



Rambling Willie

## Keeping Christ Alive in Harness Racing!

Since 1983

In God We Trust



Christian Harness Horsemen's Association Newsletter

August 2017

Remember,  
I pray for all  
our members  
every day.



Chaplain Lee Alphen

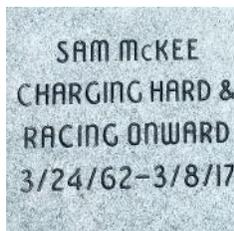
### Board of Directors

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Brick at Goshen Harness  
Racing Museum and  
Hall of Fame

## Roses and Stake Races

By Chaplain Lee Alphen

Some of the rose bushes next to the garage died. One still produced many yellow roses with real short stems. They were too short to put in a vase and enjoy. I ordered six new rose bushes from a catalog and my brother, Chris, transplanted the yellow rose bush to the top of the rock garden. It looks like three of the new bushes are not going to make it. Chris did till the soil with fresh dirt and fertilizer. He waters them faithfully. Actually, this is the third set of bushes. I guess it is not a good spot for roses.



How is your garden growing? More importantly though, how is our faith growing? Jesus explains the parable of the sower in Matthew 13:18-23. Do we really try to understand what God is saying to us in the scriptures or are they just words that we ignore, allowing the evil one to deceive us?

Sometimes we read our bibles, pay attention to the preacher, spend time with good Christian friends and do all we can to help others. Then the evil one distracts us with a curve ball. Sickness, financial struggles or family problems arise. We forget that God is there to see us through whatever hardships come our way and the devil has us right back where he wants us.

Stakes season is here with its lucrative races. The Hambletonian is next month. Then we have the Jug in September. Purses are good at the Meadowlands, Plainridge, in New York and Ohio and at many other tracks during the summer. The Meadows is still doing well. Ah yes, the lure of riches chokes the word of God and prevents it from bearing fruit. Don't get

me wrong, there is nothing wrong with winning the big purses and earning lots of money. We just want to be careful not to let the money become our god.

Not all two year olds will be ready to race this summer. We spend the time to give them a good foundation, training them both on and off the track. We try hard to understand them and work with them so we become a team. However, if we start to see dollar signs and rush them into chasing the purses, we may actually ruin them. We do better when we continue patiently to encourage them to learn their lessons and become the best racehorse possible.

When we spend time with God and truly allow God's word to take root in our hearts, the seed of faith grows and yields a huge harvest. The fruit of a good relationship with God will really carry us far in life and sustain us in ways we never thought possible. Even if now we are like dead wood in barren soil, all we have to do is turn our attention to God.

Acknowledging God at our side, putting our trust in the promises found in God's word, sharing our faith with those around us and reaching out to those in need, we will be blessed in more ways than we could ever imagine.

## Acknowledge God

Fortunately, the seed of faith is less dependent on good soil than my rose bushes are. Look what marvels the Lord accomplished with His disciples! God just needs an invitation. Let's open our hearts and allow God to fertilize our soil as we harvest every good thing God intends for us from this life (James 1:17). Be blessed.

## Blessings

*From Evelyn Johnson...*

Archie Wyatt and his family want to thank CHHA for their prayers. He's back home and doing just as Dr told him to do. He has to walk four times a day and other exercises. He's on the mend and very grateful.

*From Lyndel Adamsky...*

There are good reports on Doug Hinklin. He is awake and understands what happened and can talk with his daughter. *Note: Doug had a heart attack in the paddock at Scioto Downs.*

*From Greg Gehman...*

Danielle's husband brought the kids back from Louisiana. He and Danielle are going to counselling and are looking for a church where they can raise their children. They



### Angels at Work *author unknown*

*Submitted by Jo Dee Brown*

I dreamed that I went to Heaven and an angel was showing me around. We walked side-by-side inside a large workroom filled with angels. My angel guide stopped in front of the first section and said, "This is the Receiving Section. Here, all petitions to God said in prayer are received.

I looked around in this area, and it was terribly busy with so many angels sorting out petitions written on voluminous paper sheets and scraps from people all over the world.

Then we moved on down a long corridor until we reached the second section.

