



Rambling Willie

Keeping Christ Alive in Harness Racing!

Since 1983

In God We Trust



Christian Harness Horsemen's Association Newsletter

January 2023

Remember,
I pray for all
our members
every day.



Chaplain Lee Alphen

Working for God

By Chaplain Lee Alphen

Happy birthday to the horses!
Happy New Year to you and yours!
What does 2023 have in store for us
anyway? Will it be much different than
2022 or more of the same?

The horses will likely continue doing
what horses do. Sometimes they are
training and racing and other times
kicking their heels up in the pasture
and maybe socializing with their equine
friends. Of course, they still count on the
humans to provide their food and water
and their other needs.

Remember, we have all been
entrusted with a mission by God and, as
believers in the Lord Jesus Christ, much
is expected of us. "You are fellow
citizens with the saints and members of
the household of God" (Ephesians 2:19
NKJV).

We saw recently all that was
expected of the royal household and
nobility in Great Britain with the
activity surrounding the queen's death.
As members of the household of God,
some of the expectations placed on us
are similar and others are different.
Like the nobility, we are expected to
show kindness and always care for
people with love and respect and to be
honest, generous and courageous. Yet
we are welcome to wear our barn clothes
or whatever else we want and to pretty
much come and go as we please instead
of adhering to more rigid royal customs.
We can work with our horses, learn a
trade or go to college and choose our
own career.

We have expectations for our horses
too. These include things like racing and
finishing well, good behavior in the barn
and around other horses in the shed row
and on the track. Soundness and overall

health are also important.

But more is expected of us than the
royalty or the horses. Jesus is
entrusting us with a mission. He said to
the disciples, "Peace be with you! As the
Father has sent me, I am sending
you" (John 20:21 NIV). Later He said,
"Go and make disciples of all
nations" (Mathew 28:19 NIV). Jesus
says the same to us. We have a
responsibility, a job to do for God. Jesus
came to open the gates of heaven for us
and to encourage us to turn to God. As
contributing members of the family of
God, we are expected to encourage
others in their relationships with God so
they too can one day join us and all the
saints in heaven.

According to Google saints are
excellent role models. Saints pray for
others, are very generous, help people to
understand God's will and they glorify
God by the way they live their lives.
Perhaps we are only beginning to
develop one or two of these traits. As
long as we are trying, God is pleased.
None of Jesus' followers were perfect.
Neither were the heroes of the Old
Testament. Yet they all played
important parts in salvation history.

I also googled, "What makes a good
racehorse." *Heart of the South Racing*
offered eight areas for consideration.
Some have more to do with the
characteristics a horse was born with
like pedigree, bone structure, balance
and the size of the eyes and ears. Other
characteristics trainers can impact like
muscle tone, a shiny coat and manners.

Of course, we all know neither the
saint nor horse characteristics listed
above are exhaustive. However, they do
show we humans have many more
behaviors we can hone to please God
than our horses have to please us.

Board of Directors

Chaplain Lee Alphen
Racetrack Ministry

Amy Bondon, President

Greg Gehman, Vice President
Knight's Landing Stable

Roger Huston
Ohio Harness Horsemen's
Association and Little Brown Jug

Lori Romanetti
Moshannon Stables

For newsletter questions or
ideas please contact:

Lee Alphen, Editor

leealphen@comcast.net

603-898-1927

603-401-7271 (cell)

