



Rambling Willie

# Keeping Christ Alive in Harness Racing!

Since 1983

In God We Trust



Christian Harness Horsemen's Association Newsletter

January 2022

Remember,  
I pray for all  
our members  
every day.



Chaplain Lee Alphen

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### Wanted

**Praise Reports and Articles**  
Please send to Chaplain Lee Alphen  
[leealphen@comcast.net](mailto:leealphen@comcast.net)  
Or  
157 North Main St · Salem, NH 03079

# God's blessings

# in 2022

## Running Away

By Chaplain Lee Alphen

Tammy Adkisson's quarter horse, Diesel, escaped from his Millstone Township, New Jersey paddock one Friday night last November. When he trotted through a shopping center, the police tried to catch him. Diesel was too fast for them and ran into the woods.

The Lord instructed Jonah to go tell the people of Nineveh to stop doing all the evil things they were doing. Instead, Jonah tried to run away from God and went to Joppa and boarded a ship headed for the faraway city of Tarshish (Jonah 1:1-3).

CHHA members Linda and Bob Condon led a search party with other neighbors and friends. Linda texted me and our prayer partners began to pray. Linda and Bob found a hunter, Robert Schletweg, to help track Diesel and firefighters from two communities joined in the search. Finally, two days later, he was found neck deep in mud. Tammy was devastated, fearing it would be too difficult to get Diesel out of the mud without breaking a leg or causing a fatal injury.

The Lord sent a great storm with high winds which made the sea very rough. The boat Jonah was on was ready to break apart and the sailors were afraid. They threw their cargo overboard and each one began praying to his god. The captain found Jonah sleeping and woke him up, commanding him to pray to his god (Jonah 1:4-6).

The sailors threw lots and determined their troubles came because of Jonah. When they questioned him, Jonah told them "I am a Hebrew. I worship the Lord, the God of heaven, who made the land and the sea." Jonah told the men he was running away from

the Lord." Then he told them, "I know I did wrong—that is why the storm came on the sea. So, throw me into the sea, and the sea will become calm" (Jonah 1:7-12 ERV).

Joe Haney led the team of volunteers who dug for hours in the mud, got straps under Diesel and used a winch to help him up onto a track of rubber mats. With each step, the mats left behind were moved to the front until they were on solid ground. Cindy Wagner Anderson transported him to the vet clinic to recuperate.



Courtesy of Tammy Adkisson

After begging the Lord's forgiveness, the men threw Jonah into the sea. The storm stopped and the sea became calm. When they saw this, they began to fear and respect the Lord (Jonah 1:14-16).

Linda said about saving Diesel, "It truly was and needed to be a team effort!" Praise God!

Jonah spent three days and nights in the belly of a big fish. "While Jonah was in the stomach of the fish, he prayed

**Running continued on page 2**

## Running continued from page 1

to the Lord his God. He said, 'I was in very bad trouble. I called to the Lord for help, and he answered me. "My soul gave up all hope, but then I remembered the Lord. I prayed to you, and you heard my prayers. ... I will give sacrifices to you, and I will praise and thank you. Salvation only comes from the Lord!" Then the Lord spoke to the fish, and it vomited Jonah out of its stomach onto the dry land" (Jonah 1:17-2:10).

Neither Diesel nor Jonah was able to save themselves. Linda said, "It really was a miracle, he (Diesel) had less than hours to live.... only his head was exposed out of that swamp/mud." Jonah would have drowned if God had not sent the big fish. Then he would have been stuck inside the fish if God had not answered his heartfelt prayer.

God worked powerfully in both circumstances. He answered the prayers of the people involved and our CHHA prayer partners saving Diesel and Jonah. Through these experiences, the horsemen, the sailors and Jonah all grew in their faith.

Perhaps in the circumstances of our lives God is trying to get our attention. Are we listening? Or are we running from God?

