to set up our craft booth and helping to sell our crafts, for without their help and commitment we would not be able to reach our goals: Thank You to Barbara and Tom Atkins, Georgina Barnett, Susan Beddy, Sally and Mark Bozeman, Ruth Brillisour, Nell Dasher, Lela Edson, Ellie Graves, Lee Hair, Maryann Haywood, Kelly Hern, Sharon and Ralph Hern, Rita Jackson, Carolyn Jones, Betty Kinney, Sherri Kirkpatrick, Lynda and Joe Lima, Jan Metsker, Sandi Miller, Sandy and Norm Nestor, Kim Purcell, Pat Relfe, Debbie Rood, Darlene and Dick Rood, Carol Schultz, Pat Schurpf, Dee Skinner, Lynn and Tom Spitsen, Jo Thomas, Connie Tinker and Theresa Wren.

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: The dates for 2003 will be listed in the January *Mosquito Byte*

GEORGETOWN DIVIDE

HEALTH CARE AUXILIARY

The annual Georgetown Divide Health Care Auxiliary Christmas Bazaar on December 7th is approaching.

Thank you to all who donated White Elephants. We've taken two full truck loads to Georgetown for the Bazaar.

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 Station no later than 8:30 am on Saturday December 7th. We will be leaving at 8:30 for Georgetown. I will be happy to pick up your baked goods on Friday, just give me a call

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

If you have any questions please call Sharon Hern at 626-5268.

EASY CAKE

Evelyn Potter

This cake is similar to a brownie in texture but still cake-like. Easy and scrumptious. Half of the icing recipe is enough unless you like it thick. For those who are not watching calories, use regular mixes!

BLACKBERRY CAKE

- 1 box (18 ¼ oz.) reduced-fat yellow cake mix.
- 1 box (1 oz.) sugar free instant vanilla pudding mix
- 1 box (3 oz.) sugar free raspberry gelatin
- 2 eggs
- ⅓ c. egg substitute (or one more egg)
- 1 jar (10 oz.) seedless blackberry spreadable fruit
- ½ c. unsweetened applesauce
- ¼ c vegetable oil

Icing

- ¼ stick butter or margarine softened
- 3 c. confectioners sugar
- 3 tbs milk (fat-free or regular)

In a large bowl, combine the cake mix, pudding

mix and gelatin. In a small bowl, beat the eggs (and substitute if used) spreadable fruit, applesauce and oil. Stir into the dry ingredients just until moistened. Pour into a 10" x 15" baking pan coated with nonstick cooking spray. Bake at 350° for 35-40 minutes or until a toothpick comes out clean. Cool on a wire rack.

In a small bowl, combine icing ingredients until smooth. Spread over cooled cake. 20 servings.

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.

FREE

Wilson Multi-Station Home Gym - 642-0338

HELP WANTED

Experienced CARPET LAYER to lay 17 yds. of carpet over installed pad. 295-5578

TO ASSIST WITH THE FOLLOWING JOBS: Wood Workers: pay by the piece. 1. Building manzanita bird gyms, tabletop and floor models. 2. Cutting & nailing melamine bases using a table saw & air tools. Laborers \$7.00 per hour. 1. Cutting manzanita, sand blating manzanita. 2. General shop clean up. Assemblers 1. Production of perches, swings, toys. Pay by the hour or by the piece. WE need to produce 300-3000 perches per month. Some piece rate jobs can be done at your home or shop. Call Manzanita Creationz 626-9066.

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.

NEEDED

PAINTER: for interior work in my home. Neat and clean, reasonable rates: Call 546-4961.

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

BUYING OR SELLING A HOME? (on or off the hill) You need an honest, reliable, hardworking real estate agent on your side...Call Jessica Dillender 622-2000 x119 or 295-3344.

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HANGTOWN GLASS CARE I tint commercial and residential glass. Will save you money on energy costs and retard fading your furniture and carpet. Call for free estimate! Rex Langdon, Jr. 530-409-5530

COOKING CLASSES - Learn how to make Vegetarian Turkey! Demonstrations, samples, informative handouts and cookbooks available at each class. Starts Sunday afternoon December 15, and once a month thereafter. Learn how to eat healthier and discover ways to prepare delicious meals without animal products. Class fee only \$5.00. Call Fred or Diana Adams at 642-9441.

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

SWANSBORO LAND HOMES- located next to the Mosquito Fire

Station, specializing in Mosquito/Swansboro real estate. Debbie and Rusty Harris have 34 years experience "on the hill." Call 530-622-6822.

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.

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

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.innecite.com/~burnett/Burnett Phone: 626-1884 (days), 626-3686 (eves)

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

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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.

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

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

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.

HORSESHOEING: Hot, cold or therapeutic: Call David Greenlee at 620-9150.

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

NOTARY PUBLIC- Anytime, Anywhere: I live in Mosquito and will come to your house to do notary work. Call Elaine at 621-2433.

ANIMAL OUTREACH: Cats for adoption. Low cost spay, neuter and vaccinations. Call Pat Hair at 642-1944 for information.

FOR SALE

WHIRLPOOL APPLIANCES: Self cleaning 30 inch STOVE w/drawer; over stove MICROWAVE with exhaust fan; DISHWASHER with pots and pans cycle. All white. \$95. Each or all 3 for \$275. 626.9384

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

QUEEN ANNE chair w/ottoman. Blue color-very good condition.\$55: SOLID WOOD youth/young adult bedroom set-Desk with chair, nightstand, dresser. No bed. \$75: SOUTHWEST STYLE floor lamp working condition. \$20: KENWOOD STEREO components and wood cabinet \$15; TORCH HALOGEN LAMP working condition \$5 Call 642-9961

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.

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.

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 hydraulic pump, controls and adapter hardware. Works great around the yard. Asking \$1,300.00. Call 621-1173 most Fridays and weekends.

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FREE RANGE/ORGANIC EGGS Call Samantha Ford 344-1744

ANNUAL MEET

Holiday Party

Saturday, December 14th

Santa Arrives 5pm

Dinner 6pm

Bring your favorite dish!




And your own dishes and silverware

Mosquito Fire Station



DECEMBER, 2002

ALL MEETINGS ARE AT THE MOSQUITO FIRE STATION UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

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



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