



Rambling Willie

Keeping Christ Alive in Harness Racing!

Since 1983

In God We Trust



Christian Harness Horsemen's Association Newsletter

June 2022

Remember,
I pray for all
our members
every day.



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Wanted

Praise Reports and Articles
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My Lord and
My God!
(John 20:28).

Recognizing Jesus

By Chaplain Lee Alphen

The colt born in an ordinary stable and raised in a non-descript town by an average family was thought to be nothing special.



However, when people came from surrounding areas to watch him as he began his career, they were impressed. They were drawn to him and rooted for him.

Sold and abused, he disappeared for a while. The jealous people who saw him as competition, the naysayers, the hecklers and those who thought they were smarter than the rest were happy. Of course, his fans were heartbroken.

Then, miraculously, he was back but just shipped in a few times and was seen in different places. But, wow! His abuser must have sold him. Evidently, some good people got hold of him and took care of him. He looked incredible! He held his head high and was very sure of himself. He could not be beat.

Researching his bloodlines, his fans found a world-class heritage. Actually, this whole turn of events seemed supernatural.

Finding the empty tomb, Jesus' mother and followers did not know what to do. Jesus had appeared briefly to Mary Magdalene. Some angels gave a message about His resurrection to some of the women, and Peter and John also saw the empty tomb (Luke 24:1-12, John 20:1-8).

A couple of the disciples headed down the road to Emmaus, discussing all that had happened over the last several days. A stranger joined them

who, at first, did not seem to know about Jesus. But then he explained many of the Scriptures that predicted these current events (Luke:13-24).

"He said to them, 'How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?' And beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself" (Luke 24:25-27 NIV).

At their destination the two disciples invited Jesus to join them. They finally recognized Him when He took the bread and said the prayer thanking God for the food. Then Jesus disappeared. Immediately, they headed back to Jerusalem to tell the others (Luke 24:28-33).

As the group of disciples were gathered in a house in Jerusalem, Jesus appeared in their midst and showed them his wounds. Thomas was not with them on that occasion. Later, when they told him what had happened, he refused to believe until he saw the wounds for himself (John 20:19-20, 24-25).

Jesus came again while the eleven were all there. He told Thomas to put his hands in his nail marks and in his side where it was pierced and to believe. Thomas then exclaimed, "My Lord and My God!" (John 20:26-28).

We might be kicking ourselves that we did not recognize the potential of a young colt. Hopefully, though, we would be happy for him and his stable. We may have missed out on an opportunity to buy him or bet on him. But, other than that, there is no harm done.

However, if we fail to recognize Jesus, that is a very costly mistake. For

Recognizing cont. bottom of page 2

Blessings from God

Diane H's Good Friday surgery was very successful. Praise God! They removed 2 large benign tumors and did a hysterectomy robotically. Her medical team was pleasantly surprised there was no cancer anywhere. The surgeon told her that she, the oncologist and the urologist were all certain she had cancer. All the tests said she had cancer and all the images looked like cancer. In fact, during the surgery she sent out several biopsies thinking there was an error. They all came back benign. The surgeon told her she should buy a lottery ticket. Instead, Diane is praising God for the miracle the surgeon agreed it likely was. She is extremely grateful for your prayers.

From Mike DeVita...

My grandson Justin, who was offered up in hundreds and hundreds of prayers including many by CHHA members, is doing great. He was 5 lbs. 5 oz at birth and 17 inches long. When he left the hospital a few days after being born, he was slightly under 5 lbs. At his two-month doctor visit, he was 9 lbs. 4 oz. and 20 1/2 inches long. The doctors are thrilled with his progress. His momma, Arianne, has healed up well. Big sister, 4-year-old Emily, loves her little brother and, with my son Michael, they are all snug in their recently purchased home. Our Awesome God's Plan doesn't always line up exactly with our prayer requests, but the Lord has heaped tremendous blessings upon them. I pray that our Heavenly Father uses them all mightily for His Purpose and to advance His Kingdom. Here is a picture of the little guy for whom you faithfully prayed.



