

# MOSQUITO BYTE

SEPTEMBER 2004, VOLUME 18 #1

## ANOTHER YEAR

The Mosquito Volunteer Fire Department starts its 18<sup>th</sup> year of publishing the *Mosquito Byte*. That's 204 issues! Thanks to all the reporters and subscribers for being so faithful. We hope you think it does provide some service to the Mosquito community.

## SOME THOUGHTS ABOUT LIFE IN GENERAL

Chief Leo Chaloux

Last October as you recall Southern California experienced the largest wild land fire siege in its history. Besides being able to go down there and participate in fighting some of the fires, I was able to experience the overall magnitude of the event. There were a vast number of fire engines, police officers and other resources heading down south. This brought the realization of the logistics that went into this huge movement of fire fighters and machines and yet only one fire fighter died.

Another realization that came from those fires was the thought that all of us that are in the fire business had. We all asked the questions, what new laws will come out of this catastrophe, and how many lawyers will be filing lawsuits? Seems that whenever anything goes wrong and lives are lost and property is destroyed the California Legislature thinks the only solution is to write more laws. Most of the laws are ceremonial in effect, they give some legislator an opportunity to have their name on a new law, and they become an attempt to protect some large special interest that lost a buck or two. They are quick to pass new laws but slow to pay for them. They become, in most cases, administrative hindrances and accomplish nothing more than requiring someone somewhere to fill out a form for some committee to study and then file away. They kind of remind me of some of the officers I had in Viet Nam, the ones who gave orders to those of us on the ground while they flew at 3,000 feet in a helicopter watching us from safety behind binoculars. My response to those brilliant officers was, "don't tell me, come down here and lead me". I have the same response to the lawmakers, as new laws are being written that will impact all of us and not provide us with any additional safety.

And then there are the lawyers. They have the fastest cars and scanners with the most frequencies programmed into them. They are often the experts that tell those of us who fight fires what we did wrong and if they are not "the expert," then with a few dollars they

can find one. They and their experts are always available to lend testimony to what went wrong, what was done wrong and why it was wrong. My definition of an expert is the jerk that lives out of the area. These lawyers and their experts do this very easily from their air-conditioned offices long after the fire is out, with information provided to them from the mandatory reports made by fire fighters.

What has me writing in an editorial mood is the latest lawyer weasel move to come around in a long time. Seems that Allstate Insurance has hired a big time lawyer from Chicago to consider suing the many fire agencies that served on the fires last October. One of his arguments is that the fire departments were not aggressive enough in fighting those many fires. Now, remember this guy is from Chicago and I am sure he has fought many fires and if he hasn't, he and Allstate have enough money to buy themselves a real bonafide expert who has. His assertion is that being aggressive on fighting a fire especially at the initial attack mode is the only way to put them out and since the fire departments were not aggressive that is why they got out of control. His logic for making this point is that there were not enough fire fighter fatalities on those fires because only one fire fighter died. He seems to think in order to put out a fire you must kill a fire fighter or two, the more you kill the more aggressive you are and thus the more effective you must be. Only thing wrong with that logic is no one seems to tell the fire that, it keeps right on burning until some fire fighters get in there and put it out. I have yet to see a lawyer in his fast car and scanner put out a fire.

Now, if I was the CEO of a big insurance company I guess I would be looking for a slick lawyer to find a way to weasel me out of paying for property losses. Do I care if someone died? Not really. My main concern would be how I would look to the stock holders because the insurance pay outs that have to be made would cut into the profits. It is okay to tell someone how you will insure them from all losses and the risk involved in doing so will determine the rate that has to be paid but when it comes time to pay out, the risks were just too high and it was someone else's fault. The lawyer from Chicago has nothing to do nor does he care about who dies or how many die, his concern is the client, the person with the money.

