

MOSQUITO BYTE

MOSQUITO



Volunteer Fire Association

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE MOSQUITO VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION

Volume 37, No. 6

by Chief Jack Rosevear

March 2024



Calls for Service: January 24-February 22

Medical Aid- 4

Vehicle Fire- 1 (False Call)

Lift Assist- 1

Public Assist- 4

Congratulations to our chili cook-off team, the Mosquito Bites, for their success at last Saturday's Battle of the Badges Competition at the Fairgrounds. Twenty Two teams competed for the best chili and most creative booth. Mosquito took first place for the best booth, third place for chili in the people's choice category and fifth place chili among the judges. Special thanks to Chef Cheryl Owen for always putting forward winning chili, Natasha

Cutter, for creating a wonderful unique and creative space for everyone to come and enjoy, team members Mary Williams, Dustin Cutter, Trent Williams, Scott Reiman, Madeline Reiman and Don Stever. Thank you to DAX for your sponsorship of the team and Station. The event raised \$85,000 for Snowline Hospice.

We welcome new firefighter-trainee and EMT Tyler Carte to our staff. Tyler currently works for a private Ambulance Company and has a career goal to be a firefighter paramedic. Tyler resides in Folsom and will be staffing 24 hour shifts at the station on Wednesday and Thursday. He will be going through in-house training, participate in the wildland firefighting certification training and is scheduled to attend Firefighter 1 Academy in August. Tyler will make a great addition to the crew.

Training Tuesday has resumed and will happen every other Tuesday evening, with the next training night March 5th. Training will involve a number of topics relevant to the time of year and operations the District normally undertakes. Storm preparedness, structure fire, chimney fire, vehicle accidents and on-going medical training are the current priorities. Various topics will be covered for firefighters and Support Group. The public is invited to observe training, to ask questions and meet our staff.

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

Fifteen Support Personnel will participate in the Title 22 Public Safety First Aid training course, delivered to Station 75 by the El Dorado Hills Fire Department Training Center. The instruction will happen Saturday March 16th, 23rd and May 4th. This is the same curriculum delivered to Cal Fire firefighters and police officers, which is State Certified with certificates for successful completion. Personnel will learn the various aspects of first aid and patient assessment, including certification on the administration of Narcan, Epinephrine pens, Glucose monitoring and administration, advanced bleeding control. Attending personnel already have their current CPR/AED, which was taught by Chief Dwyer last summer. Successful completion of the course and follow-up training by our EMTs and Paramedics will form a basic Medical Response Group, which will assist duty firefighters as needed. The added personnel who have certified skills training will be a tremendous benefit to our community, to compensate for the long response times paramedics have to get to our incidents.

The Fire District was recently awarded \$666,320 from the FEMA SAFER (Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response) program. The grant was applied for in February 2023 and we were successful in the first round of awards. This gives us another four years of grant funding for our productive volunteer program, which has resulted in the fire station being staffed 24/7 for over two years. The funding covers volunteers' stipend pay for shift coverage and response to emergencies, training classes, new volunteer expenses including physicals, background checks, uniforms and safety gear, support of the Explorer program, salary and benefits for a volunteer coordinator (Fire Captain), and more. Residual money from the current grant ending in December 2023 can be used for enhanced marketing and other volunteer support needs. Many thanks for grant writing efforts by Meredith Blain and Didi Everhart (Gatchell Grant Resources-Canton, OH).

We are currently awaiting the results of a parallel SAFER grant application for full time station staffing (3 positions- 1 firefighter/supervisor 24/7/365). I have posted a success story about our grant experiences, on the US Congressional website for SAFER and AFG staffing. The District has also been awarded \$10,000 from Cal Fire for wildland PPE and equipment to be spent in the Spring 2024 (50/50 grant- \$10,000 matching from District- \$20,000 purchase total).

Our Fire District staff is fully committed to our Community. We stand ready to assist our residents with any needs they may have, to prepare, support and provide the most up to date information. We are happy to conduct an interior or exterior fire safety inspection upon your request. Please call us at 530-626-9017 or stop by the station.

