



Rambling Willie

Keeping Christ Alive in Harness Racing!

Since 1983

In God We Trust



Christian Harness Horsemen's Association Newsletter

May 2021

Remember,
I pray for all
our members
every day.



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ideas please contact:*

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Wanted

**Praise Reports · Testimonies
Articles**

Please send to Chaplain Lee Alphen
leealphen@comcast.net
Or

157 North Main · St Salem, NH 03079



Thank You!

**to all who
gave their
lives for
our
freedom!**

Happy Memorial Day!

Difficult Roads Chosen

By Chaplain Lee Alphen

Driving home from Hindsdale Raceway after racing Sweet Onda, something made me stop to make sure everything was alright in the trailer. It wasn't. Blood oozed out around the tailgate. Opening the side door, I was aghast to see Onda standing in a pool of blood. The extra money I paid for the galvanized steel on the partition in the new trailer was the cause. The mare worked it loose and managed to badly cut her leg. She was in pain.

Fort Devens in Massachusetts was not too far away. I pulled in, explained the situation to security and was immediately escorted to the small animal clinic. The vet did his best to stop the bleeding and stitch up the severed artery.

After having my knee replaced last month, they kept asking me to rate the pain on a scale of 1 to 10. Well, I was never beaten, crowned with thorns and crucified, so it surely was not a 10! I have never been wounded on the battlefield, causing my arms and legs to be amputated. It was not an 8 or a 9. Sure, there was some pain. I chose the low numbers.

Arriving back in Salem with Sweet Onda, I drove straight to my veterinarian's. He laid her in the field for more surgery. Then stall rest at the farm while keeping her pain at bay. It was a long road back to the races.

Jesus had a choice. He did not have to suffer any of it. He did not even have to come to Earth. He chose to be born in a stable, to live the life of an itinerant preacher, to suffer the mockery, humiliation and scourging. Yes, he even chose to carry the cross and to be crucified as a common criminal. At any

time, Jesus could have walked away. Why didn't He? Us! Yes, because of us he went through it all.

Jesus knew He "must undergo great suffering, . . . and be killed, and after three days rise again" (Mark 8:31 NRSV). And, as for us, He went on to say, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those . . . who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it" (Mark 8:34-35 NRSV). "For," as Paul writes to the Romans, "if we have been united with [Christ] in a death like His, we will certainly be united with Him in a resurrection like His. We know that our old self was crucified with Him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin" (Romans 6:5-6 NRSV).



Jesus chose to become the offering for our sins to open the gates of heaven. When I think of the Resurrection, I want to raise my fist in victory and shout "yes!" Jesus did it all. He did it for you and for me!

Of course, I did the very best I could for my mare. Out there on the highway, her life was in my hands. Certainly, it was God who

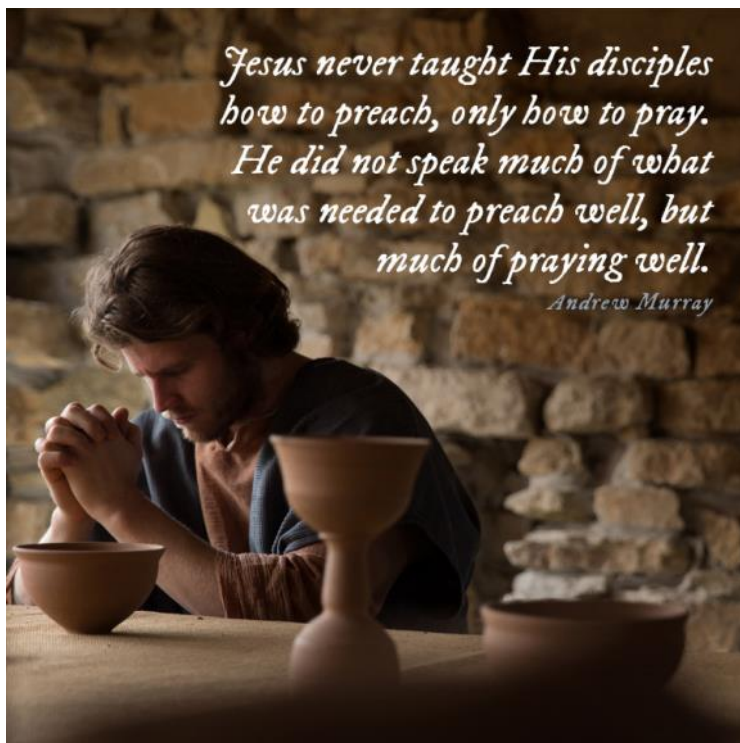
Roads cont. Pg. 2

Roads (continued from page 1)

