



Rambling Willie

Keeping Christ Alive in Harness Racing!

Since 1983

In God We Trust



Christian Harness Horsemen's Association Newsletter

September 2021

Remember,
I pray for all
our members
every day.



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Wanted

Praise Reports and Articles

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Trust Issues

By Chaplain Lee Alphen

According to Christian author, coach and world champion horse breeder, Lynn Baber, "Horses that spook, refuse, or don't progress in training often have trust issues. The number one reason your horse doesn't trust you is because you aren't believable. He either learned not to trust all people or you in particular.

Frustration is a common result when your horse has little or no trust in you. Prey animals are hard-wired to doubt, to run before thinking, and to fight when trapped. Which makes positive transformation impossible until you prove trustworthy." Baber goes on to describe "six ways we sabotage trust: inconsistency, failure to test, failure to focus on detail, history, broken promises and moving too fast."

Abraham trusted God and was blessed with a son in his old age, the beginning of a huge family (Genesis 15:5, Romans 4:20). Moses trusted too, allowing God to perform many mighty miracles, such as freeing 600,000 Israelite men, their wives and kids who were slaves to the Egyptians and leading them across the Red Sea toward the promised land (Exodus 8-12). At God's command, Noah, because he trusted God, built the Ark even though everyone laughed at him (Hebrews 11:7). Mary trusted God's messenger and was blessed with Jesus as her Son (Luke 1:26-38, Luke 2:7).

Mary trusted Jesus to do something about the wine shortage at a wedding feast in Cana. He turned the water into wine (John 2:1-10). Martha trusted Him when Lazarus died. Then, Jesus called Lazarus out of the tomb alive (John 11:17-43).

Jesus trusted God the Father in

heaven and spent a great deal of time conversing with Him, making sure They were on the same page. At His baptism and when He was transfigured on the mountain top in the presence of Peter, James and John, God spoke from heaven, saying Jesus was His Son and telling the disciples to listen to Jesus (Matthew 3:17, Luke 9:35).

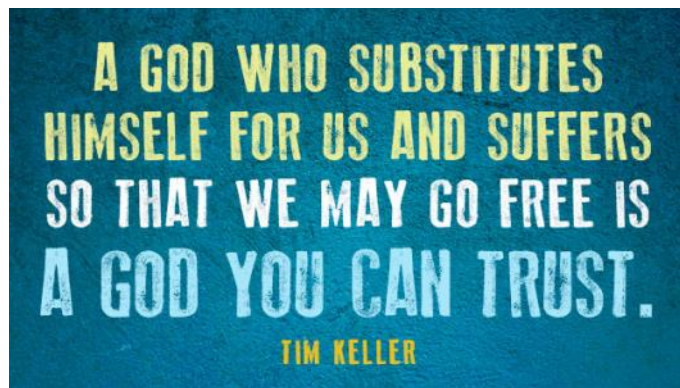
The disciples trusted Jesus enough to leave their work and follow Him. Sure, they had some bumps in the road. In the end, though, thanks to their implicit trust and faithfulness, Christianity spread and we now call Christ our Savior.

Jesus was very consistent with His disciples and everyone He encountered. He treated others just like Paul suggests in 1 Corinthians 13, the passage often read at weddings. Jesus was the epitome of love. He was patient and kind. He was not envious, boastful or easily angered. He kept no record of wrongs and did not delight in evil. He rejoiced with the truth; always trusted and hoped.

Our horses test us. They want to see if we are consistent, focused and keep our promises. They respond better if we are patient and kind, and not easily angered. Our faith is often tested too by different circumstances and situations. Are we focused on trusting God? Or do we spook, refuse and have trust issues? Perhaps we are testing God. Do we keep our promises—to God and each other?

God is believable. God's promises can always be trusted.

As trainers we continue to work with our horses, helping them and encouraging them to be their very best. When we spend time with God and scripture, God helps us and encourages us to be everything God made us to be. Let's trust God and be our very best!



Forget Not (continued from page 6)

benefits don't encompass all that Jesus obtained for you and me via the cross. Far too often we lose sight of what is available – indeed, what truly *belongs* to us – as children of God. Peace, prosperity, protection and provision were all purchased when Jesus pulled off the “big exchange” for us and paid the supreme sacrifice at Calvary.