Upcoming Events:

Thursday March 7 - MVFA Board Meeting- 3pm- Station 75
Tuesday March 5 & 19 - Fire Training- 6pm- Station 75 (Public Welcome)
Friday March 22 – MFPD Finance Committee Meeting- 5pm- Station 75
Thursday March 28 - Fire Board Meeting- 7pm- Station 75
Saturday April 13 - DAX/Firefighter Pancake Breakfast- 9-11am- Station 75

The next MFPD Board meeting will be on March 28th

CONGRATULATIONS MOSQUITO BITES

Congratulations to our local MFPD “Mosquito Bites” Chili Cook-off team for receiving the people’s choice first place award for the best booth decoration, placing third in the People’s Choice for best chili and fifth in the Judges voting at this year’s annual Battle of the Badges 911 Chili Cook-Off!

Twenty-two first responder agencies competed for the Best Chili at the Battle of the Badges 911 Chili Cook-off in Placerville. This family friendly event included taste testing of all chili entries, local beer and wine, music, and was hosted by KCRA's Ty Steele! One hundred percent of the proceeds go to support local not-for-profits. This year, Snowline Hospice was the recipient with a focus on our Veterans!

This was the second time in recent years that our local fire department participated in the event. What a great showing for the second year in a row! Great job MFPD Chili Team!



MVFA UPDATE

by MVFA Board of Directors

MOSQUITO FIRE STATION CONTRIBUTIONS

Over the past 12 months the Mosquito Volunteer Fire Association has been able to support our local fire department with donations of over \$30,400.00. Crafters provided \$790.00 and Recycle contributed \$2,685.00. The remainder came from the General fund. These donations have provided equipment and station furnishings to include CPR training manikins; a new combination washer/dryer; cabinets, lighting, microwave, disposal, dishwasher and floor tile for the firefighter's kitchen; bay area door replacement and a number of electrical repairs and upgrades. The MVFA Board and members continue to provide needed funding and volunteer support for the department and station improvements.

PHONE BOOK

The MVFA phone book updates have been received and recorded and the book will be going to the publisher this month for printing. Look for an opportunity towards the end of the month to purchase an updated phone book at the Mosquito Fire Station for \$5.00 each.

MVFA RECYCLE

Thank you to all the Mosquito/Swansboro community donators of recyclable containers and the volunteers who help sort and redeem the materials. Recycling this past year generated over \$3,300.00. The money is allocated to the Station 75 account for exclusive use by the MFPD fire department at the Fire Chief's request. The funds are earmarked to be specifically used for the purchase of materials and equipment for our fire department. Volunteers meet about every two months to prepare the



plastic and cans for redemption at the recycle center. Keep your recyclable plastic and aluminum containers coming; it is making a difference for our firefighters and the station!

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 the 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.

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.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

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

- Saturday, March 30, 2024-Easter Egg Hunt at Finnon Lake Recreation Area - 10:30 am
- Saturday, May 4, 2024 - Yard Sale at Station 75 parking lot - 8 am to Noon
- Saturday, June 1, 2024 - Spaghetti Dinner at Station 75 - 6:00 pm
- 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 March 7th at 3:00 pm at Station 75

BIRDING AT FINNON LAKE

by Dave Angelo

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



Red-winged Blackbird 5
American Coot 100
Calliope Hummingbird 2
Canada Goose 1

Northern Flicker 1
Bald Eagle 1
Pie-billed Grebe 4
Western Bluebird 7

Acorn Woodpecker 12
Bufflehead 2
Scrub Jay 1
Junco 2

Number of Taxa: 12

CRAFTERS

By Eileen Reisner

The Mosquito Firehouse Crafters will continue to work on new projects. We welcome new crafters into our group. If you don't enjoy crafting, there are other jobs you can do. Our next meeting will be on March 22nd at 10:00 AM. Contact Eileen Reisner at 530-748-7962 if you're interested in joining our team. At: 2211 Swansboro Road



DISTRICT AUXILIARY

By Meredith Blain

The District Auxiliary (D'Ax) will meet on Thursday, March 28, 2024, at the Mosquito Fire Station, 8801 Rock Creek Road, at 5:30 pm, just prior to the Mosquito Fire Protection District's Board of Directors meeting. All Mosquito residents are invited to attend. More information is available at the MFPD website: mfpd.us.



SCPOA Report

By Meredith Blain

The Swansboro Country Property Owners Association (SCPOA) Board of Directors will hold their next meeting on March 19, 2024, at the Mosquito Fire Station, 8801 Rock Creek Road, at 6pm. Agendas are posted on the bulletin board at Dyer Lake and all SCPOA members are invited to attend! SCPOA committees meet throughout the month and SCPOA members are invited to join committees as well as attend their meetings to get accurate information about what is going on in Swansboro. Go to SCPOA.info for committee dates and times and read minutes from past meetings. SCPOA.info is the only place to find accurate and factual information about SCPOA.

