



CHIEF'S REPORT

by Chief Jack Rosevear



Calls for Service: December 24-January 23

Medical Aid - 4

Vehicle Accident - 2 (2 injuries- no transport- storm related)

Gas Hazard - 1

Power Line down - 1 (storm related)

Structure Fire - 1 (minor damage)

Tuesday night training resumed on January 9th. Training will happen Tuesday evening every other week starting January 23 and will involve a number of topics relevant to the time of year and operations the District normally undertakes. Storm preparedness, structure fire, chimney fire, vehicle accidents and on-going medical training are the current priorities. Various topics will be covered for firefighters and Support Group. The public is invited to observe training, to ask questions and meet our staff.

Six personnel attended and completed a 40-hour State certified class for Apparatus Driver/Operator. The completion of the course allows them to obtain a DMV endorsement for fire engine driving. Qualified personnel will undergo months of driver training and basic pump operation. Each will complete a state recognized "task book", which verifies the minimum basic driving and pumping skills have been achieved. The certified instruction was delivered at Station 75, paid for our FEMA SAFER grant.

We currently have four firefighters in Firefighter 1 academy at Sierra and American River Colleges. One firefighter is starting EMT training with the Sacramento State University program, to be completed in March. The Firefighter 1 academy students will graduate in June. This is a very intense program, requiring the firefighters to attend academy and related training (or physical training), seven days a week. Both EMT and Firefighter 1 training are funded by our FEMA SAFER Grant.

Fifteen support personnel will participate in the Title 22 Public Safety First Aid training course, delivered to Station 75 by the El Dorado Hills Fire Department Training Center. The instruction will happen in March, which is the same delivered to Cal Fire firefighters and police officers, with State Certified curriculum and certificates for successful completion. Personnel will learn the various aspects of first aid and patient assessment, including certification on the administration of Narcan, Epinephrine pens, glucose monitoring and administration, and advanced bleeding control. Attending personnel already have their current CPR/AED, which was taught by Chief Dwyer last summer.

Successful completion of the course and follow-up training by our EMTs and Paramedics will form a basic Medical Response Group, which will assist duty firefighters as needed. The added personnel who have certified skills training will be a tremendous benefit to our community, to compensate for the long response times paramedics have to get to our incidents.

The Fire District was recently awarded \$666,320 from the FEMA SAFER (Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response) program. The grant was applied for in February 2023 and we were successful in the first round of awards. This gives us another four years of grant funding for our productive volunteer program, which has resulted in the fire station being staffed 24/7 for over two years. The funding covers volunteers' stipend pay for shift coverage and response to emergencies, training classes, new volunteer expenses including physicals, background checks, uniforms and safety gear, support of the Explorer program, salary and benefits for a volunteer coordinator (Fire Captain), and more. Residual money from the current grant ending in December 2023 can be used for enhanced marketing and other volunteer support needs. Many thanks for grant writing efforts by Meredith Blain and Didi Everhart (Gatchell Grant Resources-Canton, OH). We are currently awaiting the results of a parallel SAFER grant application for full time station staffing (3 positions- 1 firefighter/supervisor 24/7/365). I have posted a success story about our grant experiences, on the US Congressional website for SAFER and AFG staffing. The District has also been awarded \$10,000 from Cal Fire for wildland PPE and equipment to be spent in the Spring 2024 (50/50 grant- \$10,000 matching from District- \$20,000 purchase total).

Our 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. We are happy to conduct an interior or exterior fire safety inspection upon your request. Please call us at 530-626-9017 or stop by the station.

