



Rambling Willie

Keeping Christ Alive in Harness Racing!

Since 1983

In God We Trust



Christian Harness Horsemen's Association Newsletter

November 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
603-898-1927
603-401-7271 (cell)

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

THANKFUL
EVERYDAY
blessed
BEYOND MEASURE



Bits, Rudders, Tongue Ties

By Chaplain Lee Alphen

“We can make a large horse go wherever we want by means of a small bit in its mouth. And a small rudder makes a huge ship turn wherever the pilot chooses to go, even though the winds are strong” (James 3:3-4 NLT).

As James points out, we can control a 1,200-pound horse with a six-inch bit and large ships with a small rudder. For over a century, racehorse trainers have been using tongue-ties to help with breathing and on horses that are very difficult to control. Some of them also have a tendency to get their tongues over the bit.

The Letter of James was written to Jewish Christians in the first century, shortly after Jesus went back to heaven. James explains the power of our words for good and evil. The wise humbly live good lives. Those who are selfish or envious are following the evil one (James 3:13-15).

Controlling our tongues is a mark of Christian maturity, but it is hard. The tongue is so small we should be able to control it. We can tame horses, beasts, birds and sea creatures but not our tongues. The tongue betrays us. It issues blessings and curses. Do we curse and betray God? No, we bless God and at the same time curse others who are made in the image and likeness of God. Blessing and cursing from the same mouth is as absurd as finding fresh and salt water in the same spring or olives on a fig tree (James 3:9-12).

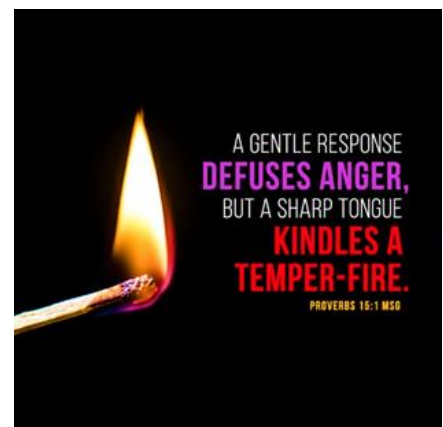
Our tongues can cause as much damage to a person as a wild fire. A fire in the fireplace on a cold winter evening or in a backyard fire pit to keep the bugs away in summer is nice. What about fires that get out of control?

Sparks shot out when a tire blew out on a trailer and its rim scraped the asphalt, igniting tongues of fire. The blaze that began on a road near Redding California set off the sixth-most destructive wildfire in California's history. The fire burned across 230,000 acres from July 23rd until August 30th of this year and destroyed everything in its path. That's 359 sq. miles. At least seven people died.

Harsh words damage relationships and the self-esteem of others. Belittling people can send them down the wrong path in life. When we are focused on God, our tongues are full of wisdom, peace, consideration for others, mercy, sincerity, impartiality and goodness (James 3:17). The person who controls their tongue is perfect (James 3:2).

Do we need bits and tongue-ties? Let's not let the devil control our mouths. Remember, we are not fighting the tongue's fire with our own strength. We can only win when we hand the reins to God.

Let's pray with the psalmist, “Set a guard over my mouth, Lord; keep watch over the door of my lips” (Psalm 141:3).



Blessings

From Gary Cartwright...

Omar Aracena's daughter, Jordan River, sat up for the first time. She is the little girl we have been praying for and was featured in our newsletter a few months ago. She was born with many health issues.

From Evelyn Johnson...

On behalf of Archie, his wife Terry and Jeff, thanks for your prayers and those of the CHHA prayer people. I talked to Archie Wednesday, the surgery was successful he was scheduled to be released yesterday and go home. Praise God:)

From Jo-Dee Brown...

The Prayer Breakfast was a wonderful opportunity for prayer, song and fellowship. I met some wonderful people.

From Chaplain Ken Carter...

Karen got a great report last week. Her cancer numbers are down from just under 200 to under 100. Praise God! She did need a transfusion because the chemo zaps her energy. She is feeling much better now.

From Amy Bondon...

Praise report! All cancer removed and Bobbi Boyken's nodes clear, no further treatment. Thank the Lord and bless the prayers of you and all who lifted her up.

More Jug Prayer Breakfast Pictures

Right: **Lyndsey Hagemeyer** speaks about her Christian Veterinarian Club at Ohio State.

Below: **CHHA jug Prayer Breakfast**—trackside

Bottom Right: **The Truitt Family Singers**



Life Insurance cont. from page 6

Fair season in New York ended recently with the Trumansburg Fair. I want to share with you an experience I had last summer at one of the fairs, which illustrates who Jesus came for. I evangelized a man who fit the bill perfectly as a down and outer and a sinner. The man's outward appearance told of his inner turmoil. He looked like a tough biker wearing jeans and cut off jacket and tee shirt. Not unusual except that his clothes were deeply soiled, his hair and beard were wild. He looked like he had slept in his clothes for months and hadn't taken a bath in more months. I talked with this man. He was quite reluctant to share his life story but he did. I asked him if he would like to go to Heaven when he died by asking Jesus to forgive him of anything he had ever done wrong in life. He told me Jesus would never forgive him. He told me that he had been in Viet Nam and had killed more people than he could count. I told him that Jesus could and would forgive him. I asked him to take a chance and pray with me for forgiveness, he did.

