



Rambling Willie

Keeping Christ Alive in Harness Racing!

Since 1983

In God We Trust



Christian Harness Horsemen's Association Newsletter

September 2023

Remember,
I pray for all
our members
every day.



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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

**"Be joyful in hope,
patient in affliction,
and faithful in
prayer."**

Romans 12:12

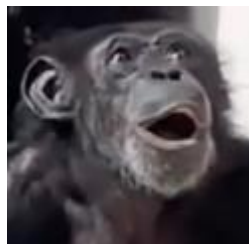
Hope Restored

By Chaplain Lee Alphen

Some horses get bored hanging around in a stall. They miss running free in the pasture and, you might say, they lose the hope of ever enjoying those care-free times again. Then, when the trainer brings them to the farm for a week, they return to the track refreshed and excited about racing. Their hope has been restored.

Can you imagine spending your entire life locked in a biomedical research lab cage or another similarly jail-like place? Such was the fate of Vanilla, a 28-year-old chimpanzee. What hopelessness she must have felt during her first 28 years! Thanks to some good people who really care about God's animals, as Louise Chambers reports in the July 6, 2023 *The Epoch Times*, Vanilla was moved last year to the Save the Chimps sanctuary in Florida. Praise God!

Stepping out into the Florida sunshine, she was awestruck and could not stop looking at the blue skies. She loves to explore her three-acre forever home which is surrounded by water and has soft green grass and beautiful views. With her new-found hope and lots of friends, she will likely live another 30 or 40 years.



Matthew Kelly asks in his book, *Holy Moments* if we have ever felt like something was missing or that there was more to life or that we feel like we have more to offer? He suggests God might be trying to get our attention and that we should listen and follow where

these thoughts lead.

God called Bruce Ranger to find Him in God's people some would call outcasts of society. To Bruce, though, these are his sisters and brothers whom he loves. He tries to encourage them and give them hope.

The apostle Paul wrote, "We should be patient with those who are not so strong and have doubts. We should not do what pleases us but do what pleases them and is for their good. We should do whatever helps everyone grow stronger in faith. [...] All patience and encouragement come from God. [...] Christ accepted you, so you should accept each other. This will bring honor to God" (Romans 15:1-2, 5, 7 ERV).

Bruce Ranger, who recently recorded his 10,000th win, sometimes, when I was in Pompano, took me to pray with the AA people he was sponsoring. It was always an adventure for me. For Bruce it was doing what God called him to do. He loves these people and God uses him in a powerful way.



About five or six years ago Bruce brought food, as he often did, to a group of addicts and a dog living in a condemned house with no power or water. The residents all took me up on my offer to pray with them. A woman from across the street who was caught up in the sex trade was also part of our large circle as we joined hands in the middle of a side street near Dixie

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Highway. I am certain God heard our earnest prayers on behalf of these sisters and brothers that day.

Bruce is still in touch with Flagpole Joe who was recently given permission to live in an area storage unit. He now has a refrigerator powered by an extension cord from outside. That's a step up for him. Even though he still doesn't have running water, he does have hope.

AA members around the country keep in touch with Bruce by phone. He doesn't sugarcoat his messages as he encourages them to turn their lives around. Yet, knowing he cares gives them hope.

In 1975 I began ministering with the horsemen and women at Rockingham Park. It was an exciting ministry. God opened many doors and the people responded to God's love. During the winter months, when the track was closed, I was restless and felt like I didn't have any purpose. My friend Linda always called it my winter slump. I prayed hard for God's guidance. Then in 2010 God brought me to the CHHA. Now I have so much ministry I don't have time for any more winter slumps. Praise God! I am where God wants me and I am at peace.

There are opportunities for all of us to encourage and build others up. God has a great plan for all our lives. It is good to spend time asking God to lead us and show us where He wants us. Then, when we find our spot, we will know God's peace and be filled with joy. "There is surely a future hope for you, and your hope will not be cut off" (Proverbs 23:18 NIV).

When hope is restored and our trust is in God, we and our horses can become everything God made us to be. "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit" (Romans 15:13 NIV).

"There is surely a future hope for you, and your hope will not be cut off" (Proverbs 23:18 NIV).



Blessings from God

From Brenda Jo Dennon...

Thank you and all CHHA members for the prayers... I was 75 in January and had my two year anniversary last month for my emergency open heart and ruptured aortic surgery. The doctors gave me a 1% survival rate but our God gave me 100%.

I am so blessed and grateful for the life I live. It's a gift and I thank God continuously with my prayers, pleas, petitions and praise. I'm His. Everything I have is His grace and blessings.

