

MOSQUITO BYTE

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE MOSQUITO VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION

MOSQUITO



Volunteer Fire Association

Volume 32, No. 8

May 2019

Mosquito Fire Protection District (MFPD)

by Station 75 PIO

Summer is coming fast and our window of permissible burn days will soon be closing as well. It's time to get out and aggressively prepare our defensible spaces!



Creating defensible space is essential to improve your home's chance of surviving a wildfire. It's the buffer you create between a building on your property and the grass, trees, shrubs, or any wildland area that surround it. This space is needed to slow or stop the spread of wildfire and it protects your home from catching fire—either from direct flame contact or radiant heat. Defensible space is also important for the protection of the firefighters defending your home.

Two zones make up the required 100 feet of defensible space:

Zone 1 extends 30 feet out from buildings, structures, decks, etc.

- Remove all dead plants, grass and weeds (vegetation).
- Remove dead or dry leaves and pine needles from your yard, roof and rain gutters.
- Trim trees regularly to keep branches a minimum of 10 feet from other trees.
- Remove branches that hang over your roof and keep dead branches 10 feet away from your chimney.
- Relocate wood piles into Zone 2.
- Remove or prune flammable plants and shrubs near windows.
- Remove vegetation and items that could catch fire from around and under decks.
- Create a separation between trees, shrubs and items that could catch fire, such as patio furniture, wood piles, swing sets, etc.

Zone 2 extends 100 feet out from buildings, structures, decks, etc.

- Cut or mow annual grass down to a maximum height of 4 inches.
- Create horizontal spacing between shrubs and trees.
- Create vertical spacing between grass, shrubs and trees.
- Remove fallen leaves, needles, twigs, bark, cones, and small branches. However, they may be permitted to a depth of 3 inches.

Plant and Tree Spacing

The spacing between grass, shrubs, and trees is crucial to reduce the spread of wildfires. The spacing needed is determined by the type and size of brush and trees, as well as the slope of the land. For example, a property on a steep slope with larger vegetation requires greater spacing between trees and shrubs than a level property that has small, sparse vegetation.

Vertical Spacing

Remove all tree branches at least 6 feet from the ground. Allow extra vertical space between shrubs and trees. Lack of vertical space can allow a fire to move from the ground to the brush to the tree tops like a ladder.

**The next MFPD Board meeting is
Thursday, May 9th at 7 p.m. at the Fire Station.**

Mosquito Volunteer Fire Association (MVFA)

by MVFA Board of Directors

MVFA held its annual Easter Egg Hunt on April 20th with lots of local kids taking part. Thanks to all the volunteers who stuffed eggs and helped organize this event. To view photos, go to www.GoMVFA.org.

The annual **MVFA Cinco de Mayo Dinner** will be held at the fire station on **Saturday, May 4th**. There will be a gift raffle at dinner, and donors are requested to bring a gift, or drop one off at a board member's home ahead of time. Get your raffle tickets early, starting at 5:30 PM. Serving will begin at 6:00 pm, and take-outs will be available. Dinner is \$10 for Señores y Señoras and \$4 for Niños, age 12 and under. Major credit cards accepted. To view the full 2019 schedule of MVFA events, go to www.finnonrecreationarea.com, and click the "EVENTS" button.

Mark your calendars for **Saturday, June 8th** for the annual **MVFA Yard Sale** at the Fire Station parking lot from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm. This year, MVFA will not be taking donated items to sell at its own table. Booth space for vendors is available for rent for \$10. MVFA will provide a table, and you may bring your own items to sell. Booth fees and donations will benefit the MVFA Community Funds which includes the MVFA Station 75 Fund. Hot dogs, chips and a soft drink will be available for a donation of \$5.00 starting at 11:00 am. To reserve a booth or to obtain more information contact: Tom Harris at 642-2333 or Dave Angelo at 621-3688.

