

# MOSQUITO BYTE

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE MOSQUITO VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION

MOSQUITO



Volunteer Fire Association

Volume 32, No 12

September 2019

## Mosquito Firefighters Association

By PIO

### **UPDATE: MOSQUITO MOTOR SHOW evolves into FINNON LAKE FESTIVAL.**

The Finnon Lake Fest will be hosted by the Mosquito Firefighters Association (MFA) in association with MVFA at Frank's Diner on the Finnon Lake Dam. Come enjoy music, great food truck type fair (\$5.00 items) and art that is produced locally on the hill! All starting on **Saturday September 7th 2019 @ 3:00pm**. Brought to you by our very own fire department. The music will be provided by Tiffany Shiro and her band. It's Free! If you are interested in setting up a vendor booth (no space fee) contact: [mosquitofirefighters@gmail.com](mailto:mosquitofirefighters@gmail.com).



## Mosquito Station 75 History

Please enjoy the Chiefs Report from August 1999 written by our beloved retired Chief Leo Chaloux, so much is still the same now as it was 20 years ago. Thank you Fred Adams for archiving all the past Bytes and preserving so much history.

### **Changing Times, Leo Chaloux**

I am finding it hard to believe that this August will be my 13th year as Chief. In looking back over those years I am surprised of the many changes that have taken place. Changes not only in myself but also the community and the fire department. With the fire department the majority of changes have been in the amount of paper work as a result of rules, regulations and mandates. I find myself working more hours and getting less done. I do admit that more paper gets moved around and stored. In fact 13 years ago the department only had the need for 1 small filing cabinet. Now, I have 4 large cabinets pretty well crammed full of paper. I am constantly telling myself that I do not run this fire department, the state legislature, the lawyers and the insurance companies do. All I do is jump through the many hoops they stand up. Only problem I am running into now is the hoops are getting more numerous, smaller in size and closer together.

One thing I really have to be grateful for are the volunteers, both firefighters and the Support Group, members. They are this fire department. Their efforts, energy, caring and spirit make it possible for this community to have the quality medical care and fire suppression capabilities that it has. I greatly believe that the people of this community receive great service from the fire department because of the volunteers. They spend large amounts of their time training and responding to incidents that in the end directly benefit anyone that has a need.

The community as a whole has also changed. I believe it is safe to say that in the last 13 years the population on this hill has probably tripled. I know the number of cars that drive on

Mosquito Road and the speed that they drive at has definitely tripled. Even though the population has greatly increased, the number of people willing and able to volunteer as fire fighters or as support group has not increased. It appears now that it is harder for someone to spend the time, be dedicated, and make the commitment required to be a volunteer. Maybe it is for them as it is for me, people are working more hours but getting less done.

One thing that has not changed is the potential for a large fire. We have been very fortunate, even though we have had many fires they have been kept to a small size. Our district because of it's location, type of fuels and topography is classified as one of the highest fire hazard areas in El Dorado County. Any fire that starts in either the American River Canyon, Rock Creek Canyon or Slab Creek Canyon is expected to go straight to the top where all fire suppression activity will take place. One of the good things about having such a high fire hazard rating is that on the initial report of a wild land fire a larger than normal amount of fire equipment will be dispatched. The unfortunate thing is the amount of time it takes for ground unit and fire equipment to get to our district.

Another thing that has not changed is a property owner's responsibility. There is not a single fire department in California that can save every residential structure from a large wild land fire. In our district alone there are approximately 500 homes that would require one engine in the driveway to do structure protection. There are not that many available fire engines in all of El Dorado and Sacramento Counties. As fire fighters, we do everything possible to protect and save lives. Homes are our next priority, especially when we look at the home where the owner has done everything possible to help fire fighters provide protection. I strongly urge every home owner to remove all ground fuel to at least the state requirement of 30 ft around the house. If possible the removal of ground fuels 100 feet around your home would provide additional assurance. As residents of a heavily wooded rural area we must realize that a large fire will happen, I just cannot tell anyone on what day.

**Next MFPD meeting will be the Second Thursday, September 12th, 7pm @ Fire the House**

## **Mosquito Volunteer Fire Association (MVFA)**

by MVFA Board of Directors

The annual MVFA Spaghetti Dinner will be held at the fire station on Saturday, September 14, 2019, PLEASE NOTICE THE DATE CHANGE. The menu includes pasta, meatballs, sausage, pesto and marinara sauces, salad, garlic bread and dessert. Requested donations are \$10 for adults and \$4 for kids aged 12 and under. Serving will begin at 6:00 pm and take outs will be available.

