

TRACK MINISTRY NEWS

Race Track Chaplaincy of America, Pennsylvania Division, Inc.

"Sharing God's Love at Philadelphia Park"

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IN THIS ISSUE

Independence Day Party 2009
ABWMOPAD Annual Conference
Parkesburg Baptist Church Tours
the Racetrack
God Things at the Track
Youmans Fund Helps Stable Employee
2009 Christmas Party Gift Form
Website Totally Redesigned



Mom and daughters enjoyed receiving the leis, racket and ball and Frisbees.

Independence Day Party 2009

Molly treated 45 children to gifts for the day, and we had enough leis to pass around to several of the adults and parents. Everyone had a beautiful day to enjoy the delicious food prepared by Ron Finley and his crew. By the end of the day, the Backstretch Café had fed hundreds of hungry partiers. Several remarked about how much they liked the music provided by the DJ. Everyone went home having greatly enjoyed the event.



We all enjoyed a beautiful day of family fun.

ABWMOPAD Conference at Bucknell

Women from across Pennsylvania and Delaware met at Bucknell University June 5-7 for a weekend of spiritual inspiration. A group of 10 women from FBC Levittown, PA, attended, and also enjoyed an uplifting time. Last year the Levittown group wore t-shirts announcing that they were the "Baptist Bad Girls," a name handed them at the conference years ago by Dr. Nick Salios, retired Chaplain who served at Philadelphia Park. But this year their shirts read, "Walking with Jesus." Draw your own conclusions!

From the Bible Studies (Rev. Karen Selig) to the Missionary speaker (Sara Larson Wiegner) to Worship Leader Hornette Washington and singer Zach Ellsworth, all were deeply blessed. We sensed God's special presence as we listened, learned, sang and enjoyed fellowship together.

In our ministry at the racetrack we are privileged to have the support and commitment of the women of ABWM. People at the track know that many of the gifts for their children and the toiletries and clothing that come through White Cross are theirs because American Baptist women love them and show God's love through their kindness. We cannot thank you enough for your care for our work at the racetrack.

Parkesburg Baptist Tours the Track

Saturday, June 13, was a perfect day to welcome a group of sixteen from Parkesburg Baptist Church to tour the racetrack for the day. (Rev. Bob Coates and Chaplain Cordell "go way back" as they say, having first met when Bob was pastor of First Baptist Church, Ossining, NY in the early 70's. Chaplain Cordell was College Pastor at The King's College at the time.) Besides seeing the horses, sights and sounds of the track, the group also met recently retired jockey, Todd Glasser, and had their picture taken with him at the Rec Hall (see below).



Chaplain Cordell (kneeling) and Todd Glasser (center) pose with the tour group.



The Parkesburg Baptist Church tour group met the exercise rider and his horse.

God Things at the Track

✂✂"Bob," an exercise rider at the track injured himself in a fall, leaving him without income for his family for some weeks. We contacted an organization that helps with emergency situations from time to time. We thank God that they were able to help.

✂✂"Tom" was ruled off the track because of his serious drinking problem. We were able to get him taken to a place where he could get a ride to his home state, and several times he expressed gratitude for the help we gave him. His situation reminded us that God shows his compassion for those who suffer from addiction. "Tom" is now receiving excellent care.

✂✂At the Jockey Room meeting one of the jockeys asked us to pray for comfort for his cousin, whose daughter had been killed in a car accident. We prayed for the family. Afterwards, the jockey said, "I'm glad I came today. God has helped me."

✂✂Following our Chapel service a man came to ask us to pray for his son, who was dealing with a dangerous situation. We prayed for him. The next week the father was beaming when he reported that the matter had been resolved. We thank God for the way he answered prayer in such a specific way!

Board of Directors - RTCA, PA Division, Inc.



Seated (L to R): Mr. Rey Roque, Secretary; Mr. Donald Hogeland, Treasurer; Mr. Dan Sourwine and Rev. Tom Brooks, Vice-President

Standing (L to R): Mrs. Bobbie Enke; Rev. Linda Haughton, President; Rev. Nelson Krute; Rev. Christine Holcomb; Mrs. Hilda Garcia and Chaplain Jack Cordell

Board Members Emeritus

Rev. Dr. Nicholas Salios, Chaplain Emeritus
Mrs. Rose Salios, Chaplain's Assistant Emeritus



Exercise riders and horses must work in the worst of weather. In this shot, Roberto is shielding his eyes while galloping a horse on a cold, snowy morning. Roberto faithfully attends our Wednesday evening Chapel services.



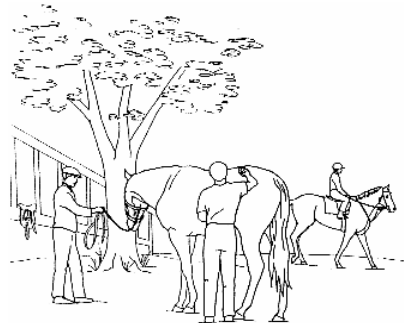
Ron is a valet in the Jockey Room. His job is to be sure that his jockey's silks and equipment are ready for each race. Ron faithfully attends our devotional times with the jockeys. We regularly pray for his father, who is battling a serious illness.

2009 Christmas Party Gift Form

It's that time of year again to send you the annual Christmas Party Gift Form, which you will find enclosed with this newsletter. The self-addressed envelope is also enclosed for your convenience. Throughout the year we praise the churches for their strong and lasting commitment to our Annual Christmas Party, which benefits not only the children of the people, but also those individuals who live in the dorms.

You will note that we have added the idea on the form that you are welcome to send a check for your planned commitment. It will save you shopping time as well as the cost of postage for large, heavy boxes. Of course, we invite you to use either option.

We cannot thank you enough for your devotion to our Christmas Party needs. Each year, your response has been such a blessing to all of us!



Youmans Fund Helps Stable Employee

Lauren Williams, backstretch employee at Philadelphia Park, is also a student at Bucks County Community College. Lauren recently received a grant of \$500.00 from the Granny Youmans Scholarship Fund toward her fall semester fees at the school. We congratulate Lauren for her commitment to improve her life through education.

The Scholarship Fund is named in memory of Catherine Youmans, mother of Connie Youmans, office manager of the Pennsylvania Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association at Philadelphia Park. The Fund gives grants to those backstretch employees who seek to advance themselves through training.

"Granny" Youmans was a longtime supporter of the Chaplain's ministry at the track as well as a person devoted to those who work on the backstretch.

Website Totally Redesigned

The RTCA, PA Division website has a new look, thanks to the outstanding work of Joseph Hwang of Total Technologies, a local IT company in Norristown, PA. Web address: www.rtca-pa.org. We frequently update the site