Spring is in the air and that means Frank's Diner will be serving on the outdoor patio and pavilion. The tables, chairs and colorful umbrellas will be set up, and once again, MVFA would like to thank the Swansboro Pilot's Association (SPA) for their generous donation to help defray the cost of the 30 new market chairs for the café patio. You may remember, SPA had also paid for all the tables and chairs inside the café. Frank also offers catering, at the cafe or at your home. The café, patio and pavilion are also available for family events and club outings. Watch for future events at the Diner, or call Frank for more information at **(530) 409-1977** or visit: www.franksmosquitodiner.com.

At the last **MFPD Support Group** meeting on April 6th, Bill Buhnerkempe gave a presentation on the radios that the Support Group uses for communication during a call-out. The group meets for training on the **first Saturday of each month** during most of the year. Along with Support Group organizers Ralph and Sharon Hern, MVFA is grateful to have MFPD firefighter and MVFA board member Andrew Gregory to assist in the training efforts. Our community is dependent on our fire department to enable Mosquito residents to live safely in an area so close to nature and we are eternally grateful for the paid and volunteer members of the Mosquito Fire Department who take the risks and give their time to protect our community.

The former 501(c)(4) Mosquito Volunteer Fire Department (MVFD) which purchased the Finnon Lake property in 1997, conceived the idea to rebuild the condemned dam and restore Finnon Lake as a principle source of water for fire control. Since the Finnon Lake dam was rebuilt in 2011 however, financial responsibilities have increased dramatically. Besides the annual dam inspection fee of over \$12,000 (and rising every year), property taxes and insurance amounts to over \$3,000 annually. The primary reason for MVFD reorganizing as a 501(c)(3) and changing its name to MVFA was to separate these financial liabilities from district taxpayers. Recently, Finnon Lake received a donation of a transfer load of gravel for the boat launch area from the El Dorado Fish and Game Committee.

MVFA is organized as a non-profit tax-exempt entity and is funded entirely by grants, donations, fund raisers 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.

If you can't volunteer, please consider a donation to MVFA. We have a community fund designed to help neighbors in need, and the MVFA Station 75 Fund that provides funds to purchase tools and other items at the Chief's request. And there are always maintenance and improvement projects at the Fire Station and at Fannon Lake Recreation Area. Many thanks to the many community members who have donated very generously to MVFA - in time and money - over the past years.

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 meeting on the first Thursday of each month at Frank's Diner starting at 7:00pm. At the meetings, you can obtain correct 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 their name and address to mvfa95667@gmail.com, or by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to: MVFA, 9009 Orval Beckett Ct. Placerville CA 95667.

In the meantime, please visit both MVFA websites for legal, historical and event information: www.GoMVFA.org for by-laws, mission statement, *Mosquito Byte* online and upcoming events. Also, look for the "Amazon Smile" link on the top right-hand corner of the home page. By signing up for "Smile", and indicating MVFA as your charitable beneficiary, 0.5% of your Amazon purchases will go to MVFA.

Notice: The views expressed in public, in the Byte or on social media by individual board members or other contributors may not represent the views or policies of the MVFA Board.

**You are welcome to attend the MVFA Board meeting on Thursday, May 2nd
at 7:00 p.m. at Frank's Diner.**

SCPOA Report

Friends of SCPOA

A SCPOA Board meeting was held on Saturday, May 20th at 10:00am. Here are some of the subjects that were brought up.

Treasurer David Blain presented a detailed financial report. He commented that the Association could earn at least \$10K in interest per year if reserve accounts and other accounts were moved to CD and/or money market accounts (MM). For example, Citibank has rates of 2.5%, and 2.15%, respectively. Scott Butler moved to transfer approximately \$245K from reserves to these accounts. A lengthy discussion ensued, including Vice President Debbie Harris and Manager Rick LaFrance voicing concerns as to the wisdom of doing this because of certain TMT contractual issues with SCPOA and TMT's lack of access to these accounts. The motion was seconded and passes.

A discussion regarding the installation of a stop sign at Highgrade and Stope for safety followed. Jerry Pullen was asked to contact the county and request them to consider placement of stop signs at several SCPOA intersections. The Board also asked our maintenance personnel, Kevin Burke, to contact the county supervisor regarding road maintenance, inclusive of input from the membership.