To experience those benefits, however, one must write them on the tablets of his or her heart. God's Word must become more real to you than any circumstance, any problem, any sin or any shortfall in your life. Sometimes the trials and tribulations we experience can cloud our *memory* of what God's Word says about us. That's why we must have those benefits transferred from our *mind* to our *heart* ... by meditating on the Word and spending daily time with the Father.

All His benefits are yours ... and don't you forget it!

Scripture: Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits: Who forgives all your iniquities, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from destruction, who crowns you with loving kindness and tender mercies, who satisfies your mouth with good things, so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's. *Psalms 103:2-5*

Sage continued from page 6

dinner a few times during the week. Everyone was praying for my mom, and it was amazing to me that she never gave up or lost hope. Feeling God's presence and the impact it had in that dark time helped me develop a better relationship with Him. I finally felt ready to surrender my fear.”

For years Sage was preparing for a career in Criminal Justice hoping to work in forensics. Then, after her mother's third bout with cancer, she decided to become a nurse. Earning A's in her many, many science, and math courses gained her early acceptance into Northern Michigan University. By the way, she has already earned A's in 63 credits worth of college courses she took in high school.

More CHHA 2021 Scholars

Look for updates on Aubrey Schwartz and Parker Steck in future newsletters.

Blessings from God

From Tara Burke...

Liam is doing so much better to the glory of God! He will go to the local Community College for the next two years and then transfer to a four year college, God willing. He participated in a New York State JR ranger program at Mohonk Mountain Preserve two years ago. He was mentored by NY state rangers every weekend for a year and then they camped out for a week in the Adirondack mountains with back packs and tents. Liam loved it and may study to become a ranger, that is why he studied criminal justice in high-school. He also toys with the thought of becoming a lawyer?

From Brenda Jo-Dennon...

Do I ever have a testimony to make and it's all due to God's glory, grace and mercy. I'm 73 and knew I had health issues but kept making excuses for why I felt bad and pushed on.

On May 16th, my chest, back and neck hurt while I was weeding my flower beds. Nothing terrible, but I knew something was wrong and it didn't let up. So, I went to Atrium Hospital in Middletown, Ohio and told them I thought my heart was acting UGLY.

Fast forward, in a blur I don't remember, I was care flighted to Dayton Miami Valley Hospital where I had emergency open heart surgery. My aorta ruptured with the heart attack. I was revived twice and then spent three days in Intensive Care with a 1% survival rate.

When I came around four days later, I thought I'd been “mule kicked.” I had IVs in my jugular vein and both arms. I was intubated and had a catheter, etc.

I ask God every day to show me the way and what to do. He did not do all this for “nothing.” Even my surgeon said it was a miracle. I tell everyone this is God's work, and all the praise and credit goes to Him. There is a grand and glorious God guiding us. I'm so thankful I'm His, and that He let's me know it. What happened to me was no random accident.

From Christine McKee...

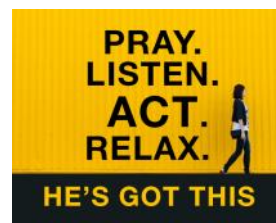
Meagan's MRI shows more improvement. The tumor looks more like a pistachio instead of a shallot now. 4th infusion was completed. Now we wait and pray some more. Note: Meagan has four more infusions scheduled.

From Lori Romanetti...

Jan's CT scan came back no change. Praise God! This means the cancer which has metastasized to her lung is not spreading. Praise God! Let's continue to pray.

From Kim Jan Tausch

Thank you for all the prayers over the years. Happy to report that Carrie Thompson is Cancer free!!!!!!



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Gifts for Family and Friends

10 Rambling Willie Note Cards (see picture)
 Horseshoe Nail Cross necklaces and key rings—see below
 CHHA Hat

Books

Power in Praise by Merlin Carothers
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

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

Bruce Aldrich, Sr, 70, died June 30. His greatest joy in life was his family. He was a successful harness racing trainer and former driver with a current stable full of racehorses at Monticello Raceway. Many remember Bruce for his sense of humor and positive attitude. He was a true hero throughout his life and faced every battle with a smile. The world will not shine as bright without his smile, and it will be quieter without his laughter. He will be deeply missed by his family, friends, and all who knew him.



