



Rambling Willie

## Keeping Christ Alive in Harness Racing!

Since 1983

In God We Trust



Christian Harness Horsemen's Association Newsletter

December 2022

Remember,  
I pray for all  
our members  
every day.



Chaplain Lee Alphen

### God's Reward: Many Great Race Horses

By Chaplain Lee Alphen

Gabriel and Agnes were really struggling to make ends meet grooming harness horses. They lived with Agnes' parents to try to save money since they would soon have a baby to care for. Trainer Jones, knowing they were hard workers, offered them a chance to take some horses on the road for him. One of them was Three-year-old Antagonistic Bell (a.k.a. Tag) who was staked in some big races. If they did well, Trainer Jones promised them a breeding to Tag for their broodmare during the next breeding season.

This was a huge opportunity. That night Gabriel and Agnes asked God to let them know His will in this situation. They always prayed about big decisions together before making any commitments as did their parents before them.

When the angel appeared to the young virgin Mary and told her she was to become the mother of God, she was astounded. Quickly she realized this was God's will for her and said yes. Sure, there were many obstacles to overcome but she knew God would see her through whatever He asked of her.

Gabriel and Agnes felt God was encouraging them to accept Trainer Jones' offer, even knowing they would be far from home and family when it was time to deliver the baby. They packed their meager belongings, said their goodbyes and headed down the highway, following the horse van.

Agnes' water broke in the barn during a blizzard. Fortunately there was a veterinarian nearby who helped deliver Joshua. The perfect baby boy came screaming into a world smelling of

hay, horses, and goats. Gabriel invited the others in the barn to be among the first to meet his son. This brought a spirit of joy and peace in the midst of the storm.

*"Ask God, who gives  
generously to all  
without finding fault"*

James 1:5

Most of Mary's family and friends probably questioned her story about the angel. She was likely ridiculed. Soon she went to visit her elderly aunt Elizabeth, who the angel had told her was also miraculously pregnant. Immediately Elizabeth greeted her in awe, knowing the child she carried was indeed the Son of God.

Joseph and a very pregnant Mary joined the huge crowd headed to Bethlehem to register for the census. When they arrived, they had to quickly find a place for Mary to deliver the baby. It was time. They were fortunate to find a stable. Mary laid down in the straw while Joseph borrowed a feeding trough from the animals to use as a cradle. Jesus arrived a smiling happy baby.

That night some shepherds were out in the fields guarding their sheep. They were terrified when God's glorious light shone around them and a beautiful, dazzling angel appeared in the sky and said, "Don't be afraid! [...] I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people. [...] The Messiah, the Lord, has been born today in Bethlehem." Then more angels arrived singing God's praises (Luke 2:8-14 NLT).

The shepherds quickly went to

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For newsletter questions or  
ideas please contact:

Lee Alphen, Editor

[leealphen@comcast.net](mailto:leealphen@comcast.net)

603-898-1927

603-401-7271 (cell)

#### 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 Reward cont. top of page 2

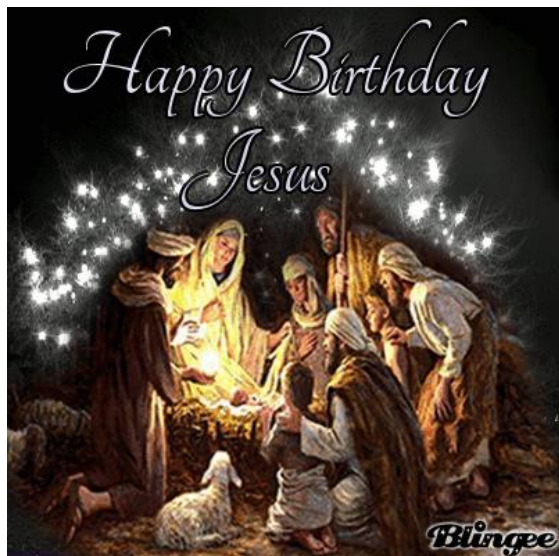
**Thanks (continued from page 1)**

Bethlehem to visit Jesus, Mary and Joseph and found the baby lying in the manger just as the angel had said. Everyone who heard their story was astonished. They went back to their flocks praising God.

Tag did so well, Trainer Jones let Gabriel and Agnes breed both their mares to him. The first one had a very nice filly and the second a striking, strong colt. Both were a huge blessing to harness racing because they were very prolific and contributed many great horses to the sport at a time when the shortage of horses made it hard to fill the races.

In our story Gabriel and Agnes were very blessed because they listened to God even though it was difficult. Mary and Joseph were blessed and will be recognized for all eternity for saying "yes" to God. What a privilege it was for them to raise Jesus, our Savior, the Son of God, as their child!

