



MVFA UPDATE

by MVFA Board of Directors

UPCOMING CHRISTMAS DINNER

MVFA Christmas Dinner & Tree Lighting Celebration

The Mosquito Volunteer Fire Association is excited to invite the community to a joyful evening of holiday cheer at **Fire Station 75 on Saturday, December 6th**. This annual tradition brings neighbors together to celebrate the season with lights, laughter, and a warm meal shared among friends.

Tree Lighting Ceremony

The festivities begin at **5:15 pm** with the lighting of the community Christmas tree. Gather with family and friends as the station sparkles to life, marking the start of the holiday season.

Santa's Arrival

At **5:30 pm**, Santa Claus will make his grand entrance to deliver presents to the children. Be sure to bring the little ones for this magical moment—they won't want to miss it!

Free Christmas Dinner

Following Santa's visit, everyone is invited to enjoy a **complimentary Christmas Dinner** prepared by **Matt Ridgeway and Kirk Bronsord of Smoke On The Water**. Their culinary talents promise a delicious meal that will warm hearts and bellies alike.

This event and meal is a gift from the MVFA to the community, celebrating the spirit of togetherness and gratitude. Whether you come for the lights, the laughter, or the food, we look forward to seeing you there!

FINNON LAKE CAMPGROUND SEASON CLOSURE

As winter approaches, Finnon Lake Campground will officially close for the season on **December 15th**. While we'll miss the lively energy of campers around the lake, we look forward to welcoming everyone back in the **spring of next year**.

This past season has been one of our most successful yet:

- **Over 925 campers** enjoyed the beauty of Finnon Lake.
- The campground generated **\$66,000 in revenue**, supporting ongoing improvements and community stewardship.
- We continue to receive **rave reviews on Hipcamp**, with visitors praising our **clean facilities** and the **scenic charm of the lake**.

We are deeply grateful to all who visited, volunteered, and supported Finnon Lake Campground this year. Your enthusiasm and appreciation inspire us to keep making this special place even better.

Until spring, we encourage you to enjoy the quiet beauty of Finnon Lake from the trails and day-use areas. Thank you for being part of another memorable season—we can't wait to see you back under the pines!

MVFA SWAG

Cozy Up with Community Spirit This Season

As the weather turns cooler, it's the perfect time to layer up while showing your support for the Mosquito Volunteer Fire Association! Our collection features **Mosquito Sweatshirts with Hoodies**, alongside classic T-shirts, so you can stay warm and comfortable while sporting local pride.

- **Sweatshirts with Hoodies**: Ideal for crisp mornings and chilly evenings, available in a variety of sizes.
- **Fresh Colors & Styles**: Newly added designs mean there's something for everyone.
- **T-Shirts Too**: For those warmer afternoons, keep your community spirit alive with lightweight options.

Whether you're heading outdoors, gathering with neighbors, or simply enjoying the season, these hoodie sweatshirts are a practical and stylish way to stay cozy while supporting your local fire association. Be sure to check out the latest selections today!



MVFA apparel, along with local phone books, are conveniently available for purchase at the **diner during regular business hours** or at **MVFA sponsored events**.

For personalized orders or special requests, feel free to reach out to us at MVFA95667@gmail.com. Show your support, stay stylish, and represent Mosquito proudly!

FINNON LAKE BOAT LAUNCH UPGRADE

We're excited to report that the **Finnon Lake Reservoir boat launch** received an upgrade this past month, thanks to the support of the **County Fish and Wildlife Department**.

- County Fish and Wildlife awarded the MVFA a **\$500 grant** to purchase rock for the launch area.
- The MVFA **matched the grant funds**, allowing us to secure a full transfer load of large rock.
- The project was coordinated by **Dave Angelo**, with rock distribution completed by **David Dudley** and **Steve Vrabel**.



This improvement enhances access to the lake and ensures a safer, more durable launch for boaters and access by the fire department for water drafting during a fire event. We extend our sincere thanks to County Fish and Wildlife for their generosity, and to Dave, David, and Steve for their hands-on efforts in making this project a success.

