

MOSQUITO BYTE

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE MOSQUITO VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION

MOSQUITO



Volunteer Fire Association

Volume 36, No 6

March 2023

CHIEF'S REPORT

by Chief Jack Rosevear



Calls for Service: January 22-February 20

Fires- 0

Medical Aid- 5

Smoke Check- 1 (debris burn)

Electrical Hazard-Wires Down- 1

Public Assist- 6

Mosquito FD members participated in the Battle of the Badges Chili Cook-Off on Saturday February 18th. This was an annual event for several years, but was put on hold due to the Pandemic. It was a very well attended fundraiser, in support of Snowline Hospice. Our team, the "Mosquito Bites", was the only team to place in all three judging categories: Best Booth (2nd), Best Chili People's Choice (3rd) and Best Chili Overall (3rd). We had many repeat chili samples and many compliments about our booth design and the chili. Eight gallons of chili was distributed in hundreds of tiny tasting cups. All chili was gone before the halfway point of the four-hour event. Thanks and appreciation to Chef Cheryl Owen, Booth designers Natasha Cutter and Mary Williams, Supporting crew Scott Reiman, Don Stever, Trent Williams, Dustin Cutter, Wendy and Tristen Jones. Our folks are always making us proud, representing the Department and Community well. We look forward to our own Second Annual Chili Cook-Off at Finnon Lake on Saturday May 20 following the Community Evacuation Drill. We hope to have some of our recently defeated competition attend.

Appreciation again to the MVFA Board of Directors for their generous donation of apparatus and station repair tools, as well as funding for station improvements. The upstairs crew bathroom was just completed, which includes new flooring, paint and all new fixtures, including sink, toilet, vanity and shower door. Special thanks to Trent and Mary Williams, James Young and Lisa Rivera for their expert work and time. A new couch for the crew was provided in early January. The MVFA Board added an additional \$10,000 for a crew kitchen remodel, which includes cabinets, paint and flooring. We really appreciate the upgrades and improvements, which have been badly needed.

Wildfire season 2023 is only a few months away. We will be beginning training next month for wildland fire safety skills in addition to providing required wildland fire safety courses for 4 (a fifth is pending) new community based firefighter trainees. We are also partnering with the Pioneer Fire District for access to new recruits graduating from a college based firefighter academy.

Fire Board members Don Stever and Dan Hunt will soon be participating with board representatives from Georgetown and Garden Valley Fire Districts to discuss ideas of how the



three districts can work better together in the near and distant future. The first meeting date is currently being set.

I am pleased to announce the promotion of Ryan Hopkins to the rank of Lieutenant and Coleman Johns to the rank of Engineer. Ryan has been a volunteer with the District since February 2021 and has previous experience firefighting and fire engine operating for the US Forest Service. Ryan has the ability to fix just about anything and has saved the District thousands of dollars in fire engine downtime and labor costs. There have been many times that Ryan discovered problems with apparatus which would have possibly led to safety or other issues at an emergency scene. Ryan is a proficient trainer and mentor to new firefighters. Ryan was seriously injured in the line of duty at the Gravel Road Fire in 2021 and was cleared to return to duty last October. Ryan was the 2021 District Firefighter of the Year. We are fortunate to have Ryan and he will do very well in his new position.

Coleman became a volunteer firefighter in February 2019 and is a second generation firefighter for our District, born and raised in the Community and was practically raised at the Fire Station. Coleman has earned his EMT and Firefighter 1. He's currently working several jobs, including covering shifts for us, Emergency Room Tech at Marshall Hospital and home building with a contractor. Coleman has a complete "can-do" mentality, is a man of many talents and will have a very fine career in the fire service.

Firefighters Cole and Kyle Caudle have started EMT training, which they will complete in the late Spring. Firefighter Heidi Glockner and Firefighter trainee Austin Eby, will be starting their academy soon to be completed by fire season.

There has been an increase in escape control burns around the County. Vegetation dries out quickly. Please use caution when burning. Always check burn day status, have a fire break around your piles and a hose line available. Don't leave the fire unattended and don't proceed if it's windy. If a fire escapes on your property, Cal Fire will be there with enforcement actions and possible civil liability, which none of us want to see.

As it remains cold, continue 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 from the trap and routine cleaning of the vent pipe. 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 Chief Rosevear @ 707-490-2138.

Below is a list of important dates. Training nights are temporarily changed to Wednesday nights. Community members are welcome to come and observe training and meet our personnel.

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 the station.

Upcoming Events:

Wednesday March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 - MFPD Firefighter Training- 6pm- Station 75- Public Welcome

Thursday March 2 - MVFA Monthly Board meeting- 6pm- Station 75

Saturday March 4 - Pancake Breakfast- 8:00-10am- Station 75

Saturday March 4 - Support Group Monthly training and CERT Training- Station 75- 10am-12pm

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

MVFA Update

MVFA Board of Directors

MOSQUITO FIRE STATION CONTRIBUTIONS

Over the past 18 months the Mosquito Volunteer Fire Association has been able to support our local fire department with donations of over \$38,000.00. These donations have provided equipment and station furnishings to include a fire hose pressure tester, griddles, BBQ grill, an SCBA fit tester, recliner sectional and upstairs bathroom painting and fixture replacement. The MVFA has allocated \$10,000 in funds for the update of the kitchen in the firefighter's quarters which is currently in the design phase. The MVFA Board and members continue to provide needed funding and volunteer support for the department and station improvements.