The angel then said to me, "This is the Packaging and Delivery Section. Here, the graces and blessings the people asked for are processed and delivered to the living persons who asked for them." I noticed again how busy it was there. There were many angels working hard at that station, since so many blessings had been requested and were being packaged for delivery to Earth.

Finally at the farthest end of the long corridor we stopped at the door of a very small station. To my great surprise, only one angel was seated there, idly doing nothing. "This is the Acknowledgment Section, my angel friend quietly admitted to me. He seemed embarrassed.

"How is it that there is no work going on here? I asked."

"So sad," the angel sighed. "After people receive the blessings that they asked for, very few send back acknowledgments."

"How does one acknowledge God's blessings?" I asked.

"Simple," the angel answered. Just say, "Thank you, Lord."

"What blessings should they acknowledge?" I asked.

"If you have food in the refrigerator, clothes on your back, a roof overhead and a place to sleep you are richer than 75% of this world."

"If you have money in the bank, in your wallet, and spare change in a dish, you are among the top 8% of the world's

are asking God to help them with their relationship, life and family. Praise God! Thank you Jesus!

*From Annie Bordenkircher...*

Praise from my brother Pastor Lloyd, who has colon, lung & prostate cancers: The doctors said this week the chemo is doing what it is supposed to do. I prefer to give credit to our mighty heavenly physician! Thanks for your continued prayers for his healing.

**Roger Huston** was able to resume his normal hectic schedule calling races at the Meadows and the fairs and then driving to Goshen for Grand Circuit week and the Hall of Fame ceremonies. He suffered a mild concussion from a fall down the stairs at home a week earlier. Praise God! He appears to be doing okay.



wealthy, and if you get this on your own computer, you are part of the 1% in the world who has that opportunity."

"If you woke up this morning with more health than illness.. You are more blessed than the many who will not even survive this day."

"If you have never experienced the fear in battle, the loneliness of imprisonment, the agony of torture, or the pangs of starvation... You are ahead of 700 million people in the world."

"If you can attend a church without the fear of harassment, arrest, torture or death you are envied by, and more blessed than, three billion people in the world."

"If your parents are still alive and still married.... you are very rare."

"If you can hold your head up and smile, you are not the norm, you're unique to all those in doubt and despair....."

"Ok," I said. "What now? How can I start?"

The Angel said, "If you can read this message, you just received a double blessing in that someone was thinking of you as very special and you are more blessed than over two billion people in the world who cannot read at all."

Have a good day, count your blessings, and if you care to, pass this along to remind everyone else how blessed we all are.....

ATTN: Acknowledge Dept.

"Thank you Lord, for giving me the ability to share this message and for giving me so many wonderful people with whom to share it."



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](#)

**New on-line store:** Check out our new on-line store at [www.chha.net/products](http://www.chha.net/products) to select a free gift for your \$20 donation. More items will be added later. Credit card and PayPal donations are accepted.

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

**Gifts**

10 Rambling Willie Note Cards (see picture)

Horseshoe Nail Cross necklaces and key rings and heart bracelets—see below

**Books**

Downloading God by Jack Levine  **New Book**

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

Sound Mouth—Sound Horse, The Gager Method of Equine Dental Care by ER Gager and Bob "Dusty Rhodes"

Still: A Story of the Black Doctor of the Jersey Pines by Edmund R Gager



*Rambling Willie Remembers*

These lovely 5 x 7 Rambling Willie cards are packaged in sets of 10 cards. They are blank inside.

**Horseshoe Nail Heart Bracelets and Cross Necklaces and Keyrings**

**Horseshoe Nail Product Descriptions**

**Bracelet:** Horseshoe nails are bent into a heart and tied together with coordinated wire and attached to a leather strap.

**Key Ring:** Horseshoe nails are bent in to a cross and tied together with color coordinated wire. Key ring is attached with rawhide.

