

MOSQUITO BYTE

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE MOSQUITO VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION

MOSQUITO



Volunteer Fire Association

Volume 36, No 5

February 2023

CHIEF'S REPORT

by Chief Jack Rosevear



Calls for Service: December 20-January 22

Fires 0	Welfare Check 1
Vehicle Accident 1	Public Assist 4
Medical Aid 5	Storm Response, Trees Removed from
Smoke Check 1 (Structure	Roads (numerous)
fire in the Camino area)	Power Lines down (2)

This month we honor the service of the Hern Family. For many years, the HERNs have served Community, State and Country. Assistant Chief Todd Hern has been with the Department, as a volunteer, for over 24 years. Todd has spent many years in law enforcement, working for Sunnyvale Department of Public Safety and State of California. Todd has also served in the military, being deployed overseas in response to 9/11. With the Mosquito FD, Todd has held the ranks of Firefighter, Engineer, Captain, and Assistant Chief. Todd has given a great deal to this community; standing watch and responding to calls when sometimes it was only him responding. I have responded to many calls with Todd and always feel confident the incident is controllable when he is there. Todd and his wife, Kelly, have sacrificed a great deal for the Department and community. After 24 years of monitoring a radio pager, keeping an ear on the scanner, attending training, teaching firefighters, responding at all hours of the day and night (weekends, holidays, rain, snow, Red Flag Days) he finds it's time to retire. That's quite enough volunteering for a lifetime! It's time for others to pick up the ball. We all owe him a debt of gratitude and wish him well, relaxing, travelling and spending time with his wife. Todd will assist us with CPR instruction and like Chief Leo Chaloux, is there for support, wisdom, and consultation.

Firefighter Engineer Devin Hern started as an Explorer Scout and progressed to Firefighter in October 2019. Devin was promoted to Engineer in 2021 and has covered many shifts for us, sponsored by our FEMA SAFER grant. Devin completed his EMT certification in 2022 and is currently completing Firefighter 1 & 2 certification. For his Firefighter 2 certification, he will work weekly shifts through the spring at the Consumnes Fire Department. Devin has moved to Mendocino County to be with his girlfriend and works part time as an ambulance EMT while waiting to be hired as a seasonal for Cal Fire MEU. We are very pleased to see Devin obtain his important training certifications through the Department and move forward to fulfill his dreams. We are all proud of you Devin and know you will do very well.

Ralph and Sharon Hern, Todd's parents, were foundations of the Department with the Fire Board and Support Group. The amount of time, energy and talent the HERNs have

volunteered cannot even be quantified. There has always been a Hern present, when needed. The Family will always be treasured members of our Department.

The Department hosted our first of many firefighter pancake breakfasts on January 7th. We appreciate the fundraising and generosity of our community, which purchased tables, griddles, cooking equipment, a coffee machine and other items to host these important events. Ninety two people were in attendance, which raised \$1700. Thank you to our firefighters, spouses and Auxiliary Board members for your hard work and commitment. The next breakfast (scheduled the first Saturday every other month) is set for March 4th.

Appreciation to our staff, firefighters and Support Group for the solid response to the series of storms which impacted the county. All aspects of coverage were provided, including emergency response, road clearing, public information, coordination with other agencies, including DOT and PG&E. We are grateful that the damage to our community was not worse. Power outages were limited, and PG&E's response was good. At one point in the afternoon of 12/31 both Rock Creek and Mosquito Roads were closed due to slides. Thanks to the response of our crews (Engine 275 was clearing a tree on Rock Creek and was there when the slide happened) and DOT staging a loader on Rock Creek Road, the road was quickly opened with no impact to our community. When both roads are closed, we have no way of getting a paramedic ambulance or other fire engines in when we need them. A special thanks to Board Member Linnea Ugglá for her work posting storm/road information quickly and to Kevin Birks, who assisted with the tractor at the slide on Rock Creek Road on 12/31.

Firefighters Cole and Kyle Caudle have started EMT training, which they will complete in the late Spring. We are currently on-boarding three community-based firefighter recruits. The next few months will include wildland firefighting training to prepare our staff for the upcoming fire season.

