

MOSQUITO BYTE

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE MOSQUITO VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION

MOSQUITO



Volunteer Fire Association

Volume 35, No 7

April 2022

Chief's Report

by Chief Jack Rosevear



Calls for Service: February 21-March 21

Structure Fire- 2- La Paz Rd. / Water Tender mutual aid to Pilot Hill

Vegetation Fire- 1

Medical Aid- 4 (Includes solo motorcycle accident)

Smoke Check- 1

Public Assist- 2

On Sunday March 6th at 6:05am, Mosquito units were dispatched to a structure fire on La Paz Rd. First units arrived at 6:20am to find a double-wide mobile home with fire burning in the ceiling area above the bedroom. The homeowner awoke to discover the fire. She alerted two other family members who were sleeping in other bedrooms. The family evacuated without injury.

Mosquito firefighters were able to access the fire in the ceiling and contain the fire to a small area. There was water and smoke damage through the house but most of the contents were spared. The fire was knocked down prior to the arrival of mutual aid assistance. Salvage and overhaul was assisted by County Fire and Diamond Springs Fire Districts. Garden Valley and Cal Fire engines were cancelled prior to arrival. Seven community-based firefighters supported by six Support Group personnel responded to the fire.

Firefighters responded back to the residence on Sunday afternoon to cover the hole in the roof caused by the fire and fire suppression efforts. The fire cause is under investigation.

We would like to remind our residents to post their house number at their driveway entrance. The numbers need to have a contrasting background, 4 inch minimum, reflectorized and visible from both directions of the road.

We continue to lack normal amounts of rain. Vegetation continues to dry and subject to control burn escape, especially in windy conditions. Please follow all burn permit requirements, which can be obtained on-line. The Fire District does not issue burn permits, which are under the jurisdiction of Cal Fire and El Dorado County Air Quality District. Burn piles 4'x 4' or smaller, obtain a burn permit at <https://burnpermit@fire.ca.gov>. For larger burn piles obtain a permit at <https://www.edcgov.us/government/airqualitymanagement/burn-permit-application>. Burn barrels are not allowed. Always call or check our website to see if it's a burn day before proceeding.

Cal Fire will be continuing vegetation management inspections in our community within the next month or two. They will be out enforcing defensible space regulations around homes (30-100 foot clearance). The purpose of the inspections are educational but they do have the option to issue citations.

We learned recently that the El Dorado Hills Fire Department was given a \$250,000 one year contract to perform vegetation management inspections throughout the County. They will be responding to complaints from residents reporting vegetation issues on neighboring properties. Their enforcement authority is through the County's "Good Neighbor" ordinance. Last year we assisted the County with initial complaint inspections and working with residents to find solutions. This year, El Dorado Hill Fire Department part time inspectors will be doing the initial inspections and following up with solutions. They also have an enforcement process for non-compliance. Our District has no authority in these

enforcement situations and has not been asked to participate except to be informed when inspectors are in our area. Residents affected will have to deal directly with the El Dorado Hills Fire Department.

We continue to seek interest from the Community for those interesting in CERT training. CERT basic training consists of approximately 30 hours of basic disaster preparedness training delivered in a flexible format over several months. Those taking the training will be much better prepared for emergency and disaster situations at home and elsewhere. Additional training will be available for those who wish to expand their knowledge and become certified volunteer responders to emergency incidents. If this interests you and would like to learn more, please contact me or Fire Director Wayne Gregson (wgregson@mfpd.us).

The District is seeking volunteers of all types. If you have the desire to contribute your skills and talents to help your community, we definitely have a place for you. Please visit our website, www.mfpd.us.

Fire District staff is fully committed to our Community. We stand ready to assist our residents with any needs they may have, to prepare, support and provide the most up to date information. Please call us at 626-9017 or stop by the station.

On Thursday April 21st there will be a presentation at the Fire House starting at 6:00pm discussing the new Mosquito Bridge Project. All are welcome to attend.