From Scott Hagemeyer...

Lyndsay is nearing her 1-year completion as an Intern at Rood & Riddle. She has received a ton of experience and been offered additional opportunities to extend her stay. She has chosen to return to our home area and accepted a Veterinary position with our farm vet, Dr. Dan Yates. She plans to return around the 1st week of June and is looking forward to her new opportunities. Many Thanks for all your support, thoughts and prayers for her over the years. It is greatly appreciated!
NOTE: Lyndsay and her family are long time members of CHHA. Lyndsay was one of our scholarship recipients during her undergraduate days.

From Dick Hughes...

Praise God, Loretta's surgery went very well. She is in recovery ICU and will probably come home tomorrow. We're so relieved and thank God for His mercy and healing. Thank you and all the prayer partners.

From Larry Lederman...

Thank you for your special medical prayers. The doctor told me that being tired all the time is a by-product of heavy a-fib. There's nothing can be done about the a-fib but continue to take the Eliquis (Blood thinner). And he liked the fact that the hospital lowered my dosage. He told me to keep my attitude and positivity. I'll do my part and am grateful to the CHHA cheerleading squad for their prayers and well wishes. Thank for being there! Best always, Larry

From Bob Miller, Jr...

Good morning friends, I pray everyone is doing well. My back is healing and brother Nelson's PSA is normal. Thank You God for answering prayers.

From Kim Jan Tausch...

I want prayers of thanksgiving for the complete healing of Carrie Thompson. She has been on your prayer list for years now. She had ovarian Cancer. She just got a clean scan. No sign of cancer. Her treatments were stopped. And her medication port removed. Thank You God!

From Amy Bondon...

1. Praise our Great Physician and God bless yours and the prayers of our amazing interceders at CHHA, by His grace the biopsy is negative!! Thank You and Thank the Lord!
2. God's miraculous intervention indeed, blessed by your prayers, has my knee a million times better. Dr says she can inject it without any scans or X-rays, praise God! I thank God for you all and how you walk with me in His name, prayerfully. He is mighty to be faithful.
3. I'm here with Diane B in her living room and she's doing great! I told her you and the prayer warriors were so faithful in their prayers for her through this. God bless you all they worked! Amy

Recognizing continued from page 1

the last 2,000 years Thomas has been called "Doubting Thomas." Yet he is the first to exclaim to the risen Christ, "My Lord and My God!" (John 20:28).

"Then Jesus told him, 'Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed'" (John 20:29 NIV).

Let's be sure to spend at least as much time considering who Jesus is, His lineage and the benefits of having Him in our lives as we spend on the horses we are considering for our shed row and on studying the race program before placing our bets. Then with Thomas we can say, "My Lord and My God!" and we too will be blessed and have peace, love and joy fill our hearts.



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Daily Oats by Chaplain Sam Ed Spence

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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
Posters are 16 x 24 sticky vinyl.



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



Obituaries continued from page 5

Don Brainard, 79, died April 7. Don was a trainer/driver who joined his father, Howard, in the Standardbred business as a teenager. When asked about his success in the sulky, he gave the credit to his "backbone," wife Barbara, who does much of the training for the stable. Reflecting on this success, he said, "Barbara is not only my backbone, she's my heart and soul. I'm only as great as she made me." Don was CHHA member, Bette Jean Calice's brother.

Harold S. Duris, 92, of Ocala, FL, and previously from Michigan, died April 1. Harold began his career as a CPA. In 1984 he became executive vice president and general manager of Michigan's Hazel Park Harness Raceway. 18 years later, he became the executive vice president and general manager at Pompano where he remained until he retired in 1995.



Theodore Wesley "Wes" Fisher, 85, of Middletown, NY and Montague, NJ, died April 27. For many years, Wes owned and operated several businesses in the northern New Jersey area. The most prominent was Rozewood Pet Foods located in Montague, NJ where it served many horse farms in the tri-state area. He was instrumental in the development, construction and management of the Mark Ford Training Center in Middletown, NY, where he operated his feed business for the last several years.