This is the time of year, as the season turns cold, to use caution with fireplaces, wood stoves and portable heating devices. Placement of portable heating devices is critical, to prevent the ignition of combustible materials such as beds and couches. An annual safety check and cleaning of the chimney or wood stove pipe will prevent a fire which could spread into the attic. Now is also the time to check batteries for smoke detectors. Always have a functioning carbon monoxide detector. At a recent incident we were reminded to make sure dryer lint is frequently removed. Dryer lint provides a perfect source of fuel for a fire, ignited by high heat. We are happy to conduct an interior or exterior fire safety inspection upon your request. Please contact Captain Lugo @ 530-626-9017.

Below is a list of important dates. Community members are always welcome to attend Tuesday night training and meet our firefighters and Support Group members. Our training is currently focused on winter storm preparedness and structure fire response. Wildland fire training will begin in March.

We continue to provide addressing signs for residents and installing in the Community. Firefighters put together signs and mount them at the best location at a resident's property. The cost of the sign is \$35. Contact Captain Lugo at mlugo@mfpd.us for ordering.

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. Please call us at 530-626-9017 or stop by Station 75.

Upcoming Events:

Thursday February 2 MVFA Monthly Board meeting, 3pm Station 75
Saturday February 4 Support Group monthly training and start of CERT Training- Station 75 @ 9am
Monday February 6 DAX, District Auxiliary Meeting, 6:30pm, Station 75
Tuesday February 7, 14, 21, 28 - MFPD Firefighter Training- 6pm- Station 75- The public is welcome.

The next MFPD board meeting will be on February 23th at 7:00 pm at the Station 75

MVFA Update

MVFA Board of Directors

THANKS AND WELCOME! District Auxiliary Meeting, 6:30PM Station 75

The MVFA would like to take this opportunity to express our thanks and appreciation to Paula Paynter and Sandi Brauns for your service and dedication on the MVFA Board, and for your service to the community. For all your efforts, time, and hard work, please accept our thanks and appreciation. You have truly been an asset to this organization.

The MVFA would also like to welcome Clay Paul and Tony Christensen to the Board. Both have the willingness, passion and desire to help support this community with their commitment, talents, and skills. Clay and Tony have only been on the board for a few weeks now and have already put in several volunteer hours helping with our long list of new projects for the year. The new board is off to a great start. Everyone on the board is looking forward to working with them.

DID YOU KNOW?

The MVFA is financially independent and totally self-supporting. MVFA receives no income or financial support from the Mosquito Fire Protection District (MFPD) or any other tax source, nor from any property owner's association. Neither MVFA nor the Finnon Lake Recreation Area is affiliated with SCPOA. MVFA does not endorse or support any political candidates or parties.

Much of the maintenance and grounds work at Finnon Recreation Area and Frank's Diner is accomplished by volunteers. MVFA has lease income from the diner as well as the lease of

property for the bridge construction concrete batch plant, along with rental of campsites and day use fees. It is MVFA policy to use all financial proceeds to support our organizational objective, namely maintaining Finnon Lake for fire suppression, supporting our community fire department and firefighters, and promoting the good and welfare of the community.

Internal Revenue Service rules prohibit transferring cash from a 501(c)(3) (like MVFA) whose donations may be tax-deductible by the donor, to a non-501(c)(3) organization (like the Mosquito Fire Department). The financial separation between MFPD and MVFA however, does not stop MVFA from contributing volunteer time and resources to support the Mosquito Fire Department. Recent donations to the MFPD which have totaled over \$36,000, include new fire hose, a new kitchen stove, apparatus room lighting, a fire hose pressure tester, an SCBA fit tester, two propane griddles, a barbeque grill, fifteen LED survivor flashlights, fifteen black vantage LED tactical helmet lights, six E-Spot firebox chargers, a vehicle stabilization device, a new flagpole with light and a new sectional with three built-in recliners for the firefighter's quarters. MVFA maintains a "Station 75 Fund" which provides money to buy tools and equipment for the fire station, at the request of the Chief. All funds received from the MVFA recycling efforts go to this fund. In addition, anyone is free to donate to this fund, or any other MVFA fund, at any time.

