



Rambling Willie

**In God We Trust**



**Serving Jesus Christ  
in Harness Racing**



September, 2015

**Christian Harness Horsemen's Association Newsletter**

**Remember...**

I pray for all our members every day.



*Chaplain Lee*

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or ideas please contact:*

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**Needed**

**Praise reports  
testimonies  
other articles  
for our newsletter**

**Be Perfect**

*By Chaplain Lee Alphen*

We want our horses and sports teams to be perfect. We expect perfect service at the restaurant and from our vendors. Matthew tell us, "Be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect" (Matthew 5:48). Are you perfect? Guess what, I'm not there yet.

Some might describe a perfect horse as one that is easy to drive, does everything you ask around the barn and gives 100% in every race.

What does perfection for us look like? Well, God in heaven is perfect. The scriptures teach us how to live perfect lives. Jesus also came and taught us by word and example. Love God and one another (Matthew 22:37-40), including our enemies; forgive seventy times seven times (Matthew 18:21-22); don't worry (Matthew 6:25-34); do unto others as you would have them do unto you (Matthew 7:12); don't judge (Matthew 7:1-5); etc. Then there are the 10 Commandments (Exodus 20:1-17). Some think these are just suggestions.

Do we want to be perfect? Or do we at least want to try to become better people?

"God is love" (1 John 4:8) and "where there is love there is God" (Mother Teresa). The Ten Commandments were given to the Jews to teach them how to love. Jesus gave his followers two new commandments, "Love God," and "love one another." He went on to say that these two commandments sum up everything in the Law and the prophets. (Matthew 22:37-40)

What are we really striving for

here on earth? Is it material things, or fame, or fortune, or perhaps a combination of the three? Actually, my guess is what we all really want is happiness, peace, love and joy. Am I right?

"Sy Miller and Jill Jackson were a husband and wife songwriting team. In 1955 they wrote a song about their dream of peace for the world and how they believed each one of us could help create it - ([www.jan-leemusic.com/Site/History.html](http://www.jan-leemusic.com/Site/History.html))." That award winning song, "Let There Be Peace on Earth," quickly found its way around the world, causing people everywhere to realize peace is the responsibility of each and every one of us. The history of this song on page 2 will really make you smile.

Following the Ten Commandments may seem like drudgery. The message of Jesus may seem too idealistic.

However, when we think about the people that really make a difference in the world, it's the people who think less about themselves and more about loving and helping others. These are the people we respect. They find happiness, peace, love and joy in

living the Gospel message. They are working towards perfection.

An unknown author wrote this little reflection. Janet Sarnie sent it to me from Pompano.

Watch your thoughts; they become words.  
Watch your words; they become actions.  
Watch your actions; they become habits.  
Watch your habits; they become character.  
Watch your character; it becomes your destiny.

Author Unknown



## History of Let There Be Peace on Earth

Sy Miller and Jill Jackson had a dream that each of us could help create world peace. In 1955 they put their dream to music and developed a great plan for rolling it out. Here is what I found at [www.jan-leemusic.com/Site/History.html](http://www.jan-leemusic.com/Site/History.html).<sup>1</sup> "They first introduced the song to a group of teenagers selected from their high schools to attend a weeklong retreat in California. The young people were purposefully from different religious, racial, cultural and economic backgrounds, brought together to experiment with creating understanding and friendship through education, discussion groups, and living and working together in a camp situation. Sy Miller wrote in his own words what happened:

'One summer evening in 1955, a group of 180 teenagers of all races and religions, meeting at a workshop high in the California mountains locked arms, formed a circle and sang a song of peace. They felt that singing the song, with its simple basic sentiment – 'Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me,' helped to create a climate for world peace and understanding.

'When they came down from the mountain, these inspired young people brought the song with them and started sharing it. And, as though on wings, 'Let There Be Peace on Earth' began an amazing journey around the globe. It traveled first, of course, with the young campers back to their homes and schools, churches and clubs. Soon the circle started by the teenagers began to grow.'"

As they say, the rest is history! What a great song! What a great message!

1. <http://www.jan-leemusic.com/Site/History.html>, retrieved August 31, 2015.

