

MidCal Member Newsletter



January 2021

Here is to a hopeful 2021!

That is how I want to look at 2021. I have hope that things will start to improve, but until then, we will continue to watch current events and make changes as needed. As we expected, December 2021 came in carrying 2020's baggage.

Middle California Region and Goals for 2021

The MidCal Region's current number of members is 185 dispersed across 14 Clubs and 6 Centers. We are well on the way to our average of 250 members.

In the past several years, the Region has improved communication and encouraged our clubs/centers to share resources. We have made progress, especially since 2020 has given us no choice but to work together, including our wider community. Some new goals for 2021 are to work as teams to reduce stress among the region's leadership, build a catalog of important information that is easy to access, and include Club/Center programs open to all regional members on our website calendar.

Our RICs are working on gathering other regional instruction resources. We now have [guidelines for using Upper-Level members as instructors and examiners](#) available on the website. We launch our emerging instructor program this year.

The Region is working to be able to offer safe in-person Rallies and Certifications for our members. We have made a few changes to help our members a little more financially to meet Rally, Certification, or Camp expenses. This year we have introduced [The Middle California Region's Essay Scholarship Fund](#).

2021 is still a Festival year when members meet to participate in Championships and educational opportunities at the Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington, KY. We want to support our members wishing to participate, whether through a Rally or if it has to be attained by an alternate route. **The region will be covering all of the Championship's registration fee. We are also asking for those with interest in Rallies, Certification, and Championship to let your DC/CA and fill out an intention to participate.**

Stay Safe and Best Wishes,
Kathie Schulz
Regional Supervisor,
Middle California Region, USPC

Virtual 2021 USPC Equine Symposium and Convention

~January 27-30 ~

I strongly encourage All Officers and Members to participate in the USPC Virtual Equine Symposium and Convention. The opportunities offered at this event include leadership training, workshops, networking opportunities, and even shopping. The educational opportunities are available in five tracks, with content for everyone.

Everyone registered to attend Equine Symposium and Convention have access to all content for six months following the convention.

Registration continues through January 30

Training Sessions for Treasurers are available !!! Take Advantage!

Check out the Virtual Equine Symposium and Convention, the details are on the website given below.

Go to the [2021 Virtual Equine Symposium and Convention Website](#) for more details and [Register](#).

Virtual Quiz Rally

~February 27-28~

*Entry Fee - \$45/competitor,
Entries are Open Now, Entries Close – February 11, 2021*

There is a new, designated website for this event.

See below for the link,

Please pass this information along to your interested members.

MidCal Is not holding a Quiz Rally in 2021.

[Link to USPC Virtual Quiz Rally Website](#)

Contact information

MidCal Region Officer, Pony Club and Riding Center

This link will take you to the Middle California Website Contacts page. Here you will find the links needed to contact your Regional Officers and other MidCal Pony Clubs and Riding Centers.

Some quick and general information about the MidCal Regional Advisory Board:

This year the Mid Cal Region is being led by a team. The Regional Supervisor, Kathie Schulz, leads the group, including the Vice Regional Supervisor of Membership, Barbie Roth, and the Vice Regional Supervisor of Administration, Bess Pieracci. If possible, please include all three of us in any emails you send.

Regional Supervisor - RS

Kathie Schulz

MiddleCalrs@gmail.com

Cell: 408-506-0147

Kathie's schedule is flexible, she is available most of the time, but there are times when she is not. It would be best to text or email first. She will respond as soon as possible.

Essay Scholarship Fund:

This Essay Scholarship Fund helps offset the additional costs MidCal members have related to attending mounted Regional activities. There are four available scholarships available for the Spring and Three available in the Fall. Each Scholarship is \$175.

For information and application, click on the link below:

[**The Middle California Region's Essay Scholarship Fund**](#)

New Guideline and Reference:

We developed a Guideline and Reference document for the Clubs, Centers, and Members within the Middle California Region concerning the financial compensation of Upper-level Pony Club Members when used as Teachers and Examiners for Pony Club Meetings and Certifications. Click on the link below to see the document. This Document will also be available on the Regional Website:

[**Reference and Guideline for the Use and Compensation of the Upper-Level Members in the Mid Cal Region**](#)

H-B or H-A certification Sources for Study Help:

Facebook Group - "USPC Upper-Level Opportunities & Networking"

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/730077384509508>

Julia Magsam, who is running these Tutoring Tuesdays from the USPC Upper-Level Opportunities & Networking Facebook page, has also made a YouTube playlist: https://m.youtube.com/playlist?fbclid=IwAR1HjIbA8B4kzvBVoTxy_1CrQ4BxSmvOW84G30sBR SgQRmG1Mqj-DXpcQjo&list=PLJeBtKb77dHNsh2C7IcPIDKxjedGa4-Ie

Middle California Region Website:

The Middle California region website is in the process of being updated. One area being updated is new libraries of education links. We also want to know what else our leaders and members would like available on the Website, we invite suggestions. Our website is <https://middlecalifornia.ponyclub.org/>.

NEW - A place for Club/Center events open to all MidCal Region members. We invite you to send information about your open to region member events for inclusion in our public calendar. For example, the events can be anything, mounted or unmounted clinics, virtual HM lessons, and fundraisers.

The Public Calendar is at <https://middlecalifornia.ponyclub.org/calendar/>.

The Webmaster will update the website each Friday. Please send full information (when what, where, who, cost, contact information) to Michelle Cale at mscale86@gmail.com.

Events can also be advertised publicly through the MidCal Facebook page. Please indicate whether you would like this for your event too!