The next MFPD board meeting will be on April 28th at 7:00pm at the Fire House,

MFPD Upcoming Events:

Saturday April 2- Support Group Monthly Training- 10am- Station 75

Tuesday April 5- MFPD Firefighter Training- 6pm- Station 75

Tuesday April 12- MFPD Firefighter Training- 6pm- Station 75

Tuesday April 19- MFPD Firefighter Training- 6pm- Station 75

Thursday April 21- New Mosquito Bridge Construction Presentation- 6pm- Station 75

Tuesday April 26- MFPD Firefighter Training- 6pm- Station 75

Thursday April 28- Fire Board Meeting- 7pm- Station 75 (Zoom provided)

MVFA UPDATE

MVFA Board of Directors

The campground since the March reopening has been fairly busy. The campground has been full of campers each weekend and several during the week. As we look towards the summer month's we continue to see each weekend is fully booked. We are appreciative of all the returning campers we are seeing from the past couple years. We routinely receive compliments which makes it all worthwhile.

Easter Egg Hunt on April 16, 2022 The EASTER BUNNY IS COMING OUR WAY! 🐰

The Annual Mosquito Volunteer Fire Association (MVFA) Easter Egg Hunt will be held at 11 a.m. sharp on Saturday, April 16th at the Finnon Lake Recreation Area. Parents and children

ages 0 to 13 should arrive by 10:30 a.m. for locations and directions. All community members are encouraged to attend. The Easter Egg Hunt will begin **promptly** at 11 a.m.

NEW NEIGHBOR PACKETS

We've distributed 7 new neighbor packets over the last couple months. If you know of anyone that has recently moved to our community, please send us an email at mfvf95667@gmail.com and we will contact them to set up a time to take a packet to them.

LEASH LAW

Please remember it is a county ordinance that all dogs must be on a leash while at the Finnon Recreation Area and Frank's Diner. To maintain a safe and incident free environment we ask that you abide by this ordinance requirement.

MOSQUITO BRIDGE HISTORY

The Mosquito Suspension Bridge was originally built in 1867 and was reconstructed in 1937. It's a one lane suspension bridge over the South Fork of the American River. Mosquito Road connects Placerville North with the Mosquito community. Once across the bridge there is a series of switchbacks and hairpin turns to climb out of the canyon. The two major roads in and out of the Swansboro community are Mosquito Road via the suspension bridge and Rock Creek Road. Both roads are narrow and curvy with several turnouts to use when cars are following closer than you would like.

DRIVING MOSQUITO ROAD and BRIDGE ETIQUETTE

- Only passenger vehicles and pickup trucks are allowed on Mosquito Bridge
- Absolutely **no trailers** or large heavy trucks are allowed on Mosquito Bridge (they must use Rock Creek road)
- One car at a time on the bridge –Two cars should not be on the bridge at the same time.
- Stay on your side of the road.
- Uphill traffic has the right of way, especially on the switchbacks.
- Allow extra time to get to town – you never know what road conditions, i.e. heavy traffic, downed trees, animals, snow or ice you might encounter.
- If there is a line at the bridge on either side, etiquette is you take turns crossing the bridge.
- Coming from the Swansboro side, please stop at the pull out close to the bridge, **not** at the top of the first switchback as this makes it very challenging for the other cars to make the turn.
- Please use turnouts safely and when necessary to let others pass.
- There is no cell service at the bridge as well as at various locations in the canyon.

Rock Creek Road

Rock Creek Road is accessed off of highway 193 and it too is narrow. This road is used by large trucks, including lumber, concrete, propane, school bus, and more importantly fire and emergency vehicles like ambulances, fire trucks and more.

Anyone with an RV, pulling any trailer, or driving a large truck must use Rock Creek Road. Please be sure to instruct all delivery services to use Rock Creek Road. Often times their GPS will direct them onto Mosquito Road which should not be used. This causes lots of chaos, delays, frustration and potential damage to the bridge.

