



Rambling Willie

## Keeping Christ Alive in Harness Racing!

Since 1983

In God We Trust



Christian Harness Horsemen's Association Newsletter

January 2024

Remember,  
I pray for all  
our members  
every day.



Chaplain Lee Alphen

### Bond With God

By Chaplain Lee Alphen

Cristina Zenato has removed over 300 hooks from the mouths of sharks over the last 25 years. According to a recent report in **The Epoch Times**, the sharks have come to know and love her. They show their appreciation by bringing their shark friends to meet her and putting their heads in her lap.

After a mare foals, she licks the baby clean and continues to lick and groom her offspring as they grow. Cats do this too. This helps them to bond. Some of my horses bonded with me by putting their heads on my shoulder or playfully biting my hair.

The best way to bond with God is by thanking Him for all our blessings. King David, whom God called a man after His own heart, said, "I will praise the Lord at all times. I will never stop singing His praises" (Psalm 34:1 ERV).

Paul said, "Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus" (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 NIV) and "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:6-7 NIV).

Ah, yes, the peace of God is awesome! When we pray by thanking God and praising Him for all our blessings, God's peace comes over us, sending anxiety away. Then, as we continue to communicate with God, we are better able to understand where we need God's help.

Jesus said, "Whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and

they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son" (John 14:12-13 NIV).

Remember, Jesus lives in every believer. It is through His Spirit living in us that we can do great things in His name. Jesus said, "If anyone says to this mountain, 'Go, throw yourself into the sea,' and does not doubt in their heart but believes that what they say will happen, it will be done for them. Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours" (Mark 11:23-24 NIV).

Now, of course, when we are in constant communication with God, praising His name and thanking Him for our blessings, the things we ask for will not be against God's will.

Cristina and the sharks built up a system of communication so they understood each other and grew in trust. This trust and camaraderie blessed Cristina and the sharks. Foals learn to trust their mares, and, as they grow, they trust that their caretakers want the best for them. These special relationships bless the horses and the caretakers.

In the same way, as we grow to trust God's word, we are better able to step out in faith. Notice that the passage from Mark doesn't say to just ask God to move the mountain. Rather, after praying to know God's will and thanking Him for our many blessings, we are to step out in faith, speaking in the name of Jesus against any obstacle that is against what we know God wants for us. The stronger our faith, the faster our mountains will crumble.

**Bond cont. top of page 2**

### Board of Directors

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ideas please contact:

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### Wanted

**Praise Reports and Articles**

Please send to Chaplain Lee Alphen

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

Or

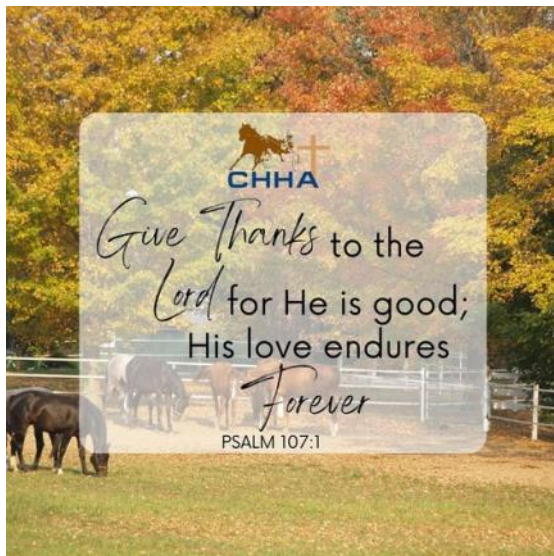
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God's  
best in  
2024

## Bond cont. from page 1

Remember, God only wants good things for us. None of the evil in the world or in our lives comes from God. With all that is going on around us, I am at peace, knowing God has my back. God will either bring peace to our world or see us through any difficulties that come our way.

Our praise, trust and thanksgiving show God our appreciation and love for Him. These are really the only gifts we have to give directly to God. As we begin 2024, please join me in making a greater effort to show God our appreciation by trusting Him more, thanking Him always and praising His holy name. God really does understand us. Let's bond with Him.



*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 **Cookie Fedor** by: Jake and Rosie Huff  
 In memory of **Betty Hanners** by: Dr Bob and Lisa Schwartz  
 In memory of **Harold and Sue Kelly** by: Linda and Thomas Moyer  
 In memory of **Bonnie Kern** by: Ohio Harness Horsemen's Assoc.  
 In memory of **Carol Macomber** by: Jake and Rosie Huff  
 In memory of **Meagan, Melissa and Sam McKee** by: Amy Bondon, Christine McKee  
 In memory of **Wyatt Jase Morrissey** by: Marilyn and Carthel Daulton  
 In memory of **Barry Probber** by: Jake and Rosie Huff  
 In memory of **Perry "Buddy" Simpson** by: CHHA The Meadows  
 In memory of **Tom Sweeney** by: Jake and Rosie Huff  
 In memory of **Vincenzo Villante** by: Jake and Rosie Huff  
 In memory of **Mitch Vincent** by: Dr Bob and Lisa Schwartz  
 In memory of **Andy Wood** by: Longshot Stables

## Blessings from God

### From Amy Bondon...

Bless your prayers. All glory to God in all these blessed outcomes of prayers offered up.

