



Rambling Willie

## Keeping Christ Alive in Harness Racing!

Since 1983

In God We Trust



Christian Harness Horsemen's Association Newsletter

January 2021

Remember,  
I pray for all  
our members  
every day.



Chaplain Lee Alphen

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**Wanted**  
Praise Reports · Testimonies  
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### Routines

By Chaplain Lee Alphen

What is your daily routine? Grab a coffee and then go to the barn and feed? Clean the stalls? Jog and train? Perhaps your day revolves around the horses. However, as you open your eyes, the dogs and cats may vie for your attention. Maybe you are retired or have a different job. Still though, it is likely you have a routine. You even work in a bit of prayer time.

Strolling along the beach by the Sea of Galilee, Jesus first called Peter and Andrew to follow Him. They were out in their boat fishing. "At once they left their nets and followed Him" (Matthew 4:18-20). Then He found James, John and their dad, Zebedee, sitting in their boat, mending their nets. Jesus called the brothers who "immediately left their boat and their father and followed Him" (Matthew 4:21-22).

Probably not much changed from day to day for these men before Jesus called them. After every fishing trip, they dried and mended their nets and maintained the boats. When Jesus called them, they dropped everything and followed Him.

We've just begun a new year. We are probably all hoping for a better 2021. Sure, we are sick of COVID-19 with its restrictions and threats. Besides that, how can we improve our routines? How can we make our lives richer and more meaningful?

After the resurrection Peter and some of the other disciples went fishing, but they did not catch anything. Jesus called to them from the shore to put their nets in again on the right side of the boat. Their haul was so large; they struggled to bring it in. Peter realized it was Jesus on the shore and ran to him. They missed having Him with them all

the time and were excited to see Him (John 21:1-8).

Their lives had changed. They loved Jesus. It appeared they could grow to love Him even more. They put God first and God blessed them and their work. Yes, there were many struggles but God helped them through the difficult times and they were happy.

Perhaps God is already first in our lives. Is there anything we can change in our routine to grow even more in our faith and love for God? Remember, as the saying goes, we can't outgive God. When we give more of our time, our talent, our resources and ourselves, God has more opportunity to bless us. The stronger our relationship is with God, the happier we are.



Bruce Ranger drove for Mark Beckwith this summer at Plainridge. He was telling me Mark takes excellent care of his horses. I remember visiting Mark's barn at Saratoga one afternoon. Mark never stopped. He was in and out of the stalls with carrots, a brush, a pitchfork, a pat on the head and some kind words. Mark has a great relationship with his horses. They are happy to see him. I imagine your

## Routines continued from page 1

horses, dogs and cats look forward to some attention from you too.

Jesus said in prayer to His father, "And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent" (John 17:3). Do we know God as well as our animals know us? Are we excited to greet God when we open our eyes in the morning?

Our good friend Jesus is always with us. Perhaps as part of our 2021 routine, we will remember to talk with Him more as we go through our day. We can talk about anything. Jesus is interested in everything about us.

Yes, "What a friend we have in Jesus!"

## The Praise Privilege

By Chaplain Sam Spence



We are in a spiritual battle. The Apostle Paul makes this very clear in the statements below that he wrote to the church at Corinth, as well as those he scribed to the church at Ephesus: "For we do wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places." (*Ephesians 6:12*)

Paul goes on to explain putting on the whole armor of God, which includes your waist girded with truth, the breastplate of righteousness, feet shod with preparation of the gospel of peace, shield of faith, helmet of salvation, sword of the spirit (God's Word), and praying in the spirit.

One weapon – actually a vehicle – which incorporates our full armor is *praise*; it can be one of the most effective ways of putting the enemy on the run..."Resist the devil and he will flee from you." (*James 4:7*) Resist is an active verb, not a passive one. When we begin to praise the Lord in the midst of a trial, temptation, or contrary circumstance, we (in football terms) suddenly take an *offensive* position rather than a *defensive* one. And continual praise will take us right into the end zone for a score!

Every prayer we utter should begin with praise and thanks. There's something about praise that not only evokes the angels of God into action on our behalf, but activates the forces of faith, hope, and joy on the inside of us.

Praise is a powerful privilege at our complete command. Don't neglect it.

