



Rambling Willie

Keeping Christ Alive in Harness Racing!

Since 1983

In God We Trust



Christian Harness Horsemen's Association Newsletter

October 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

157 North Main St · Salem, NH 03079

*"When we do the best we can,
we never know what miracle
is wrought in our life or in the
life of another."*

—Helen Keller

Tag

By *Chaplain Lee Alphen*

Antagonistic Bell constantly challenged the other colts in the field, kicking up his heels and acting like a bucking bronco. Trainer Jones wanted to buy a farm for his horses and knew Antagonistic had the bloodlines to make that happen. After all, his brother, Cool Papa Bell, won the Hambletonian.

The Israelites were trapped in Egypt as slaves, doing the back-breaking work of making bricks and building the pyramids. They toiled hard under the hot desert sun with simple hand tools and carts. It was also very dangerous work and many died in the process. God sent Moses and his brother, Aaron, to lead them out of slavery and to the promised land.

While they were still travelling through the desert, God called Moses up to meet Him on Mount Sinai. There He made a covenant with the people, sealing it with the Ten Commandments. God knew that His people would be much happier and things would go much better for them if they lived by this moral code.

Jones brought Two-year-old Antagonistic into the barn. It was time to break him. He was a handful, continuing to buck and rear. With his teeth bared like a mad dog or a bear and using them as a weapon, he would reach out into the shed row with his long neck and tag anyone daring to be near his stall. Apples, carrots and the good life in the barn didn't settle him down. His groom nicknamed him Tag.

Unfortunately, while Moses was gone, the people created idols out of gold and silver and began worshipping them. God, of course, was not happy. But when Moses returned, the people agreed to destroy their idols and keep God's

commandments, God forgave them.

As we read in the book of the prophet Jeremiah, over the years the people again turned their backs to God and did all kinds of evil things, never thinking God would punish them. God commanded Jeremiah to announce many prophecies against them because of all their sinful ways. God called them "foolish and senseless people, who have eyes but do not see, who have ears but do not hear" (Jeremiah 5:21).

Eventually Jones and his grooms managed to break Tag and began to jog him. It was never easy and always took three people to hook him into the jog cart. Then one brave soul walked with him to the track and got him pointed in the right direction while trainer Jones drove.

When they didn't listen to what God commanded, He instructed Jeremiah to tell the people they would be exiled from their land. God also sent Ezekiel to demonstrate the traumas of exile if they did not turn back to God. The people saw Ezekiel's demonstration but didn't pay any attention to his message (Ezekiel 12).

Jones and his crew did manage to get Tag qualified and anxiously awaited his first race. Not wanting anyone to get hurt, Jones made arrangements ahead of time with the paddock judge to put him in a stall away from everyone and also to allow one of his grooms to turn him towards the gate when it was time.

While the king of Babylon was besieging Jerusalem, God told Jeremiah He was about to hand over the city to the Babylonians. Then God told Jeremiah to buy his cousin's field in his home town of Anathoth when his cousin suggested it. So, since it was God's will for him, when his cousin approached

Tag cont. top of page 2

Tag (continued from page 1)

him, he bought the field. God had told him, "Houses and fields and vineyards shall again be bought in this land" (Jeremiah 32:15 NRSVA). Not long after that, the Israelites were exiled to Babylon.

When Tag turned and headed to the gate and the bells rang, indicating the start of the race, it was like a bell went off in his head. "Antagonistic Bell grabs the lead," said the announcer as he trotted away from the field. When he reached the wire, he set a new track record for two-year-old colts. For the whole mile the rest of the field could not get close enough to tag him.

Can you believe Tag was a perfect gentleman in the winner's circle? His teeth were bared again, but this time it really looked like he was smiling.

Even while God was favoring the Babylonians who were fighting the Israelites, God was telling Jeremiah of his plans to bring Israel and Judah back from captivity, forgive them all their sins and help them restore the city. God said, "Then this city will bring me renown, joy, praise and honor before all nations on earth that hear of all the good things I do for it; and they will be in awe and will tremble at the abundant prosperity and peace I provide for it" (Jeremiah 33:9 NIV).