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

MVFA RECYCLE

Thank you to all the Mosquito/Swansboro community donors of recyclable containers and the volunteers who help sort and redeem the materials. We believe we set a record and generated over \$800 with our last trip to the recycling center. 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. We plan to meet again to prepare the plastic and cans every other month. Keep your recyclable plastic and aluminum containers coming; it is making a difference for our firefighters and the station!



CHILI COOK-OFF CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to our local MFPD “Mosquito Bites” Chili Cook-off team for placing in all three categories at this year’s annual Battle of the Badges 911 Chili Cook-off!

Over 20 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 live entertainment, 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!

Our local Mosquito Fire Protection District chili cook-off team “Mosquito Bites” took second place for their booth decorations, third place in the People’s Choice category and third place from the event judges for best chili!! Mosquito Bites was the only team to place in all three event recognition categories. This was the first time in several years that our local fire department participated in the event. What a great showing on the recent first time out!



DISTRICT AUXILIARY

by Mosquito District Auxiliary Board of Directors

Come join us for our next pancake breakfast on March 4th starting at 8:00am till 10:00 am at the fire station. \$10 per person, under 12 are free.

Our next DAX Board meeting is on March 6th starting at 6:30pm at Station 75. All are welcome.



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 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.



4 Canada Goose	1 Double-crested	2 California Scrub-Jay
2 Bufflehead	Cormorant	1 Common Raven
4 Pied-billed Grebe	1 Great Egret	8 Golden-crowned
2 Calliope Hummingbird --	1 Bald Eagle	Sparrow
Documented by two other	1 Belted Kingfisher	1 Spotted Towhee
birders	10 Acorn Woodpecker	9 Red-winged Blackbird
60 American Coot	1 Northern Flicker	

Number of Taxa: 16

CRAFTERS

by Eileen Reisner

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 their needs and our ability to meet them. Our meetings are held on the 4th Friday of the month. Next meeting is March 24th at 10:00 am at 2211 Swansboro Road.

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.

FRANKS DINER

by Frank Ethridge

"In March the soft rains continued, and each storm waited courteously until its predecessor sunk beneath the ground."

— John Steinbeck

The days will grow longer in March and so will our hours. We will be closing at 8 pm starting March 15th.



Frank's Diner Hours:

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

(Breakfast served on the weekends
only)

(530) 409-1977

www.franksmosquitodiner.com

Wednesday Family Night

Specials are \$14.00 from 5 pm to 8 pm

1st Lasagna and Salad
8th Beef Stew
15th Corned Beef and Cabbage
22nd Stuffed Bell Peppers
29th Herb Roasted Chicken

Recipe of the Month

Simple Au Gratin Potatoes

Ingredients

3 tablespoons butter
3 tablespoons all-purpose flour
1-1/2 teaspoons salt
1/8 teaspoon pepper
2 cups 2% milk

1 cup shredded cheddar cheese
5 cups thinly sliced peeled potatoes (about 6 medium)
1/2 cup chopped onion
Additional pepper, optional

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 350°. In a large saucepan, melt butter over low heat. Stir in flour, salt and pepper until smooth. Gradually add milk. Bring to a boil; cook and stir 2 minutes or until thickened. Remove from heat; stir in cheese until melted. Add potatoes and onion.
2. Transfer to a greased 2-qt. baking dish. Cover and bake for 1 hour. Uncover; bake 30-40 minutes or until the potatoes are tender. If desired, top with additional pepper.

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

ATV

2006 Polaris Sportsman 500 ATV, EFI, low miles, clean, winch, rifle rack. \$2500.00. Call Lou 530-919-7602.

LOCAL HISTORY BOOK

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

Oxbow Firewood \$375 for hardwood, \$300 for softwood. Delivery on the hill gratis. Are you cold? Call the Ox 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

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)
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 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 MFPD Firefighters Training 6pm Station 75 Frank's Family Night Lasagna & Salad	2 MVFA Board Meeting 6pm Station 75	3	4 Support Group Meeting w/CERT 10 am Station 75 Pancake Breakfast 8-10am Station 75
5 MFOM Mountain Fellowship Gathering, 11 am	6 District Auxiliary Meeting, 6:30PM Station 75	7	8 MFPD Firefighters Training 6pm Station 75 Frank's Family Night Beef Stew	9	10	11 Bird Watching Fannon Lake, Day use area 9 am
12 MFOM Mountain Fellowship Gathering, 11 am	13	14	15 MFPD Firefighters Training 6pm Station 75 Frank's Family Night Corned Beef & Cabbage	16	17	18
19 MFOM Mountain Fellowship Gathering, 11 am	20	21	22 MFPD Firefighters Training 6pm Station 75 Frank's Family Night Stuffed Bell Peppers	23 MFPD Board Meeting 7:00pm Station 7	24 Crafters Meeting 10am, 2211 Swansboro Road	25
26 MFOM Mountain Fellowship Gathering, 11 am	27	28	29 MFPD Firefighters Training 6pm Station 75 Frank's Family Night Herb Roasted Chicken	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 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.
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MOSQUITO BYTE
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PLACERVILLE, CA 95667-9040