encouraged me to stop and check on her. Concerned about the amount of blood she was losing; I didn't hesitate to pull into an army base. Ordinarily civilians are not able to pull into a military installation and ask to see the veterinarian. I didn't even really know they had one there. Throughout the scriptures God makes a way where there is no way. God definitely paved the way for me and led me in the way I should go.

I did not want Onda to be in pain but to get strong and sound. When we care about our animals, we take care of them and do what we have to do.

Jesus loves us. God made a way for Him to redeem us. Jesus chose that very difficult road. All that is left is for us to believe, turn to Him in faith, recognize He paid the price for our sins and accept God's forgiveness. Then, we can live in peace, knowing where we are headed when our time on earth is finished. Yes, all of us who believe will be together with the Lord for all of eternity. Praise God!



*Jesus never taught His disciples
how to preach, only how to pray.
He did not speak much of what
was needed to preach well, but
much of praying well.*

Andrew Murray

Church (continued from page 6)

Whether Liam heals physically or not we are certainly experiencing a great healing of the human spirit through the power of God's love expressed by HIS body of believers at CHHA. Little did I know the intention of God's love when HE led me to sign up for the CHHA newsletter and prayer list at the 2019 Hambletonian.

The Lord has taught my family through CHHA that: in HIS church we are all members of a loving and prayerful family drawn by the cords of HIS eternal love with a force that is greater than gravity.

Blessings from God

From Al Terwilliger...

Praise the Lord He has risen: I am now 82 years old and by the grace of God still enjoying life. We have sold Protecto Horse Equipment to a young couple from Pennsylvania, and they are doing a great job. What a great life I have had. I asked God and he always delivered. I think it is because He knew I would use his gifts wisely. He never gave me too much that I couldn't handle. Ask and you will receive.

From Amy Bondon...

Dr. Montejo, oncologist himself just called to tell me MRI is blessedly clear! NED, the 3 letters every cancer patient treasures as nobody that hasn't dealt with this disease, can fathom. No evidence of disease! Bless the prayers that have been so blessedly heard. My feet may never touch the ground

From Sharon Cromer...

I thank all who have prayed for me the past few years. You can take me off the prayer corner for I am well. Thank you, Sharon Cromer.

From Dan Fick...

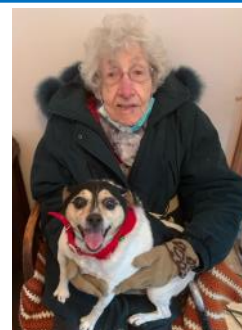
Please let all the Prayer Warriors know that thanks to our Great and Awesome Father God and everyone's kind thoughts and much appreciated prayers, I am home and on the road to a complete recovery. God Bless Everyone, Dan Fick

From Chaplain Lee Alphen...

Your prayers for my knee surgery and recovery are working! The physical therapy goal was to be able to bend my knee 120 degrees in six weeks. Praise God! In three weeks the bend measured 123 degrees! God sure is listening to you. Thank you very much!

Winnie Kamminga

CHHA was blessed to have Winnie as a member. She loved her horses and especially her Lord. She and her husband Arnold raised and raced Standardbreds. Crescent Red, an orphan foal, grew up on cookies and Rice Krispies. When he retired from racing, Winnie gave him a forever home. He lived until he was 30. Until Winnie went home to her Lord in February at 95, She always looked forward to reading her CHHA newsletters.



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

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Phone _____

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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
- 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

Richard A Cluff Sr, 78, of Ranson, WV, originally from ME, died Mar 10. Richard was a retired Standardbred driver/trainer. He had an avid love for harness racing and loved a horse of any kind.



Carl Gillespie, 63, Montgomery, NY, died Dec 29. Carl was a retired bus driver. He also had a successful harness racing career, racing at tracks such as Yonkers Raceway and The Meadowlands.



