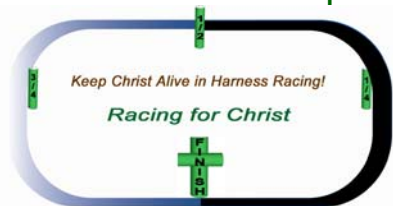


We are at the half mile pole



*Serving Jesus Christ in
Harness Racing*



In God We Trust

MAY, 2013

CHRISTIAN HARNESS HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Remember...

I pray for all
our members
every day.



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*For newsletter questions
or ideas please contact:*

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603-401-7271 (cell)

Happy Memorial Day

Please remember our
veterans and pray for those
serving in the military.



May 27



July 1

Your Great Gift *By Chaplain Lee Alphen*

During the Depression, Mr Yates, a poor sheep farmer in Texas, was having trouble paying his mortgage. Mr Yates likely spent his time grazing his sheep on the west Texas hills worrying about how to feed and clothe his family. They were living on Government Subsidy.

In 1926 Mr. Yates invited The Transcontinental Oil Company to explore Yates Pool for oil. The first well produced mega barrels a day. Soon they built huge tanks to store the oil. Of course there was so much oil, they could not build enough storage tanks. In 1929 the field peaked at 41 million barrels of oil.

When Mr. Yates purchased his farm he also purchased all the oil and mineral rights to the land. Yet, he was living on relief - a multimillionaire living in poverty. The problem was he didn't know the oil was there even though he owned it.

We read in Acts 2, the Holy Spirit came in the wind. The disciples were

enjoying a meal together when the whole house was filled with the sound of a rushing wind. In the Gospel of John, Jesus tells us the Holy Spirit is like the wind, it goes wherever it pleases and you cannot see it.

I got an email from one of our Racetrack Chaplains asking for prayers for the people at a farm in Texas that lost a barn and about 30 horses in the whirlwind of a tornado last week. Then this week we witnessed the devastating tornadoes in Oklahoma. In fact more and more communities are being impacted by the winds of these fast moving, unpredictable, powerful storms. Some people even get nervous during the howling wind of our North Easters here in New England. Can you imagine what the first Pentecost must have been like? The Holy Spirit came in power and everyone heard it.

In Exodus 3, remember God appeared to Moses in the burning bush. The fire meant that Moses was in the presence of God. Of course, the fire on Mt. Sinai was only for Moses. Everyone else stood at a distance. Only

Cont. on Page 2

Bible Study at Monticello

Sunday, May 5th, Julie Working gathered with Ruth Ingram, Terry Finch, Terry Harp and Denise Sebolsky for the first Bible Study at Monticello Raceway. They scheduled it so I could join them on my way home from visiting Vernon Downs and Tioga Downs.

It was good to see Terry Finch, who is the Horsemen's Representative and currently an equine dentist. Terry trained my filly, Peppermint Snip, back in the 70s, while he was working for Clint Galbraith. I was impressed he remembered her well, including all her markings.

Terry Harp, who is related by marriage to Warren Harp, is very knowledgeable about the scriptures. She will be a big help to the group as they continue to meet and study God's word. Hopefully I can join them again over the 4th of July weekend since I plan to go to Goshen. Please keep this new Bible Study in your prayers.



Ruth Ingham, Terry Harp, Terry Finch, Denise Sebolsky and Julie Working

Obituaries

Please pray for the families of these harness racing friends:

Burton L. Blanch, 82, of Wilmington, DE, a longtime member of the Brandywine Raceway publicity department, died April 30.

Philip "Greg" Callahan, 50, of Bridgeville, DE, died April 20.

Annette Funicello, a Standardbred owner, breeder and wife of trainer Glen Holt, died April 8 in Bakersfield, California. She was 70. Annette was also the most popular Mouseketeer on "The Mickey Mouse Club."

Kelly Lowe, age 42, of Hilliard, Ohio, died April 4.

George Irvine Millar Sr., 89, who together with his son, George Jr.,



campaigns such notables as Ball And Chain, died at his home in Newmarket, Ontario April 12.

Robert E. O'Donnell, 88, a prominent breeder for many decades, died April 10 in Florida. O'Donnell started Hobby Horse Farm in Grafton, Ohio, a carriage-trade breeding farm and in the 1960's became a Standardbred breeder.

Linda H. Pape, 72, of Wilmington, Ohio (formerly of Indian Hill near Cincinnati), died April 30.

John Ryan, 78, died on March 28.

Brooks Sayre, 90, of Pomeroy, Ohio, died April 27.

Frank L. Tingley, 84, of Afton, NY, died April 13.

Judy Diane Turnbull, 62, of Sharon, WI died April 15.



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, Pierre Noel, 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, Carol Cramer, 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 Nemirow, Bill Parker, Elaine Parlin, Waverly Parsons, Ralph Rosenberry, Rev. and Mrs. James Slack, Abe Stoltzfus, Brad Strawser, Tony, and Bill Wick.

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

Raymond Miller is recuperating from heart surgery .

Susan Adcock has a heart disease.

Amy Bondon is really struggling with back issues from a herniated disk.

Diane had shoulder surgery and has other health issues.



Vernon Downs

Chaplain John Prescott is very anxious to get a Bible Study started at Vernon Downs. He introduced me to many people in the paddock who are excited about joining him. Please pray they find a good place to meet. Initially they may meet at his barn but they really need to find space in one of the buildings.

Chaplains Rich and Robbie Heffington from Arkansas are sending bibles to both Chaplain John at Vernon and also Julie Working at Monticello. God bless them! CHHA provided some Bible Study Guides and other materials to both groups.

