



Rambling Willie

Keeping Christ Alive in Harness Racing!

Since 1983

In God We Trust



Christian Harness Horsemen's Association Newsletter

April 2018

Remember,
I pray for all
our members
every day.



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Wanted
Praise Reports
Testimonies
Articles

Please send to Chaplain Lee Alphen
leealphen@comcast.net
or
157 North Main St · Salem, NH 03079

In Memorium

This issue
of the
newsletter
is printed
in memory
of Andy
Wood.



Rest in peace Andy! You
are missed.

High Hopes

By Chaplain Lee Alphen

The new dark bay colt with black points and a white star is beautiful. You look at him this way and that but you're not satisfied. Finally, he follows his mother out to pasture, testing his spindly legs. As he briefly stands facing you, you see his hoofs are pointing straight and nicely lined up under his shoulders. Turning back to Ma, he shows you a perfectly lined up hind end as well. Then, as he gracefully trots off a few easy paces, you are ecstatic. This is the one! Your hopes are high as you have him tattooed and send in his stakes payments.

Ten of the disciples are locked together in a room, afraid the authorities will come find them. Suddenly Jesus is there and says, "Peace be with you." They are happy when He shows them His hands and His side. Then Jesus breathes on the disciples and tells them to "Receive the Holy Spirit" (John 20:19-22 NIV).

Thomas wasn't with the others, and he refused to believe until he saw the markings for himself. A week went by and Jesus again showed up without unlocking the door. This time Thomas was there. Jesus repeated His greeting, "Peace be with you." Then He invited Thomas to explore the wounds in His hands and side and told him to believe. Thomas exclaimed, "My Lord and My God!" Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen Me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed" (John 20:24-29 NIV).

John includes the stories of seven of Jesus' miracles in his gospel as well as the story of His resurrection. He says, "Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are

not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name" (John 20:30-31 NIV).

You believe in your colt with the great confirmation and are willing to send in the stakes payments. You hold on to your hope, visualizing him in the winner's circle following the big races. The stories of the colt's training miles and qualifying races has us all excited too. We are there with you trackside as the horses come out, cheering as the gate closes and the colt gets away great. We have faith. We are believers and planning to be in the win picture.

We just celebrated Easter and remembered the passion and death on the cross of Jesus to pay the price for our sins. This is BIG! Jesus died so the gates of heaven could open for us—you and me! We can go to heaven! It is beautiful there and everything is perfect. Everyone who goes there will never be sick or in pain or thirsty ever again (John 4:14, Revelation 21:4, Revelation 22). Have you told your family and friends about this? Are they planning to join us in heaven? Are their hopes high? Are your hopes high?

"What?" you say. "You want me to tell others about this Jesus?" Yes, that's right! When we really get serious about trusting God and believing in Jesus and His resurrection and that we are going to heaven, God will help us to tell others. How can we possibly keep this to ourselves?

We are the ones Jesus spoke about when He said, "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed" (John 20:29 NIV). When we invite Christ's peace to fill our hearts, the Holy Spirit comes too and helps us be the people of faith God made us to be (John 14:26-27).

Blessings

From Bill and Maddy Wright

Thanks for your love and prayers. Maddy is doing well and recovering from chemo. We pray that the cancer does not return. We are so blessed.

From Dot Morgan...

My heart is overflowing with joy as my brother Morris just got the results from his 2-yr Pet Scan. The throat cancer he had was so aggressive and vicious, already in stage 4 when treatment began, that the doctors gave him poor odds of survival. Typically, a cancer survivor is 5-yr clean, but for this particular cancer 2-yr was the huge milestone. Morris has worked and traveled in over 100 countries. He has a strong network of friends and family that relentlessly bombarded heaven on his behalf. I'm so grateful that we can come boldly to the throne in time of need and know that God hears our prayers and covers us with His Loving Embrace!

From Larry Lederman...

Larry had his first MRI since the surgery. The cancer is not growing back yet. Praise God! However, the doctor thinks it will. He told Larry to hope and pray it grows outward because then he can do something for him. If it grows in, there is nothing he can do. So, let's pray that if it does grow, it grows out. Of course, I am continuing to ask God for a miracle. Since Larry does not want to take chemo, he promised the doctor he would have an MRI every 3 months.

From Dan Venier

Just was working in the barn the other day and heard the song "He saw it all" by the Booth Brothers, and it made me think although Jesus is not performing miracles in the streets like in the day of old; he is still doing miracles in our lives still today. If we just take time to stop and get quiet with the Lord, He is there in our hearts leading and blessing us if we allow Him to. If you haven't heard the song, I highly recommend it. God Bless! Dan Venier

From Valdo A...