Amazon Smile

If you have been ordering through Amazon, we would encourage you to use Amazon Smile. In doing so you can choose a charity and they will donate a small portion to your chosen charity. If you don't have a specific charity, you have already chosen, we would appreciate your considering MVFA.

Classified Ads

If you subscribe to the Byte, and you own a business, you may advertise that business in the Byte at no charge.

MVFA UPCOMING EVENT SCHEDULE

April 16, 2022 Easter Egg Hunt

May 14, 2022 Spaghetti dinner

June 4, 2022 Yard Sale

October 15, 2022 Harvest Festival

October 29, 2022 Trunk or Treat

December 10, 2022 Christmas Dinner

The next MVFA board meeting will be on April 7th at 3:00pm at the Fire House,

Birding at Finnon Lake

by Dave Angelo

Here are the results of the bird watch for March. The next bird watch is scheduled for April 9th. We will meet at the Day Use Parking area on the North side of Finnon Lake, just past the Boat Launch area. We will start at 8:00 A.M. There is no parking charge to the participants of this free event.



Canada Goose

2 Mallard

2 Ring-necked Duck

2 Bufflehead

4 Common Merganser

10 Ruddy Duck

6 California Quail

4 Pied-billed Grebe

2 Calliope Hummingbird -- Documented by other observers and seen in this location before.

70 American Coot

6 Double-crested Cormorant

1 Great Blue Heron

1 Great Egret

2 Turkey Vulture

2 Bald Eagle

1 Belted Kingfisher

30 Acorn Woodpecker

1 Hairy Woodpecker

20 Northern Flicker

2 Black Phoebe

2 Steller's Jay

10 California Scrub-Jay

1 Common Raven

30 American Robin

17 Lesser Goldfinch

2 Dark-eyed Junco

16 California Towhee

18 Spotted Towhee

20 Red-winged Blackbird

Number of Taxa: 29

Did you know?

by Dave Angelo

Our bald eagles have started their nest watching duties. Incubation posture is flat and low and the egg sitter may not be visible above the level of the nest while keeping the egg(s) warm. The egg(s) must be kept warm at a temperature of close to 105 degrees Fahrenheit, but must be shaded from harsh sunlight. The egg(s) must be turned about once every hour or two to keep them evenly heated and to prevent the embryo from sticking to the inside of the shell. If that occurs, the developing chick will die. When turning the egg(s) the adult will ball up its talons to prevent their sharp claws from puncturing the egg's shell. The adult may use the upper part of its beak to roll the egg(s). We don't know the exact day of the egg laying, but we are in the 34-36 day period and hope to see the chick(s) during our April or May "Bird Watch".

Crafters

by Eileen Reisner

MVFA Firehouse Crafters next meeting will be on Friday, April 22nd 2022 at 10:00 AM. The meeting will be held at Darlene Rood's home located at 2211 Swansboro Road. The meeting will be a chance to share ideas for future sales. If you have been working on some projects, bring them along to share with the group. All proceeds from our sales go to the MVFA Station 75 Fund, used to buy needed items for the Mosquito Fire Station. For information call Eileen Reisner at 530-295-0541.

Franks Diner

by Frank Ethridge

"Our spring has come at last with the soft laughter of April suns and shadow of April showers." – **Byron Caldwell Smith**

Thank you all for supporting us through all the things life has to throw at us. This is an awesome community. We are going to have a few changes here at Frank's Diner. First, our hours are going back to summer hours. Second, we are having to raise our prices to keep up with this inflation. Family Night prices are going up immediately to \$14.00. We wish to keep things as affordable as possible for everyone, thank you for your understanding.