Tag went on to win many races, including some very nice stake races making it possible for Jones to buy a big farm. He put in a training track that wound through the trees, providing enjoyable morning jogs for his stable. Tag continued to smile and became a very happy horse.

Post position never mattered. Where he landed in the pack did not matter either. When Jones decided it was time, Tag headed for the top and pulled away. It was like he was playing tag and saying, "Catch me if you can." He lived up to his nickname.

God could have just sent a prophet to tell us He forgave all our sins. But God went above and beyond by sending His Son, Jesus, to actually pay the price for every single sin of every human being who was born or would be born in the future. Our slates were wiped clean. Jesus actually bought us a place in heaven by suffering and dying on that cross. All that is left for us to do is to accept Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior and claim our spot in heaven, happy to be tagged Christians. As Christians, we have the right bloodlines.

Let's live lives that make God proud and show Jesus we appreciate His great sacrifice.

Antagonistic Bell and Trainer Jones are fictional characters. Cool Papa Bell won the 2022 Hambletonian.

Blessings from God

From Lyse Breton

Danny's baby born in January at 2 pounds 11 ounces was released from the doctor and is doing very well. Continue to pray for this little family of 5 children. Mom is now home schooling. This is possible thanks to my daughter Christiane who is paying for them to have a maid to help them for a while.

From Lorrie Jones...

I finally can say Bob is truly recuperating. I know thru the power of our Lord he has always been in God's hands but he had a really hard time eating and was sleeping almost 24/7. He started eating a little better. He finished his radiation and we know that only through the Grace of God he is healed. Soon he will have a PET scan to measure the results. You have so many faithful prayer warriors and we will be forever grateful. Always in the name of our Lord, Lorrie Jones

From Gregory Lee...

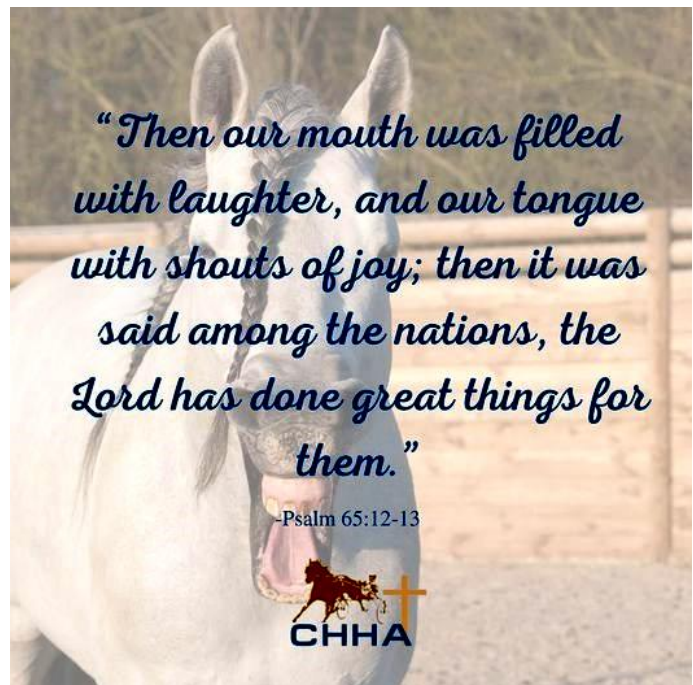
Good morning. I want you all to know your prayers were answered. The power of God was with me and he answered my prayers. Thank you again. I hope you have a wonderful day. Greg Lee

From Rich Thorsetenson...

I was cleared for PT. Thanks 🙏 For All Your Prayers, and I can't wait to be completely healed with two bionic hips. God Bless You Always, Rich CHHA

Amy Bondon

Bless you all for your precious prayers they most certainly were heard. God bless everyone at the Orthopedic Institute in Gainesville and my awesome surgeon Dr. Pritt.



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

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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



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.



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

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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

Mark Ellwood Ferriss, 57, of Ontario, Canada, died August 3. Mark was a lifetime farmer, an avid hunter, and the life of the party. His sincere, honest and ripe sense of humor captivated all those in his presence. A driver trainer of Standardbreds, a loyal Toronto Maple Leaf fan and a lover of trap shooting, travel, and farming; Mark was a Jack of all trades.