## The Four Candles,

The Four Candles burned slowly. Their Ambiance was so soft you could hear them speak...

The first candle said, "I Am Peace, but these days, nobody wants to keep me lit." Then Peace's flame slowly diminishes and goes out completely.

The second candle says, "I Am Faith, but these days, I am no longer indispensable." Then Faith's flame slowly diminishes and goes out completely.

Sadly the third candle spoke, "I Am Love and I haven't the strength to stay lit any longer."

"People put me aside and don't understand my importance. They even forget to love those who are nearest to them." And waiting no longer, Love goes out completely.

Suddenly...A child enters the room and sees the three



## Let There Be Peace on Earth

Let there be peace on earth  
And let it begin with me;  
Let there be peace on earth,  
The peace that was meant to be.

With God our Creator  
Family all are we,  
Let us walk with each other  
In perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me,  
Let this be the moment now;  
With every step I take,  
Let this be my solemn vow:

To take each moment and live each moment  
In peace eternally.  
Let there be peace on earth  
And let it begin with me.

*Copyright 1955 by Jan-Lee Music. Copyright renewed 1983. International copyright secured. All rights reserved. [http://www.jan-leemusic.com/Site/Copyrighted\\_Lyrics.html](http://www.jan-leemusic.com/Site/Copyrighted_Lyrics.html) Printed with permission*



Wikipedia.org Edward Hicks - Peaceable Kingdom.jpg

candles no longer burning. The child begins to cry, "Why are you not burning? You are supposed to stay lit until the end."

Then the Fourth Candle spoke gently to the little boy, "Don't be afraid, for I Am Hope, and while I still burn, we can re-light the other candles."

With Shining eyes the child took the Candle of Hope and lit the other three candles.

Never let the Flame of Hope go out of your life. With Hope, no matter how bad things look and are... Peace, Faith and Love can Shine Brightly in our lives.

*Author Unknown*

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Please return to: leealphen@comcast.net

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**New Books!**

**Choose from these free gifts with your donation**

Live A Life That Matters for God by Jack Levine  (\$25) donation

Bruce Ranger reprints \_\_\_\_\_ qty (free)

My Addict Your Addict by Jack Levine  (\$25) donation

Black tie with harness horse  (\$20) donation

Items available while supplies last

Donations and orders also accepted at [www.chha.net](http://www.chha.net).

## At The Hambletonian

Growing up, Lewis Weitzner learned his Hebrew scriptures from his good Jewish mother. Weldon Stockwell gave him one of our Christian Harness Horsemen's Association New Testaments. Last year, after learning he wore it out from reading it and



Lewis Weitzner with Chaplain Lee Alphen

photocopying pages for friends and co-workers, we gave him a new one. This year we gave him a brand new complete bible with a horse racing cover. Lewis was delighted! Now he can read the words of Jesus and the scriptures Jesus learned as a boy. Now, he's got the whole story.

If you would like a bible, please let me know. I will be happy to send you one.

Richard Policastro is working towards his Amateur Driving license. He wants to drive in the Billings. Amateur drivers donate all their driving fees. Richard picked the Christian Harness Horsemen's Association as his charity.



Julie Working and Richard Policastro

## Obituaries

*Please pray for the families of our harness racing friends:*

**Louis John Babic Jr**, 84, died July 27. Louis received an MBA from Boston University and continued his marketing studies at Harvard. He spent his career as president and CEO of large conglomerate headquartered in Englewood Cliffs, NJ. He inherited a love of horses from his father, Lou Babic Sr., who was the chairman of the Standardbred Breeder and Owners Association of New Jersey. Father and son were also business partners, running the Lou Babic Stables. Each year there is a race in New Jersey memorializing his father, Lou Babic Sr.

Obituaries cont. on page 4

**Wanted  
Praise Reports  
Testimonies  
Articles**  
Please send to Chaplain Lee Alphen  
[leealphen@comcast.net](mailto:leealphen@comcast.net)  
or  
157 North Main St · Salem, NH 03079

**Obituaries continued from page 3**

**Andy Card**, 90, of Billerica MA died Aug 2. Any and his wife Alice and the Chaney's of Dunstable founded the Merrimack Valley Apiaries which is now one of the largest honeybee farm in the nation. In the 60s Andy began a very successful harness racing career. Last year at the age of 89, he owned the fastest 3-year-old mare in Maine, winning the Maine Breeders' State series in 2014, as well as the Massachusetts Championship.