See pictures on back page

Gift cont. from page 1 Moses got the fire of God in his life and God's power. Only Moses understood God's presence. But, not anymore, now, since our Acts 2 Pentecost, God's power, God's purity, and God's presence are for all believers. That includes us.

Once again the presence of God shows up, almost with the same effects. Here we have a mighty wind like a storm, fire that looked like tongues resting on each person there, and other languages, speaking God's word to different groups of people. Pentecost was an updated Mt Sinai.

Pentecost is not just a celebration of the descent of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles, but the descent of the Holy Spirit on the people of God gathered together. Luke teaches us in Acts 2 that it is the Spirit who enables the Church to fulfill Jesus' commission to be his "witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth."

Let's all ask ourselves, "Am I one of those Spirit-filled people carrying out Jesus' commission?" There are plenty of opportunities at our race tracks, farms and training centers.

We read in the Gospel of John that at Jesus' last meal with His disciples, He reminds them that love is the bond that unites Him with His Father, and love is also the bond between Jesus and the disciples. Those who love Jesus keep his commandments, and both the Father and Jesus dwell in that person.

Yes, love is the greatest gift. Are we like the multi-millionaire, Mr. Yates, who does not realize the riches he has? We all have gifts for the building up of the kingdom. There are many different gifts. We have all been given the gift of love. Jesus promised that the Advocate, the Holy Spirit would be with us always, teach us everything we need to know and remind us of all that He told us. What more do we need?

Praise Reports

We have **Bible Studies** starting at **Vernon Downs** and **Monticello**. **Kam**, for whom we have been praying, is up to 7 lbs. 13 oz. and doing well.

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Donations also accepted at www.chha.net.

Tithing

Probably the most heralded instances of tithing at any harness race track were done by Vivian Farrington the owner of the pacer Rambling Willie. She vowed to give 10% (tithe) of all of Rambling Willie's earnings to God via the church that her father pastored in Ohio. Rambling Willie's earnings proved to be considerable up to 1983 earning over two million dollars.



What is a tithe? A tithe established by God is literally one tenth of all of the increase of an individual. It was instituted of God to fund the efforts of the ministers of God, the Levites, who lived off the tithes. Additionally the tithe also helped "the homeless, the fatherless and the widow", Deuteronomy 26:12. According to scripture, Leviticus 27:30, a tithe belongs to God and "is the Lord's: it is holy unto the Lord." A tithe is a holy thing.

Paraphrasing verses 3:7-12 of Malachi, God asks, "Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed me in tithes and offerings and as a result you are under a curse." Then God goes on to say "prove me", "try me", "and see if I will not open the windows of heaven and pour you out a blessing that there shall not be room enough to receive". God continues to say that he would also "rebuke anything

that would come against you to devour your efforts. And all people will call you blessed."

In the early fall of the 1990's, during the meet at Los Alamitos, Ca., Dr. Rocovich died. Dr. Rocovich was like a father to me and when he died I inherited a four year old pacer named Rifleman. I trained horses for Dr. Rocovich to fund my ministry at Los Al. and Cal-Expo at Sacramento, Ca. Rifleman was a sound, game pacer who had won a race or two for Dr. Rocovich. However, when the meet ended at Los Al. and the backstretch made the junket to Sacramento, something changed about Rifleman and his finishing ability For ten weeks he could not finish better than third and most of the time he was 4th—last. Very discouraged one night I got down on my knees in a tack room at Cal-Expo and pleaded with God to know why such a wonderful horse would not do better. Instantly this prayer was answered. I received a very strong impression from God in my heart telling me "try tithing". Because the impression was so strong I could not get money out

he won easily... followed with a total of five wins in a row.

of my hands fast enough and sent fifty dollars off to a church.. This was on a Thursday night. Rifleman was in to go the next night. Well, that night he won easily. Again I sent 10% of his earnings off to the church and the following Friday he won again. And for the next three races tithing and winning followed



**Chaplain John Prescott
And his wife, Valerie**

with a total of five wins in a row. He was claimed after the fifth win by a horseman who told me he was tired of finishing back of Rifleman. Rifleman never did a thing after he was claimed. But now, beside myself with joy, and with interest in tithing, I started to tithe on another horse I had who was not doing very well. And yes, he did go out and win his very next start driven by Mark Aubin.

The Bible can sometimes be very difficult to understand, but when there appears a clear challenge from God about tithing, wouldn't it be worth giving God a shot, a try? I'm sure Lee Alphen and other Christian horsemen would love to hear about how God has blessed you, especially through tithing. And isn't it a wonderful thing to be blessed by God for tithing, but also to know that he is there and that he cares and loves you.

In God's Love,
Rev Dr. John E. Prescott



157 North Main St.
Salem, NH 03079

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Please indicate
address corrections.

Memorial Contributions
Memorials are posted at www.chha.net.
 In memory of Carol Yohn by her daughters' 5th grade teacher, Mary Ellen Jones. ☺



Chris Lems

**Vernon
Downs**

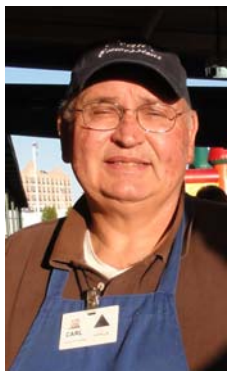


Mary Beth Fisher and Steuben
Loan Pine

Story page 3



Mike Austin



Carl Kalk



Gates Brunet

**Pray for
our new
Bible
Study**



Doug Dean