Wanted

Praise Reports and Articles

Please send to Chaplain Lee Alphen

leealphen@comcast.net

Or

157 North Main St · Salem, NH 03079

Blessings

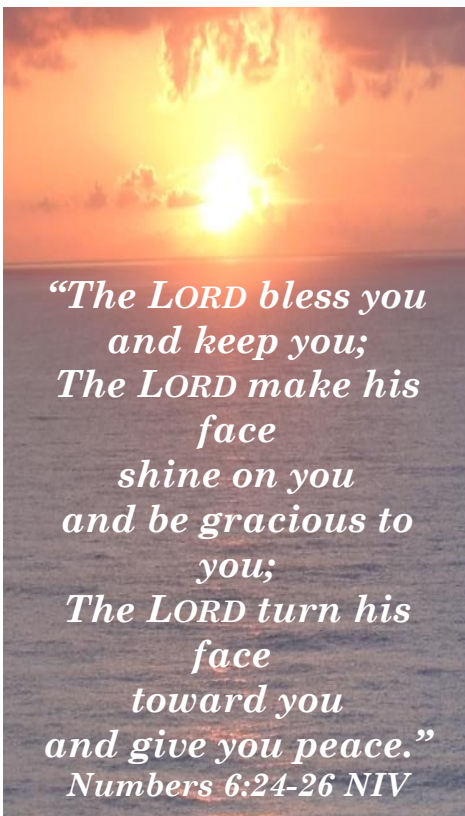


Working cont. top of page 2

Working (continued from page 1)

God commanded Moses' brother Aaron to bless the Israelites. Now I offer you the same blessing to help you to be everything God wants you to be in 2023.

"The Lord bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace" (Numbers 6:24-26 NIV).



Blessings from God

From Amy Bondon...

Amy was hospitalized recently for a bowel obstruction. Yet, she was still able to participate in the Moffitt Cancer Center Walk-A-Thon fundraiser in honor of her sister, Chris, who passed away earlier this year. She thanks everyone who supported her with gifts to Moffitt and prayers.

From Tara Burke...

I give thanks for CHHA every morning as your ministry has been such a blessing to me and my family. The prayers for Liam overwhelm me in the evidence of the love of Christ pouring out through you and your prayer warriors. Also, my husband (once a Harness horse driver and trainer) so greatly enjoys your newsletter. It has become something he looks forward to. I am blessed as he reads the Biblical messages and shares about those he knew and admired in the obituaries. It is so endearing for us to have that connection through your most lovely publication. We greatly enjoy it. God Bless!

NOTE: Tara is our newest Prayer Partner.

From Ann MacNeill...

Baby Joy is doing fantastic!! We are all soooo thankful !

From Kate Williams

- Update on Matthew Hess who was given a CHHA scholarship to attend Farrier School. He graduated with honors. He has been Farrier now for 6 years and a Journeyman Farrier for the last 4. When he started, he was one of the youngest experienced Farriers in NC. He has excelled at his craft to the point that he is The Journeyman Farrier (on call) at many Class A horse shows around NC. They rely on his dependability, his caring attitude, and his excellent skills. He is very blessed to tell people that he is the Farrier on call for the huge & revered Triangle Farms "Dukes Jump for the Children" horseshow. This week-long show has raised 2.8 million for the Dukes Children's Hospital. He looks forward to serving there every year. Aside from the shows, he has a long list of regular clients and does pro-bono work to help others as well. CHHA changed Matthew's life. The Lord used a CHHA scholarship to give Matthew hope. It aided him in achieving an outdoor agri-career with horses that he loves. He speaks of the CHHA fondly and says: " *If you love what you do, you never work a day in your life. It started with the CHHA.* "
- Thank you, thank you, thank you for all the prayers!! The uplifting! The Lord has heard you and cured me of the dreaded esophageal/stomach cancer. I am 3 years past the initial diagnosis and 2.5 years past the chemo-surgery-long recovery. Today I am cancer free. To God give the glory because this cancer kills 80% of the time. You all cannot know how much your prayers propped me up during the long nights/day of 50-hour chemo. I have only words to thank you ALL, but my heart is much fuller with love for you all. Blessings be upon the CHHA Prayer Warriors. THANK YOU! ~~ Kate Williams



Paul Fontaine



Ann and David Wade



Ken Fierle



Chris Coyle

**More
Harrisburg
Friends**

**Story on
page 6**

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   

Please return to: lecalphen@comcast.net

Credit Card # _____ Exp Date ____/____

OR
CHHA
157 North Main St.
Salem, NH 03079

Name on Card _____ Security Code _____

[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: _____

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

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.