Warren P. DeSantis, 75, of Wellington, FL, died July 23. Over the years, Warren worked in the race office at the Meadowlands, as race secretary at the Red Mile, Pompano and Saratoga. He also served as general manager at Saratoga. He had many incredible careers and business ventures, including a New York City bar owner and concert promoter for the likes of Bon Jovi, The New Kids on the Block, U2 and Lollapalooza, to name a few.



John James Hogan, 78, died July 2. John earned a degree in teaching from Saint Anselm College in New Hampshire. He had a rewarding career as a Standardbred owner and driver in Foxborough and Plainridge, MA, Pompano Beach, FL, and Saratoga Springs, NY. John was a devoted father and grandfather who went above and beyond for their happiness. He loved his Do-Wop and 50's music.



Albert V. Jozwiak Sr, 78, longtime track superintendent at Chicagoland's fabled Sportsman's Park, died July 4.

Richard R. Lopez, age 79, of Tecumseh, MI, died July 11. Rick graduated high school from Adrian Catholic Central in 1960 and served in the US Army. He was a carpenter and trained race horses.



Donald L. Mike, 81, of Bulger, PA, died June 26. Donald was an owner, trainer and driver who raced at the Meadows. He was also a breeder who loved his horse racing, and he shared it with his family. He loved to tinker and find a way to repair anything around the house. At some point, he was a carpenter, construction worker and steelworker. He always enjoyed being outdoors and enjoyed fishing, hunting and traveling.



Alla Polzunova, 84, from Moscow, Russia, died. Alla became very active as Russia's representative in the European Trotting Union and in the International Trotting Association, having the Russian Federation admitted as a full-fledged member of the organization. Alla was very close to her legendary coach, the late Delvin Miller, who visited Russia on several occasions. Her death is a great loss for all Russian trotting.



Sharon Kay (Baker) Reid 79, died July 15. Kay worked for 44 years at Midland Acres in Bloomingburg, a key contributor to the farm's rise to prominence as one of Ohio's premier Standardbred horse breeding operations. In retirement, Kay enjoyed spending time with family and friends in Florida and Ohio, working at the Blooded Horse Sales and facilitating local elections.



Kevin Thomas, 62, of Lexington, KY, died July 3. Kevin was a longtime director of the Kentucky Harness Horsemen's Association. He was passionate about his work in the Standardbred horse industry, most notably for Duke Duke and Justice Hall and his self-written software, Horse Cents. Racing in the 2004 and 2006 Hambletonian Stakes were among his proudest accomplishments.



There is nothing more important than
Your Eternal Salvation

Kirk Cameron

Obituaries

Schare Adams, 67, of Georgetown, KY, died July 20. Schare was a dedicated native Lexington Standardbred horse breeder. She operated and owned Saga Farm in Georgetown. Saga Farm completed all aspects of the horse industry including breeding, boarding, foaling, horse and yearling sale preparations and racing. She worked as a farm hand, racetrack groom, veterinary assistant and in farm manager positions, including Kentuckiana Farms and Standardbred Pacers and Trotters prior to purchasing Saga Farm.



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, Emily Bier, Debbie Boardman, Amy Bondon, Jeanne Duso Boudot, Georgianna Brocco, 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-Coen, 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, Betty James, Rita Jacobs, Jennifer Jugg, AJ Keaton, 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, Linda Moyer, 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, Roger Smith, Doug Stringer, Jimmy Takter, Bobbi Tanner, Jack Taylor, Carrie Thompson, Gary Tyron, Brittanty Vondenhuevel, Fred Ward, Sr, Roland Wardel, Kate Williams, John Wing, Steve Wiseman, Marty Woebkenberg, Allan 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, Yves Breton, 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, 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,



*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 **Bruce Aldrich, Sr** by: Terry Harp
 In memory of **Dan Ater** by: Jim Buchy
 In memory of **Jerry Knappenberger** by: Bob and Nancy Richardson
 In memory of **Karl Peterhansel** by: Peter Blood
 In memory of **Joanne Plant** died 7/10/13 by: Art Blant
 In memory of **Kay Reid** by: Blooded Horse Sales Co.
 In memory of **Jack Tatham** by: Arnold Williams
 In memory of **Andy Wood** by: Longshot Stables

