

MOSQUITO BYTE

February 2015, Volume 28 #5

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE MOSQUITO VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION

MOSQUITO FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT, (MFPD)

by Melissa Martini, Director

I had hoped by now we would be seeing more rain. After a promising end of 2014, January is shaping up to be back to the same dry pattern we have experienced over the past few years. As always, an important thing to remember is that the lack of precipitation increases the fire potential for our district. Our fire department has already responded to one escaped control burn this year. Here is a reminder and a quick checklist to review before burning:

- Get a burn permit – available at the Mosquito Fire Station.
- Call the burn information line (621-5897) before burning to ensure it is a county burn day, and always check for changing weather conditions.
- Clear a defensible area around your burn project and always be aware of the terrain and surrounding vegetation.
- Have a charged water hose, shovel and rake ready.
- Make sure that your burn project is manageable and, of course, never leave your burn pile unattended.
- Call the fire department 626-9017 with any questions.
- And of course... BE SAFE!!

We have received 23 applicants for the current Chief position posting. The initial screening has been completed, thanks to the hard work of our Chief Selection Committee. Phone interviews, panel interviews and testing schedules are in

progress. In the interim we have coverage for our district with our four capable and committed Captains and our group of volunteer and paid staff firefighters who continue to protect our community.

The Mosquito Fire Department is constantly recruiting volunteers for our station. You don't have to have experience, just come down and speak with one of the staff/volunteers for more information. All levels of experience are welcome. Training is provided and it is a great way to give back to your community and neighbors.

"The achievements of an organization are the results of the combined effort of each individual"
~Vince Lombardi

MOSQUITO VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION (MVFA)

by Darcy Krieger

We held our first meeting of the year on January 7th, welcoming to the board our new members, Eileen Guell, Jon Langhout and Karen Pullin. The board now consists of Darcy Krieger as Chairperson, Tom Harris as Vice-Chairperson, Karen Pullin as Secretary and Dave Angelo, Eileen Guell, Clay Heironimus and Jon Langhout as Directors.

We planned our schedule of events for the year, with our first event being the St. Patrick's Day

(MVFA, continued)

Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner on Saturday, March 14th, so mark your calendars! As usual, we will be holding a raffle at the dinner, and we are looking for donations of raffle items. We have received many wonderful raffle donations in the past, and the contributions are very much appreciated. Donors can receive a donation letter to use when filing their taxes, so be sure to ask if you would like one for your raffle donation. Raffle donations can be given to any board member, brought to an MVFA board meeting, or brought to the St. Patrick's dinner.

We have received many donations recently for the back Finnon Dam inspection fees. We have mailed a check to DWR and are waiting to hear about the final status of the debt. Thanks go out to everyone who has donated to the fund recently and in the past. We really appreciate everyone's contributions and hard work towards making Finnon Lake such a wonderful resource for the community. We plan on holding more of our MVFA events at Finnon Lake so that the community has a chance to enjoy the wonderful location. If you are planning a special event, wedding, family reunion, birthday party, etc., we hope you will consider using Finnon Lake! Contact Tom Harris for more information.

Finally, I would like to thank our departing board members, Teresa Wren, Sandi Brauns and Mary Ann Haywood, for their many, many years of volunteer work with MVFA. Although they are no longer active board members, they will continue to offer their time and expertise to the Board, and we are all truly thankful for that!

The next MVFA Board meeting will be Thursday, February 5th, 7 p.m. at Fire Station 75. Hope to see you there!

SWANSBORO COUNTRY PROPERTY OWNER'S ASSOCIATION (SCPOA)

by Kim Purcell Kirkpatrick

Our maintenance crew has started the process of replacing the remainder of the white fencing that the association is required to maintain. They will be working along Mosquito Road and Rock Creek Road. This will complete the last of the required fencing. The clearing of the brush and trees to make room for the fencing has also opened up the area that used to run along the fence line used for riding or walking along Mosquito Road.

Recently there have been questions raised about the association finances and bookkeeping records; a list of questions was submitted and I will address them here.

