

MOSQUITO BYTE

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE MOSQUITO VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT
DECEMBER, 2003 VOLUME 17 #4



First of all – we are losing our long time co-editor, Pat Relfe. She will be missed! Pat and Don have been an asset to our community.

Sharon Hern has graciously offered to take over, so please note the change of phone number and e-mail in the box before the ads.

WHAT A WEEK !!!!

Chief Leo Chaloux

On Friday October 24th at 1:30 P.M. I received a phone call from Bruce Lacher Chief of El Dorado County Fire and one of the Office of Emergency Services coordinators for the County. Since it was our turn to go on an out of the county strike team he asked me to put together a team of fire fighters and prepare an engine to go to southern California for a fire assignment. He asked that we be ready to go as far south as the Mexican border and be ready to be gone for at least a week.

At the beginning of each fire season I ask the volunteer fire fighters, "Who would like to go out on a strike team?" For those who sign up to go they have to realize that they can be called at any time, to go anywhere in the western United States and be gone for several undetermined days. Once they make the commitment to go they also have to know they are one of three fire fighters on one of five engines that are controlled by a strike team leader and that all of us work at the will of the state for as long as we are needed.

For these strike team assignments Devery and I take turns going and this happened to be my turn. I then try to get one of the Officers or a fire fighter with a Class B driver's license to go along and then a fire fighter to fill in the third position. I called Captain Chris Johns and asked if he wanted to go to southern California since it was his turn. He jumped at the opportunity. I also called Fire Fighter Curtis Schleth to see if he could go along. There was no hesitation and this would be his first strike team assignment.

We had some time to get a pack ready, sleeping bags, some food and other things we may need to be gone for a while. I heard nothing until Saturday at 14:15 hours when our pagers went off for an immediate need strike team assignment to Yucaipa in Southern California. This was strange; as I have never experienced an immediate need assignment to somewhere as far as Southern California. Normally an immediate need is to an assignment within the county or one of the surrounding counties and means we are suppose to be out of the door ready to fight fire within 3 minutes. Well we were able to be out of here within 10 minutes and found ourselves reporting to Station 85 in El Dorado Hills to join up with one engine from Diamond Springs Fire, one from El Dorado County Fire, one from Rescue Fire and one from El Dorado Hills Fire. Along with us, we had a strike team leader from Diamond Springs Fire, and an assistant from El Dorado County Fire.

After a safety briefing and equipment check we left Station 85 and headed down Highway 50 to Interstate 5 for the trip to Yucaipa. Now, I didn't know nor even care where this place called Yucaipa was. I just knew we were the last engine in a strike team of five and all we had to do was follow the leader. Engines in a strike team are placed in position based on their horsepower and actual speed. In our case we had the most horsepower along with the greatest speed so we were placed at the rear of the line while the El Dorado County engine was placed at the beginning of the line.

While on the way down our orders were changed from Yucaipa to San Bernardino. We never did make it to Yucaipa and I still do not know where it is. We arrived in San Bernardino at 0200 hours on the 26th after more than 10 hours of driving with stops only for fuel and food. Once in San Bernardino we were sent to a small park located at Waterman Avenue and 40th Street and told to stage until the morning to get our assignment. We were the only strike team of engines in this park but there were ambulances and cop cars all over the place. The wind was blowing real strong and it was hard to sleep in a park that had night-lights on all over the place and traffic everywhere. After all we are just a bunch of ole country boys who are not afraid to sleep in the dark and not use to seeing cars after midnight.

At 0600 hours we awoke for breakfast, which we mooched off the cops. After equipment inspections and a safety briefing we were assigned to the "Old Fire" and given orders to respond to Division B to do structure protection. We left Waterman Avenue and headed north on Interstate 215, which was a weird process as the interstate was completely empty except for our five-engine strike team. At one point we had to come to a complete stop as fire and smoke raced across the interstate blocking all visibility forcing us to wait for it all to pass. Once we were able to see we continued on to Division B, which was a little town called Devour. Our assignment was to do structure protection on a road called Knoll Street. Now, I did not like the name of this street as it turned out Knoll Street was really just that, a knoll with brush and heavy vegetation on all four sides and only one way in and thus only one way out. Not really the best of environments to be setting up in when you have to take into consideration the winds were blowing around 50 mph and a fire was coming in our direction.