Vice President Debbie Harris reported that a change to the proposed new Bylaws section 8.02 was made to require a minimum of two board members approval for expenditures of greater than \$5,000.

She also reported that the Bylaws restatement was reviewed by the Board's attorney. The Board voted to prepare the Bylaws for a vote in May 2019. One director questioned how the non-property owner director qualification may impact the outcome of the vote.

The airport committee chair presented an update on the airport runway issue. He pointed out that Caltrans was pleased with SCPOA's response to the obstructions concern and the progress made so far. The Dyer Lake SCPOA flag pole installation was tabled pending a formal maximum height limitation from the airport committee.

Jerry Pullen presented a report on the fire grant. A motion was made and voting approved for SCPOA to have a presence at the annual Fire Safe picnic.

Paul Beacham presented a communications report. He moved, and the motion was approved, to place three signs adjacent to the playground stating, "Caution Children at Play"

For more information go to: <https://scpoa.info>

Next SCPOA meeting will be the third Saturday, May 18th, 10am @ Dyer Lake Hall 6770 Sluice Street.

Swansboro Pilots Association Scholarship Offering

by Kim Purcell

The Swansboro Pilots Association is again offering Swansboro/Mosquito high school seniors a chance to compete for this \$500 college scholarship. If you are a high school senior going on to college next fall we hope you will apply. We've had some amazing winners and applicants in the past and look forward to seeing more! If you have any questions, please call 621-1049.

- To apply, send at least a one-page, double spaced, typed essay that states:
- Any community service projects you have done
- What college you plan to attend
- Your life and college plans
- Your high school grade point average
- Mailing address, phone number and email address

Send your essay, postmarked **no later than June 30th** to:
Swansboro Pilots Association
2724 Swansboro Road
Placerville, CA 95667



Crafters

by Sharon Hern

If you're a "crafter" or just one of us who can do simple (?) cut, paste/glue, paint, etc. jobs, you are encouraged to come join us at our Craft Meeting. There's the fun of learning new crafts, meeting new friends, coffee, and goodies. We have many projects lined up for this year so be sure to come **Friday, May 24th** to help us with our new summer and fall projects. We have a lot of new and some *challenging* projects to work on.

Our craft meetings are generally held on the 4th Friday of each month from **10AM to 12Noon** at the home of Darlene Rood, 2211 Swansboro Road. Hope to you on **May 24th**.

Birding at Finnon Lake

by Dave Angelo

Below are the results of the April 20th observation. The next Bird watching gathering will be on Saturday May 11th starting at 8:00 am. Please meet at the day use parking area.



2 Canada Goose	4 California Quail	1 Pied-billed Grebe
16 Band-tailed Pigeon	1 Mourning Dove	2 Anna's Hummingbird
28 American Coot (Red-shielded)		1 Great Blue Heron
1 Turkey Vulture	2 Osprey	1 Cooper's Hawk
1 Bald Eagle	10 Acorn Woodpecker	2 White-headed Woodpecker
1 California Scrub-Jay	1 Common Raven	5 Violet-green Swallow
1 American Robin	2 California Towhee	20 Red-winged Blackbird
2 Brewer's Blackbird	4 Great-tailed Grackle	2 Orange-crowned Warbler

Number of Taxa: 23

Mosquito Fire Safe Council

By Patty Caramagno

The Mosquito Fire Safe Council invites all the residents of the Mosquito Fire Protection District to check out their website at www.MosquitoFSC.org. You will find information about how to make your home more and our community fire safe. You will find forms for accessing free services. You will find events such as the fire wise picnic. The website is updated regularly with new information and opportunities for you to provide input.

The 2019 Mosquito Phone Book

by Adam Reisner



The Mosquito Phone Book contains information on our Mosquito/Swansboro area such as, Who Are They (MVFA, MFPD & SCPOA), Helpful Area Phone Numbers, a Timeline History of Mosquito, Mosquito Fire Department History & Other Useful Information, Map of our Area, and Residential & Business Listings. The Phone Book is available at the Mosquito Fire Station 75 at 8801 Rock Creek Road (530)626-9017 or Franks Diner for \$5 per copy. The Mosquito Phone Book is published every 2 years. For changes to the Phone Book, email us at mosquitophbook@gmail.com or mail the information to: MVFA, phone book 9009 Orval Beckett Court, Placerville, CA 95667. Residential and business listings are free to list.