**ALLOW GOD TO  
WORK AND SHINE  
THROUGH THE CHAOS.**  
CHRISTINE CAINE



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

### Memorial Contributions

In memory of **Joe Adamsky** by: Lyndel Adamsky  
 In memory of **Pleasant Batson** by: Becky and Scott Kinder  
 In memory of **Yves Breton** by: Bob Miller  
 In memory of **Phil Cable** by: Peter Blood  
 In memory of **Karen Carter** by: Amy Bondon  
 In memory of **Donnie Conrad** by: Roselea Conrad  
 In memory of **George Harp** by: Joan, Jimmy and Sharon Harp and Susie Salles  
 In memory of **Warren Harp** by: Joan, Jimmy and Sharon Harp and Susie Salles  
 In memory of **Dr Brian Lauzon** by: Amy Bondon  
 In memory of **Helga Letine** by: Jeannette and Sue Beachy  
 In memory of **Paul Pollara, Sr-20 yr anniversary** by: Paul Pollara, Jr  
 In memory of **George Rodawalt** by: Al and Kendra Casselman  
 In memory of **Walter Warrington** by: Steven Warrington  
 In memory of **Family of Bill Wick** by: Susan Throm-White, Richard White and Kymberlee and Michele Throm  
 In memory of **Andy Wood** by: Longshot Stables

## Blessings from God

### From Amy Bondon...

CHHA President, Amy Bondon, volunteers as a patient advisor at the Moffitt Cancer Center in Tampa, FL. Last November she participated for the third time in their annual cancer research fundraiser, Miles for Moffitt. Every year Amy has been among the top money earners. She finished fourth again in 2021. Way to go Amy!

### From Tim Hunderfund...

His niece has no sign of the illness/cancer in a year and a half now, but goes Every six months for scans. Keep the prayers for Tim's niece to continue to be all good news. Thanks for asking he said.

### From Linda Moyer...

Just letting you know my surgery went very well. I am feeling pretty good. Not a whole lot of pain. God brought me through that and now is taking charge of my recovery. I hope to be able to go home Monday. Thank you for all of the prayers. God is Good.

### From Roger Smith...

Thanks for all your prayers and thoughts. Finished my last round of chemo. last week and next month have a MRI to find out where we stand. Best always, Rog

### From Larry Zalewski...

Well since I initially contacted you 4-5 days ago, my mother has taken a significant turn for the better. She is being released from the hospital today and into rehab to work on her broken hip. So thank you so much. Prayers have worked wonderfully!

### From Nan and Michael DeVita

Arianne, Michael and Nan's daughter-in-law, is at Ronald McDonald House for the duration of her pregnancy. She and husband, Michael, were given short notice that they have to move. Michael has been house hunting taking Arianne with him by video.

Just a few days ago, a house was listed for the first time in almost 30 years. The house was perfectly located in the "best part of town". It had so many things they have been looking for in a home; they decided to put in a bid. After two years of looking for a house, in our Heavenly Father's Perfect Timing, this house became available. Surprised? NO!, because it is so awesome to take time to see how God works. (Jeremiah 29:11 and Romans 8:28). The next day their bid was accepted.

### Facebook and Instagram



CHHA is improving its social media presence. Please visit us, like and share.  
**We have giveaways!**

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**


**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



**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

*Still: A Story of the Black Doctor of the Jersey Pines* by Edmund R Gager

*Sound Mouth—Sound Horse, The Gager Method of Equine Dental Care* by ER Gager and Bob “Dusty Rhodes”



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**



+100 Wins and + \$ 7,500,000 Lifetime

**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](http://www.chha.net/products)





## Obituaries continued from page 5

**George "Ronnie" Roland Leager**, 83, of Sudlersville, MD, died Oct 31. Ronnie's passion for farming started as a young boy. He spent the last 53 years milking and raising dairy cows, as well as raising and training Standardbred racehorses on his farm. He also served in the national guard for nine years, was a member of the Farm Bureau, Holstein Association, and the U.S. Trotting Association.



**Helga Lentine**, 81, of Cream Ridge, NJ, died Oct 10. Helga was a full partner with her first husband, the late Robert Pasciuto, breeding, training and racing Standardbred horses throughout the 1970s and 80s. She was a licensed official for the N.J. Racing Commission, serving in the track paddock at Freehold Raceway for decades. Her 2<sup>nd</sup> husband, CHHA member Michael Lentine, also raced harness horses. Helga was a devout Catholic.



**Dominic J. Marusco**, 84, of Aston, PA, died Oct 22. Dominic was a lifelong business owner who owned and operated several businesses throughout Delaware County. He was also an owner, trainer, and driver of Standardbreds in his earlier days. He was an avid animal lover.



**Pat Meiners**, 72, of Paris, KY, died Oct 30. Pat served as the secretary for Steve and Cindy Stewart's Hunterton Farm since 1974, keeping track of the bookkeeping details of the hundreds of horses that reside at the farm. Outside of her work for Hunterton, she was very active in the Catholic community in Paris, KY.