Life is three-dimensional consisting of many pictures and often all that is seen is only one snapshot. Of that snapshot the overall picture is not being looked at. The fires in Southern California last October were

a result of many factors. One is the obvious. The Indians called the Los Angeles basin the valley of the smokes, because it burned all the time. Governments through their building and planning departments have allowed structures to be built in this valley of the smokes. Homeowners have not taken the responsibility to build fire resistant structures, to remove vegetation from around their house, to plan and build for roads that allow easy access and evacuation. Fire departments have taken on many missions that have diluted their ability to provide the maximum efforts to fighting fires. Then there is reality in itself; life is not always easy, not always right, not always fair, nor always just. Sometimes the day-to-day aspects of living are interrupted by the accumulation of many events that lead to bad things happening. We now live in a society where people think government should take care of all our needs, where the individuals are no longer responsible for themselves, that it is always someone else's fault and just call 911 and someone will take care of you.

Our biggest threat that can interrupt our lives here is a wild land fire. We must be prepared for it, for it shall happen. Please remove the ground fuels around your house, make your driveways wide enough so you can get out and we can safely get in, plan with your family what you will do when it does happen. **Take responsibility.**

Thanks for letting me go on with this. I just do not want anyone to come to me and say our Fire Department did not do a good job fighting a wild land fire because a fire fighter did not die.

### **CRAFT REPORT**

Sharon Hem

Our next Craft Sale will be at the Diamond Springs Labor Day Country Bazaar on September 6<sup>th</sup>. This is an event that you do not want to miss, no matter what you are looking for new or old, you will be able to find it. Don't miss our Craft Area, just across the street from the Diamond Springs Fire Station on Main Street, Diamond Springs. Stop by and see all of the wonderful items that have been made by our "Crafters" and support our Mosquito Volunteer Fire Department.

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 have them dropped off at the Firehouse. 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 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of each month at Darlene Rood's home

**Next Meeting: September 24<sup>th</sup>**

**Time: 9:30 - 11:30 am**

**Location: 2211 Swansboro Road**

**Future Dates: October 22 and November 19.**

### **MOSQUITO RESIDENT IN IRAQ**

Another one of our Mosquito family has been posted to Iraq. Kelly Norris reported there the first part of August. Prayers for him – and all our troops – should be a part of our daily lives.

### **DON'T FEED WILDLIFE!**

When we live in a beautiful area like El Dorado County, it is tempting to get to know our wild neighbors by offering food. The arguments for it are simple: The animals are beautiful and we enjoy observing them. Sometimes, as during a drought, we may even believe we're helping them.

Wildlife biologists, however, point out dangers both to wild animals and to ourselves and our pets (to say nothing of our gardens) when we do so. Their reasons for discouraging feeding are varied, though there is one common element: *We don't understand the repercussions of our actions.*

#### **Small Mammals: Acclimatization**

When we offer food to foxes and raccoons, we encourage them to lose their fear of humans. This can have two unforeseen results: First, they may become demanding, and end by stealing food and becoming destructive.

Second, our blandishments draw in not only animals we find appealing (nothing is more adorable than a fox kit or a baby raccoon), but those we don't want around us: skunks, bears, coyotes. Once these begin to target your place for food, everybody is in trouble. A bear, for instance, will begin to act familiarly and destructively around humans and dogs. Someone will inevitably get a depredation permit, and it will be shot. If it's a mother with cubs, they'll be shot, as well, having learned to look to humans for food. Or they'll starve. As to the skunk, you'll have a hard time getting it out from under your deck; you may end by having it trapped. "Nuisance" animals are always killed.

Coyotes already know that people mean occasional bonanzas of garbage and pet food. If they begin including our houses in their daily foraging loops, our domestic animals are then in danger.

#### **Disease**

Foxes and raccoons (indeed, any mammal) can transmit rabies, a lethal disease. In addition, raccoons carry a roundworm that humans and canines have developed no antibodies for. This parasite lives relatively harmlessly in the raccoon's gut, but in dogs or humans travels the bloodstream, lodging lethally in the brain. Raccoons tend to develop "latrines," small areas where many will defecate over a long period of time. The roundworm stages lie dormant in the feces, and are resistant to most clean-ups except fire. Children, who often put their hands in dirt and then into their mouths, are at risk.