Franks Diner

By Frank Ethridge

It's good to be out of the snow and in to Spring. Welcome May flowers. May is for MOM and Frank's Diner will be open all day for Mother's Day. We will be running specials throughout the day. We have events starting on **June 1st with the Side-Wheeler String Band 5 pm-8 pm**. We will be serving Asian Sticky Ribs with rice and veggies for \$17. (No other service will be available during that time).

We are sad to see the passing of Pinocchio/Lobos (the horse at Finnon) this past February. We are planning a community get together on **June 2nd from 2-4 pm**. We will provide snacks and will host a small celebration of his life.

Wednesday Night Specials

May 1st - Beef Stew
May 8th - Chicken Piccata
May 15th - Sloppy Joe
May 22nd - Polynesian Salad
May 29th - BBQ Chicken
Dinner is from 5-8 pm always \$10

Dates to Remember

May 2nd MVFA Meeting @ Frank's 7 pm
May 11th Manland -Men's Fellowship Breakfast 7 am
May 12th Mother's Day (Breakfast 8 am-1 pm, Lunch 11 am-5 pm, Dinner 5 pm-8 pm)
June 1st Side-Wheeler String Band 5-8 pm
June 2nd Pinocchio/Lobos Celebration of Life 2-4 pm



With outdoor season upon us, why not take those fresh veggies to the grill. Grilled Asparagus is a tasty treat when paired with your favorite meats or other veggies, and it is easy to prepare.

Recipe of the Month

by Frank Ethridge

Grilled Asparagus with Lemon Dressing

1 ½ to 2 pounds large asparagus
Olive oil as needed,
2 tablespoons
Salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste
Juice of 3 lemons
2 tablespoons minced shallots or scallions
¼ cup minced fresh parsley leaves



Step 1 Snap off the woody ends of the asparagus; most spears will break an inch or two from the bottom. Peel the stalks up to the flower bud. Meanwhile, start a charcoal fire or heat a gas grill; if you're cooking indoors, heat a cast-iron or other heavy skillet over medium-high heat until it smokes.

Step 2 To grill the asparagus spears, toss them with about a tablespoon of oil, mixing with your hands until spears are coated. Season well with salt and pepper. Grill until tender and browned in spots, turning once or twice, in all 5 to 10 minutes.

Step 3 To pan grill the asparagus, do not oil or season them. Just toss them in the hot skillet, and cook, turning the spears individually as they brown, until tender, 5 to 10 minutes. Remove as they finish, and season with salt and pepper.

Step 4 Mix together the lemon juice and shallots, then stir in enough olive oil to add a little body and take the edge off the sharpness of the lemon; the mixture should still be strong. Season it well with salt and plenty of black pepper, and stir in the parsley. Serve the asparagus hot or at room temperature with grilled fish. Spoon the sauce over everything.



Finnon Recreation Area Daily Passes

Daily use passes are now available for purchase. The one-year pass is \$50.00 and expires January 1, 2020. The two-year pass is \$75.00 and expires January 1, 2021. Please contact Dave Angelo at (530) 621-3688 for information about or the purchasing of these passes.

CLASSIFIED ADS

(Classified Ads are free to all paid subscribers)

FOR SALE

1963 TOYOTA LAND CRUSER FJ40, 4-wheel drive, has some upgrades runs well, with soft top and doors, have had this since 1965 a lot of time in desolation and even to ALASKA. Asking \$8000.00 Phone 530-621-1173 (0119)

ALUMINUM ROW BOAT – 12' \$50
10 HP Evinrude Gas Boat Motor \$50
Standard Roll-Away bed & mattress \$25
Call 626-5268

1981 RED CAMERO with red interior, low mileage, engine and transmission replaced at 100,000 miles and not driven much since then, has wire wheels and T tops very good condition, Asking \$16,000.00. This is the last year of this body style. Phone 530-621-1173 (0119)