Each engine was assigned a house to protect. We were given orders to run out one 100 foot hose line to the back of the house, not to hook up to a hydrant, only protect one house and be prepared to cut and run if there was too much fire. Knoll Street consisted of about 15 homes made of plaster walls and tile roofs. There were large pines on both sides of the road, ornamental landscaping around all the homes and about 30 feet separating each house with a chain link fence between each one.

We backed into the driveway of the house we were given to protect and found a man packing his car. We asked if he needed any help and the poor guy was kind of running in circles trying to figure out what was really important to take, as this was his mother's house. He let us into the house so we could close all the windows and drapes and lock all the doors. We then walked around the house removing anything combustible from the house. As the man left he looked at each of us and in a very concerned manner asked us to be careful and not to get hurt.

Once we had prepared the house to make it as fire resistant as possible I walked around the neighborhood to assess the fuel loads, topography and what could be expected from this encroaching fire. As I got the lay of the land I became concerned at the steepness of the sides of this knoll, the amount of heavy fuels, and I felt that this fire would ultimately come up behind us.

Across the street from our house was one being

protected by El Dorado Hills Fire. From the backyard of that house we were able to look to the east into the mountain range and watch the fire as the wind was blowing it down hill towards us. Below us were about 40 homes that were in the direct path of this oncoming fire. What really did catch our attention more than anything else was this horse corral that had about 20 horses in it. Because of the fire, smoke and high winds the poor horses were running frantically in circles around the corral. As time went on and the winds increased the fire grew closer to the horses. We found ourselves being more concerned about them than anything else. However, there was nothing we could do as our assignment was structure protection on Knoll Street.

I was not expecting any aircraft to be fighting on this fire as the winds were now blowing steady at 50 mph and gusting to over 60. (We had our little high tech wind gauges out). Just as the fire was within a couple hundred feet of the horses a bright orange Sky crane helicopter came over the hill. With the turbines running at full speed the helicopter flew down towards the corral below us and dropped 3000 gallons of black water between the horses and the fire. At this point those horses were going absolutely crazy as this helicopter flew over less than 50 feet above them. I have seen fire fighting aircraft drop clear water, and red water but I have never seen one drop black water.

This helicopter after dropping its water near the horses made a turn and flew back over us. We could watch the struggle the pilot was going through trying to keep this thing in the air. In a few minutes it returned and once again dropped into the canyon below us releasing water on houses that were directly threatened. The skill and courage of this pilot intrigued us as we saw him drop a partial load of black water, spin his craft around and standing it on its nose fall back toward the fire strategically dropping the remainder of his load. As we watched him do things this aircraft was not designed to do the fire continued to advance. Yet he continued, at some points we knew he was taking the machine to the ground but at the last moment he would pull it up with the turbines roaring even louder than the fire below us. Suddenly, a second Sky Crane helicopter showed up and he too was dropping black water on the fire and then a third carrying a small bucket under it arrived and joined in the fight. I later learned the water being dropped was coming from a wastewater treatment plant. It was the closest water source.

We had a ringside seat as we watched the fire crews with their engines and the helicopters battle on with the fire. We saw great efforts by the fire crews going into defending the homes below. Some were successful and some had to abandon the driveways leaving behind their hose lines and burning homes as they retreated to safety zones. The fire continued advancing towards our knoll paying no attention to the efforts that were going into trying to contain it. Then the wind grew in intensity at one point making it hard work to stand, almost rolling me over as gusts now brought the fire to the base of the knoll.

Chris, Curtis and I returned to our engine to prepare for the fire that we now knew was coming our way. As we prepared our engine I noticed flames 100 feet high soaring over the top of the house being protected by the El Dorado Hills engine. I saw those fire fighters retreat toward the front of the house, trying to put the house between them and the fire. When the heat lessened they returned to the fire to continue the fight. I looked eastward up Knoll Street and saw fire coming, rolling down the road; its texture was that of water being released as in a torrent from a collapsed dam. I turned to the west and saw the Rescue engine with flames producing fire tornadoes advancing up the knoll. The two Rescue fire fighters stood as soldiers, the nozzles were their weapons and the fire the enemy.