1. Betsy is through treatments and feeling fantastic walking in the woods on her Henniker, NH farm. She even had her port removed.
2. Sharon has made simply miraculous improvements, and her completely limp left side has suddenly come back to life! She will be reevaluated for swallowing in several months.
3. Anna Farley, praise God, is able to attend all her beloved church functions AND she is driving again!

### From Nancy Lisi...

My scan came back good...REAL good. The tumor shrunk in half and no spread. The doc had to call me right after she was so excited. Side effects are minimal. Praise God!!!! And thank you for the prayers. I believe in the power of God Almighty. I don't know why he has saved me, but he must love me.

### From Lori Romanetti...

After meeting with his pulmonologist and cardiologist at Cleveland Clinic, Ray made the decision last week to drop off of the lung transplant list and to continue to be treated medically. Both doctors admitted he has been staying more stable than they thought he would.

## Psalm 34:1-9 NIV

I will praise the LORD at all times.

I will never stop singing his praises.

Humble people, listen and be happy,  
while I brag about the LORD.

Praise the LORD with me.

Let us honor his name.

I went to the LORD for help, and he listened.

He saved me from all that I fear.

If you look to him for help,  
he will put a smile on your face.

You will have no need to be ashamed.

As a poor, helpless man I prayed to the LORD,  
and he heard me.

He saved me from all my troubles.

The LORD's angel builds a camp around his followers,  
and he protects them.

Give the LORD a chance to show you how good he is.

Great blessings belong to those who depend on him!

The LORD's holy people should fear and respect him.

Those who respect him will always have what they need.

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### Choose a Free Gift with your \$20 donation



Rambling Willie Remembers

### 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>

### Foiled Again Posters Signed by Yannick Gingras

Posters are 16 x 24 sticky vinyl.



### Horseshoe Nail Cross Necklaces and Keyrings

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

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

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Necklace Qty: Red \_\_\_ Blue \_\_\_ Turquoise

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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

**Alan Ray Bowen**, 77, of Mt. Sterling, IL, died Nov 1. Alan owned and operated Bowen Stables at the Brown County Fairgrounds for over 55 years. He bred, trained and raced Standardbreds at many county fairs and pari-mutuel tracks. He was a member of the First United Methodist Church in Mt. Sterling.



**Lorraine Cunningham**, 76, of Warwick, NY, died Oct 31. Lorraine dedicated her life to the well-being and happiness of those around her. She was married to Standardbred racing participant Thomas Cunningham for 52 years, and together they fostered a home filled with love, laughter and unwavering support.



**Jean B. Emerson**, 93, of Saco, ME, died Nov 18. Jean bred, trained and raced Standardbred horses. She and her husband, Chet, had a breeding farm in Saco. She was also the founder of the very successful harness racing publication *Northeast Harness News*. She was member of the United States Harness Writers Association's New England chapter and helped establish the Florida chapter where she held leadership roles.



**Betty Jean (Coe) Hanners**, 83, of Washington CH, OH, died Oct 30. Jeannie was born into the horse business, and it continued to be the most important joy in her life. She especially took pride in her four grandsons driving and winning races nightly. She worked for Mac Tools in Washington CH for over 20 years.

**Edward Donald James**, 92, of Aurora, OH, died Oct 29. Edward owned Standardbreds for more than 65 years including U.S. and Canadian Horse Racing Hall of Fame inductee [McWicked](#) under his S S G Stables. Ed never completed 10<sup>th</sup> grade yet he became the national sales manager and president of two different multi-national companies.

**Norah McDermott**, 91, of Toms River, NJ, originally from Ireland, died Nov 7. She loved horse racing and followed her sons, John and Kevin's, careers in harness racing. She worked for the NJ Meadowlands Commission for seventeen years before retiring in 1997.

**Hubert "Mac" McLaren**, 88, of Harrington, DE, died Oct 28. Mac helped his father on their 300-acre Prince Edward Island farm plowing the fields with horses as a boy. Then he spent 25 years training horses in Maine and New Hampshire before retiring and spending the next 25 years as a machinist. Finally he trained and drove in the east coast pony races.



**Wyatt Jase Morrissey**, 18, of Science Hill, KY, died Aug 5. He was a member of First Baptist Church and a member of Upward Bound at SCC. Wyatt recently enlisted in the United States Navy, where he scored the highest score of 96 on the Nuclear Engineer test. Wyatt was the nephew of CHHA members, Carthel and Marilyn Daulton. Carthel trained and drove Standardbreds.



**Paul J. "Jim" Roberts**, 86, of Wapakoneta, OH, died Nov 2. Jim owned and trained harness horses. He and his wife, Danelda, had 17 children. While raising their children, Jim helped on the farm and had a couple different jobs. He retired from General Dynamics as a millwright and welder. Paul enjoyed hunting, fishing and especially horse racing.