#### **Feeding Birds**

Some biologists say feeders create "welfare birds."

But most ornithologists don't agree. Indeed, the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and other official bird-monitoring organizations use back-yard counts in assessing the local populations of common species. Use the bird foods on sale at specialty stores. If you feed hummingbirds, though, do *not* use commercial (red) food, which has additives that are probably difficult for the bird's system to cope with. The red on your feeders is enough color to alert the little buzzers that food is at hand. Use 1 cup of white sugar to 4 cups of hot tap water. *Copyright 1994, Sierra Wildlife Rescue*

Do not worry that feeding birds will disturb their migratory instincts. Your food is no more than a substantial snack, not a strong enough inducement to overcome the powerful urge to migrate.

Grain on the ground will attract not only doves, but turkeys. Large flocks of turkeys make a mess and feed on the tender plants in your garden. More seriously, grain attracts rats and mice as well - nuisances and disease carriers par excellence.

A word of warning, too, about Canada geese and wild ducks, which find grain quickly. (Some of these birds *are* changing their migratory habits, but scientists are not sure that human-provided food is the culprit.) Your lawn will become a gathering place for waterfowl, which are messy. More important, the health of local ponds can rapidly deteriorate under the stresses of over-crowding. In dirty crowded water, these animals can develop botulism poisoning. Humans ingesting the associated spores, which get into the water via animal feces and carcasses, suffer nausea, vomiting, disturbed vision, and fatigue.

#### Tree Squirrels

In addition to bird feeders, tree squirrel feeders are relatively harmless. Some people enjoy watching the circus-like antics of these pretty little creatures, and **one or two** feeders filled with walnuts, hazelnuts, almonds, chestnuts or other nuts, particularly in the fall when they are storing food, are a special treat. Unsalted, roasted peanuts and sunflower seeds should be limited, as they are unhealthful for young squirrels. Providing some nuts will also help to keep squirrels out of your birdfeeders. Restraint is the key - do not put out enough food so that young squirrels neglect to learn to forage for themselves.

#### Deer Are a Special Case

Few of us can resist the temptation to feed the lovely black-tailed deer. But we know little about proper diet or what happens when we lure deer away from their natural habitat and habits. Deer are normally browsers - they eat shrubs and low plants. The grain (especially molasses grain) we give our domestic animals is not good for deer, which can become fat on it, and at the same time suffer from malnutrition.

Our local herds normally consist of a doe, a couple of her last year's female young, and new fawns. Eight at most. This number won't put an undue strain on their natural resources in any particular place. But offer

them easy meals, and that little herd will quickly burgeon to 15 or more. Now the local browse will begin to suffer. So will your gardens.

When deer congregate, diseases that can scourge their populations spread rapidly among them. They are also more likely to be hit by cars. Finally, deer in numbers draw in their natural predators. Where a herd lingers there *will* be a mountain lion. You may never see it. But your small children may be at risk, as will your pets. If it begins to make itself known, and you have it killed, another will take its place immediately.

The only way to prevent these problems is to avoid attracting deer.

#### A Sad Illustration

When I moved to El Dorado, we were in the throes of a serious drought. About four deer came regularly to our property - thin and poor looking. So I put out water and fed them - I fed them all winter and spring, through fawn season (after all, the does were nursing!), and into the autumn. The following spring, one of the lovely little does we'd known as a fawn remained friendly, and when she was pregnant, I felt as proud as a new grandmother. But she was too small to give birth. She died in an agony that I tried, without success, to alleviate. I had, finally, to "euthanize" her. That is, I held her head and shot her in the brain. Later, a veterinarian friend, to whom I described my ordeal, said to me: "You fed her during the drought, didn't you?" She said it not accusingly, but thoughtfully.