**Jan H. Filer**, 70, of Batavia, NY died Aug 4 at his home. Racing was his life. Jan celebrated 50 years in the business in 2012 driving and training all over the East Coast. He retired from driving Standardbreds in 1999. He continued to train racehorses until 2005. In fact, in his final year of training Mr. Filer went an impressive 10 for 59. His stable that season included the Open trotter Satellite Dish.



**Richard L. Farrington**, 89, of Longwood, Florida passed away peacefully on August 20. Dick, a WWII veteran, married his soul mate, Dorothy in 1953. In 1955, he joined his brother, Bob Farrington, in the family harness racing business. They worked as a team for many years. But in 1973, Dick and Dorothy paired up with Lloyd Arnold and set their sights high for the Grand Circuit. Dick always said his favorite thing was breaking colts and getting them ready for their stake races, and that he did. He did a wonderful job of it bringing along such horses as Warm Breeze, Laag, Iced Tea, Solid Fuel, and Tender Loving Care. Warm Breeze who was not expected to ever race, became the fastest race horse in history in 1977 holding the all-time world record in 1:53.1. In 1979, Tender Loving Care became the fastest female in harness racing history winning in 1:52.4.



**Timothy J. Osborn**, 66, died July 25 at his home in Manasquan, NJ. Timothy and his wife, Bonnie, traveled to the east coast and later pursued their dream of ranching in the Colorado mountains. An inspiration to those who knew him, he loved to share his knowledge of horses, cattle, agriculture and nature.

**James K. "Jim" Powell Jr**, 70, of Mackville, KY died July 29 at his farm. Jim was a farmer, a horseman, an auctioneer and for many years associated with the McElroy, Wharton & Boldrick Company, a director of the Kentucky Harness Horse Association and a talented musician having played in many area bands. Jim was instrumental in the organization of the Mackville Community Center where he served as vice president.



**James R. Rathbone**, 65, of Woodstown, NJ died Aug 8 after a short battle with cancer. He owned, trained and drove Standardbreds. In the 1970s and 1980s he campaigned The Dozer, Wee Janel, Sarah BG and Alan

Quinton, among others. In his later years he enjoyed developing colts in the winter and spending the summers with his grandchildren.

**Richard H. Scott**, 64, of Cookeville, TN died Aug 9 at his home. He spent most of his life traveling all over Eastern United States training Standardbreds.



**Richard Douglas Tortora Jr.**, 28, died August 8 in Marion County, FL in a very unfortunate accident. He was due to graduate from a program in south FL last month. His parents, Rick and Mary are from Citra, FL. Mary was the first female jockey to win a grade one race. His father Rick is a renown blacksmith. Though his focus was thoroughbreds, he has shod many Standardbreds on the farms in the Ocala area.



**Herbert Tyner**, 84, of Bloomfield Hills, MI. and Delray Beach, FL., died on August 20. A Funeral was held at Temple Israel on Sunday, 23 August 2015 at 1:00 PM. Rabbis Harold Loss, Paul Yedwab and Joshua Bennett and Cantorial Soloist Neil Michaels officiated.

**Thomas Luther Wilburn II**, 96, of Smith Oaks, MS, died July 27. He lived all his life at Smith Oaks, which was originally a cotton plantation and had been in the family since 1835. Thomas attended the United States Military Academy at West Point and later graduated from Mississippi State University in 1940. He served as a pilot in the Army Air Corp during World War II. Thomas returned to farming at Smith Oaks in 1943. He began training Standardbreds to supplement his farm income. For 40 years he raced all over the United States winning more than 2,000 races. Thomas was inducted into the Illinois Harness Racing Hall of Fame. He was also a successful commercial cattle farmer and was named Mississippi Cattleman of the year in 1991.

