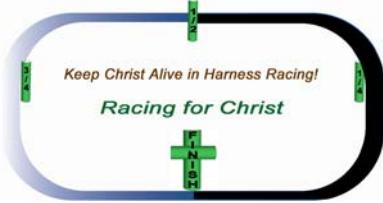


We are at the half mile pole



In God We Trust

APRIL, 2013

Remember...

I pray for all our members every day.

Chaplain Lee

Make Disciples at All the Harness Tracks

By Chaplain Lee Alphen

Jesus said to go and make disciples of all the nations teaching them to obey everything He commanded. Then He promised to be with us always to the very end of the age. (Matthew 28:19)

Specifically God has commissioned CHHA to **Keep Christ Alive in Harness Racing!**

Well, guess what. God is helping us. Chaplain John Prescott is starting a Bible Study at Vernon Downs. CHHA endorsed John, an ordained minister who was chaplain at some racetracks in California before moving to New York, as a CHHA Chaplain a few months ago. Chaplain John races a small stable at Vernon and has been informally serving the Lord as God puts people in his path. He recently asked management for permission to begin a Bible Study in one of the tack rooms.

Julie Working called me from Monticello this week to say there is a group of people who would really like a chaplain or at least an occasional Bible

Study. Karen Hayes, who races at Saratoga, was at her granddaughter, Melissa Bigler's wedding (See the back page). She welcomed me to visit her barn again at Saratoga. Perhaps we can start a Bible Study there too.

The good Lord is opening the doors for us. By the way, I think God arranged for CHHA member, Jason Settemore, to have the job as CEO and VP of racing at Vernon, Tioga and the Meadowlands just so he could help us. Thanks Jason!

Friday, May 3, I will drive to Vernon Downs and spend some time with John Prescott talking about his ministry. We will visit the paddock and meet with the horsemen and women praying with some of them. John has arranged for CHHA to present a blanket to the winner of one of the races.

Saturday, May 4, I will go to Tioga Raceway to meet with the folks there and also present a blanket. Jason Bluhm, at Jason Settemore's request, is helping us with arrangements at Tioga. Sunday, May 5, I will stop at Monticello and enjoy a Bible Study

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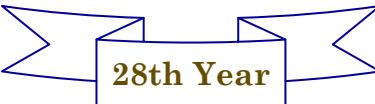
For newsletter questions or ideas please contact:

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 603-401-7271 (cell)

Scholarship Applications

DUE APRIL 30TH

Visit our website for the application and guidelines
www.chha.net



Serving Jesus Christ in Harness Racing



CHRISTIAN HARNESS HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

To CHHA,

My name is Lyndsay Hagemeyer and this is my third year at the University of Cincinnati. I am the daughter of Scott and Cindy Hagemeyer of Clarksville, Ohio. I would like to thank the Christian Harness Horsemen's Association for their generosity in selecting me for this scholarship award.

I am a psychology major and also working towards the pre-requisites for veterinarian school. I take my studies and school work very seriously and am honored to be on the Dean's list every term since winter of 2010. After completing the undergraduate requirements, I look forward to attending vet school and becoming a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine.

My strong faith has guided me in all of life's decisions, most importantly educational and life goals. I am a member of the Olive Branch United Methodist Church where I am very active. I enjoy participating in plays and many other church functions. I also volunteer at Our Father's Kitchen, which is a local soup kitchen. When I am not in class, I enjoy helping my dad with the many horses on the farm.



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Obituaries

Please pray for the families of these harness racing friends:

Richard A. King, 68, of Stoneboro, Pa., died March 6.

Elder James Vernon Tolson, 66, of Troy, AL died.

W. Dale Hall, Sr., 84, a former lifelong resident of Pocomoke City, died on Monday, March 25 in Prospect, KY.



Edward W. "Yock" Strawser, 85, of Amanda, Ohio, died April 3.

Helen L. Ross, 90, of Palestine, Ohio, died March 29.

Disciples from page 1 with Julie Working and her friends.

Rich Thorstenson will be the new face of CHHA at the Blooded Horse Sales at the Delaware, Ohio Fairgrounds. Please stop by our booth and welcome him. Monday, May 13, I will be on hand at the sale to introduce Rich around and show him the ropes. Of course I will be back again for Jug Week. Hopefully Ontario Chaplain Ken and Karen Carter and Pastor Joe and Marci DiDonato from the Meadows will join Rich and me. Marsh Townley promised to distribute invitations to our Wednesday and Thursday morning Jug Week prayer services around the stable area and fairgrounds.

