



Rambling Willie

Keeping Christ Alive in Harness Racing!

Since 1983

In God We Trust



Christian Harness Horsemen's Association Newsletter

November 2022

Remember,
I pray for all
our members
every day.



Chaplain Lee Alphen

Giving Thanks: God's Gift

By Chaplain Lee Alphen

When I was a groom, horse owners sometimes gave me a tip when their horses won. Their token of thanks showed they appreciated my hard work and made me happy. Of course, it brightened everyone's day when they brought lunch to the barn and treats for the horses. There are many different ways to say "thank you."

The custom of tipping waitstaff, hairstylists and other service professionals makes their jobs worthwhile and encourages them to work hard and provide good service to their customers. Saying "thank you" to those who provide assistance as we go through our day is a good habit to develop and encourages those we meet.

When should we thank God? Always and everywhere. "Everything good comes from God. Every perfect gift is from Him" (James 1:17 ERV). The breath we breathe, the food we eat, the clothes we wear, our family, friends and animals are all gifts from God.

We all want God's blessings, and God wants to bless us. "God says, 'Call me when trouble comes. I will help you, and you will honor me'" (Psalm 50:15 ERV). And, the Apostle Paul tells us, "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God" (Philippians 4:6 NIV).

Even though Jesus Himself is God, He constantly thanked the Father in heaven during His earthly ministry. Some examples are when He raised His eyes to heaven and gave thanks before feeding the 4,000 in Matthew and Mark and the 5,000 in John. Then again before He called Lazarus back to life and

out of the tomb and at the Passover meal, before breaking the bread and sharing the wine.

God does not need our thanks, but our desire to thank Him is another gift He gives us and a very important one. When we raise our hearts and minds to Him in thanksgiving, our spirits soar and we ourselves are blessed.

We shop for the perfect gifts for everyone on our Christmas lists. Then we hold our breath while our gifts are opened. Seeing the receiver's delight makes our day. The Lord Jesus Himself said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35 NIV). He should know since He has given so much!

Don't be anxious.
Pray, Trust,
Give thanks!

Philippians 4:6

How many stories have we heard of people receiving awesome gifts from family members that are never even acknowledged? That hurts! Or, what about a son or daughter whose parents paid the bills for an expensive education leading to a very lucrative career who then wanted nothing to do with their parents? Or, maybe a family member sets a trainer up with a stable of horses with the promise of excitement at the track only to see the trainer take them far away where they could not go to visit them or watch them race.

Gratitude, giving thanks and honoring God and those who bless us is as important for us as it is for our

Thanks cont bottom of page 2

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Wanted

Praise Reports and Articles

Please send to Chaplain Lee Alphen

leealphen@comcast.net

Or

157 North Main St · Salem, NH 03079



Blessings from God

From Lucille Wick...

Lucille's oncologist gave her the results of her CAT Scan. The only cancer in her body was what they addressed with the radiation. She will have another CAT Scan or MRI in 3 months to evaluate how well that treatment worked. It is all looking very good, and Lucille is very happy. She is very, very thankful for your prayers.

From Henry Guilmette...

We have been praying for Henry who was undergoing cancer treatment in western Massachusetts. A few weeks ago, he moved to Louisiana to live with his daughter and her family. She is a nurse. After arriving, they began radiation treatments. Then, September 14, he had the gamma knife treatment for the tumor on his brain. Praise God! The tumor is gone! He now believes they are curing him with God's help and says it is a miracle thanks to your prayers.

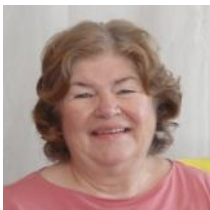
From Michael DeVita...

My mom, Jeanette, was called Home. She did not suffer in the end, she just slept. Just prior to going into the final stages before she was no longer awake, my brother Joey was staying overnight at the house to give my sister Lisa a bit of a break. Joey thought he heard my mom moaning, so he went into her room and asked what the matter was. She told him nothing is wrong that she was praying and singing. AMEN!