Roy Mac Davis, 81, of Zanesville, OH, died Feb 11. After serving in the National Guard, Roy enjoyed a 55-year career as a barber. His true passions were horse racing, livestock and farming. Roy attended East 40 Church of Christ and was a trustee for more than 18 years with Perry Township.



Robert Max "Bob" Dyksterhouse Jr, 77, of Big Rapids, MI, died April 1. Bob graduated from Michigan State University. He spent over 50 years raising and training Standardbred horses, a passion he never considered a job. He amassed 218 training wins through his career, with his last coming in September 2017 with Kill The Lights in the Michigan Breeders Stakes.

Gary D. Maynard, 74, Muncie, IN, died Jan 13. Gary retired from Delco Remy in Anderson where he worked as a Utility Man. His true passion was horses. He was involved with horse racing most of his life starting with Thoroughbreds before moving to Standardbreds.



Willard John Mellinger, 80, of Pawnee, IL, died Feb 28. John bred and raised Standardbreds. He retired from Vanpickeral Distributing as a truck driver. He was a member of St. John's Lutheran Church in Springfield.



Gale Moen, 85, of Lapeer, MI, died March 7. Gale trained and raced Standardbreds under Moen Stables, Inc. since the late 1970s. She was inducted into the Michigan Horse Racing Hall of Fame. She also worked at AC as Labor Coordinator for more than 30 years.



Jack & Doris Parelli, 88 & 85, of Discovery Bay, CA and Ocala, FL, died March 17. Jack was a two-time Golden Gloves champion in the lightweight division in NY, served

in the Navy and boxed professionally. Doris excelled in doing the accounting for Jack Parelli Associates and their real estate holdings. Jack always bragged that in 47 years she never made one accounting mistake. Their son, Pat Parelli of Ocala, FL, is an American horse trainer who practices natural horsemanship.

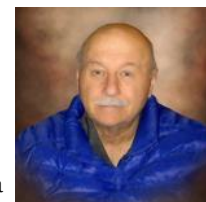


Reta Rose Roebuck, 89, of Urbana, OH, died March 18. Her husband, Ken, raced harness horses. Their son, Brian, continues to train Standardbreds. She was a member of the Grace Mutual United Methodist Church. Reta retired from the Hall Co. in Urbana after 20 years of service and was a 4H Sewing Adviser for many years.



Richard Ruffles, 61, of Pittsfield, NY, died Mar 2. Richard owned and trained harness horses.

Gary Lee Scurlock, 77, of Oblong, IL, died March 9. Gary worked for the State of Illinois and later for the Sims Furniture Store. He also owned and trained Standardbreds. For many years he wintered in Aiken, SC, returning to Chicago to race in the spring. Gary was a member of the Newton Free Methodist Church.



Teagan Sage Tetrick, 14, of Geff, IL, died April 2 as a result of a motor vehicle accident. Teagan was a freshman at Fairfield Community High School. She is survived by her parents, Tom Tetrick and Amanda Shelton; brother, Tyler; paternal grandparents, Tom and Mary Alice; maternal grandparents, Susan Shelton and Bill Shelton; maternal great-grandfather, John Shelton; uncles, Tim, Trace and Billy Shelton; adopted sister, Shelby Shelton; and several aunts, uncles, cousins, friends and family.



Richard Paul Tourangeau, 76, of Scarborough, ME, died March 3. Richard purchased and spent his career operating the New Gloucester Village store. As a life-time owner of Standardbreds, upon retirement his stable grew to 33 horses at its high point. Often you would see Richard jogging and training his horses for enjoyment.



Steve Wiseman, 53, of Sacramento, CA, died Mar 13. Steve was a third-generation harness horseman. He and his wife, Kathie, operate one of the largest stables at Cal Expo in the fall and winter and Running Aces in Minnesota in the spring and summer. Their daughter, Tyler, is currently the outrider at Cal Expo.

Obituaries

Carl Arnett, 69, of Medina, NY, died April 3. Carl worked for Eastman Kodak in Rochester, NY, for 34 years. He and his son, Jeremy, bought a Standardbred race horse named Give Me Credit and did very well with him at Batavia Downs and Buffalo Raceway,



Walter E. "Bud" Barrett, Jr., 95, of Dedham, MA, died March 5. Bud, the author of the book *The Story of the Readville Race Track*, was an avid harness racing fan who groomed horses at Foxboro Raceway. He retired from a career as School Adjustment Counsellor for the Dedham School Department in 1995.



