

MOSQUITO BYTE

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE MOSQUITO VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION



Volume 39, No. 1

October 2025

MVFA UPDATE

by MVFA Board of Directors

OCTOBER EVENTS: FALL FUN SPONSORED BY MVFA



This October, the Mosquito Volunteer Fire Association is proud to sponsor two exciting community events that celebrate the season and bring neighbors together. Mark your calendars and join us for food, fun, and a little fright!

FALL FESTIVAL AT FINNON LAKE

Saturday, October 11 • 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Celebrate the beauty of autumn at Finnon Lake with over **40 local vendors** offering crafts, goods, and treats for all ages. Whether you're browsing handmade wares or enjoying the lakeside scenery, there's something for everyone.



MVFA will be serving up pulled pork sandwich lunches, so come hungry and support your local vendors while enjoying a delicious meal.

This is a great opportunity to connect with neighbors, support local artisans, and soak up the fall atmosphere in one of our community's most scenic spots.



TRUNK or TREAT AT STATION 75

Saturday, October 25 • 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Get ready for a spooktacular evening at Fire Station 75, where MVFA will host this year's Trunk or Treat—a safe, family-friendly way to celebrate Halloween.

Brave the thrills and chills inside our **Haunted House**

Best Decorated Trunk: First, second, and third place prizes for the most creative car trunk decoration.

Costume Contest: Prizes awarded in four age groups:

Ages 0–5

Ages 6–10

Ages 11–15

Ages 16 and Older



Bring your best costume, decorate your trunk, and join us for an evening of candy, laughter, and community spirit. Whether you're trick-or-treating or just enjoying the spectacle, this event promises fun for all ages.



We look forward to seeing you at both events. Your participation helps support MVFA's mission and keeps our community strong, safe, and connected. Happy October!

MVFA SWAG

Looking to sport some community spirit? Explore the Mosquito Volunteer Fire Association's collection of **Mosquito T-shirts and Sweatshirts**, available in a variety of sizes and fresh colors! With newly added styles, there's something for everyone, so be sure to check out the latest selections.



MVFA apparel, along with local phone books, are conveniently available for purchase at the diner during regular business hours or at **MVFA-sponsored events**.

For personalized orders or special requests, feel free to reach out to us at MVFA95667@gmail.com. Show your support, stay stylish, and represent Mosquito proudly!

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Fall Festival at Finnon Lake - Free Lunch 10 am - 3 pm October 11, 2025
MFPD Board Meeting - October 23, 2025
Trunk-R-Treat at Station 75 - 6 pm - 8 pm October 25, 2025
Christmas Craft Sale at Station 75 - 10 am - 2 pm November 15, 2025
MFPD Board Meeting - November 20, 2025
Christmas Dinner at Station 75 - Free Dinner 5:30 pm December 6, 2025
MFPD Board Meeting - December 18, 2025

The next MVFA Board meeting will be on **Thursday, October 16th** at 3:00 pm at the Diner

MVFA CRV RECYCLE PROGRAM



The MVFA Recycle Program continues to provide a valuable resource of dedicated funding for the Mosquito Fire Station to be utilized by the department at the Fire Chief's request. Your participation in this program is appreciated and is benefiting our fire department!

Please drop off bags of **Plastic Bottles** and **Aluminum Cans (Sorry no Glass)** at the back of Station 75. Note: Lids and caps on plastic bottles must be removed before they can be redeemed. Lids and caps can be included for redemption. Stay green, stay responsible, and happy recycling! ♻️

CHIEF'S REPORT

by Acting Chief Scott Bravo

Calls for Service: July 1, 2025, – September 20, 2025

Medical Aid - 17
Public Assist - 11
Fires - 6
Total Calls for Service - 30

Vehicle Accidents - 1
Strike team - 1
Other - 4



Two part-time Battalion Chiefs have been hired to complement the command staff.

Two CPR classes were conducted on September 9th. CPR certifications are needed to continue the excellent customer service provided by our support members. There was no charge for the classes.

Vehicle Inventory - Staff is working with Randy Campo on fleet related issues. We are currently evaluating what vehicles need to be sold, and what needs to be replaced. Further discussions are to be had, and we hope to have a report and plan by year's end.

