



Rambling Willie  
**In God We Trust**



Serving Jesus Christ  
in Harness Racing



April, 2016

Christian Harness Horsemen's Association Newsletter

Remember...



I pray for all our  
members every day.

*Chaplain Lee*

### Board of Directors

Chaplain Lee Alphen  
Racetrack Ministry

Amy Bondon, President

Greg Gehman, Vice President  
Knight's Landing Stable

Roger Huston  
The Meadows  
Little Brown Jug

Lori Romanetti  
Moshannon Stables

*For newsletter questions  
or ideas please contact:*

*Lee Alphen, Editor*

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

603-898-1927

603-401-7271 (cell)

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



This edition  
of the  
newsletter is  
published in  
memory of  
Donna  
Holterman.

Rest in peace Donna.

## He Is Risen!

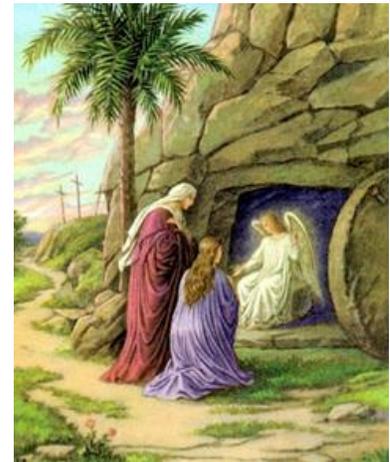
*By Chaplain Lee Alphen*

Everything went as planned. The suffering and the cross were right on schedule. The job was done – almost. After three days, Jesus rose from the dead. Now, everything has been accomplished. Our sins are forgiven! Praise God!

The women went to the tomb in sorrow. The one they loved had died. However, their spirits soared at the words of the angels, “Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but has been raised.” They remembered Jesus told them he would rise on the third day. Suddenly it all made sense. They knew in their hearts it was true. (Luke 24:1-7)

In response, they ran and told the others who thought they were talking nonsense. Peter and the other disciple however, ran to the tomb and went home amazed. (Luke 24:8-12)

How do we feel? In our hearts, our spirits tell us this is true. Jesus is alive! Paul reminds us hundreds saw Jesus after the resurrection (1 Corinthians 15:6). Scripture provides accounts of the wounds in His hands, feet and side and many stories from witnesses.



Now what about us, today? Do we understand? "For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God" (1 Corinthians 1:18).

Yes, our sins are forgiven. Can we forgive others? The disciples kept the message of the Gospel alive even in the face of death. With God's help we too can live the “Good News” sharing Christ's love with those around us.

Yes, Jesus is risen! He is alive in our hearts! He lives on through us. Praise God! Alleluia!



*Easter  
Blessings!*

## Praise Reports



Decoupling was defeated in the Florida legislature. That means racing will continue at Pompano for at least this year. Praise God!

*From Amy Bondon...*

Paralyzed jockey, Remi Gunn, found a surgeon at Shands, The University of Florida at Gainesville Hospital, who may be willing to perform life saving surgery for her. Please keep praying.

*From Lyndel Adamsky...*

We have seen the goodness of the Lord with Mom (Peggy)- she was discharged this week from the home nurse and the rehab nurse and is getting stronger & better every day. With God all things are possible.

*From Joan Harp...*

Thank you for the prayers. Maddie Rose is feeling better.

### Smile Time: from Chaplain Sam Ed Spence

A Sunday school teacher said to her children, "We have been learning how powerful kings and queens were in Bible times, but there is a Higher Power. Can anybody tell me what is is?"



One child blurted out, "Aces!"

## CHHA Scholarships



The Christian Harness Horsemen's Association will be awarding two scholarships for the 2016/2017 school year.

- \$1,000 John and Janet Klark Memorial Scholarship
- \$350 Rambling Willie Scholarship

The application form is now available on our website at [www.chha.net](http://www.chha.net). Applications must be postmarked by April 30.

## Two Horses *Author Unknown*

Just up the road from my home is a field, with two horses in it. From a distance, each horse looks like any other horse.

But if you get a closer look you will notice something quite interesting... One of the horses is blind.

His owner has chosen not to have him put down, but has made him a safe and comfortable barn to live in. This alone is pretty amazing.

But if you stand nearby and listen, you will hear the sound of a bell. It is coming from a smaller horse in the field.

Attached to the horse's halter is a small, copper-colored bell. It lets the blind friend know where the other horse is, so he can follow.

As you stand and watch these two friends you'll see that the horse with the bell is always checking on the blind horse, and that the blind horse will listen for the bell and then slowly walk to where the other horse is, trusting he will not be led astray.

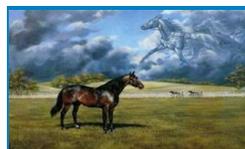
When the horse with the bell returns to the shelter of the barn each evening, he will stop occasionally to look back, making sure that the blind friend isn't too far behind to hear the bell.