**Anthony "Tony" V. Minute**, 87, of Walton Hills, OH, died Oct 26. Tony was a carpenter, Northfield Tack Shop owner, and horseman. He has been a member of the USTA since 1966.



**Frederick Clarence Nichols**, 78, of Winterport, ME, died Nov 16. Fred served as the vice president – treasurer of Remington Corporation in Bridgeport, CT. Later he acquired Bluejacket Shipcrafters, Inc, in Stockton Springs, ME. He was instrumental in the preservation of Bangor's historic track as well as Maine's harness racing industry. He dedicated 25 years to the Bangor Raceway in many capacities, including general manager, before retiring in 2018.

**Rodney Pinske**, 73, of Buffalo, MN, died Nov 4. Rodney trained horses for Bill Zendt in Pennsylvania for several years. He returned to Minnesota and worked as a welder and spent many years as an over the road truck driver. After retiring from truck driving, he spent his winter months in Florida at his family's Southern Oaks Training Center. Rodney was a faithful member of Zion Lutheran Church.



**Kenneth (George) Rodawalt**, 72, of Elmore, OH, died Oct 24. George was a preacher's son. He worked at Sugar Creek Golf Course for the last several years where he shared his faith and gave golf lessons. George had a beautiful voice and shared it in church and shows at various places. He loved his Lord. George's wife, Sandy, is a CHHA member.



**Dorris D. Simpson**, 89, of Fairfield, IL, died Nov 17. Dorris was a homemaker and a member of the Union North CP Church. Over the years, Dorris owned harness horses with her husband, longtime trainer-driver Buddy Simpson.



**Lily Marie Smith**, 90, of Elkton, MD, died Aug 25. Lily was a homemaker and had also worked at Herra Food, Inc. She enjoyed family time and loved her God. Lily was CHHA member, Ann Wade's mother. Ann and her husband, David, race at the Meadows and winter at the Pinehurst Harness Track.

**Josephine "Jo" Frey Spears**, 94, of Hanover, PA, died Oct 27. Jo shared her husband, Paul E Spears', enthusiasm for harness racing. Paul was the former president of Standardbred Horse Sales Company and Hanover Shoe Farms, who died on Aug 11, 2012. Jo and Paul did everything together. She was his sounding board in all major decisions. She accompanied Paul to harness races at PA County Fairs and harness racing tracks all over the country. She also participated in the family horse breeding business, Windsong Stable, as does her son, Dr. Paul Spears.



**John A. Townsend**, 83, formerly of Washington and Meadow Lands, PA, died Oct. 15. John was a long-time lawyer in Washington County in the firm, McIlvaine, Allison & Townsend, and a former Assistant District Attorney before becoming president and general manager of The Meadows Race Track. He retired from The Meadows to focus on raising, breeding and racing Standardbred horses on Rising Wind Farm in Meadow Lands and Bancroft Farm in Avella.



**Joyce L. Wyder**, 94, of Akron, NY, died Oct 25. Joyce had a background in sewing and tailoring which she turned into a business making clothing for the drivers at Batavia Downs and Hamburg Racetracks. Her business, Joyce's Racing Silks, became an international business serving both the Standardbred and thoroughbred industries. She branched out into other fields including snowmobile suits, bicycle racing, motocross, dirt bike and flat track motorcycle racing and even opened a doll shop.



## Obituaries

**Karen Carter**, 76, of Fergus, Ontario, died Nov 9. Karen helped her husband, Pastor Ken Carter, in his ministry as the harness racing chaplain in Ontario. They visited horsemen and women at racetracks, farms and training centers often hosting BBQs. CHHA's Chaplain Lee Alphen and Pastor Joe DiDonato and his wife, Marcy were blessed to spend a few days with Chaplain Ken and Karen on the shores of Georgian Bay a few years ago.



**James W Jesk Jr**, 89, of Lemont, IL, died Nov 10. James was a United States Navy veteran. He served as the mayor of Oak Forest from 1975-1985. He was a long-time employee of Andrew Corporation and later founded Deerfield Construction Group. He built Sawgrass Farms, where he excelled in the harness racing community, winning



major races across the country.

