

Volume 37, No. 11

August 2024

CHIEF'S MESSAGE

by Chief Eddie Dwyer



To the Mosquito Community

On July 25, the Mosquito Fire Protection District will be hosting the El Dorado County Office of Emergency Services for a Town Hall Meeting, to discuss on-going evacuation planning with community members and county partners.

With the retirement of Chief Jack Rosevear, I was appointed to the position of Interim Fire Chief. For those who may not know me, I was Chief of the department from August 2016- through February 2020. Prior to my return last summer, I assisted Chief Rosevear behind the scenes. I returned to a more prominent position last year as Battalion Chief. My return was simply to assist the department, help train Firefighters and build their skills and competencies. I did not intend to return full time as Fire Chief.

As we all know, plans have a way of changing. As I progressed through the year, I was placing more and more irons in the fire, building on more projects to modernize the Mosquito Fire Protection District, to identify the emergency service needs of the community and then work to focus on those needs. When Chief Rosevear decided he would be retiring in June of 2024, he and I spoke about my returning to the position of Chief. As we did, I asked for his blessing to seek the position, as I would never undercut his authority as Fire Chief. There can only be one head of the department who sets direction, establishes a narrative, objectives and goals, then relying on and empowering subordinates to build their future here.

With any endeavor this takes time and commitment. My commitment to the men and women of this department and the community is what drives me to bring the best First Responder Agency possible. Our firefighters have expressed a great commitment to each other and the community. We are here only to serve. We do not espouse any political agenda. It does not matter your political position, religious persuasion or social position. We are here to serve all residents of this community without question or hesitation to the very best we can.

We have an eclectic force with varying skill levels and backgrounds, from a 44-year Fire Veteran Paramedic, two part time Fire Captain Paramedics, we have some employees whose only experience is their employment here and others who have worked and continue to be employed by CALFIRE on a seasonal basis. We have had 4 members recently complete an intensive Firefighter I & II Fire Academy and have recently hired 6 other Firefighter I & II State OSFM Certified Academy Graduates.

Some may be wondering how we currently are able to hire so many personnel. The answer is, we have been funded by FEMA to take on and train personnel while providing them a very small stipend through a Recruitment and Retention Grant. To serve this community our Firefighters receive a stipend of \$150 for each 24-hour shift. As volunteer personnel, there is no requirement to meet the minimum wage standards. This equates to \$6.25 per hour without benefits. I feel it is imperative that you understand that your Firefighters loyally serve you to ensure your safety at a moment's notice, while they receive a wage far below poverty level. I also receive a volunteer's stipend in service to this community.

The average Firefighter Salary in El Dorado County is over \$100,000 annually which does not include their overtime and benefit package. The typical base pay for a 24-hour period is estimated to \$1,000 per 24-hour period. This again, is without the addition of mandatory FLSA Overtime, which could bring the employee cost to \$1,500 per 24-hour period. So, for a stipend of \$150, our personnel serve this community at a rate of 10 times less than their counterparts in other County Fire Departments. The dedication your Firefighters show is unparalleled by any other standard.

Some of our Firefighters have come under attack by members of this community. Some of our members have made life mistakes but have striven hard to recover, working under withering insults and personal ad hominem attacks. Yet they continue to serve this community without question for \$150 per 24-hour shift. Some from the community have accused the department of a "Cover Up", in cases where an employee may have been disciplined. Any person with even the slightest knowledge of California Labor Laws will know that personnel matters cannot be discussed with any person who is not in a direct position of authority over that employee and that all disciplinary actions must remain private. What also must be known, is that all Firefighters who have a recognized schedule and receive compensation are entitled to the standards of discipline established in Senate Bill 206, the Firefighter Procedural Bill of Rights, which identifies a specific process for which disciplinary actions, if necessary, must be applied. The standards of privacy apply to all employees whether they are in the public or private sector. I will not violate that right for any reason and I will defend our members so long as they remain committed to the development of themselves and dedicated to this department and this community.

There are many groups in this community from the MVFA, Pilots, SCPOA, Crafters and the MFSC. The latest is our Fire District Auxiliary also known as DAX, who are the fundraising arm of the Fire District. If I forgot any group please forgive me, it is not intentional.

Aside from these community groups, it is understood that there is only one Fire Authority in this community. Established as a special district in 1978 under charter with the State of California, the Mosquito Fire Protection District is the only recognized Fire Authority in this District! Through State Statute, the Fire District is managed by a Board of Directors who in turn, delegate the legal authority of enforcement to one entity. That one entity is the Fire Chief.