Like the owners of these two horses, God does not throw us away just because we are not perfect. Or because we have problems or challenges.

He watches over us and even brings others into our lives to help us when we are in need.

Sometimes we are the blind horse, being guided by the little ringing bell of those who God places in our lives.

And at other times we are the guide horse, helping others to find their way



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

### Memorial Contributions

In memory of **Harold "Sonny" Dancer** by: Louise Dancer, Meadowlands Racetrack, Bayonne Winners OTW, Tioga Downs, Vernon Downs, Robert and Joyce Schwarz and Standardbred Owners Association of New York

In memory of **Brice Gordon** by: Clara Young-Gordon

In memory of **Walter "Boots" Dunn** by: Pastor Joe DiDonatto and John & Judith McMullen

In memory of **Margaret Seitz** by: Elizabeth Cain

In memory of **Pat Hall** by: Ann and Frank Utter

In memory of **Weldon and Nancy Stockwell** by: Donald Osborn

In memory of **Dick Macomber** by: Peter Blood

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

Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

OR

CHHA  
157 North Main St.  
Salem, NH 03079

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_

**To Donate Now—Click here**

You can also request items below with on line donations.

**Choose a Free Gift with your donation**

**Gifts**

10 Rambling Willie Note Cards (pictured below)  (\$20) donation

Horseshoe Nail Cross—see below

Black Tie with harness horse—boxed  (\$20) donation

Unique Forged Items—visit [www.chha.net/forged-items](http://www.chha.net/forged-items)

**Books**

*Live A Life That Matters for God* by Jack Levine  (\$20) donation

*My Addict Your Addict* by Jack Levine  (\$20) donation

*Where the Rubber Meets the Road with God* by Jack Levine  (\$20)

*Don't Blow It With God* by Jack Levine  (\$20) donation *While supplies last*



*Rambling Willie Remembers*

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

**Horseshoe Nail Crosses and Keyrings**

Horseshoe Nail Cross

**Necklaces and Keyrings**

are now available

People love these beautiful handmade horseshoe nail crosses. The keyrings are every bit as beautiful as the necklaces. They work well for those who prefer not to wear jewelry.

Roger Huston is selling them to benefit the Christian Harness Horsemen's Association. The cross necklaces are available in red and blue. The keyrings are silver. They make great gifts for a donation of only \$20.

Complete and mail the order form to the right to Roger and he will send you your crosses.

100% of the proceeds of these beautiful crosses will go to the Christian Harness Horsemen's Association. Thank you Roger!!!



Roger Huston



Crosses measure about 2 inches

**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

**Horseshoe Nail Cross  
Order Form**

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

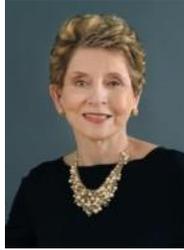
Necklace Qty: Red \_\_\_\_ Blue \_\_\_\_

Keyring Qty: Silver \_\_\_\_

Mail with \$20 + \$4 shipping to:  
**Roger Huston**  
225 Fieldbrook Dr  
Cannonsburg, PA 15317

## Obituaries continued from page 5

**Carol Dauplaise**, 77, of NYC died Feb 29. Carol was the mother of horseman Jeff Dauplaise and widow of the late horseman Norman Dauplaise. She began her career in the jewelry business as a receptionist and with steadfast determination inched her way to become president of the Miriam Haskell Jewelry Company. Still a force to be reckoned with, in 1978, she was driven to strike out on her own and opened Carol Dauplaise Limited with a single salesperson and one design assistant. Today, the multi-million-dollar company employs over fifty people in Manhattan and many others in factories all over the world.



**Robert "Bob" Duncan**, 84, died Feb 19. Bob trained and drove horses at The Red Mile and Louisville Downs in the 1970s and '80s and in more recent years drove the starting car at The Red Mile meets. He held the rank of first sergeant in the U.S. Army, and served on the Lexington Police Department from 1958-1982 and on the Fayette County Sheriff Department. Bob and his colleague, the late Bill Napier, became interested in harness racing and partnered on several horses together over the years, with both training and driving.

**Amy L. Gerber**, 65, of Jackson, NJ passed away Feb 15. Amy worked for the State of New Jersey as Senior Veterinarian at Freehold Raceway for over 25 years. She was an active member of the Jackson Township Chapter of the Lyme Disease Association. Born and raised in Philadelphia, she lived in Lakewood before moving to Jackson 1987.

**R Craig Kelley**, 72, of rural Alexis, IL, died Feb 26. Craig and his wife Kathy were proud owners of Kelley's Finish Line Farm in Alexis. From breeding, to training, to driving, he loved horses. Craig was also a talented basketball player, playing all through high school and college. He started his 30 year teaching and coaching career in 1966. He loved teaching his students, maintaining many long term friendships with several former students.