PPE - Staff is in the process of going through our current inventory of PPE to obtain an accurate account of what has been purchased. Once established, we will attempt to submit documentation that may be retroactively apply R&R Grant funds. This will allow the District to place monies back into the general fund.

Training - Staff is compiling a list of instructors and curriculum that will provide training this winter. Training to possibly include Driver Operator 1A & 1B, Confine Space Awareness, and Hazardous Materials Training to be conducted at the station.

Reporting - Deficiencies have been identified in EMS reporting and NFIRS. Staff is working diligently to get this rectified. Accurate reporting and numbers in NFIRS are imperative for continued success in AFG, Safer, and 50/50 Grants. Grant providers use this data to assess needs.

Radios / Pagers - The District Mobile Radio and Paging products are in need of replacement. Our mobile radio support and parts availability ended on 01/2020. Priority will be made to our apparatus that will provide coverage for the District, Mutual Aid, and command vehicles.

MOSQUITO CRAFTERS

By Natasha Cutter

Mark Your Calendar! The Mosquito Crafters are preparing for some exciting events around the corner and we hope to see you there!

October 11th we will be at the MVFA Fall Festival at Finnon Lake. Come by and see what we've created for the fall.

November 7th & 8th you can find the Mosquito Crafters at the Cold Spring Church in Placerville amongst over 30 other amazing local vendors.

November 15th come see us at the Holiday Craft Sale at Mosquito Fire Station. Come support your community and shop from local crafters.

Mosquito Crafters have dedicated significant effort throughout the year to expand our inventory. We've been showcasing our crafts during our monthly meetings, and everyone agrees that our inventory is becoming increasingly exciting and impressive with each passing year. Our Crafters are very enthusiastic about what they do and it shows in their quality of work! We invite new members to join our craft group! We gather on the fourth Friday of every month. Attending our meetings is not required to join. Your level of participation is completely up to you. All proceeds we raise go to supporting the Mosquito Volunteer Protection District. If you're interested in becoming part of our group, have any questions, or wish to contribute to the Mosquito Crafters, please reach out to us at mosquitocrafters@gmail.com. You can also find us and follow us on Facebook.



SCPOA REPORT

By Meredith Blain

The Swansboro Country Property Owners Association Board of Directors (SCPOA) meets monthly at the MFPD Fire Station, 8801 Rock Creek Road, on the fourth Wednesday of the month. Meeting agendas are posted on the bulletin board at Dyer Lake and on the SCPOA website: SCPOA.info. All SCPOA Members are invited to attend the monthly meetings and the next meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 22, 2025, at 6pm.

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

SMOKE ON THE WATER

by Kirk Bronsord and Matt Ridgeway



Fall Greetings from Smoke on the Water!

It's that time of year when the air turns crisp, the days grow shorter, and a touch of spookiness settles over the campground. With fewer visitors heading to the lake, things may be quiet outside—but inside the diner, we're keeping the spirit alive!

We're incredibly grateful for the love and support our community has shown us. As we head into the fall and winter months, your continued support means the world to us. Whether you're stopping by for a warm meal or sharing a laugh over coffee, you help keep our little diner glowing.

We're always cooking up something special for our Saturday dinners, and we'd love to hear your ideas! Got a favorite dish or theme in mind? Let us know—we're all ears.



We can't wait to see your smiling faces and share more good food and good times together.

With heartfelt thanks,

Your Smoke on the Water Family

Diner Hours:

Monday - Wednesday- Closed
Thursday 11 am – 1:30 pm
Friday 11 am – 1:30 pm
Saturday - 11 am - 7 pm
Sunday 9 am - 3 pm

(Breakfast served on Sunday only)

<https://www.facebook.com/smokeonthewaterplacervilleca>

Now Open on Thursday for Lunch!

DISTRICT AUXILIARY aka D'Ax

By Meredith Blain

Celebrating Community, Upcoming Events, and Future Goals

Station 75's New Roof: A Community Achievement

The District Auxiliary-Mosquito (D'Ax*) is still thrilled to announce that the Mosquito Fire Protection District (MFPD) Station 75 now has a brand-new roof! The timing couldn't be better, as we expect rain soon, and we're grateful for our generous community whose donations made this possible. The roof not only looks fantastic but also stands as a symbol of what we can achieve together!



