



Rambling Willie

Keeping Christ Alive in Harness Racing!

Since 1983

In God We Trust



Christian Harness Horsemen's Association Newsletter

August 2024

Remember,
I pray for all
our members
every day.



Chaplain Lee Alphen

Hope

By Chaplain Lee Alphen

A runaway horse escaped heavy rains by ducking into Sydney, Australia's Warwick Farm railway station. Security footage showed the horse, who appeared to be waiting for a train, jogging up and down the platform. Social media users did not think it was the horse's first rodeo suggesting the horse was only horsing around. The horse did seem relieved when someone with a halter showed up and led him up the ramp into a waiting trailer (Epoch Times Bright, 4/20/2024),

Responding to a racket in the dumpster behind the building of an Omaha accounting firm, one of the partners found a puppy in distress. The puppy's head was completely covered with duct tape. His front and back legs and tail were also duct taped. The Nebraska Humane Society sedated him and removed the duct tape and food debris clinging to him. Freed of his restraints, he perked right up and began wagging his tail. Leo and his owner were happily reunited thanks to his microchip (Epoch Times Bright, 4/22/2024).

We read in 1 Corinthians 13:13 that faith, hope, and love continue on into eternity and that the greatest of these is love. Andrew Wommack points out in one of his teachings that, since hope comes after faith and just before love in this passage, it appears hope is more important than faith. Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations (Romans 4:18). What do we hope for?

Our imaginations are always at work. We can fill them with negative thoughts or positive ones. It is our choice. When we watch ungodly

programming on TV, we start our imaginations going down the wrong path. I often have to turn off the news before it brings on negative thoughts. Our country is going through turmoil right now. I believe the most important things I can do to help us get on the right track are to vote for godly candidates and pray, believing God has our backs.

Jesus taught in parables, forming pictures with His words to help people understand His messages. When we meditate on the scriptures, we often form pictures and even videos in our mind's eye. That is, we can watch the story unfold in our imagination. Just reading God's word without really thinking about the story or the message being conveyed may just be reading a bunch of words. When we talk to God in prayer, do we visualize what we are saying, what we are asking for or discussing with God? Or is our mind somewhere else?

God told Abraham, "I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore" (Genesis 22:17 NIV). From then on, Abraham had a vision of God's promise that he could see in his imagination. At night he could look up at the stars and during the day he saw the sand surrounding him.

When I say the word "horse," what image do you conjure up? Now if I say "pacer," does the image in your mind add hoppers to the horse? What flavor do you see when I say ice cream? Do the words "nice juicy steak" pique your interest? When we are focused, it helps us to think in pictures.

In Genesis we read, "The Lord saw how great the wickedness of the human race had become on the earth, and that

Hope cont. on page 2

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

Worry is the
misuse of
imagination.

Dan Zadra

www.upcyclededucation.com

Hope continued from page 1

every inclination of the thoughts of the human heart was only evil all the time. The Lord regretted that He had made human beings on the earth” (Genesis 6:5-6 NIV). The things people were thinking about upset God enough to send the flood. Thankfully God found Noah to be a righteous man who walked faithfully with God and instructed him to build the ark to save himself, his family and every kind of animal.

We don't want God to find us focused only on all the evil that is going on in our world today. There is plenty of good in our own lives, families, country and around the world. It is far better to think about these things, imagining them getting even better with God's help. We can discuss these thoughts with God and allow Him to fine-tune them according to His perfect will. While keeping this prayer in our mind's eye and trusting God, remember, Jesus said, "Whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours" (Mark 11:24 NIV).

Leo and the horse were both delighted to be saved from very stressful circumstances. While we don't know if they actually thought about being rescued, they were certainly happy to be reunited with their people. From the story we know Leo's owner had been frantically searching for him and was very relieved to have found him. Much, much more so, God wants us to be with Him for all eternity.

What do we pray for? How do we pray? Spending time with God is paramount. Don't be shy. Let's give our imaginations over to God. Let God give us the vision in every circumstance. Dream and dream big. "Where there is no vision, the people perish" (Proverbs 29:18 KJV).