The Fire Chief is charged with the responsibility to enforce all state and county fire codes and sets the direction of the Fire District. The Fire Chief identifies emergency response requirements, understands and enforces state and county employment labor laws, works with State Safety Oversight CALOSHA to provide for the safety of employees, sets training standards, and

ensures that equipment maintenance is performed in accordance with established local, state and federal standards.

To be clear, there is no other group or council in this community that has the authority for the establishment and operation of emergency services or to coordinate emergency response, establish mutual aid or partner with other local emergency service providers and authorities. The Fire District is the only legal authority that other first responding agencies will recognize to coordinate with and resolve emergency events. The Fire Chief is the only person in this community which Law Enforcement conveys authority to establish incident management and incident command. It is the Fire Chief who on direction of the El Dorado County Sheriff's Department will establish advanced teams that enter the community to provide for a coordinated community wide or focused street by street evacuation.

Any Council or community group that releases information regarding emergency operation or community evacuation that circumvents the authority delegated to the Fire District, places themselves in a state of civil and criminal liability. Any message distributed by any group or council that creates a state of confusion for the public regardless of intent can face criminal prosecution.

In recent weeks I have received communication from the Mosquito Fire Safe Council requesting they set up an information booth at the Fire Station during the Town Hall meeting. My response was intended to be a positive first step to resolve differences between the Fire District and the MFSC. As I see it, is the responsibility of the Fire Chief to work with all community groups to provide for the betterment and safety of the community. Via email communication I invited the MFSC to set up a booth, my only request was that they fill out a Station use form as we have asked all participating Community Groups to do including County OES. Since this is a Fire District function, all insurances requirements identified on the form were waived.

This information was given via email, then again verbally in open forum at the June Fire District Board meeting. After subsequent emails, the MFSC decided they were not going to set up a booth. As I could see the importance of their presence at the July 25th Town Hall, I nearly begged them to attend. Again, they refused stating that the El Dorado County Fire Safe Council recommended that they not attend. I then contacted the El Dorado County Fire Safe Council, advising Ken Pimlott that all insurance requirements were waved because this is a Fire District function and that the Fire District only needs the Station Use Form filled out to formally bring the MFSC under the umbrella of OUR insurance, thus providing indemnification. Ken and I came to understanding that the MSFC should attend and that he would advise the MFSC accordingly. Members of the MFSC filled out the Station Use Form and hopefully will be present at the Town Hall meeting. As I see it, communication and cooperation with all groups and councils will help this department serve this community better.

In recent days the MFSC has released information about the Town Hall meeting. I applaud this action and greatly appreciate it, though it was not done in coordination with this office. The MSFC for whatever reason, had chosen to circumvent the position of the Fire Department in their messages by completely omitting the Mosquito Fire Protection District, trying to establish themselves as the authority with jurisdiction. It must be understood, there is only one elected board of authority and that is the Board of Directors of the Mosquito Fire Protection District.

Since my return to this Fire District, I have made attempts to work with the MFSC, maintain an open communication channel and asking them to participate at the Town Hall meeting. I believed this would be a good first step to extend an olive branch. At first, I believed their actions of omission were unintentional, but still it continues. The messages given by the MFSC has caused considerable confusion and as of today, we have received 53 calls from residents based on the information they have read on social media, asking why they did not receive a flier regarding the Town Hall meeting and wondering why they will not be evacuated.

With all that I have on my plate, I was greatly appreciative that MFSC had taken up the task to further distribute the Town Hall information. Because of their effort, I pulled back to prevent any miscommunication or duplication of effort. While I believe getting the information out was a good thing, it must be understood the MFSC is an appointed council with no authority. They are a participant to distribute Community Fire Safe information only, they are not a partner in the Town Hall for evacuation preparedness. This distinction is important, and I still highly recommend they set up an education booth for the meeting.

I am asking That the Fire Safe Council realize what is past is past. Cooperation will only benefit our residents. It also must be known there has been considerable antagonism between the MFPD and MFSC. This must stop so that the MFPD can better serve the WHOLE COMMUNITY and the MFSC can be successful in their mission. My office remains open to assist the MFSC to provide for a greater Fire Safe presence, but I can only do so if there is cooperation across the board.

With this letter it is very possible I am placing my employment in jeopardy. I also have no doubt that social media channels will be on fire. There will be positive, and hate filled posts. None of which I will read as I do not participate in social media.

I just want this community to know I serve at the direction of the Board of Directors. I serve because I see value in what we do, and I believe the MFPD continues to provide the best emergency services available. I have given my all since my return, including for the first time getting our congressman into our community to see its beauty and understand its very real threats. Congressman Kiley has pledged his support for this district, and we will continually work with his office for the betterment of all our residents.

