

MOSQUITO BYTE

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE MOSQUITO VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION



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December 2015

Participate in the EDC CWPP Survey

By **Mike Hazlett**, Mosquito FPD Fire Chief



The Mosquito Fire Protection District and the Mosquito Fire Safe Council would like you to participate in the El Dorado County Fire Safe Council Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) Survey. Participation in the EDC CWPP Survey will assist in the development of a CWPP for the West Slope of El Dorado County and specifically assist with Mosquito Fire Safe Council requests for funding. This survey will also provide you an opportunity to have input to this plan funded by your Cal Fire State Responsibility Area (SRA) Fire Prevention Fee money.

The survey will ask your opinion regarding which areas in Mosquito are the highest priorities for future fuel reduction. Fuel reduction projects include removal of live and dead grass, dead wood, shrubs, and trees to reduce potential fire behavior. Projects of a higher priority will most likely require grant applications prepared within 3 years of the CWPP's approval. Moderate priority projects within 3 to 5 years, and lower priority projects with 5 to 10 years.

Areas of fuel reduction priority include private residences, private businesses, vacant (undeveloped) parcels, other community or public buildings (e.g. fire station), airports, reservoirs and associated infrastructure, watershed lands associated with local reservoirs, parks, evacuation routes out of the community and other areas.

One of the priorities identified by the Mosquito Fire Safe Council was the Mosquito Creek drainage which is the most traveled and with that comes more chances for human caused fires. Mosquito Creek is adjacent to both Mosquito Road and Rock Creek Road which provide access and egress to the Mosquito Community.

The King Fire of 2014 burned nearly 100,000 acres in topography, Fuel models similar to that which can be found in the Mosquito Fire Protection District. The state had been in a three year drought of exceptional proportion. Fuel moisture in both live and dead fuels has been at critical levels through much of the summer. Mosquito is a high risk community, and we need fuel reduction projects.

Please go to the El Dorado County Fire Safe Council website (www.edcfiresafe.org) and click on the link "Participate" in the EDC CWPP Survey. This survey takes less than 10 minutes and can help fund future project to make Mosquito wildfire safe. You'll find additional important information about this effort in this Byte.

**The MFPD Board meeting is Thursday, December 3rd at 7 p.m. at the Fire Station.
You are welcome to attend!**



Mosquito Volunteer Fire Association (MVFA)

By Tom Harris



Saturday, **December 12th**, will be MVFA's Annual Community Christmas Dinner at the Mosquito Fire Station. The meal includes turkey and all the trimmings and is free to all Mosquito/Swansboro residents. This is a great way to enjoy the holiday spirit with neighbors and friends and show our appreciation to the people who serve and support our community. Santa will appear at 5:00 p.m. with gifts for the kids. Dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m. Take out dinners will be available.

MVFA distributes baskets of food to individuals and families in the Mosquito/ Swansboro Community in December. Along with food, MVFA teams up with the CHP's "**Chips for Kids**" program to provide gifts for children in the family. In addition, we provide "**HUGS**" consisting of plants and homemade cookies to our senior residents. Look for more information in this issue of the Byte.



The annual MVFA Halloween Trunk-R-Treat event at Finnon Lake was a great success due to great weather and fun-loving participants. Thirteen "Trunkers" and over thirty "Treaters" enjoyed the spooky displays around the Finnon Lake campground. There were three prizes for the best decorated vehicles. First place went to Dee Harris (who donated her prize back to MVFA). Second place went to Bill & Dawn Buhnerkempe and third place went to Rick "Batman" Clemens. Look for photos on www.GoMVFA.org.

The first MVFA Mosquito/Swansboro Veterans Meet up on November 11th, Veterans Day, at the Mosquito General Market and Kitchen was terrific! There were 23 Vets in attendance including 3 from WWII. Spouses and friends brought the total attendance to 33. Thanks go out to Gus & Dawn for letting this event take place at Mosquito General. Look for photos on www.GoMVFA.org.