Recent Meeting Highlights

D'Ax* held its most recent meeting on Thursday, September 25th, where members discussed several exciting updates and plans. We're proud to introduce a newly designed Mosquito T-shirt for women that will be available along with shirts and hats for MFPD at the upcoming MVFA Fall Festival at Finnon Lake on October 11, 2025, from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Stop by the D'Ax* table for free popcorn, which we'll be serving to all visitors!

D'Ax* is proud to support **MVFA** at the upcoming **Trunk-or-Treat** event at **MFPD Station 75** on **October 25, 2025, from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM**. We look forward to seeing lots of families come out and enjoy this fun free community event hosted by **MVFA**!

Historically, D'Ax* meetings have been scheduled just before the MFPD Board of Directors meetings, leading to rushed agendas. To improve the experience for everyone, future meetings will be held separately. The next D'Ax* meeting is scheduled for **Monday, October 20, 2025, at 6:00 PM**.

Fundraising Focus: Building Improvements

While the new Station 75 roof is a major accomplishment, it marks only the beginning of our building improvement efforts. There is a long list of necessary repairs, many of which are overdue, and our fundraising goals will focus on addressing these needs. Specific projects will be discussed at upcoming meetings, and we welcome input and support from the community.

Launching the D'Ax* Website

We are excited to announce that the District Auxiliary will launch its own website in mid-October! The website will provide easier access to information and make community donations simpler than ever. Once live, a link will replace current D'Ax* details on the MFPD website, directing visitors to our new platform. Special thanks to Jamea Lacey for her dedication in getting this project up and running. While the initial design is basic, we have plans to expand content and functionality in the near future.

Community Pancake Breakfast: Honoring Veterans

Mark your calendars for **Saturday, November 8, 2025!** D'Ax* and MFPD firefighters will host a **Community Pancake Breakfast** to honor our veterans. Enjoy a delicious spread of pancakes, eggs, bacon, sausage, biscuits and gravy, juice, fruit, coffee, and cocoa. We invite everyone to join us for good food and great company as we pay tribute to those who have served.

Join Us!

D'Ax* next meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 20, 2025, at 6:00 PM. We encourage all interested community members to attend, get involved, and help us continue making a positive impact.

If you're interested in donating or volunteering, please email admin@dax-np.org or reach out to any D'Ax* director. Agendas and meeting minutes are available at mfpd.us under the "Community Organizations" tab until October 15, 2025, and thereafter on the new District Auxiliary Website.

BIRDING AT FINNON LAKE

October Bird Watch: A Feathered Fall Begins

The crisp air and golden light of early autumn made for a beautiful morning as birders gathered for the monthly Mosquito Bird Watch. With fall and winter hours now in effect, the walk begins promptly at 9:00 AM, offering a peaceful start to the day and a chance to witness the seasonal shift in our local avian population.

This month's walk was rich with sightings—some familiar favorites and a few special appearances. The group observed a total of 98 birds across 18 species, showcasing the diversity of habitats surrounding our community.

Whether you're a seasoned birder or just curious about the wildlife in our area, the monthly Bird Watch is a great way to connect with nature and neighbors alike.

Here's a snapshot of what was seen during the September Walk:

1 California Quail	1 Great Egret	1 White-breasted Nuthatch
8 Wild Turkey	1 Turkey Vulture	8 Western Bluebird
20 American Coot	12 Acorn Woodpecker	1 House Finch
2 Killdeer	1 Black Phoebe	30 Lesser Goldfinch
3 Pied-billed Grebe	2 California Scrub Jay	3 California Towhee
1 Green Heron	1 Oak Titmouse	2 Red-winged Blackbird

Join us this month and discover what's flying under the radar in our own backyard.

47TH ANNUAL GOLD PAN OPEN

The **47th Annual Gold Pan Open Disc Golf Tournament**, which is part of the **Western States Disc Golf Championship NorCal Series 2025** was held September 27th and 28th at the Fannon Lake Recreation Area Disc Golf Course.

This long-standing event pitted PDGA member competitors in



11 divisions. The Gold Pan Open is one of the region's most



anticipated gatherings, and MVFA is honored to support its mission of recreation, connection, and community involvement.

With multiple divisions, a complex course, and stiff competition, the event presented a challenge for all participants.

