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## ONTARIO'S MANE EVENT AT THE ALL ABOUT PETS SHOW

Randy Bird is recognized throughout North America as one of the premiere trainers of both riding and driving horses. He has trained horses for coaching, combined driving, racing, eventing and for many of his clients who just want a safe equine companion to go for a quiet leisurely ride or drive. His graduates have competed at the prestigious Royal Windsor Horse Show in England, the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair in Toronto and the 2010 World Equestrian Games in Lexington Kentucky.

Born and raised in Harwood Ontario, Randy spent his younger years competing at local fairs and horse shows, riding in western games. At the age of seventeen, he won his first Standardbred race. His passion for horses became the focal part of his life. In 1987, his career in horses was changed forever when he was introduced to the training methods of legendary Australian trainer J.D. Wilton. Since that time he has refined these methods to suit the needs of both riding and driving horses, of all breeds, that he trains. For some of these horses it is their last stop and he finds it very satisfying to be able to turn a troubled horse's life around, and to make it a safe and trusting companion to its owner. As a result of his success with his methods, he has built a very impressive clientele reaching from Prince Edward Island to California. His philosophy of "Quiet Man Quiet Horse" has earned him a deep respect from his clients throughout North America.

In 2005, along with a film crew and a reporter from the Globe and Mail, Randy travelled to a Bureau of Land Management holding yard in Rock Springs Wyoming. Their goal was to rescue eight wild Mustangs, all over the age of ten, which were deemed unadoptable and as such, putting their very lives in jeopardy. The idea was to help raise awareness to the plight of the older Mustangs by proving that they could be trained and have a useful life. It was hoped that it might encourage others to do the same and possibly save thousands of these magnificent animals from a cruel and senseless fate. He was able to successfully train a 13 year old gelding to drive, a feat thought impossible by many.

As a result of his participation and success with this project, he has been featured on national television and in various newspapers and magazines. A documentary called "Saving the Mustang", a film capturing the highlights of the project, has been produced by Primitive Pictures and Stornoway Productions. It is now being aired on several channels. Randy's first film "Quiet Man Quiet Horse" which was produced by Primitive Pictures has been aired worldwide.

Randy now has three generations of Mustangs residing at his ranch in Harwood where anyone is able to come and visit them. Please stop by and visit Randy at his booth, or at the main stage, where with the help of some spectacular video footage he will tell this remarkable story.