**Donations
are greatly
Appreciated!**

If you are looking to make a year-end contribution with a tax deduction, please consider MVFA. We have a community fund to help neighbors in need and the MVFA Station 75 Fund which provides funds at the Fire Chief's discretion. Also, with our dam back fees almost paid off, we have numerous exciting projects planned at Finnon Lake for next year including sand for the beach area, a shower and handicap stall addition to the bathroom, and a long term plan for a community building. MVFA is a 501(c)(3) organization and contributions may be tax deductible. A letter stating your contribution will be provided upon request. Send your contributions to MVFA, 9009 Orval Beckett Ct., Placerville CA 95667. You may also donate through the www.gomvfa.org website. Thank you for your support.

The MVFA Board meeting is Thursday, December 10th at 7 p.m. at Mosquito General. We hope to see you there!

From SCPOA

By **Connell Persico**

Of all the matters your board addresses, none are more important than the annual budget and the lot assessment. The assessment, sometimes referred to as the dues, provides the revenue needed to meet operating expenses and to create reserves necessary to fund long term capital expenditures. In this current fiscal year, about \$248 of your \$780 annual assessment pays for operating expenses, and the remaining \$532 goes into those reserves.

Our current planning suggests we will have an increase in our operating expenses, which would amount to an additional \$44 per lot. That increase will support the Board's decisions to create and fund a long term vegetation management program, to improve communications through bi-monthly newsletters, to hire a professional management firm, to adjust staff salaries and to enhance our common areas, particularly Dyer Lake.

Further, the Board has a contract with an agency (Browning) that helps to determine how much money needs to be set aside for those long term capital expenditures. (Our main capital costs are our road improvements, the airport, common areas, fencing, equipment, etc.). Annually, we send you a summary of the report that agency prepares. (Look for the newest version this January which lets you know how much revenue we think we need and how much of that target is met by our current rate of reserve accumulation.) In the current plan, our rate of reserve accumulation takes us to just under 70% of projected need.

As a result of our accumulation strategy, we were able to fund \$850,000 for road improvements and still end this fiscal year with around \$600,000 remaining in reserves. As we began to update our reserve study, we had an immediate payoff from our decision to hire Kocal as our management firm.

They provided information that led us to discover both an error in the calculations over the past several years. That is, as roads were improved, they were not subtracted from the number of roads needing to be improved. There was also an overstatement of replacement costs and an understatement of the useful life that had led to an inflated revenue need figure. We are now in the process of making those corrections, and it appears the current reserve accumulation rate is excessive. As a result, your Board will consider a reduction in the amount of the annual assessment at our December meeting on **December 17th**, at 7:00 p.m. at the Fire Station.

The Board also decided upon Neighborly Pest Service as our contractor for our vegetation management plan. We will negotiate contract terms, and they will work on both the ditch lines along some of our roads and the first stage of star thistle control at Dyer and Trout Lakes.

We should also note that the fencing project begun eight years ago reached a conclusion on Thursday, November 19th, when our superb maintenance staff, Jonathan and Kevin, installed the last vinyl fencing at the Mosquito/Rock Creek junction.

Here's hoping you had a great Thanksgiving and that the rain continues and continues!

The SCPOA meeting is Thursday, December 17th at 7 p.m. at the Fire Station.

Mosquito Fire Safe Council

By **Dave Angelo**



Residents of Mosquito/Swansboro choose to live close to nature in an area that is susceptible to risk of wildfires. To maintain our lifestyle, and for our safety, we support our fire department. However, we can also take steps to mitigate this risk with the proper knowledge and preparedness.

As mentioned in the Chief's article, the El Dorado County Fire Safe Council is in the process of preparing a Countywide Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP). The goal of this plan is to help

identify communities and resources at risk to wildfire and to design a plan that will potentially help reduce that risk. The plan will help prioritize projects on the ground using grant applications.

No one knows a community better than those that live in and serve our neighborhoods. Please visit www.surveymonkey.com/r/97RMBP7 and complete the survey. Please take your time with the survey. For example, on survey question #1, check "Other" and type in "Mosquito" in the space provided. Survey responses will be compiled electronically and utilized to help improve the CWPP and shared at community meetings over the coming months. Those without computer access can still participate. Just leave a message with your name and address at the El Dorado County Fire Safe Council answering machine at (530)647-1700. You will be sent a paper copy of the survey.

It has been over ten years since the Mosquito Fire District has participated in a county-wide fire safe program. At that time, the Mosquito district received over \$500,000 in grant money which was used to reduce brush and other fuels along the main roads in Mosquito and Swansboro under then chief Leo Chaloux. The Mosquito Fire District now has the opportunity to join the El Dorado Community Wildfire Protection Plan and apply for grant money that would be used for the same purpose as before.

