



Rambling Willie

Keeping Christ Alive in Harness Racing!

Since 1983

In God We Trust



Christian Harness Horsemen's Association Newsletter

June 2018

Remember,
I pray for all
our members
every day.



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Wanted
Praise Reports
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Please send to Chaplain Lee Alphen
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or
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THOSE WHO TRUST
IN THE LORD
WILL FIND NEW
STRENGTH

ISAIAH 40:31

Makings of a Good Mother

By Chaplain Lee Alphen

Driving through farmland in spring, we see proud mares munching lush green grass. Nearby, newborn spindly-legged fillies and colts frolic in the radiant sunshine. A mare's most important job is her performance in delivering and caring for her foals. Sure, breeders visit the Stallion Showcase, Stallion Station, Pathway and the Breeder's Book for pedigree, performance and progeny information. They also check out the confirmation and build of sires and dams. However, a healthy mare who is a good mother is necessary if you want high performing offspring.

A good mother hen carefully picks a spot to lay her eggs, then sits on them until they are hatched. Communicating with a variety of clucking sounds, she keeps the chicks near her and alerts them to any impending dangers, such as from predators, and teaches them the ways of the world.

God picked the perfect mother for His Son. Mary is a good role model for all mothers. When asked to be the mother of Jesus, she knew in her heart what the angel said was true, "Nothing will be impossible with God" (Luke 1:37). Mary obediently accepted and trusted God to work out the details.

There is a story about four clergymen who were discussing the merits of the various translations of the bible. One liked the King James Version best because of its beautiful English. Another liked the American Revised Version best because it is more literal and comes nearer to the original Hebrew and Greek. Still another liked a contemporary version best because of its up-to-date vocabulary.

The fourth minister was silent.

When asked to express his opinion, he replied, "I like my mother's translation best."

The other three expressed surprise. They did not know his mother had translated the bible.

"Yes, she did," he replied. "She translated it into life, and it was the most convincing translation I ever saw."

Jesus said, "I am the vine; you are the branches [...]. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you" (John 15:5, 7).

Netflix is airing a series on Queen Elizabeth II. As 26-year-old Elizabeth nears her coronation, she confides to her grandmother, Queen Mary, her concern that she is not up to the task and that the people will not accept her. Queen Mary tells her the role of a king or queen is to be a servant of God. That is why the coronation takes place in an abby rather than a government building. She is to be anointed, not appointed, and the archbishop will crown her. Her job is to be a role model for the citizens and to love them.

Mary clearly recognized that her role as the mother of God was as God's servant. She was here to do as God wanted, not to persuade her Son to be careful and stay safe. She was not called to stand heroically between Jesus and those who wanted to kill Him.

Mothers are different. Some excel in some areas and God gave others different talents. The question for mothers and for all of us is "How does God want us to handle any given situation." God had something much bigger planned for Jesus than Mary could have ever imagined. Are we ready to trust God with our lives and our families?

Blessings

Larry Lederamn finished his Proton therapy. The doctor is pleased that he is getting through it without too much difficulty. The radiation will continue to work for another 30 days. He is scheduled for an MRI June 11th. The oncologist is hoping the tumor has turned to scar tissue. However, a few cells may have escaped so he has to continue to have MRIs every 3 months. Larry is his upbeat self. Praise God! The doctor also said his staff and the technicians are very appreciative of all the bagels, donuts, pastries and fruit Larry brings them.

From Marsh Townley...

God is so good, Dana came through her quad bi-pass as well as anyone could expect thanks be to God. Please thank all the prayer partners for Betty and me. We covet your prayers and those of the prayer partners so please continue to pray during the healing process and rehab. God Bless you and all those who pray for the needs of others. Knowing that so many people were praying for Dana gave us a peace through the 4 hours of surgery. Only God can grant the peace that we had. Marsh

From Joan Harp...

CT scan showed Warren's tumor a bit smaller.

From Tim and Loveda Finley...

Because we are all in harness racing, and because I am in good health, I want to give something back to the sport. So, I am planning to do a low-budget, down-home, video to be put on YouTube. It will be about those of us who love the sport, and about the wonderful horses that work so hard for us. I feel led by the Lord to do this, just like I felt led by the Lord to start the CHHA. I resisted starting the CHHA because I didn't think it would fly. The Lord knew it would, so He did not give me a choice. I feel that same spiritual pull to do this video. I don't think it needs much prayer because "HE" is going to make it work, but I would like my harness racing family to pray that I do it successfully and professionally. The public needs to know the blood, sweat, tears, joy, laughter, hard work, and thrill of victory that goes on behind the scenes. Thanks.

Note: In 1982 Tim sat down at his kitchen table and drafted the By-Laws for CHHA.

Canadian Geese

by Chaplain Sam Spence

Few sights evoke as much attention, and awe, as that of a large flock of Canadian geese winging their way in their V-formation to the north or south. They speak of the changing of seasons and also of the value of teamwork.