The SCPOA books are done by an independent bookkeeper and reviewed by our CPA, Tom Balarsky, each month. Tom is very well respected, knowledgeable of associations, and legally responsible to assure our financial books are in order. Mr. Balarsky reviewed our financial records again last month and, in a letter, he stressed to the board and community that there are no serious or significant deficiencies with the association books. The association is in very good financial shape and our reserve accounts should approach the 80% funding level at the close of this fiscal year. I find this pretty amazing. Lots of road work has been done with a large project planned for this year, and our common areas are in the best shape they have ever been. Overall, our association is in great condition which is very good news for all of us.

An item that affects our financial situation is delinquent accounts. We have 57 owners who are not current on their dues. The Board will continue to aggressively pursue those who make no effort to pay and all extra costs associated will be applied to the delinquent amount.

An item that has come up several times lately is about the SCPOA meetings. We have two types of meetings: monthly board meetings and an annual membership meeting each year. SCPOA is a

(SCPOA, continued)

private corporation and the elected board meets each month to conduct the business of the association. This is where board members meet to make decisions in the best interest of the corporation and while association members may attend, they are not allowed to participate in the decision making process. They may, however, make comments for consideration at the end of the meeting. An annual membership meeting is held once each year. This would be similar to a shareholders meeting of any large corporation. Multiple sets of rules and laws strictly govern how association decisions are made, sometimes despite what individual members may want.

Our next meeting will be our annual membership meeting which will include the election results for board members. Ballots need to be submitted by February 13th at 9:00 am in order to be counted. Please don't forget to sign the outer envelope. You may either drop them off at the box in the fire station, the SCPOA mail box, or mail to the SCPOA address. We look forward to seeing everyone at Fire Station 75 on February 14th at 10:00 am.

GIRL SCOUT TROOP 747

by Sara Infante

We wanted to let you know it's that time of the year again. Girl Scout cookies are coming! If you know a local Girl Scout, she will be happy to take your order. If you would like to pre-order your cookies, please see the contact information below and we will get you in contact with a local Girl Scout.

Troop 747 will be holding a booth sale at Mosquito General Market and Kitchen the first week in March. The exact date and time will be posted closer to the event so keep an eye out for signs and an event on Next Door.

If you are not a cookie eater, you can still support the girls by donating cookies to their "give back" project. The girls will be sending care packages with donated cookies to the troops overseas. Last year we were able to fill and send 9 care packages with help from Dee Harris and all of you who donated cookies. We hope all of you have had a wonderful start to this new year. We would again like to thank everyone who helped our troop provide thank you cards to the fire departments, police departments and local groups that helped our community during the King Fire.

Also, if you have a family member or close friend serving in the military and in need of a care package, please let us know. You can contact Sara Infante, troop leader, at 707-689-1673 with their information and any request for cookies. Care packages are usually sent in April.

Thank you for your continuing support.

MOSQUITO PANTRY

By Sharon Hern & MaryAnn Haywood

Need a small helping hand to get through some temporary hard times? The Mosquito Volunteer Fire Association maintains the "Mosquito Pantry" where donated, non-perishable food items are available to any member of the community who might find themselves in need. The Pantry is located at the Fire Station and is available anytime the Station is open. So if you find yourself in need, don't hesitate to visit the Mosquito Pantry!

MVFA 2015 CALENDAR

by Tom Harris

The new MVFA Event Schedule has been written and approved as follows. Please note that there is a venue change for some of the events. For your convenience, the schedule has also been posted on our website. Go to the MVFA website at www.finnonrecreationarea.com and click on the "Events & Links" page.

2015 MVFA EVENT SCHEDULE

March 14th St. Patrick's Day Dinner at Fire Station

March 28th Easter Egg Hunt at Finnon Lake

May 2nd Cinco de Mayo at Fire Station

June 6th Yard Sale at Fire Station

July 4th Community Picnic at Finnon Lake Campground

September 26th Spaghetti Feed at Fire Station

October 31st Halloween Trunk 'R Treat at Finnon Recreation Area

December 12th Christmas Dinner at Fire Station

December 19th Christmas Basket Distribution

BINGO is BACK!

by Eileen Guell

Feeling Lucky?? Please join MVFA and Mosquito General for a night of "Dinner/Bingo and Fun" on Thursday, February 26, 2015. Dinner will begin at 6:00pm and Bingo will start at 7:00pm. Cost for Bingo is \$10.00 per card - 7 games. Dawn and Gus are in the process of planning the Bingo Night dinner menu. For more information, please contact Mosquito General at 530-295-4980. Proceeds benefit Finnon Lake projects. We hope to see many of our Community there!!