The professionals at the Mosquito Fire District have identified Mosquito Road - on both sides from the Swing Bridge to Rock Creek Road - as a priority for fuels reduction. Mosquito Road is both a major road in our area and a main evacuation route.

In the coming months, you will be asked to support the efforts of Chief Mike Hazlett and his staff and volunteers. Please give them your total support, and don't forget to respond to the survey. For more information, call Dave Angelo at 621-3688 or Connell Persico at 215-4050. Thank you.

Shopping for the Holidays and All Year!

By **Eileen Guell**

The holidays are upon us, and a GREAT way to support your community is by shopping online via a method joyfully utilized by many already: Amazon!



By using this link: <https://smile.amazon.com/> - "You shop. Amazon gives."

You can also access AmazonSmile from the www.goMVFA.org website.

When you shop at **AmazonSmile**, Amazon donates 0.5% of your AmazonSmile purchase price to the charitable organization of your choice (Mosquito Volunteer Fire Association) which is an eligible 501(c)(3) public charitable organization.

A message appears after each purchase is made successfully...

"I just supported Mosquito Volunteer Fire Association at AmazonSmile."

Answers to top Questions about AmazonSmile...



1) How do I shop at AmazonSmile?

To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to <https://smile.amazon.com/> from the web browser on

your computer or mobile device. You may also want to add a bookmark to smile.amazon.com to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile.

2) Can I use my existing Amazon.com account on AmazonSmile?

Yes, you use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. On your first visit to AmazonSmile (<https://smile.amazon.com/>), you need to select **Mosquito Volunteer Fire Association** (Not MVFA) to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. AmazonSmile will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation.

Please refer to the AmazonSmile website for further questions/answers.

You may also visit our website www.gomvfa.org and click on the SmileAmazon which will take you to the same place to sign up. Thank you so much – as always – for supporting our wonderful Community!

And, speaking of websites.....



The www.GoMVFA.org website is now online!

Thanks, Kudos and Hugs go out to MVFA Webmaster **Karen Rapponotti**! She has been working on our website for the past several months, and really NAILED IT!

Our goal is to provide information about the Mosquito/Swansboro community and keep residents up-to-date on the happenings in the area! Check back frequently as we add content and pictures during the month. Each month, the Mosquito Byte newsletter and MVFA Board Meeting agenda is posted in addition to pictures, articles and other MVFA or community news.

You can follow us by utilizing the email link on the blog. You can also read current and previous Mosquito Bytes by clicking a link. There are also links to AmazonSmile. We look forward to sharing information with the community to keep everyone informed and educated. We are also posting pictures from recent community events. Residents may submit articles, photos, or other relevant information for consideration to be added to the blog at email mvfa.blog@gmail.com.

Trading Post Christmas Faire

By Vicki DeKay



On Saturday, **December 5th**, Kathy tenNapel and Sharlyn Fields will offer their jams and soaps at the MS75 Pancake Breakfast. You may also order Christmas wreaths and swags from Sharlyn. You may order jams from Kathy at 626-4281 and soaps from Shar at 440-0240.

On Sunday, **December 6th**, from 3:00p.m to 6:00p.m., Kathy and Fred tenNapel will host a Trading Post Christmas Faire in their home at 3064 Highgrade Street. Please call Joyce Radmanovich at 626-7062 for schedule and directions. Featured Christmas gift items include Kathy's jams, Sharlyn's soaps, Dee Harris' jewelry, Trading Post wreaths, swags, and much more!



Christmas Basket Food Donations

By Sharon Hern & Mary Ann Haywood

MVFA is asking for donations of canned and boxed foods for the Community Christmas Baskets. Please remember opened boxes, outdated food, and perishables cannot be accepted. Donations can be brought to the Community Christmas Dinner on December 12th or be dropped off at the Fire Station **NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 15th**. If you wish to donate either a turkey or a ham, please let us know by calling either Sharon at 530-626-5268 or Mary Ann at 530-622-5477. Thank you in advance for your help, and may you have a wonderful holiday.