**Necklace:** Key ring: Horseshoe nails are bent in to a cross and tied together with color coordinated wire.

**Horseshoe Nail Item Order Form—Orders can also be placed at [www.chha.net/products](http://www.chha.net/products)**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

**Roger Huston · 225 Fieldbrook Dr · Cannonsburg, PA 15317**



Bracelet Qty: Black / Silver \_\_\_\_ Rawhide /Gold \_\_\_\_ Rawhide / Turquoise \_\_\_\_

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

Keyring Qty: Red \_\_\_\_ Blue \_\_\_\_ Turquoise \_\_\_\_ Silver \_\_\_\_



## Obituaries continued from page 5

**Herve Filion**, 77, died June 22. Herve was a member of the Harness Racing Hall of Fame in both the United States and Canada. He retired in 2012 with a then-North American record of 15,179 victories. "God saw you getting tired and a cure not meant to be," Filion's family said on Facebook. "So he put his arms around you and whispered 'come to me.' Our dad, Herve Filion, crossed the finish line like the champion he is and became our angel today." Born in Angers, Quebec, Filion, came to the United States in 1961 and was the North American victory leader 16 times, earning his first title in 1968 and last in 1990. He had career earnings of \$88.4 million.



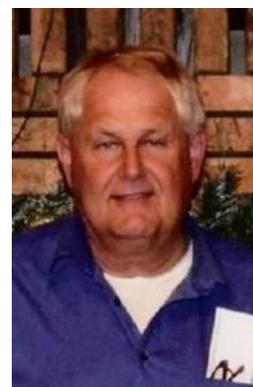
**Dottie Gluhm** died recently. She and her husband, Jim, lived in Trenton, FL and trained horses at Gilchrest Training Center.

**James Timothy "Tim" Hackett**, 63, of Cincinnati, OH died June 14. Tim was the grandson of Hall of Famer Curly Smart. At an early age he spent time with his grandfather and his father as they trained and raced horses around the country. He later followed in their footsteps training and racing himself. He was excited to have raced several times in his hometown of Delaware and was thrilled to have a horse make the final of the Little Brown Jug when he was a trainer for the Montgomery Inn Racing Team. Later, he worked for AMS Construction of Cincinnati for many years.

**John D Hubbell, MD**, 93, of Lima, OH, died June 27. After serving in the US Army Dr Hubbell went on to receive his Bachelor of Science and Doctor of Medicine degrees in 1952. He established an anesthesia practice in Lima, serving the community until his retirement at the age of 77. Dr Hubbell had two great sporting passions -- Buckeye football and harness racing. Dr Hubbell bred, owned and raced trotters throughout his life, usually giving the horses the surname "Adonno" so they would be easy to find in the program. He primarily raced on the Ohio fair circuit. The family would like to thank all of you in harness racing who shared fellowship with them over the years.

**William E. Jacobs**, 88, of Freehold died June 19. William was a rural mail carrier for the US Post Office, Freehold before his retirement. He raced and trained standardbred horses along the east coast for over 50 years.

**Jack Johnson**, 64, of Decatur, IL died March 23. Following graduation from college Jack worked for the Soil Conservation office for his entire career. He was heavily involved in harness racing as part of Johnson Brothers Farm. Jack was a member of the Pleasant Mills United Methodist Church.



**Chris Brewer-Lehman**, 81, of Wilkes-Barre, PA died June 14. While raising her family in the South Fallsburg, N.Y. area, she owned The Brewer Standardbred Agency as an equine genealogist for Standardbred racehorses and employed many in the area. She was owner of many racehorses and sire stakes winners throughout the years. She was president of the United States Harness Writers Association Monticello/Goshen Chapter.



**Rodney Mitchell Jr**, 65, who owned 2007 Hambletonian Oaks winner Danae, died June 21. Rodney was a successful land developer and stable owner. In addition to Danae, he also campaigned Breeders Crown 3-year-old filly pace winner Artcotic. He was the recipient of the 2007 Barasch Memorial Breakthrough Award from the US Harness Writers Association (USHWA) and was a staunch promoter of and fundraiser for the Harness Horse Youth Foundation.

**Marcia Louise Stearns** of Lawrenceville, PA died June 17. She began her career teaching elementary school in Farmington, NH and ended it after teaching for two decades in Yardley. She was elected and served two terms as Town Clerk of Hampstead, NH. Marcia was married for 35 years to the late Bruce Adams Stearns, who served as executive director of the New Jersey Sire Stakes Program. Previously, Bruce was publicity director at harness racetracks, including Liberty Bell in PA and Rockingham in NH. He was elected posthumously in 2002 to the Harness Racing Communicators Hall of Fame.