There will be a gift raffle at the dinner and donors are requested. Please bring a gift or drop one off at a board member's home ahead of time. Get your raffle tickets early starting at 5:30pm. Join your friends and neighbors on the hill for some fun. Proceeds from this event will pay for the free MVFA Christmas Turkey Dinner in December and support the MVFA community funds which include the MVFA Station 75 Fund.

## **MVFA Elections**

The Board is happy to welcome Johnny Valenzuela and Mary Williams who will be filling out the existing terms for Tom Harris and Gary Morris. We wish to express our sincere appreciation to both Tom and Gary for all the time they spent over the years on the MVFA Board.

Beginning in October, MVFA will take nominations for four seats on the MVFA Board of Directors by US mail or email. Nominations for representation on the Board will be made during our regular Board meeting in November following the priorities outlined in Article III of the MVFA bylaws which are posted on the GoMVFA.org website under "Who Are We". General elections will now take place by hand or written ballot at the general membership meeting in December to prevent interference with the MVFA Christmas Dinner. The MVFA mailing address is 9009 Orval Beckett Ct. Placerville, CA 95667. The email address is [mvfa95667@gmail.com](mailto:mvfa95667@gmail.com).

MVFA was able to provide funds for the new locker system requested by Chief Dwyer for our Station 75 fire fighters. They will be a great improvement over the lockers they now use. Happy we could help out with this request.

Finnon Lake Campground has been very successful this year. Our weekends are full and we are seeing an increase in midweek bookings as well. Our volunteers are doing their best to keep up with maintaining the grounds but we can always use more help. If anyone out there would like to volunteer please give Eileen Reisner at 530 295-0541 or Kim Purcell at 530 621-1049 a call.

MVFA continues the work that it began many years ago. MVFA volunteers are residents who simply want to give back to their community and make it a better place. If you wish to enhance your membership in MVFA or seek a position on the board, become a volunteer on one of our many committees at our annual events or at Finnion.

If you have any questions about MVFA, please attend the MVFA Board of Directors meeting on the first Thursday of the month at Frank's Diner at 7:00 pm.

**You are welcome to attend the MVFA Board meeting on Thursday, September 5th  
at 7:00 p.m. at Frank's Diner.**

In Memory of "Linda Swystun

## **Nelsonville Cemetery Tribute**

On Sunday July 28, forty-two local residents and others joined together at the Nelsonville Pioneer Cemetery to share information and show their respect for the early settlers of the area that later became known as Mosquito.

Nelsonville is an historic cemetery located on private property near La Paz road and Mosquito Road. Many of the original settlers of this area are interred there, including the Summerfield family. In addition to the markers of known burials there are approximately ten unidentified graves which, according to legend, include "five Dance Hall Girls". The origin of this legend is unknown.

Prospecting and mining flourished in Mosquito Creek Canyon following the discovery of gold in Coloma in January 1848. By 1850 there were two settlements in the area. Big House (or Lower Town) was probably established westward along Mosquito Cut-off. There are no known remnants of Big House. Nelsonville was established in the 1850s and 1860s to support local mining and logging. It was located along Mosquito Road between Mosquito Cut-off Road and Buckboard and had a thriving population of about 2,500 with several stores and saloons. The town burned down in 1865 and was never rebuilt.

Until recently, the cemetery was in poor condition with minimal maintenance performed by local residents. About three years ago, local long-time Mosquito resident Neil Matheny began discussing Nelsonville with other local history buffs. Three local volunteers took special interest in the cemetery and spent about a year - along with other helpers - to remove the undergrowth and trees that had sprung up in the cemetery grounds. Many of the headstones and markers visible today, as well as the cemetery boundaries are the result of this work.

## **SCPOA Report**

by Kim Purcell  
SCPOA Report



The board treasurer, David, has been investigating ways to earn more interest on funds currently held in bank accounts. The board heard a proposal from a USB Financial representative to invest reserve funds in various CD's in order to accomplish this, David made a motion to proceed with this plan and it was approved. The treasurer would also like to get started on the 2021 budget with a plan to have it finalized by December.