Bob Jones, Ruby Hensley, Miguel Hernandez, Paul and Mrs Hershey, Carol Heusinkveld, Trudy Hite, Jerry Hissam, John Hostler, Jason Hughes, Jesse Hughes, Don James, 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, Del Richards, Donnie Richards, Ray Romanetti, Tori Scott, Jody Sexton, Delma Smart, Madisyn Smith, Brad Strawser, Lee Anne Taylor, Carol Tebo, Marsh Townley, Lorraine Truitt, Charlotte Truitt, Phillip Truitt, Mel Turcott, Justin Vance, Barry Vicroy, Max Walton, Steve Warner, Greggie Welch, Jr, Charles Weiss, 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 Lamiq, Chris Petruzzo, Sgt David Thomas, and Elizabeth Welch.

Special Intentions for this month:

Georgianna Brocco is recovering from breast cancer surgery.
 Jim Brocco is experiencing bad back pain.
 Julie Cameron and her daughter, Amanda, are struggling.
 Darius was recently diagnosed with a rare blood cancer.
 Ashley Dennon-Coen needs prayers for cancer and heart disease.
 Brenda Jo Dennon is recovering from emergency heart surgery.
 Tim and Loveda Finley lost a horse in a barn fire.
 Sarah Gehman has been diagnosed with breast cancer.
 Ryan Holton is recovering from several surgeries.
 Diane Hugel is recovering from heart surgery & still needs a stint.
 Jessica's fiance committed suicide. Please pray for her.
 Peg Miller had a stroke and has COVID.
 Tom Shaw is recovering from heart surgery.
 Madisyn Smith is recovering from mouth surgery.
 Karen Taft has 3rd degree burns and lost everything in a fire.
 Lucille Wick is hospitalized and had to give up her apartment.

157 North Main St
Salem, NH 03079
USA



Please indicate
Address corrections



Sage Brocco was awarded a the Rambling Willie Scholarship to study Nursing at Northern Michigan University.



If you’ve raced in the summer at the Meadows, you probably know Lori and Ray Romanetti’s niece, Sage Brocco. She loves every part of her summers as a groom for Ray, hauling the hay and cleaning the stalls as well as going to the paddock and helping on the farm.

Sage tells us in her essay she was born and raised a Christian and was immersed in faith her whole life. However, she says, “It wasn’t until joining a small group outside of church in high school that I really felt engaged. My friends had introduced the small group to me, and I agreed to go with them. That small group tackled the tough topics and encouraged me to really dig into the word.”

Through her church her entire family was involved in community service such as delivering Thanksgiving food baskets, raising money to drill wells in Africa and doing neighborhood yard work. They also fixed up a run-down house for a woman on her street.

Sage tells us she was really struggling when her mom was diagnosed with breast cancer. Of course, it was a difficult time for her whole family. She says, “I would pray each night hoping that everything would be okay. However, it was hard accepting that something so awful could happen to my mom. That night at the retreat when the pastor was speaking, I felt something stirring inside me. I knew I had to speak to the pastor. [...] We spoke for a while and he gave me some clarity about God’s plans and my mother’s breast cancer. When I got home my eyes were really opened to how big a role God was playing in our lives. My mother would read her devotional out every morning and her small group would make us

Sage continued on page 2

Forget Not All His Benefits

By Chaplain Sam Spence

Imagine having a sure-fire, multiple-stakes winner in your barn, all prepped, ready to run...but you keep forgetting to go to the entry booth with him!

“That’s ridiculous,” you say, “Nobody’s that stupid!”

Yes, it would be rather difficult to find someone in racing who had that caliber of horse, and yet was so absent-minded they never ran him. Not nearly so difficult is it to find a Christian who has forgotten the benefits that Jesus Christ has provided for us.

In the scripture below, the psalmist David had a good handle on God’s benefits for the believer; yet, even those

Benefits continued on page 2



Jug Prayer Breakfast

Wednesday, September 22, 2021

Join us at the Hospitality tent
across from the Dining Cabin at 7:30 AM
Wednesday, September 22nd for a

...to
inspire ... message.
Everyone ...
preaching style

Faith Hawes and ...
Family singers will help ... the Lord with
their ... voices.

Come enjoy a hearty meal and pray with us for good racing and the safety of everyone at the fairgrounds.



Left: The Truitt Family Singers



Jeff Stacy