



Rambling Willie

## Keeping Christ Alive in Harness Racing!

Since 1983

In God We Trust



Christian Harness Horsemen's Association Newsletter

August 2023

Remember,  
I pray for all  
our members  
every day.



*Chaplain Lee Alphen*

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

603-898-1927

603-401-7271 (cell)

### Wanted

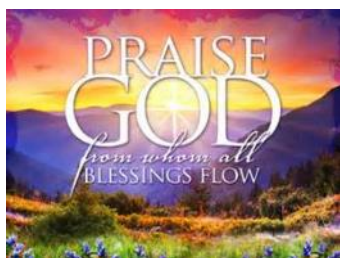
#### Praise Reports and Articles

Please send to Chaplain Lee Alphen

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

Or

157 North Main St · Salem, NH 03079



## Seeing God

*By Chaplain Lee Alphen*

God created the sun to shine on green pastures filled with lush grasses and gorgeous trees. On some of the trees God included fruit. Then God created horses to roam the fields, cats to climb the trees and dogs to run with the horses. God also created beautiful birds to soar through the skies and to entice the cats to climb the trees.

Then God made His most prized creation and put them in a beautiful garden and told them to take care of all He had made. God's people had horses to ride and dogs to make them smile. There was just one tree they were told to stay away from.

A snake came along telling them the fruit on the forbidden tree was the very best in the garden and convinced them to try it so they would then be as smart as God and know the difference between good and evil. By eating the apple, Adam and Eve set themselves up for a much more difficult life than God had planned.

God still took care of Adam and Eve and their offspring. They and their descendants continued to have a good relationship with the Lord. They thanked God for their blessings and asked God's help when they struggled. Some, like Cain, Adam and Eve's oldest son, turned against God even as God reached out to help him. Cain brought difficulties on himself when he killed his brother Abel. However, God still promised to protect him.

Throughout the scriptures we read about God's involvement in the lives of His people and how they honor Him and ask for His advice, help and blessings. They often tell others how good God is to them.

Jesus loved all of creation, especially the people. He came to pay the price for the sins of everyone going all the way back to Adam and forward to the end of time. All we have to do is believe (John 3:16). Jesus really wants all of us with him for all of eternity.

Tiffany, my last cat, really liked shrimp. When I gave her some, she happily rubbed up against my legs, purring for more. One of my brothers spoiled her by frequently refreshing her water and adding an ice cube to the new bowl. I suppose she thought I should do that too. I didn't.

Our horses' whinnies when they see us make us smile and we look forward to being greeted by our dogs when we get home. Some amusement parks have beautiful colored birds that will stand on your shoulder for a picture. At Xcaret in Cancun you can hold one of the lovely macaw birds on your arm. God surrounded us with beauty and encourages us to enjoy all He has created.

We all like to be acknowledged and appreciated in some way. For our part, let's join with the psalmist, acknowledging God with praise and thanksgiving: "Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come before Him with joyful songs" (Psalm 100:1-2 NIV).

Visiting the mountains, lakes and oceans; seeing beautiful flowers, trees and fields; and watching the animals frolic in my yard remind me of God's presence in all of creation and fill me with His peace. When God touches our lives, it is important to thank Him. Thanking God and telling others of the great things God does blesses us again and fills us with joy.

After driving many demons out of a

**God Lives cont. top of page 2**

## Seeing God cont. from page 1

man hiding in the cemetery, Jesus told the man, "Go home to your own people and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you. So the man went away and began to tell in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him. And all the people were amazed" (Mark 5:19-20 NIV).

The prophet Daniel interpreted a dream for King Nebuchadnezzar, which came true. He was ousted from his palace and sent to the wilderness to eat grass and live with the wild animals (Daniel 4:25).

Eventually God restored Nebuchadnezzar to his position and his home and, with God's help, he became an even greater king than he was before. He said, "Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and exalt and glorify the King of heaven, because everything He does is right and all His ways are just. And those who walk in pride He is able to humble" (Daniel 4:37 NIV).

