



Rambling Willie

## Keeping Christ Alive in Harness Racing!

Since 1983

In God We Trust



### Christian Harness Horsemen's Association Newsletter

May 2018

Remember,  
I pray for all  
our members  
every day.



*Chaplain Lee Alphen*

#### Board of Directors

Chaplain Lee Alphen  
Racetrack Ministry  
Amy Bondon, President  
Greg Gehman, Vice President  
Knight's Landing Stable  
Roger Huston  
The Meadows and Little Brown Jug  
Lori Romanetti  
Moshannon Stables

*For newsletter questions or  
ideas please contact:*

*Lee Alphen, Editor*  
[leealphen@comcast.net](mailto:leealphen@comcast.net)  
603-898-1927  
603-401-7271 (cell)

Wanted  
Praise Reports  
Testimonies  
Articles  
Please send to Chaplain Lee Alphen  
[leealphen@comcast.net](mailto:leealphen@comcast.net)  
or  
157 North Main St · Salem, NH 03079



#### In Memorium

Memorial Day  
May 28, 2018

This issue of  
the newsletter is printed  
in memory of the men and  
women who died serving  
in the US military.

### See You in Heaven *By Chaplain Lee Alphen*

Bob Farrington thought he was paying about \$5,000 too much for Rambling Willie. He had four starts and \$349 on his card as a two year old. When he was three, he earned less than \$10,000. Perhaps Bob was right. He paid \$15,000 to buy the horse for his wife, Vivian, as a birthday gift. But, Vivian was brought up with faith. She never gave up on Willie in spite of two bowed tendons in his early years, a colic operation and numerous other injuries and illnesses. Every time it seemed that the right thing to do was to retire Willie, Vivian took to her knees. God and Willie kept proving themselves. Willie retired in 1983 after 12 years of racing as the leading Standardbred money winner of all time, earning over two million dollars. He was truly the "Horse that God loved."

The movie "Paul, the Apostle," captured the real undying faith of Paul, Luke, Priscilla and Aquila. In spite of the harsh beatings and abuse Paul received from the Romans while in prison, these faithful leaders would not condone retaliation from any of the followers of Jesus. Priscilla and Aquila were constantly coaching the young men in the love of Jesus. Paul refused to escape when some of the followers came armed with weapons to fight off and even kill the guards.

The Christians in Rome lived in constant fear of the Romans, and they were angry because their friends were being hauled off to the circus and fed to

the wild animals. Yet, the constant word from Paul, Luke, Priscilla and Aquila was the message of hope, love and forgiveness that Jesus lived and spoke. Luke stuck with Paul, determined to complete his second book, the Acts of the Apostles. He knew how important it was for the world to hear the message.

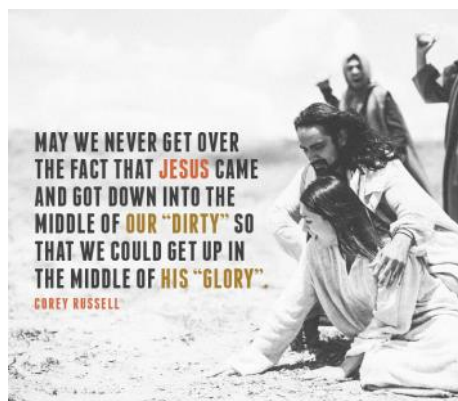
"God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16).

Who is Jesus to us? How strong is our faith? If we don't turn to Jesus in our hour of need, who do we turn to? Much of society today thinks they don't need God. They are masters of their own lives. They don't need church or Christian friends. Some think all they need is their electronics.

Christ gave us each other and taught us to love. It is important that we lend a helping hand, that we encourage and lift each other up, that we set a good example by forgiving and living as Christ taught.

Jesus came so that we could live forever. All of us who believe in Jesus

HAVE eternal life!  
We will never die.  
There is nothing this  
world can do to us to  
change that. Yes,  
these bodies will  
eventually return to  
the dust of the earth  
but our souls, our  
spirits, will live on  
forever with God.



Vivian Farrington trusted God with Willie. Let's trust God with our lives and the lives of those we love. One day I hope to see you in heaven—not too soon though.

