

**Contact Info:**  
Cyndi Steele  
(208) 290-2701  
[info@horsinaroundexpo.com](mailto:info@horsinaroundexpo.com)  
Website: [www.horsinaroundexpo.com](http://www.horsinaroundexpo.com)

Something for **EVERY** Horse Lover  
at the 5th Annual  
**Horsin' Around Horse and Mule Expo**  
Sandpoint, Idaho  
**June 19-21**

**SANDPOINT**\_\_Horse lovers don't have to travel hundreds of miles to get high-level expert advice and training because it's all rounded up in Sandpoint, June 19-21.

The goal of the **5<sup>th</sup> annual Horsin' Around Horse & Mule Expo** at the Bonner County Fairgrounds is to showcase local talent, including trainers, clinicians and competitors in everything from cowboy mounted shooting to extreme trail riding. There's something for everyone whether you want to ride, watch or just socialize with other equine enthusiasts.

"We want people to realize there is an amazing amount of horse knowledge and talent right here at home," said Organizer Billie Cochran.

Trainer Jack Mervin of Blanchard is the headline clinician. Several spots for the clinic are still open, so register today. Everyone is encouraged to drop in and watch and learn.

Jack refined his training system during the last 20 years, getting a solid start while working with his father and twin brother, Rich Mervin, on large ranches in Southern Idaho. Together the Mervin brothers developed the "Student of the Horse" training system.

Jack helps riders understand how horses move and learn so they can respond to cues whether in the saddle or on the ground.

"There's a huge gap in translation," Jack said. "Every horse understands this language and how they use their body to move."

Jack's goal is to teach humans this language so they can clearly ask their horse to work. Jack and Rich won last year's Trainers' Challenge, a competition to train a young horse during the weekend.

This year four local trainers will compete to teach several advanced maneuvers to young horses with no more than 40 rides. It's like a **Cowboy Reality Show** as the trainers show their talents by getting green horses to perform a series of advanced skills in just three days.

Each trainer gets three sessions during the weekend to prepare and school their horse. The Trainers' Challenge Competition is judged by Gail Silkwood of Moscow.

Participants are:

- **Aliscia Kay**, Athol, Idaho
- **Talea Morgan**, Chewelah, Washington
- **Dusty Roller**, Davenport, Washington
- **Philip Gunning**, Libby, Montana

The weekend kicks off Friday at 6:30 p.m. with a demonstration by the NW Mounted Shooters, who shoot pistols at targets while riding their horses at a full run. It's one of the fastest growing equine sports in the nation. Riders who want to learn mounted shooting skills are invited to attend Saturday's clinic.

Unlike most expos, ***anybody*** can bring a horse or mule and ride in any of the events and clinics focused to please the entire family. Or spectators can just watch, learn and enjoy the fun. Participants compete for cash and prizes in a variety of events:

- **Extreme Trail Race**
- **Battle of the Breeds**
- **Gaming**
- **Riding Clinics**
- **Trainers' Challenge**
- **NW Mounted Shooters Demos and Clinic**
- **Kids Stick-Horse Rodeo**
- **Demonstrations & More**

**Sponsored in part by: Days Inn Sandpoint, joint oats 4 horses, Carter Country, Colt Interests Inc. and Cobalt Trailer.**

***For lodging information, call Days Inn Sandpoint at (208) 263-1222.***

For more information about the Horsin Around Expo, visit [www.horsinaroundexpo.com](http://www.horsinaroundexpo.com), e-mail [info@horsinaroundexpo.com](mailto:info@horsinaroundexpo.com) or call (208) 290-2701.

###

**Editors/Reporters:** If you are interested in interviewing the clinicians or trainers, here are their contact numbers. Please ***do not*** publish their phone numbers. Thanks for your interest.

Clinician **Jack Mervin** of Blanchard, Idaho: (208) 437-2701

Trainers' Challenge Participants:

- **Aliscia Kay**, Athol, Idaho (208) 691-6928 ([www.doublekhorsemanship.com](http://www.doublekhorsemanship.com))
- **Talea Morgan**, Chewelah, Washington (509) 935-4101 or 936-1698.
- **Dusty Roller**, Davenport, Washington (509) 636-3003 ([www.diamond-dquarterhorses.com](http://www.diamond-dquarterhorses.com))
- **Philip Gunning**, Libby, Montana (406) 293-8294 or (406) 291-2128.

Trainers' Challenge/Battle of the Breeds Judge **Gail Silkwood** of Moscow (208) 883-1145 or cell: (509) 336-4504

