



Rambling Willie

Keeping Christ Alive in Harness Racing!

Since 1983

In God We Trust



Christian Harness Horsemen's Association Newsletter

April 2021

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
Ohio Harness Horsemen's
Association 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

He is not here;
He has risen,
just as He said



Praise God! By Chaplain Lee Alphen

“Praise God! What a beautiful bay filly with a star and a snip! My, she’s perfect! Thank you, Jesus!” This was Speedy Bonnie’s first foal, Peppermint Snip. Yes, we were all excited as we raced to Armstrong Brothers Farm in Brampton, Ontario to meet her.

The enthusiasm in the voices on the phone of owners with new foals brightens my day. It is always exciting to see the babies and watch them get up and take their first wobbly steps in search of Mama’s milk. The miracle of life is always incredible.

As I was praying with one of our members, I remembered a book I read in the 80s that helped me immensely, *Power in Praise* by Merlin Carothers. (See the caution below before reading this book.)

My mobile home was barely a car’s width away from the next one. My neighbors blared their hard rock music constantly, shaking my trailer while giving me a never-ending headache and high stress level. I prayed and prayed for a solution.

“I will bless the Lord at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth” (Psalm 34:1 NIV).

The *Power in Praise* book was recommended to my prayer group so I read it. The book encourages us to praise and thank God in all things, knowing the Lord is constantly working to bring good from everything. Driving along Route 28 by Rockingham Park, I explained to God that I would like to praise and thank him for my neighbors, but that I was unable to do it on my own. I asked the Lord to help me and said that I was willing. Then, I went to church and wrote a prayer in the

intention book at the back of the church for “the hoodlums next door.”

“Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise—the fruit of lips that openly profess his name” (Hebrews 13:15 NIV).

Well, within a week, a friend told me about a house for sale that I could afford. I had a buyer for my mobile home and the bank approved my mortgage. God quickly answered my prayers. Today, 40 years later, I still live in the same house. I’ve added on twice. My mother lived with me when she could no longer live alone. Now, my two brothers are with me and it is a real blessing to have them here.

“Everything good comes from God. Every perfect gift is from Him” (James 1:17). God blesses those who love God everyday with many good things in many ways. Do we say thank you?

Throughout his book Carothers highlights miracles God brings about in the lives of believers when they begin to praise and thank God for bringing good from their struggles. “And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose” (Romans 8:28 NIV).

Let’s join our voices in a continual prayer of praise and thanksgiving.

Word of caution about the book “Power in Praise”

In his book, *Power in Praise*, Merlin Carothers offers some excellent insights revealing the power released when we give praise and thanks to God. Please read it. This book can be life changing. However, my understanding of one aspect of the scriptures is a bit different.

While I agree
God allows the evil **Praise cont. Pg. 2**

Praise God! (continued from page 1)

in the world, and works to bring good from all things, I absolutely do not agree that God causes bad things to happen. That would go against the very nature of God who is all good. The Book of Job explains this quite well and many other scripture passages convey this same message.

Please read the book. Please join with me in giving praise and thanks to God in all circumstances. Please learn how powerfully God can work in our lives, the lives of those we love and the world around us. But please don't think for one minute that God ever causes or approves of evil.



See page 3 to order *Power in Praise*.

Aubrey Schwartz (continued from page 6)

were willing to donate to the college. I am happy to say this semester I am able to be a shift supervisor!

My last job is one I have had since I was in high school. I have worked in the kitchen and now am a server on Saturday's at the Rusty Keg Tavern in my hometown of Washington Court House, OH. This job has allowed me to make great connections with my co-workers, as well as communicate with people from all over while they sit down to have a good meal.

While doing my schoolwork, working, and being involved in clubs, I have still found time to be able to give back which is something I am extremely grateful for. I am actually about to finish off the third year of my favorite project. Each year on my birthday I collect items needed at the Ronald McDonald House from members in our community, as well as pop tabs, and donate them to the Columbus location.