Obituaries

Charles L. Crouser Jr, 78, of Stoneboro, PA, died Nov 12. After completing his service as a United States Marine, Charles spent his career as a horse trainer and caring for horses through dentistry and acupuncture. He had an affinity for fishing, hunting, and playing the banjo. He especially enjoyed racing horses at the Meadows Racetrack & Casino and the Great Stoneboro Fair.



Henry G Guilmette Jr died Nov 9. Henry was an important part of the Racetrack Ministry at Suffolk Downs and a CHHA member. He spent many years riding and training Thoroughbreds and Quarter-horses all over the country and was an avid fisherman and hunter.



Jan Nofsinger, 67, of Warsaw, VA, died Oct 26. Jan owned, trained and bred Standardbreds for decades. She will be remembered for her dedication to her family and her love of horses, particularly her love of harness racing, to which she dedicated many years of her life. She was a member of St. John's Episcopal Church.



John Otrembiak, 76, died October 26. When asked what he thought about his situation, John said he was "excited and looking forward to this new adventure, but sad to be leaving others behind." John joined the Peace Corps and taught English and math to children in Malaysia. When he finished his term, he traveled to Asia, Europe and the Mid-East making many life-long friends. John worked for the New York State Health department holding four different positions during his tenure. With the Lord always at the center of his life, John lived his life to the fullest. He was the best example of putting one's faith into day-by-day practice. He touched many people as a mentor, foster father, God father, teacher, prayer partner, model of virtue and humility, and evangelizer. He was a vocal advocate for life. John was always planting new and unique vegetables donating many to the food pantry. He attended daily mass at St. Clement's Church in Saratoga. John's sister, Mary Beth Wing is a CHHA member.



C. Arthur Plant, 84, of The Villages, FL died Nov 3. Art spent 25 years as a New York State Inspector for Racing and Wagering. He was a member of the St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Kenmore, NY and St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Williamsville, NY. He was the statistician for Buffalo Bills Broadcast Radio and a high school math teacher. Art was also a founding member and on the church council of the Rock of Ages Lutheran Church in Wildwood, FL. He was the founder of the Red Sox Nation in The Villages, FL, which is the largest Red Sox Nation Club in the country. He was a CHHA member



Joseph C Sarago, 80, of Cheektowaga, NY, died Oct 27. Joe began his harness racing career in 1966. He went on to be a trainer and driver racing at Batavia Downs and in western New York. In the late 1990's he left the barn to drive the starting car at Tioga Downs.

Nellie R. Saravalli, 95, died Oct 30. Nellie was raised on a farm in Illinois. After completing her nursing career, she continued as a volunteer until 2019. With her second husband, Tom Charters, a former Hambletonian Society president, Nellie enjoyed going to The Little Brown Jug on occasion and even rode in Greg Coon's starting gate.



James N Waple, 90, of Maple Heights, OH, died Oct 15. James was a trainer, driver and owner of Standardbreds. He raced primarily at Northfield Park and many of the county fairs throughout Ohio.



Sources for Obituary information include:

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



*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 **Dave Brower** by: Rich and Sandy Thorstenson
 In memory of **Jim Compton** by: Sandra Compton
 In memory of **Donnie Conrad** by: Roselea Conrad
 In memory of **Bob and Vivian Farrington** by: Rich and Sandy Thorstenson
 In memory of **Russell Gehman** by: Greg Gehman, Pastor Joe DiDonato, CHHA the Meadows
 In memory of **Frank Lomangino** by: Ohio Harness Horsemen's Association
 In memory of Sam McKee by: Rich and Sandy Thorstenson
 In memory of **Andy Wood** by: Longshot Stables