Yes, I had fed that deer and kept her alive unnaturally - she was so small, she'd never have made it through the rough times without my food. She'd have died, yes, but it would have been part of a natural process.

It is painful to accept your responsibility in another creature's death. But I woke to the fact that I simply did not know enough to "help."

There *are* good ways to help wildlife. Injured or orphaned mammals and birds can sometimes be taken to a wildlife rehabilitation center or home rehabber, where they'll be given proper treatment and released to a renewed life. If you want closer interaction with wild animals, you can volunteer with such a group. Sierra Wildlife Rescue is the licensed organization in El Dorado County. Call 530-621-4661 if you find an orphaned or injured bird or mammal, or would like to volunteer, and someone will help you.

Just feeding wild animals, however, does far more harm than good. To us as well as to them.

Sallie Reynolds, Sierra Wildlife Rescue

Vintage Aircraft Display on September 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>  
from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM at Swansboro Airport.

**BREAKFAST CREW**

Lynda Lima

The next breakfast will be September 19<sup>th</sup> from 8am to 11am. We will be serving Ron's Omelets, biscuits, bacon and sausage (scrambled eggs will be available for those who do not want an omelet.) We will also have available coffee, milk and orange juice.

Just a note: The Mosquito Community and Breakfast Crew have generated approximately \$2000 for the MVFD equipment fund this year. The MVFD purchased new wild land firefighting gear this year. That is the good news. The bad news is that our new pants kept falling down (snicker), so in order to be able to use both hands for fighting fire we purchased suspenders, courtesy of Curtis Schleth, out of our equipment fund. The next purchase that has been voted on by the volunteers is to be an additional battery charger for our portable radios. Many thanks to the Mosquito Community for all your support.

**SPA DOES TRASH DUTY**

Continuing a tradition which began four or five years ago, members/supporters from the Swansboro Pilots Association once again picked up trash along Mosquito Road, from Dyer Lake to Mosquito Bridge. On August 5<sup>th</sup> Lee Hair, Norm Nester and their able crew of Tom Atkins, Pat Hair, Sally Martegani and Jo Thomas took advantage of the closure of Mosquito Bridge to comb the roadway for litter. The sad part, besides the fact there is so MUCH litter – nearly 10 garbage bags full – is that a lot of it is unreachable even with the sticks provided by Lee. Occasionally we are rewarded with something that is usable, and once in a great while we get paid by finding a coin. Unfortunately, there are those who cannot bear to see a clean road and promptly deposit more litter.

PLEASE secure your trash, whether it be your garbage can on trash day, the back of a pickup truck or a trailer, and then ALWAYS deposit trash in a proper receptacle. Let's all take pride in Mosquito/Swansboro.

**USE THAT ZUCCHINI!**

Evelyn Potter

1 can (20 ozs) pineapple chunks  
 3 cups all purpose flour  
 1 ¾ cups sugar  
 1 tsp baking powder  
 1 tsp baking soda  
 1 tsp salt  
 3 eggs  
 1 cup vegetable oil  
 2 tsp vanilla extract  
 1 cup tightly packed shredded zucchini, unpeeled  
 1 cup fresh or frozen cranberries, halved. (I pounded my frozen ones, and would lightly chop the fresh)  
 ½ cup chopped walnuts

Drain the pineapple, reserving ⅓ cup juice. Place the pineapple and reserved juice in a blender; cover and process until almost smooth. Set aside. In a mixing bowl, combine the flour, sugar, baking powder, baking soda and salt. In a medium bowl, whisk the eggs, oil, vanilla and pineapple mixture; beat into the dry ingredients until well blended. Fold in the zucchini, cranberries and nuts. Pour into two greased and floured 9-inch. round cake pans. Bake in a 350° oven for 30-35 minutes or until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean. Cool for 10 minutes before removing from the pans to wire rack to cool completely. Just before serving, dust with powdered sugar Yield: 2 cakes (8 wedges each)