Social Media

MidCal has accounts on Facebook and Instagram. We would love to make these accounts representative of all clubs and centers, all activities, and our membership's whole demographic. Please send photos, videos, and news to Michelle at mscale86@gmail.com (with photo credit). *Mounted images must include helmets and appropriate footwear.*

Diversity and Inclusion Working Group

The working group always welcomes new members. Our group is open to Non-Pony Club members. We will have a working group update in the February newsletter. **Interest, Questions, or Comments, contact Michelle Cale at mscale86@gmail.com.**

Land Conservation/ Land Stewardship and Pony Club

Equestrian Land Conservation is a topic that should be near and dear to the heart of all of us and is required knowledge in Pony Club Certifications. In recent months, two-horse facilities with strong ties to MidCal Pony Clubs and historical equine contributions to their communities are threatened with closure and equestrian use of the land removed. California's Del Mar Horse Park is also under threat. I will also express MidCal's Gratitude to Terry Hilst for her purchase of Fresno County Horse Park after John Marshall announced his retirement.

The First Facility to come to my attention is the **Marina Equestrian Center run by the Marina Equestrian Association**. This facility hosts Santa Cruz County Pony Club meetings and MidCal Regional events. This facility is where D Camp was held in 2020. Petitions were circulated, and letters were written to Marina City council, and that made a difference. The Facility is still not completely safe from danger. The Marina City Council released a call for vendors to submit plans of use proposals for the property. The Property is to be renamed Marina Equestrian Center Park. The Marina Equestrian Association, which is led by Nichole Fisher (SCCPC's DC and a MidCal VRS), responds with a plan of use for the facility. Pony Club is putting our support behind the MEA and their proposal for lease and property use.

The second property that is just getting its fight rolling is **Coastside Corral/Sweeny Ridge Equestrian in Pacifica**. **Sweeny Ridge Equestrian is the home of the California Riding Academy Pony Club Riding Center**. The property is privately owned and was put up for sale. The prospective buyers intend to change the property use from commercial outdoor recreation/horse use to inconsistent use with how it has historically been used and the desires of the greater community. Concerned Pacifica citizens and other parties are petitioning the City of Pacifica to grant the property Historic Landmark Designation and protection or preservation. The petitioners are also asking the city to deny any temporary use permits and prevent any alterations to the property and structures until the full historical importance of the property can be determined.

You may ask why this is such an important property that Pacifica's citizens and the Bay Area Equestrian community are upset.

- It is the last facility on the Northern San Francisco Peninsula of its size with a covered arena.
- Current property use minimally impacts the environment and provides the area with recreational and economic opportunities.
- The property includes open space and trail access to historical parts of the GGNRA.
- That with the current zoning, the property should have been safe.

Little bit more Background

According to the late mayor Grace McCarthy, the property initially had an excess of 500 acres. Mayor McCarthy expressed concern about the reduction of this historic site's property over 50 years ago. Coastside Corral was an integral part of the City of Pacifica's early development era and has been operating since pre-incorporation days.

Here is a link to the Petition and more details. Please Support, Sign, and Share! This Petition! It is amazing what changes can be made by Public awareness <http://chnq.it/VKfLtp9fK5>

FYI- In the new edition of Pony Club Magazine that arrived this week is an article titled “ Seven Steps to Influence zoning changes in your community. “ Check it out!

Regional Events

Where to find more information and Registration for Regional Events

The website is where information about Region Clinics and Rallies and Club/Center Events open to all MidCal Members is found. Note: Due to mother nature and other factors beyond our control, changes may need to be made to any event.

- The Region’s Web Site is <https://middlecalifornia.ponyclub.org/>.
- The Website Public Calendar is <https://middlecalifornia.ponyclub.org/calendar/>.

2021 Middle California Regional Calendar

(conditions permitting)

January

27- 31 - *First-Ever Virtual USPC Equine Symposium and Convention*

- **Everyone registered to attend the Equine Symposium and Convention have access to all content for six months following the convention.**
- **Treasurer Training is being offered.**
- The attendance/registration fee is **\$95**
- Information - <https://pheedloop.com/uspc2021/site/home/>.
- Registration - <https://www.ponyclub.org/secure/AnnualMeeting/Default.aspx?guid=a1d4ec85-b024-401b-903c-639dfb0221b0>

February

7- *Virtual Treasurer Review Workshop* (4 hours majority picks time)

Pony Club Policy requires a peer review of a club’s financial record every two years or when the treasurer is changed.

27-28 - *USPC Virtual Quiz Rally* - This meets the requirements to participate in either the Standard or Modified USPC Championships. MidCal Is not holding a Quiz Rally in 2021.

- **Entry Fee - \$45/competitor,**
- **Entries are Open Now, Entries Close – February 11, 2021**
- **Event Website - <https://pheedloop.com/virtualquiz2021/site/home/>.**

March

6 - *Virtual Palooza* - The majority of the programs will be of interest to our older members (C1+, Teens, and Adults). There will be an Intro to Quiz Rally program for our

young members. Other programs being planned include D3- C2 S&C, HA/HB prep topics, and Equine emergency preparedness and safety.

7- *D Level S&C* with PVPC

20 and 21 - *Dressage Rally* - South Bay Horse Ranch

April/May

17, 24, or 8- *SJ Rally* - MidCal/Camino Real Paso Robles Horse Park

June

5/6 - *TET Rally*, Santa Cruz Co. PC

16-19 - *C Camp*, Sport Equine, Fresno

27- *C1/C2 Certification*- South Bay Horse Ranch, Gilroy

July

10/11 - *D Camp*, Marina Equestrian Center

19 – 26, USPC Championships & Festival, Lexington, Kentucky

August

12 -15 - Pony Club Recognition at Woodside Summer Event. *Clinic & Eventing Rally*

September

5 - *D1/D2 Standards & Certification*

October

10 or 16 *C1/C2 Cert.* the Horse Park at Woodside

November

7 or 14 - *Regional Annual Meeting*