## Obituaries

**Charlotte L. Bean**, 87, of Lees Creek, OH died May 20. Charlotte was Billy Bean's mother, a member of the Lees Creek United Church of Christ and a devoted homemaker. She loved to play bridge in various clubs. She was a member of the Bayview Book Club, Lees Creek Grange, Farm Bureau, and the Rosie Reds.



**Obituaries continued on page 4**

**Sources for Obituary information include:**

[www.harnessracing.com](http://www.harnessracing.com), [www.ustrotting.com](http://www.ustrotting.com) and [www.standardbredcanada.ca](http://www.standardbredcanada.ca)

## Smile Time by Chaplain Sam Ed Spence

A little girl asked her mother, "Can I go outside and play with the boys?" Her mother replied, "No, you can't play with the boys; they're too rough." The little girl thought about it for a few moments and then asked, "If I find a smooth one, can I play with him?"

*Daily Oats, Day 27*

## Prayer Corner

**Please pray for all the people on our Prayer List who are battling cancer, especially:**

Lew Arsenault, Dan Ater, Debbie Boardman, Jeanne Duso Boudot, Jana Brocco, Gary Bryant, Rick Carson, Karen Carter, Sam Castimore, Candice Coleman, Sharon Cromer, Joe Crothers, John Cross, Mike Deeters, Barbara Dinning, Maryanne Doherty, Jerry Eby, Chaplain Tom Farley, Francine Federici, Tiffany Fisher, Lloyd Fortune, Pastor Bill Grant, Margaret Groce, Remi Gunn, Marilyn Hankins, Warren Harp, Rose Hennessey, Morris Hoagland, Glenda Holloway, Janette Hughes, Jeff Hurst, Betty James, Rita Jacobs, Bob Kinsey, Donnie Knight, Larry Lederman, Rox Liles, Ricky Macomber, Nelson Malin, Tom Maloney, Wilma Mattuci, Joyceann McClelland, Donna McIvor, Mira McKnight, Mrs. Miller, Frank Mirahmadi, Lalya Mosley, Corey Murphy, Howard Nields, Pierre Noel, Jay O'Neil, John Panetta, Dee Parsons, Leigh Raymer, Robyn Rembleski, Emily Roper, Daren Richner, Taila Kapo Rinski, Del Smart, Elaina Storlazi, Doug Stringer, Jack Taylor, Carrie Thompson, Gary Tyron, Butch Ward, Fred Ward Sr., Roland Wardel, Evan Wellwood, Marty Woebkenberg, Maddy Wright, Joyce Zeasapolowski

**These friends are also in need of our ongoing prayers:**

Jason Apperti, Jordan Aracena, Chaplain Kelly Blanton, Gary Bennett, Peter Blood, Marilyn Bondon, Danny Breton, Kevin Burns, Mary Burton, Carol Ann Case, Thelma Chrisman, Mary Clements, Joan Collins, Anthony Coletta, Bev Crane, Karen Crothers, Dale, Dennis Drenth, Jeff Frizzell, Sylvain Gagnon, Greg Gehman, Dr. Howard Gill, Bob Goth, Barbara and Brent Graham, Debbie Gray,



*May the angels  
lead you into paradise*  
Memorials posted at [www.chha.net](http://www.chha.net)

## Memorial Contributions

In memory of **William Bean** by: Dr Bob and Lisa Schwartz  
In memory of **Emmor Baily** by: Jim and Judy Ferguson  
In memory of **Bill Emerson** by: Mike and Jan Carter  
In memory of **Dottie Gluhm** by: Lyndel Adamsky and Mike and Jan Carter  
In memory of **Michael Luchento** by: Amy Bondon  
In memory of **Sam McKee** by: Amy Bondon  
In memory of **Leo McNamara (1st anniv)** by: Cathy McNamara  
In memory of **Loren Proefrock** by: Sam and Ellen Lilly  
In memory of **Andy Wood (2nd anniv)** by: Ken and Betsy Wood  
In memory of **Townsend Dickerson "TD" Van Camp II** by: Dr Bob and Lisa Schwartz