A new project I have begun this year is collecting bottle caps to turn them into a bench! I am currently serving as the 2020 Fayette County Fair Queen, and am collecting these caps to make a bench to donate to the fairgrounds. Even in times of COVID, I am happy I have been able to serve in numerous ways, including some events around campus.

I am so thankful to have had so much joy in this past year, even though times haven't always been the greatest. God has pushed me into a challenge zone this year, which wasn't easy at times, but I am better for it. He has helped me realize there is much deeper meaning to what I am involved in; without this, I wouldn't be who I am today.

I am hopeful to be able to continue my in person classes, work my jobs, and to serve. I am excited to attend all the fairs I can this summer as well! It will be great to see the ways my fellow Ohioans have adapted to the circumstances and continued to persevere to keep things great in our agricultural industry. I am very blessed to have the tribe I do around me. Thank you guys for your support throughout this hectic year!

Blessings from God

From Dot Morgan...

I'm thrilled to share that my brother, Morris Hoagland, just had his 5-yr Pet Scan and no cancer was found! For stage 4 throat cancer, that is a miracle. The doctors only gave him a 20% chance of surviving two years. They said that as aggressive as the cancer was, for none to be found five years after treatment is considered a cure! Praise God! I so appreciate everyone's prayers all these years! Dot Morgan

From Evelyn Johnson...

I have some good news and I surely thank you for your prayers for me and my family - I got a collect phone call about 3 weeks ago from my son, Walter. He skipped out on a court date late December and I knew it was a matter of time until the law caught up with him. He was "Meth"ing, living pretty much on the street, just an absolute heartbreaking situation. I gave it to God last year. When he called, he had been sentenced that morning. Rather than prison, he has to do 6 months in a Rehab center then 3 years probation. I'm so thankful he's getting the help he needs - and I'm even more thankful that he has the attitude that he's happy to be where he's at so he can get his life turned around. We can email back and forth so I am able to encourage - never judge - and he thanks me!! Feel like I have my son back!! He loves God and is excited about this rehab program so he can ditch drugs and get his life turned around for good.!!!

From Lyndel Adamsky...

Dorothy Greer wanted me to thank you for being on the prayer list. She is cancer free. Her mother is healed also- Praise the Lord

Scholarships

CHHA will be awarding two scholarships for the 2020/2021 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 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. **Applications available at www.chha.net are due April 30.**



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: lecalphen@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 for Family and Friends

- 10 Rambling Willie Note Cards (see picture)
- Horseshoe Nail Cross necklaces and key rings—see below
- CHHA Hat
- Foiled Again Poster signed by Yannick Gingras



Books

- Power in Praise* by Merlin Carothers New
- 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.

Foiled Again Posters Signed by Yannick Gingras Posters are 16 x 24 sticky vinyl.



Horseshoe Nail Cross Necklaces and Keyrings

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 ___ Gold ___ Silver ___ Fuschia ___

Keyring Qty: Red ___ Blue ___ Turquoise ___ Silver ___

Other colors are available upon request.

Horseshoe Nail Item Order Form
Orders can also be placed at
www.chha.net/products



Obituaries continued from page 5

Marshall Cassidy, 75, of Saratoga Springs, NY, died Feb 7. Marshall served as the New York Racing Association Thoroughbred track announcer from 1979-90 and was noted for his enduring accuracy and even-keeled delivery. He later served as a patrol and placing judge in New York. In addition to his duties on the NYRA circuit, Marshall called races throughout the 1980s on television for CBS, ABC, NBC, and ESPN. Marshall and his family were good friends with CHHA member and race announcer, Larry Lederman.



Wilma Chambers, 76, of Harrington, DE, died Feb 6. In 1978 Wilma and her husband, Paul, moved from Nova Scotia to the United States to train and race Standardbreds on the Grand Circuit. They spent winters in North Carolina and summers in New York eventually settling in Delaware in 2002. Wilma's daughter, Collen, and brother, Archie McNeil, also race harness horses.