Upcoming Events:

- Thursday February 1 - MVFA Board Meeting- 3pm- Station 75
- Saturday February 3 - Support Group Monthly Training- 9am- Station 75
- Tuesday February 6 & 20 - Fire Training- 6pm- Station 75 (Public Welcome)
- Saturday- February 24 - SCPOA Monthly Board Meeting- Station 75- 12noon
- Thursday February 22 – D'Ax Board Meeting – 5:30 pm – Station 75
- Thursday February 22 - Fire Board Meeting- 7pm- Station 75

<p>The next MFPD Board meeting will be on February 22nd at 7:00 pm at Station 75</p>

MVFA UPDATE

by MVFA Board of Directors

SOCIAL MEDIA RESPONSE

The MVFA Board sometimes gets asked, “Why don’t you respond to the negative social media posts about the MVFA?” First of all, it is our Board’s policy to not engage with individuals who are attempting to generate a negative diatribe or who are disparaging MVFA volunteers. It is our expectation that if individuals have valid concerns or issues with MVFA actions, activities or volunteers, the appropriate venue to address them is at the monthly MVFA board meetings which are open to all Mosquito Fire Protection District residents. We do not believe that conducting business on social media is the most effective and conducive venue for resolving any concerns or complaints. We recognize that there are a few disgruntled individuals in the community who have grudges with past board members and are vindictive and carry a vendetta to enact vengeance. They continue to bring up misdeeds from the past and attribute them to the current board. Our current board’s sole objective is to maintain Finnon Lake as a viable fire protection resource through the responsible management of the campground and the diner, and to provide equipment and building improvements to our local fire station. We also strive to create community harmony by providing events for the public, such as the Easter Egg Hunt, Christmas Dinner, Halloween Trunk or Treat, and the Fall Festival, to name a few.

We encourage all individuals to attend our monthly meetings which are held at the Mosquito Fire Station on the first Thursday of the month. Meeting times are posted on social media, at the fire station and at the diner.

FINNON RECREATION AREA DAY USE ANNUAL PASS

In accord with the changes made by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife in 2023, the MVFA is now issuing 365-day Finnon Lake Recreation Area Day Use Annual Passes. Prior to the 2023 change, the MVFA issued a calendar-based annual day use pass that expired on Dec. 31, regardless of when it was issued. This change has made us consistent with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife licensing and fairer to individuals who purchase a pass later in the year.

The annual pass fees for 2024 remain unchanged with the single year annual pass costing \$50, a two-year pass costing \$75 and a five-year pass for \$150. If you are interested in obtaining a 1 year, 2 year or 5 year day use pass, please contact the MVFA at MVFA95667@GMAIL.COM or by calling (530) 409-5515.

As a reminder the Finnon Lake Recreation Area is not located within the Swansboro Property Owners Association and for the day use of activities such as fishing, boating, picnicking, swimming, and disc golf a daily fee or annual pass is required. The daily Day Use fee is \$6.00 for individuals or groups of up to six persons in a single vehicle and is submitted at the main entrance to the park. Fees are collected on the honor system. There is no charge for trail walkers and there is no additional charge to registered campers for any Day Use activity. The Day Use area closes at dark.

COMMUNITY LOSS

The MVFA Board of Directors and MVFA membership were deeply saddened to learn of the passing of long-time Mosquito resident Gary Morris. Gary was a huge asset to our community. He served on the MVFA Board of Directors for a number of years and was a volunteer who, with his Bobcat and chainsaw, donated countless hours of his time and his own money at Finnon Lake Recreation Area. Following the dam restoration, scores of volunteers set out to rebuild the café area, campground, and disc golf course. Gary probably did more than anyone to accomplish these goals. During some tough times for MVFA following the dam restoration, Gary was always there to support MVFA fund raisers, dinners, and events, and rarely uttered a word of complaint or negative comment against anyone. I remember the last time he ran for re-election on the MVFA board, Gary received more votes than any of the other six candidates. He will be sorely missed. Godspeed, my friend.

Tom Harris

COMMUNITY EVENTS

The MVFA Board has set the dates for the association's annual community events. Please mark these on your calendars and plan to join us on these dates for fun and community comradery.

- Easter Egg Hunt at Finnon Lake Recreation Area - 10:30 am March 30, 2024
- Yard Sale at Station 75 parking lot - 8 am to Noon - May 4, 2024
- Spaghetti Dinner at Station 75 - 6:00 pm - June 1, 2024
- Fall Festival at Finnon Lake - 10 am - 3 pm **Free Lunch** - October 12, 2024
- Trunk-or-Treat at Station 75 - 6 pm - 8 pm - October 26, 2024
- Christmas Dinner at Station 75 - 5:30 pm **Free Dinner** - December 7, 2024

MOSQUITO PHONE BOOK

It's time for publication of a new Mosquito Phone Book!