Sherie Hankins, Bob Hilliard, Bob Jones, Doug Haskell, Ruby Hensley, Miguel Hernandez, Paul and Mrs. Hershey, Carol Heusinkveld, Jerry Hissam, John Hostler, Jason Hughes, Jesse Hughes, Don James, Kenny Kane, Barbara Kinsey, Thelma Klark, Michael Klark, Larry Lawter, Sam Lilli, Katherine Lonager, Billy Long, Sharon Lowell, Faye Mackey, Joanne Maiorca, Pedro Martinez, Jr., Melissa MacNeill, Kaye McDonnell, Dean Miller, Raymond Miller, Nancy Miner, Gordon Murphy, Doug Nash, Bill Parker, Elaine Parlin, Ronnie Parker, Waverly Parsons, Susan Parks, Aaron Petternel, Rita Polese, Art Plant, Joanne Ranger, Donnie Richards, Lori Romanetti, Gerald Russell, Tori Scott, Madisyn Smith, Brad Strawser, Lee Anne Taylor, Monica Thors, Marsh Townley, Lorraine Truitt, Mel Turcott, Justin Vance, Max Walton, Steve Warner, Greggie Welch, Jr.

**Please try to keep me updated about the people on our prayer list.**

**Please pray for those serving in the military,** especially Joshua Hankins, Yann Lamiqu, Chris Petruzzo, Sgt David Thomas, and Elizabeth Welch

**Special Intentions for this month:**

Ken Bartels suffered a serious stroke and a massive heart attack leaving him with many disabilities.

Stephane Bouchard has neck injuries.

Ken Carter has been battling a blood infection.

Ambrose Pascucci, Jr was injured falling off a roof.

June Pascucci has serious health problems.

Noreen Paulin has liver issues.

Jimmy Takter's sister, Cathy, was just diagnosed with stage 2 cancer.



157 North Main St  
Salem, NH 03079  
USA



Information at [www.chha.net](http://www.chha.net)

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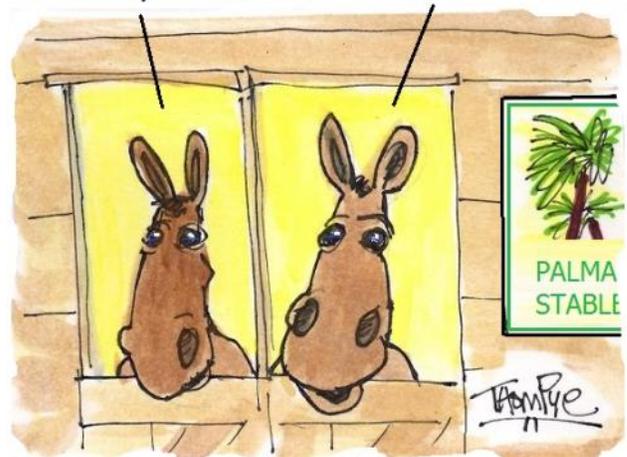
Join us Monday August 7th at Gaitway Farm  
Join us Wednesday September 20th at the Jug

Bruce Ranger's new sport...



Bruce Ranger is still racing with two wheels under him. He recently participated in a two day event to raise money for lung cancer. Way to go Bruce!

So we turned our first mile... how'd you like it?  
I am gonna win the Triple Crown!



Jug Prayer Breakfast  
Wednesday, September 20

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

Breeder Jeff Stacy is sure to inspire us with a great message. Faith Hawes of the Truitt Family assures me, "Pastor Jeff will bless your heart."

Of course, we will praise God with the beautiful music of the Truitt Family. Come and pray with us for good racing and the safety of everyone at the fairgrounds.



New Jersey Event  
Monday, August 7th

Co-sponsored by the Standardbred Owners Association of New Jersey

Join us at Gaitway Farm in Englishtown, NJ Monday, August 7th for lunch and a message from NY Chaplains Humberto and Karen Chavez. Music will be provided by Marybeth DiAngelo and her friends.



NY Racetrack Chaplains  
Humberto and Karen Chavez