



Rambling Willie

Keeping Christ Alive in Harness Racing!

Since 1983

In God We Trust



Christian Harness Horsemen's Association Newsletter

September 2022

Remember,
I pray for all
our members
every day.



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Wanted

Praise Reports and Articles

Please send to Chaplain Lee Alphen

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Or

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But Others Are Doing It!

By Chaplain Lee Alphen

Have you ever heard someone say, "Other trainers are doing it. I won't have a chance unless I do it too"? Or, "Yes, Judge, but other drivers on the track drive like that, so I thought it was okay"? Or, "But, Officer, I was just following everyone else"? Sometimes our Christian values are challenged when we think those who cheat have an advantage over us. As my grandmother used to say, "If they jumped off a cliff, would you follow?"

The second book of Kings tells us, the various kings of Assyria wreaked havoc in many of the countries surrounding Israel. The Israelites began to worship other gods and follow the practices of other religions, picking up the customs of their neighbors. God sent many prophets to encourage them to turn back to Him. But they didn't listen. They rejected God's commands and "even sacrificed their own sons and daughters in fire, consulted fortune tellers, practiced sorcery and sold themselves to evil, arousing the Lord's anger" (2 Kings 17:18 NIV).

As you can imagine, the Lord was very angry with Israel and the country went through very difficult times. The only people He spared were the people of Judah. God spared them because of His promise to Abraham. The rest of the Israelites were exiled to Assyria (2 Kings 17:18-20).

Eventually Hezekiah became king of Judah. Hezekiah was a godly man who kept the commandments and never stopped listening to the Lord. He removed from Judah everything related to the false gods. God blessed him and he was very successful (2 Kings 18:3-7).

Hezekiah's predecessors submitted

to the Assyrian kings and paid them off every year to keep them from attacking. When Sennacherib became king around 700 BC, Hezekiah stopped sending the money, hoping Assyria would ignore him. Evidently, they didn't.

When Sennacherib attacked part of Judah, Hezekiah sent an apology and an offer to pay whatever fine the king demanded (2 Kings 18:13-14).

Sennacherib sent word to Hezekiah through his supreme commander to try to deceive him with lies. The message said that he would be very foolish to rely on his God since Sennacherib's own god told him to destroy Judah (2 Kings 18:17-25).

Hezekiah took the letter from Sennacherib's messenger to the temple and prayed earnestly, begging God to deliver Judah from the Assyrian kings. Then the Lord sent the prophet Isaiah to tell Hezekiah that the Lord heard his prayer and that Sennacherib would not enter the city or even shoot an arrow. God said He would defend Judah and send the Assyrians packing (2 Kings 19:14-34).

During the night 185,000 soldiers in the Assyrian camp died. Sennacherib and his troops high-tailed it back to Nineveh and stayed there. They did not lay a finger on the people of Judah. Sennacherib was a bully who thought he could snap his fingers and threaten everyone into compliance. God showed him he best not mess with His people (2 Kings 19:35-36).

There are many lessons for us here. God gave us all the stories in the Bible, including the commandments, for our own good, to help us.

Sometimes we look at what others are doing and say, "Well, that's not that bad. Times have changed." For

Others cont. top of page 2

Others (continued from page 1)

Christians a good prayer life is very important. God's "word is very near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart so you may obey it" (Deuteronomy 30:14).

We want to always be in touch with God like Hezekiah was. Most people would have said, Judah is finished. Sennacherib will surely take them out. However, we see that Sennacherib was nowhere near as powerful as our God! Hezekiah prayed. God listened and answered mightily. Praise God! Complete dependence on God yields amazing results.

We too are God's children and God listens to us in the same way and answers our prayers. The biggest thing God will save us from, when we ask Him, is the snares of the devil.

Sure, there are people in racing and everywhere else who sometimes listen to the evil one and make bad choices. That does not mean that we have to. God is there for us too and has a plan. When we ask for His help, listen and follow Him, we may be very surprised how well God's plans work.

"Those who hope in the LORD
will renew their strength.

They will soar on wings like eagles;
they will run and not grow weary,
they will walk and not be faint."