Wednesday Family Night

Specials are \$14.00 from 5 pm to 8 pm

6th-Chicken Piccata

13th-Chili and Cornbread

20th-Beef Tips and Rice

27th-Lasagna and Salad

Frank's Summer Diner Hours:

Wednesday -Thursday 11 am – 8 pm

Friday 12 pm - 8 pm

Saturday-Sunday 8 am - 8 pm

Monday-Tuesday – Closed

(Breakfast served on the weekends only)

(530) 409-1977

www.franksmosquitodiner.com

Recipe of the Month

Chicken & Garlic with Fresh Herbs

Ingredients:

6 boneless skinless chicken thighs (about 1-1/2 pounds)
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon pepper
1 tablespoon olive oil
10 garlic cloves, peeled and halved
2 tablespoons brandy or chicken stock

1 cup chicken stock
1 teaspoon minced fresh rosemary or 1/4 teaspoon dried rosemary, crushed
1/2 teaspoon minced fresh thyme or 1/8 teaspoon dried thyme
1 tablespoon minced fresh chives

Directions:

1. Sprinkle chicken with salt and pepper. In a large cast-iron or another heavy skillet, heat oil over medium-high heat. Brown chicken on both sides. Remove from pan.
2. Remove skillet from heat; add halved garlic cloves and brandy. Return to heat; cook and stir over medium heat until liquid is almost evaporated 1-2 minutes.
3. Stir in stock, rosemary, and thyme; return chicken to pan. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat; simmer, uncovered until a thermometer reads 170°, 6-8 minutes. Sprinkle with chives.

The Up and Coming 2022 Mosquito Phone Book

by Adam Reisner

In the next few months we will be producing the 2022 edition of the Mosquito Phone Book. The phone book contains valuable information from our Mosquito/Swansboro area. Learn about the various organizations, important phone numbers, map of the area, along with residential listings. If you want to be added to the phone book, or need to change your listing, contact us at mosquitophbook@gmail.com or mail information to MVFA Phone Book, 9009 Orval Beckett Court, Placerville, Ca. 95667. We will let the community know when the 2022 Phone Book is ready. Any questions can be directed to mvfa95667@gmail.com



MVFA SWAG

by Paula Paynter

MVFA offers your choice of Mosquito T-Shirts and Sweat Shirts in a variety of sizes and colors, Tote Bags and Local Phone books are also for sale at Frank's Diner during normal business hours or at MVFA sponsored events. Custom orders can be taken and delivered on the next re-order schedule. For custom orders, contact Paula Paynter at: 530-621-3286



T-Shirts S-XL	\$20.00	Hooded Pullovers S-XL	\$35.00
T-Shirts – XXL	\$22.00	Hooded with Zipper S-XL	\$40.00
Crewneck Sweatshirts S-XL	\$30.00	Hooded with Zipper XXL	\$42.00
Crewneck Sweatshirts XXL	\$32.00		

MVFA Grocery Tote Bags are: 1 for \$4.00 or 3 for \$10.00 or 4 for \$12.00

MVFA CRV Recycle Program

Last month MVFA volunteers processed, recycled and turned in 75 pounds of plastic bottles and 162 pounds of aluminum cans! Please remember that we do not take glass as it becomes too heavy to handle. We really appreciate all those that donate as that money goes towards things needed at the fire station. Thanks to all that helped sort and those that donate their recycle containers to save the environment.



Please drop off bags from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. at the Fire Station. Please consider this option when you organize your recycled materials.



(Sorry no Glass) NOTE: Lids/Caps on plastic **MUST BE REMOVED** before they can be redeemed. Lids/caps can be included for redemption. If you have a chance and can remove the lids, it will sure help the recycle volunteers. **MVFA THANKS YOU!**

CLASSIFIED ADS

(Classified Ads are free to all paid subscribers)

WANTED

LOCAL ORGANIC FARM

Seeks manure source, specifically goat, sheep, chicken, llama or alpaca. Please contact Ryan at THREE GOATS FARM. (530) 497-4279 or farm3goats@gmail.com (0000)

FOR SALE

Having a hard time finding the book Goat Doctor of the Sierra's? I still have some left from the Harvest Festival. \$20 each. Proceeds support MFPD. Call Taffy at 530 626-8689.