I want to thank God and my Savior for helping me realize I cannot help a person who has a drug problem or reconcile relationship with them. I found out that person is still an addict, and I am hurting myself expecting that they will get better, that we can be together or I matter to them. After 3 years of praying for us, now I can only pray for addict's healing and to move on finding my own happiness. I feel like God gave me closure and wings. Amen

Scholarships

The Christian Harness Horsemen's Association will be awarding two scholarships for the 2018/2019 school year. Available to graduating high school seniors and/or students enrolled in an educational institution of higher learning. Students who demonstrate a strong commitment to their Christian faith and are involved in

He Saw It All by the Booth Brothers

I was working in town one afternoon
Attending some business affairs
I heard a commotion a couple streets over
And wondered. "What's happenin' there"

A young man was running from in that direction
And stopped just to catch his breath
I asked him to please tell me what was the hurry
He smiled up at me and he said.

I was trying to catch the crippled man
Did he run past this way?
He was rushing home to tell everyone
What Jesus did today
And the mute man was telling myself and the deaf girl
He's leaving to answer God's call
It's hard to believe but if you don't trust me
Ask the blind man, he saw it all
Go ask the blind man, he saw it all

So my friend if the troubles and burdens you carry
Are heavy and dragging you down
You've tried everything you can possibly think of
There's no relief to be found
That very same Jesus that altered the future
Of a blind man, the deaf, and the lame
Is still reaching out in your hour of trouble
One touch and you're never the same.

You'll be trying to catch the crippled man
Did he run past this way?
He was rushing home to tell everyone
What Jesus did today
And the mute man was telling myself and the deaf girl
He's leaving to answer God's call
It's hard to believe but if you don't trust me
Ask the blind man, he saw it all
Go ask the blind man, he saw it all
He saw it all



*May the angels
lead you into paradise*
Memorials posted at www.chha.net

Memorial Contributions

In memory of **Tony Abbatiello** by: Harold Kelly
In memory of **Brad Farrington** by: Jim and Judy Ferguson
In memory of **Sherie Hankins** by: Kim Hankins
In memory of **Jerry Menchhofer** by: Paul Combs
In memory of **Bob Miller, Sr** by: Amy Bondon
In memory of **Francis Tierney** by: Harold Kelly
In memory of **Ben Wood** by: Harold Kelly

harness racing are encouraged to apply. Students must be full-time and may be enrolled in degree or certificate programs. Graduate students are not eligible.
Application is available at www.chha.net

Please verify or add address on back

Please activate my FREE membership. My address is on the back.

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Please pray for my intentions _____

Phone _____

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electronically in the mail both

Please accept my donation of _____. Check Cash   

Please return to: leecalphen@comcast.net

Credit Card # _____ Exp Date ____/____

OR
CHHA
157 North Main St.
Salem, NH 03079

Name on Card _____ Security Code _____

[To Donate Now—Click here](#)

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Gifts

10 Rambling Willie Note Cards (see picture)

CHHA hat **New Item Blue hat with CHHA Logo**



Horseshoe Nail Cross necklaces and key rings and heart bracelets—see below

Books

Daily Oats by Chaplain Sam Ed Spence

Downloading God by Jack Levine

Live A Life That Matters for God by Jack Levine

My Addict Your Addict by Jack Levine

Where the Rubber Meets the Road with God by Jack Levine

Don't Blow It With God by Jack Levine

Sound Mouth—Sound Horse, The Gager Method of Equine Dental Care
by ER Gager and Bob “Dusty Rhodes”

Still: A Story of the Black Doctor of the Jersey Pines by Edmund R Gager



Rambling Willie Remembers

These lovely 5 x 7 Rambling Willie cards are packaged in sets of 10 cards. They are blank inside.

Horseshoe Nail Heart Bracelets and Cross Necklaces and Keyrings

Horseshoe Nail Product Descriptions

Bracelet: Horseshoe nails are bent into a heart and tied together with coordinated wire and attached to a leather strap.

Key Ring: Horseshoe nails are bent in to a cross and tied together with color coordinated wire. Key ring is attached with rawhide.

Necklace: Key ring: Horseshoe nails are bent in to a cross and tied together with color coordinated wire.