MVFA provides community support and community education through various community events like the Easter Egg Hunt, the Yard Sale, Spaghetti Dinner, Fall Festival, Halloween Trunk or Treat, the Christmas Dinner, Christmas Basket donations, and by publishing information sources like the Mosquito Byte, the Mosquito Phone Book, and aiding residents in need through its community funds.

MVFA Board of Directors meetings are held at 3:00 pm at Station 75 on the first Thursday of each month, and are open to the public.

A big THANK YOU to all my cookie baking angels. Your treats were included in MVFA's annual Christmas food basket distribution for our neighbors again this year. Your goodies always make it special. Thank you so much! Dee Harris

MVFA 2023 Upcoming Community Event Schedule

Easter Egg Hunt at Finnon Lake on April 8th - 10:30 am

Yard Sale at Station 75 parking lot on May 6th - 8 am to Noon

Spaghetti Dinner at Station 75 on June 3rd - 6:00 pm

Fall Festival at Finnon Lake on October 14th - 10 am - 3 pm

Trunk-R-Treat at Station 75 on October 28th - 6-8 pm

Christmas Dinner at Station 75 on December 9th - 6-8pm

District Auxiliary

by Mosquito District Auxiliary Board of Directors

DISTRICT AUXILIARY



MOSQUITO

♥ Valentine Gift Boxes \$20.00, includes a gift wrapped box with a scented candle, Lindt assorted chocolate Truffle's and a card. Now available at Station 75, M-Th. Call 626-9017. This fire department fund raiser

The Mosquito Fire Station hosted the pancake breakfast on January 7th with the District Auxiliary (D'AX) sponsoring. We were able to raise \$1,500.00 with the sales of breakfast, swag donations from our community. We look forward in many more breakfasts to be coming this year.



BIRDING AT FINNON LAKE

by Dave Angelo

Here are the results of the bird watch for November. The next bird watch is scheduled for Saturday, February 11th. We will meet at the Day Use Parking area on the North side of Finnon Lake, just past the Boat Launch area. We will start at 9:00 A.M. There is no parking charge to the participants of this free event.



1 Canada Goose
8 Bufflehead
2 Hooded Merganser
6 Common Merganser
4 Pied-billed Grebe
90 American Coot

3 Double-crested
Cormorant
1 Great Blue Heron
4 Turkey Vulture
2 Cooper's Hawk
1 Bald Eagle
16 Acorn Woodpecker

1 Downy Woodpecker
3 Northern Flicker
1 California Scrub-Jay
2 Common Raven
3 Dark-eyed Junco
1 Spotted Towhee
2 Red-winged Blackbird

Number of Taxa: 19

CRAFTERS

by Eileen Reisner

Crafters are excited to tackle the New Year! The 2023 goal will be to build our inventory so we can participate in other sales on and off the hill. We are working with The Wild Pea on Main Street to determine if we can meet both their needs and our ability to meet them. Our meetings are held on the 4th Friday of the month. Next meeting is February 24th.

If you're interested in joining our group, contact Eileen Reisner at 530 295 0541. We welcome all, in other words you don't have to be a crafter, we have plenty of things you can do.

Recycling Options For Our Community

by Kim Purcell

There are many options to recycle so much in our area. Any CRV plastic and cans can be dropped off to the collection area behind Station 75 on the left side. Bags can be placed inside the fenced area. All proceeds from these items benefit the MVFA Station 75 fund to purchase items needed for the station. Did you know you can also recycle your used motor oil at Station 75? There's a large white metal container in the center of the parking lot where you can pour in your used motor oil, please don't contaminate oil with other liquids. Filters can be taken to most auto parts stores to recycle.

Waste Management in Placerville offers many options including pickup of large items placed by the road. You will need to contact them at 530-626-4141 to make arrangements for the pickup and there is a fee or you can use one of their vouchers.