**William M. Woityra**, 75, of Churchville, NY, who purchased world champion trotter JL Cruze as a yearling in 2012 and sold the son of Crazy last November to the current owners, died July 16, after a battle with cancer. William graduated from Cornell University and was a Vietnam veteran, serving with a light helicopter battalion. He worked at Burroughs/Unisys Corporation for 36 years. He bred and owned harness horses in western New York since the late 1970s, racing primarily at Buffalo Raceway and Batavia Downs.

**Andrew "Andy" Wood**, 49, of Denton, MD, died on Monday, July 6 of pancreatic cancer. Andy's dad, Ken Wood, invests his horse's purse money in drilling wells in Africa. According to Ken's website, [www.wellsforghana.org](http://www.wellsforghana.org), they've drilled about 1,000 wells already. Andy was a pump installer for his dad's Denton business, Lifetime Well Drilling. Andy loved boating, crabbing, and the outdoors. He was an excellent photographer and loved flowers and walking with his dogs in the woods.



**From Sam Ed Spence...**

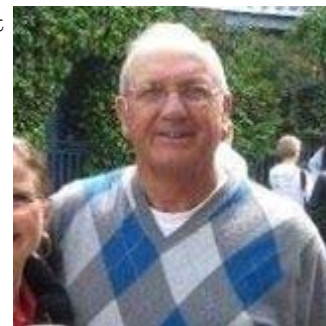
A young soldier fighting in Italy during World War II managed to jump in to a foxhole just ahead of a spray of bullets. He immediately attempted to deepen the hole for more protection. As he was frantically scraping at the dirt with his hands, he unearthed a silver crucifix, obviously left by a previous occupant of the foxhole. A moment later, a leaping figure landed beside him as shells screamed overhead. The soldier turned to see that his new companion was an army chaplain. Holding up the crucifix, the soldier cried, "Am I glad to see you! How do you work this thing?"

On a more serious note, Captain Eddie

Rickenbacker wrote about his World War II experience. While flying on a special mission to the Pacific Islands, his plane crashed. He and his crew were lost at sea for twenty-one days before being rescued. He said, "In the beginning many of the men were atheists or agnostics, but at the end of the terrible ordeal each, in his own way, had discovered God. Each man found salvation and strength in prayer, and a community of feeling developed which created a liveliness of human fellowship and worship, and a sense of gentle peace."

Are you facing a problem today? Start the search for its solution with prayer...never let adversity get you down -- except on your knees.

*\*From God's Little Devotional Book*



Chaplain Sam Ed Spence



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

### Memorial Contributions

In memory of **Mary Russell** by: Paul Russell  
 In memory of **Donald Conrad** by: Roselea Conrad  
 In memory of **Johnny Long** by: Ada Jean Ackerman  
 In memory of **Richard Farrington** by: Vivian Farrington  
 In memory of **Richard Tortora, Jr** by: Amy Bondon

### Prayer Corner

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

Debbie Boardman, Jeanne Duso Boudot, Jana Brocco, Gary Bryant, Rick Carson, Karen Carter, Wayne Cowdry, Margaret Cromer, Sharon Cromer, Janet Dehart, Maryanne Doherty, Jerry Eby, Chaplain Tom Farley, Tiffany Fisher, Margaret Groce, Marilyn Hankins, Rose Hennessey, John Hufford, Betty James, Bob Kinsey, Larry Lederman, Evan Leversage, Rox Liles, Wilma Mattuci, Joyceann McClelland, Mrs. Miller, Corey Murphy, Randy Nix, Pierre Noel, Fran Nori, Jay O'Neil, Dee Parsons, Jim Raymer, Robyn Rembleski, Del Smart, Jimmy Sommers, Doug Stringer, Jack Taylor, Gary Tyron, Fred Ward Sr., Alice Wardman, Evan Wellwood, Marty Woebkenberg, Chaplain Yurian, Joyce Zeasapolowski