[Horseshoe Nail Item Order Form—Orders can also be placed at \[www.chha.net/products\]\(http://www.chha.net/products\)](#)

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ Email: _____

Mail with \$20 ea + \$4 shipping to:

Roger Huston · 225 Fieldbrook Dr · Cannonsburg, PA 15317



Bracelet Qty: Black / Silver ____ Rawhide /Gold ____ Rawhide / Turquoise ____

Necklace Qty: Red ____ Blue ____ Turquoise ____

Keyring Qty: Red ____ Blue ____ Turquoise ____ Silver ____



Obituaries continued from page 5

Gary Eckert, 81, died Feb 9. He raced horses in California, Illinois, Michigan and New Jersey.

Zachary 'Zach' Douglas Fraser, 24, of Knoxville, Tennessee died Feb 15. He attended Concord Christian School and graduated from Farragut High School in 2012. Zach was a calming presence in any situation. He cared about your problems, never focused on himself and compassionately gave of himself to everyone. At the core of Zach was his faith in Jesus. He loved the Lord with everything in him and deeply followed the Lord in all aspects of his life. He found his church home at Fountain City Church. Zach also loved learning and books were read through quickly; he always wanted to discuss his newly acquired knowledge. Two years ago he went to the Dominican Republic for a year with SCORE ministries. This trip changed his life in many ways and instilled in him a strong passion for missions and sharing the gospel with people all over the world. Zach's parents are very good friends of Lori and Ray Romanetti.

Glen Holt, 87, of Shafter, CA died Feb 12. Glen retired as a sergeant with the Shafter Police Department in the 1960s. He began a career in harness racing at the California fairs as a driver and trainer before becoming a regular at Bay Meadows, Hollywood Park, Santa Anita Park and Cal Expo during the 1970's. He collected \$830,885 in the sulky and \$642,665 as a trainer before the US Trotting Association amassed these statistics. With 171 horses under his name as a breeder, Holt also owned the distinction of being the first trainer to install a pool in his home state to condition his horses. Holt also was married to actress Annette Funicello.



Paul M. "Porky" Johnson Sr, 79, of Ironton, OH, died Feb 17. Paul was an iron pourer for the Dayton Malleable for more than 20 years. He also trained horses for Bob Henry and served as second trainer for Jim Arledge, Sr.

Bruce Weymouth McGhee, 89, the owner of McGhees' Mile in Aiken, died Feb 7. Bruce served in the Army as a helicopter pilot and then earned a Bachelor in Business degree from the University of Maine, Orono. He worked as a stockbroker for many years, and always had a passion for horses. Bruce became a great farmer and horseman throughout the years: breeding, breaking, training, and driving standardbred horses. He also enjoyed flying his plane and helicopters in his spare time. In 1997 he moved to Aiken, SC from Maine with his family and purchased the former, Aiken Training Track, now McGhees' Mile.



Robert A. Miller, Sr, 85, died Feb 9. Bob, a Navy veteran, worked as a police officer in Newark. After retiring, he spent 20 years as a supervisor for Meadowlands Racetrack. Bob was the caregiver for his wife Maryann who has dementia and will likely be institutionalized.



George Norman, Jr, 74, of Salisbury, MD, died Feb 14. Through his adult life, George held many positions at Perdue, Purity Bacon and General Supply Equipment. George loved to fish, cook and work on car engines. George was Ronnie Norman's father. Ronnie, who trained at Ocean Downs, is taking his dad's death very hard.

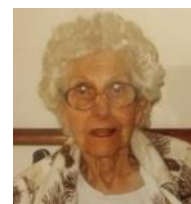


Ralph Paul, 89, died Feb 28. Ralph earned an Architecture degree from the University of Florida. He was a builder and built many prominent developments and projects throughout Delaware. He had many interests including restoring vintage automobiles and standardbred racing. He was a frequent visitor to Brandywine Raceway, and every other track, and owned some good horses.



Roscoe Rodgers Jr, 88, died Feb 18. Roscoe was fortunate to be a participant in harness racing, a sport he loved for most of his life. Originally from Ohio, he relocated to the Freehold, NJ area to establish his own racing stable. He enjoyed claiming low and climbing the ranks. He wanted his horses comfortable in their individual gait. After marrying, he relocated his stable to Ocean Downs and the Maryland circuit until his retirement. Realizing it's difficult to retire without the horses, he "retired" to Pompano Beach, FL and raced a small stable until 2010, when he truly retired and moved to Prescott Valley, AZ.

Jeanette "Jean" Armstrong Huff Roseberry, 96, of Clearfield, PA, died Feb 23. Jean was proud of her Christian faith and devoted to her Lord. She enjoyed baking, cooking, crocheting and helping her friends and neighbors. She also loved passing along tough love to all of her grandchildren. Her life lessons have built a strong foundation for them. Jean was Regina Beinhauer's mother.