## Blessings

*From Tom Luchento...*

Happy Easter to you and all your family. He Is Risen!! Alleluia We are most grateful for the wonderful miracle our son, Tommy received on Christmas Eve. He was near death and received a triple transplant surgery in Mt. Sinai, NYC of a whole intestinal tract, liver and pancreas. It was a difficult surgery. He had suffered from Crohn's disease since the age of 14 and had multiple surgeries, he was living from a feeding tube for the past 11 yrs. which plays havoc with the liver, He is doing so much better since the transplant, he was in the hospital for two months after the surgery. He is now home and has to go back to the hospital for blood tests and rejection tests so he still needs all our prayers that there are no complications or rejection. We are truly thanking Jesus Christ for this Christmas miracle. In His love, Tom and Carol Luchento

*From Larry Lederman...*

Larry's Oncology doctor, Dr Brian Chon, said Larry is a good candidate for Proton Therapy. Dr Chon told Larry he could kill his tumor. Praise God!!! There may be some tissue damage; however, that can be corrected with surgery. Please continue to keep Larry in your prayers. God appears to be working powerfully in his life. First, the tumor was inoperable and if it grew it would kill him. Then, when it did grow, he was referred to an excellent doctor who was able to remove 70% of the tumor. Then the surgeon gave him less than a year even with chemo. Larry did not want chemo as he has already been that route. So, the surgeon suggested checking with Dr Chon to see if he was a candidate for Proton Therapy. Praise God! It sure looks like God is working mighty miracles here. Please continue to pray for the tumor to be gone.

*From Ann MacNeill..*

Thanking God that Mom has been moved to the wonderful Palliative Care (Hospice) facility, and they have her feeling physically very comfortable. All of the family have come home and we are even able to share a few laughs with her when she's awake. Thank you for interceding on her behalf. God is Good :o) Ann

*From Omar Aracena...*

Jordan is doing phenomenally well thank God. Please let your prayer warriors know that I say thank you, but to please keep praying for her health and good nurses at

### **Movie inspired by his Evan Leversage's last Christmas**

The town of St. George, Ont., came together in October, 2015 to throw a parade, complete with artificial snow and Santa Claus, for Evan Leversage, who had an inoperable brain tumor and had asked his mother for one last Christmas. His mother worried her boy wouldn't live until late December. Evan's story is being adapted by Indian filmmaker Srijit Mukherji in a movie called "Uma." His mother will be heading to India to watch the premiere of the film inspired by the story of her seven-year-old son, who got to celebrate Christmas in October before he died December 6th. We had Evan on our prayer list thanks to Jo-Dee Brown.

night time. God bless you!

*From Robyn Rembleski...*

Thank you for your continued prayers. They are most welcome. Just went thru all my cancer tests and several tough ones. Results NO CANCER! A huge blessing and I know prayers are such a part of that - the good test results.

*From Marilyn Bradshaw...*

Morley is doing much better after his double stroke while in Florida, November 16, 2016. Thanks for all your prayers. We are keeping all the horsemen in our prayers. Bless you all. Morely and Marilyn

*From Annie Bordenricher..*

Please thank everyone on our behalf for prayers concerning my brother, Rev. Lloyd Fortune, who is battling cancer. The prostate cancer is gone and there is nothing active in the colon at this time. He met with a thoracic surgeon concerning the remaining lung cancer and began radiation treatments on 4/2/18. They shrink-wrap him so he is not able to move. Who would have thought?! Blessings, --Annie B

*From Patrick Downing...*

My mother, Sharon E. (Frecker) Downing, was born on March 23 1937. She passed peacefully on March 23 2018. She requested no service or announcement only that everyone try to be more kind and caring for each other and Trust in God.... Please also share this prayer on her behalf

### **Prayer:**

*Dear Father, help me always to be excited about the great gift you have given to me through the sacrifice of Jesus. May I be always mindful of the way you love me and the great price that Jesus paid to provide that gift. May I look to the Samaritan woman as an example of how I should show that love to others. You have called me your friend. Move in my heart to share the truth regarding the change that your friendship has made in my life. Give me the courage and the love of others that I need to be able to share. I will give you all the praise. In Jesus' name, amen.*



Please verify or add address on back

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

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Please pray for my intentions \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Circle one:

Please send my newsletter (circle below)  
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](#)

[Choose a Free Gift with your \\$20 donation](#)

**Gifts**

10 Rambling Willie Note Cards (see picture)

CHHA hat  **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  **New**

*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**

**Allyn G. "Big Al" Dentlinger**, 75, of Spencerport, NY, died March 8. He trained Standardbreds in Western New York for many years. Among the top horses in his stable included the Open pacer Woody Wilton and Jackie's Peanut.

**David Quentin Garbarino**, 87, of Pinehurst, NC, died March 8. He was an Army veteran and served in Korea. David owned and operated a dry cleaning business and retired and moved to Pinehurst, NC. David worked for his brother, Donald, who trained horses for years in New York and the Meadowlands in NJ. Donald's winter training place was Pinehurst. David and his wife, Lola, were good friends with Twila and Stephen Mahar.