King David had a tent pitched for the Ark of the Covenant. Then, after offering sacrifices to God, He chose some Levites to offer God praise and thanks. What they were to say is recorded in 1 Chronicles 16. Here is the beginning of it, which is also in Psalm 105.

"Oh, give thanks to the Lord; call upon His name; make known His deeds among the peoples! Sing to Him, sing praises to Him; tell of all His wondrous works!" (Psalm 105: 1-2 NIV).

Jesus thinks His followers are the light of the world. He told them (including us) to "let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven" (Matthew 5:16 NIV). According to the apostle Paul, we were created for the good works that God set out for us to do (Ephesians 2:10).

I just read a very interesting ifapray.org article. Angela Rodriguez decided to "interact" with an owl she heard hooting in a nearby tree and made a few hooting sounds in response. She said, "Within seconds, a large, beautiful owl swooped down from the tree and flew right toward my head. I ducked down quickly as the owl turned and soared up to a nearby electrical pole."

Let's not be surprised when God hears us call out to Him. Rather, let's expectantly listen for His answer, knowing God is always nearby.

When we share stories of God working in our lives, we help others to see God.

Hope in God.  
Soar like an Eagle!  
Isaiah 40:30



## Blessings from God

From Tara Burke...



Thomas, Tara, Liam and Bob

Thank you so very much for your faithful prayers on behalf of Liam. Your prayers are most certainly a blessing to Liam in that he has had a remarkable year. He has not experienced any relapse or health problems at all this year to THE GLORY of THE LORD. He has been striving for excellence in health care and his studies at Ulster County Community College. He works out daily and has maintained honors at college, all to THE GLORY OF our GREAT GOD and SAVIOR, Jesus Christ. Amen!!

Your prayers are so greatly appreciated! I pray for CHHA everyday as well! I praise GOD for you, your prayer warrior team and your beautiful News Letter. We are sincerely Grateful for all you do, all your prayers and for reaching out to us. We thank GOD for your love, hope, faith, concern and prayers in Christ. May our Heavenly Father bless you always with the eternal love, mercy, grace, and peace of Jesus Christ our Lord, King and Savior. Amen and amen!

We are sincerely grateful! Blessings!

Tara, husband, Bob, and sons, Liam and Thomas



Begin and end each day with  
praise and gratitude

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

*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

*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

**Jack Levine's books are also available FREE as downloads at:**  
<https://www.jackalanlevine.com/ebooks>



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

**Mary Bernadette "Bernie" MacArthur**, 94, died May 31. When she was 26, Bernie took over her first husband's photography business when he died. She and her new husband, Ron, continued to run the business and were also involved in harness racing. They eventually developed a broodmare farm in Clinton. While being a fun place for family and friends, Bermac Farm made a significant contribution to improving the breeding stock in the Maritimes. Later they turned the photography business over to their sons and began racing horses full time in the United States and Canada.



**Paul Anthony McKinnon**, 93, of Charlottetown and formerly of Clyde River, PEI, died May 25. Paul proudly served in the Canadian Armed Forces in Canada and Germany. Later he became the Charlottetown Airport Fire Chief and purchased Skyeglen Farm in Clyde River. At the farm, his love of horses and the harness racing industry flourished. He became a director of the USTA and remained a Director Emeritus until his passing. Paul was a member of St. Francis of Assisi parish.

**Pierre-Luc Quimper**, 39, of Palm Beach, FL, died June 12. Pierre and his best friend, Michael Cote Gagnon, launched One Legend Stable Inc., which had great success in its first year. It has several young horses in training under the care of Jennifer Bongiorno and Julie Miller. Pierre was the ex-president and co-founder of Bitfarm Inc.



**Peter "Rocky" Roccasano**, 89, of Pittsburgh, PA died June 24. Rocky claimed his first horse, Who Du Girl, at Wheeling Downs Raceway in the early 1970s for his daughter, harness racing owner/breeders and author, Victoria (Howard). He built a half-mile racetrack at his "Rock-A-Bye Farms" in Pittsburgh and stood his own stallion. He raced his horses mainly at The Meadows. Rocky also fought for his country in the Korean War.