*Let everything that has breath  
praise the LORD!  
-Psalms 150:6*

### Scripture:

For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ. (*2 Corinthians 10:3-5*).

## Blessings from God

From Gregory Peck...

Thank God for people like you and Chris Coyle. My depression is gone. I haven't felt this good in years. Thanks for your prayers. Greg

From Kate Williams-Walker...

1. I appreciate all the prayers on my behalf from the Warrior Peeps of CHHA. I know in my heart that all the prayers to the Lord delivered me from death. A majority of people with esophageal/stomach cancer do not survive the 50 hour treatments of chemo and if they do, the prognosis is grim with each passing year. Only 20% make it to the five year mark. BUT ME? I can to a whole lot in five years for the cause of Jesus. ☺☺☺ if HE graces me with living that long.

2. Update on Matt Hess...

CHHA awarded Matt a scholarship in 2016 to attend Farrier School. After a 2.5-year apprenticeship with one of North Carolina's best farriers, Matt has entered into being a full-fledged farrier on his own. He still does work for several farriers, but COVID-19 put the kibosh on allot. However, Jesus watches over the Mattman. He is the main resident farrier for all the big Raleigh horse shows (Tanglewood). He spends weekends doing that and he's very well paid for it!



Matt also has a part time job as a welder working for a Christian. Matt says its wonderful that they openly pray before the start of each workday. His skills as a blacksmith make general welding a piece of cake.

When the horses come back to Pinehurst (when and if), he may try to work with another blacksmith there to get more experience with Standardbreds.

Matt is a gentle sort of soul and doesn't want to take income away from any other Standie Farrier. If enough horses come this year, then he will try to shoe some. He interrupted his livelihood to care for me during the long arduous months of 50-hour chemo sessions. He did everything for me as I grew weaker.

Note: Matt is Kate Williams-Walker's grandson

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**Choose a Free Gift with your \$20 donation**

**Gifts for Family and Friends**

10 Rambling Willie Note Cards (see picture)   
Horseshoe Nail Cross necklaces and key rings—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 Cross Necklaces and Keyrings**

**Horseshoe Nail Product Descriptions**

**Key Ring:** Horseshoe nails are bent into a cross and tied together with colored wire. Key ring is attached with rawhide.

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

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

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

**Roger Huston · 2249 Grey Oaks · Grove City, OH 43123**

Necklace Qty: Red \_\_\_\_ Blue \_\_\_\_ Turquoise \_\_\_\_

Keyring Qty: Red \_\_\_\_ Blue \_\_\_\_ Turquoise \_\_\_\_ Silver \_\_\_\_

**Other colors are available upon request.**





## Obituaries continued from page 5

**John E. Harmelink**, 90, of Sioux City, Iowa, died Nov 21. John and his wife, Marge, lived at their farm where they raised livestock and crops until 2019. They also owned and operated Rock Valley Sales Co, a livestock auction barn. He was an accomplished auctioneer, sold real estate and actively raised, trained and drove Standardbreds. John announced many races and was a presiding judge for Iowa fair racing. He taught Sunday School at Faith Reformed Church in Rock Valley and was active with Hope Haven International Ministries.

**Alan "Scottie" Harris**, 84, of West Paducah, KY, died Nov 7. Scottie was well known on the Kentucky racing circuit. He was also a former president of Kentucky Harness Horseman Association, where he was inducted into the Hall of Fame. In his younger years, he played semi-professional baseball.



**Robert M. Kinsey**, 66, Sr. of Clayton, DE, died Nov 19. Bobby loved to own, train and drive Standardbred racehorses. He was a generous person who worked hard to make the horse business the best it could be. At 20, Bobby was considered the hottest young driver on the circuit. In 1988 Bobby claimed "Leading Trainer" at Brandywine Raceway and "Leading Driver" at Dover Downs.



**Donald A. Knapton**, 77, of Westbrook, ME, died Nov 6. Donald started following the races in high school at Gorham Raceway. He went on to serve as race secretary at Windsor Raceway in Ontario and then Dover Downs in Dover, Delaware.