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, Scott Dube, Jerry Eby, Chaplain Tom Farley, Francine Federici, Tiffany Fisher, Katie Folkins, Rodney Grady, Holly Graffam, Pastor Bill Grant, Cody Greeno, Margaret Groce, Joan Harp, Rose Hennessey, Morris Hoagland, Glenda Holloway, 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, Kim Maples, 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, 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, Ellen Beinbauer, Gary Bennett, Peter Blood, Marilyn Bondon, Stephanie Bouchard, Danny Breton, Betsy Brown, Kevin Burns, Mary Burton, Bob Cain, Carol Ann Case, Thelma Chrisman, Joan Collins, Anthony Coletta, Chet Crane, Karen Crothers, Anna Farley, Jim Ferguson, Scott Freck, Sylvain Gagnon, Greg Gehman, Bob Goth, Barbara and Brent Graham, Debbie Gray, Jimmy Hart, Joyce Hart, Bob Hilliard, Vickie Howard, Ruby Hensley, Miguel Hernandez, Paul and Mrs



Obituaries are on page 4

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, Donna Phillips, Rita Polese, Noreen Paulen, Frank Profaci, Joanne Ranger, Del Richards, Donnie Richards, Denis Rogers, Ray Romanetti, Tori Scott, Jody Sexton, Delma Smart, Madisyn Smith, Ryan Stahl, Caryn Stellino, 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:

Jordan Aracena, 6, has low oxygen levels.
 Ruben Arréchiga, groom is dying of cancer.
 John Berry is on dialysis for end stage kidney disease.
 Chuck is dealing with multiple health issues.
 William Clearwater is struggling with depression and psychosis.
 Betty Crouse, 91, fell and hurt her back.
 Fallon, 13, has multiple tumors in her brain.
 Jim Ferguson is recovering from a total knee replacement.
 Vera Garabedian is in rehab following a stroke.
 Gilbert is recovering from a liver transplant.
 Richie Gillock is dealing with a detached retina.
 Karen has a mass on her brain.
 Kim Hankins is recovery from hip replacement surgery.
 Mike Linzini is rapidly losing eyesight.
 Meagan McKee is in a new radiation trial for her brain cancer.
 Olivia is recovery from donating a kidney.
 Donna Phillips is struggling with Parkinsons.
 Jennifer Redmond and Tom Luther lost their horses in a barn fire.
 Ray Romanetti is in need of a lung transplant.

157 North Main St
Salem, NH 03079
USA



Please indicate
Address corrections

Stallion Auction

January 27—28, 2023

Please donate a breeding

Stallion List updated regularly at
chha.net/2023-stallion-auction-listing

Breedings available at press time

State	Stallion	Standing at	Gait	Stud Fee
DE	Anders Bluestone	Merrie Medo Farm	T	3,000
IN	Helpisontheway	Maple Lane Farm	T	5,000
OH	Dancin Yankee	Cool Winds Farm	P	2,500
OH	Uncle Peter	Hickory Lane Farm	T	4,000
Ontario	All Bets Off	Seelster Farms	P	5,000 CDN



Paul Spears

Harrisburg Sale

Harrisburg Sale

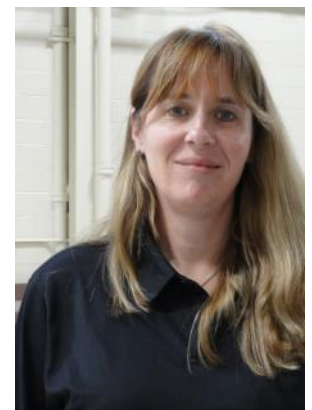
Crowds in the Harrisburg sales arena and people buying horses were a blessing for our sport. Everyone seemed happy to be there, and I enjoyed the visits of the those who stopped by our booth for prayer and conversation.

I almost didn’t recognize Paul Spears hanging out and enjoying himself with Chris Coyle in one of the consignment areas. Barbara Reed of the Standardbred Sales Company stopped by a few times to make sure everything was okay. She is doing a great job. We also saw Gunjan Patel when she broke away from the credit office. As usual, Micky Burke had some interesting stories to share. It was nice to see Ellen Beinhauer is recovering well from her stroke.

[More pictures are on page 2.](#)



Greg Gehman and
Gunjan Patel



Barbara Reed