Suddenly, the wind increased to a severe gust forcing me to turn my back to it and kneel to the ground. As I saw Curtis who was less than 10 feet from me also turn his back to the wind the heat became very intense and everything went black. I could no longer see Curtis or our engine. I have never seen this before but this was the experience of a firestorm. The high winds developed by the Santa Ana and now pushed faster by the fire itself was blowing all the smoke and hot gasses the fire could produce towards us.

To be continued.

CHRISTMAS CRAFT SALE

SATURDAY DECEMBER 6TH.

9:00 TO 1:00

MOSQUITO FIRE HOUSE

COME SHOP AND ENJOY COFFEE AND COOKIES

OUR STRATEGIC FIRE SAFE PLAN IN BRIEF

Len Newell, Co-Chairman/Secretary
Mosquito Fire Safe Council
(Exclusive to the *Byte*)

The 2003 Fires of Southern California, which harmed and touched so many lives, were a timely reminder to each of us about the forces of nature that can be unleashed in the seasonally-dry climates of California. Old So.Cal firefighting hands are saying that (1) the Santa Ana winds, though fierce for the first 30-40 hours of the siege, did not last as long as those of many historic fires; (2) the extreme drought effect on a heavy accumulation of fuels allowed the 30-60 mph dry winds to drive high-intensity fire fronts at great speed; (3) spot fire-causing embers landed a mile and more ahead of the rapidly-advancing fire front.

The scary part is that such fires were propagating across a large swath of landscape, with many towns, cities, homes, businesses, ranches, and people in jeopardy...much like our own situation here would be with a fire start or two in similar weather. We certainly have the accumulated fuels.

But most of us in this community are rational people who look out for our own interests. We can see that where wildfire is concerned, our safety is closely tied to how well we work with our neighbors to deny wildfire a fuel bed to spread over, and to have other community plans for surviving a major fire. We would rather be busy dealing with this danger than to be paralyzed by fear, or to go into denial. We would not like the feeling we would get if our own homes and valuables and landscape burned because we didn't take care of business.

So what is the strategy? Those of you who attended the meeting on November 20 heard these main points.

1. The Mission Statement of the plan is to define strategies that frame a set of implementing projects that will improve the wildfire safety of Mosquito.

2. Priority recommendations are:

- Develop, formalize, and practice a community emergency communication system. There is none now.
- Treat fuels-impeded evacuation routes to safe levels.
- Realize that in some places and circumstances, evacuation may not be possible, either to the Mosquito Road, or even out of a neighborhood.
- Talk with neighbors about our shared fire hazards and what we can do together to abate them.

Work with neighbors to become fire safe.

- Thin conifer crowns where many houses occur among them.
- Reduce fuel loads on the forest floor, and remove ladder fuels that can carry fire into the crowns of the large trees.
- Reduce fuels in "chimneys" or features in the terrain that tend to favor rapid fire growth in a specific direction.
- Create defensible space-preferably 100 ft. or more-around your own house, and reduce fuels proportionally further out if possible. **This is the most cost-effective measure that can be taken to improve the safety of a home site during a wildfire.**
- Clear flammable vegetation back from driveways so there is at least 13.5 ft. height, and 12 feet of unobstructed width. 15 feet width is better yet. Provide turnarounds for fire trucks when driveways are more than 150 ft. long.
- Wooden shingle roofs and/or siding are the most vulnerable to firebrands and other ignition sources. When retrofitting, use Class "B" or better materials. Other house design and construction factors affect flammability also.
- Contact and inform absentee landowners about the need for their help, or at least permission, to abate fuel hazards on their parcels.

If you have Internet access, you can read and/or print the entire Strategic Fire Safe Plan by going to www.mvfd-firesafe.org <<http://www.mvfd-firesafe.org>>. You can also read and make comments on the plan.

