

MOSQUITO BYTE

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE MOSQUITO VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION

MOSQUITO



Volunteer Fire Association

Volume 34, No 3

December 2020

Chief's Report

by Chief Jack Rosevear

As Fire Season 2020 winds down, there is still a serious threat to our community. This season will not be over until there is significant rain. Destructive fires have occurred which homes were lost, followed by rain a day or two later (Oakland Fire 10/19/91). We remember the Camp Fire which destroyed the town of Paradise on Thursday November 8, 2018 at 5:33am. The fire was the most expensive natural disaster in the world that year, in terms of insured losses. 86 people were killed, 19,000 buildings destroyed. A study claimed that 50 more deaths were attributed to the fire, indirectly. It is important that we remain vigilant and for residents to continue to be fire safe, including being packed up prepared to quickly leave. Check the District's web site for further information on preparedness and evacuation planning. Hopefully rain will come soon and put an end to this fire season.



I am pleased to announce that the Mosquito Fire District will receive a brand new Type 6 engine, as we requested in July. This is the first OES Type 6 engine in El Dorado County and a landmark accomplishment for our District.



On Tuesday 10/25 we experienced our third Public Safety Power Shutdown (PSPS). Fortunately, the predicted winds did not materialize (they did reach over 100 mph in some places). Because of dire predictions for historic winds, we prepared for the worst. AT&T provided generators to retain phone service, but a generator failed at Mosquito & Rock Creek Rds. (9/26 AM), causing the phones at the Fire Station to go down. Service was restored several hours later. The power was restored in the afternoon Thursday 10/27. Thank you to the Support Group and Staff for preparing and being ready. We are proud of our people who stand ready to protect and serve this community, despite any adverse conditions.

We participated in the Harvest Day event at Finnon Lake on 10/17 (at my request for volunteer recruitment). Apparatus and personnel were present to meet the public, discuss fire safety issues, offer demonstrations and safety tips, recruit new volunteers for support and firefighting. We were able to speak to several people who were interested in participating in emergency response volunteering and several others interested in the Support Group.

The Support Group is always excellent, strongly assisting us with responses and other projects. As stated previously the Group staffed the fire station and provided community assistance for three recent PSPS power shutdowns. The Group played an important role with two recent medical emergencies, which required helicopter landing assistance and transport of the flight medics to the patient. The Group's annual recognition luncheon scheduled for Saturday November 7, has been postponed due to weather and Covid restrictions.

We would like to cultivate more interest in the Support Group program from interested members of the community with specialized training and capabilities (medical, IT, web site

design, heavy equipment, mechanic, tree removal, etc). With our SAFER Grant marketing for volunteer firefighters we will also incorporate Support Group recruitment into our outreach.

The next MFPD Board meeting on Thursday, December 10th starting at 10:00 AM via telephone conference. Contact the station at 530-626-9017 prior to the meeting for more information. <https://mfpd.us/>

Mosquito Volunteer Fire Association (MVFA)

by MVFA Board of Directors

After a very busy year at the campground we're planning to do some much needed maintenance to the bathrooms and campsites over the winter months. The bathrooms will be closed for toilet replacement as well as other maintenance items. We'll be planning some work parties to do trimming and burning of brush and trees, the disc golf groups will also be doing cleanup projects along the course.

A backup generator has been installed at Franks to make life easier during power outages, this is the old backup generator from the fire station that the department offered to MVFA for purchase.

MVFA will be having its board elections at our December meeting, we're always looking for volunteers to join the board or just help out with projects and Finnon cleanup days. The Finnon property is such a huge asset to our community as a recreation area as well as to fire protection and without volunteers we have no way to manage it.

Christmas Baskets

Every year MVFA works to provide Christmas baskets of food to any community member in need. Thankfully the last couple of years has seen a decline in need but this has been a very difficult year for some. If you know of anyone who may require some assistance please contact Kim at 621-1049, all information will be kept confidential. If you would be interested in donating to a basket please contact Kim or any board member and let them know.

You are welcome to attend the MVFA Board meeting on Thursday, December 3rd at 3:00pm at the fire station, 8801 Rock Creek Road. Masks will be required and temperatures will be taken before entering.

SCPOA REPORT

by Kim Purcell
SCPOA Report

Treasurer, David Blain, reported that he's finally getting up to date financial reports from the management company. There is still a surplus of \$42,000 YTD and projects a return to members of approximately \$140. David is suggesting a budget that has dues at \$550 which allows for \$105,000 to reserves and the return of the \$140, the budget will be finalized at the next meeting

Kevin reported that he has removed 16 trees from Bass Lake and 4 which were dying behind the maintenance shed, there are another 16 dying that PG&E will need to remove. There are

still chips available and 16 loads were delivered to members. The fall roadside spraying occurred, only 3 properties had no spray signs out.