**Patrick Rooney, Sr**, 84, died Oct 29. Patrick was assistant racing secretary at Brandywine and Liberty Bell before becoming general manager at Liberty Bell. He served as president of Continental Racing Assoc. at Green Mountain and the Palm Beach Kennel Club (PBKC). Later he was CEO and Chairman of the Board for PBKC. He was the son of late Pittsburgh Steelers owner Art Rooney Sr. His brother, Timothy, was inducted to the Living Hall of Fame.

**Perry E. "Buddy" Simpson**, 93, of Fairfield, IL, died Oct 30. Buddy was a horseman, racing and training Standardbred horses from his Battleshoe Farm east of Fairfield. In 2002 he was inducted into the IL Harness Horseman's Hall of Fame. He was also a longtime member of the Union North Cumberland Presbyterian Church, where he served as elder and Sunday school teacher for many years. Buddy's son, Dirk Simpson, races at the Meadows in Pennsylvania and is very supportive of Pastor Joe's ministry there.



**Vincenzo Villante**, 92, of Margate, FL, died Oct. 30.

Vincenzo was born in Italy. As a young man, he traveled to Venezuela to work as a mason. He came to the United States in 1954. He worked as a mason in New Jersey. In 1972 he retired and moved to Margate FL. He owned harness horses that raced at Pompano. He was a man of faith and a parishioner of St. Vincent's Catholic Church in Margate. His daughter and son-in-law, Jake and Rosie Huff, are CHHA members. Jake and Rosie own horses, and Jake is a driver and trainer.



**Patrick Mitchell "Mitch" Vincent**, 68, of Washington CH, OH, died Nov 4. Mitch was an owner trainer and driver of Standardbreds. His family has been in the business of harness racing for three generations. He was a retired routeman and supervisor for Nichols Bakery.



## Obituaries

**Tricia Asselin**, 53, of Auburn, ME, died Oct 25. She was one of the 18 victims of the mass shooting in Lewiston, Maine. Trish was a member of the Maine harness racing community. She was very involved in Make-A-Wish, and was a supporter of the Susan G. Komen foundation and Christmas giving trees. She spent her time with her hobbies and enjoyed working her many jobs.



[Obituaries continued on page 4](#)

### Sources for Obituary information include:

[www.ustrotting.com](http://www.ustrotting.com), [www.harnesslink.com](http://www.harnesslink.com) and [www.Standardbredcanada.ca](http://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, Teresa Hubbard Givens, Holly Graffam, Pastor Bill Grant, Cody Greeno, Margaret Groce, 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, Betsy Krantz, Larry Lederman, Rox Liles, Anabelle Lisi, Tommy Long, Kevin Mack, Ricky Macomber, Nelson Malin, Kim Maples, Wilma Mattuci, Joyceann McClelland, Nelson Miller, Frank Mirahmadi, Paul Molnar, 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, Emily Roper, Daren Richner, Julie Schwartz, Del Smart, Larry Smith, Cheri Stambaugh, 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, Alan Wroblewski, 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, Robin Cino, Melisa Cino, Joan Collins, Anthony Coletta, Chet Crane, Karen Crothers, Richard Dunmire, Anna Farley, Scott Freck, Sylvain Gagnon, Greg Gehman, Richie Gillock, Bob Goth, Barbara and



Brent Graham, Debbie Gray, Bob Jones, 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, 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, Vincenzo Villante, 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:**

Lilly Brown has some health issues.

Ken Fierle has mobility issues.

Georganna's cancer has spread considerably.

Clara Gordon has lost 12 nieces in the last two years.

Larry Lederman's brain tumor is growing again.

Hannah Miller is dealing with a fibroid tumor.

Donna Phillips continues to battle Parkinson's.

Corky Smith has cancer.

Sandy Weiss' sister, Karen, is in Panama where there is much unrest.

Please continue to pray for everyone at Tioga impacted by the recent tragic barn fire.

157 North Main St  
Salem, NH 03079  
USA



Please indicate  
Address corrections



Lillie Brown serves up smiles, laughs and delicious treats in the Preferred Equine Barn



Chris Zazo and Chaplain Lee Alphen  
Chris and his wife, Dana, are faithful  
CHHA members.



CHHA Vice President.  
Greg Gehman, is  
always a blessing to  
CHHA. His faith-filled  
presence was a big  
help at our booth.

**The Harrisburg Sale — Keeping Christ Alive in Harness Racing!**



Tim, Sophia and Meadow Twaddle are a big help to Pastor Joe and his ministry at the Meadows.



Barbara Reed from the  
Standardbred Sales  
Company helps keep  
Dale Welk organized.



Tom Maloney is a  
faithful CHHA  
supporter.



Suzanne D'Ambrose  
is always smiling.  
She is a blessing to  
harness racing. She  
also trains police  
horses?