**Michael P McDonald**, 51, of Batavia, NY, died March 4 after a lengthy illness. In 1984, he took over as the publicity director of Batavia Downs Racetrack, which was then owned by his mother, Barbara Samberg (who was the first female Director of the USTA) and his aunt, Donna Warner, after the passing of their father, Pat Provenzano, who founded the track in 1940. When the track was eventually sold to Western Regional Off Track Betting in 1998, Michael stayed on staff and became the facilities operations manager and inter-track wagering manager and served in both capacities until 2006.



**Stephen A Oliwa Jr**, 56, of Cape Coral, FL died Feb 25. The lifelong trainer/driver of standardbred race horses ended his career with 1,085 wins and over \$4 million in purses. His best years were 1991 when he had 169 wins and 1999 when his charges earned \$500,000. His easy going demeanor always made him extremely popular with his peers. Later in life, he was the owner of A&A Prompt Removal, a demolition and service company.



**Archie D Peel**, 72, of Newark, DE, died March 3.

He graduated from the University of Delaware and proudly served his country during the Vietnam War. Archie loved animals, especially horses, and was a dedicated trainer, driver, owner, and breeder of Standardbreds for more than 50 years. He also enjoyed boating and water skiing on the Elk River in his younger years.



**Margaret Ann (Neft) Seitz**, 67 of Tenstrike, MN died Jan 28. Margaret was employed by the State Department of Health as a Quality care auditor. After 28 years she retired January 12, 2016. She loved being a caretaker, whether it be for her patients, friends or family. She always looked forward to watching her son John race. Margaret was Kathy Gerasimof's sister.



**Grove Stimer**, 87, of Parma, OH died Feb 8 at the Jackson County Medical Care Facility. He was a member of the Michigan Harness Racing Hall of Fame. "When he retired, it was kind of the end of horse racing as we know it," said Nick Picciotti, whose stepfather, Kim Pluta, is Stimer's grandson. "He declined in health after that. That was literally what was keeping him alive." At his 120-acre farm on Chapel Road in Spring Arbor Township, Stimer tended to as many as 50 horses. All their names began with his initials, GS. Grove was a farmer who loved raising and racing horses.



**Duane Louis Stivale** died March 1 after a courageous battle with cancer in Boynton Beach, FL. Duane was very active in the racing community. He enjoyed racing cars when he was younger and in the late '70s he ventured into horse racing. He enjoyed working with the horses until the very end.

**Dr Charles E Whitmer Jr**, 73, of Rochester, NY died March 1. Charles was a graduate of Michigan State University and received his Doctorate in Dentistry from Case Western Reserve University. He was an avid owner and trainer of Standardbreds for more than 50 years.

## Obituaries

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

**John F. Bovi**, 71, of Sherrill, NY, died Feb 21. John was a graduate of Rome Free Academy and attended Austin Peay University on a football scholarship. Prior to his retirement, Mr. Bovi was a mason and a proud member of the Brick Layers and Allied Craftsman Union Local #2. For over 40 years Mr. Bovi owned, trained and drove harness race horses at Vernon Downs and other race tracks across New York.



**Patricia Chrisman**, 87, of Paducah, KY, died Feb 17. She and her husband, Ambrose, raised, trained and raced Standardbreds for several decades. They primarily raced in Kentucky and Illinois, but in the 1960s also raced in New York.

**Harold "Sonny" Dancer**, 80, of Freehold died March 6.

## 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, Ginny Chudoba, Sharon Cromer, Janet Dehart, Maryanne Doherty, Jerry Eby, Chaplain Tom Farley, Tiffany Fisher, Sharon Fry, Pastor Bill Grant, Margaret Groce, Marilyn Hankins, Rose Hennessey, Morris Hoagland, Betty James, Rita Jacobs, Bob Kinsey, Donnie Knight, Larry Lederman, Evan Leversage, Rox Liles, Ricky Macomber, Leo Macnamara, Nelson Malin, Wilma Mattuci, Joyceann McClelland, Donna McIvor, Mira McKnight, Leo McNamara, Mrs. Miller, Corey Murphy, Randy Nix, Pierre Noel, Jay O'Neil, Dee Parsons, Robyn Rembleski, Daren Richner, Del Smart, Elaina Storlazi, Doug Stringer, Beverley Sweeney, Jack Taylor, Carrie Thompson, Gary Tyron, Butch Ward, Fred Ward Sr., Alice Wardman, Evan Wellwood, Marty Woebkenberg, Joyce Zeasapolowski