Once the Strategic Plan is finished and accepted, the implementation-planning phase will begin. Sections 7 and 8 of the Strategic Plan give previews of this phase, and are well worth reading.

Let's get together and help each other to be fire safe. To do less may literally mean we will make ashes of ourselves.

IN MEMORY OF RICHARD ALAN HAWKINS

Phone Book Update

Add: Morris, Ray & Susan
3311 Holiday Lane
642-8337

CRAFT REPORT

We are having a Christmas Craft Sale on Saturday December 6th, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm, at the Fire Station.

There are Christmas decorations, ornaments and Christmas gifts. Come early and stay late and do your Christmas shopping at one stop. Enjoy a cup of coffee and a cookie while you shop.

We will have the "Jean Quilt" and the Victorian Doll House with furnishings that was made by Christa Stressinger on display with tickets and donations available. These 2 items will be presented to the lucky winners that will be drawn at the Fire Station Christmas Party on December 20th.

Our last Craft Meeting was held on November 21st with our "Crafters" busily sewing stuffed Christmas goodies to help out Santa so that he can give them to the children at the Firehouse Christmas Party.

Even the rainy weekend of November 7th & 8th couldn't keep our craft supporters, both selling and buying, home. We made a total of \$ 374.00, for a year to date total of \$2251.75.

Thank you everyone for supporting our "Crafts" and our wonderful Volunteer Fire Department.

Future Meetings:

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

Next Meeting: January 23rd, 2004

Time: 9:30 - 11:30 am

Location: 2211 Swansboro Road

GEORGETOWN DIVIDE HEALTH CARE AUXILIARY

The annual Georgetown Divide Health Care Auxiliary Christmas Bazaar is scheduled for December 6th from 10:00 to 4:00 at the Odd Fellows Hall in Georgetown.

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 6th. 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 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.

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

WHAT MOSQUITO AND SWANSBORO MEAN TO ME

Debbie Harris

Rusty and I moved off the hill in April, 2002, we thought we would try a new adventure. We lived in an apartment in Folsom for 6 months and then moved into a new home in El Dorado Hills. We kept our real estate office next to the fire station and have been commuting up here to work. Well, after 18 months of this adventure we are so excited to be coming back as residents. Starting October 15th we are renting a house on this beautiful hill and in the spring we will start building a new home on Stope. Now that our kids (Amy now 24 and Adam 20) are grown we are excited to design and build a home that accommodates empty nesters.

These are the reasons we love living here oaks (all of the trees), the smell of the air, the quiet when it snows, green trees against a blue sky, sunrises and sunsets, rolling hills with wild flowers, the beauty of Mosquito Road (yes, the beauty of it), fall colors, spring flowers, dogwoods in bloom, a rushing winter river, and my memories these past 35 years on this hilltop. My heart, mind and soul feel relaxed and healthier when I am living here.

I don't regret these past 18 months. I've learned a lot about what urban living is like and appreciate more what my family helped create in the Swansboro Subdivision. I can use this experience to better relate to our customers. This is heaven on earth and I'm so happy to be home.

THANK YOU

At this time we would like to wish all of our old and new customers, friends and neighbors a safe driving and joyous holiday season. Also a Happy 2004 New Year. Thank you so much to those of you who have referred others to us. Best Wishes

Mosquito Auto, Hippie and CynDee

HO HO HO !!

Merry Christmas everyone! The Mosquito Volunteer Fire Department annual Christmas Potluck Dinner is just around the corner. This year's event will be held on December 20th, with Santa arriving at 5:00 pm and dinner beginning at 6:00 pm. There will be treats for the kids, good eats for the family and fun for all. And of course, this event is FREE!

We request that families attending the Potluck bring at least one salad, side dish or dessert. (Or

bring one or all three!) This is your chance to impress your friends and neighbors with your culinary skills. Please feel free to bring your holiday table settings, and we will have paper plates and plastic cutlery if you don't. Punch and Coffee will be available but the dinner is BYOHC (Bring Your Own Holiday Cheer.)

The Crafters will be auctioning off their quilt and a beautiful decorated doll house and we will also have an auction for the table centerpieces. The Crafters have also donated gifts for the kids to be handed out by Santa! Once again, the Crafters have out done themselves!