Well that was that until I saw him this year at the same county fair. The transformation in his outward appearance was what I noticed first. While he still wore biker clothes, they were clean, his posture was sure, and his hair and beard were trimmed. He looked like a changed man. "And all that will live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution" (2 Timothy 3:12). The converse to this may be true, if you would avoid persecution then fit in with the crowd. "Happy are those who are persecuted because of good, for the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs. When you are reviled and persecuted and lied about because you are my followers" (Matthew 5:10-11) —wonderful.

Are you the only one in the backstretch who talks about Jesus? Do they avoid you and speak evil of you? According to scripture, you are blessed.

I never sold a life insurance policy in the six months I tried, but I can look back in my life and see the true insurance policies won at gas stations, the Wal Marts, the fairs, and, the backstretch where many people have prayed the sinners' prayer and received eternal heavenly life assurance to be with God and Jesus.

Praise be to God! I rejoice thinking that my Holy God and Jesus have called me and equipped me, the worst of the worst, to do his bidding.

Rev, Dr. John E. Prescott, Chaplain, CHHA., 315-723-4826



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

Cross necklaces, key-chains, note cards and books they'll love.

Great Christmas Gifts

10 Rambling Willie Note Cards (see picture)

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

L. Edward Fortney, 89, of Attica, OH, died Sep 19. Edward owned, trained and drove harness horses for 65 years. He retired in 1991 from Pioneer Rubber Co. in Attica, as a plant supervisor. He attended the Union Pisgah United Methodist Church Attica and was a U.S. Air Force Korean Conflict veteran, serving as a flight engineer.



Millard "MJ" Jennings, 78, died Sep 3. MJ began working at the age of 14 as a logger, but his passion for horses took over. He was an avid horseman and began working with horses and horse racing at Holland and Webster horse farm in Elizabeth City, NC, before moving north to Maryland. He continued his career of training and driving race horses in Maryland for nearly 40 years.

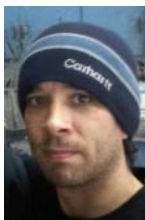
Gary Dwyer Junk, DVM, 69, of Washington Court House, OH, died Sep 18. In 1975 Dr Junk began his veterinary career with his father. He later established the Fayette Veterinary Hospital. He volunteered his services as veterinary to the Fayette County Fair for more than 40 years. He was a huge supporter of 4-H, FFA and the youth of Fayette County. Dr. Junk was a breeder and owner of Standardbred horses. He also enjoyed agriculture and farming. He was a member of the Grace United Methodist Church.



Gladys Mauran, 96, of Westport, NY, died Sep 6. Gladys worked at several jobs and was a model volunteer. She often took people to appointments, and shopping. Her life centered around her family. Gladys helped establish a Cub Scout troop and a Drum Corp. She played the organ at the Moriah Baptist Church and was a member of the Westport Federated Church where she taught Sunday School, directed the choir. Gladys was CHHA member, Irv Mauran's mother.



Shaun Kenneth Munday, 40, of Delaware, OH, died suddenly Sep 4. Shaun's mother and stepfather, Teri and Don Miller of Delaware, Ohio, have been involved with harness racing for years. Shaun was an avid bike rider who competed in BMX bike races. His biggest passion was cars.



Michael Allen Stacy, 33 of Hurley, VA, died Sep 20. Michael was an organ donor helping to save many lives. He was also a wonderful father, son, grandson, loving uncle, and nephew. His uncle, Jeff Stacy, was a CHHA member and Standardbred breeder.



Richard "Dick" Vaughn, 86, top assistant in Billy Haughton's Stable, died Sep 17, in Florida. Dick was born in Massachusetts. Following a stint in military service, his brother, William "Bones" Vaughn, suggested he join him working for the Haughton Stable. The two brothers became part of the face of the Haughton operation, traveling with horses throughout the Grand Circuit. He was in Du Quoin, IL in 1974 when Billy Haughton won his very first Hambletonian with Christopher T. "He worked with a lot of people, a lot of grooms, and he was really a people person," said his wife, Jean. "He got so many calls from people he worked with, and they would remember the days when they worked together." When Dick retired from the Haughton Stable, they moved to Groveland, FL.

Milton S Wahl, 90, of Wilmington, DE, died Aug 30. Milton earned his MD degree at Indiana University and embarked on a career in otorhinolaryngology. He owned many Standardbred race horses, including Ricky Joe and Cajun Brother. He loved spending many hours at Brandywine Raceway and nearby Winterset Farm. Racing was a family activity which included frequent travel to tracks from Washington, DC to New York. It was a very sad day for him when Brandywine Raceway closed in 1989.