Isaiah 40:31

CHHA Scholars

Meadow Twaddle was awarded the Rambling Willie Scholarship to continue her studies in psychology and Spanish at Washington Jefferson College. After graduating, she hopes to attend the University of Pittsburgh's Physician Assistant School.

Meadow helps her dad at his Meadows Raceway barn as much as she can. Pastor Joe says, "Meadow and her family have helped our ministry in many ways during my years as Chaplain. The Twaddles have opened their home many times to host get togethers for our chapel community. They were extremely helpful during the pandemic."

Meadow says, "Coming into college, I was full of optimism and had the desire to succeed. I was ready to face the new adventure in front of me. Little did I know this adventure would be something I had never experienced before. The Covid-19 Pandemic put a halt to my

**Blessings from God**

Oaklawn Chaplain Rich Heffington rang the bell, signaling his 30 treatments are complete! He's doing great and wants to give all praise, honor and glory to God! He said the doctors were amazed that the cancer stayed localized, and Rich told them it was God who made that happen.

From Christine McKee...

Meagan and I left CA today. Treatment went well and the MRI is stable. We will decide our next steps over the next few weeks. Another follow up MRI in two weeks at MSK. THANKS for all of the prayer partners' support. Chris

From Ann McNeill...

Fena, who lost baby Blessing last fall, is 23 weeks pregnant with "Joy" now. All tests confirm that she is a HEALTHY baby, so unlike her pregnancy with Blessing, just normal, spaced out prenatal checkups this time. Joy is due on my birthday, Nov 17th, Cool! Fena will be 42 when Joy is born.

From Denise Riley...

Praise report: All my cancer screenings came back negative, and my doctor and I now have a game plan set up should I have those issues again. Johnathan quickly got over COVID quickly with minimal issues. Thank God.

From Mike DeVita...

Thanking the Lord for all the prayer warriors who are praying for Nancy and my family, not just now but over the past couple of years. Thank you to all for your thoughts and prayers.

excitement and optimism. However, I kept my faith and chose to work harder than ever to make the most out of my situation. If my relationship with God has ever been put to the test, it was during my first year of college.

"Through countless assignments, exams, exhaustion and remoteness, I made it a priority to keep my faith strong. Going through verses from my bible each night and reading devotionals each morning was my safe space. Through this, I gained the encouragement to continue the arduous work and realized that these trials God has faced me with would someday pay off. I believe the best way to start and end the day is with the Lord himself.

"Sometimes we will never understand the tests and tribulations that face us, but it is up to us as Christians to gain an understanding as to why we are handed these tests and learn to give every worry to God as he will guide us on the right path. I am extremely thankful to have realized this. Otherwise I don't think I would have conquered these difficult trials. Through keeping my faith strong and working hard through the obstacles, I have been handed so many blessings."

Read about David Justice on the back page.

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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

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
Posters are 16 x 24 sticky vinyl.



Horseshoe Nail Cross Necklaces and Keyrings

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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

Joseph B. "Jack" Auger Jr, 78, of Claymont, DE, died July 18. Jack had a lifelong love of horses and harness racing. He was an owner, trainer and driver who served as the race secretary at Harrah's Philadelphia Casino and Racetrack from 2011 until his passing.



Melvin R Bartlett, 87, died June 18. After serving in the US Marine Corps, Melvin worked for Continental Baking. He learned about harness racing and Standardbreds from wife, Shirley's, family and became an owner, trainer and driver. His friend, CHHA member, Ernie Lowe, said the Scarborough Race Secretary put together a race with his horse, Rainey Night, and a field of horses with other such names to make it fun.



Elvin "Al" Bowman, 80, died June 16. Al enjoyed his passion for horses during his successful career racing Standardbreds. He was a breeder, owner, trainer and driver.



William F Brooks Sr, 98, of Wilmington, DE, died recently. Brooks was well known as the owner and breeder of champion Standardbreds. He began his career by founding Brooks Armored Car which he later expanded into a courier service. It is operated today by the 3rd generation. He was also an ardent supporter of the Mary Campbell Center in its mission to help young adults with disabilities. In his support of children, he was active in St Helena's Athletic Club and the sponsorship of many little league teams.

