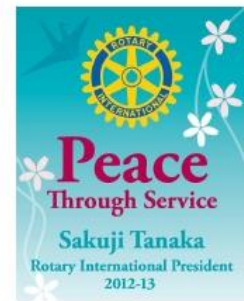




ROTARY CLUB of Kern River Valley

Rotary is a volunteer organization of business and professional leaders who provide humanitarian service and help to build goodwill and peace in the world. Rotary clubs exist to improve communities through a broad range of humanitarian, intercultural, educational & charitable activities.

Celebrating 50 years of Service 1962-2012



Thursday, June 20: 6pm

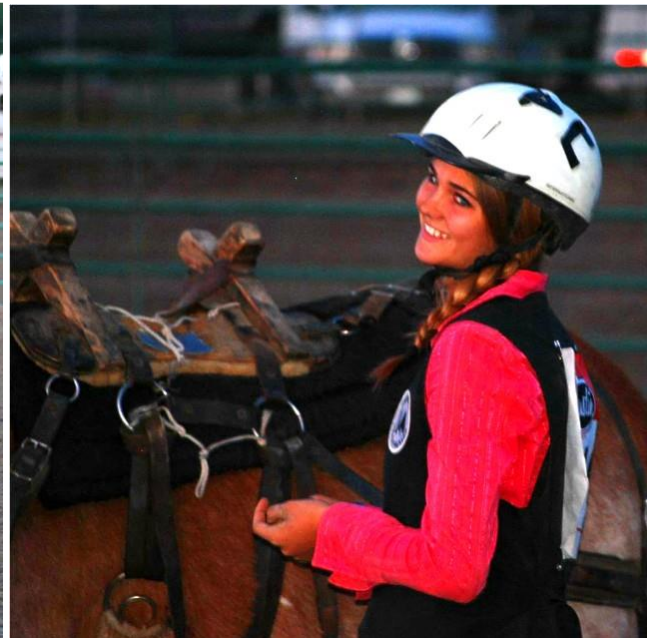
KRV ROTARY CLUB MEETING

[Rotary Club of Kern River Valley](#) meets almost every Thursday for a dinner meeting at the [KRV Elks Lodge](#), 6708 Wofford Heights Blvd. (next to The Reel Cinema), Wofford Heights MAP: <http://g.co/maps/p77jp>.

SPEAKER: REID HOPKINS reports on 2013 Mule Days Celebration in Bishop

The **One Spade Youth Packers** is a program started in 1995 by Reid and Eileen Hopkins to develop both character and leadership skills in boys and girls ages 9-17.

Many of the participants are "at risk" or from a disadvantaged home life. The program seeks to give the kids an outdoor experience with horses and mules that may otherwise be unattainable to them to instill discipline and respect for themselves, others and nature.



Max Reynolds (Individual Packing) 2013 Bishop Mule Days Celebration | Amber Woolwine Photos: [Loren Kleier](#)

The team begins training each January at the Hopkin's ranch in Kernville. In May they compete at the world famous Bishop Mule Days against other kids and adults from all over the country. The program uses a "hands-on" approach with a "team" focus to teach wilderness ethics, mule anatomy/physiology, shoeing, feeds and feeding, equine nutrition and first aide. Various different packing techniques including the Decker, Sawbuck and Aparejo are taught. The entire program is provided at no cost to the kids or their families. **The primary sponsor is the Rotary Club of Kern River Valley**, but many others provide critical donations. The team's success over the years has earned them international renown. Their hard work has earned many an opportunity to work in commercial packing outfits, and has provided valuable experience to assist in college and career placement.

EXTRA DINNER GUESTS: \$10.

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