**The new 2015
Mosquito Phone Books
are available at:
Mosquito Station 75**

\$5.00

CRAFTERS

by Sharon Hern

ATTENTION LADIES (men too if you want) -If you're a "crafter" or just one of us who can do simple (?) cut, paste/glue, paint, etc. jobs, you are encouraged to come join us at our Craft Meeting. There's the fun of learning new crafts, meeting new friends, coffee, and goodies. Our next meeting is on February 27th (see time and location below).

Our craft meetings are generally held on the 4th Friday of each month from **10AM to 12Noon** at the home of Darlene Rood, 2211 Swansboro Road. Hope to see you on the **27th of February**.

WANTED!!!

ALL CA CRV ALUMINUM CANS, BEER BOTTLES AND PLASTIC WATER BOTTLES.

Please drop off bags from 8-5at the Fire Station.

Please consider this option when you organize your recycled materials. (Wine bottles don't have CRV! We can't use them) This is a very important fund raiser for the Fire Department so **MVFA**

THANKS YOU!

“GETTING THERE WAS HALF THE FUN”

submitted by Fred Adams

Editor's Note: Fred has developed an interesting page on his website (<http://adamsamigos.net/mosquito.htm>) with an abundance of photos and historical information about Mosquito. The following article was copied directly from his site.

Getting There Was Half the Fun

Compiled and arranged by Peg Presba, Mountain Democrat, April 2, 1998 (Text used by permission)

“The late Margaret Kelly must have been a delight to her many students throughout El Dorado County. She had an eye for things of historical importance, a good sense of humor and a way with words. She spent a great deal of time in the 1920's at Bret Harte Hotel and Deer View nestled, as she put it, “in the heart of the forest primeval.” A.P.T. Elder, builder and owner of this wilderness haven must have felt he found a treasure in the kindred spirit of Margaret Kelly who could paint such picturesque scenes of “Deer View” with her writings on the subject. Elder capitalized on these very words and used them in his literature, pamphlets and newspaper articles on the place. The following is a sampling of Kelly's enthusiastic essays on “Deer View” and the thrill of getting there.

16-Mile Exciting Journey

Placerville begins the lap of the run to “Deer View,” only 16 miles, across the Sierra Nevada mountains, which because of the sharp and hazardous grades, requires three hours to negotiate. The most daring chauffeur needs no warning words of caution. A single bad move, and death awaits him at every turn, while by careful driving and managing of the car, the three hours' run thrills with interest and excitement.

Before you are scenes of the far away vistas of hundreds of miles of mountains, piercing the sky. You are rolling through and over “The old gold diggings of '49” all along this 16 mile exciting journey.

A Yawning Sepulcher Awaits the Wayward Driver

At “Negro Hill” only a few miles out of Placerville, you stop on the brink of a black gulch and look into the yawning sepulcher whence \$12 million in gold were taken in a few months. The car is ascending the rocky steeps, until you have a view, in all directions, of hundreds of miles of mountains piled on top of each other, and then lowering your eyes, you look down thousands of feet into the wild depths of the South Fork of the American River Canyon, over which you

must cross. “It is impossible!” you gasp.

You cannot turn back! The car must go on. The driver is an experienced man at the wheel, and right here I warn anyone never to try to make the trip across the South Fork of the American River Canyon with an inexperienced driver. You now come to the first hair-pin curve, whose turn brings you face to face with death if there's a single false move, a bursting of a tire, a slip of a brake, you are hurled into eternity. Two thousand feet below you are the leaping, dashing, splashing waters of the American River.

The ladies crowd up close to the men, who throw their strong, protecting arms around their wives and sweethearts for assurance of safety. It is all a matter of supreme faith in your car, its equipment and your driver. The car swings slowly to the left, and it rests on the very rim of the canyon, 2,000 feet deep.

You slowly slip down the thin, narrow roadway, your eyes riveted on the dashing, leaping waters which seem to toss back their smiles and salutations to you, inviting you to come on, as though wanting you, wishing for you. Not a word is spoken, only the exclamations, “Wonderful! Wonderful! Miraculous!” The men comforting their women with “Have no fear - we are safe!”