Morris Trabert, 95, of Sigourney, IA died Feb 9. Morris worked as a general laborer and carpenter. He moved to Douds in the early 1950s and began raising horses. He continued to train and race horses most of his life. He loved all things baseball and going to auctions looking for collectibles. He also loved to visit with friends and had plenty of jokes to share with them.

Obituaries

Theodore J. (Ted) Cegielski was retired from Buffalo Color. He was an active member of the Western New York Harness Horsemen's Association and the USTA with seven horses registered to him at the time of his death. He was an avid sportsman, but mostly enjoyed his family time.

Nancy Fry, 70, of Hilliard, OH, died Feb 26. Nancy was a faithful CHHA prayer partner as was her husband Jim, before his passing in April, 2011. She was the picture of strength, grace, and compassion and will be greatly missed by her daughters and grandchildren. Jim owned harness horses and also owned and operated Fry's Horse

Transportation and Fry's Equine Insurance Agency. In early 2010, Jim retired and sold the insurance agency to Susan Strawser.



Obituaries continued on pg 4

Sources for Obituary information include:

www.harnessracing.com, www.ustrotting.com and www.standardbredcanada.ca

Prayer Corner

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

Lew Arsenault, Dan Ater, Debbie Boardman, Jeanne Duso Boudot, Jana Brocco, Gary Bryant, Chaplain Bo Bullock, Rick Carson, Karen Carter, Sam Castimore, Candice Coleman, Sharon Cromer, Joe Crothers, John Cross, Mike Deeters, Barbara Dinning, Maryanne Doherty, Jerry Eby, Chaplain Tom Farley, Francine Federici, Tiffany Fisher, Lloyd Fortune, Paul Fontaine, Pastor Bill Grant, Margaret Groce, Remi Gunn, Marilyn Hankins, Warren Harp, Rose Hennessey, Morris Hoagland, Glenda Holloway, Jeff Hurst, Betty James, Rita Jacobs, Bob Kinsey, Donnie Knight, David Kovach, Larry Lederman, Rox Liles, Ricky Macomber, Nelson Malin, Wilma Mattuci, Joyceann McClelland, Donna McIvor, Mrs. Miller, Frank Mirahmadi, Lalya Mosley, Corey Murphy, Howard Niels, Pierre Noel, Jay O'Neil, John Panetta, Dee Parsons, Margie Polhamus, Leigh Raymer, Robyn Rembleski, Emily Roper, Daren Richner, Taila Kapo Rinski, Del Smart, Elaina Storlazi, Doug Stringer, Jack Taylor, Carrie Thompson, Gary Tyron, Fred Ward Sr., Roland Wardel, Marty Woebkenberg, Maddy Wright, Joyce Zeasapolowski

These friends are also in need of our ongoing prayers:

Jason Apperti, Jordan Aracena, Chaplain Kelly Blanton, Ken Bartels, Pleasant Batson, Gary Bennett, Peter Blood, Marilyn Bondon, Stephanie Bouchard, Danny Breton, Betsy Brown, Kevin Burns, Mary Burton, Carol Ann Case, Thelma Chrisman, Mary Clements, Joan Collins, Anthony Coletta, Bev Crane, Karen Crothers, Dale, Jim Ferguson, Melanie Fisk, Sylvain Gagnon, Greg Gehman, Dr. Howard Gill, Bob Goth, Barbara and Brent Graham, Debbie Gray, Bob Hilliard, Bob Jones, Ruby Hensley, Miguel Hernandez, Paul and Mrs. Hershey, Carol Heusinkveld, Jerry Hissam, John Hostler, Jason Hughes, Jesse Hughes, Donna Ingram, Don James, Barb Jenkins, Kenny Kane, Barbara Kinsey, Thelma Klark, Michael Klark, Victor Kiss, Art LaPlante, Larry Lawter, Ray Levay, Sam Lilli, Katherine Lonager, Sharon Lowell, Faye Mackey, Joanne Maiorca, Pedro Martinez, Jr., Melissa MacNeill, Kaye McDonnell, Dean Miller, Raymond Miller, Nancy Miner, Gordon Murphy, Doug Nash, Bill Parker, Elaine Parlin, Ronnie Parker, Waverly Parsons, Susan Parks,

Aaron Peternel, Rita Polese, Noreen Paulen, Art Plant, Joanne Ranger, Donnie Richards, Lori Romanetti, Tori Scott, Madisyn Smith, Brad Strawser, Lee Anne Taylor, Monica Thors, Marsh Townley, Lorraine Truitt, Mel Turcott, Justin Vance, Max Walton, Steve Warner, Greggie Welch, Jr.