MEETINGS

MOUNTAIN FELLOWSHIP

Meet new friends, get refreshed and restored. Join us for challenging Bible study, fun events and worship here in Mosquito. We meet Sunday mornings 10 am at 3342 Stope Drive and throughout the week. Check our website mfom.net or call (530)295-0503. (0621)

SERVICES

House Painter – American Eagle Painting

Residential/Commercial
Specializing in repaints contact Steven Martinez, (530)-919-7612 or americaleaglepainting4@gmail.com
Lic# 960086

HARP TEACHER

Have you always wanted to play the harp? There is now a Harp Teacher in Swansboro. Over 20 years' experience teaching children and adults. I have a few harps available for rent. For more Information, please call 530-344-1531 and ask for Paula or e-mail: harppaula@gmail.com. (1222)

WELDING & FABRICATION

Steel, Stainless Steel, Aluminum. Certified to military standard. Call (530) 621-3300 (0622)

SIERRA SHIELD FIREARMS & TRAINING

Mention MOSQUITO BYTE and get 25% off CA CCW Class. Also, receive FREE box of ammo with each firearm purchase. www.SierraShield.com or call [530-387-0110](tel:530-387-0110). (0622)

VHS VIDEOS CONVERTED TO DVDs

Have any family vacations, precious memories or baby pictures on videos? I can copy them to DVDs. Call Dee at (530) 642-2333. (0722)

UNIQUE JEWELRY

Handmade jewelry using recycled aluminum cans, and more. To view, call Dee at 642-2333. (0722)

FLORIST ON THE HILL

Your source for fresh, local, organic and international flowers. All occasions deserve flowers. Call me 530.295.0503 Elaine Galvan for a specially made arrangement or buy individual blooms to brighten your day. Always delivered FREE on the hill! (0622)

Hangtown Range

1540 Broadway, Placerville Tuesday – Saturday 9 to 8 and Sunday 10 to 5 with 10 Indoor Shooting and 8 Archery Ranges, Firearms and Recurve Bow rentals, Milo Virtual Shooting Range w/ live fire ammunition, Archery and Handgun classes, CCW classes, One on One training, Basic Pistol Classes, Women's

Local Area Web Links

Mosquito Volunteer Fire Association (MVFA)
Finnon Lake Recreation Area
Mosquito Fire Protection District (MFPD)
Swansboro Country Property Owners Association
Mountain Fellowship in Mosquito (MFOM)
El Dorado County Fire Safe Council

Classes. Call 530-497-5443 for more information. (0622)

HANDCRAFTED GLASS ITEMS

Birdbaths, flowerpots, plates, bowls, etc. Also, handmade wooden jewelry boxes. Affordable and unique. Studio open most days; call first. Do your gift shopping here on the hill! Call Pam or Dave Angelo at (530) 621-3688. (0322)

Mosquito Creek Outfitters

3000 Mosquito Road, Placerville, Tuesday – Friday 9 to 6, Saturday 9 to 5, El Dorado County's premier source for the best hunting, fishing, archery and outdoor products. Mosquito Creek Outfitters is always stocked with the best gear to accompany you wherever you may roam. 530-621-4500 (0622)

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! You can reach me at www.mosquitoadneighbors.com or (530)295-4641 or toll free (866)SALLYRE, snlongjohns@yahoo.com. (0000)

NOTARY SERVICE

I'm a mobile Notary Public living here in Mosquito. I am experienced in all areas of notary work including loan packages, real estate transfers, etc. Call Elaine Galvan at (530)295-0503 (0622)

<http://www.gomvfa.org>
<http://www.finnonrecreationarea.com/>
<https://mfpd.us/>
<https://scpoa.info>
<http://mfom.net>
www.edcfiresafe.org