More Jug Pictures



Steve and Lynn Smith



Jennifer Brown



Pastor Joe DiDonato,
Connie Polhamus and
Sandy and Rich
Thorstenson



Dot Morgan, Norma
Gardner and Sandy
Thorstenson

Obituaries

Jeanne Black, 68, died Sep 2. Jeanne was well known in Indiana harness racing circles. Her twin sister is Joanne Young, a longtime member of the staff at the Harness Racing Museum & Hall of Fame. Jeanne and her husband, Robert, raced Standardbreds for many years while managing part of the Sowash Family Stable in the Midwest and later training for owners primarily at Chicago area tracks. She attended church at Jalapa Chapel.



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

Memorial Contributions

In memory of **Juanita and Walter Adams** by: Brenda-Jo Dennon
 In memory of **Donnie Conrad** by: Roselea Conrad
 In memory of **Bill Dailey** by: Brenda-Jo Dennon
 In memory of **Violet Graham** by: Amy Bondon
 In memory of **Sherie Hankins** by: Kim Hankins
 In memory of **Iris Horowitz** by: Dr Bob and Lisa Schwartz
 In memory of **Gordon Murphy** by: Amy Bondon
 In memory of **Weldon and Nancy Stockwell** by: Kate and Mark Williams
 In memory of **Andy Wood** by: Ken and Betsy Wood

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:

Lynn Antonelli, 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, AJ Keaton, Harold Kelly, Bob Kinsey, Jim Kolnick, Donnie Knight, David Kovach, Larry Lederman, Rox Liles, Anabelle Lisi, 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, Chet Crane, Karen Crothers, Dale, Jim Ferguson, Melanie Fisk, Scott Freck, Sylvain Gagnon, Greg Gehman, Dr. Howard Gill, Bob Goth, Barbara and

Brent Graham, Debbie Gray, Bob Hilliard, Vickie Howard, 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, Dave Kelly, 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, Barry Vicroy, 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:

David Brocco is in liver failure and has pancreatic cancer.
 Brownie, Vernon Downs Asst. Race Secy, is battling cancer.
 Bo and Gina Bullock were flooded out of their home.
 Beth Cain broke, fractured or bruised her ribs.
 Bob Cain is in rehab following a stroke.
 Rolly Day has cancer.
 Loveda Finley has shingles.
 Don Miller of Delaware, OH, was sent home with hospice.
 Alice Williams has some health issues.



157 North Main St
Salem, NH 03079
USA



Information at www.chha.net

Please indicate
Address corrections

Breeding donations appreciated

Jug Prayer Breakfast

We praised God with the excellent music of the Truitt Family. Then Gary Cartwright told us about three recent miracles and the power of prayer. He also spoke about his Legacy Bible reading program and our obituaries. More about those topics in the coming months. Let's focus on the miracles.

Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done." (Phil. 4:6)

Gary supports CHHA because we pray. He joined us as we prayed through our prayer list in Delaware for many years. He prays for those on the prayer list in our newsletter and is one of our Prayer Partners. Gary knows the power and importance of prayer.

The doctor encouraged Jaxson's parents to abort the baby. Instead, his parents turned to prayer. Many joined them. 15 months ago, Jaxson was born with many problems including a heart with only one chamber. After several surgeries, surgeons rebuilt his heart to include all four chambers. He is home now pulling himself up and bringing great joy to his family and Gary's friend, Jaxson's grandfather.

Two and a half years ago, Omar and Betsy Arcena's daughter, Jordan River, was born with five holes in her heart, spina bifida and an 18th chromosome that causes serious problems. Jordan River has been on our CHHA prayer list and many other prayer lists around the



country. After many surgeries, she is home. Jordan was recently able to sit up. She has a long way to go but prayer has made a difference. These two children are blessings to their parents.

Gary's friend, J.R., asked a neighbor to help him move the Saturday prior to our breakfast. The neighbor noticed his mouth drooping and he looked very pale. He was rushed to the hospital where a blood clot was removed from his brain. Before surgery, he could not talk, but wrote a note to a nurse with the word "prayer" and a person's name. The efficient nurse found the person's name in J.R.'s phone contacts and called him. The prayer chain was notified. Surgeons removed the blood clot and no damage was found. When Gary found out on Monday he called J.R.. J.R. sounded normal. Praise the Lord!

Yes, praise the Lord for all these miraculous healings. Please join me in prayerfully trusting our needs to God. Then, please tell me about the miracles so we can share them with our members.

More pictures on pages 2 and 4

Life Insurance by Chaplain John Prescott

When I was in my early twenties, I studied with John Hancock Life Insurance Co. to gain my license to sell life insurance. I was assigned a mentor who simply opened his mouth, and he sold a policy. The thing I remember most about this mentor was his attitude about selling, which was that he felt he could try to sell a policy anywhere, at the gas pump, in the grocery store etc. I never forgot this.

Jesus said that he had not come to save the righteous or the good, but sinners, and the poor—the down and outers.

Life Insurance continued on page 2