Please try to keep me updated about the people on our prayer list.

Please pray for those serving in the military, especially John Beauregard, Joshua Hankins, Yann Lamiqu, Chris Petrullo, Sgt. David Thomas, and Elizabeth Welch

Special Intentions for this month:

Gene Denny went into a nursing home.
Bill Bailey has a large tumor on his liver.
Newborn, Ava Fisher was born with a collapsed lung.
Jo has been having difficulties after a hip replacement.
George, 90, slipped on the ice and broke his pelvis.
Tom Maloney had cancer related surgery.
Maria's grandmother had carotid artery surgery.
Debbie Morris was just diagnosed with breast cancer. Her son is a paraplegic.
Rev Cathy Peternel has a hemorrhage in her brain.
Keith Sheridan has a tumor in his trachea and is fighting cancer throughout his entire body.
Pompano blacksmith, Jeff Schaefer's daughter, Kayla, was in the Parkland High School classroom and witnessed her teacher and a student shot to death.
Pray for everyone impacted by this horrific massacre and for an end to such rampages.
Please, please, pray for God to be welcomed back into our schools and for us to once again be one nation under God, indivisible with liberty and justice for all.
Jake and Rosie Huff's kids go to school about 5 miles away from Parkland. The school shooting really affected them. When Jake realized God is bigger than all this, God's peace came over him.
Please pray for traveling mercies for all our friends who are beginning to move back North.
Please pray for an end to the EHV outbreaks and speedy recoveries for all the infected horses. Please also pray for the horsemen and women whose livelihood is impacted.



157 North Main St
Salem, NH 03079
USA



Racing for Christ

Your horse can too

Information at www.chha.net

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Address corrections

Scholarship applications
are now being accepted.
Visit www.chha.net

Discounted breedings available at
www.chha.net/breedings-available

Up In Smoke by Pastor Stan Gill

“Up in Smoke” was the name of one of our more colorful racehorses through the years. My father acquired her when someone had been unable to get her broke. When she came to our farm, it didn’t take long to see why she had been such a challenge! However “outlaw horses” were one of my father’s specialties, and eventually she made it to her first race. When she came in third place, it was probably one of our most fulfilling third place results of all time! There were many days I’m sure I imagined she would never make it. She was never an easy horse to work with, and we actually had to gain special permission before each race to bring her out last - regardless of her post position. While other horses would line up and stop before going on to the track, not “Up in Smoke.” For “Up in Smoke” a stop could mean rearing up over backwards, so we always attempted to keep her on the move. The Winner’s Circle was an interesting experience and was more of a very quick pause for the picture to help keep her on all four feet. Through the years she improved somewhat but was always a challenge. On one occasion I had the opportunity to drive her in a race at Goshen Historic Track and lived, of course, to tell about it!

As we take a moment for reflection, if we’re honest, we all have some outlaw “Up in Smoke” in our lives. Scripture tells us in Romans 3:23 “for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God”. However, the good news is that we can surrender our lives to the perfect trainer in God Almighty who gave His Son Jesus. Just like a horse has to surrender to the breaking and training process, each of us does well to surrender to God as the trainer of our lives. James 4: 7 tells us, “Submit yourselves, then, to God...” Proverbs 3:5,6 “Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.”

If you’ve never done so, how about surrendering your life to God?! Pray something like this:

“God, I want to begin to trust and surrender my life to You. I admit to the outlaw of sin in my life and ask for Your forgiveness. I desire to live a new life in You. Help me to become the person You want me to be. Jesus, I thank You for dying on the cross for my sins and ask You to be my Savior and Lord. With Your help, may You be the One I listen to and follow. In Your name, Jesus. Amen.”

CHHA at the Sales



Picture left
Visit John Cross at our CHHA booth at the Springfield, OH Blooded Horse Sale, May 15th.

Picture below
Visit Rich and Sandy Thorstenson and the dog at the Meadowlands Sale, May 7th.



Gaitway Farm Event Tuesday, June 12th

Join us at Gaitway Farm in Englishtown, NJ Tuesday, June 12th for lunch and a message from NY Chaplains Humberto and Karen Chavez. Music will be provided by Marybeth DiAngelo and her friends. The event is co-sponsored by the Standardbred Breeders and Owners Association of New Jersey.