Leon Richard Cable, 71, of Pompano Beach, FL, died July 10. After working with his dad and brothers shoeing horses, he worked as a farrier for Billy Haughton at Pompano. For the next 50 years he stayed there as a farrier, driver and trainer of harness horses until it closed this past season. He was also an amateur driver.

Philip Temple Callahan, 87 of Centreville, MD, died June 27. Phil was a farmer and working man through and through. Ever since he was a little boy, he loved farming and working with horses. He milked dairy cows, farmed small grain, and quickly became a well-known farmer in Queen Anne's County. He enjoyed driving and training his Standardbreds racing mainly in Delaware and Maryland.



Mark Evers, 65, of Clearcreek Township, OH, died July 12. Mark trained and drove harness horses.

Daniel L. Graber, 84, of Shipshewana, IN, died March 24. Daniel had been a USTA member since 1962 and was a trainer and driver. He was also a member of Fairhaven Mennonite Church and had worked as a farmer and blacksmith for most of his life. He was passionate about horses and became dedicated to horse breeding. He also enjoyed fishing.

Joann Kelty, 67, died June 25. Joann was a caretaker at Liberty Bell Park and the Meadowlands. She also worked and had many friends at Showplace Farm. In 1995, she moved with her horses to Millstone, N.J., where she became active in community affairs. She served as chairwoman of the Historic Preservation Commission from 2007 until her retirement in 2019.

Michael A. J. Marchese, 70, of Madison Heights, MI, died July 4. Michael, along with his father and brothers, had a long history of racing Standardbreds all over the country. Though harness racing was his big love, he did own a couple small businesses before retiring.

Enrique Rios Martin died July 19. Enrique worked in maintenance at Showplace Farms in Millstone Township, NJ. He was active his whole life, and when he saw a need, he filled it setting a high bar for those who worked with him.



Theresa Quinlan, 68, died July 4. Theresa managed the Chicago Accounting Office of Brittany Farms for 29 years. She worked with many of Brittany's partners, trainers, owners, vets, staking services, racetracks and other horse-related businesses. She was always a pleasure to work with and you knew you could depend on her for anything you needed.



Curtis Rice, 61, of Starkville, MS, died July 5. Curtis owned dozens of Standardbreds in his life, and was active as a trainer and driver since the mid-1980s, harnessing 620 winners and compiling 239 driving victories, primarily in the Midwest.

Earl L. "Poppy" Schneder, 70, of New Vienna, OH, died July 1. Poppy was a well-known, and well-traveled equine dentist. When his children were young, he got involved with garden tractor pulling. As a family, they would travel to pulling competitions. His children, then grandchildren, all became part of "Team Pulldog" garden tractor pulling team. He, along with his wife Jackie, also taught dancing, and line dancing all around southwest Ohio.



Janice Watkinson, 75, of Camden, DE, died July 17. Janice owned and groomed her own horses. She loved to watch her horses race. In her free time she enjoyed reading, doing puzzles, playing games on the computer, and watching Game Show Network. But her favorite was playing the game Sorry with her grandkids. She worked in the cafeteria for the Caroline County Public School System.



There is nothing more important than
Your Eternal Salvation

Kirk Cameron

Obituaries

Ronald S. Dancer, 73, of New Egypt, NJ, died July 23. Ron, the son of the late Stanley Dancer and a successful horseman. He was also a former Commissioner of the NJ Horse Racing Commission and Trustee of the NJ Department of Agriculture's Sire Stakes Board. During his many years as a New Jersey Assemblyman, he did a great job representing the horsemen. Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin said of Ron, "A veteran himself, he leaves behind a legacy of advocacy on behalf of our military men and women. He was also a champion for New Jersey's agricultural and horse racing communities, and contributed greatly to innovative expansions of our state's tourism – most recently being the sponsor of legislation that will widen economic opportunity for our wineries and farms." Ron was a CHHA member who gave an excellent, uplifting message at our first Gaitway Farm BBQ.