**Robert Gruber III**, 52, of Lakeview, NY, died March 31 after suffering a medical emergency during an on-track training session. For 27 years Robert raced his Western NY stable throughout the northeast. His horses made 9,220 starts and won 1,235, making more than \$4.8 million in purse earnings.



**Lenard "Moe" Milburn**, 71, of Lebanon, OH, died March 16. He was a horse owner, trainer and driver.

**Dick Oldfield**, 84, of Lexington, KY, died March 11. After high school Dick started his own trucking company and later with his father, George, Adrian Sand and Gravel Company which supplied sand and stone to build many of the state and local highways in southeastern Michigan and northwest Ohio. After his success in the gravel business, he chose to devote his time to the harness horse business. His first real success came in 1965 with the pacer, True Duane, p,3,1:56.4 (\$366,050), who defeated the great Bret Hanover in his final lifetime start.

**Paul J. Phillips, DVM**, 93, of Batavia, NY, died March 10. Doc Phillips was a World War II veteran. After graduating from Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine in 1954, he joined Drs. Perry Combs and Rodney Forsyth in Batavia. After the passing of both Drs. Combs and Forsyth, he continued the veterinary practice solo. He also founded Genesee Valley Farm, where he could fulfill his passion for Standardbred racehorses. He continued practicing until his battle with throat cancer in 2013 forced him to retire. He will be well remembered for his wit, compassion and honesty by all who would walk into his vet practice, or interact with him at their farms.

**Richard N Pirog**, 60, of Orchard Park, NY, died March 14. He worked on the track crew at the Delaware County Fair and was track superintendent at Tioga Downs.



**Keith "Red" Ross, Sr**, 81, of Bellefontaine, OH, died March 22. Keith was a veteran of the US Army. He loved his horses and harness racing.

Keith was a longtime member of The Ohio Harness Horsemen's Association as well as the U.S. Trotting Association. One of his proudest and most recent accomplishments was his three year old filly "Like Old Times" winning "Horse of the year" in 2015.



**Keith L. "Butch" Sheridan**, 73, of Jamestown, OH, died March 20. Keith was retired from Delphi Corp. where he had been an accountant. He was a member of the Elks and an avid golfer. He was also a huge Ohio State Buckeyes fan and die-hard Cincinnati Bengals supporter. Keith was married to Roger Huston's sister, Joyce.



**Charles F. Sarkis**, 78, died March 11. Charles was a highly successful Boston restaurateur who later went into the racing business and was the last owner of the Foxboro Park harness track, formerly known as Bay State Raceway, New England Harness and Foxboro Raceway. He first entered the racing scene when he purchased Wonderland Greyhound Park in Revere, MA, in 1977. The track had many years of successful greyhound meets but in a 2008 referendum Massachusetts voters cast their ballots to ban the sport. Charles then turned his attention to Thoroughbred and harness racing when he leased what was originally called Bay State Raceway and changed the name to Foxboro Park. An equine virus outbreak shortened his first and only thouroughbred meet to 35 of the 72 dates awarded. The Foxboro track ran its last harness race in the summer of 1997, 50 years after the track opened.

**Elliott E. Tracy Sr**, 89, of Buxton, ME, died March 17. Elliott proudly served in both the US Army and the US Navy and served in the Korean War. He taught at Gorham High School for 21 years and will always be remembered as a dedicated teacher. Elliott enjoyed standardbred racing and was active as a racing official, starter, judge, and a racing secretary for many years at Scarborough Downs. He will always be remembered for his great sense of humor, wit, great stories, and his love of history.



**Dominic Burns "Nicky" Watson**, 77, of Cornish, ME, died on Jan 14. Nicky began his career working for George Proctor Stables in Cornish. He went on to have a long and successful career as a harness racing trainer, breeder and driver. He raced along the Eastern seaboard including Hinsdale, Green Mountain, Foxboro, Rockingham Park, Laurel, Roscroft-Oxen Hill, in addition to all the Maine tracks. "Dominic was liked and respected everywhere he raced," said brother-in-law Linwood Perkins. He was a true animal lover and cared for his horses. The last few years, his love was growing vegetables and working his land on the intervale and the Watson Farm Stand, where he enjoyed seeing all his old friends and meeting new ones.