**YOUR PET QUESTIONS**

Pam Steinke

**Q:** I have a very old female cat (23 Years). She has been and actually still is in fairly good health. This year I noticed that she started to shed in large patches. Part of her back is now bald. I was reading that fish for human consumption has high amounts of mercury in it. Would canned cat food have mercury also? Could a high amount of mercury in a cat's body cause the awful shedding? My cat eats mostly canned food now, although dry food is always available. Could you please shed some light on this? I am afraid that I am poisoning my cat by feeding her.

**A:** First of all I would like to commend you on the care you have given your cat to make it possible for her to live 23 years. Mercury toxicity would affect her brain and major organs, so I don't believe she is getting very much or any at all. The hair loss could be due to a multiple of reasons. The following are a few of the most common: Poor grooming. Older cats decide it's too much trouble or no longer care how they look and then their hair becomes matted. When they scratch, large chunks come out leaving bald spots. Stress. New home, new pet, new friend, new furniture or rearranging the furniture can be stressful and cause the "resting hairs" to fall out.

Overgrooming. Psycho kitty can't leave the hair alone and licks until hair is gone. Poor nutrition/metabolic disease. You may be feeding your cat well, but if she is not able to assimilate the food she could become deficient. A check-up may be in order for your cat.

If you are still concerned about the mercury in fish, there are plenty of poultry options out there.

If you have any questions concerning your pets you would like answered in this column, send them to [drpjjs@hotmail.com](mailto:drpjjs@hotmail.com)

**EVACUATION ROUTE BRUSHING TO RESUME**

Len Newell

Due to an unfortunate injury, Mr. David Gonfiotti became unable to perform his agreed services under the Fire Safe Operations contract. He accomplished 0.2 mile, which may be the toughest terrain in the project, in four days with his crew, and will be paid for his work. There are a few details to clean up yet, but we are very pleased with the result and hope the rest of the community is also. It is good to be able to see the landforms and the beautiful large individual trees of the area worked-between Trout Lake and Rock Creek Road-now that the brush and small trees are abated. It is also good to feel safer driving this stretch of road, and seeing how a fire could be fought and prevented from engulfing passing cars

After some deliberation, the MFSC Board decided to award the remaining work to the next-lowest bidder, Mountain Firewood & Enterprises (MF&E) of Lotus, CA. Because their bid is significantly higher than was that of Mr. Gonfiotti, we will be able to get only Segments 1-3 completed with the money we have remaining from the US Forest Service grant. We will also not be able to accept any more requests to participate in the project, beyond the landowners who had signed up by mid-June. The Fire Safe Council will be looking for ways to continue meeting our Implementation Plan objectives, and our August meeting (Sunday the 22nd, 2:00 PM, Fire Station) will have this as one topic.

**Segment 1 (Mosquito Road to Lupin Ln., Lupin Ln. to Stope Dr.)** will be done from **about August 18-31**. (All dates may change due to fire weather shutdowns.) Landowners who want to have firewood left for their own use should put out a sign: LEAVE FIREWOOD HERE at a convenient roadside spot. All other wood will be chipped. Landowners who want chips left in one or more piles, rather than broadcast, should place signs saying CHIPS HERE near the road. The contractor will get as close as practicable to these spots. Please be sure that trees less than 8" in diameter within 50 feet of the road edge are blue-flagged, if you want to reserve them. Generally, the contractor will not take trees over 8" unless necessary to meet fire safe objectives. The contractor plans to work one side of the road for a distance, and then come back for the other side.

**Segment 3 (Stope Dr. from Lupin Ln. to its terminus at Highgrade Street)** will be done **about September 1-14** Landowners should observe the same recommendations as for Segment 1 above, well in advance of the expected arrival of the contractor.