**Sister Mary Joseph**, APB, 85, of the Sisters of the Precious Blood, died Sep 29. She was a Civil Service Secretary before entering religious life in 1963. Mindy Smith used to forward her newsletters on to Sister. Eventually, sister became a CHHA member herself and was happy to know that there are many faithful horsemen in the world. The Sisters of the Precious Blood will continue to pray for all our members.



**Waldo "Wally" McIlmurray Jr**, 64, died Nov 19. Wally was a talented hockey player who had the opportunity to play professional hockey. Instead, he chose to spend his life doing what he loved, training and driving horses. It was a lifelong passion of Wally's since childhood.



**John J. Moschetta Jr**, 81, of Fredericktown, PA, died Oct 23. John was a familiar face at The Meadows for many years. He followed in his father's footsteps to make lawyering his vocation. However, he also owned, bred, trained, and drove horses



at The Meadows, and his horses raced at various other tracks in New Jersey and New York. John was a member of St. Katherine Drexel Catholic Church.

**Larry Woodrow Mulvey**, 83, of Newton, IL, died Nov 10. After gaining experience as a wood worker, Larry established Mulvey Wood products. Later he began a law enforcement career in Jasper County retiring after serving two terms as Sheriff. He enjoyed raising and racing Standardbred horses with his family, particularly on the Illinois county fair race circuit.

**Steven L. Perkins**, 59, of Hilliard, OH, died Nov 10. Steven owned and trained Standardbreds. He also had a fair license. He loved spending time with family, playing cards and board games, watching TV, and was an avid movie trivia buff.



**Kathie Ann Pfister** died Nov 8. Kathie enjoyed taking care of the race horses at the races with her husband of 37 years Donnie Pfister. She enjoyed time with her family, vacationing in Florida where she and Donnie decided to call home several years ago.



**Ronald E. Ralph**, 91, of Waldoboro, ME, died Nov 24. Ron and his sister, Helen, owned Ralph Chevrolet for 40-plus years. As an avid harness racing fan and owner, Ron was president of Lewiston Raceway for over 20 years and a director of the New England division of the USTA for over 50 years. He was voted to the New England Horsemen Hall of Fame in 2011.



**James "Jim" Snyder**, 74, died Nov 14. Jim and his wife, Dottie, loved to watch racing at the track and attended the Little Brown Jug. He was a sponsor of racing at the Delaware County Fair. Rodney Bolon and Mark Ford trained some notable racehorses for Jim. Jim also began and grew Snyder Excavating in Wooster, OH.



**Pat E. Thomas**, 81, of Eighty Four, PA, died Nov 18. Pat was retired as a horse trainer at The Meadows Racetrack. He was a member of Abundant Life Baptist Church and an avid hunter.

**Patti Warabak**, of the Glendale section of Pittston Township, died Oct 17. Patti was formerly employed as a clerk of course/program director at The Downs at Mohegan Sun Pocono. She was a member of Nativity of Our Lord Parish, Duryea.

**Bobby Gene White**, 75, of Dry Fork, VA, died Oct 31. Bobby attended Whitmell Methodist Church and worked as a farrier for 30 years. He spent many of his years shoeing at Brandywine, Liberty Bell, and Rosecroft Raceway. He also had a farrier shop at Ocean Downs for many years.



## Obituaries

**Ronald G. Banks**, 73, of Cannon Falls, MN, died Oct 24. Ron trained and raced Standardbreds, and for many years and announced the races across the Midwest.



He assisted in getting a pari-mutuel harness track, Running Aces, going in Forest Lake. He was inducted in 2018 into the Minnesota Harness Racing Hall of Fame.

He served on the board and as a song leader at Our Saviour's Evangelical Lutheran Church.

**Mary Katherine "Kathy" Brickler**, 81, of New Madison, OH, died Nov 12. Kathy was retired from Neff Lettering of Greenville where she had been employed for 38 years as a plant manager. She enjoyed going to auctions and horse races.

**John Philip "Phil" Fitzwater**, 76, of Continental, OH, died Oct 29. Phil took over the family farm. Today, his sons and grandson, Cole, continue the tradition. John loved to race at the Ohio fairs. He passed his passion of the sport on to Cole and continued to travel with him to numerous tracks throughout Ohio, Indiana, and Michigan. Phil attended Junction Bible Christian Church.