April 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 Support Group Training 10am Station 75
3 MFOM Mountain Fellowship Gathering, 11 am-Noon, See website	4	5 MFPD Firefighters Training 6pm Station 75	6 Frank's Family Night Chicken Piccata	7 MVFA Board Meeting 3pm Station 75	8	9 Bird Watching Finnon Lake, Day use area 8 am
10 MFOM Mountain Fellowship Gathering, 11 am-Noon, See website	11	12 MFPD Firefighters Training 6pm Station 75	13 Frank's Family Night Chili and Cornbread	14 Frank's Closed	15	16
17 MFOM Mountain Fellowship Gathering, 11 am-Noon, See website	18	19 MFPD Firefighters Training 6pm Station 75	20 Frank's Family Night Beef Tips and Rice	21 SCPOA Board Meeting 6:30 pm Dyer Hall New Bridge Meeting 6 pm Fire House	22 Crafters Meeting 10 am 2211 Swansboro Road	23
24 MFOM Mountain Fellowship Gathering, 11 am-Noon, See website	25	26 MFPD Firefighters Training 6pm Station 75	27 Frank's Family Night Lasagna and Salad	28 MFPD Board Meeting, 7pm Fire House	29	30

The MOSQUITO BYTE is mailed first class to subscribers each month. A subscription is \$15.00 per year, with a two-year maximum pre-pay. Please mail your check, payable to MVFA, to 9009 Orval Beckett Ct., Placerville, CA, 95667. The deadline for advertising and articles is the 19th of each month. It is also posted on the www.goMVFA.org website each month.

Editors have the right to edit, limit, or refuse any article submitted for publication. Authors are responsible for article accuracy and their opinions do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the MVFA Board of Directors or the editors.

MVFA is organized as a non-profit tax exempt entity and is funded entirely by grants, donations, fund raisers and rents and fees at Finnon Lake - which it owns. MVFA receives no tax revenues, nor any dues money from SCPOA. As per IRS mandate, MVFA gives no cash nor has any financial connection to any non-501(c)(3) organization or to the Mosquito Fire Protection District (MFPD). MVFA has no paid employees, and operates primarily with volunteers who donate their own time and often their own money to make our community a better place. If you would like to enhance your membership in MVFA, please become a volunteer. MVFA is a 501(c)(3) organization and donations may be tax deductible. A letter stating your donation will be provided on request. Send your donation to MVFA, 9009 Orval Beckett Ct., Placerville CA 95667.

MVFA values and promotes voluntary efforts in our community. MVFA continues to carry on the work begun by its predecessors many years ago. If you have any questions about MVFA, please attend the MVFA Board of Directors meetings on the first Thursday of each month at the Mosquito Fire House, 8801 Rock Creek Road, Placerville at 3:00pm. At the meetings, you have the opportunity to obtain correct and updated information about MVFA and its committees, legal obligations at Finnon Lake and events and volunteer opportunities. Mosquito residents may request a copy of approved MVFA Board meeting minutes by emailing your name and address to mvfa95667@gmail.com, or by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to: MVFA, 9009 Orval Beckett Ct. Placerville CA 95667.

ADVERTISING POLICY

There is no charge to subscribers advertising in the MOSQUITO BYTE. Ads must be limited to 7 column lines maximum. Please email ads for the Classified Section to Rob Kirkpatrick at mbyte.editor@gmail.com. Ads in the "Free", "For Sale", and "Wanted" categories will run for three months unless the submitter requests it to be removed or extended.

The MOSQUITO BYTE accepts ads from subscribers without endorsement.

The MOSQUITO BYTE and other updates are posted each month on the www.gomvfa.org website.
No copyright infringement is intended.

MOSQUITO BYTE
9009 ORVAL BECKETT CT
PLACERVILLE, CA 95667-9040