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

FOR SALE

THE GOAT DOCTOR OF THE SIERRAS

book by Gloria Hockensmith is available locally. Call Taffy 530-626-8689 to buy your copy. A great fact based read about a local legend. Perfect for gifting, \$20.00. A few books with section of upside down pages are still available for \$10.00.

UNIQUE JEWELRY

Handmade jewelry using recycled aluminum cans, and more. To view, call Dee at 530-642-2333.

TREADMILL

Pro-Form J4 Electric Treadmill \$60.00
Gary at 530-626-0265 or 310-541-7710

2012 HARLEY-DAVIDSON SPORTSTER 883

Super low mileage Original 875 miles
New Michelin Tires, New Drive Belt
Just Serviced, New Battery, Freshly
Detailed - daviddudleyca@comcast.net

JOTUL PROPANE HEAT STOVE

Complete with chimney thermostat. Can be seen at 6796 Log Cabin Lane 916-501-3444

MEETINGS

MOUNTAIN FELLOWSHIP

Join us for Christian worship and fellowship
Sunday mornings 11AM at 3342 Stope
Drive. Bible studies throughout the week.
530-295-0503

SERVICES

CALI CONSTRUCTION

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

NOTARY SERVICES ON THE HILL

Contact Devon at: 510-719-1247.

HOUSE PAINTER – AMERICAN EAGLE PAINTING Residential/Commercial

Specializing in repaints contact Steven Martinez, 530-919-7612 or americaneaglepainting4@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.

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.

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.mosquitroadneighbors.com or 530-295-4641 or toll free 866-SALLYRE, snlongjohns@yahoo.com.

WELDING & FABRICATION

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

REAL ESTATE SERVICES

Donna Ables, Realtor, MBA/BBA Real Estate & Land Use Affairs, CSUS Caldwell Banker Realty
Where Quality Meets Excellent Customer Service!
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(916) 320-0365
Visit donnaablesrealestate.com

HANDCRAFTED ART ON THE HILL

Unique and affordable glass art by Pam Angelo: plates, bowls, vases, birdbaths and more. Perfect as gifts or treat yourself. Studio open most days, text or call to set a time 530-391-5424

UNIQUE WOODWORKING

Created by Dave Angelo in his Swansboro wood shop. Beautiful trinket boxes, wildlife wall art, pepper mills, vases, puzzles, toys and more! Studio open most days, text or call to set a time 707-688-4659

Wild Peak Energy

Licensed Electrical Contractor - CSLB 1138152. Visit our website for more information - www.wildpeakenergy.com
Your Local Electrical Experts! (916) 995-9655

RENTALS**APARTMENT FOR RENT – AVAILABLE NOW!**

Enjoy the comfort and convenience of this charming, fully furnished 1-bedroom, 1-bath apartment featuring: Private entrance for added privacy, Relaxing private patio, Dedicated parking, Spacious 750 sq ft layout. Rent: \$1,500/month + deposit. For inquiries or to schedule a viewing, contact Mickey Sharp at 916-712-1532

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

CELEBRATE FALL WITH US

FALL FESTIVAL

OCTOBER 11

10:00 AM-3:00 PM

FINNON LAKE RECREATION AREA

9100 ROCK CREEK ROAD

DOZENS OF LOCAL VENDORS

ARTS/CRAFTS

COMMUNITY AGENCIES

MUSIC

FREE PUMPKINS FOR THE KIDS

FREE LUNCH

FREE ENTRY



OCTOBER 2025						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4 Support Group Training 9am Station 75
5 MFOM Mountain Fellowship Gathering, 11am	6	7 MFPD Firefighters Training 6pm Station 75	8	9	10	11 Bird Watching 9am FLRA Fall Festival 10 am FLRA
12 MFOM Mountain Fellowship Gathering, 11am	13	14	15	16 MVFA Meeting 3pm Diner	17	18
19 MFOM Mountain Fellowship Gathering, 11am	20 D'Ax Meeting 6pm Station 75	21 MFPD Firefighters Training 6pm Station 75	22 SCPOA Board Meeting 6pm Station 75	23 MFPD Board Meeting 7:00pm Station 75	24 Crafters Meeting 10am	25 Tunk or Treat 6pm to 8pm Station 75
26 MFOM Mountain Fellowship Gathering, 11am	27	28	29	30	31	

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

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 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 Mosquito BYTE Editor 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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