How do we know what God wants? "If any of you lacks wisdom, you should Ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you" (James 1:5 NIV). Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to guide us and help us to make good decisions. When we listen to and follow God, we will reap great blessings too.

**Jean Emerson**

Chaplain Lee was in touch with Jean's daughter. Jean is in a facility in Maine. She does not have a private telephone there and can no longer operate a computer, so no email either. A card might brighten her day.

Jean Emerson  
Sealrock Healthcare Facility  
88 Harbor Drive  
Saco, Maine 04072.

**Blessings from God****From Greg Gehman...**

John Stauffer sent this - Praise God!!!

Greg, John Sr here. I feel very blessed after my follow up meeting yesterday at Penn Medicine hospital in Philadelphia. I had a very large tumor on my kidney but the doctor says it was not cancerous. I feel blessed.

**From Bob Jones...**

Bob had a PET scan and found out his cancer is in remission. Praise God! Thank you Jesus!

**From Sam Wikle Gospel Music Promotions...  
The Gospel Connection****Thankful For...**

Early Wakeups = Children to Love

House to Clean = Safe Place to Live

Laundry = Clothes to Wear

Dishes to Wash = Food to Eat

Crumbs Under the Table = Family Meals

Grocery Shopping = \$ to Provide for Us

Lots of Noise = People in my Life

Endless Questions about Homework = Kid's Brains Growing

Sore and Tired in Bed = I'm Still Alive!

"Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name"

Psalm 100:4

*Submitted by Faith Hawes  
Printed with permission*

**No Hurt**

*by Casting Crowns*

*First verse*

Who can build a bridge, when the world is throwing stones  
Who can find us on this broken road and still lead us home  
The world's never looked more wounded  
But my hope's never been more real  
'Cause there's no hurt my Jesus can't heal

Terry Harp sent the link: to this beautiful hymn  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lpGdEE01\\_B8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lpGdEE01_B8)

**New Members**

CHHA gained some new members at the Jug. Some even agreed to serve the Lord by wearing our CHHA hats. They are helping us to **Keep Christ Alive in Harness Racing!**



**Dan and Karen Cocherl**

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   

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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**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail with \$20 each + \$4 shipping to:

Roger Huston · 154 Vista Drive · Cannonsburg, PA 15317

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

**Phillip "Jack" Jackson Baugh, Jr.**, 90, died Sep 10. Jack was an engineer, athlete and pilot in his youth. Jack began his business career in the textile industry in North Carolina, eventually merging three textile companies together to create P.J. Baugh Industries. He loved horse breeding and racing. He bought the 884-acre Almahurst Farm in Lexington, KY. He served as President of the United States Trotting Association. He earned multiple awards for his contributions to the industry. Jack also continued to be active in aviation and served as a Sunday school teacher, Deacon, and Elder with the Presbyterian Church.



**John W. Brown**, 93, of Macomb, IL, died Oct 22. John, a cement contractor by trade, was an owner, breeder, trainer, and driver of many successful Standardbreds. The most famous was Iggy Magoo who was honored by the city with Iggy Magoo Day, a parade, and the key to the city. Mr. Brown and his beloved horse were inducted into the Illinois Harness Horse Hall of Fame. John was a member of the Macomb Church of God of the Abrahamic Faith where he served as deacon, trustee, and Sunday school teacher. He was faithful to his God and his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ until the very end.



**Gene Elisha Daisey Sr.**, 84, died Sep 29. Gene trained and drove Standardbreds and was a member of the USTA since 1962. He also enjoyed golfing.



**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 before coming to the United States and working 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 Driver 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.

**Russell L Gehman**, 93, of New Holland, PA died Oct 9. Russ, a Korean War Vet, opened his own barber shop after completing his service. Later he earned a degree in education, taught 4th and 6th grade and after earning his Masters' degree became the principal in the building that housed his old high school. When he retired from the school district after 29 years, he was an administrator who helped to secure grants



to provide funding and support for disadvantaged and special-needs students. Russ was CHHA VP, Greg Gehman's dad. It appears Greg inherited many of his Dad's great qualities.

**James Albert "Bubba" Huggins Jr.**, of Timmonsville, SC, 87, died Oct 14. spent most of his professional career owning, driving, and training Standardbreds. His Standardbred career took him to the Mid-Atlantic and Northeastern United States with many winters spent in the Timmonsville area doing winter training. Bubba was a member of the Timmonsville Southern Methodist Church.



**Mary Shaw Link, Ed. D.**, 80, of Vincennes, IN, died June 9. Mary was a professor of Family Studies at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. She held a USTA clerking license and assisted in conducting the races at the Connersville, IN Free Fair for more than 25 years. Mary was a member of Peace Lutheran Church in Connersville, Indiana.