## Obituaries

**James E. Boyd**, 83, of Batavia, NY died April 5. Jim took over the Batavia Downs announcing duties in 1984 and continued to call races there until it closed in 1996. He was also the announcer at Buffalo Raceway and called races at Finger Lakes racetrack. "Jim was known for a very steady voice and very accurate calls," said Todd Haight, Director/GM of Racing at Batavia Downs

**William McCutcheon Camp, Jr**, 90, of Holliknoll Farm, in Carrsville, VA, died March 20. William was a life-long member of Franklin Baptist Church in Franklin and

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,

served on its Board of Deacons. William loved his farm where he raised crops, cattle and Standardbred racehorses. He bred and raced many fine trotters and pacers, most notable of which was Nansemond, who won a leg of The Little Brown Jug in 1971, defeating the World Champion, Albatross. Nansemond's win is still considered the greatest upset in Harness Racing history.



There is nothing more important than  
**Your Eternal Salvation**

Kirk Cameron

Raymond Miller, Nancy Miner, Gordon Murphy, Doug Nash, Bill Parker, Elaine Parlin, Ronnie Parker, Waverly Parsons, Susan Parks, 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:**

Ms Anonymous tested positive for cancer with colo guard.

Bo Bullock continues to battle for his life.

Karen Crothers had shoulder surgery requiring her to stay still for six weeks.

Rev. Lloyd Fortune is undergoing difficult radiation treatments for lung cancer.

Chris Gooden lost his best friend, Danny Hayden, to cancer.

Matt Kakaley was hurt badly in a race accident.

Frank Keis had eye surgery.

Harold Kelly got a pacemaker and has some skin cancer.

Mike Murphy needs a kidney transplant. His kidneys are functioning at just 15%.

Steph – please pray she overcomes her drug addiction.

Myra Terwiliger still has problems from injuries sustained in a December car accident.

Gerry Truitt, 85, fell and cracked her head requiring staples and is now in therapy. Joyce Youshouck's daughter, Brenda, has POTS.

Joyce Youshouck's granddaughter had foot surgery.



157 North Main St  
Salem, NH 03079  
USA



Information at [www.chha.net](http://www.chha.net)

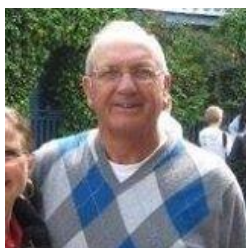
Please indicate  
Address corrections

## The Still Small Voice by Chaplain Sam Ed Spence

One of the interesting aspects of the scriptures below is that God was not the author, nor was He involved in the catastrophic winds, earthquake, or fire. And yet, so often we credit the LORD with huge *natural* disasters. Even many of our insurance policies excuse themselves from covering these "acts of God." But these acts do not line up with the Bible's definition of our heavenly Father, which is love (*1 John 4:16*), an unconditional love that never changes. And love never destroys people or property.

Perhaps the primary message from these scriptures is how God so often speaks to us -- *a still small voice*, as opposed to a booming catastrophe. But to hear the voice, we usually have to get still in our soul -- our mind, will, and emotions.

"Slow down and listen," is how the Holy Spirit put it to me several years ago. It's advice I have to remind myself of almost daily. A tremendous help in hearing His voice came by diligently setting aside a *quiet time* the first

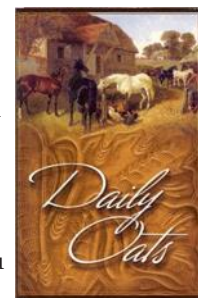


thing each morning. That sets the stage for hearing throughout the day.

I was amazed -- and I think you will be, too -- at how much the LORD desires to converse with each of His children.

Yep, there He is again: "Can you hear Me now?\*" **Scripture:** And behold, the LORD passed by, and a great and strong wind tore into the mountains and broke the rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a still small voice. *1 Kings 19:11, 12*

**Daily Oats** Devotional Book  
Chaplain Sam Ed Spence put together a great devotional book, "Daily Oats," with the help of some of our other Thoroughbred Racetrack Chaplains for the Racetrack Chaplaincy of America. The devotions are written in the context of racetrack life. I'll be happy to send you one if you like. Let me know.



*May the angels  
lead you into paradise*  
Memorials posted at [www.chha.net](http://www.chha.net)

### Memorial Contributions

- In memory of **Howard Beissinger** by: Larry and Joan Martin and Arnold Williams
- In memory of **David Garbarino** by: Twila and Stephen Mahar
- In memory of **Sherie Hankins** by: Kim Hankins
- In memory of **Dick Oldfield** by: Larry and Joan Martin
- In memory of **Joanne Plant 3/16/40** by: Art Plant
- In memory of **Weldon Stockwell** by: Bob and Beth Cain
- In memory of **Andy Wood** by: Ken and Betsy Wood

## 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.