Is there turmoil in your life? Stress in your home? Sickness in your family? Financial problems? Or are you seeking God's guidance to help you better do His will? We surely don't want to be dreaming about the negative aspects of any of our struggles. That would be dreaming about the work of the devil. Instead, with God's help we can bring up a picture in our minds of success in each of these instances and focus on God answering our prayers mightily.

I don't know if horses dream of winning races or dogs dream of protecting their people. However, I do know I want to dream of working with God to **Keep Christ Alive in Harness Racing!** I pray God gives me the vision to succeed in everything He sent me here to earth to do. How about you?

Remember hope will not be disappointed (Romans 5:5). Let's be ready when God calls us home.

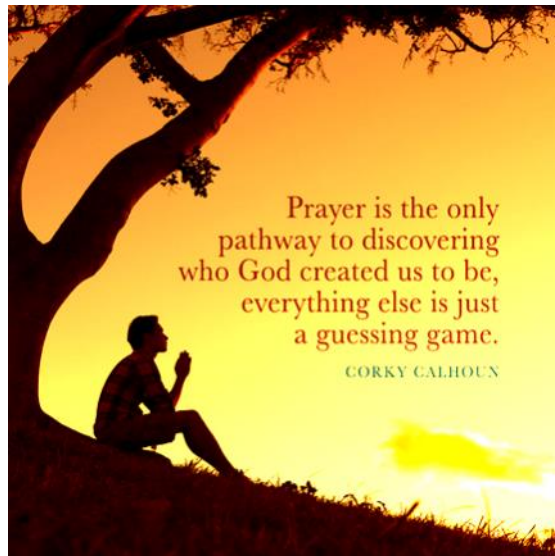
Blessings from God

From Deb Tillia...

Allan is doing well. He celebrated his cancer free diagnosis with a trip to Costa Rica and had a wonderful time.

From Al Terwilliger...

Praise the Lord.... Carol Marentette has had her cancer operation and it was successful. The tumor was Cancer but they got all of it, and the blood test said no cancer is in the blood. Carol has thanked me for asking you for her prayers.



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 **Mark Bradley** by: Dr Bob and Lisa Schwartz
- In memory of **Lois Combs** by: Paul and Loren Combs
- In memory of **Connel Willis** by: Kim Rinker
- In memory of **Doug Lyons** by: Kim Rinker
- In memory of **Dr Vernon James** by: Terry Harp
- In memory of **Harold and Sue Kelly** by: Deb and Jeff Tillia
- In memory of **Larry Lederman** by: Meadowlands Racing and Entertainment
- In memory of **Larry Mayhew** by: Jo-Dee Brown
- In memory of **Mellisa, Meagan and Sam McKee** by: Amy Bondon
- In memory of **John Otrembiak** by: Mary Beth Wing
- In memory of **Paul and Danelda Roberts** by: Ohio Harness Horsemen's Associatoin
- In memory of **Iva Sheets** by: Paul and Loren Combs
- In Honor of **Lucy Shirley** by: Alton and Debra Miller
- In memory of **Gerald Walker** by: Paul and Loren Combs
- In memory of **Walter and Pauline Warrington** by: Steven Warrington
- In memory of **Andy Wood** by: Longshot Stables

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



Books

- God Wants You Well* by Andrew Wommack **New**
- 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.

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 ___ Fuchsia ___ Green ___

Keyring Qty: Red ___ Blue ___ Other cross color _____

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



Obituaries continued from page 5

Earl R. Bean, 87, of Saratoga, died May 25. Earl enjoyed a long and successful career as a Standardbred owner, trainer and driver at Saratoga where he became a well-known and respected figure in the racing community. He was a passionate outdoorsman who also loved golf. He was inducted into the Saratoga Hall of Fame in 2010.



Carmen Cappotelli, 83, of Caledonia, NY, died June 1. Carmen began a career in the drywall business. Then he opened up a stable at the Caledonia Fairgrounds where he started training, racing and breeding horses. In addition to racing in NY Sire Stakes, Carmen loved racing at the county fairs.



Irene Denton Gill, 93, of Pensacola, FL, died May 28.