And don't forget our **Chips for Kids** toy drive. We are teaming again this year with the California Highway Patrol. There is a donation barrel at the Fire Station. Gifts for children should be unwrapped so they can be matched to the children's age. Please don't forget our pre-teens and teenagers.



MVFA will also be sending HUGS to our seniors who could use a hug during the Holidays. This may include a holiday plant and a box of cookies. If you know of someone who could use a HUG, please call me, Sharon at 626-5268, before December 4th.

9th Annual Holiday Art Sale

Glass * Woodworking * Jewelry * Photography & More

Saturday, **December 5th** & Sunday, **December 6th**

10:00 - 2:00 Both Days

At the Studio of Pam Angelo

6732 Log Cabin Lane



Crafters

By Sharon Hern

The Firehouse Crafters wish to give a big **THANK YOU** to all of you who have supported us this year at our Craft Sales, both here on the hill and off the hill in town. Our proceeds are used to help support the needs of our Fire Department. We are taking a Holiday break and will resume our Craft meetings in January. Happy Holidays to All!

In Memory of

Barbara Beacham

CLASSIFIED ADS

Free

Pine rounds, ready for splitting. We have plenty!
You haul. Call Tim at (408)859-3182. (7)

Horse/compost manure for home or garden call
Cindy at (530)621-1600. (7)

Firewood, soft wood. You cut and haul away. Call
Lionel (530)622-7472. (7)

For Sale

Two Cabela cushioned fishing boat seats. Never
used. Bolt on any flat boat seat. Folding backs.
Blue, \$25 each. Call Rob Lupient 344-0897

Firewood for \$80.00 per half cord. Call Michael
Sargent at 919-2836

One (1) white, across truck tool box; two (2)white,
side mount tool boxes; one (1)diamond plate,
truck tool box. For prices and more information,
call Fred tenNapel, (530)626-4281. (10)

2 acre parcel of land at 3081 Stope Drive. No
water or power ready. Make offer. Call Donna
Borchin at (209)624-3918 (9)

FIREWOOD: Call Dustin Sears at (530)363-4991.
(7)

1¼ cord split soft wood, \$195. You pick up. Call
Tim at (530)622-4419. (7)

Meetings

MOUNTAIN FELLOWSHIP – Meet new friends,
get refreshed and restored. Join us for challenging
Bible study, fun events and worship here in
Mosquito. Groups for Men/Women/kids/young
adults. 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.

FREE VEGAN VEGETARIAN COOKING CLASSES

Food preparation demonstrations, recipe
handouts, video clips and resource materials,
along with samples provided. Have fun interacting
with other health-minded folks, learning healthful
lifestyle principles and discovering tasty new
recipes. We meet once a month at the Camino
SDA Church, 3520 Carson Rd. on Thursdays at
11 a.m. Call Fred Adams at (530)642-9441 for

dates and to reserve your space. Or email
AdamsAmigos@gmail.com .

Services

MISTY'S HOUSEKEEPING SERVICES: Deep
cleaning, basic cleaning, move ins/outs, one time
cleanings, and flexible schedule arrangements. I
also do house sitting, vacation care, pet sitting,
errands as needed. Call (916)496-5980

The Gift of Travel: Travel is a fantastic gift for
your loved ones—beautiful destinations and
amazing experiences create lasting memories,
and a Christmas, they'll never forget! Let's get
started planning a wonderful trip! Email Clydene
at clydene.rogers@offtoneverland.com.

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.

AIR CONDITIONING & HEATING BY FRANK

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\$42.50. Estimates free for new installations &
equipment change outs. High quality service since
1978. Call Frank at (530)622-4462. California
contractor License #354595

AUTO DETAIL ON THE HILL - Hand wash &
wax. Tire dressing. Windows, dash & chrome
cleaned. Rug vacuumed. Car - \$55, truck - \$65 &
oversized vehicles may be additional. Call Steve
at (530)621-3643.

CLOCK REPAIR — Antique/Vintage, Electric and
Quartz. Pick-up and delivery free in Swansboro
area. Call Gary at (530)409-0526.

LOCAL REALTORS – Rusty & Debbie Harris,
Swansboro Land & Homes, Inc. Lic.#01781489.
Area specialists since 1975. Office next to Fire
Station at 8781 Rock Creek Road. Stop by for free
maps & info. Happy to put our experience to work
for you; buy, sell, short sales & REO's. Call
(530)622-6822. www.swansboro.metrolistpro.com
or Swansbororealestate@gmail.com .