Please pray that God sends the Holy Spirit to lead us in all these endeavors. Please pray God blesses our efforts to bring the Gospel to our harness tracks, farms and training centers. If you pray, God's name will be praised. We are counting on your prayers. They are what will make our ministry successful.

"Surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." (John 28:20) God is forever faithful! Praise the Lord!

Prayer Corner

Please pray for all the people on our Prayer List who are battling cancer, especially:

Doug Ackerman, Debbie Boardman, Gary Bryant, Rick Carson, Helen Collins, Janet Dehart, Jan Donovan, Chaplain Tom Farley, Marilyn Hankins, Mary Haskell, Betty Haws, John Hufford, Betty James, Karen Carter, Bob Kinsey, Wilma Mattuci, Joyceann McClelland, Michael McDonnell, Stephen McDonnell, Mrs. Miller, Corey Murphy, Suzanne Murphy, Fran Nori, Jay O'Neil, Dee Parsons, Doris Perzolla, Dr. Art Reynolds, Pete Richards, Rose Sinclair, Jimmy Summers, Fred Ward, Sr., Joyce Zeasapolowski and Will.

Please continue to pray for **Weldon Stockwell**.

These friends are also in need of our ongoing prayers:

Peter Blood, Lois Boyken, Mary Burton, Joyce Cardoza, Carol Ann Case, Faye Clayborn, Joan Collins, Dale, Dick, Mr. DiDonatto, Dennis Drenth, Billy Dubois, Nora Fenner, Barbara Elrod, Barbara Fowler, Debbie Gray, Harry Harvey, Nancy Haskell, Ruby Hensley, Miguel Hernandez, Paul and Mrs. Hershey, Carol Heusinkveld, Jerry Hissam, Donna Holterman, John Hostler, Jesse Hughes, Thelma and Winthrop Klark, Kenny Kane, Irving Liverman, Katherine Lonager, Faye Mackey, Pedro Martinez, Jr., Dean Miller, Stewart Nemiro, Bill Parker, Elaine Parlin, Waverly Parsons, Ralph Rosenberry, Rev. and Mrs. James Slack, Abe Stoltzfus, Tony, and Bill Wick.

Please pray for those serving in the military, especially: Chris Petrullo.

Stirling Brook Farm Wedding

Standing under a burlap arch in front of the sparkling white Stirling Brook Farm barn doors, Melissa Lyn Bigler and Yann Louis Lamicq exchanged wedding vows. Guests seated on burlap covered straw bales prayed with Chaplain Lee Alphen for God's blessing on Melissa and Yann and their life together.

Pictures of this April 13th international wedding include the beautiful backdrop of rolling pastures seeming to extend miles east to the Hudson. Melissa's parents, Farm Manager, Tim Hayes, his wife Melanie and son Tyler worked hard to make sure everything was perfect for Melissa and Yann on their special day. Melanie even made black raspberry preserves from berries grown at Stirling Brook Farm for each of the guests.

Yann's family came from Bruges, France, which is just outside of Bordeaux, to enjoy the festivities. They were delightful. His grandmother, Lise Lamicq, was mayor of her town for 18 years.

This showplace of a farm was created as a state of the art breeding operation by farm owner, Bill Donovan.

Congratulations Melissa and Yann! God bless you!

See photos on back page

Memorial Contributions

Memorials are posted at www.chha.net.

In memory of **Jay Ingram** by his wife, Donna Ingram

In memory of **Shirley Fiske** by her daughter, Melanie Fiske

In memory of **Mac K Johnson** by Linda Rice

Carol Cramer has rotator cuff issues.

Pierre Noel, who races in Quebec has cancer.

Kathie Baitzel is recovering from back surgery. Please keep her elderly father in yours prayers. He was hospitalized after a fall.

Brad Strawser had a mild heart attack.

Praise Reports

Karen Carter's tumor is shrinking and there is a good possibility it will be small enough to be removed in a few weeks.

Suzanne D'Ambrose says thanks for the prayers for her Shark River, NJ neighborhood that was destroyed in Hurricane Sandy. Her home is 95% repaired.