This is also the season for giving...

Once again, we will be providing Christmas baskets to the less fortunate members of our community. Donations of canned goods, non-perishable food items and holiday items will be accepted at the fire station beginning December 1st. There will be a list for requested children's gift donations available at the fire station so you can sign up to provide a special gift for one of the kids. Cash donations will go toward providing a nice Christmas dinner along with the baskets.

If you wish to help decorate the fire house on the 20th, or have any questions regarding the Potluck Dinner or the Christmas baskets, please contact Belinda Brent @ 621-3377.

MVFD BOARD ELECTIONS

The MVFD Board will be have a general election meeting prior to their monthly meeting this month. The meeting will be held at the fire station on Thursday, December 4th at 7:00 pm. All members of the community are welcome. After confirmation of new board members a closed session of the board will vote for board president and vice president. The regularly scheduled board meeting will immediately follow.

IN MEMORY OF PAUL FERNANDEZ

SCPOA REPORT

Unfortunately the November meeting was again disrupted so there will be lots to cover in the next one. The December meeting will be on the 13th at 10:00 am. THE DECEMBER 13TH MEETING IS

VERY IMPORTANT, IT IS WHERE WE HAVE TO MAKE A DECISION ON THE BUDGET AND ANY DUES INCREASE. Please plan to attend this meeting and make your opinion heard!! Your board has to make a decision for everyone and we need to hear from as many as possible to make the best choice, share your opinion before the decision has to be made.

YOUR PET QUESTIONS

Pam Steinke, DVM

Q: My dog likes to lick the lotion off my arms and legs. Is something missing in her diet? I try not to let her do this.

A: Your dog may like the taste of your lotion, but more likely is trying to remove something she feels doesn't belong there. Licking is your dogs way of washing. It is good that you try to keep her from doing this as the fats or perfumes in the lotion may unset her stomach.

Q: My dog likes to take bites out of my plants, then spit them out. She doesn't eat them or grass. Why?

A: She may be attracted to the plant but once she gets a taste, changes her mind. She may also just be having fun. Dogs are a little like kids--they can make a toy of anything.

Q: My little dog doesn't want to jump up on the sofa any more. She seems in pain. I've put pillows around to make her more comfortable. What could be wrong?

A: Little dogs are very active. Because they are small we allow them to jump up on our furniture, legs and laps. Some dogs are more likely to get disk disease (doxie or corgi) because of their shape. Muscle spasms can also be very uncomfortable. You are wise to try and make her comfortable and prevent possible further injury. Whenever your dog acts painful, it important to provide strict rest (no steps, jumping, playing or climbing). Because any disk problem could lead to spinal injury and possible paralysis, have your dog evaluated by your veterinarian.

If you have any questions concerning your pets you would like answered in this column, send them to Pam Steinke, P.O. Box 1992, Placerville, CA 95667 or e-mail to drpjjs@hotmail.com



A HOLIDAY RECIPE

Evelyn Potter

This recipe is in my favorite cooking magazine, 'Quick Cooking', they come up with many really great recipes. It's new to me, since I am making it for the first time today. It just looks so good that I decided to share it and we can all be guinea pigs together. As I have said before, sweet potatoes and yams (different altogether in look and taste) are very favorably welcomed on our dinner table.

Now, here is your tip for the month. Because of differences in moisture content, sweet potatoes and yams are not interchangeable in recipes for breads and other baked goods

CITRUS SWEET POTATOES

6 medium sweet potatoes (or in this case, you can substitute yams), peeled and cooked whole

1/3 c packed brown sugar

1 T cornstarch

1 cup orange juice concentrate directly from the can

2 t grated lemon peel

1/2 cup chopped pecans, optional

Place the whole sweet potatoes in a large saucepan and cover with water. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat; cover and simmer for about 40 minutes or until tender. Drain and cool. Cut into 1/2 inch slices. Place in a greased 13 x 9 x 2-in baking dish. In a small saucepan, combine brown sugar and cornstarch. Whisk in orange juice concentrate and lemon peel. Bring to a boil; cook and stir for 1-2 minutes or until thickened. Pour over sweet potatoes. Sprinkle with pecans if desired. Bake, uncovered, at 325 degrees for 30-35 minutes or until sweet potatoes are heated through and sauce is bubbly. 2 servings. I used only half of the yams and all of the sauce amounts. Let me know what you think of this.