The Mosquito Phone Book contains information on our Mosquito/Swansboro area such as, Who Are They (MVFA, MFPD, D'Ax & SCPOA), Helpful Area Phone Numbers, a timeline history of Mosquito, history of the Mosquito Fire Department, a map of the Mosquito

community, and residential and business listings, along with other useful information. The Phone Book is available at the Mosquito Fire Station 75 at 8801 Rock Creek Road, (530) 626-9017 or at the 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. Listings for all residents and businesses are free. All updates and any new additions must to be received by February 19, 2024.

BATTLE OF THE BADGES 911 CHILI COOK-OFF

Mosquito Fire Protection District will be participating in the 5th Annual Battle of the Badges - 911 Chili Cook-Off. This festive First Responder chili cook-off has over 20 first responder agencies, government agencies, and Veterans competing for the Best Chili trophy!



The 2024 Chili Cook-off competition is rapidly approaching on February 17th from 4 pm-8 pm located at the El Dorado County Fair Grounds. This family-friendly event includes live entertainment, beverages, music and is hosted by KCRA's Ty Steele! One hundred percent of the proceeds go to support local not-for-profits. This year, Snowline will be the recipient with a focus on our veterans. Please come out to show your support. Be sure to buy your tickets if you have not already at www.911chili.org. We hope to see everyone there!

Crafters

By Eileen Reisner

The Mosquito Firehouse Crafters will continue to work on new projects in 2024. We will be selling at the pancake breakfasts throughout the year and in November the sale in town. We welcome new crafters into our group. If you don't enjoy crafting, there are other jobs you can do. Our next meeting will be on February 23rd, at 10:00 AM. Contact Eileen Reisner at 530-748-7962 if you're interested in joining our team.



BIRDING AT FINNON LAKE

by Dave Angelo

Here are the results of the bird watch for January. The next bird watch is scheduled for Saturday, February 10th at 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 free event.



California Quail 25
Common Merganser 1
Canada Goose 6
Pie-billed Grebe 6

American Coot 100
Bushtit 7
Oak Titmouse 1
Acorn Woodpecker 8

California Towhee
Scrub Jay 4

Number of Taxa: 15

DISTRICT AUXILIARY

By Meredith Blain

At the time of writing this article, the District Auxiliary (D'Ax) was getting ready for its annual meeting and appointment of the board of directors. I want to thank my fellow directors for their dedication and hard work to get D'Ax off the ground. All directors have contributed a great deal of their time and skill getting us to this point in time and I look forward to great things to come in 2024!



D'Ax meets monthly prior to the regular MFPD Board of Directors Meetings, at 5:30pm at the MFPD Fire Station 75. All Mosquito residents are invited to attend. Come, and bring your questions, comments, and ideas to share and discover what we are up to. Mosquito residents may also reach out directly to our board with questions and comments!

Every other month we help MFPD host a pancake breakfast with hot off the grill pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, and bacon and offer fruit and fruit juice, hot coffee, and hot chocolate as well. Donation is \$10 and kids 15 and under eat for free! If you don't want to have breakfast, drop in anyway and enjoy a hot cup of coffee or hot chocolate, and warm up with friends and neighbors! Next pancake breakfast will be in March!

SCPOA Report

By Meredith Blain

The Swansboro Country Property Owners Association Board of Directors (SCPOA) meet monthly at the MFPD Fire Station 75. Meeting agendas are posted on the bulletin board at Dyer Lake and on the SCPOA website. Our next meeting is Saturday, February 24, 2024, at noon at the MFPD Fire Station 75, 8801 Rock Creek Road. The February meeting will be the Annual Membership Meeting and a short presentation will be made as well as the installation of new directors and officers.

Members of SCPOA can visit SCPOA.info, the official SCPOA website, and find information about upcoming and past meetings, agendas, meeting minutes, association bylaws, individual unit DC&Rs, the Swansboro Airport, get information for use of common areas and much more! If you have not requested a login for the SCPOA website, please send an email to Kpaulscpoa@gmail.com, and Karen will setup your login.