WANTED

LOCAL FARM seeking manure source. Specifically, Goat, Sheep, llama or Alpaca. Please contact Ryan at Goat Mountain Farms. 530-497-4279 or goatmntnfarms@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 a.m. at 3342 Stope Drive and throughout the week. Check our website www.mfom.net or call (530)295-0503. (0620)

SERVICES

DOG WALKER - I'm retired, dog lover, and enjoy walking. If you pooch needs some exercise, I'm your gal. \$10 a walk (30 minutes) or 3 times a week \$25.
530-621-0088 or dmac7666@att.net. Leslie 0320

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. (0620)



HANGTOWN RANGE 1540 Broadway, Placerville Tuesday – Saturday 9 to 8 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. (0619)

FREE VEGAN VEGETARIAN COOKING CLASSES - Food preparation demonstrations, recipe handouts, video clips, resource materials, generous samples provided. Interact with health-minded folks, learn healthful lifestyle principles and discover tasty new recipes. We meet once a month at the Camino SDA Church, 3520 Carson Rd. on Mondays at 11 a.m. Call Fred Adams at (530) 642-9441 or AdamsAmigos@gmail.com for dates and to reserve your space. (0000)

UNIQUE JEWELRY - Handmade jewelry using recycled aluminum cans, and more. To view, call Dee at 642-2333. (0719)

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. (0719)

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! (0619)

SEARS & SONS LAND MANAGEMENT & FIREWOOD SALES- Wood Splitting, Tractor Work, Tree & Brush Removal, Dump Runs and More! Give us a call, free estimates. If we can't help you, we'll put you in touch with someone who can. Friendly honest service. Call Dustin K. Sears Sr. at (530)363-4991. (0419)

WELDING & FABRICATION – Steel, Stainless Steel, Aluminum. Certified to military standard. Call (530) 621-3300 (0620)



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 (0619)

CREATIVE ADMIN SERVICES – Your office and project support team specializing in office management, business/personal contact management, event coordination, online services, and much more. Visit our website at www.creativeadminservices.com or call (530)295-1779. (0819)

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. (0319)

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 (0620)



Please drop off bags from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. at the Fire Station. Please consider this option when you organize your recycled materials. (Sorry, wine bottles do not have CRV, so we cannot use them)

NOTE: Lids/Caps on plastic and glass CRV containers MUST BE REMOVED before they can be redeemed. If you have a chance and can remove the lids, it will sure help the recycle volunteers.



MVFA THANKS YOU!

Frank's Diner Hours:

Wednesday-Friday 11 am - 8 pm

Saturday-Sunday 8 am - 8 pm

(530) 409-1977

www.franksmosquitodiner.com

May 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 MAY Frank's Family Night <i>Beef Stew</i>	2 MVFA Board Meeting 7 pm Frank's Diner	3	4 Support Group 10 am Fire Station Cinco de Mayo Dinner 6pm Fire Station
5	6	7	8 Frank's Family Night <i>Chicken Piccata</i>	9 MFPD Board Meeting 7 pm Fire Station	10	11 Manland 7 am Frank's Diner Bird Watch Fannon Lake 8 am Fannon
12 Mother's Day @ Frank's See article Happy Mother's Day!	13	14	15 Frank's Family Night <i>Sloppy Joes</i>	16	17	18 SCPOA Board Mtg. 10am Dyer Lake Hall 6770 Sluice St.
19 Swansboro Pilot's Association Scholarship Applications due 6/30!	20	21	22 Frank's Family Night <i>Polynesian Salad</i>	23	24 Crafters 10 am Darlene Rood's	25
26	27  memorial DAY	28	29 Frank's Family Night <i>BBQ Chicken</i>	30	31	1 Support Group 10 am Fire Station Frank's Diner Side-Wheeler String Band 5-8pm

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 20th 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.

The MOSQUITO BYTE accepts ads from subscribers without endorsement.

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** and other updates are posted each month on the www.gomvfa.org website.

PLACERVILLE, CA 95667-9040

9009 ORVAL BECKETT CT

MOSQUITO BYTE