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.

Editors: Lela Edson - 530-626-8265 edson@hnet.us

FAX: 530-295-1589

Sharon Hern - 530-626-5268 rshern@hnet.us

ADVERTISING

There is no charge for advertising in the *Mosquito Byte* for our subscribers. Deadline for advertising is the 19th of each month. Call Sharon at 626-5268 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

MICROWAVE OVEN. Call Mel Joyner 621.3898

To good home, FOLDING SINGLE COT Call 626-1469

HELP WANTED

COMPUTER EXPERIENCED FEMALE wanted to teach another female how to use computer in my home to re-enter the work force. Must have patience. Donna Borchen, 3101 Stope Drive, 344.1912

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.

WANTED

Basketball anyone? I'm looking for people interested in playing basketball at Dyer lake. Weekdays about 4:30pm or weekends. Call Solon at 621-3875

MEETINGS AND EVENTS

HOMESCHOOLERS: We are interested in becoming familiar with how many of us there are "on the hill". Would you like to start a co-op, group activities, newsletter, support groups or play dates to meet each other? We welcome all homeschoolers interested, there will be no discrimination based on age, religion, race, ethnic, or cultural background. Contact the Ford Family @ 344-1744.

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

FINALLY! MARY KAY PRODUCTS available for us on the hill. Call or e-mail for good looking skin, men or women. 530-642-9386, or lranch@hitechnetworks.net

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

SIERRA NEVADA SEAL COATING:. CSL#680730 NSL#0033110A. Call 644-8888.

TUTORING IN MATH OR SCIENCE. Credentialed teacher with a degree in Chemistry. Experience in teaching Junior High/ High School Students. Flexible hours. \$25/hr. Call Jeanine at 621-3875

.SEAMSTRESS/ALTERATIONS: Need a new outfit for a special occasion; Prom, weddings, club uniforms? Or, do you have clothes in your closet that need fixing? How about home decorating changes with new curtains and pillows, etc.? Reasonable prices, profession work, 23 years experience. Call Esther at 622-6455.

CREATIVE MEMORIES - "If a picture is worth taking, the memory is worth preserving . . ." I will help you with simple pages, completed albums! Call Diana Adams at 642-9441.

FAX AND PHOTOCOPY service here on the hill. Call Fred Adams at 642-9441.

VEGETARIAN COOKING CLASS - Demonstrations and samples of delicious, healthful dishes. \$5 per person. Cookbooks also available for sale. Call 642-9441 for time & date.

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.

MANZANITA REMOVAL. With chain saw, by the hour. One bush or up to a couple of acres. Call for quote. 626-9066.

LANDSCAPE DESIGN, Hauling, Maintenance. Handyman Work. Fast, Friendly, Reliable. Free Estimates. Flat Rates. 622-4731

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

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* offered in Mosquito. Call Samantha Ford, CMT, 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)

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!

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.

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, 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.

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.

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

Light blue LEATHER COUCH and LOVE SEAT Both have two recliners in them \$175.00 or offer - one high back OFFICE CHAIR \$15.00 Call Bill or Teresa at 622-3903

BRECKWELL PELLETT STOVE/ Paid \$2500, asking \$500 or best offer. 626-6970

USED FILE CABINETS, 5-drawer \$25, 4-drawer \$20. NATIONAL GEOGRAPHICS, 11 boxes dating from the 1930's to the 1990's, all for \$30. Also several large WIRE ANIMAL CAGES for pets. Call 642-9441

NEED EGGS? We have lots! Our chickens are laying out of control! Free range, fed organic grains & greens! \$2.50/dozen Call Bella Terra Farm @ 344-1744

GOT GOAT MILK? Creamy and Delicious! Fed Organic grains. \$2.50/quart. Call Bella Terra Farm @ 344-1744

GOAT MILK SOAP, Homemade. Soothing to the skin, helps poison oak rash. Call Bella Terra Farm @ 344-1744

GE REFRIGERATOR with freezer and ice maker. \$100 OBO 621-3875.