Oswaldo Formia, 83, died April 9. Oswaldo came to the United States from Argentina. He worked for Hall of Famer Howard Beissinger. After starting his own stable, Oswaldo enjoyed a successful partnership with the Antonacci family's Lindy Farms and Lindy Racing Stable. Lindy Farms posted on Twitter, "He truly loved the horses and was a gifted horseman. We have many great memories with Oswaldo, and he will live on through his accomplishments on the racetrack and in the hearts of those who knew him."



Adrian W. Kent, 68, of DeLand, FL, died March 25.

Adrian was a professional geologist, working in 50 states and internationally since his graduation from Florida State University until his death. He was Baptist and enjoyed music, rock hunting, boating and fishing. Adrian's wife, Sandy Weiss of the Spring Garden Ranch, is a CHHA member.



Olle Goop, 78 of Sweden, died recently. Olle is a Hall of Famer who was best known in North America when he drove the older trotting mare Grades Singing to victories in the 1987 and 1989 Breeders Crown Mare Trot. He won 66 driving titles in Sweden during his career but was known as a consummate horseman. Between training and driving, he won almost all of Europe's trotting classics. He was inducted into the Swedish trotting Hall of Fame in 2013.

Marvin Owen "Tuffy" Mathias, 77, of Assumption, IL, died April 21. Tuffy was the owner and operator of Owen Mathias Trucking for many years and a former farmer. He also owned and bred several Standardbred harness race horses in his lifetime and was an avid fan of harness racing which he watched every day on TV. He was a member of Locust Grove Church of rural Assumption.



Kevin D. Murray, 61, of Carver, MA, died April 20. Kevin trained owned and bred Standardbreds while his wife, Linda, became one of the leading female amateur drivers in New England. He and his family developed world champion and Grand Classic-winning American Miniature Horses over the past 15 years.



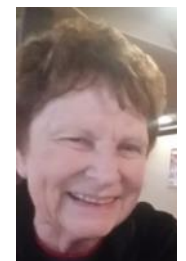
Michael Pisko Jr, 87, of Freehold, NJ, died April 12. Michael, an original member of the Standardbred Owners Association of New Jersey, was a driver, trainer, and owner of harness horses until his retirement in 1971.



Philip Von Borries, 74, of Lexington, KY, died March 24. Philip was an author who published multiple books on both baseball and horse racing. He was a frequent visitor at Louisville Downs and the Red Mile early in his career and was awarded the inaugural John Hervey Award for writing about harness racing. He wrote about horse racing for numerous American, Canadian and European publications, among them *Hoof Beats*.



Betty Wilson, 86, of Fort Wayne, IN, died April 16. Betty worked at GM as an engineer. After retirement, she enjoyed reading and helping her husband train Standardbreds.



Sources for Obituary information include:

www.ustrotting.com, www.harnesslink.com and www.Standardbredcanada.ca

Obituaries

Kenneth Dale Barlow, 85, of Marshall, NC, died March 31. Kenneth owned, trained and drove harness horses and was inducted into the Indiana Standardbred Hall of Fame in 2016. In 1997, Ken and his wife, Sharlene, formed Dance For Less. They traveled the country square dancing and selling square dance clothes. In 2006, they purchased a farm in North Carolina. He raised Registered Angus cattle until 2018. Even though they decided it was time to get out of the cattle business, they kept their miniature donkeys and, of course, their horses. He attended Middle Laurel Church of God.