RIDLEY K-9 ACADEMY – Professional dog
training and dog walking services. For more
information visit www.ridleyk9academy.com or call
Garrett at (530)409-1879.

IMAGES BY CAROL SCHULTZ – Local scenes of bridge, lakes, vineyards, etc. Available in cards, posters, enlargements, high quality magnets, and card bundles, all suitable for gifting or personal use. Custom orders on request. Call (530)409-2912, or email csstamper@aim.com.

OPTOMETRY CLINIC – Dr. Dan Morrill in Placerville. Eye examinations, eyeglasses & contact lenses available at Precision Eye Care, 118 Main Street. Open Tues - Fri 9 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Saturday by appointment. Call (530)622-8300. Most insurance accepted. (New Patients Welcome!)

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.

TUTOR – Fully credentialed tutor with 40 years of teaching experience. Homework, reading, English composition and math remediation or enrichment. Call Joyce Radmanovich at (530)626-7062.

FRED tenNAPEL HANDYMAN SERVICES – Anything from A to Z that you can't do, I will. Home (530)626-4281, Cell (530)417-5986. Lic#044903.

PET CARE - Pet feeding while you're away. We will give your pet the same love and care as you would if you were here. No pet too large or too small. Reasonable rates. Call Devin & Dylan's Pet Feeding Service at (530)295-9165.

KIRCHNER TREE SERVICE – Line clearance certified, hazard tree removal, close quarter removal, view enhancement, trimming, topping, mistletoe removal. Certified Arborist on staff. Call Jared at (530)626-6325.

WELDING & FABRICATION – Steel, Stainless Steel, Aluminum. Certified to military standard. Call (530)626-0691.

CHIMNEY SWEEP – For hire, 35 years' experience. Wood/pellet stoves, fireplaces, dryer vents gutters. Repairs, stove & chimney installations/repairs, problem solving. Call Richard Smith at (530)306-2438.

CREATIVE ADMIN. SERVICES – Your office and project support team specializing in Office Management, Business/Personal Contact Mgmt. Event Coordination, Online Services, and much more. Visit our website at

www.creativeadminservices.com or call (530)295-1779.

HAND CRAFTED GLASS ITEMS – Bird baths, flower pots, 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.

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.

NOTARY SERVICE – I am a mobile Notary Public living right 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.

RESPITE CARE – Available in Swansboro /Mosquito, M-F, weekends or overnight as needed. Also available for short periods of time (barring previously scheduled commitments) and/or for hospice care for your family member. I have 17 local home-care references to verify my skills and the level of care I will provide for your loved ones. Call Nancy West at (530)626-7975.

MOSQUITO GENERAL MARKET AND KITCHEN

Open Wednesday – Saturday
10 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Sunday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Closed Monday and Tuesday

(530)295-4980 or

mosquitogeneral@live.com

Watch for Specials on our Community
Facebook page!





December 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3 MVFA Board 7 p.m. Mosquito General	4	5 MFPD Support Group 10 a.m. Fire Station
6 Trading Post 3 – 6 p.m. At the tenNapels Happy Hanukkah 	7	8	9	10 MFPD Board 7 p.m. Fire Station	11	12 Birding at Finnon Lake 10 a.m. Mosquito General Community Dinner 6 p.m. Fire Station
13	14	15	16	17 SCPOA Board 7 p.m. Fire Station	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25 	26
27	28	29	30	31	1 January Happy New Year!	2

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. Articles should be submitted in .pdf format, if possible.

Editors have the right to edit, limit, or refuse any article submitted for publication. The authors opinions expressed in the Byte do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the editors or the MVFA Board of Directors. The Mosquito Volunteer Fire Association 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 submit ads for the Classified Section to: Joyce Radmanovich at joycecradmanovich@gmail.com or Mosquito Byte at 6530 One Eye Creek Court, Placerville, CA 95667. Ads in the "Free", "For Sale", and "Wanted" categories will run for three months unless the submitter asks for the Ad to be removed or extended.

The **MOSQUITO BYTE** is also posted each month on the www.gomvfa.org website.

PLACERVILLE, CA 95667-9040

9009 ORVAL BECKETT CT

MOSQUITO BYTE