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

Jason Apperti, Chaplain Kelly Blanton, Gary Bennett, Peter Blood, Marilyn Bondon, Danny Breton, Gaetane Breton, Kevin Burns, Mary Burton, Carol Ann Case, Thelma Chrisman, Joan Collins, Linda Conlon, Anthony Coletta, Bev Crane, Dale, Dennis Drenth, Jeff Frizell, Sylvain Gagnon, Greg Gehman, Dr. Howard Gill, Bob Goth, Barbara and Brent Graham, Debbie Gray, Harry Harvey, Bob Hilliard, Bob Jones, Doug Haskell, Nancy Haskell, Ruby Hensley, Miguel Hernandez, Paul and Mrs. Hershey, Carol Heusinkveld, Jerry Hissam, John Hostler, Jesse Hughes, Don James, Kenny Kane, Thelma Klark, Sam Lilli, Katherine Lonager, Billy Long, Sharon Lowell, Faye Mackey, Joanne Maiorca, Tom Malibashka, Pedro Martinez, Jr., Melissa MacNeill, Kaye McDonnell, Melissa McKee, 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, Lori

He was a trainer/driver since 1954 from the esteemed 'Dancer' family. In 1954 Sonny won his first race at Freehold Raceway and Yonkers behind Toodles Hanover. Sonny trained and drove many top level horses. He broke and trained the 1972 two-year-old World Champion Pacing Colt, Ricci Reenie. Sonny and the colt went on to capture many stakes races including the 1973 Adios. One mare that was his sentimental favorite was his Open pacing mare, Get Over Lil, whom he conditioned for his daughter Linda. Anyone who was fortunate enough to know Sonny could tell you that his word was his bond and he did business on a handshake. He was a true gentleman and a true horseman. Sonny enjoyed farming when he wasn't training his horses.



**Obituaries continued on page 4**



Romanetti, Gerald Russell, Tori Scott, Madisyn Smith, Brad Strawser, Lee Anne Taylor, Marsh Townley, Lorraine Truitt, Mel Turcott, Justin Vance, Max Walton, Steve Warner, Reggie 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 Petruccio and Elizabeth Welch

**Special Intentions for this month:**

Pray for the horsemen and women impacted by the South Florida Training Center fire.

Please pray for all those affected by the severe floods, tornados and other natural disasters.

**Joe Adamsky** has some equilibrium problems.

**Linda Condon**, Sonny Dancer's daughter, cared for him during his lengthy illness. His death is a big loss.

**Jeff Frizzell**, late 30s or early 40s. He has Hep C from the treatment for childhood leukemia. The Hep C damaged his liver and he is praying for a new one.

**Ann Huffman** recently cracked her sternum in an auto accident. Now she has pneumonia.

**Remi Gunn**, the paralyzed jockey, may have an option – please pray.

**Karen** fell and broke her scapula.

**Karen Carter** had a stroke.

**Karla** is having some bad days with her cancer treatments.

**Michael Klark** has Hep C from hemophiliac drugs. He is now bleeding internally.

**Larry Lawter** has blood clots.

**Linda** has a tumor on her esophagus.

**Melissa** is still estranged from family. Please pray she finds the Lord.

**Peggy Jones** recently had eye surgery.

**Leigh Raymer** has melanoma on her thigh.

**Alice Samartis**, 64, - her cancer returned.

**Roland Wardel** has brain cancer.



157 North Main St  
Salem, NH 03079  
USA



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

Please indicate  
Address corrections

# Greetings from Pompano Park



**Yves and Lyse Breton, Dan Clements, Jake Huff and Bill Gavin**

At the Thursday night Bible Study in the Florida Breeders Building, we heard in the story of the Transfiguration, God tell us to listen to Jesus. Then in the Lord's prayer we were encouraged to lift our minds and hearts to God in faith and to pray for God to supply all our needs. We also realized it is important to forgive others so that God can forgive us. The faithful remnant at Pompano was joined by Yves and Lyse Breton. It was great to meet them since Lyse and I have been communicating and praying through email.

Larry Lawter, who has been leading the Pompano Park Bible Study, has been in and out of the hospital with blood clots. Lucille Wick has been keeping the weekly meeting alive. On the spur of the moment Lucille, Bicycle Dave and Charlie used something Lyndel Adamsky sent on Psalm 91 to direct their discussion. Lucille now has a Bible Study Guide on Christian Beliefs.



**Lucille Wick and Jake Huff**



When Dan Clements goes to post, he proclaims the King of Kings and Lord of Lords with the quote from Revelation 19:16 engraved on his race bike.



**Peter Blood and Mike Stevenson**

Peter Blood looks great. He thanks you for all your prayers. I promised Mike Stevenson I would say "hi" to all his PEI friends for him. "Hi!"



**Amy Alexander, Jail House Lawyer and Diane Helen**



**Leopold Sawyers and My Reveneur**



Tim Finley joined me on the golf cart as we traveled the stable area praying for the people in all the barns. It was great to see many of our members.