MVFA CRV RECYCLE PROGRAM

Please drop off bags of **Plastic Bottles** and **Aluminum Cans** (**Sorry no Glass**) at the back of Station 75. Note: Lids and caps on plastic bottles must be removed before they can be redeemed. Lids and caps can be included for redemption. Stay green, stay responsible, and happy recycling! ♻️



NEW NEIGHBORS

If you are new to the area, or know someone new to the area, MVFA has welcome packets that contain great information about our community and helpful guidance for living in a high risk fire area. Please contact us at MVFA95667@gmail.com so we can get one delivered to your door!

MVFA GENERAL BOARD MEETING AND NOMINATIONS

Anyone interested in applying for a position on the MVFA Board should send an email to MVFA95667@gmail.com before December 12th expressing your interest. The annual General Board Meeting will be held on December 18th at 3:00 pm at the Diner.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Christmas Dinner at Station 75 - Free Dinner 5:00 pm December 6, 2025

MFPD Board Meeting - December 18, 2025

Christmas Caroling – Dyer Lake Pavilion 4pm December 20, 2025

The MVFA General Board meeting will be on **Thursday, December 18th at 3:00 pm** at the Diner

SENIORS MEAL SERVICES

El Dorado County Senior Nutrition offers Home Delivered Meals for individuals 60 years of age or older who are homebound either temporarily or permanently, and unable to shop for their own food or prepare their own meals. Home delivered meal service is available to help them meet their nutritional needs. Dedicated, caring volunteers deliver meals Wednesday's, while also checking in on the well-being of each participant -- bringing peace of mind to clients and their families. Our goal is to provide nutritious meals and social contact to support overall wellness that will enable participants to remain living independently and with dignity in their own homes. Frozen meals for weekends and holidays are available upon request. Call today to see if you qualify! 530-621-6160

<https://www.eldoradocounty.ca.gov/Services/Assistance-Programs/Seniors/Senior-Services/Senior-Nutrition-Services>

CHRISTMAS CAROLING

Come join us for a Christmas caroling gathering at the Dyer Lake pavilion. Bring your family and friends!

- Saturday December 20th at 4pm.

Hot chocolate will be provided.

Sponsored by Mountain Fellowship



MOSQUITO CRAFTERS

By Natasha Cutter

H A P P Y
H O L I D A Y S

to all

From The Mosquito Crafters!

MOSQUITO CRAFTERS IS A
CREATIVE AND HARD WORKING
GROUP OF PEOPLE WHO JOIN
TOGETHER THROUGHOUT THE
YEAR AND MAKE SPECIAL
HANDMADE GOODIES. EACH
MEMBER GENEROUSLY DONATES
ALL THE MATERIALS AND TIME
THAT GO INTO OUR CREATIONS
AND THEN 100% OF OUR GROUP'S
PROCEEDS GO TO SUPPORT THE
MOSQUITO FIRE PROTECTION
DISTRICT

BIRDING AT FINNON LAKE

November Bird Watch: A Season of Feathers and Flight

As autumn settles in, our November bird watch brought a lively mix of resident and migratory species to the Mosquito area. Cooler days and crisp mornings made for excellent viewing conditions, and participants were treated to a diverse array of sightings.

2 California Quail	12 Acorn Woodpecker	6 American Robin
1 Band-tailed Pigeon	1 Northern Flicker	3 Dark-eyed Junco
75 American Coot	4 California Scrub-Jay	1 Dark-eyed Junco (Oregon)
4 Pied-billed Grebe	1 Oak Titmouse	1 Song Sparrow
5 Double-crested Cormorant	2 Wrentit	1 California Towhee
1 Great Egret	1 Red-breasted Nuthatch	1 Spotted Towhee
2 Bald Eagle	20 Western Bluebird	

This month's bird watch reflects the richness of our local habitat and the joy of shared observation. From the soaring Bald Eagles to the bustling flocks of American Coots, each sighting reminds us of the vibrant wildlife that thrives in our community.

As winter approaches, keep your eyes open for seasonal visitors and enjoy the changing rhythms of the bird world. We look forward to seeing what December brings! The December bird watch will be on Saturday December 13th, at 9:00 am at Finnon Lake.