**Marion Lois Simpson**, 81, of Maitland, FL, died June 6. Lois was always there at the racetrack with her husband, John Simpson, Jr, rooting him on to the winner's circle. She also watched all of her grandchildren at their numerous sporting events through middle school and high school. She was a loving wife, mother and grandmother. Anyone that was fortunate enough to meet her would always say that she was a special person.

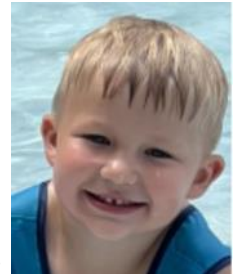
**James Thomas "Tom" Sweeney Jr**, 88, of Hadley, MI, died May 24. Tom and his wife, Phyllis, owned and operated gas stations where they eventually began selling homemade bread. He was a lifetime farmer and after "retiring" from the bakery business, Tom went full time owning, training and driving Standardbreds. He was a Golden Glove Champion in 1952 and was known as the "Metamora Plow Boy."



**Beryl C. Taylor, VMD**, 73, of Cream Ridge, NJ, died May 23. Dr. Beryl was an equine veterinarian who cared for generations of brood mares and foals that went on to race at tracks around the world. After graduating first in his class from vet school as Valedictorian he joined the Walnridge Equine Clinic in Cream Ridge, NJ for a short time before starting his own practice. Beryl was a familiar sight driving the roads in and around Cream Ridge with a passel of dogs riding shotgun in SUVs. Off duty, Beryl spent hours on the phone with clients who had become friends, talking them through the care of their small animals.



**Waylon Eugene Winters**, 4, of Washington Court House, OH, died May 30. Waylon's parents, Mark and Candace, race in Ohio. According to the family, "Waylon had a personality that was bigger than life. Though his time here was short, the love and enjoyment he shared with others will last forever."



**Virginia "Ginger" Pack Young**, 87, died May 21. Ginger was a breeder, owner, trainer and race official and one of the first "Starfish" participants. She began her career as a racing official at Delmarva Downs then served as paddock judge at Harrington and Dover Downs and was often a substitute at Ocean Downs and Rosecroft in several capacities. When the USTA began the "Starfish" rehoming program for Standardbreds found in kill pens, Ginger was the first volunteer to help with the rehabbing.

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

Kirk Cameron



## Obituaries

**Steven A. High**, 67, of Cardington, OH, died June 16. Steven owned, trained, drove and bred harness horses. He also worked for the Ohio Department of Transportation for 31 years and did snow removal after he retired. He loved racehorses, especially a challenging trotter.



**James F. Larente**, 92, of Quebec Canada, died May 23. Jimmy was a former driver/trainer. He was a top horseman at the former Delaware Valley harness tracks of Liberty Bell Park, Garden State Park and Brandywine Raceway.