**William Michael McLaughlin**, 74, of Hampton, NH, died Oct 8. William worked as the general manager for a number of racetracks and casinos around the country. While he was in Seabrook, NH, he served his community as a member of the Seabrook Planning Board and the Winnacunnet School Board.

**Jean Guy Roberge**, 89, died Oct 19. Jean was a longtime trainer/driver/caretaker who dedicated his life to harness racing beginning in the 1970's. He raced his own stable primarily at Roosevelt, Meadowlands and Yonkers. As the industry changed, he worked at many tracks and training facilities, always ending up in Florida for the winter breaking young ones.



**Jack Smallwood**, 94, of Washington CH, OH, died Oct 15. Jack loved training and driving standardbred horses. Jack served his country during the Korean Conflict and was a member of the Fayette Honor Guard. He was also a longtime member and usher at the First Baptist Church and an avid fisherman.



**Carl "Zig" Zeigler**, 90, died Oct 22. Zig bred, trained and drove Standardbreds (mostly trotters) for more than 50 years, starting in the early 1960s on the fair circuit. Later he moved on to tracks like Liberty Bell and Brandywine. His first horse was a small framed filly named Keystone Hazy who won more than 50 races in her career. Her heart was as big as she was. She continued on as one of his best broodmares and lived until she was 35.

There is nothing more important than  
**Your Eternal Salvation**

Kirk Cameron

## Obituaries

**Dave Brower**, 53, died Oct 6. Dave was the longtime lead TV host, morning-line oddsmaker and program analyst at The Meadowlands. He spent Jug Week at the Delaware, Ohio Fairgrounds broadcasting the TV show "Dave Brower's level of expertise and professionalism was unmatched in the sport of harness racing, and all of us at The Meadowlands were in complete shock when we heard of his passing," said track Chief Operating Officer and General Manager Jason Settlemoir. Dave authored "Harnessing Winners" in 2009. Dave began his harness racing career when he was 10 as a fan and then became a groom, a trainer's assistant, a teletimer operator and a public-relations intern.



### Sources for Obituary information include:

www.ustrotting.com, www.harnesslink.com and  
www.Standardbredcanada.ca **Obituaries cont 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, 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 Arcena, 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](http://www.chha.net)

### Memorial Contributions

In memory of **Joe Adamsky** by: Lyndel Adamsky  
In memory of **Rev Kelly Blanton** by: Rolline Blanton  
In memory of **Dave Brower** by: Dr Bob and Lisa Schwartz  
In memory of **Bob and Vivian Farrington** by: Joe and Karen Ewing  
In memory of **Brad, Dick and Bob Ferguson** by: Jim and Judy Ferguson  
In memory of **Dr Howard Gill** by: Pastor Stan and Susan Gill  
In memory of **Warren Harp** by: Terry Harp  
In memory of **Terry Lee Kibler** by: Betsy Brown  
In memory of **Dave Robbins** by: Bob and Christin Baggitt  
In memory of **Jack Smallwood** by: Dr Bob and Lisa Schwartz  
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 Petruzzo, Sgt David Thomas, Elizabeth Welch and Nigel Willabus.

**Special Intentions for this month:**

Ellen Beinhauer is recovering from a stroke.  
Elaine Beltrami's son has esophageal cancer.  
Holly Graffam's, 57, her lung cancer is spreading.  
Joan Harp has stage 4 stomach & liver cancer.  
Kim Maples, 49, has liver cancer.  
Meagan McKee's cancer spread to her brain.  
Art Plant is struggling to recover from throat surgery.  
Denis Rogers' heart is functioning at only 10%.  
Ray Romanetti is in need of a lung transplant.  
Caryn Stellino has Ovarian cancer.

157 North Main St  
Salem, NH 03079  
USA



Please indicate  
Address corrections

### Jug Week

All those who spoke at our Jug prayer breakfast seemed to focus on everyone’s role in bringing the “Good News” of our Lord, Jesus Christ to our sisters and brothers in harness racing. It is not one person’s responsibility. Rather, God calls us all in different ways. Of course, we are all called to pray for each other and for God’s will to be done.

Jeff Stacy brought us an excellent message taken from 2 Kings:9. The Praise music provided by Faith Haws and her daughter, Danielle, was angelic.

Chaplains Lee Alphen and Ken Carter gave out CHHA hats to folks who promised to serve Jesus by wearing them helping us to **Keep Christ Alive in Harness Racing!**

Notice the blue CHHA hats on those working for Christ in harness racing below.



Jeff Stacy preaching at breakfast

### 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.

George and Little George Birkhold



Ken Carter, Ron and Cindy Maolyneux and Jack Warner



Sophia and Meadow Twaddle