Hair-pin Turns and Slim, One-track Cable Bridges

Now you are on the thin, slim, one-track cable bridge hanging from Nature's solid masonry on each side across the American River, 300 feet below. This bridge was built by the old miners and early ranchers many years ago, twisting, wrenching, and wrapping the cables with their own hands. You begin to climb out of the canyon by one hair-pin curve after another, and 10 miles yet lie between you and Deer View until you are nearly one mile higher than San Francisco.

The Forest Primeval

You enter the forest primeval six miles from “Deer View.” Here the scene changes from rugged mountain sides to the quiet and solitude of the mighty forest, only the companionship of big trees, hundreds of years, and some of them thousands of years old, you climb Slate Mountain and on by the forest ranger's lodge.

At Little Soap Weed Creek, you enter a forest of still larger trees, until lifting your eyes at a turn in the trail the chimneys of “Deer View” burst on your view.

The clearing or amphitheater lies there open before you - the orchards, the gardens, the clover fields, 12 acres in all, with its mineral spring and great natural spring, the delicious water, sweet and healing, the high, clear, pure mountain air laden with the odor

(GETTING THERE, continued)

of the balsam from the pines.

This is "Deer View" in its wonderful setting of great and mighty trees, some of them growing when Joseph was sold into Egypt, when Cyrus conquered Belshazzar's army, when Solomon was building the temple in Jerusalem - surrounded by these silent sentinels of the ages in "Deer View." No other place like it in the world.

What became of the man with the dream? What became of this magnificent hostelry in the mountains? We'll try to sort out some of these facts from fiction in next week's El Dorado Gold."

KING FIRE BOOK

A book about The King Fire, including memories and photographs submitted by community members, is in final stages of preparation with an anticipated Amazon release date in February. Look for news on the Nextdoor website or the next Mosquito Byte!

CLASSIFIED SECTION

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FOR SALE: (continued)

FIREWOOD: call Dustin Sears, 530-363-4991

SEASONED WOOD—Delivered, seasoned OAK \$290/cord. Call Bob at 642-9335.

1 ¼ cord split soft wood, \$195. You pick up. Call Tim at 622-4419.

MEETINGS:

MOUNTAIN FELLOWSHIP – Meet new friends, get refreshed and restored. Join us for challenging Bible study, fun events and worship here in Mosquito. Groups for Men/Women/kids/young adults. We meet Sunday mornings 9:30am at 3342 Stope Drive and throughout the week. Check our website www.mfom.net or call 530-295-0503.

FREE VEGAN VEGETARIAN COOKING CLASSES – Food preparation demonstrations, recipe handouts, video clips and resource materials, along with very generous samples provided. Have fun interacting with other health-minded folks, learning healthful lifestyle principles and discovering tasty new recipes. We meet once a month at the Camino SDA Church, 3520 Carson Rd. on Thursdays at 11:00 a.m. Call Fred Adams at 642-9441 for dates and to reserve your space. Or email AdamsAmigos@gmail.com.

SERVICES:

SEARS & SONS LAND MANAGEMENT – FIRE WOOD SALES- Wood Splitting - Tractor Work - Tree & Brush Removal - Dump Runs and More.....! Give us a call, free estimates. If we can't help you, we'll put you in touch with someone who can. FRIENDLY HONEST SERVICE - Dustin K. Sears Sr. Call [530-363-4991](tel:530-363-4991).

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romantic weekend getaway on the coast, or tours and tickets
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right here on the hill. Very dependable, with excellent
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Land & Homes, Inc. Lic.#01781489. Area specialists since
1975. Office next to Fire Station at 8781 Rock Creek Road.
Stop by for free maps & info. Happy to put our experience
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Friday 9:00 am-5:30 pm. Saturday by appointment. Call
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Welcome!)

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TRACTOR & BACKHOE WORK – 4X4 backhoe. Driveways, gravel needs, dirt moving, grading, house pads, power and phone lines, house, barn & garage footings, water lines, culverts, brush clearing, stump removal, septic systems. I DIG your needs! Licensed and insured. Call Jim Collins at 417-2827 or email jcbackhoe@att.net.