**Segment 2 (Stope Dr. from Lupin Ln. to Log Cabin Ln., to Maidu, and Maidu from Dogwood Ln. to Stope Drive)** will probably be done **by about September 24**. This segment is scheduled last because fewer people have to travel over it to evacuate to the airstrip. Landowners should observe

the same recommendations as for Segment 1 above, well in advance of the expected arrival of the contractor.

MF&E plans to begin work around 7:00 AM, in order to take advantage of the cooler morning hours, and to work ten-hour days, with up to 12 people. If anyone has issues with the contractor, please call Len Newell (244-1592) or Joe Lima (622-5541) and we will work with both parties for resolution.

Thanks for all that you do for fire safety in our community.

For those who are new to the Mosquito community, the Mosquito Fire Safe Council is:

- \* a volunteer group, under the Mosquito Volunteer Fire Department;

- \* committed to making our community, which has been named as one of the most fire-hazardous in central California, as fire safe as possible by managing burnable vegetation so as to deny wildfire a continuous fuel source, and by other means.

- \* we have a grant from the U.S. Forest Service to do this work.

- \* to date, we have completed a Strategic Plan (which tells us the most important things to be done;) an Implementation Plan (which tells us particulars of priority, sequence, timing, and methods;) and we are now beginning Operations.

- \* please come and help us continue and expand the work. You are most welcome, and there is plenty to do!

Next meetings of the Mosquito Fire Safe Council are Sunday August 22, Sunday September 26, and Sunday October 24, all at 2:00 PM at the Fire Station.

**UPDATE ON JEROME AVERY AND THE OLYMPICS**

Iris Saxon

Jerome Avery has gone to Greece and the Olympics after all. He is making the trip in order to assist a blind runner. In October he will begin to train for the 2008 Olympics. Although he will be 29 years old in 2008, taking good care of your body will increase your ability to compete. Just look at Gail Devers!

The *MOSQUITO BYTE* is available by subscription and is mailed first class to subscribers. Cost of subscription is \$12.00 per year. Mail check to 2300 Mosquito Cut-Off Rd, Placerville, CA, 95667-9081. Deadline for news and advertising is the 19<sup>th</sup> 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 19<sup>th</sup> 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.

**NEW GROUPS**

Are you interested in participating in GIRL SCOUTS in Mosquito? We are looking to start our own troop here on the hill and we'll probably start in the fall (next school year) Please call Teresa Kimm at 295-9203

PLAYGROUP at Dyer Lake. Come enjoy the beautiful weather and meet other moms with young kids. Anyone with young children is welcome. Tuesday's at 10:30 AM. for further information call Jeanine at 621-3875.

HORSE BUDDIES: <http://www.horsebuddies.com> If you would like to ride with me, give me a call. 642-8753; Yvonne McGregor

**WANTED**

FREE CLEAN FILL DIRT. Call 626-4488

I'm looking for other adults interested in playing basketball at Dyer Lake. Evenings or weekends. Call Solon at 621-3875

Retired Hobbyist Would be interested in finding BROKEN OR INOPERATIVE PINBALL, JUKEBOX AND/OR SLOT MACHINE to use for parts or repair. Should be reasonable to Cheap. Thanks. Larry 621-1071

**WORK WANTED**

I work around the yard and house. I charge \$5.00 per hour, my name is Johnny Erdman. For hard work call me at 344-9068.

RETIRED ELECTRICIAN looking for electrical jobs on the hill. Please call John at 344.1912

**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**

FREE FIREWOOD. Big pile of Ponderosa Pine logs in our front yard - easy access. Take as much as you want until it's gone. Please call before cutting. Pam Angelo 621-3688

MATERNITY CLOTHES 621-3875

**SERVICES**

HANDCRAFTED POTTERY. Swansboro studio open by appointment, or visit the website anytime. Classes available. Pam Angelo 621-3688. [www.clayimpressions.com](http://www.clayimpressions.com)

