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2012 Mustang Festival

The second annual Mustang Festival was once again a wonderful success. Patrons from as far away as Kirkland Lake came to watch two days of riding and driving demonstrations. As well they were able to get up close and personal with Wyoming Mustangs Cheyenne and Kay Cee. Second generation mustang Cody performed in the “Trouble on the Trail” riding demonstration, along with Randy Bird and the “Real Mantracker” Terry Grant. Third generation mustang Jackson made his debut at the festival. The three year old gelding was featured in the “Surviving Driving” demonstration and did an outstanding job. The loud noises in the demo made by vehicles, small engines and gunfire had no effect on the talented young horse who stayed impressively calm throughout the demonstration.

Terry Grant was on hand for both days, much to the delight of fans, and was kept busy signing autographs and photographs. Terry and Randy Bird did several question and answer sessions over both days, taking questions related to horses and training as well as about Grant’s show. The films “Quiet Man Quiet Horse” and the newest release “Saving the Mustang” were also shown in the main tent. The Durham Region Classic Mustang Car Club was on hand again this year bringing their spectacular collection of older Mustang cars, and eagerly participating in the days activities. Their generous donation was also greatly appreciated. Music by country singer Cliff Edwards, and Scott and Sue Stanley was a real treat for all attending.

Sunday afternoon’s feature was the CHEX Television Marathon Driving Challenge. In this year’s event, news anchor Keri Ferguson and sports analyst Tyler Calver did battle on the marathon course driving Bird’s horse Tanner through a series of pylon obstacles. In order to complete their run they were required to quickly climb on the back of the marathon vehicle while Randy Bird drove over a bridge and through another series of obstacles requiring Ferguson and Calver to navigate through incredibly hard and fast turns. Finishing the course they had to go through the ever popular “water hazard”, which had the crowd going wild. In the end, Keri was the winner but Tyler too put up a valiant effort.

The weekend was made complete with a visit from the McCall Family, including their son Mitchell, who was the 2011 and 2012 Easter Seals Ambassador. Mitchell enjoyed a ride on the carriage pulled by Tanner and accompanied by Randy and Terry. Sunny skies all weekend long added to the success of the show. As in past years, all profits from the event were donated to Easter Seals Ontario.

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If you'd like more information about this topic or to schedule an interview with Randy Bird, please call (905) 342 – 3053 or email randy@randybird.ca