Elwood Gordon Davidson, 84, of Milford, DE, died Jan 8. Elwood served his tour of duty in the U.S. Army in Germany. He worked in the Davidson family business, then followed his passion for training and racing Standardbreds for the rest of his life.



James R. Gluhm, 77, of Trenton, FL, originally from Ohio, died recently. Jim would develop the youngsters and get them gaited, mannered, and trained down, then often send them north to be raced by other trainers. He and his stepdaughter, Kim Miller, were the first father-daughter to win a Breeders Crowns. According to Kim, one of Jim's favorite sayings was, "Luck is when preparation meets opportunity. He said you simply had to watch and see what the horse was doing. A trainer had to pick the right spots to race. He was always in full command of his barn." Jim's father worked on many Standardbreds as a veterinarian in southwest Ohio.

George D. Haislip, 77, of Elkton, FL, died Feb 8. George started out teaching in Michigan before transitioning to a career in sales with General Motors. He retired to Florida in 1999. From a young age, George shared a hobby with Standardbreds and harness horse racing with his father and daughter.



Winnie Kamminga, 95, of Crescent, IA, died Feb 15. She helped her husband, Arnold, who died in 1986 race and raise Standardbreds. She encouraged her daughter, CHHA member, Wilda McDanel, after her father's death to never give up. Winnie loved horses. She raised an orphan foal, Crescent Red, once on cookies and Rice Krispies. He later raced. When he retired she gave him a forever home until his death at 30 years old. At 95, she still enjoyed reading the CHHA newsletter word for word. She loved her Lord and couldn't wait to meet Jesus. She is currently survived by her five daughters. Winnie was a CHHA member.

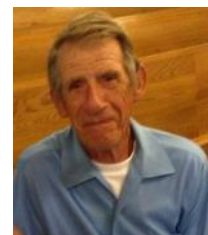
William Keeping, 57, died Jan 23. In high school Bill discovered harness racing and that became his passion. He moved from Ontario to the US when his stable could compete at the Meadowlands. In 2002 he raced back in Ontario. In 2019 he moved south again and stabled in Florida where the temperature was a better fit. Bill will always be remembered for his sense of humor, storytelling and his joy for life.



Paul D. Liles, 85, of Batavia, IA, died Feb 14. During his 25-year career at American Chain and Cable Co. he started his horse racing career working with the horses every night after his day job ended. He purchased a small farm and slowly transformed it into a full-time horse training and breeding facility. He was a prominent figure on the Iowa and Illinois horse racing circuits and was inducted into the Iowa Harness Horseman's Hall of Fame.

James "Jimmy" Edward McCann, 69, of Sarasota, FL, previously from MI, died Feb 25. Jimmy was a 40-year veteran of harness racing and later retired from the Crown Group Auto Company. He loved spending time with family, took great joy in children, and found his purpose in volunteering at his church, Redford Aldersgate United Methodist Church. At his new home in Florida, which he called his paradise, he enjoyed fishing regularly and knew everyone in the neighborhood.

Arthur M. Reynolds, Sr, 89 of Salem, NH, died Feb 1. Arthur served in the United States Army and was a volunteer firefighter in Salem, NH back in the 1950's. He then worked at Sears for 38 years. Arthur's brother, Peter Reynolds, was a CHHA member.



There is nothing more important than
Your Eternal Salvation

Kirk Cameron

Obituaries

John "Jack" Baggitt, Jr., 58, of Freehold, NJ, died Feb 10. Jack would remind you to look for "Baggitt" in a stained-glass window at St. Rose Church. After a childhood of trouble-making and athletics, he started working at the age of 13 for his lifelong mentor, harness driver, Harold Kelly. The industry was Jack's passion and purpose. "Hungry Jack" amassed nearly 20,000 starts, 2,700 wins, and \$17,000,000 in purses.



