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THIRD ANNUAL MUSTANG FESTIVAL WRAP-UP

The third annual Mustang Festival was held August 24 and 25 at the farm of internationally renowned horse trainer Randy Bird in Harwood. Patrons from as far away as Ottawa and Toronto enjoyed the two day show which featured many exciting and interesting events.

The Tiny Hooves Miniature Horse Club from Picton Ontario paid their first visit to the Festival, and were enjoyed immensely. Their portion of the show consisted of a marathon driving challenge, as well as a talk on the origins and history of the Miniature Horse. Noted Purina horse nutritionist Marc-Andre Blouin gave an excellent presentation on proper feeding and horse nutrition on Saturday, and was very well received. Farrier Dave Davis, along with sons Tyler and Justin, did a live shoeing demonstration on both days and had patrons staying long after to ask questions. The live music also enjoyed both days was provided by Scott and Sue Stanley of Warkworth, and recording artist Cliff Edwards now residing in Gananoque. The “Meet the Mustangs” presentation brought the crowd up close and personal with the original Wyoming Mustangs Cheyenne and Kay Cee, as well as second generation Cody and third generation Jackson. Jackson, who was making his second appearance after debuting at last years show, was a real crowd pleaser. His near flawless performances in both the “Surviving Driving” and “Trouble on the Trail” demonstrations left no doubt in the viewers minds as to the incredible intelligence and patience of the young Mustang. The demonstrations were complete with loud and unexpected noises such as sirens, vehicles, small engines and other sights and sounds encountered on both the road and trail.

Another highlight of the show was the visits on both days by eight year old Aidan Cameron and his family from Grafton. Aidan is the 2013 Easter Seals ambassador for the Peterborough district. He enjoyed his rides on the marathon carriage and being with the horses, and certainly was a wonderful addition to this years show. Keri Ferguson, news anchor from CHEX television made her second visit, and participated in both the marathon driving and cheque presentation. Over \$2000.00 was raised for Easter Seals at the two day event, and many first time visitors had nothing but wonderful things to say about the show.

The Mustang Festival committee would once again like to thank all of the sponsors for helping to make the show a success as plans for next years event are underway.

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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