SMOKE ON THE WATER

by Kirk & Matt

A quick word from “Smoke on the Water”. We know everyone is excited about opening, but with the holidays and the county, we have had some delays. We want to be open as soon as possible and are working on it. There are changes being made and it takes time. Trust us it will be worth the wait. So bear with us, it’s coming. We want to do a couple of Saturday soft openings to get a test run to help us get acquainted with the new changes we are making. We will keep you informed we are going to try for February.

Thank you everyone for your support.

MVFA CRV RECYCLE PROGRAM

Please drop off bags of Plastic Bottles and Aluminum Cans (Sorry no Glass) from 8 am - 5 pm at Station 75. Please consider this option when you organize your recycled materials.



NOTE: Lids/Caps on plastic water bottles **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 recycling volunteers.

All proceeds go to Station 75



CLASSIFIED ADS

(Classified Ads are free to all paid subscribers)

WANTED

LOCAL ORGAINC FARM seeks small to medium lightweight trailer (i.e.- small horse trailer, small flat bed, boat trailer) to be remade into mobile chicken coop. Have anything sitting around? Open to trade/negotiation. Please reach out if you have something sitting around that you don't use anymore. All trailers considered. Please contact Ryan at: farm3goats@gmail.com

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

FOR SALE

Velor Adjustable Trailer Dolly with 2" ball, 1000lbs Tongue Weight Capacity, \$100.00 Call 530-621-1173

The Goat Doctor of the Sierras book by Gloria Hockensmith is available locally. Call Taffy (530) 626-8689 to buy your copy (\$20). A great fact based read about a local legend. Perfect for gifting.

UNIQUE JEWELRY

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

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.

SERVICES

GOLDIE LOCS OF LOVE - Loc creation / extension installation / decoration / maintenance kelsvanfleet@gmail.com (916) 295-9059

NOTARY SERVICES ON THE HILL

Contact Devon at: 510-719-1247.

FIREWOOD

Tired of paying outrageous prices for wood? I will cut and split downed trees and/or rounds for you. Call Daniel @ 530-919-8878

OXBOW FIREWOOD \$375 for hardwood, \$300 for softwood. Delivery on the hill gratis. Are you cold? Call the Ox 916 862-7511

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

CALI CONSTRUCTION

General contractor 530-903-1869 Decks, fences, siding, flooring, and more. 5% senior or veterans discount. CSLB#1054550

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.

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).

WELDING & FABRICATION

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

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.

FLORIST ON THE HILL

"I am your community florist providing long lasting flowers for all occasions. We ALWAYS deliver FREE on the hill! Stop by and check out our collection of Honey House products, gifts, jewelry, & handmade cards. Also offering flower subscriptions specifically created for you. Call me Elaine Galvan 530.295.0503 for all your floral needs."

HANGTOWN RANGE

1540 Broadway, Placerville Wednesday – Saturday 10 to 6 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.

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.

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

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.

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

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

February 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 MVFA Board Meeting 3pm Station 75	2	3 Support Group Training 9am Station 75
4 MFOM Mountain Fellowship Gathering, 11am	5	6 MFPD Firefighters Training 6pm Station 75	7	8	9	10 Bird Watching Finnon Lake, Day use area 9am
11 MFOM Mountain Fellowship Gathering, 11am	12	13	14	15	16	17 Battle of the Badges - 911 Chili Cook-Off. 4pm – 8pm EDC Fair Grounds
18 MFOM Mountain Fellowship Gathering, 11am	19	20 MFPD Firefighters Training 6pm Station 75	21	22 D'Ax Board Meeting 5:30pm Station 75 MFPD Board Meeting 7:00pm Station 75	23 Crafters Meeting 10am 2211 Swansboro Rd	24 MFPD Pancake Breakfast 9:00am – 11am Station 75 SCPOA Board Meeting 12noon Station 75
25 MFOM Mountain Fellowship Gathering, 11am	26	27	28	29		

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, fundraisers and rents and fees at Fannon 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 Fannon 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.
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