Irene was a school teacher before marrying Dr Howard Gill. His career took them from Kansas to Indiana, Michigan and Caselton Farms and Louisville before building Pine Bush Equine in the NY Hudson Valley. Irene was an integral part of the veterinary and harness horse business and has always been the solid loving rock of her family. She had the blessing of her Christian faith in Jesus Christ and served as a Sunday School teacher. Dr and Irene Gill were CHHA members.



Dr. Vernon Carmichael James, 81, of Campbell Hall, NY, died May 28. Dr James owned, trained and drove harness horses. He served his country during Vietnam War as a member of the 82nd and 101st Airborne Divisions. As a Green Beret in the 501st Recon, he was awarded two Bronze Stars and a Purple Heart for his bravery and was tortured as a prisoner of war. He earned doctorates in Veterinary Medicine, Pathology and Toxicology and had a distinguished career as a research scientist and a respected professor at Lincoln University.

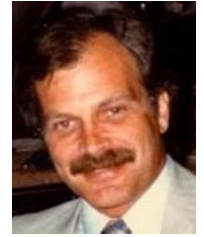
Gerald Latessa Sr., 92, of The Villages, FL, formerly of Cleveland, OH, died recently. Gerald, Sr and his son, Gerald, Jr, owned and trained horses, based mainly at Northfield Park and the Lake County fairgrounds in Painesville, OH. He also worked for Lincoln Electric.

Larry Mayhew, 79, of Windsor, Ontario, died recently. Larry was a big support for the small local race track Leamington (Lakeshore Horse Racing Association). He and his wife Ellie spent countless volunteer hours helping with renovations when it reopened. He loved the horse races and spent many days at the track with his family. Over the years he owned



horses and even jogged one or two.

Robert Scarr, 77, of Asbury, NJ, died June 17. Robert was a one-time member of the Macau Trotting Club and he trained and drove some winners at the Meadowlands. He was also involved in many artistic endeavors, was a Chinese antiques dealer and a passionate guitarist.



James W. Schulte, 78, of Sadieville, KY, died May 30. Jim had a passion for horses and loved to race Standardbreds with his wife and family. He enjoyed spending time at the Red Mile with his friends and family and in the summertime, Jim and his family often spent time at the lake on his pontoon, "Serene." He made a living in the screen printing and embroidery business for over thirty years and was the owner of Sew Fast and Country Embroidery. Jim was a member of Ss. St. Francis and John Catholic Parish.



Lucy Mildred (Donelson) Shirley, 91, of Converse, IN, died January 31. Lucy was passionate about harness racing. She and her husband, Carl, owned and operated Shirley Stables from their farm in rural Converse and maintained stables at the Converse Fairgrounds for decades. Lucy was recognized as an early pioneer in the elevation of women in harness racing. She was retired from the Oak Hill United School Corporation.



Sources for Obituary information include:

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

Obituaries

Michael Wayne Arnold of Keosauqua, IA, died March 16. Mike was a well-respected second-generation Iowa horseman who owned drove, trained and bred harness horses. He later made his mark in Kentucky and then moved north to Chicago. He raced at tracks all over the United States and Canada.



Obituaries continued on page 4

On Meeting the Lord

By Danny Daniel...

Let these deaths remind us Lord to constantly reflect, while we still have the time - to always be good to each other. To be humble, patient, kind, and helpful, so that when our time comes, and You ask us, as in the parable, "what have you done with what I gave you?" we can bring You back 5 and 10 times more than what You gave us and You will be pleased with us. Amen.



*Please send Praise reports,
Articles, testimonies, etc.
for the newsletter.*

Wanted

Submissions can be a few words up to 300 words.

Please send to Chaplain Lee Alphen
leealphen@comcast.net

Or 157 North Main St · Salem, NH 03079

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, Bob Briley, Georgianna Brocco, Jana Brocco, Gary Bryant, Lore Burke, Rick Carson, Barbara Carter, Mike Carter, Sam Castimore, Candice Coleman, Joe Crothers, Danny Daniel, Thomas Daniel, Mike Deeters, Ashley Dennon-Coen, Declan Donaway, Scott Dube, Jerry Eby, Chaplain Tom Farley, Francine Federici, Tiffany Fisher, Katie Folkins, Sarah Gehman, 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, Del Smart, Larry Smith, Cheri Stambaugh, Doug Stringer, Jimmy Takter, Bobbi Tanner, Ellen Taylor, 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:

Dennis Albert, Jason Apperti, Jordan Aracena, Ken Bartels, Ellen Beinhauer, Gary Bennett, John Berry, Peter Blood, Marilyn Bondon, Stephanie Bouchard, Danny Breton, Lillie Brown, Kevin Burns, Mary Burton, Bob Cain, Carol Ann Case, Thelma Chrisman, Robin Cino, Melisa Cino, Anthony Coletta, Chet Crane, Karen Crothers, Richard Dunmire, Anna Farley, Scott Freck, Sylvain Gagnon, Greg Gehman, Sarah Gehman, Richie Gillock, Bob Goth, Barbara and Brent Graham, Debbie Gray, Bob Jones, Kim Hankins, Jimmy Hart, Joyce Hart, Rich Heffington, 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, Diane Long, Katherine Lonager, Diane Long, 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, 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, Dick Terien, Myra and Al Terwilliger, Marsh Townley, Lorraine Truitt, Charlotte Truitt, Phillip Truitt, Mel Turcott, Vincenzo Villante, Justin Vance, Barry Vicroy, Steve Warner, Greggie Welch, Jr, Charles Weiss, Alice Williams, Pat Wilson, 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:

Tyler Angus was hurt in a racing accident.

David Bower, 3, is fighting heart problems.

Glenn Byrd has lung cancer.

Sarah Gehman is still battling liver tumors.

Fran Kopnicky has multiple health issues.

Tony Hall broke some bones in a racing accident.

Ginny Harrison has some special prayer requests.

Pat Lachance has a broken shoulder, fractured ribs and injured spleen from a warm up accident.

JC Napier is battling neck, throat and tongue cancer.

Mike Wilder is recovering from injuries sustained in a racing accident.

Bob Petritis has some health issues.

157 North Main St
Salem, NH 03079
USA



Please indicate
Address corrections



Pastor Bob and Christine Holet

Meadowlands Charity Handicapping Contest

We sent our CHHA VP Greg Gehman and Pastor Bob Holet to represent us at the Meadowlands Charity Handicapping Contest May 25th. We finished up the track only beating New Vocations by a nose. Thank God Jeff Gural agreed to pay all the contestants. Maybe Greg and Pastor Bob should get together with Dot and Charley Morgan and take some handicapping lessons to prepare for next year. Or, if you have some good tips, please pass them along. We will be back—if they’ll have us.. The guys had fun! Praise God!

Final Contest Standings

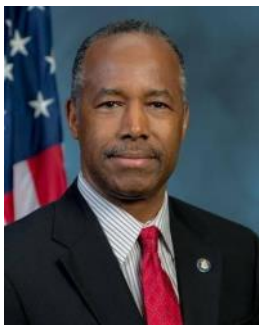
1. \$78.80 Pacing for the Cure
2. \$54.50 ACT Now Foundation
3. \$50.10 North Jersey Friendship House
4. \$49.60 Special Strides
5. \$46.30 Fighting H.A.R.D. Foundation
6. \$44.70 Horse Rescue United
7. \$43.50 Freedom Horse Inc
8. \$37.00 CHHA
9. \$36.30 New Vocations

Quote of the Day By Dr Ben Carson

” If someone asks about your educational background, proclaim boldly that: Church is my college. Heaven is my university. Father God is my counselor. Jesus is my principal. Holy Spirit is my teacher. Angels are my classmates. Bible is my textbook. Temptations are my exams. Overcoming Satan is my hobby. Winning souls for God is my assignment. Receiving eternity is my degree. Praise and Worship are my slogan. If you are a child of God bless you!”

From Lyndel Adamsky

Lyndel sent me this great quote. I checked to make sure it wasn’t copyright and found it all over the internet with sharing options and Dr Carson’s picture.



Jug Prayer Breakfast

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

Join us in the Hospitality tent across from the Log Cabin at 7:30 AM Wednesday, September 18th for a **FREE** breakfast.

God has given Chaplain Lee Alphen a special message to share with everyone. As Roger Huston says, “Be there!” You don’t want to miss this!

Come enjoy a meal and pray with us for good racing and the safety of everyone at the fairgrounds.