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

Chaplain Kelly Blanton, Gary Bennett, Peter Blood, Marilyn Bondon, Gaetane Breton, Kevin Burns, Mary Burton, Carol Ann Case, Thelma Chrisman, Joan Collins, Anthony Coletta, Dale, Harold Dancer, Dennis Drenth, Nora Fenner, Sylvain Gagnon, Dr. Howard Gill, Bob Goth, Barbara and Brent Graham, Debbie Gray, Harry Harvey, Bob Hilliard, Bob Jones, Nancy Haskell, Ruby Hensley, Miguel Hernandez, Paul and Mrs. Hershey, Carol Heusinkveld, Jerry Hissam, Donna Holterman, John Hostler, Jesse Hughes, Don James, Thelma Klark, Kenny Kane, Katherine Lonager, Billy Long, Sharon Lowell, Faye Mackey, Joanne Maiorca, Tom Malibashka, Pedro Martinez, Jr., Melissa MacNeill, Kaye McDonnell, Dean Miller, Raymond Miller, Gordon Murphy, Margaret Nields, Bill Parker,

Elaine Parlin, Ronnie Parker, Waverly Parsons, Susan Parks, Aaron Petternel, Rita Polese, Joanne Ranger, Donnie Richards, Gerald Russell, Tori Scott, Madisyn Smith, Brad Strawser, Tony, Lee Anne Taylor, Marsh Townley, Lorraine Truitt, Mel Turcott, Steve Warner, Sandy Weiss, Greggie Welch, Jr., Bill and Lucille Wick

**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 and Elizabeth Welch

**Special Intentions for this month:**

Pastor Bill Grant has a very rare type of cancer in the sinus passages. They keep finding air or blood clots on the brain requiring surgery.

John Campbell has a broken wrist.

Shawn Gray suffered a concussion and brain bleed in a multi horse pile up at Buffalo.

Doug Haskell has a pulmonary edema in his chest, a blood clot on the back of his leg and other health issues.

Sam Lilli had a heart attack and emergency triple bypass.

Melonie was recently operated on for a brain tumor.

Sam McKee hurt his shoulder.

Melissa McKee is recovering from a stroke.

Ron Peirce had back surgery.

Daren Richner has a tumor on his brain the size of an orange.

It is Rose Villante had a stroke.

*Brenda Watson's mom* fell and broke her hip.

Please pray for rain for the people in our Mexico Mission who are losing their corn crop. Let's also pray for the people everywhere who are struggling with weather issues and natural disasters.



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Salem, NH 03079  
USA



Please indicate  
Address corrections

Contact Chaplain Lee for information

*From Kim JanTausch ...*

Thank you for your prayers for Torie Scott who is recovering from an unexplained coma. After several weeks, she opened her eyes and put out her tongue and raised her arm as the Doc requested. And when kissed good bye and told "I love you" by her husband, she mouthed it back. PRAISE THE LORD, THANK YOU, JEUS!!!! Matt 18: 19-20. She continues to do more each day.

*From Chaplain Ken Carter...*

Karen got a good report from the cancer doctor. She goes back in 4 months. Thanks for your prayers. (Chaplain Ken will be sharing his testimony at our Jug Prayer Breakfast.)



Photo by Linscott Photos

Brett Miller drove JK Endorfanara to win the Dan Patch Aug 14 at Hoosier Park. After the race, Brett said, "The race didn't quite shape up like I thought it would. Heading up the backside I was just a little worried. In the middle of the last turn I said: It's just up to God now because we were buried on the rail, we had no shot and then things opened up." Praise God, the path cleared just like Red Sea allowing Brett and JK Endorfanera to weave their way to the finish line first.

## Praise Reports



*From Kirby Clark...*

Betty Wogoman has been cancer free for six months!

*From Kaye McDonnell ...*

Prior to my heart surgery, I could hardly walk or think rationally. I am now steadily improving every day. Thank you for all your prayers.

*From Mrs Anonymous...*

Mr Anonymous saw his urologist and his numbers are down some so the doctor said he will see him again in 3 months. We feel relief for the time being anyway. Sending thanks to everyone for their prayers.

*From Annie Borden...*

The Lord was with me through my entire oral surgery.



## Jug Week Prayer Breakfast!

**When: Wednesday, September 23, 2015**

**7:30 AM to 8:30 AM**

**Where: Backstretch Hospitality Tent on the Delaware Co. Fairgrounds, Delaware, OH (across from the Log Cabin)**

**Register at [www.chha.net](http://www.chha.net) or in the log cabin (so we will know how many eggs to cook)**

***Plan to join us—it's FREE!***