**Obituaries continued on page 4**

**Sources for Obituary information include:**

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

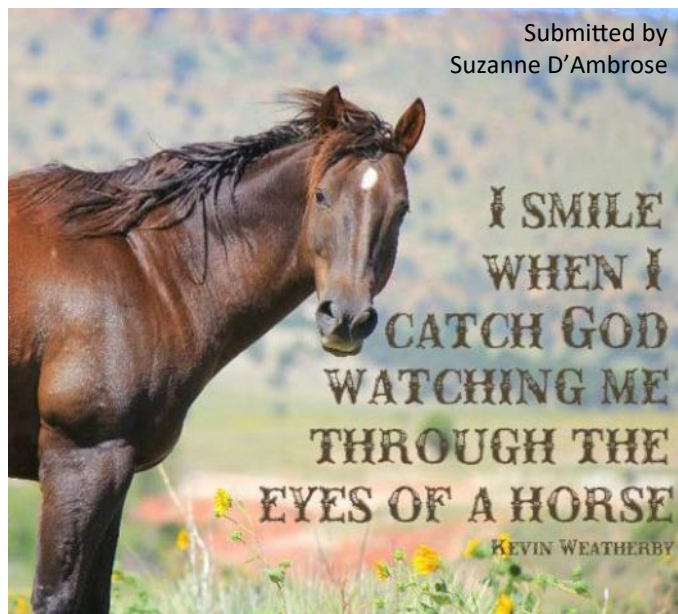
## Prayer Corner

**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, Dianne Boyken, Georgianna Brocco, Jana Brocco, Gary Bryant, Lore Burke, Rick Carson, Barbara Carter, Mike 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, 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, Bob Montane, Lalya Mosley, Linda Moyer, Corey Murphy, Howard Niels, 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, Brenda Tippin, Gary Tyron, Brittany Vondenhuevel, Roland Wardel, Lucille Wick, Teresa Willabus, Kate Williams, 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 Beinhauer, Gary Bennett, John Berry, 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, Scott Freck, Sylvain Gagnon, Greg Gehman, Richie Gillock, Bob Goth, Barbara and Brent Graham, Debbie Gray, Kim Hankins, Jimmy Hart, Joyce Hart, Bob Hilliard, Vickie Howard, Ruby Hensley, Miguel Hernandez, Paul and Mrs Hershey, Carol Heusinkveld, Trudy Hite, Jerry Hissam, Joyce Hollingsworth, 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, Lowell Lockhart, Katherine Lonager, Ernie Lowell, 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, Loyd Ranger, Del Richards, Donnie Richards, Denis Rogers, Ray Romanetti, Tori Scott, Jody Sexton, Lynn Silver, Delma Smart, Rev Edward Smith, 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, Reggie 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:**

Steven Beauregard is in recovery.

Melisa Cino needs a cyst on her vocal cords removed.

Brian Malone has several medical issues.

Meagan McKee is in Hospice care.

Loyd Ranger is living in a facility with dementia.

Mary Ranger was trampled and damaged her leg.

Jim Mattison is hospitalized—not feeling well for a while.

157 North Main St  
Salem, NH 03079  
USA



Please indicate  
Address corrections

### The Praise Privilege

By Chaplain Sam Spence



We are in a spiritual battle. The Apostle Paul makes this very clear in the statements below that he wrote to the church at Corinth, as well as those he scribed to the church at Ephesus: "For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places." (*Ephesians 6:12*)

Paul goes on to explain putting on the whole armor of God, which includes your waist girded with truth, the breastplate of righteousness, feet shod with preparation of the gospel of peace, shield of faith, helmet of salvation, sword of the spirit (God's Word), and praying in the spirit.

One weapon – actually a vehicle – which incorporates our full armor is *praise*; it can be one of the most effective ways of putting the enemy on the run..."Resist the devil and he will flee from you." (*James 4:7*) Resist is an active verb, not a passive one. When we begin to praise the Lord in the midst of a trial, temptation, or contrary circumstance, we (in football terms) suddenly take an *offensive* position rather than a *defensive* one. And continual praise will take us right into the end zone for a score!

Every prayer we utter should begin with praise and thanks. There's something about praise that not only evokes the angels of God into action on our behalf, but activates the forces of faith, hope, and joy on the inside of us.

Praise is a powerful privilege at our complete command. Don't neglect it.

**Scripture:**

For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ. (*2 Corinthians 10:3-5*).



*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 **Donnie Conrad** by: Roselea Conrad
- In memory of **Jeff Cox** by: Melinda Bailey
- In memory of **Sue and Harold Kelly** by: Deb and Jeff Tillia
- In memory of **Jim Mace** by: Jim and Judy Ferguson
- In memory of **Alvin Parkes** by: Ohio Harness Horsemen's Assoc.
- In memory of **John Rogers** by: Moira and Tom Fanning
- In memory of **Tom Sweeney, Jr** by: Terry Harp
- In memory of **Tim Tassoni** by: Moira and Tom Fanning
- In memory of **Beryl Taylor, VMD** by: Amy bondon
- In memory of **Andy Wood** by: Longshot Stables

### Jug Prayer Breakfast Wednesday, September 20, 2023

Join us in the Hospitality tent across from the Log Cabin at 7:30 AM Wednesday, September 20<sup>th</sup> for a **FREE** breakfast.



Breeder Jeff Stacy is sure to inspire us with another great message. Everyone enjoys his country preaching style.

**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.

**Truitt Family Singers**