Mary Lea Jeffers, 94, of Flat Rock, IL, died July 24. Mary became the president and treasurer of Al-Mar Farms, Inc., a family farming corporation, in 1985, and she kept the books until the age of 90. She and her husband, Albert, also founded Mary Lea Jeffers Farm, a nationally recognized Standardbred breeding farm, in Flat Rock, IL. They began with nine mares she inherited from her father in 1970. She loved going to the races and seeing her horses win. She ran the payroll for the farm and took care of all the required paperwork until age 90. She owned 170 Standardbreds at the time of her death.

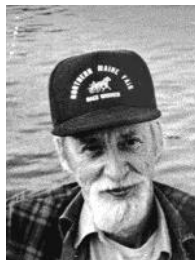


Mary Margaret "Margo" Langley, 85, of Orland Park, IL, died August 6. Margo owned and bred harness horses. She spent over 30 years as a high school French teacher and traveled frequently to France with her late husband, Phil. Margo was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Park Forest, IL.



Charles Main, 83, of Phippsburg, ME, died May 6.

Charles bred and raised Standardbreds to race in the Maine Standardbred Breeders Stakes. He greatly enjoyed working with trainer, Lisa Saindon, and going to the races at Topsham Fairgrounds and other tracks. He was a clerk at Bath Iron Works who also designed and maintained websites for local organizations and businesses.



Larry Keith Noggle, 69, of Fairhope, AL, died on August 8. Larry had a love for horses and raced the fair circuit, winning his first race at the young age of 16. He had a successful harness racing career and was stabled at Red Mile in Lexington, KY, where he was top driver for several years. He retired from racing and moved to Marana, AZ. He was a general contractor and spent many years building beautiful homes. He enjoyed camping and riding ATV's.



Dwane Parker, 85, of Washington, PA, died July 28.

Dwane trained and raced horses at The Meadows for more than 40 years. He grew up on a farm working with livestock, milking cows and farming. Dwane was always crazy about sports. His daughter, Hoof Beats Editor, Kathy Parker, says "He once wrote of his life, 'So it was like this — get up, milk, school, milk, practice basketball, bed, and all over again.'"

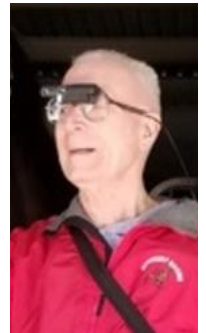


A neighbor who taught him to farm introduced him to harness racing. Eventually Dwane moved his family to the Meadows for their longer racing schedule where he served as president of the Meadows Standardbred Owners Association. He received the HTA Art Rooney Award for "Sportsmanship and Dedication to Harness Racing" and Harness Horsemen's International also recognized him for his work on behalf of integrity in harness racing. His daughter, Kathy, is a CHHA member.

Pearl "P.P" Paver, 86, of Marysville, OH, died August 3. Pearl owned and bred Standardbreds. He truly enjoyed the time he spent with his sons, Joseph and Dennis, working with harness horses. He was a member of the Laborer's Union guild Local 423 and attended the Allen Center Baptist Church.

Fred W. Scheigert, 71, died July 20.

Fred was a well-known and prominent owner at his home track, Saratoga, where he could be seen at most race cards wearing his red stable jacket and cheering on his horses. Another of his greatest prides was his scholarship program, through which he proudly awarded scholarships to students with visual impairments.



Leanne Marie Turner, 84, of Jay, ME, died July 22.

Leanne had a long, successful career at G.H. Bass. She will be remembered for her strong work ethic, dedication to caring for her family and friends, grit, and perseverance. She loved the simple things in life: barn chores, horse racing, Fryeburg Fair, family gatherings, coffee and donuts with friends, neighbors, a good game of cards, gardening, rocking and reading with "her kids," anything chocolate, and yum-yum pie.



There is nothing more important than
Your Eternal Salvation

Kirk Cameron

Obituaries

Thomas Harrison Brinkerhoff, 84, died July 26.