MY ONLY desire for this letter is to give the community a sense of understanding for your Fire Department. We have great challenges that must be overcome and having poor relationships with residents, groups and councils will not better this Fire District, or increase our ability to respond to your needs.

Emergency service messages must only come from this office and in coordination with our partner agencies in the county. A spirit cooperative communication channels that must be maintained. Cooperation, like communication, is a two-way street and I will do all I can to keep those channels open to provide the best service possible.

Eddie Dwyer,

Fire Chief (Int) EFO, BS, EMTP

Upcoming Events:

Saturday Aug 3 - Support Group Training - 9am - Station 75

Tuesday Aug 6 & 20 - Fire Training - 6pm - Station 75 (Public Welcome)

Friday Aug 9 – Deadline for Declaration of MFPD Board Candidacy

Thursday Aug 22 - Monthly Fire Board Meeting - 7pm - Station 75

Wednesday Aug 28 - SCPOA Monthly Board Meeting - 6pm - Station 75

The next MFPD Board meeting will be on August 22nd at 7:00 pm at Station 75

MVFA UPDATE

by MVFA Board of Directors

FLRA CAMPGROUND

July was a busy month at the campground. We were completely full most days.

Twice during last month, we had two of our favorite families rent the whole campground for four days each. The first family that came has been coming to Finnon for 25 years. This trip the family celebrated their mother's 90th birthday. She rents the campground each July for her entire family and this trip brought everyone to celebrate with her. She has always included us in her family gathering. Her daughters contacted Smoke on the Water to have a special dinner for their mom on Saturday night. We all gathered in the diner and sang as she blew out her candles. What a special night and time for everyone.

The next weekend we had another family that has been coming for several years. They had 17 adults and 11 kids camping. Although it was plenty warm,



they all had a great time. They also contacted Smoke on the Water and had them cater a lunch for the family on Saturday. Then Sunday morning they all came to the diner for breakfast. We all enjoy having these two families come every year and spend time visiting with them.

MVFA SWAG

Explore MVFA's collection of Mosquito T-shirts and Sweatshirts, available in an array of sizes and colors. Apparel and local phone books are conveniently for sale at the Diner during regular business hours or at MVFA sponsored events.

For personalized orders, reach out to us at mvfa95667@gmail.com.

EAGLE FAMILY UPDATE

The baby eaglet continues to grow and thrive despite the loss of the male eagle who apparently collided with wires and was electrocuted back in April. Mom has continued doing a great job of fending off predators and raising the young one! A new male has been seen periodically visiting the nest but does not appear to be helping with food. Hopefully the female and the new male will mate up next year to continue nesting activity.



Photos by Kim Purcell

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Please mark these on your calendar and plan to join us on these dates for fun and community comradery.

- Saturday, October 12, 2024 - Fall Festival at Finnon Lake - 10 am - 3 pm **Free Lunch**
- Saturday, October 26, 2024 - Trunk-or-Treat at Station 75 - 6 pm - 8 pm
- Saturday, December 7, 2024 - Christmas Dinner at Station 75 - 5:30 pm **Free Dinner**

The next MVFA Board meeting will be on Aug 1 st at 3:00 pm at Station 75

SWANSBORO DRIVE & FLY-IN

By Tom Harris

On June 22, 2024, Swansboro airport and Dyer Lake Park were the venue for the first Swansboro Drive & Fly-In (formerly known as the Big Boy Toy Show). The weather was hot, but not as hot as the variety of vehicles on



display including a vintage camper towed by a vintage Chevy station wagon, two large 1960s convertibles - a Ford and a Mercury, a hand-made racing moped/motorcycle that looked like a vintage board-track racer, among a total of 16 entries.



In addition to the vehicles, there were 17 aircraft on display, some of which are part of the 23 total aircraft in Swansboro hangars. Attendees got a glimpse of the aircraft that their friends and neighbors fly, including a few which were hand-built here in Swansboro. All the proceeds from the show entries went to the MFPD District Auxiliary (D'Ax).



Thanks, and kudos go out first, to the members of the Swansboro Country Property Owners Association (SCPOA) board of directors, whose permission allowed residents to use the airfield and park as our venue, second to Chief Rosevear and members of the fire department, for providing an engine on standby at Dyer Lake, and to the members of the MFPD (D'Ax) for the popcorn, shaved ice and free handouts for the kids. Plus, there was face painting and balloon animals, Wani providing her tacos and MVFA Crafters selling 4th of July goodies and MVFA swag.