**Kenneth (Ken) D. Carlisle**, 91, formerly of Lennon, MI, died Nov 7. Ken retired from Sears after more than 30 years of service as credit manager. He was a proud veteran of the U.S. Army. He enjoyed life on the farm and racing his horses across Michigan. His wife, Betty Lou, preceded him in death by just two weeks.

**Dr. Brian "Doc" James Lauzon, DVM**, 65, of Factoryville, PA, died Nov 1. Doc was a renowned veterinarian. His specialty and passion was caring for race horses which led his career path to numerous locations from Windsor to New York to Florida. He settled in Factoryville in 2007 after purchasing a horse farm, to both raise and care for horses for his family and in the surrounding community.



**Obituaries continued on page 4**  
Sources for obituary information include:

[www.ustrotting.com](http://www.ustrotting.com) and [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, 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, Sarah Gehman, Rodney Grady, Pastor Bill Grant, Margaret Groce, Remi Gunn, Marilyn Hankins, Rose Hennessey, Morris Hoagland, Glenda Holloway, Layla Hundertpfund, 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, 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, Dean Miller, Peg 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, Tom Shaw, 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, Steve Warner, Reggie Welch, Jr, Charles Weiss, Lucille Wick, 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 Beaugard, Joshua Hankins, Yann Lamiq, Chris Petrullo, Sgt David Thomas, and Elizabeth Welch.

**Special Intentions for this month:**

Arianne DeVita is at Ronald McDonald House with placenta previa.

Katie Folkins has stage 4 ovarian cancer.

Sarah Gehman is undergoing radiation for a rare form of breast cancer.

Julie Kerr has cancer.

Larry Leaderman's hemoglobin is going up instead of down.

Doc Parry is recovering from pancreas surgery.

Joan Plocek, 93, is in failing health.

Dan Richner had a stroke.

Darren Richner, 40s, had his 3<sup>rd</sup> brain cancer operation.

157 North Main St  
Salem, NH 03079  
USA



Please indicate  
Address corrections

## CHHA Is a Blessing

*From Becky and Ron Wulber*

We are blessed to be part of CHHA. Thank you for your prayers for Ron, myself and our family. We are thankful for your stand in God's Word and His promises to the body of Christ reaching out to the horsemen! Together we are God's shining lights in this crooked and perverse world.

Thank God for believers who are standing on the promises of God lacking nothing! He is our provider, healer, peace, banner, shepherd, righteousness and so much more! Praise God for His Son, Jesus Christ! We are complete in Him and fully equipped until the day He returns (II timothy 3:16-17).

God will provide for His children. All we do is believe His Word and obey and trust. Cast your cares on Him for He cares for you (I Peter 5:7)! Our journey can be divinely ordered and our paths made straight when we follow Him!

God richly bless you with His goodness, strength and health (Ephesian 3:30).

## Prayer for 2022

Thank you Lord for another new year filled with hope. You told the prophet Jeremiah, "I have good plans for you. I don't plan to hurt you. I plan to give you hope and a good future" (Jer 29:11). And, "We know that in everything God works for the good of those who love Him (Rom 8:28).

Thank you for Your promises. Thank you for Your love. Help us grow closer to You this year. We trust you God. Amen!

The Lord gave Aaron this blessing to pray over the people. I am praying it for you.



## Stallion Auction

*January 28 – 29, 2022*

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

Visit [www.chha.net](http://www.chha.net) for our Stallion Listing and Stallion Donation Form or contact Chaplain Lee Alphen.

**Please consider donating a breeding!**

In past years our largest fundraising effort was our stallion auction. However, recently we have seen a dramatic drop in proceeds. Fewer people are breeding and more organizations within the industry are holding stallion auctions as fundraisers.

However we were encouraged to go ahead with our auction anyway. Our industry needs horses, and these charity auctions make it possible for people who miss the bid at the regular auctions, where entries command a higher price, to win a breeding for their mare.

Thanks to everyone who has donated breedings and participated in our previous auctions. Your support is greatly appreciated. You are helping us to **Keep Christ Alive in Harness Racing!**

**Please help make this a great auction!**

"May the LORD bless you and keep you.  
May the LORD smile down on you  
and show you His kindness.  
May the LORD answer your prayers  
and give you peace" (Numbers 6:22-26).

**God's best to you in 2022**

## Birthday Facebook Fundraiser

**Thank you Jo-Dee Brown for creating a Facebook birthday fundraiser to benefit CHHA!**