*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 **Dr Howard Gill** by: Carol and Jeff Moore, Arnold Williams
 In memory of: **Harold Kelley** birthday May 3 by: Deborah and Jeff Tillia
 In memory of: **Joe McGorisk** by: Jo-Dee Brown
 In memory of: **Roger Smith, Jr** by: Mindy Smith, Paul Fontaine
 In memory of: **Weldon Stockwell** by: M Gregory Gehman
 In memory of: **Marion Sumpf** by: Al and Kendra Casselman
 In memory of **Andy Wood** by: Longshot Stables

[Obituaries continued on page 4](#)

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, Dianne Boyken, Georgianna Brocco, Jana Brocco, Gary Bryant, Lore Burke, Rick Carson, Barbara 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, Katie Folkins, Sarah Gehman, Rodney Grady, Pastor Bill Grant, Cody Greeno, Margaret Groce, Remi Gunn, Marilyn Hankins, Rose Hennessey, Morris Hoagland, Glenda Holloway, Layla Hundertpfund, Betty James, Rita Jacobs, Jennifer Jugg, AJ Keaton, Julie Kerr, 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, Nelson Miller, Frank Mirahmadi, Lalya Mosley, Linda Moyer, Corey Murphy, Howard Nields, Pierre Noel, Jay O'Neil, John Panetta, Carol Parker, Dee Parsons, Misti 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, Gary Tyron, Brittany Vondenhuevel, Fred Ward, Sr, Roland Wardel, Kate Williams, John Wing, Steve Wiseman, Marty Woebkensberg, Allan Wright, Joyce Zeasapolowski.

These friends are also in need of our ongoing prayers:

Jason Apperti, Jordan Aracena, Ken Bartels, Gary Bennett, Peter Blood, Marilyn Bondon, Stephanie Bouchard, Danny Breton, Betsy Brown, Kevin Burns, Mary Burton, Bob Cain, Carol Ann Case, Thelma Chrisman, Mary Clements, Joan Collins, Anthony Coletta, Chet Crane, Karen Crothers, Anna Farley, 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, Delma Smart, Madisyn Smith, Ryan Stahl, 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 Beauregard, Joshua Hankins, Chris Petruccio, Sgt David Thomas, Elizabeth Welch and Nigel Willabus.

Special Intentions for this month:

Henry Christie's 22-year-old grandson killed in an accident. He requests prayers for the family.

Mike Hayes colon issues were a lot worse than expected. Jen is 2 months pregnant, and her baby was diagnosed with extra chromosomes.

Donna Lee had lung surgery.

Randy Macown is nearing the end of his life.

Meagan McKee's nerve pain is pretty high.

George and Doris Mueller, 80s, pray for quality of life.

Carol Parker needs continued prayers for cancer.

Joan Plocek, 92, needs prayers for quality of life.

Peter Reynold's prostate cancer spread to his bones.

John Wing has complications from his cancer surgery.

Pray for a young man who was emotionally abused.

Pray for good health for all mares and their foals.

Pray for everyone impacted by the war in Ukraine.

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Salem, NH 03079
USA



Please indicate
Address corrections

Seize the Moment

By *Boston Celtics Chaplain Bob Gray*

The NBA All Star weekend, which just concluded last night, signals the end of the 1st half of the NBA season. That means there is still another half to play. If a player's game in the 1st half of the season faltered, wasn't that good or suffered injury, the 2nd half of the season gives an opportunity to regroup, make adjustments and get back on track. But, that usually only happens if you examine the situation and change something(s) to better embrace success. The 2nd half of the season allows you a do-over, a 2nd chance to get things right.



God does the same thing for us every morning when he allows us to wake up, breathes His life into us and gives us another day to get things in order for our 2nd half. Now, it's not a guarantee but a gift. Some people depart during the night and never see the break of dawn, but if you make it through to the morning, and you find yourself in the land of the living, that is your 2nd half, your chance at a do-over with an opportunity in a brand new day.

So, what are you going to do with it? I have a few suggestions: Give God your thanks and show Him your gratefulness. Do something you really enjoy doing for yourself. Do something to bless and encourage somebody else. Let God speak to you through scripture within your quiet time. And last but not least, live today's life today, not dwelling on the problems of yesterday or spending too much time in the promises of tomorrow. Live in the present ... today. Spend it all and live fully today. Your 2nd half has just begun. If God grants you tomorrow, wake up and do it all over again. Enjoy Your gift!

Note: This is what the term seize the day means.



Scholarships

CHHA will award three scholarships for the 2022/2023 school year. These are 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 May 31.**