**Kennard "Sonny" Grieser**, 80, died Oct 31. Sonny was a former Standardbred driver/trainer. He was affiliated with Evansport Methodist Church.

**Obituaries continued on page 4**

**Sources for obituary information include:**

[www.harnessracing.com](http://www.harnessracing.com), [www.ustrotting.com](http://www.ustrotting.com)

[www.standardbredcanada.ca](http://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, Emily Bier, Debbie Boardman, Amy Bondon, Jeanne Duso Boudot, Jana Brocco, Gary Bryant, Lore Burke, Rick Carson, Barbara Carter, Karen Carter, Sam Castimore, Candice Coleman, Barbara Connors, Sharon Cromer, Joe Crothers, Thomas Daniel, Mike Deeters, Ashley Dennon-Cohen, Barbara Dinning, Maryanne Doherty, Jerry Eby, Chaplain Tom Farley, Francine Federici, Tiffany Fisher, Dorothy Geer, Rodney Grady, Pastor Bill Grant, Margaret Groce, Remi Gunn, Marilyn Hankins, Rose Hennessey, Morris Hoagland, Glenda Holloway, Layla Hundertpfund, Jeff Hurst, Donna Ingram, Betty James, Rita Jacobs, Jennifer Jugg, AJ Keaton, Bob Kinsey, Jim Kolnick, Donnie Knight, David Kovach, Larry Lederman, Rox Liles, Anabelle Lisi, Tommy Long, Kevin Mack, Ricky Macomber, Nelson Malin, Wilma Mattuci, Joyceann McClelland, Meagan McKee, Mrs Miller, Frank Mirahmadi, Lalya Mosley, Corey Murphy, Howard Nields, Pierre Noel, Jay O'Neil, John Panetta, Carol Parker, Dee Parsons, Margie Polhamus, Valerie Prescott, Leigh Raymer, Robyn Rembleski, Emily Roper, Daren Richner, Julie Schwartz, Del Smart, Larry Smith, Doug Stringer, Jimmy Takter, Bobbi Tanner, Jack Taylor, Carrie Thompson, Gary Tyron, Fred Ward, Sr, Roland Wardel, Kate Williams, John Wing, Steve Wiseman, Marty Woebkenberg, Allan Wright, Maddy Wright, Joyce Zeasapolowski.

**These friends are also in need of our ongoing prayers:**

Jason Apperti, Jordan Aracena, Ken Bartels, Rick Beinhauer, Gary Bennett, Peter Blood, Marilyn Bondon, Stephanie Bouchard, Danny Breton, Charlie Brigham, Betsy Brown, Kevin Burns, Mary Burton, Bob Cain, Carol Ann Case, Thelma Chrisman, Mary Clements, Joan Collins, Anthony Coletta, Bev Crane, Chet Crane, Karen Crothers, Vivian Farrington, Jim Ferguson, Scott Freck, Sylvain Gagnon, Greg Gehman, Dr Howard Gill, Bob Goth, Barbara and Brent Graham, Debbie Gray, Jimmy Hart, Joyce Hart, Bob

Hilliard, Vickie Howard, Bob Jones, Ruby Hensley, Miguel Hernandez, Paul and Mrs Hershey, Carol Heusinkveld, Trudy Hite, Jerry Hissam, John Hostler, Jason Hughes, Jesse Hughes, Donna Ingram, Don James, Kenny Kane, Dave Kelly, Barbara Kinsey, Michael Klark, Victor Kiss, Larry Lawter, Ray Levay, Sam Lilli, Art Lisi, Jr, Katherine Lonager, Sharon Lowell, Faye Mackey, Terry Mahar, Joanne Maiorca, Pedro Martinez, Jr, Cheryl Mauran, Kaye McDonnell, Dean Miller, Raymond Miller, Nancy Miner, Mike Murphy, Doug Nash, Elaine Parlin, Ronnie Parker, Waverly Parsons, Susan Parks, Doc Parry, Louise Pelletier, Donna Phillips, Rita Polese, Noreen Paulen, Art Plant, Joanne Ranger, Donnie Richards, Ray Romanetti, Tori Scott, Jody Sexton, Delma Smart, Madisyn Smith, Brad Strawser, Lee Anne Taylor, Carol Tebo, Marsh Townley, Lorraine Truitt, Phillip Truitt, Mel Turcott, Justin Vance, Barry Vicroy, Max Walton, Steve Warner, Greggje Welch, Jr, Alice Williams, Anne Winters.