And finally, thanks to the residents and friends who braved the heat and came out to enjoy the show. You provided those all-around good feelings that neighbors share. We look forward to next year's event. The date may change if we seek to have cooler weather. To all residents of Swansboro, please accept this invitation to bring out those Hot Rods, vintage cars and motorcycles that we know are hiding in your garage or hangar. Share them with your neighbors at next year's event.

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. Our next meeting will be Wednesday, August 28, 2024, at 6pm. All SCPOA Members are invited to attend.

Here are a few updates from your SCPOA Board of Directors:

The SCPOA board will hold an election in February to fill seats for the 2025-2026 term. There are seven director positions on the board, three of the positions are elected in even years, four positions are elected in odd years. In February 2025, four director seats will be filled. All directors serve for two years. The election is by sealed ballot with the aid of election inspectors who are appointed by the current board of directors. The ballots are counted prior to the Annual Meeting which will take place on Saturday, February 22, 2025. New directors assume their positions immediately.

Here is a timeline for the election process:

Nominations deadline: November 28, 2024.

Notice of non-qualifying candidates, December 2, 2024.

Selection of inspector of elections, December 4 – 13, 2024.

IDR completion date for non-qualifying candidates, December 17, 2024.

Pre-ballot notice date: December 18, 2024.

Voter list and candidate registration list correction deadline for voter lists, January 13, 2025.

Ballot and election rules mailing date January 17 - 23, 2025.

Voting deadline, ballot counting and annual meeting: February 22, 2025.

Election results general notice: March 7, 2025.

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The SCPOA board set up a table at the June Drive and Fly-In event and directors were available to greet members and answer questions. The board recently approved a survey for members to gather feedback. Members can find the survey at the SCPOA.info website or attend a meeting and complete the survey in person.

Members of SCPOA can visit SCPOA.info, the official SCPOA website, and find 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, or Melissa.bell@managementtrust.com to gain access.

### **DISTRICT AUXILIARY aka D'Ax**

By Meredith Blain

On July 20, 2024, D'Ax hosted the MFPD Pancake Breakfast, and it was a complete success! Kirk Bronsord and his cooking cousins provided all the cooking and it was the best ever! Delicious pancakes,



and perfectly cooked eggs, bacon, and sausage. New volunteer firefighters as well as a few familiar faces were in attendance and serving breakfast! In addition to all the wonderful neighbors to visit



with, we had Brian Franklin from El Dorado DOT speak about the new bridge project, and our local district House Representative, Kevin Kiley, attended and enjoyed breakfast with us! He then spoke about his work in our district and opened the floor to questions from local residents,

and many questions were asked and answered. Overall, it was a well-attended event enjoyed by many Mosquito residents.



We have two more pancake breakfasts planned this year, September 14th and November 16th. The September breakfast will feature biscuits and gravy in addition to the usual pancakes, bacon, sausage, and eggs!



If you haven't heard, several new volunteer firefighters have joined MFPD! D'Ax provided funding for a welcome lunch for them in July. In addition, a rigorous certification called a Pack Test was conducted in July as well. A blistering hot day at Finnon Lake where firefighters were required to haul heavy gear while in full protective turnouts, completing several rounds

around the lake within a specified time. Several Support Group volunteers provided rehab along the way. D'Ax provided funding for lunch following the training at Smoke on the Water. The food was great and well received!

The next event after the September pancake breakfast will be an Open House at MFPD, co-hosted by MFPD and the District Auxiliary. This will be a great opportunity to meet volunteer firefighters and learn about volunteer opportunities within MFPD. We'll be kicking off the National Fire Week at this fun, family friendly event! More details will be included in the September edition of the BYTE.





The District Auxiliary is busy planning our calendar for 2025. MFPD Pancake Breakfasts will take place in January, March, May, July, September, and November. We have scheduled a gala event on March 1, 2025, with a Mardi Gras theme! This fun party will be our biggest fund raiser for the year, so mark your calendars now! There will be excellent catered food, entertainment, a

silent auction and much, much more!

D'Ax wishes to send out a BIG Thank You to Minute Man Press in Placerville! Phillip and his team have provided printing for our events, and the last two orders were donated to us! Many thanks Team Minuteman for your support and generosity!



The District Auxiliary usually meets the same day as the MFPD Board of Directors Meeting on the fourth Thursday of each month. The August meeting will be held on Thursday, August 22, 2024. Please verify dates and times by checking the MFPD.us website under the "Meetings" tab. Agendas and Minutes can be found under the "Supporting Groups" tab. All residents of Mosquito Fire Protection District are invited to attend D'Ax meetings.

Find us at MFPD.us. Email us at [admin@dax-np.org](mailto:admin@dax-np.org).

