

**Backcountry Horsemen of California**  
**Mid Valley Unit**  
**Annual Youth Horse Camp**

We are pleased to announce the Fifth Annual Youth Horse Camp, hosted by the Mid Valley Unit of Backcountry Horsemen of California. Our event will be held June 23-25, 2017 at the Kerrick Corrals near Aspen Meadows Pack Station, just off of Crabtree Road.

We have attached an application for the 2017 Youth Horse Camp. The objective of the camp is to get our youth to comfortably enjoy the backcountry on horseback or mule ride. Our mission is to perpetuate the enjoyment and knowledge of using stock in the backcountry to our next generation. We are dedicated to working together as a committee to plan an event that will educate, inspire, and entertain our youth.

Eligible youth must be within **9-14** years of age. They must have their own transportation to and from the event. This event is **free** to our members! We will ask for a \$50 deposit, which will be returned to parents at the conclusion of the event. If you are not a member, a one-year family membership to BCHC is \$60, and you can send in your membership dues once your application is approved. (For insurance purposes.) You will begin receiving our monthly newsletter that contains the up-coming events that we would encourage you to attend. Participants will not bring their own horses; we will be utilizing the Aspen Pack Station horses for all youth.

For those that are unfamiliar with our organization, we want to be sure you are aware of the camping atmosphere. Participants will be sleeping in tents with other youth, there is one pit toilet available in the camp area, but while we are out riding on the trail, there are no facilities whatsoever. Temperatures and weather conditions in the mountains can vary; participants need to dress in layers and have one heavy jacket. A complete list of items that are essential for an event of this type will be provided once applicants are chosen. We will spend 2-3 hours in the saddle riding horses from the Aspen Meadow Pack Station on Friday, and will ride out again for 4-6 hours on Saturday. Participants will be provided with riding helmets, but need to provide their own riding boots. Applicants must be prepared for a very physical weekend of riding, hiking, and typical camp activities.

Applications will be due May 1<sup>st</sup>. Once applications are turned in, we will be selecting the 12-14 youth that are best suited to this event. (In the case that we have more applicants than spots.) We will contact all applicants to notify them of the selected candidates by May 15. At this time, candidates will need to complete the necessary Release of Liability forms, the Allergies/Medication Form, and include the deposit check in order to be eligible to attend the Youth Horse Camp. (And include membership dues if not already a current member.)

Parents are expected to drop off their children on Friday, June 23rd, between 9:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. Just like school, parents are not expected to stay. The Kerrick Corral Camp area will be quite full with our activity, and our camp program will be much more effective without parent involvement. There will be between 5-7 adults present at all times, male and female. We will have a Satellite Phone available for emergencies. We will also be close to the Aspen Meadow Pack Station for additional support. Parents can pick up the participants on Sunday, June 25th, between 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. We will hold our "participant ceremony" at approximately 11:30 a.m., and lunch will be available for parents as well.

For more information, please contact Karen Lopes (209) 756-5534. You can also e-mail at [klopes@muhsd.org](mailto:klopes@muhsd.org)

The BCHC Mid Valley Youth Horse Camp Committee is excited to offer this opportunity to inspire and encourage our youth to get out and enjoy the backcountry!

Youth Horse Camp Committee  
Karen Lopes, Committee Chair

**2017 Mid Valley BCHC Youth Horse Camp Application**  
**Application due Date: May 1, 2017**

**Name of Participant:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Gender:** M or F **Age:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Home Address: P.O. Box/Street:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Town:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip Code:** \_\_\_\_\_

**How many years of experience do you have around horses/mules?** \_\_\_\_\_

**Using the following space, explain your experiences with horses/mules: (What type of riding do you do? How often do you ride? Do you own your own horse/mule? Etc...)** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Have you had experience camping before?** \_\_\_\_\_ **If yes, explain where you were, what type of accommodations, and what activities you participated in?** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Why do you want to attend this camp? (We may have more applications than spaces...why should we select you?)** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Parent/Guardian Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ (Actual Signature Not Required if E-Mailing)

**Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_ home \_\_\_\_\_ cell

**Parent e-mail address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail or mail the completed one page application by May 1st to:**

**Karen Lopes**                      [klopes@muhsd.org](mailto:klopes@muhsd.org)  
**8126 Sunset Drive**  
**Atwater, CA 95301**