What many don't know is that when a goose gets sick, or perhaps is wounded by a shot, it never falls from formation by itself. Two other geese also fall out of formation with it and follow the ailing goose down to the ground. One of them is very often the mate of the wounded bird, since geese mate for life and are extremely loyal to their mates. Once on the ground, the healthy birds help protect him and care for him as much as possible, even to the point of throwing themselves between the weakened bird and possible predators. They stay with him until he is either able to fly, or until he is dead. Then, and only then, do they launch out on their own. In most cases, they wait for another group of geese to fly overhead and they join them, adding to the safety and flying efficiency of their numbers.

If only we human beings would care for one another this well! Stick with your friends . . . and more importantly, stick by them. And remember the banana -- when it left the bunch it got skinned.*

Scripture: ...not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching. Hebrews 10:25 NKJV

*God's Little Devotional Book



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

Memorial Contributions

- In memory of **Donnie Conrad** by: Roselea Conrad
- In memory of **Sherie Hankins** by: Kim Hankins
- In memory of **Jerry Jolly** by: Barbara Cunningham
- In memory of **Carole Dean Henry King** by: Jo Ann and Jim King
- In memory of **John Miritello** by: Vivian Farrington
- In memory of **Rambling Willie** by: Vivian Farrington



Left: Donna Dubois

Center: Chaplain Lee Alphen and Will DuBois with Ise The By Boy

Right: Diane Perkins and Chaplain Lee Alphen

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

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Please pray for my intentions _____

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Please return to: leecalphen@comcast.net

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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

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

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

racing industry, affectionately known as Georgia Boy, touched the lives of many with his humble spirit and infectious smile. He worked at various racetracks in Delaware, New Jersey and Maryland. When he was 83, he proudly received the honor of HTA/Hanover Shoe Farms Groom of the Year in 2012. At the time of the award it was printed that Daniels, "As a black man who grew up in the South in a time when race was a significant issue, "Georgia Boy" saw the world at its worst and at its best. But none of the worst soured him; he loved life, he loved people, he loved animals, most of all horses." He thoroughly enjoyed reading the newspaper, watching sports, laughing, joking, having fun and doting on his family. With the guidance of his son, Ardell, he accepted Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior.

Rick Forgie, 53, of Quebec, died April 12. Rick was an accomplished trainer-driver and raced everywhere from Sarnia to Woodbine, and Flamboro to Clinton, and many small tracks in between. He got his start at Rideau Carleton Raceway and Connaught Park and eventually worked his way to Pompano Park in Florida and the Meadowlands Racetrack in New Jersey.

Don William Huston, 93, of Xenia, OH, died April 27. Don, uncle of Hall of Fame announcer and CHHA BOD member, Roger Huston, was famous for calling horse races for over 50 years in both Ohio and Kentucky. His races always started with his "the gate swings into the stretch and heeerrre they come". He was an avid golfer and card player and at one time was the Sports Director for radio WBZI Xenia. He retired from the Greene County Auditor's Office in 1983. He was a member of the Faith Community United Methodist Church.



Jerry Jolly, 66, of Sonora, KY, died Dec 24, 2017. According to Susan Rider of LaRue County KY, "Jerry loved life and would want everyone to find the simple joys that our time on earth offers. He would look at a piece of wood with awe and possibility. He love nature and our God-given gifts. He wasn't about the things you had to buy, but all about the free gifts that were put on this earth for us to enjoy." CHHA member, Barbara Cunningham said, "Jerry was a great help to me in caring for our trotter, Squire One, when my husband died."

Carole Dean Henry King, 83, of Harrington, DE, died March 17. Carole and her late husband, Jim King, Sr, owned and raced harness horses for many years throughout Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Florida. Two of her favorite horses were Jade Avocado and Castleton Shine. She absolutely loved the Standardbred sport and passed that passion down to her children Jackie Oates, Jim King Jr., Wayne King, Tina Bevans and Mark King Sr. She wasn't a mother to only her five children.



Carole was a caring maternal figure and called "Mom" by many people around the racetrack. Later in her life, she could be seen parked along the fence at Harrington Raceway cheering on (and sometime teasing in good fun) her favorite drivers. She worked at several of the track clubhouses during her travels and spent a number of years working at Dillard's Restaurant in Greenwood and Jimmy's Grille in Bridgeville. Carole loved going to flea markets and thrift stores, attending Church, telling jokes she had heard watching Joel Osteen and spending time with her friends and family.

Eugene Kurzrok, 81, died April 16. Gene was the managing partner of Our Horse Cents Stable and Stable 45 and an owner of several champions including Mission Brief, Southwind Frank, What The Hill, Obrigado and Golden Receiver.

Leslie Gayle Lederman, 31, of Hightstown, NJ, died April 29. Leslie grew up in Hightstown, graduating from Hightstown High School in 2005. She furthered her studies in the Sanford - Brown Institute of Edison. Leslie went on to work in Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital as an emergency room technician. Leslie enjoyed spending time with her family and friends anywhere near or on a beach and will be remembered as a loving mother, daughter, and friend. Fashionably late with an infectious bubbly personality, she also loved shopping and going on vacation.