My life is far from perfect... I have pain, loss, limitations, etc. and I'll never be my 20 year old self again in this life... BUT, I'm thankful for all I have and refuse to dwell on what I no longer have. It's not what I've lost, but what God has let me keep. I won't complain. I owe Him everything and take nothing for granted. I have faith in his love and salvation. Sincerely, Brenda Joe Dennon

From Dan Fick...

I want to thank everyone who prayed for my grandson Woodson who was severely bitten on his right wrist and hand by a dog. His surgery went very well. He is home from the hospital and out playing golf with his Dad. He gets a cast next week and should recover full use of his right arm in a couple months. Thanks again for your answered prayers. God Bless, Dan Fick

Facebook and Instagram



Dawnelle Mauck is improving its social media presence. Check out her awesome posts. Please visit us, like and share.



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 **Timmy E Adams, II** by: Brenda Jo Dennon
- In memory of **Michael Andrew** by: Chris Coyle
- In memory of **Mary Ann Antonacci** by: Paul Fontaine
- In memory of **Lois Simpson** by: Linda, Bob and Bobby Condon
- In memory of **Jimmy Larente** by: Chris Coyle
- In memory of **Pierre Noel** by: Lyse Breton
- In memory of **Walter and Pauline Warrington** by: Steven Warrington
- In memory of **Waylon Winters** by: Dr Bob and Lisa Schwartz
- In memory of **Andy Wood** by: Longshot Stables

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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

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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 ___

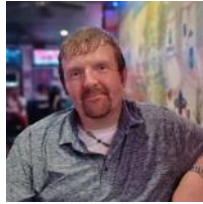
Other colors are available upon request.

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



Obituaries continued from page 5

Timothy E. Adams, II, 44, of Jamestown, OH, died Aug 11. He was the son of Timothy Eugene Adams who was in the harness racing business for years around Lebanon and Xenia, OH and in Canada. Tim was a member of Jamestown Church of Christ.



Thomas A. Brice, 83, of Plumville, PA, died June 30. Thomas was a harness racing enthusiast and an active horse owner with his longtime friend and partner, Ed Receski. They have owned and/or bred 44 Standardbreds. In 1964 he became the manager of Douds of Plumville furniture store where he remained until he retired.

Marcello Daris, 95, of Bridgeville, PA, died, July 13. Marcello was born in Italy. He immigrated from Trieste, Italy at the age of 23 with his wife Margherita and daughter Gina. He loved the 40 years he spent working for the American Water Company. He was an avid golfer, bowler and card player. He enjoyed following all the Pittsburgh Sports Teams, especially the Pirates and Steelers. Marcello was Marcy DiDonato's father and Meadows chaplain, Pastor Joe DiDonato's, father-in-law.



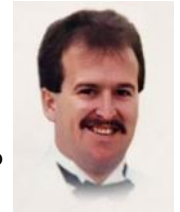
Meagan Michelle McKee, 33, of Blairstown, NJ, died July 16. Meagan bravely battled a rare pediatric cancer for the past three years. Upon diagnosis, Meagan chose to participate in a few different trials. She understood that the disease was incurable but remained hopeful and wanted to provide an opportunity to further science and research in hopes that it would give others behind her a chance to live on. It was her last wish to donate her tissue to the research team at Monje Lab in California so they can continue to learn more about this disease. Meagan graduated from the University of Kentucky in 2012 and went on to work in digital marketing. She enjoyed moving to new cities and traveling to new countries. Like the rest of the family, Meagan grew up riding horses and was 4-H Equestrian of the Year in 2007 representing both the State of New Jersey and the NJ Horse Counsel. She competed throughout high school in many 4-H events, but found that she was most passionate about public speaking, where she went on to compete at the national level. Meagan was the daughter of CHHA member Chris McKee and the late Sam McKee.



Pierre Noel, 83, of Quebec, died June 3. Pierre raced harness horses in Quebec for over 40 years. He was very good friends with CHHA members Lyse Breton and her late husband, Yves.



Christopher George 'Chico' Rogers, 57, of Ontario, Canada, died July 8. Chris had a passion for horses and horse racing, and was a diligent groom at his brother Mike's stable. Chico, as most people knew him, was a fixture at racetracks across Ontario. From assisting his brother Mike, to warming up horses and helping other trainers, Chico will always be remembered for his passion for racing and his friendly demeanor.



Tom D. Tetrick, 73, of Geff, IL, died July 16. Tom was a harness racing driver, trainer and breeder. He was also presiding judge at the fairs. He owned 319 horses at the time of his passing and had bred 1,255 mares. He won 1,255 races as a driver and 577 as a trainer since 1991. His son, Tom, also drives and trains Standardbreds.