I thank you and all the CHHA Prayer Warriors for the thoughts and prayers. Everything worked out as those in the family that could come together. Mom did not have to be in a nursing home. She passed peacefully in her apartment in my sister's home where she has lived for more than 25 years. I humbly ask for continued prayers for my family. In Christian Love, Michael DeVita

Rumble Strip sets new world record

Rumble Strip set a new world record Jug Week winning the Ohio Breeders Championship for 2-year-old colts in 1:53.2. Rumble Strip is owned by CHHA member and faithful supporter Connie Polhamus.



Roger Huston's Birthday Fundraiser

Roger Huston, the Voice and a favorite announcer celebrated his 80th birthday this fall. He graciously marked the event with a Face Book birthday fundraiser to benefit CHHA raising \$590.



Thank you Roger!

From Sarah Gehman...

Hello there, CHHA!

I want to personally thank each and every one of you who has given me to God in prayer in the past year. As you might know, just over a year ago I was diagnosed with an extremely rare breast cancer that is found in LESS THAN one percent of breast cancer patients worldwide. But that was no battle for God and the army that He has brought around me! I had a lumpectomy on August 18th, 2022 and chose to move forward with radiation treatments that ended in December!

Fast forward one whole year and - I AM CANCER FREE! I recently had my first one year scan and exam. There are absolutely no signs of cancer. Praise God! Thank you so much for the support, love and prayers! It was a very exhausting and emotional process, but I can confidently say that I experienced the nearness of God in ways that I couldn't have, had I not gone through a diagnosis process. I meet people weekly (whether in person or through social media) who have been directly affected by breast cancer. Again, in full confidence, I stand on the other side of this battle 100% victorious, full of more faith than before and joyfully willing to BE with those who might be impacted by breast cancer.

THANK YOU AGAIN AND AGAIN AND AGAIN (times ten)! God bless each of you and I pray that you would be filled with new levels of joy and ZEST for life with God, each day that you wake. :) - Sarah Gehman



Thanks (continued from page 1)

benefactors.

When we begin our prayers by thanking God for all the good that surrounds our prayer request, we put ourselves in a good positive frame of mind. Then we more clearly see exactly what issues we are asking God to address. God is engaged in the conversation and may help us formulate our appeal. God already knows the desires of our hearts yet He wants us to ask. Just remember, as Paul pointed out, we are to present our petitions in prayer *with thanksgiving*.

As we prepare to celebrate Thanksgiving Day, let's practice prefacing our prayers by thanking God first. It is a habit worth cultivating.

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

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Please pray for my intentions _____

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Please send my newsletter (circle below)
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[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
Posters are 16 x 24 sticky vinyl.



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

Horseshoe Nail Cross Necklaces and Keyrings

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Roger Huston · 154 Vista Drive · Cannonsburg, PA 15317

Necklace Qty: Red ___ Blue ___ Turquoise ___ Gold ___ Silver ___ Fuschia ___

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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

Donald R. Brown, 96, died Aug 17.

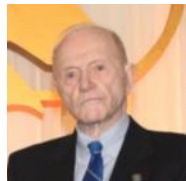
Donald enjoyed his profession as a horse trainer. He had two horses in the Little Brown Jug. He retired at age 80 after Marced Card raced in the Jug. He proudly served in the United States Army during the Korean War.



James V. Compton, 80, died Sep 13. James was a milkman in the days of home delivery, then as a machinist and finally at General Motors in Rochester. He became involved in harness racing at Batavia Downs and became a successful driver and trainer that competed at several tracks in upstate New York.



Dr John Findley, 97, of Carlisle, Ontario, died Aug 20. Dr Findley spent four decades as a breeder, trainer, driver and veterinarian beginning when he was 13 with his first lifetime win. In 1975 he was the leading percentage driver in North America. He also captured 13 different driving titles at various racetracks during his career and was inducted into the Canadian Hall of Fame.