Sam Rice, 87, of Monticello, NY, died April 14. Sam was a Holocaust survivor who immigrated to the United States in the late 1940s. He worked many years as a kosher chef in the Catskill Mountains and also volunteered his culinary time and talent to local synagogues. Throughout the majority of his life he owned race horses at Monticello Raceway, as well as other metropolitan racetracks.



Hobart B. "Hobe" Stroud, 95, of Scio, OH, died April 15. Hobe owned, trained and drove harness horses for several years. In 1971, after a career-ending accident, he purchased a mobile starting gate and became an official starting judge. He and his wife Mary, who drove the starting car, worked at numerous county fairs in Ohio for 30 years. They also started horses at Northfield Park, The Meadows and in the 1980s at Rosecroft Raceway. He honorably served in the US Navy during World War II. Hobart and his father JN owned and operated Stroud's Hardware in Scio for 25 years He attended the New Rumley United Methodist Church. Hobe and Mary were selected as Scio Citizens of the Year.



Obituaries

Robert "Bob" Bloodgood, 73, of Pinehurst, NC, died April 29. Bob began his harness racing career with his father, Morgan, at Saratoga Raceway at an early age. He trained for Robert Tucker's Stonegate Farm. In the 1970s he was hired as a second trainer for Arden Homestead Stable under Ralph Baldwin and Harold Miller. When Ralph retired, Bob opened a public stable with Vernon Downs his summer headquarters and Pinehurst his winter home.

Joan M. Brown, 79, of Harrisburg, IL, died April 21. Joan loved racing at county fairs, Quad City Downs, Fairmount Park, Maywood Park, Balmoral Park, Red Mile and Bluegrass Downs where she was honored with Trainer of the Year in 2014. She relished the relationships she made with fellow trainers and drivers. She strived to race healthy, happy horses which included racing both trotters and pacers barefoot. Just a few of her standout pupils over the years included the free-legged sensation Purdue Boy and the hard-knocking trotters Alcatraz Boy, Bonfire Red and Strong Kiss.



Mary Jane Bernier Chester of Kennett Square, PA, died April 17. "She was my mentor, my best friend, my roommate, and my boss. There are few people that can be all those things at the same time, but that's who she was," says her husband of 33 years, Michael Chester. Their love story was one for the ages. Her life in harness racing began with being a parade marshal at Hinsdale, and ended with being a program director at many tracks including Foxboro Raceway and Pompano Park. Later in life, she was a realtor. She excelled at everything.



Florzell "Georgia Boy" Daniels, 88, of Harrington, DE, died April 12. He served in the United States Air Force from 1947 to 1949. In 1958, he found his passion and began professionally grooming horses, a career he continued until his illness in 2015. A legend in the harness

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 Arsenaault, 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, Harold Kelly, Bob Kinsey, Donnie Knight, David Kovach, Larry Lederman, Rox Liles, Ricky Macomber, Nelson Malin, Wilma Mattuci, Joyceann McClelland, Donna Mclvor, Mrs. Miller, Frank Mirahmadi, Lalya Mosley, Corey Murphy, Howard Nields, 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, Mike 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, 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:

Harold Kelly had a large cancerous tumor.

Eric Ledford has short-term memory loss and sight problems from a fall.

Debbie Morris recently had breast cancer surgery.

Crystal Pampallonia and her son, and Gabriel, are going through a difficult time.

Bill Peterson bruised his ribs and had a stroke.

Randy is facing a long rehab with fluid & salt imbalances that causes many issues.



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USA



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Address corrections

Information at www.chha.net

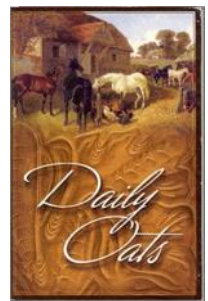
Gaitway Farm Event Tuesday, June 12th

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.



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.



CHHA Hats

We still have some lovely blue CHHA hats available. If you would like to wear one to help us **Keep Christ Alive in Harness Racing!** Let me know and I will send you one.



Scarborough Downs

Chaplain Nash Garabedian and CHHA member Jim Frahm joined me at the races at Scarborough Downs. It was nice to see many old friends and to meet some new people. Bruce Ranger rides shotgun with the Starter and has been starting the Qualifying Races at Scarborough. He hopes to receive his USTA Stater license in time to be the Starter at the Maine Fairs this summer. Diane Perkins is working with the Maine Standardbred Breeders and Owners Association. Her mother, Nat Watson, and I rented a cottage near Foxboro together with three other women in the early 70s. We saw three generations of the Dubois family the day we were there. Donna DuBois was selling raffle tickets for the MHHA Scholarship Fund.
More pictures on Page 2

Prayer Partners Needed

Is God calling you to be a CHHA Prayer Partner? Prayer Partners receive four to six emails a month with prayer requests. When Prayer Partners receive an email, they pray through the list and then keep the people in their prayers. God called a few of our prayer partners home recently. I bet He's calling some new ones to take their place. Is it you? Please send Chaplain Lee and email to join this important ministry.



Jim Frahm and Chaplain Nash Garabedian



Bruce Ranger and Chaplain Lee Alphen