Obituaries continued on page 4

Sources for obituary information include:

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, 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, 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, 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,



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

Memorial Contributions

In memory of **Joe Adamsky** by: Lyndel Adamsky, Peter Reynolds
In memory of **Jack Baggitt, Jr** by: Linda and Bob Condon, The Harold Kelly Family,
In memory of **Bev Crane** by: Dennis Crane
In memory of **Hans Enggren** by: Dr Bob and Lisa Schwartz
In memory of **Warren Harp** by: Joan, Jimmy and Sharon Harp, Susie Salles, Peter Reynolds
In memory of **Susie Helfrich** by: Dr Bob and Lisa Schwartz
In memory of **Winnie Kamminga** by: Winnie Kamminga, Wilda McDanel
In memory of **Bob Key** by: Dr Bob and Lisa Schwartz
In memory of **Charlie and Mickie Kelly** by: Linda Hurley
In memory of **Jack and Dori Parelli** by: Amy Bondon
In memory of **Bill Wick** by: his loving wife, Lucille Wick
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, 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 Petrullo, Sgt David Thomas, and Elizabeth Welch.

Special Intentions for this month:

Karen Carter is badly bruised from a fall. She continues to battle kidney issues and cancer.

Chaplain Ken Carter has shingles.

Ben Hawes was hospitalized with recurring kidney stones.

Faith Hawes is recovering from a broken wrist.

Linda Moyer has colon cancer.

Frank and Kim Profacci are recovering from COVID.

Brittany Vondenhuevel has been very sick.

157 North Main St
Salem, NH 03079
USA



Please indicate
Address corrections

In the Church of God, We Are All Family Drawn by the Cords of HIS Eternal Love

By Tara Burke

“My heart hurts me mommy! It feels like someone is killing me,” and then he passed out! That was the beginning of Liam’s life long battle with heart disease. He was diagnosed with rheumatic fever which caused a heart murmur and potential valve damage.



Robert, Tara and Liam

To the glory of God, Liam lived a pretty normal life for the next eight years. He played soccer, baseball, and was a member of the swim and jump rope teams. Then he encountered another severe set back with a diagnosis of a rare childhood disease called Kawasaki disease, which also attacks the heart.

However, after a very slow recovery, Liam was finally beginning to thrive again academically and athletically when the COVID-19 pandemic hit. Thank God, Liam did not get sick with COVID-19 but he is battling a relapse in his heart health.

I was experiencing frustration because of slow access to health care professionals and long lines for tests and procedures due to the restructuring of medical care with COVID. A timely note from Chaplain Lee with the Christian Harness Horsemen’s Association (CHHA) came through email. Chaplain Lee said, “I am praying for you.” “Never stop looking to Jesus. HE is the leader of our faith, and HE is the one who makes our faith complete (Heb 12: 1 – 2).” I had to respond and Chaplain Lee immediately along with her prayer group began to pray over Liam.

Church cont. on page 2

Prayer of a Horse

Submitted by Mary Beth Wing

To Thee, My Master, I Offer My Prayer:

Feed me, water and care for me, and when the day’s work is done provide me with shelter, a clean dry bed and a stall wide enough for me to lie down in comfort. Talk to me. Your voice means as much to me as the reins.

Pet me sometimes, that I may serve you the more gladly and learn to love you.

Do not jerk the reins, and do not whip me when going up hill.

Never strike, beat, or kick me when I do not understand what you want, but give me a chance to understand you. Watch me, and if I fail to do your bidding, see if something is not wrong with my harness or feet.

When I am lame, I may have corns, or a nail in my foot, take me to a good blacksmith. Examine my teeth when I do not eat. I may have an ulcerated tooth, and that, you know, is very painful.

If I am not doing well, give me something for worms, for they may be taking my strength away.

Do not tie my head in an unnatural position, or take away my best defense against flies and mosquitoes by cutting off my tail, or limit my range of vision by blinders so that I am frightened by what I cannot see.

And, finally, O my master, when my youthful strength is gone, do not turn me out to starve or freeze, or sell me to some cruel owner to be slowly tortured and starved to death; but do thou my master, take my life in the kindest way, and your God will reward you here and hereafter.

You will not consider me irreverent if I ask this in the name of Him who was born in a stable. Amen.

–Author Unknown–