The airport committee met to discuss the status of ongoing safety improvements. Runway markings are done, some tree clearing done and center points at each end of the runway will need to be surveyed. Still have a problem with one individual feeding the wildlife causing hazards as deer and turkey run across the runway for food. To increase safety during low light times such as morning, evening and cloudy days it was proposed to install a solar pilot controlled light system. This would improve safety by allowing better visibility of animals on runway and gives a lighted approach and safer environment for life flight helicopters at night. Considering the recent incident of an aircraft impacting turkeys on the runway it would be an economical proactive approach to safety.

The board approved an amendment to the bylaws in order to comply with new election rules. The board also approved the appointment of Barb Mikel as the inspection of elections. She volunteered for the position which saves the association almost \$3000 by not having to hire an independent inspector.

The issue of dogs off leash and non-members at Dyer was briefly discussed. Signs state dogs must be on leash.

Some content on the website was questioned and it was reiterated that items need to be approved by the board prior to posting.

You are welcome to attend the SCPOA Board meeting on Thursday, December 3rd at 6:00pm at the Fire Station, 8801 Rock Creek Road. Masks will be required and temperatures will be taken before entering.

Birding at Finnon Lake

by Dave Angelo

Here are the results of the bird watch for the November Bird Watch. The next Bird Watch is scheduled for the 12th of December. 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 9:00 A.M. There is no parking charge to the participants of this event at that time.



18 Canada Goose
2 Bufflehead
2 California Quail
8 Wild Turkey
2 Pied-billed Grebe
14 Band-tailed Pigeon
160 American Coot

1 Northern Harrier
1 Belted Kingfisher
11 Acorn Woodpecker
1 Northern Flicker
4 Black Phoebe
5 California Scrub-Jay
3 Common Raven

3 Ruby-crowned Kinglet
10 Western Bluebird
3 American Robin
1 Fox Sparrow
12 Dark-eyed Junco
10 Spotted Towhee
7 Brewer's Blackbird

Number of Taxa: 21

Crafters

by Linda Heyart

Unfortunately, it has been decided to take a temporary hiatus from Crafters through the end of 2020. We will reassess and see where we are after the New Year. We know everyone is missing our monthly meetings but staying healthy is the priority. This situation is temporary and better days are ahead.

Franks Diner

by Frank Ethridge

"It is December, and nobody asked if I was ready." — Sarah Kay

Are you ready? Let's dig into that big box of decorations this year and paint the hill Christmas (or any holiday of your choosing). It's been quite a year and we are thankful and blessed with what we have. Let's finish this year out right...with food.



Yes, We Cater! If you need any help with your holiday cooking let us know. We are a full service caterer and we are here to help. Please call us if you have any questions @ (530) 409-1977

We will be closed on Christmas Day and New Year's Day. We are coming up with a special Take-Out dinner menu for New Year's Eve, so watch out on social media and our website.

Wednesday Family Night Specials

- 2nd Beef Tips
- 9th Korean Ribs
- 16th Chicken Pot Pie
- 23th Lasagna and Salad
- 30th Tostadas (Chicken, Beef or Vegie)

Veggie options are available
All specials are \$10.00
5:00pm – 8:00pm

Frank's Diner Hours:

Wednesday-Friday 11 am - 8 pm

Saturday-Sunday 8 am - 8 pm

Monday – Tuesday Closed

(530) 409-1977

www.franksmosquitodiner.com

Recipe of the Month Christmas Tacos

Slow Cooker Recipe or you can use your instant pot if you desire.

Ingredients:

- **For the Short Ribs:**
- 2 bone-in short ribs (about 2 1/2 pounds)
- Kosher salt
- 2 teaspoons oil
- 1 cup pomegranate juice
- 2 Ancho Chiles (stem and seeds removed)
- 1 cinnamon stick
- 1 bay leaf
- **For the Pomegranate Pico:**
- 1 cup pomegranate seeds
- 1 jalapeno pepper (small dice)
- 2 tablespoons shallot (small dice)
- 1 large lime (juiced)
- 1/4 cup pepitas (lightly toasted)
- **For Serving:**
- 12 corn tortillas
- Garnish: Fresh cilantro, lime wedges, cotija cheese, or Mexican crema

Instructions:

1. Gather the ingredients.
2. Heat a cast-iron skillet over medium-high heat. Season the short ribs with kosher salt and add them to the pan. Brown for approximately 5 minutes per side, undisturbed to develop a nice crust. Some fat will render from the meat and aid in browning.
3. When the meat is well-browned remove from the pan and turn off the heat. Deglaze the pan with the pomegranate juice, scraping the bottom of the pan.
4. Place the meat and juice in a slow cooker set to low. Add the ancho chilies, cinnamon stick, and bay leaf. Put the lid on the slow cooker and braise the short ribs for 6-8 hours until the meat is tender and the bones release from the meat.
5. Turn off the heat, remove the bones, bay leaf, and cinnamon, and allow the meat to cool in the braising liquid.
6. Prepare the pomegranate pico. Mix the pomegranate seeds, jalapeño, lime juice, and pepitas in a small mixing bowl.
7. Roughly chop the meat with the ancho chilies, mixing them together. Taste and season with salt accordingly. If needed, heat the mixture in the braising juices to serving temperature.
8. Warm your tortillas to make them soft and pliable. Eat. Enjoy.