HORSE BOARDING in Swansboro! Lighted box stalls with paddocks, lighted small arena area. only a couple of miles to the National Forest Trails. I'll feed but you supply shavings and clean your own stall. \$350. a month. Call Days: 530-320-9386/ Eves: 530-642-9386

ASPEN LITES ELECTRIC CO Electrical wiring; all phases: specializing in new construction and remodeling. Serving our local Mosquito-

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AMERICAN DREAM - the ownership of a home and a little acreage to call your own! Sally Long Johns, your Resident Mosquito Road Realtor, will help you buy or sell any property in El Dorado County! Utilize your new neighborhood website [www.mosquitoadneighbors.com](http://www.mosquitoadneighbors.com) (530) 295-4641 or toll free 866-SALLYRE [snlongjohns@yahoo.com](mailto:snlongjohns@yahoo.com)

DENTISTRY: Dr. Robert Catron, a Mosquito resident, has 13 years of experience in General Dentistry and Orthodontics. Dr. Catron donates 5% of his earnings from Mosquito residents to the Mosquito Volunteer Fire Department and has been one of the largest financial contributors to the department. Please mention that you are a Mosquito resident as he has a separate bookkeeping account for this donation program. For a no charge consultation please call and schedule an appointment at 676-7777.

SWANSBORO LAND AND HOMES: Specializing in Mosquito/Swansboro real estate. Debbie and Rusty Harris have 35 years experience "on the hill." Our office is located next to the fire station. 530-622-6822.

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

BABYSITTING available in my Mosquito home. Attentive to your child's needs. Available Mon-Wed evenings, to allow parents movie and dinner time. Your child will receive no junk food, will be played games with and will be read to. I'm a preteen that loves children. I will have parental support and supervision while watching your children. No sick children, please. Call Dominique @ 344-1744

OSTERKAMP CONSTRUCTION Specializing in custom homes. Plumbing and general building contractor. Home improvement. Certified, dependable service. Quality construction at competitive prices. CCL 612033. Call 626-7873

SIERRA CRITTER SITTER From pets and livestock to plants. Will love them & feed them. Will NOT feed them & leave them. Experienced, reliable and honest. God Bless.... 344-8049

BUYING OR SELLING REAL ESTATE? Staging is FREE when you list with me. "First impressions are everything!" Call Laurie for all your Real Estate needs. Direct line 622-2000 x 118. Cell 409-7168.

FOR ALL YOUR REAL ESTATE NEEDS call Scott Behrens. He is known for his loyalty and dedication. For over 20 years, a resident of El Dorado County as well as an endurance rider. Scott knows all the back trails and goes **"the extra 2 miles."** That's why Scott is a winner. Direct line 672-7838. Cell (503) 409-8997.

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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, professional work, 23 years experience. Call Esther at 622-6455.

CREATIVE MEMORIES - I help busy people get their albums done! Spend an afternoon at my home having fun with fellow Mosquito scrapbookers or host a class in your home and earn free products! Diana Adams 642-9441.

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

BUYING OR SELLING A HOME? You need an honest, reliable, hardworking real estate agent on your side! Serving El Dorado and Sacramento counties. Call Jessica Dillender at 295-3331 or (916) 765-1256 cell.

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](mailto: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\* 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](http://www.instep-in.com). Call Seth Ford at 344-1744.

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](mailto: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.

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.

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

### FOR SALE

YARD SALE 9/2 through 9/4. Household, Fishing, Antiques, Cabinets, Cages, Jewelry, Firewood etc. 2749 La Paz Rd.

3 DOUGLAS FIR BEAMS. 4" X 6" X 16'. \$100 for all three. IBM correcting ELECTRIC TYPEWRITER. Like new \$50. 622-9540.

2 sets of GOLF CLUBS WITH BAGS AND PULL CARTS. One mens and one ladies set, \$25.00 each. Call 626-5268.

BISSEL CARPET CLEANER. Good condition \$30.00. Call 622-9090.