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REAL ESTATE SERVICES – Live the 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 or 295-4641 or toll free 866.SALLYRE, snlongjohns@yahoo.com.

NOTARY SERVICE – I am a “mobile” Notary Public living right here in Mosquito. I am experienced in all areas of notary work including loan packages, real estate transfers, etc. Call Elaine Galvan at 295-0503.

RESPITE CARE – Available in Swansboro/Mosquito, M-F, weekends or overnight as needed. Also available for short periods of time (barring previously scheduled commitments) and/or for hospice care for your family member. I have 17 local home-care references to verify my skills and the level of care I will provide for your loved ones. Call Nancy West at 626-7975.

MOSQUITO GENERAL MARKET AND KITCHEN WINTER HOURS

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday: 10:00 am-
7:00 pm

Sunday: 10:00am-4:00pm

Monday and Tuesday: CLOSED

530-295-4980

or mosquitogeneral@live.com

Important Phone Numbers

| | |
|--|----------|
| Fire, Medical, Police Emergency | 911 |
| Mosquito Fire non-emergency | 626-9017 |
| All other non-emergency | 621-6600 |
| CA Highway Patrol non-emergency | 622-1110 |
| Burn Day Information | 621-5897 |
| Mosquito General Market and Kitchen | 295-4980 |

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION FACILITY

Location: El Dorado Disposal Material Recovery Facility
4100 Throwita Way, Placerville, 95667

Times: ONLY Fridays and Saturdays 9am-4pm

Household items that will be accepted include: paint, brake fluid, adhesives/sealants, batteries, floor/furniture cleaners, anti-freeze, solvents/thinners, pesticides/herbicides, aerosols and photo chemicals.

Maximum limit of containers is 15 gallons of any liquid material. For further information, call 295-2800.

February 2015

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-----|---|-------------------------------|--|
| 1 MARKET 10-4 | 2 MARKET CLOSED | 3 MARKET CLOSED | 4 | 5 MVFA BOARD MEETING 7PM | 6 | 7 |
| 8 MARKET 10-4 | 9 MARKET CLOSED | 10 MARKET CLOSED | 11 | 12 MFPD BOARD MEETING 7PM | 13 | 14 ST. PATRICK'S DAY DINNER 6:00 |
| 15 MARKET 10-4 | 16 MARKET CLOSED | 17 MARKET CLOSED | 18 | 19 SCPOA BOARD MEETING 7PM 10am | 20 | 21 |
| 22 MARKET 10-4 | 23 MARKET CLOSED | 24 MARKET CLOSED | 25 | 26 BINGO AT MOSQUITO MARKET 6:00 DINNER 7:00 BINGO | 27 CRAFT GROUP 10 AM | 28 |
| | | | | | | |

MOSQUITO GENERAL MARKET AND KITCHEN IS OPEN 10 AM-7 PM UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED ON CALENDAR.

ALL MEETINGS TAKE PLACE AT FIRE STATION 75 UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED IN BYTE ARTICLE.

The *MOSQUITO BYTE* is available by subscription and is mailed first class to subscribers. Cost of subscription is **\$15.00 per year** with 2 years as the maximum period for Byte subscriptions beyond one year. Please make check payable to **MVFA** and mail to 9009 Orval Beckett Ct., Placerville, CA, 95667-9040. Deadline for news and advertising is the 19th of the each month.

ADVERTISING POLICY

There is no charge to our subscribers for advertising in the Mosquito Byte, however ads must be limited to 7 column lines maximum. Deadline for advertising is the 19th of each month. Please note, items for placement in the Classified Section will be accepted **via email** at byteeditor@gmail.com or in writing and mailed to: MVFA at 9009 Orval Beckett Court, Placerville CA 95667-9040. Ads in the "Free", "For Sale" and "Wanted" category will run for **three months** unless you call to say the item is no longer available, or that you want the ad extended.

You can reach Editor Candy Lupient at 344-0897 or at byteeditor@gmail.com. The editors reserve the right to edit, limit or refuse any article submitted for publication in the *Mosquito Byte*. The Mosquito Volunteer Fire Association accepts ads from subscribers without endorsement.

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