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, Bob Jones, 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, Nelson Miller, Frank Mirahmadi, Lalya Mosley, Linda Moyer, Corey Murphy, Howard Niels, Pierre Noel, Jay O'Neil, John Panetta, Carol Parker, Dee Parsons, Misti Parsons, Margie Polhamus, Valerie Prescott, Leigh Raymer, Robyn Rembleski, Peter Reynolds, Emily Roper, Daren Richner, Julie Schwartz, Del Smart, Larry Smith, Doug Stringer, Jimmy Takter, Bobbi Tanner, Jack Taylor, Gary Tyron, Brittanty Vondenhuevel, Fred Ward, Sr, Roland Wardel, Lucille Wick, 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, 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,



*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 **Yves Breton 1st anniversary** by: Lyse Breton
In memory of **Bonny Goslin** by: Terry Harp
In memory of **David Roseberry** by: Terry Harp
In memory of **Earl Schneider** by: Jack and Irene Anders
In memory of **Andy Wood** by: Longshot Stables

Sources for Obituary information include:

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

Barbara and Brent Graham, Debbie Gray, Jimmy Hart, Joyce Hart, Bob Hilliard, Vickie Howard, 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, Tommy Luchento, Faye Mackey, Terry Mahar, Joanne Maiorca, Pedro Martinez, Jr, Cheryl Mauran, Melissa McKee, Dean Miller, Peg Miller, Raymond Miller, Nancy Miner, John Morris, 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, Greggje 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, Chris Petruzzo, Sgt David Thomas, Elizabeth Welch and Nigel Willabus.

Special Intentions for this month:

Amy Bondon is recovering from knee surgery.
Thomas Daniel has prostate cancer.
Henry Guilmette has esophagus and lung cancer.
Jen, baby, was born with health issues.
Audrey Henry is battling cancer.
Leroy Howard has prostate cancer.
Walter Johnson needs prayer for direction.
Carol Parker is still dealing with cancer.
Myra and Al Terwilliger both have health issues.
Rich Thorstenson is recovering from hip surgery.
Lucille Wick is recovering from radiation treatment.
Raul Zavala is dealing with complications from diabetes.

157 North Main St
Salem, NH 03079
USA



Please indicate
Address corrections

CHHA Scholars

The CHHA Scholarship committee met on June 27th and selected three students to receive this year’s scholarships.

Consideration was given to the applicant’s faith statement, involvement in harness racing and other criteria.

David “RJ” Justice was awarded the Weldon and Nancy Stockwell Scholarship to attend Troy Price Horseshoeing School in Uniondale, Indiana to achieve his goal of becoming a Journeyman Farrier. The committee was impressed with David’s drive to become a farrier for our harness racing community.

David, a member of the Union Baptist Church in Richwood, Ohio, is proud to be a good Christian. He has volunteered many hours in his community and through FAA (which used to be called Future Farmers of America). He is the recipient of the prestigious Star Greenhand Award which is presented every year to the chapter’s most active first-year member who has plans for a strong supervised agricultural experience program and has demonstrated leadership within the FFA. He also earned an FAA State Degree proving he is one of the top members in Ohio FAA.

CHHA member, Daniel Coate, provided a strong recommendation for David. However, he did merrily tell Chaplain Lee that David would have to “fold up pretty good to get under a baby trotter to get those shoes on a short horse since he is quite tall.” Daniel was sure he would do just fine and so is CHHA.



More CHHA Scholars

Read about Meadow Twaddle on Page 2 and Lexi Twaddle in our October newsletter

Faith

“For everyone born of God overcomes the world. And the victory that has overcome the world is this—our faith” (1 John 5:4 TLV).

Jug Prayer Breakfast

Wednesday, September 21, 2022

Join us in the Hospitality tent across from the Log Cabin at 7:30 AM Wednesday, September 21st for a **FREE** breakfast.

Breeder Jeff Stacy is sure to inspire us with another great message. Everyone enjoyed his country preaching in 2017.



Jeff Stacy



Faith Hawes and the Truitt Family will help us praise the Lord with their angelic voices.

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

The Truitt Family Singers