The common area committee would like to fix up the bathrooms at Dyer, Debbie made a motion to spend up to \$3000 on repairs and replacement of sinks and toilets with stainless steel as well as doors. Items will be priced and brought back to board, they also approved purchasing a power washer in order to clean the pavilion and pump house prior to painting as well as getting bids for a new mower and possible UTV which would cost about \$10-12,000. Debbie also suggested getting bids for a new 600 sq-ft building to be placed at Dyer. The well at Dyer has been in use to help keep the lake full, community members expressed concern over this again and the possible effect on their wells. One member brought a water filter from his well showing the increased in sediment in it, they will continue to use well and asked member to monitor and advise on his filters. The lakes were treated and evaluated on Aug. 8th and are in good condition, suggested getting a quote for aeration systems for Catfish and Twin ponds. The Fire Safe counsel has purchased two large signs to be placed at the entrances to the community. They are currently waiting for the project manager to finish another project so this project in our area can begin. A suggestion was made the SCPOA board should have a fire safety committee to manage the common areas. Tom gave an update on airport status, letters have gone to homeowners along the runway with all responses so far being positive and he continues to have good working relationship with DOT. There is still a problem with an individual feeding wildlife next to the runway causing a hazard, Tom requested a letter be sent from SCPOA to Fish and Game as well as the EDC DA requesting a status as community members have been filing complaints resulting in citations from Fish and Game. The board heard proposals for insurance renewals, the current carrier gave a quote of \$29,000 and a program through The Management Trust would reduce

the rate to \$19,000 with better deductibles and some increase in coverage. The board voted to change insurers for the decreased amount. For more information goto: [scpoa.info](http://scpoa.info).

**Next SCPOA meeting will be the third Saturday, September 21st, 10am @ Dyer Lake Hall 6770 Sluice Street.**

## **Crafters**

by Linda Heyart

We are working on our fall and holiday craft projects with only two more meetings before our Fall Craft Sale. So if you are a crafter or just one of us who can do simple cut, paste, glue or paint you are encouraged to come join us at our craft meeting on September 27. We meet at Darlene Rood's home at 2211 Swansboro Road from 10:00 AM to 12 noon.

## **Birding at Fannon Lake**

by Dave Angelo

Below are the results of the August 10th observation. The next Bird watching gathering will be on Saturday September 14th starting at 8:00 am. Use Parking Area right between the Boat Launch Area and the Beach Area.



- |                                |                         |                        |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 Canada Goose                 | 2 Mourning Dove         | 1 Calliope Hummingbird |
| 5 American Coot (Red-shielded) |                         | 1 Great Blue Heron     |
| 1 Belted Kingfisher            | 7 Acorn Woodpecker      | 2 Western Kingbird     |
| 4 California Scrub-Jay         | 15 Violet-green Swallow | 10 Cliff Swallow       |
| 5 Bushtit                      | 5 Western Bluebird      | 8 Lesser Goldfinch     |
| 3 Hooded Oriole                |                         |                        |
- Number of Taxa: 15

## **MVFA SWAG**

MVFA offers your choice of Mosquito T-Shirts and Sweat Shirts in a verity 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
- T-Shirts - XXL - \$22.00
- Hooded Pullovers S-XL- \$30.00
- Hooded with Zipper S-XL - \$35.00

- Hooded with Zipper XXL- \$38.00
- MVFA Grocery Tote Bags are: 1/\$4 or 3/\$10 or 4/\$12

## **Franks Diner**

By Frank Ethridge

### **September 4<sup>th</sup> Frank's Diner goes back to Winter Hours**

#### **Frank's Diner Hours:**

Wednesday-Friday 11 am - 8 pm

Saturday-Sunday 8 am - 8 pm

(530) 409-1977

[www.franksmosquitodiner.com](http://www.franksmosquitodiner.com)



We hope everyone had fun at our summer events. Mosquito Road was awesome and their playing was just as hot as the chili Frank served, and the Tiki Lounge Lizards kept us wishing for a good wave to ride. It was a great summer thanks to our community.

#### **September Dates to Remember**

- 5<sup>th</sup> MVFA Meeting @ Frank's Diner 7 pm
- 7<sup>th</sup> Finnon Lake Festival @ Finnon Lake  
3 pm
- 14<sup>th</sup> Manland (Men's Fellowship Breakfast) @  
Frank's Diner 7 am
- 14<sup>th</sup> MVFA Spaghetti Feed @ the Fire Station

#### **Wednesday Night Specials**

- 4<sup>th</sup> Burritos
  - 11<sup>th</sup> Beef Tips
  - 18<sup>th</sup> Eggplant Parmesan
  - 25<sup>th</sup> Roasted Chicken
- Veggie options are available  
Always \$10.00

## **Recipe of the Month**

By Franks Diner

Now that summer is leaving us but the weather is still warm, how about cleaning out your garden for a nice roasted Ratatouille. Serves 4 to 6

### **INGREAGANTS**

- 2 onions, peeled and thinly sliced
- 2 cloves garlic, peeled and thinly sliced
- 1 eggplant thinly sliced
- 1 zucchini thinly sliced
- 2 green peppers, sliced or chopped
- 8 small tomatoes roughly chopped
- 2 sprigs fresh rosemary or 1 teaspoon dried rosemary
- 3 sprigs fresh thyme 1 teaspoon dried thyme
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- salt and pepper to taste

### **INSTRUCTIONS**

Preheat oven to 350°F. Combine first eight ingredients in an ovenproof dish. (Keep herb sprigs intact.) Drizzle with oil and season with salt and pepper. Cover with foil and bake 45 minutes. Remove the foil and bake for another 30-45 minutes until deep golden brown.