ALPENLITE 5TH WHEEL TRAILER, year 2000, 32', limited edition, 2 slide-outs, new tires, large back window, new lazyboy recliners, built in vacuum, build in TV, CD and Tape Player, Excellent condition. \$35,000.00 Call 626-7001

26 inch mens ROADMASTER ALL TERRAIN BICYCLE (Mountain Bike) New Condition, only ridden 3 times and always on pavement. \$30.00. Call 626-5268

FREEZER - Hotpoint upright, 16 CF power saving model in good working condition. NATIONAL GEOGRAPHICS - 11 boxes dating from the 1930's to the 1990's, make offer. Call Fred Adams at 642-9441.

2.5 cords CUT PINE. You load, \$50.00. Call 344.1912.

TRAILER 4' X 7', high sides \$400.00. Call Jim 621-3641

ENCLOSED 5' x 8' TRAILER bought in 2000. New spare tire, current license. \$1,500. Call Larry, 621-1071

1990 FORD F250 XLT LARIAT extended cab long bed 2WD V8 truck with just over 90K miles. Looks terrible, runs great--brakes and battery replaced in 2003, alternator replaced in 2002. Sony CD player, power windows and locks, 2 16 gallon fuel tanks, tow hitch, camper shell. Needs passenger-side window replaced and rust (superficial only!) buffed and primered. Could use some body work, too, but this is definitely a "ranch truck." Kelley Blue Book says \$4,400 retail; I'm asking \$3,500. Call Elisabeth @ 626-7088.

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

# **Fiesta Latina**

**SEPTEMBER 25 AT FINNON LAKE**

**We would like to invite everyone to the first annual Latino night dinner. Thanks to the inspiration and help from many latin@s in our diverse community, we are putting on a dinner that encompasses many of the cultures from the Latin world. What a fabulous treat, tasting dishes from countries like Argentina, Costa Rico, Columbia, Porto Rico, Salvador, and Mexico! This event hopes to present the flare of the Latin culture in a way that excites everyones taste buds. There will be sea food dishes, main dishes, deserts, side dishes, wine tasting, and beer tasting. The wine and beer will be from Latin countries, which, we find, produce some very excellent quality products. There will be a slide show of the cultural diversity of the many Latin countries. There will also be many types of Latin music such as Salsa, Cumbie, Tango, and others. Don't miss this exciting evening!**



**This event will take place on Sept. 25, at Finnon Lake. We will serve from 4:30-8:30. If there are any members of our community who have any suggestions, recipes, Latin decorations or would just like to help with this fun event, please call Ron Stone at 622-1585. The cost will be \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children 12 and under. Wine tasting will be \$2.00 per glass and beer tasting will be \$1.50 per glass. Of course all proceeds go to the Mosquito Volunteer Fire Dept. We expect a real social event, so come early and stay late.**





**SEPTEMBER 2004**

**ALL MEETINGS ARE AT THE MOSQUITO FIRE STATION UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2 MVFD BOARD MEETING 7:00 PM	3	4 SUPPORT GROUP 10:00 AM
5	6 CRAFT SALE AT DIAMOND SPRINGS 	7	8	9 MFPD BOARD MEETING 7:00PM	10	11 SCPOA BOARD MEETING 10:00 AM
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19 MVFD BREAKFAST 8:00 - 11:00 AM	20	21	22  FIRST DAY OF AUTUMN	23	24 CRAFT MEETING SEE PAGE 2	25 LATINO NIGHT SEE PAGE 8
26 FIRE SAFE MEETING 2:00 PM	27	28	29	30		

**Firehouse Country Kitchen**  
**Ross & Mary Ann Aguilar**  
**Monday, Thursday & Friday 11:00 AM to 7:00 PM**  
**Saturday & Sunday 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM**  
**Closed Tuesday & Wednesday**  
**621-2548**



Mosquito Byte  
2300 Mosquito Cut-off Road  
Placerville CA 95667-9081