Lucien Fontaine, 83, died Sep 10. Lucien was elected in July to harness racing's Hall of Fame. The Quebec, Canada native began his career as a groom for Keith Waples then came to the United States and worked for Clint Hodgins. In an era where the trainer-driver was prominent, he became one of the first "catch-drivers" amassing over \$21,000,000 in purses despite the fact that his career was cut short in 1989 as a result of open-heart surgery. He was an innovator, helping to improve the future of all horsemen and racing while serving as a Vice President of the National Association of Harness Drivers and the Standardbred Owners Association of New York. He also served on a committee of the New York State Racing Commission ensuring equitable rules for horsemen.



Gregory Garland Garnsey, 59, of Blossvale, NY, died Sep 5. Greg trained and drove many horses throughout his career but the highlight was working with his dad, the late Hall of Famer, Glen Garnsey. He was co-owner of Pepi's Pizza in Vernon for a while. In the early 2000's he worked with his stepmom, Paula, selling real estate in Florida. He returned to NY and was employed as a Food Service Director.



Frank A. Lomangino, 88, of Tinton Falls, NJ, died Aug 9. Frank co-founded Lindy Farms of New York with his cousin, Guy "Sonny" Antonacci, and other family members. He established Lomangino Standardbreds in New Jersey and continued his interest in breeding horses. He owned broodmares and stallion shares and conducted business with major farms. Frank and his brothers established Allied Sanitation, and he



eventually started a few other businesses in NJ. Frank was a lifelong, devout parishioner at Holy Innocents Roman Catholic Church in Neptune, NJ.

Richard R Mays, 65, of Hamburg, NY, died Sep 7. Rich was a lifelong horseman who competed in western New York as an owner, trainer and driver. He was first licensed in 1973 at the age of 16 and competed at tracks across New York state ever since. He was actively racing right up until the time of his passing.



Larry Keith Noggle, 69, of Fairhope, AL, died on Aug 8. Larry raced the fair circuit, winning his first race when he was 16. He had a successful harness racing career stabled at Red Mile. He was top driver for several years. He retired from racing, moved to Marana, AZ where he was a general contractor. He enjoyed camping and riding ATV's.

Lewis Samuel Ramsburg, 70, of Rocky Ridge, MD, died Aug 19. Lewis was a lifelong farmer and horseman. He started racing ponies at an early age and later became a Standardbred horse owner, breeder, trainer and driver racing at tracks and fairs throughout the Mid-Atlantic area. He also enjoyed attending auctions where he would buy used farm equipment then resell to local farmers in the area. Even after his first health incident, he was still "wheeling and dealing" from his hospital bed.

Billy S. Tumey, 86, of Marion, OH, died Aug 21. Billy owned and trained harness horses and had his Matinee license. He truly enjoyed his time at the track. He was retired from Tecumseh in Marion where he worked for more than 20 years. He was a member of the Meeker United Methodist Church.



Janice Elaine Vellutato, 91, of Mickleton, NJ, died Aug 20. Jan had a stable of Standardbreds and also owned Harmony Acres Hoof Beats, a harness and tack shop in Mickleton. She worked for 35 years as a secretary in employee relations, assisting people in finding jobs. Janice admired John Wayne, Doris Day, Mary Tyler Moore and Frank Sinatra, but most of all her 1957 Ford T-Bird.

Ted Wing, 74, died Sep 13. Ted was born into a Maine harness racing family. He was a natural in the bike and quickly became the leading driver in New England from 1970-75. The following year he made the move to the New York-New Jersey circuit to compete against the best in the business. His timing couldn't have been better as his move coincided with the opening of The Meadowlands Racetrack, where he drove in the first race there. Ted was inducted into harness racing's Hall of Fame in Goshen, NY in 2019. He won many driving titles during his career. He was inducted into the New England Harness Writers Hall of Fame and the Maine Sports Hall of Fame.