You can take items to their facility at 4100 Throita Way just off HW 49 south of Placerville and prior to Diamond Springs, they are open 7 days a week from 8:00 - 5:00. They take plastic, paper, metal, glass, electronic waste, which includes televisions, each day for no fee. They also accept mattresses and box springs to recycle at no fee as long as they are in reasonable shape meaning not wet, moldy etc. They offer free household hazardous waste recycling including paints, fluorescent light tubes, chemicals, batteries (must have both ends taped for safety) and other items each Friday - Sunday 8:00 - 5:00. They also take tires for a fee which depends on the size of the tire, 19.5 inch are \$3.28 and higher amounts for bigger tires. There is an additional charge for rims.

Please help to keep our community and forest clean by doing the right thing with your items.

FRANKS DINER

by Frank Ethridge

Frank's Diner will be closed from February 13th through the 21st.

“While it is February one can taste the full joys of anticipation. Spring stands at the gate with her finger on the latch.” – Patience Strong



Welcome to February. Looks like a busy month full of Love and Football. If you need anything for your Game Day let us know.

Frank's Winter Diner Hours:

Monday-Tuesday – Closed
Wednesday -Thursday 11 am – 7 pm
Friday 12 pm - 7 pm
Saturday-Sunday 8 am - 7pm

(Breakfast served on the weekends only)

(530) 409-1977

Wednesday Family Night

Specials are \$14.00 from 5 pm to 8 pm

- 1st Burritos (Chicken, Beef or Veggie)
- 8th Chicken Chana (Creamy pasta with artichokes, broccoli, mushrooms and chicken)
- 22nd Roasted Pork loin

Recipe of the Month Beer Cheese Dip

Here is a fun recipe to serve on Game Day

Ingredients:

1/4 c. unsalted butter
1/2 c. finely chopped yellow onion
1/4 c. all-purpose flour
12 oz. IPA beer (1, 12oz can)
1/4 c. half-and-half
6 oz. shredded fontina cheese

6 oz. shredded sharp yellow cheddar cheese
1 tsp. Dijon mustard
1/2 tsp. Worcestershire sauce
Chopped chives and/or black pepper, for garnish
Pretzels, to serve

Directions:

1. In a medium saucepan, melt the butter over medium-low heat. Add the onion and cook, stirring, until softened, 4 to 6 minutes. Gradually whisk in the flour and cook, whisking constantly, until lightly browned, about 1 minute.
2. Gradually whisk in the beer and half and half. Cook, whisking constantly until the sauce is thickened and just begins to bubble, 5 to 7 minutes. Reduce the heat to low and *gradually* add the cheeses, whisking constantly, until melted and combined. Remove from the heat.

3. Whisk in the Dijon mustard and the Worcestershire sauce. Garnish with chives and black pepper, if you like. Serve with pretzels, veggies, or chips; re-warm *gently* as needed.

MVFA SWAG

by Eileen Reisner

MVFA offers your choice of Mosquito T-Shirts and Sweatshirts in a variety of sizes and colors, Tote Bags and Local Phone books are also for sale at Frank’s Diner during normal business hours or at MVFA sponsored events.



Custom orders can be taken and delivered on the next re-order schedule. For custom orders, contact Eileen Reisner at: 530-295-0541

T-Shirts S-XL	\$20.00	Hooded Pullovers S-XL	\$35.00
T-Shirts – XXL	\$22.00	Hooded with Zipper S-XL	\$40.00
Crewneck Sweatshirts S-XL	\$30.00	Hooded with Zipper XXL	\$42.00
Crewneck Sweatshirts XXL	\$32.00		

MVFA Grocery Tote Bags are: 1 for \$4.00 or 3 for \$10.00 or 4 for \$12.00

MVFA CRV RECYCLE PROGRAM



Please drop off bags of Plastic Bottles and Aluminum Cans (Sorry no Glass) from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. 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.

MVFA THANK’S YOU!