Jimmy Tipton, 85, of Rittman, OH, died July 12. Jimmy was a passionate horseman and owned numerous harness racehorses over the years. He was also an Air Force Veteran. Jim dedicated several years of his career to the former Akromodel Company in Akron, where he excelled as a tire pattern maker manager. He found solace in hunting and fishing, as he always appreciated the serenity and beauty of nature.

Norman Vance, 95, of Plymouth, MA, died Feb 25. Norman had a lifelong love of horse racing and owned several winning Standardbreds. He also wrote a column for *Hoof Beats*. He worked on Madison Avenue in various advertising capacities until moving to Grand Rapids to serve as Director of Advertising at Amway Corporation. Norman was a member of First (Park) Congregational Church



Walter W. Zent, DVM, 84, of Lexington, KY, died June 29. Dr Zent grew up riding and working with Standardbreds. For more than 50 years, he epitomized the very best as a veterinarian, a specialist in equine reproduction, a mentor, and a friend to so many in the industry he loved, not only on a local level but on the national and international stage as well. Dr. Zent and his wife, June, in partnership with Tony and Susan Holmes, enjoyed tremendous success with their small broodmare band. Together they bred multiple successful Standardbreds.

There is nothing more important than
Your Eternal Salvation

Kirk Cameron

Sources for Obituary information include:

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

Obituaries—See 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, 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, Teresa Hubbard Givens, 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 Nields, 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, Brittanty 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, Melisa Cino, Joan Collins, Anthony Coletta, Chet Crane, Karen

More on Aubrey Schwartz

In her application essay, Aubrey says, "Some personal qualities that I believe are important in achieving my goals are hard work, dedication, and kindness. One of my favorite quotes is 'work hard and be nice to people.' This is something I have tried to live by.

"My faith, accomplishments, and experiences have helped shape my character tremendously. Justin and Kylie Lanman are two people who have really helped explain and talk me through anything I was having trouble with in life. They have guided me into living a life more like Jesus.

"My education goals include attending Wilmington College again next fall and double majoring in agriculture and education with a minor in political science. I hope to become an Agricultural Educator at a high school or an extension agent for 4-H."

In her letter of recommendation, Amanda Swigert, Aubrey's agriculture teacher and FFA advisor says, "I write this letter to you with absolute confidence Aubrey will find a way to utilize her leadership ability, intelligence, and demonstrate her character in all aspects of her life."

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, 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:

Teresa Givens has breast cancer.

Bill Lanning is hospitalized.

Nancy Lisi has a recurrence of cancer in her sternum.

Brian Malone has a pulmonary embolism, multiple blood clots in his legs and a blockage in his intestines.

Rich Thorstenson has some pain related to his hip replacement.

Tim Twaddle fractured his left wrist.

Leo Widberg has stage 4 prostate cancer.

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USA



Please indicate
Address corrections

CHHA Scholars

The CHHA Scholarship Committee met on June 26 and awarded three scholarships. Applicants were selected based on their faith statements, harness racing involvement, character, achievements, aspirations, likelihood of achieving their goals and need.

Aubrey Schwartz was awarded the John and Janet Klark scholarship to continue her Agricultural Education studies at Wilmington College. Last year Aubry took a gap year to serve as president of FFA, which used to be called Future Farmers of America.

Aubrey reminds us of John Klark and all his lively experiences. She also shares many of the characteristics of Janet Klark who was a teacher, advocate, leader and scholar. John and Janet used to head up the Eastern Division of CHHA before their tragic deaths. If you have a few minutes, listen to Aubrey's closing address at this year's Ohio FAA convention. Here is a link to the speeches. Just advance the video to the 54 minute mark to hear Aubrey's address. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QUVVDE388gU>

Meadow Twaddle was awarded the Rambling Willie scholarship again this year to continue her studies in psychology at Washington and Jefferson University. Just like "The Horse That God Loved" who during his racing career overcame many struggles to become the champion that landed him in the Immortal Hall of Fame, Meadow is continuing to develop into a beautiful champion as well. Her strength and maturity shone out through her



scholarship application and the committee was very impressed this year.

Lexi Twaddle received a CHHA scholarship to continue her Pre-Med and Biology studies at Walsh University. Lexi is very involved in harness racing. She helps her dad at the barn and continues to serve as the Meadows mascot. In addition, Lexi helps Pastor Joe with his ministry at the Meadows. We know she carries the light of Christ and encouraged her to let this beautiful light shine.



For more on Aubrey Schwartz see page 5.

Watch for more on Meadow and Lexi Twaddle in coming newsletters.

Jug Prayer Breakfast Wednesday, September 20, 2023

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

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



Jeff Stacy



Truitt Family Singers

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.