Korey is doing much better. *Wilda Macdanel* says "Thanks for the prayers!"

Arthur Reynolds says "Prayers have been answered and after stem cell transplant I have been pronounced cancer free, I can't tell you the feeling you have when people are praying for you. God does amazing things."

Marsh Townley says, "Bristol, newborn, is doing fine now, thank you for putting her on the list. She went to church with us last Sunday and slept through the service. I told members that she was as well behaved as I am, but I could not get agreement from anyone."

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Please pray for my intentions _____

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Hagemeyer from Page 1 This year we are standing five stallions, and we are busier than ever. It is such a blessing to be able to assist in all aspects of the farm. I especially look forward to the arrival of the many foals that we are expecting. I love everything involving horses, and this is a factor in my decision to become a veterinarian. I also work at a local tack shop where I enjoy seeing my fellow horsemen. Additionally, I volunteer with kids in the 4-H program teaching them about driving horses and putting on other educational clinics.

I would like to again thank the Christian Harness Horsemen's Association for their continued support. I am so thankful for the many opportunities this scholarship has given me. It is an honor to represent this organization as scholarship recipient.

Many Thanks,
 Lyndsay Hagemeyer

Prayer from page 4

the radiation.

When your neck is radiated, you normally lose the ability to swallow, lose your taste for all foods as your taste buds are zapped, and lose the ability to produce saliva as your salivary glands are zapped. Your short term memory is affected (like I really need more of that at age 58!). The radiated areas hurt a lot during recovery, so I had a constant headache (hurray for Percocet!). Life for me and those around me was pretty miserable.

A few weeks later I had another PET scan which indicated there was an "uptake" at the spot where my left tonsil used to be. But the results of a biopsy were negative. It was merely scar tissue, a false alarm!

My cancer ordeal has really been next to nothing compared to what many other cancer patients have endured. God has blessed me graciously with healing and another round of life to live. So what did prayer have to do with anything?

Well, from the time it was determined that I might have cancer, my wife was pretty much daily posting my saga on Facebook. You can't imagine how rapidly the word spread throughout our community and beyond. I immediately started receiving e-mails, texts, phone calls, and Facebook posts. Many were from people I had never met.

Lee Alphen and the CHHA prayer team prayed for me often. I received two prayer shawls and dozens of church bulletins with my name in them, asking for prayer from the congregation. Virtually everyone I came in contact with told me they were praying for me.

Why did God allow me to contract cancer? I don't know. But Romans 8:28 says, "And we know God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to His purpose."

It doesn't matter how, when, or why. But it did happen, and a whole community of believers pulled together and prayed for me more than you could imagine. And I am now healed of cancer. I have grown much closer to God than I ever was before!

Don't ever discount the power of prayer. It is enormous. And thanks so much for all the prayers you have directed my way. They worked!!!



157 North Main St.
Salem, NH 03079

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Visit www.chha.net.*

Make Disciples at All Harness Tracks

Letter from Lindsay Hagemeyer

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Stirling Brook Farm Wedding

Memorial Contributions

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Bigler/Lamicq Wedding Photos

What Good is Prayer?

1

Please indicate
address corrections.

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Wedding at Stirling Brook Farm

Weds



*Melissa
Lyn
Bigler*



*Yann
Louis
Lamicq*



Story on page 2

What Good is Prayer?

Why should we pray? Does God really answer our prayers? These are tough questions.

In Gethsemane Jesus asked His Father to take the burden of His impending death away. But Jesus died on the cross. So what good is prayer? Does it work???

My life is proof that prayer works and that God is working in our lives all the time! A year ago I felt a small lump on my neck. A biopsy showed I had a squamous cell cancer, typically a smoker's cancer. But I had never smoked a day in my life. A PET scan

showed a half-inch tumor on my left tonsil.

The surgery to remove several lymph nodes and the left tonsil was July 10, 2012, and two weeks later I was back at work, feeling normal again except for the ten-inch incision on my neck along with some discomfort and numbness. The pathology report indicated the only cancer found was in the one lymph node I originally noticed was swollen and the left tonsil—the best news we could have asked for.

But after 33 radiation treatments the real pain began. I was not sick one day with the cancer, but I never felt worse in my life than from



Greg and Karolyn Gehman

Cont. Page 3