**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:**

Alan has COVID-19.

Thomas Daniel has cancer.

Bridgett Stubbs Fox is fighting brain cancer.

Paul Hansen is scheduled for prostate surgery.

Jana may have another tumor on her lung.

Winnie Kamminga, 95, has heart issues.

Larry Lederman has A-Fib.

Nancy Lisi had a mastectomy.

Meagan McKee will start a high-risk clinical trial to try to shrink her inoperable tumor.

Gloria Myres has Alzheimer's and fluid on her brain.

Frank Profaci has A-FIB.

Rev Ty Sabella has COVID-19.

Ed Williams has COVID-19.

157 North Main St  
Salem, NH 03079  
USA



Please indicate  
Address corrections

## 2021 Stallion Auction

### Please donate a breeding

Bid at [www.ongait.com](http://www.ongait.com) or by phone at 603-898-1927

12 Noon Thursday, January 28 thru

12 Noon Saturday, January 30, 2021

Updated Stallion list at [www.chha.net](http://www.chha.net)

St	Stallion	Farm	G	Stud Fee
IL	Major Bombay	Lavern Schrock Farm	P	1,500
IL	Revenge Shark	Farriers Acres	P	1,500
IN	Helpisontheway	Maple Lane Farm	T	5,000
IN	Rileys Luck	A&E Farm	P	1,000
MA	Real or Magic	LaFrenier Stables	P	1,000
NY	Manningly	Morrisville College	T	Private
OH	Lost In Time	ATI-OSU	P	2,000
OH	Victory Sam	Autumn Lane Farm	T	1,500
OH	Well Said	Sugar Valley Farm	P	5,000
OH	Western Terror	Hagemeyer Farms	P	3.500
PA	Better Caviar	Lindwood Farm	T	1,500

**Auction Bid Instructions:** Minimum raise is \$100. Winning bidders owe a 10% deposit, minimum \$100, postmarked by February 1, 2021. The balance (90%) is due on the birth of a live foal. Ongait will also charge \$50 for each winning bid.

There is no return privilege. Please only bid on breedings you intend to use. No ownership change on a mare is permitted until the service fee is paid unless a statement from a licensed veterinarian declaring the mare is not in foal is provided. Please do not bid for mares over 20 years.



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

### Memorial Contributions

- In memory of **Mae Jean Allen** of by: Frank Reinhardt
- In memory of **Bonnie Battis** by: Paul Battis and Frank Reinhardt
- In memory of **Pleasant Batson** by: Frank Reinhardt
- In memory of **Barry Conrad** by: Joan Burns
- In memory of **Vivian Farrington** by: Richard and Dorothy Farrington and Joe Harris
- In memory of **George Harp** by: Frank Reinhardt
- In memory of **Warren Harp** by: Frank Reinhardt
- In memory of **Harold Kelly** by: Bob and Christine Baggitt, Richard and Peg Badger, Jeanette Sue Beachy, Jay Bene, First National Bank of Pennsylvania, Mary Ann Gately, Brad and Sharon Jacob, James Marshall III, Gary and Corinne McCandless, John and Leanne Moyer, Don Niccum, Phyllis and Gerald Olsen, Deborah Owens, SBOA of New Jersey, Barbara and James Tilla, James and Pamela Tilla, Paul and Vera Wojtowicz, Daniel and Beth Wroblewski
- In memory of **Richard and Tete King** by: Scott and Linda Black
- In memory of **John and Janet Klark** by: Craig Holterman
- In memory of **Richard "Doc" Marchant** by: Peter Blood
- In memory of **Leo McNamara** by: Cathy McNamara
- In memory of **Jay T O'Neil** by: James and Robyn Rembleski
- In memory of **Walter Ross** by: Frank Reinhardt
- In memory of **Bill Wick and Family** by: Susan Throm-White
- In memory of **Andy Wood** by: Longshot Stables

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

Kirk Cameron