Obituaries

Herman Drenth, Jr, 84, of Federalsburg, MD, died August 30. Herm trained and raced Standardbreds for nearly 40 years. Growing up he was an avid sportsman and had an opportunity to sign with the Dodgers, Giants, and Cardinals. Instead he signed with Uncle Sam and served his country as a proud marine. When discharged from the USMC, he joined the Glen Rock Police Department. He also owned a couple of stone companies. Herman was an active member of Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, very Pro-Life, loved the Lord with all his heart, freely sharing the Gospel with so very many people from all walks of life. Herm was a CHHA member who often called Chaplain Lee so they could pray with each other.



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, Scott Dube, Jerry Eby, Chaplain Tom Farley, Francine Federici, Tiffany Fisher, Katie Folkins, Sarah Gehman, Rodney Grady, Pastor Bill Grant, Cody Greeno, Margaret Groce, Henry Guilmette, 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,



*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 **Donald R Brown** by: Al and Kendra Casselman
 In memory of **Richard Brown** by: Al and Kendra Casselman
 In memory of **Leon Cable** by: Terry Harp
 In memory of **Ron Dancer** by: Deb and Jeff Tillia, Louise Dancer
 In memory of **Tim Dempster** by: Shirley and David Dempster
 In memory of **John Emonin** by: Emily Emonin
 In memory of **Warren Harp** by: Amy Bondon
 In memory of **Harold and Sue Kelly** by: Deb and Jeff Tillia
 In memory of **Ron Sobczak** by: Paul Combs
 In memory of **Weldon Stockwell** by: Voice of God Ministries
 In memory of **Rose and Gil Travis** by: Paul Combs
 In memory of **Walter and Pauline Warrington** by: Steven Warrington
 In memory of **Andy Wood** by: Longshot Stables

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, 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 Petruzzo, Sgt David Thomas, Elizabeth Welch and Nigel Willabus.

Special Intentions for this month:

Lorraine has a heart arrhythmia.

Mike and Libby Myers lost three horses, two dogs and all their equipment in a barn fire.

Ray Romanetti was diagnosed with pulmonary fibrosis.

John Stauffer had a kidney removed.

Holly Graffam's lung cancer is spreading.

157 North Main St
Salem, NH 03079
USA



Please indicate
Address corrections

Plainridge Raceway

Chaplain Lee was blessed to visit with some old friends at Plainridge this past summer. As always, Greg Brewster, the Paddock Judge, invited her to offer a word of prayer just before the first race went on the track. She thanked God especially for all the men and women who work hard caring for their horses and those in other positions that make racing possible. Then she prayed for safety and good racing.



Greg Brewster

The Making of a Racehorse Open letter to harness horsemen and women By Lorrie Jones of Mighty Oak Farm

There is so much that goes into the making of a winner. We are grateful to all the people God brought into our lives along the way for our horses. Farm owners, breeders and veterinarians really blessed us. Many horsemen and women helped with the babies, yearlings and getting them to the races. Of course, where would we be without our trainers, drivers and grooms? Every operation needs good prayer warriors too. It is evident we have the best.



God bless you and thank you for sticking by us. God brought each and every one of you into our lives and we will be eternally grateful. Even still, without our precious Lord, we would be nothing. Thank you, Lord, for your love, guidance and always being there.

Sincerely and from the heart, Bob and Lorrie Jones



Ryan and Jake Huff



Doc Terry McGee and Bruce Ranger

CHHA Stallion Auction

Friday, January 27— Saturday, January 28, 2023

Please donate a breeding

This annual fundraiser helps us with our mission to **Keep Christ Alive in Harness Racing!**

Also, **our industry needs more race horses** and these charity auctions make it possible for more people to obtain a breeding that benefits the sport of harness racing.