LAZY-BOY rocker/recliner on a swivel base. Like new. Upgraded fabric. \$150 call 642-9961.

BF GOODRICH 4 TIRES WITH RIMS in good tread condition. P185/65R14 all for \$40. Also 4 Honda Civic Wheel Covers in good condition, all for \$20 call 642-9961.

GLIDER CHAIR in good condition with hunter green back and seat pads. \$25 and a stereo cabinet for \$5 call 642-9961.

FULL SIZE BED with brass headboard, frame, mattress and box spring. In excellent condition. \$200 or best offer, call 642-9961.

Solid oak COUCH with removable cushions, olive green, very sturdy and very nice - in good condition. \$5. LOVE SEAT (oversized chair) floral design. Bought at Breuners for over \$300., sacrifice at \$75. 10 INCH SKILL BAND saw like new. \$50. Please call Mel Joyner at 621.3898.

2 REGISTERED AMERICAN MINIATURE HORSES FOR SALE

Boones Little Star Light: "Star" is a 32" 13-year-old blue roan mare--great broodmare with potential as a country driving horse or perhaps a child's first "pony." She's got a wonderful, "bomb-proof" disposition. I'm asking \$4500 but accepting offers. SD Adonis Rising Star: "Rise" is a 30" 2-year-old blue roan pinto colt with sire/show horse potential. He's out of Boones Little Star Light (for sale, above) and by Winners Circle Adonis (only stallion ever to win Jr. and Sr. Nat'l. Grand Champion titles). He's pretty, correct, and flashy with lots of presence. Asking \$7500; accepting offers. If you or someone you know is looking for miniature breeding or show stock, have a look at these two. Contact me, Elisabeth Hitchcock, at 530-626-7088 or ebingham@prodigy.net.

1980 KAWASAKI KV75 mini. Convenient transportation to throw in an airplane. Street legal with current license, owner's manual and pink slip. Spill proof gas cap, fuel line shut off valve. 530 642-9783

5 ACRES with well, engineered for septic, with hangar lot lease, all for just \$89,000. Call Kelly, Prudential Agent at 306-0388 or 344-9066

FIREPLACE, WITH PIPE. \$100 or best offer, TRUCK \$50.00 Call 306-0388 or 344-9066
TABLE TENNIS TABLE \$35 or offer. 626-5699.

For **Avon Products** & Free catalogs please call: Sharon Thompson 621-3823 your local Avon Independent Sales Representative.

PHILLIPS MAGNAVOX TV network with remote control, tapes and manual \$30.. LARGE SATELLITE DISH and receiver, reduced to \$45.. 622.9492, 2749 La Paz Road.

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

MOSQUITO VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT
ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20TH

SANTA arrives at 5:00 pm

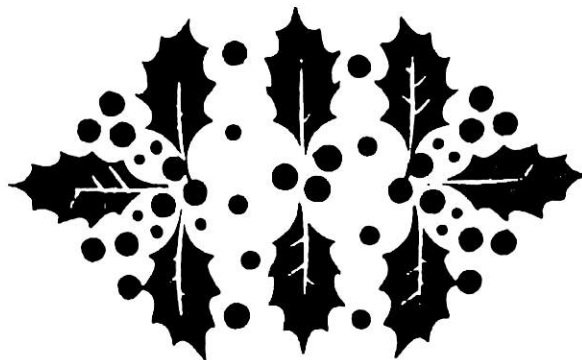


Dinner starts at 6:00 pm



Please bring a salad, side dish or dessert and your own plates and silverware. Paper Plates and plastic silverware will be available.




Bring your own holiday cheer. Coffee and Punch provided.



For more information call Belinda Brent at 621-3377

DECEMBER 2003

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

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



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MOSQUITO BYTE
 2300 MOSQUITO CUT-OFF RD
 PLACERVILLE CA 95667-9081