SCPOA REPORT

By Meredith Blain

The Swansboro Country Property Owners Association (SCPOA) Board of Directors will hold its **Annual Members Meeting and Election on Saturday, February 28, 2026**. There are **three Board seats** open, each with a **two-year term**. Nominations must be submitted **on or before December 4, 2025, at 4:00 PM**. Interested SCPOA members are encouraged to participate as **Inspector of Elections Volunteers**.

Details about the election and forms were mailed or emailed by The Management Trust to all SCPOA members on or about November 3, 2025. If you did **not** receive these materials, please:

- Check your spam/junk folder
- Contact **Ashley Silva** at Ashley.silva@managementtrust.com

SCPOA members may also contact any SCPOA Director for assistance.

SCPOA generally meets at the MFPD Fire Station, 8801 Rock Creek Road, on the fourth Wednesday of the month and our next meeting will be Wednesday, December 17, 2025, at 6pm. Meeting agendas are posted on the bulletin board at Dyer Lake and on the SCPOA website: SCPOA.info.

Members of SCPOA can visit SCPOA.info, the official SCPOA website, and get information about upcoming meetings, meeting agendas and minutes, association bylaws, individual unit's DC&Rs, using the Swansboro Airport, use of common areas, and much, much more! If you have not requested a login for the SCPOA website, please send an email to Kpaulscpoa@gmail.com to gain access.

DISTRICT AUXILIARY aka D'Ax

By Meredith Blain

As we enjoy the holiday season and reflect on the past year, we're reminded that it truly takes a community to build community! D'Ax* recently hosted a pancake breakfast with the MFPD Firefighters and honored our community Veterans. We're also excited to support the upcoming MFPD Christmas Dinner on December 6th, where MVFA provides a delicious free meal and welcomes Santa to share gifts with the children!

Next up is the *D'Ax Family New Year's Eve Pizza Party** on **Wednesday, December 31, 2025**, at the firehouse! We'll ring in the New Year with fun games and activities and celebrate 2026 Times Square Style at 9pm our time!

As we look ahead to the new year, we are grateful for the countless donations of time and resources, and participation from our incredible community. It's the people of Mosquito who make this such a wonderful place to live, connect, and celebrate with family and friends. **Happy Holidays!**

New Year's Eve Pizza Party - December 31st • 6:00–9:00 PM • Firehouse

Join us for a no-host family pizza dinner and celebration!

Menu: Pepperoni and cheese pizza, salad, cookies, popcorn, lemonade, coffee, and hot cocoa.

Suggested donation:

- \$10 adults
- \$5 children under 10
- Children under 5 eat free

If you sign up, we can make sure there's plenty of food for everyone! Email admin@dax-no.org to RSVP—and we'll have a noisemaker ready for your little one when you arrive!

D'Ax* will share updates soon on the Swansboro/Mosquito Facebook page and NextDoor.

Next D'Ax* Meeting - Sunday, December 7, 2025 • 2:00 PM 6696 Mosquito Road.

All community members are welcome. Get involved and help us continue making a positive impact!

Interested in Donating or Volunteering? Email admin@dax-np.org or contact any D'Ax* director.



SMOKE ON THE WATER

by Kirk Bronsord and Matt Ridgeway

A Festive Note from Smoke on the Water



December has arrived, wrapping up another incredible year here at the diner! We've loved welcoming both familiar local faces and new friends through our doors—it's been a truly special year.

As the holiday season sparkles around us, we'll be closing for two weeks between **Christmas and New Year's** to spend cherished time with family and friends. So be sure to swing by and get your burger fix before the year ends!



We're excited for all the joy and adventures the new year will bring to **Smoke on the Water**, and we couldn't do it without your continued support. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you for being part of our family.

Wishing you a **Merry Christmas** filled with laughter, love, and good cheer—and a **Happy New Year** full of fresh beginnings!

Warmest Wishes,

Your Smoke on the Water Family

Diner Hours:

Monday - Thursday- Closed

Friday 11 am – 1:30 pm

Saturday - 11 am - 7 pm

Sunday 9 am - 3 pm

(Breakfast served on Sunday only)

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



Happy Holidays

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

FOR SALE

THE GOAT DOCTOR OF THE SIERRAS

book by Gloria Hockensmith is available locally. Call Taffy 530-626-8689 to buy your copy. A great fact based read about a local legend. Perfect for gifting, \$20.00. A few books with section of upside down pages are still available for \$10.00.