CLASSIFIED ADS

(Classified Ads are free to all paid subscribers)

WANTED

LOCAL ORGANIC FARM

Seeks manure source, specifically goat, sheep, chicken, llama or alpaca. Please contact Ryan at THREE GOATS FARM. (530) 497-4279 or farm3goats@gmail.com (0000)

LOCAL ELECTRICIAN for installation of generator fuse panel with house fuse panel. Please call with est. 530-295-1531

FOR SALE

Having a hard time finding the book Goat Doctor of the Sierra's? I still have some left from the Harvest Festival. \$20 each. Proceeds support MFPD. Call Taffy at 530 626-8689.

UNIQUE JEWELRY

Handmade jewelry using recycled aluminum cans, and more. To view, call Dee at 642-2333. (0722)

MEETINGS

MOUNTAIN FELLOWSHIP

Meet new friends, get refreshed and restored. Join us for challenging Bible study, fun events and worship here in Mosquito. We meet Sunday mornings 10 am at 3342 Stope Drive and throughout the week. Check our website mfom.net or call (530)295-0503. (0621)

SERVICES

HOUSE PAINTER – AMERICAN EAGLE PAINTING Residential/Commercial
Specializing in repaints contact Steven Martinez, (530)-919-7612 or americaleaglepainting4@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. (1222)

WELDING & FABRICATION

Steel, Stainless Steel, Aluminum. Certified to military standard. Call (530) 621-3300 (0622)

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). (0622)

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. (0722)

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! (0622)

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. (0622)

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. (0322)

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 (0622)

REAL ESTATE SERVICES

Live the American Dream: the ownership of a home and a little acreage to call your own! Sally Long Johns, your resident Mosquito Road Realtor, will help you buy or sell any property in El Dorado County! You can reach me at www.mosquitoadneighbors.com or (530)295-4641 or toll free (866)SALLYRE, snlongjohns@yahoo.com. (0000)

NOTARY SERVICE

I’m a mobile Notary Public living here in Mosquito. I am experienced in all areas of notary work including loan packages, real estate transfers, etc. Call Elaine Galvan at (530)295-0503 (0622)

Local Area Web Links

Mosquito Volunteer Fire Association (MVFA)

<https://www.gomvfa.org>

Finnon Lake Recreation Area

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

Mosquito Fire Protection District (MFPD)

<https://mfpd.us>

Swansboro Country Property Owners Association

<https://scpoa.info>

Mountain Fellowship in Mosquito (MFOM)

<https://mfom.net>

El Dorado County Fire Safe Council

www.edcfiresafe.org

February 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Frank's Family Night Burritos (Chicken, Beef or Veggie)	2 MVFA Board Meeting 3pm Station 75	3	4 Support Group Meeting 9 am Station 75
5 MFOM Mountain Fellowship Gathering, 11 am	6 District Auxiliary Meeting, 6:30PM Station 75	7 MFPD Firefighters Training 6pm Station 75	8 Frank's Family Night Chicken Chana	9	10	11 Bird Watching Finnon Lake, Day use area 9 am
12 MFOM Mountain Fellowship Gathering, 11 am	13 Frank's Closed	14 Frank's Closed MFPD Firefighters Training 6pm Station 75	15 Frank's Closed	16 Frank's Closed	17 Frank's Closed	18 Frank's Closed
19 Frank's Closed MFOM Mountain Fellowship Gathering, 11 am	20 Frank's Closed	21 Frank's Closed MFPD Firefighters Training 6pm Station 75	22 Frank's Family Night Roasted Pork Loin	23 MFPD Board Meeting 7:00pm Fire Station	24	25 SCPOA Annual Meeting 10:00 AM 6367 Log Cabin Lane
26 MFOM Mountain Fellowship Gathering, 11 am	27	28 MFPD Firefighters Training 6pm Station 75				

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 Rob Kirkpatrick at mbyte.editor@gmail.com. Ads in the "Free", "For Sale", and "Wanted" categories will run for three months unless the submitter requests it to be removed or extended.

The MOSQUITO BYTE accepts ads from subscribers without endorsement.

The MOSQUITO BYTE and other updates are posted each month on the www.gomvfa.org website.
No copyright infringement intended.

PLACERVILLE, CA 95667-9040

9009 ORVAL BECKETT CT

MOSQUITO BYTE