## **AIRCRAFT DISPLAY DAYS**

By Kim Purcell

The Swansboro airport is home to many interesting aircraft both homebuilt as well as production built. We are doing our aircraft display August 9th, 10th and 11th from 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM each day at the airport. Aircraft that are unique as well as older than 35 years will be out and you are invited to look, but be sure to remain well clear of the active runway. Please also be respectful and look but do not touch without guidance from owners. If you have any questions, would like further information or a guided tour you can contact Kim Purcell at 530-621-1049.

## **CRAFTERS**

By Eileen Reisner

The Firehouse Crafters are a group of about 20 women that work on crafts to sell at a few local events. All Crafters donate time and supplies for their projects. All sales benefit Station 75.



We meet monthly to share our crafts and discuss ideas while having coffee and treats. You do not need to attend meetings to be part of our team. We accept donations of completed craft projects. If you are interested in joining our team, contact Eileen Reisner at 530-748-7962.

## **BIRDING AT FINNON LAKE**

by Dave Angelo

Here are the results of the bird watch for July. The next bird watch is scheduled for Saturday, August 10<sup>th</sup> at Finnon Lake, just past the Boat Launch area. We will start at 8:00 A.M. There is no parking charge to the participants of this free event.



|                  |   |                      |    |               |    |
|------------------|---|----------------------|----|---------------|----|
| Pie-billed Grebe | 3 | Acorn Woodpecker     | 2  | Canada Goose  | 9  |
| American Coot    | 4 | Western Bluebird     | 2  | Mourning Dove | 1  |
| Oak Titmouse     | 1 | Great-tailed Grackle | 12 | Cooper's Hawk | 1  |
| Mallard          | 3 | Calliope Hummingbird | 1  | Wild Turkey   | 10 |
| Spotted Towhee   | 1 | Bushtit              | 5  |               |    |

## **SMOKE ON THE WATER**

by Kirk Bronsord and Matt Ridgeway

Thank You for a Fantastic First Month!

We are thrilled to celebrate our first month of being open and want to extend our heartfelt thanks to our wonderful community for the incredible support. We truly



appreciate everyone who has visited us, shared a meal, and made our opening so special.

As we continue to grow, we look forward to welcoming even more of you and expanding our hours. For now, we are open on Saturdays and Sundays, and we can't wait to see you this weekend!

Stay tuned to our social media for the latest updates, menu highlights, and more exciting news about our diner.



Current Hours:

**Saturday:** 11 AM - 5 PM

**Sunday:** 9 AM - 4 PM

### **Diner Hours:**

Monday - Friday - Closed

Saturday - 11 am - 5 pm

Sunday 9 am - 4 pm

(Breakfast served on Sunday only)

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



## **CLASSIFIED ADS**

(Classified Ads are free to all paid subscribers)

### **FREE**

#### **1989-1991 3/4 TON SUBURBAN AXELS**

front and rear, complete from wheel to wheel with springs. Must pick up in Swansboro. Call 669-254-0456

### **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 (\$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 530-642-2333.

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

**RABBITS FOR SALE** by Finnegan the Rabbit Rancher. California/NZ, Lionhead/Flemish, California. \$35 So many pretty colors. Email for details. FinnOson7@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 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

#### **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 veteran's 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.

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

| August 2024                                 |        |                                              |                                       |                                                                      |                                                         |                                                |
|---------------------------------------------|--------|----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| Sunday                                      | Monday | Tuesday                                      | Wednesday                             | Thursday                                                             | Friday                                                  | Saturday                                       |
|                                             |        |                                              |                                       | 1                                                                    | 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 Deadline Declaration of Candidacy for MFPD Fire Board | 10 Bird Watching Finnon Lake, day use area 8am |
| 11 MFOM Mountain Fellowship Gathering, 11am | 12     | 13                                           | 14                                    | 15                                                                   | 16                                                      | 17                                             |
| 18 MFOM Mountain Fellowship Gathering, 11am | 19     | 20 MFPD Firefighters Training 6pm Station 75 | 21                                    | 22 D'Ax Board Meeting 5:30pm<br>MFPD Board Meeting 7:00pm Station 75 | 23 Crafters Meeting 10am                                | 24                                             |
| 25 MFOM Mountain Fellowship Gathering, 11am | 26     | 27                                           | 28 SCPOA Board Meeting 6pm Station 75 | 29                                                                   | 30                                                      | 31                                             |

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 19<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, 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](mailto:mvfa95667@gmail.com), or by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to: MVFA, 9009 Orval Beckett Ct. Placerville CA 95667.

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