MISCELLANEOUS EQUIPMENT 6 Cu. Ft. Steel Wheelbarrow @ \$10; 6' Alum step ladder @ \$20; 8' alum extension ladder @ \$30; oil filled radiator heater @ \$5, and Kenmore Progressive Vacuum Cleaner (Canister) @ \$50. Call (503) 626-8689.

UNIQUE JEWELRY

Handmade jewelry using recycled aluminum cans, and more. To view, call Dee at 530-642-2333.

TREADMILL

Pro-Form J4 Electric Treadmill \$60.00
Gary at 530-626-0265 or 310-541-7710

2012 HARLEY-DAVIDSON SPORTSTER 883

Super low mileage Original 875 miles
New Michelin Tires, New Drive Belt
Just Serviced, New Battery, Freshly
Detailed - daviddudleyca@comcast.net

JOTUL PROPANE HEAT STOVE

Complete with chimney thermostat. Can be seen at 6796 Log Cabin Lane 916-501-3444

MEETINGS

MOUNTAIN FELLOWSHIP

Join us for Christian worship and fellowship
Sunday mornings 11AM at 3342 Stope
Drive. Bible studies throughout the week.
530-295-0503

SERVICES

CALI CONSTRUCTION

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

NOTARY SERVICES ON THE HILL

Contact Devon at: 510-719-1247.

HOUSE PAINTER – AMERICAN EAGLE PAINTING

Residential/Commercial
Specializing in repaints contact Steven
Martinez, 530-919-7612 or
americaneaglepainting4@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.

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.

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.

WELDING & FABRICATION

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

REAL ESTATE SERVICES

Donna Ables, Realtor, MBA/BBA Real Estate & Land Use Affairs, CSUS
Caldwell Banker Realty
Where Quality Meets Excellent Customer Service!
CalDRE# 01887830
(916) 320-0365
Visit donnaablesrealestate.com

HANDCRAFTED ART ON THE HILL

Unique and affordable glass art by Pam Angelo: plates, bowls, vases, birdbaths and more. Perfect as gifts or treat yourself. Studio open most days, text or call to set a time 530-391-5424

UNIQUE WOODWORKING

Created by Dave Angelo in his Swansboro wood shop. Beautiful trinket boxes, wildlife wall art, pepper mills, vases, puzzles, toys and more! Studio open most days, text or call to set a time 707-688-4659

Wild Peak Energy

Licensed Electrical Contractor - CSLB 1138152. Visit our website for more information - www.wildpeakenergy.com
Your Local Electrical Experts! (916) 995-9655

RENTALS**APARTMENT FOR RENT – AVAILABLE NOW!**

Enjoy the comfort and convenience of this charming, fully furnished 1-bedroom, 1-bath apartment featuring: Private entrance for added privacy, Relaxing private patio, Dedicated parking, Spacious 750 sq ft layout. Rent: \$1,500/month + deposit. For inquiries or to schedule a viewing, contact Mickey Sharp at 916-712-1532

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

DECEMBER 2025						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6 Christmas Dinner 5:00pm Station 75
7 MFOM Mountain Fellowship Gathering, 11am D'Ax Meeting 2pm 6696 Mosquito Road	8	9 MFPD Firefighters Training 6pm Station 75	10	11	12	13 Bird Watching Finnon Lake, Day Use area 9am
14 MFOM Mountain Fellowship Gathering, 11am	15	16 MFPD Firefighters Training 6pm Station 75	17 SCPOA Board Meeting 6pm Station 75	18 MVFA Meeting 3pm Diner MFPD Board Meeting 7pm Station 75	19	20
21 MFOM Mountain Fellowship Gathering, 11am	22	23 MFPD Firefighters Training 6pm Station 75	24	25	26	27
28 MFOM Mountain Fellowship Gathering, 11am	29	30 MFPD Firefighters Training 6pm Station 75	31			

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

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 Mosquito BYTE Editor 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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PLACERVILLE, CA 95667-9040

9009 ORVAL BECKETT CT

MOSQUITO BYTE