MVFA CRV RECYCLE PROGRAM

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



NOTE: Lids/Caps on plastic water bottles **MUST BE REMOVED** before they can be redeemed. Lids/caps can be included for redemption. If you have a chance and can remove the lids, it will sure help the recycling volunteers.



CLASSIFIED ADS

(Classified Ads are free to all paid subscribers)

WANTED

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

LOCAL ORGANIC FARM

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

FOR SALE

Westinghouse Generator 9500 \$600.00
OBO, like new . Call ,408-218-6687.

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

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

UNIQUE JEWELRY

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

MEETINGS

MOUNTAIN FELLOWSHIP

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

SERVICES

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

NOTARY SERVICES ON THE HILL
Contact Devon at: 510-719-1247.

FIREWOOD

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

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

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

CALI CONSTRUCTION

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

HARP TEACHER

Have you always wanted to play the harp? There is now a Harp Teacher in Swansboro. Over 20 years' experience teaching children and adults. I have a few harps available for rent. For more information, please call 530-344-1531 and ask for Paula or e-mail: harppaula@gmail.com.

SIERRA SHIELD FIREARMS & TRAINING

Mention MOSQUITO BYTE and get 25% off CA CCW Class. Also, receive FREE box of ammo with each firearm purchase. www.SierraShield.com or call [530-387-0110](tel:530-387-0110).

WELDING & FABRICATION

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

VHS VIDEOS CONVERTED TO DVDs

Have any family vacations, precious memories or baby pictures on videos? I can copy them to DVDs. Call Dee at (530) 642-2333.

FLORIST ON THE HILL

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

HANGTOWN RANGE

1540 Broadway, Placerville Wednesday – Saturday 10 to 6 and Sunday 10 to 5 with 10 Indoor Shooting and 8 Archery Ranges, Firearms and Recurve Bow rentals, Milo Virtual Shooting Range w/ live fire ammunition, Archery and Handgun classes, CCW classes, One on One training, Basic Pistol Classes, Women's Classes. Call 530-497-5443 for more information.

HANDCRAFTED GLASS ITEMS

Birdbaths, flowerpots, plates, bowls, etc. Also, handmade wooden jewelry boxes. Affordable and unique. Studio open most days; call first. Do your gift shopping here on the hill! Call Pam or Dave Angelo at (530) 621-3688.

MOSQUITO CREEK OUTFITTERS

3000 Mosquito Road, Placerville, Tuesday – Friday 9 to 6, Saturday 9 to 5, El Dorado County's premier source for the best hunting, fishing, archery and outdoor products. Mosquito Creek Outfitters is

always stocked with the best gear to accompany you wherever you may roam. 530-621-4500.

REAL ESTATE SERVICES

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

Local Area Web Links

Mosquito Volunteer Fire Association (MVFA)
Finnon Lake Recreation Area
Mosquito Fire Protection District (MFPD)
Swansboro Country Property Owners Association
Mountain Fellowship in Mosquito (MFOM)
El Dorado County Fire Safe Council

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

March 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 MFOM Mountain Fellowship Gathering, 11am					1	2 Support Group Training 9am Station 75
3 MFOM Mountain Fellowship Gathering, 11am	4	5 MFPD Firefighters Training 6pm Station 75	6	7 MVFA Board Meeting 3pm Station 75	8	9 Bird Watching Fannon Lake, Day use area 9am
10 MFOM Mountain Fellowship Gathering, 11am	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 MFOM Mountain Fellowship Gathering, 11am	18	19 MFPD Firefighters Training 6pm Station 75 SCPOA Board Meeting, 6pm Station 75	20	21	22 Crafters Meeting 10am 2211 Swansboro Rd MFPD Finance Meeting 5pm Station 75	23
24 MFOM Mountain Fellowship Gathering, 11am	25	26	27	28 D'Ax Board Meeting 5:30pm Station 75 MFPD Board Meeting 7:00pm Station 75	29	30 Easter Egg Hunt Fannon Lake, 10:30am

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.

MOSQUITO BYTE
9009 ORVAL BECKETT CT
PLACERVILLE, CA 95667-9040