



MOSQUITO FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
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Chief's Report
October-November 2021

Calls for Service: October 24-November 19

Medical: 4

Storm Response 10/24- Trees/Branches down-Clear Roads

I would like to take the opportunity to recognize two important people and their families. Chief Leo Chaloux has served our community as Fire Chief and community protector for twenty-two years. Chief Chaloux and I met shortly after I came on board with the Fire District. After a great deal of arm twisting, Leo agreed to come back to us as a Battalion Chief, assisting with emergency response and volunteer training. Leo was instrumental in helping us rebuild our volunteer program and establishing Tuesday night training once again. He provided duty chief officer coverage on many occasions and his presence at emergency scenes created a calming effect. Leo's command presence at the recent Gravel Fire resulted in a positive outcome for the neighborhood. A fully involved two story house, upon arrival, during windy Red Flag fire conditions, in a high fire danger area, had all the makings of a disaster. Leo's depth of experience proved invaluable.

Chief Chaloux is headed back to retirement status, but always available to us in the future. He feels the District is in good condition and headed in the right direction. He has other goals and projects he would like to see through, in addition to spending more time with his fantastic wife, Chris. Leo and Chris have raised two leaders, a son, who is an Engineer with Cal Fire and daughter, who is a supervising nurse at Kaiser Permanente. We thank you Leo, for your many contributions over the years, resulting in lives and property saved. We thank you for returning to help us get on track and for your willingness to remain available in the future for advice and guidance. You will always be in our hearts and an admired central figure, not only with the Fire District, but the entire Community and County.

Amanda Morris is the daughter of beloved residents, Ray and Susan Morris. Ray recently passed away in March of this year. I had the recent opportunity to meet Amanda, her family and friends at an inspiring gathering to celebrate Ray's life and legacy. Ray's legacy is obviously his wonderfully supportive family. Daughter Amanda, now a mother with a son on the way (due in April), was recruited by Chief Chaloux to become a volunteer firefighter in 2002. Susan Morris was in Leo's EMT class at the time. Amanda went on to earn her EMT and later Firefighter 1 and Paramedic certifications. Amanda spent six years as a volunteer firefighter, including two years as a resident firefighter at Station 75. We hope to revive the resident firefighter program in 2022.

From her experience and training at Mosquito FD, she joined the Army and deployed to Afghanistan as a flight medic and crew chief. Amanda returned stateside and earned her nursing credentials. Amanda and her husband, also in the Army, are assigned to active duty in Texas.

Amanda is a talented, amazing person who like Leo, has made sacrifices for Country and Community. These great people and their families are inspiring and represent the most positive aspects of our Community. We follow in their footsteps with the same dedication and commitment to our Community. Many people have passed through our doors and it's important for all of us to learn from them and never forget what they have done.

A reminder that burn permits are required, obtained on-line only. The Fire District does not issue burn permits, which are under the jurisdiction of Cal Fire and El Dorado County Air Quality District. Burn piles 4'x 4' or smaller, obtain a burn permit at <https://burnpermit@fire.ca.gov>. For larger burn piles obtain a permit at <https://www.edcgov.us/government/airqualitymanagement/burn-permit-application>. Burn barrels are not allowed.

Training Update:

We have five personnel scheduled for EMT school, which includes Captain Lugo, Engineer Devin Hern, Firefighters Coleman Johns, Carson Keeton and Trevor Dillender. Hern, Johns, Dillender and Keeton will also attend Firefighter 1 academy. This training will be funded by our two FEMA grants.

Four new firefighter recruits are in the process of obtaining their basic wildland firefighting certification.

We are putting together a proposal to host an Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) course in early 2022. The 80-hour class would provide additional medical training and capability for our firefighters and Support Group. The class would have 15-20 seats and is expensive to put on (instructor fees, materials, National Registration and County Accreditation). We are working on grant funding to make this a reality. After our staff, open class seats would be open to interested community members and our partner fire districts after that.

We continue to seek interest from the Community for those interesting in CERT training. CERT basic training consists of approximately 30 hours of basic disaster preparedness training delivered in a flexible format over 6-8 weeks. Those obtaining the training will be much better prepared for emergency and disaster situations at home and elsewhere. Additional training will be available for those who wish to expand their knowledge and become certified volunteer responders to emergency incidents. If this interests you and would like to learn more, please contact me or Fire Director Wayne Gregson (wgregson@mfpd.us).

The District is also in the process of obtaining American Heart Association certification for Chief Hern to teach CPR/AED classes for the community. Chief Hern will also be teaching the basic CERT training class, once we are able to obtain FEMA certification.

Station 75- Digital LED Sign:

The Board of Directors has approved moving forward with Yesco Signs LLC of Sacramento to design and install our new LED sign, replacing the current station sign, funded by our FEMA SAFER Volunteer Recruitment and Retention grant. The \$37,000 project will have the necessary County/Federal permits and should be operational by February 2022.

Wishing everyone a happy and safe holiday season. December 11th is the Community Christmas Dinner and tree lighting. More details coming soon on the station sign and the District's website/social media.

The District is seeking volunteers of all types. If you have the desire to contribute your skills and talents to help your community, we definitely have a place for you. Please visit our website, www.mfpd.us.

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 626-9017 or stop by the station.

This concludes my report. I will continue to update our projects and report progress. We appreciate the great support we receive from the Community and its commitment to being prepared. If you have any questions or suggestions, please call me at the fire station (626-9017) or email me at jrosevear@mfpd.us.

Jack Rosevear, Chief