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays from Frank's Diner

The 2019 Mosquito Phone Book

by Adam Reisner

The Mosquito Phone Book contains information on our Mosquito/Swansboro area such as, Who Are They (MVFA, MFPD & SCPOA), Helpful Area Phone Numbers, a Timeline History of Mosquito, Mosquito Fire Department History & Other Useful Information, Map of our Area, and Residential & Business listings. The Phone Book is available at the Mosquito Fire Station 75 at 8801 Rock Creek Road (530)626-9017 or Franks Diner for \$5 per copy. The Mosquito Phone Book is published every 2 years. For changes to the Phone Book, email us at mosquitophbook@gmail.com or mail the information to: MVFA, phone book 9009 Orval Beckett Court, Placerville CA 95667. Residential and business listings are free to list.



MVFA SWAG

by Maryann Haywood

The Holidays are fast approaching so consider purchasing some MVFA wearables. 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 Mary Ann Haywood at: 530-622-5477



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			



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, Glass bottles do not have CRV so we cannot use them)

NOTE: Lids/Caps on plastic and glass CRV containers **MUST BE REMOVED** before they can be redeemed. 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)

HELP WANTED

Looking for a person to work on garden and home maintenance projects. Price set on weekly basis. Saturday and Sunday's are OK. 3 -4 hours a week. \$20 - \$30 per/hour depending on experience and equipment. Call Lou @ 621-4613

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.

Tires, Studded snow winter, size 225/50R-17, Federal- Himalaya WS2 Mud/Snow \$300 916-765-3652

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

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. (1220)

WELDING & FABRICATION

Steel, Stainless Steel, Aluminum. Certified to military standard. Call (530) 621-3300 (0621)

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). (0621)

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. (0721)

UNIQUE JEWELRY

Handmade jewelry using recycled aluminum cans, and more. To view, call Dee at 642-2333. (0721)

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! (0621)

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 Classes. Call 530-497-5443 for more information. (0621)



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 (0621)



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. (0321)

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 (0621)

Area Web Links

Mosquito Volunteer Fire Association (MVFA)

<http://www.gomvfa.org>

Finnon Lake Recreation Area

<http://www.finnonrecreationarea.com/>

Mosquito Fire Protection District (MFPD)

<https://mfpd.us/>

Swansboro Country Property Owners Association

<https://scpoa.info>

Mountain Fellowship in Mosquito

<http://mfom.net>

Mosquito Fire Safe Counsel

<https://mosquitofsc.org/>

Due to the current Covid-19, the December calendar of events and meetings listed below may change at any time. Contact the organization's for the current status.

December 2020						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 Frank's Family Night – Beef Tips	3 MVFA Board Meeting 3:00pm Outside Pavilion @ Finnon Lake SCPOA Board Meeting @ Dyer Lake	4	5 MFPD Support Training 10:am
6 MFOM Mountain Fellowship Gathering, 11am-Noon, See website Veteran's Gathering Free Lunch Franks Diner 3 – 5pm	7	8	9 Frank's Family Night – Korean Ribs	10 MFPD Board Meeting 10 am via Tele-conference	11	12 Bird Watching Finnon Day use area 8:00 am ManLand , 8 AM at 3342 Stope Drive
13 MFOM Mountain Fellowship Gathering, 11am-Noon, See website	14	15	16 Frank's Family Night – Chicken Pot Pie	17	18	19
20 MFOM Mountain Fellowship Gathering, 11am-Noon, See website	21	22	23 Frank's Family Night - Lasagna and Salad	24 CHRISTMAS EVE	25 CHRISTMAS DAY Frank's Diner Closed	26
27 MFOM Mountain Fellowship Gathering, 11am-Noon, See website	28	29	30 Frank's Family Night – Tostadas (Chicken, Beef or Vegi.)	31	1 - 2021 NEW YEARS Frank's Diner Closed	

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 meeting on the first Thursday of each month at the Finnon lake pavilion located at Frank's Diner at 3:30pm. 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.

PLACERVILLE, CA 95667-9040

9009 ORVAL BECKETT CT

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