Remove herb sprigs. DO AHEAD: Will keep for 3-4 days refrigerated; this is super delicious cold and improves with a little time. Serve with pasta, Roasted chicken or on its own

## **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](mailto: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



### **Fannon Recreation Area Daily Passes**

Daily use passes are now available for purchase. The one-year pass is \$50.00 and expires January 1, 2020. The two-year pass is \$75.00 and expires January 1, 2021. Please contact Dave Angelo at (530) 621-3688 for information about or the purchasing of these passes.

## **CLASSIFIED ADS**

(Classified Ads are free to all paid subscribers)

### **FOR SALE**

**Tires**- studded snow/ winter size 225/50R-17, Federal Himalaya WS2 Mud/Snow \$325 916-765-3652

### **WANTED**

**LOCAL FARM** seeking manure source. Specifically, Goat, Sheep, llama or Alpaca. Please contact Ryan at Goat Mountain Farms. 530-497-4279 or [goatmntnfarms@gmail.com](mailto:goatmntnfarms@gmail.com)

### **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 a.m. at 3342 Stope Drive and throughout the week. Check our website [www.mfom.net](http://www.mfom.net) or call (530)295-0503. (0620)

### **SERVICES**

**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](http://www.SierraShield.com) or call 530-387-0110. (0620)

**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. (0619)

**FREE VEGAN VEGETARIAN COOKING CLASSES** - Food preparation demonstrations, recipe handouts, video clips, resource materials, generous samples provided. Interact with health-minded folks, learn healthful lifestyle principles and discover tasty new recipes. We meet once a month at the Camino SDA Church, 3520 Carson Rd. on Mondays at 11 a.m. Call Fred Adams at (530) 642-9441 or [AdamsAmigos@gmail.com](mailto:AdamsAmigos@gmail.com) for dates and to reserve your space. (0000)

**UNIQUE JEWELRY** - Handmade jewelry using recycled aluminum cans, and more. To view, call Dee at 642-2333. (0719)

**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. (0719)

**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! (0619)

**WELDING & FABRICATION** – Steel, Stainless Steel, Aluminum. Certified to military standard. Call (530) 621-3300 (0620)

## **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 (0619)

**CREATIVE ADMIN SERVICES** – Your office and project support team specializing in office management, business/personal contact management, event coordination, online services, and much more. Visit our website at [www.creativeadminsolutions.com](http://www.creativeadminsolutions.com) or call (530)295-1779. (0819)

**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. (0619)

**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](http://www.mosquitoadneighbors.com) or (530)295-4641 or toll free (866)SALLYRE, [snlngjohns@yahoo.com](mailto:snlngjohns@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 (0620)



# September 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4 <b>Frank's Family Night</b> Burritos	5 <b>MVFA Board Meeting</b> 7pm at Franks Diner	6	7 <b>Support Group</b> 10 am @ Fire House  <b>MFA's Finnon Lake Festival</b> at Frank's Diner. 3:00pm.
9	5	10	11 <b>Frank's Family Night</b> Beef Tips	12 <b>MFPD Board Meeting</b> 6 pm Fire Station	13	14 <b>Bird Watch Finnon Lake</b> 8:00 AM in the Day Use Area  <b>MVFA Spaghetti Feed</b> @ the Fire Station 6 pm
15	16	17	18 <b>Frank's Family Night</b> Eggplant Parmesan	19	20	21 <b>SCPOA Board Mtg.</b> 10am, Dyer Lake Hall 6770 Sluice
22	23	24	25 <b>Frank's Family Night</b> Roasted Chicken	26	27 <b>Crafters</b> 10 am @ Darlene Rood's	28
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 20<sup>th</sup> of each month. It is also posted on the [www.goMVFA.org](http://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 Frank's Diner ay 7:00 pm. 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 their name and address to [mvfa95667@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://www.gomvfa.org) website.

PLACERVILLE, CA 95667-9040

9009 ORVAL BECKETT CT

MOSQUITO BYTE