Obituaries continued on page 4
Sources for Obituary information include:

www.ustrotting.com www.harnessracing.com
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, 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 Niels, 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,



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

Memorial Contributions

In memory of **Joe Adamsky** by: Lyndel Adamsky
 In memory of **Jack Baggitt, Jr** by: The Harold Kelly Family, Paul and Vera Wojtowicz
 In memory of **Donnie Conrad** by: Roselea Conrad
 In memory of **Norman Dessureault** by: Jo-Dee Brown
 In memory of **Bill Keeping** by: Jo-Dee Brown
 In memory of **Harold Kelly** by: Mitch Fisher
 In memory of **Bob Key** by: Pastor Joe DiDonato, CHHA The Meadows
 In memory of **Denis Wick's birthday** by: Susan Throm-White
 In memory of **Andy Wood** by: Longshot Stables

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, Winnie Kaminga, 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, Frank Profaci, 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, Greggie 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 Petruzzo, Sgt David Thomas, and Elizabeth Welch.

Special Intentions for this month:

Amy Bondon has bowel issues.

Karen Carter has kidney problems, and her cancer numbers are back up.

Meagan McKee continues in the spinal tumor trial.

Lavern Miller lost his horses and all his equipment in a barn fire.

Liam Roddy, a Jr High student, is very ill and has heart issues.

157 North Main St
Salem, NH 03079
USA



Please indicate
Address corrections

CHHA Scholar

From Aubrey Schwartz

Hi everyone! My first semester at college wasn't the normal one I was really expecting, but it was still pretty great! I am attending Wilmington College located in Wilmington, Ohio studying Agriculture and Education with hopes to one day become an Agricultural Educator at a high school or be involved in 4-H Extension Work. I also added a Political Science minor, just in case I decide to go into Agricultural Law. In my first semester, I joined Aggies & Collegiate 4-H, Collegiate Farm Bureau, and the Ag Ed Society, began my journey in the Honors Program, and became a sister of the Sigma Alpha Sorority. These organizations I have become a part of have allowed me to grow personally, as well as in my future career.

Other than being involved on campus, I discovered that having a job, or three, helps pass the slowing times of COVID as well as make some extra money.

I worked at Swallow Hill Dairy in Jamestown, OH, better known as the milk shed! If you don't know about this little gem, I highly encourage you to check it out. While there I scraped free standing stalls, milked the cows, helped bottle feed the calves, learned how to properly clean and disinfect the milking parlor and processing unit, as well as how to process milk and yogurt.

My next job consisted of me working at 'Phonathon' here at the college. Phonathon allows students to be able to have a job without leaving campus. While doing this I was able to call alumni and parents of current students and ask if they

Aubrey continued on page 2



Dr. Lindsay Hagemeyer

The soon to be Dr Lyndsay Hagemeyer, DVM plans to begin her internship the end of May at the Rood & Riddle Equine Hospital in Kentucky. As Lisa Schwartz says, "She's a rising star!"

Visiting their website, The Rood & Riddle program looks fantastic. The interns have exposure to a large group of experienced clinicians in all equine disciplines giving them a broader knowledge base. Through this program, Lyndsay will develop relationships with many distinguished veterinarians who will become a resource and referral base for her in the future.

What a privilege it has been for CHHA to support Lyndsay in her academic endeavors. I am certain she will be an excellent veterinarian. The Hagemeyer Farms is already a superb breeding facility. With the newly credentialed Dr Lyndsay back from her studies, it will be even better.

Lyndsay's dad, Scott Hagemeyer, said, "We are very proud of her and all her accomplishments. Her work ethic and drive to succeed have always been strong attributes." CHHA is proud of her too! Lyndsay we pray God makes everything you do successful (Psalm 90:17).



Betsy Brown Honored

The Virginia House issued a Resolution of Commendation to CHHA member, Betsy Brown, when she won her 500th race with Believe In Him on September 2, 2020.

In their Resolution, the House went on to tell how Betsy won her first race in 1979 and has enjoyed an illustrious career as both a driver and a trainer ever since.



Scholarship applications are due April 30.
See Page 2.