Thomas, the son of Jess Brinkerhoff, won his first race in Wooster, Ohio at the age of 16. Horses were his life, and he trained many to become champions. He was recognized in the Northfield Hall of Fame and on the Scioto Downs Wall of Fame.



Obituaries continued on page 4

Sources for obituary information include:

www.ustrotting.com, www.harnesslink.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, 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, Henry Guilmette, Audrey Henry, 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 Nields, 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, Brittany Vondenhuevel, 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,



*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 **Dottie Brinkerhoff** by: Florence and Brad Wallace
 In memory of **Bob Carss** by: Ada Jean Ackerman
 In memory of **Ron Dancer** by: Amy Bondon; Linda, Bob, and Bobby Condon
 In memory of **Mark Ferriss** by: Joe-Dee Brown
 In memory of **Warren Harp** by: Joan Harp
 In memory of **Fran Mairs** by: Florence and Brad Wallace
 In memory of **Dwayne Parker** by: Richard and Regina Beinbauer; CHHA-The Meadows, Pastor Joe DiDonato
 In memory of **Dr Remains** by: Florence and Brad Wallace
 In memory of **Richard Snyder** by: Florence and Brad Wallace
 In memory of **Andy Wood** by: Longshot Stables

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, 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, Myra and Al Terwilliger, Marsh Townley, Lorraine Truitt, Charlotte Truitt, Phillip Truitt, Mel Turcott, Justin Vance, Barry Vicroy, 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, Chris Petrullo, Sgt David Thomas, Elizabeth Welch and Nigel Willabus.

Special Intentions for this month:

Scott Dube who was recently treated for lung cancer now has a brain tumor.

Keith Guilmette had a gall bladder attack.

Henry Guilmette is on palliative care for stage 4 cancer.

Brian Lamb has cancer.

Leroy recently had prostate surgery.

Mckenzie, 7 months, has leukemia.

Ray Romanetti has pulmonary issues.

157 North Main St
Salem, NH 03079
USA



Please indicate
Address corrections

CHHA Scholars continued from September

Who is the walking talking horse at the Meadows? Why, it's Lexi Twaddle! That's right, as the MSOA mascot, Lexi's job is to entertain, build relationships and encourage fans to enjoy a fun, positive experience.



Lexi Twaddle was awarded the John and Janet Klark Scholarship. She plans to major in Biology at Walsh University with the intentions of pursuing a career as a Physician's Assistant or a perfusionist.

Lexi says she is a people person who believes in putting others before herself. Every Sunday when her family goes out to breakfast after church, she pays for a stranger's meal knowing that small things can make a community a little happier.

Since Lexi's dad stables and races at the Meadows, the family is part of Pastor Joe's community and they sometimes host ministry events at their home. This was a big help during the pandemic.

Lexi says, "I'm passionate about my work as a hostess at a restaurant. I always make sure all my jobs are done and none of my coworkers are struggling. A few months ago, there was a really bad snowstorm where I live. I had an elderly couple call and tell me they had to cancel their 50th wedding anniversary date because they couldn't shovel their driveway. I immediately broke into tears and knew I had to help them. I wasn't able to leave work, but I sent a few of my friends over



Photo by Chris Godin

Cont. top of next column

Lexi Continued to clear their driveway and they were able to celebrate their anniversary with us."

Above all, family and faith are the most important things to me. When I lost my grandmother and aunt within two weeks, I realized how valuable time is with those I love and everyone in general. Though most of my relatives live five hours away, I've learned that a simple text or call makes all the difference.

I've never been closer to God. Someone once told me that though an airplane looks small in the sky, the closer you get to it, the bigger it becomes. Same thing with a relationship with God. The closer you are, the bigger impact he will have on your life. I truly believe God changes everything and that he has a plan for everyone."

Lexi, we wish you the best in college and especially as you grow in your relationship with God.

Commander Bob is Racing for Christ!



Congratulations Commander Bob!

Your win is helping us to Keep Christ Alive in Harness Racing! In fact, every time Bob and Lorrie Jones send Commander Bob to post he is racing for the Lord.