



Rambling Willie

Keeping Christ Alive in Harness Racing!

Since 1983



In God We Trust

Christian Harness Horsemen's Association Newsletter

July 2016

Remember,

I pray for all our members every day.



Chaplain Lee Alphen

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Chaplain Lee Alphen

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Roger Huston
The Meadows and Little Brown Jug

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For newsletter questions or ideas please contact:

Lee Alphen, Editor

leealphen@comcast.net

603-898-1927

603-401-7271 (cell)

Wanted
Praise Reports
Testimonies
Articles

Please send to Chaplain Lee Alphen
leealphen@comcast.net
or

157 North Main St · Salem, NH 03079



This edition of the newsletter is published in memory of Doug Ackerman. Rest in peace Doug!

I'm Amazed!

By Chaplain Lee Alphen

Wait until you see the faith statements, accomplishments and dreams of this year's scholarship recipients! I was so blown away reading their applications that I appealed to one of our members who made a nice donation so we could help more students. You too will be amazed with these hard-working kids from harness racing families.

As I sat on the deck marveling at the fast growing tomatoes, basil, mint and parsley and enjoying all God's creation around me, I began to think about all the amazing people in harness racing and our CHHA partners in ministry.

Reading through the Gospels, there are only two times where Jesus is amazed. Both have to do with someone's faith. The first is when Jesus went home to Nazareth. He amazed the people with his teaching and because of his reputation for healing. Yet because they knew him when he was a kid they refused to believe Jesus was anything special. Jesus was so amazed at their lack of faith that He didn't do many miracles there (Matthew 13:58 and Mark 6:5-6).

After speaking to everyone on the mountainside (Luke 6:12-49), Jesus went to Capernaum. A centurion there—that is, a Roman soldier—sent some Jewish elders to Jesus asking Him to come and heal his young servant who was sick and about to die (Luke 7:2-3). Generally Roman soldiers did not really care much about their servants. This centurion was different.

Understandably, Jews stayed away from the Romans, especially Roman soldiers. However, the centurion did not hesitate to ask the Jewish elders to speak to Jesus on his behalf. They gladly went to Jesus and begged him to help their

Gentile friend who actually built their synagogue (Luke 7:4). This Gentile made a sizable donation to give the people a decent place to worship God. He chose to participate in what God was doing and to help others grow in their faith.

Jesus was convinced. He went with them and was almost at the man's house when the centurion's servants came running with another message from their master. Even in his grief, the centurion, aware of Jewish religious customs, did not want to make Jesus have to enter a Gentile house. The centurion, humbly sent the message, "I do not deserve to have you come" to my house (Luke 7:7).

In perfect faith he had his

servants explain how he tells those under his authority to "go and they go" or "to come and they come" (Luke 7:8). They relayed the message from the centurion for Jesus to just "say the word and my servant will be healed" (Luke 7:8). The centurion trusted Jesus 100%.

When Jesus heard this he was amazed at him, and turning to the crowd that followed Him, he said, "I tell you, not even in Israel have I found such faith" (Luke 7:9).

The centurion believed in Jesus even though he never met him or heard him preach. He just simply trusted Jesus to heal the servant whom he loved. "Then the men who had been sent returned to the house and found the servant well" (Luke 7:10).

So, is Jesus "amazed" with our faith? If not, what has to change? Faith is a gift from God to us. As with all the gifts God gives us, the more we use it, the more it grows. Remember, I was so amazed with our scholarship candidates, I had to raise additional funds so we could bless them more. I pray Jesus is even more amazed with your faith.



From Gary Cartwright...

Chaplain Omar Aracena's daughter, Jordan, is stable and they took the IV away, the tube from her back surgery and they extubated her from the ventilator that was assisting with her breathing. Also the meningitis test results keep coming back negative; that is after a week of positive test results for the infection. All of them are great signs of improvement, so thank you for your prayers. Omar and Betsy appreciate your support very much. Thanks for keeping her on the prayer list. She is a miracle baby so far and they are a wonderful Christian family.

From Jennifer Brown...

We had our first grandson born on Monday the 23rd, to our daughter and son in law. Chase David McCown and mommy are doing well. God bless, Jennifer

From Jeff Frizell who got a new liver...

"Thank you for all of your thoughts and prayers. They were answered. " Interrupted by a few tears..."I was never much of a believer before but how could I not be now?"

Praise the Lord! Jeff got a new liver. Thank you Jesus. Thank you for your prayers! I asked for prayers for Jeff in December. At that time, he was really failing and was not a candidate for liver transplant because he has Hepatitis C which he got from a blood transfusion because of childhood leukemia. That was before they screened the blood. Anyway, we began praying. In March I learned he had a new doctor who put him on the transplant list and said he would be able to cure the Hepatitis C. That was a miracle. Now he has a new liver that he seems to be tolerating well. This is a huge miracle. Thank you so much for your prayers. Please continue to pray for him and also for Michael to be cured from Hepatitis C.

From Kim Hankins...

Everything went well in Sherri's surgery and her post-op follow up went well also. Thanks for the support!

Blessings



Madi and Chase David McCown
Brian and Jennifer Brown's
grandchildren

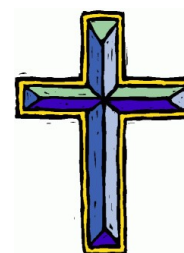


Jeff, Joannie and Michelle Frizell



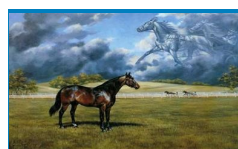
Kim and Sherri Hankins

**Avoiding God
because
you've made
mistakes...**



**Is like avoiding
the Doctor
because you
got sick...**

**You're running from the exact
person you need.** *David Alan Campbell*



*May the angels
lead you into paradise*
Memorials posted at www.chha.net

Wanted

Praise Reports – Testimonies – Articles

Praise reports, testimonies and articles can be a few words or up to 350 words.

Please send to Chaplain Lee Alphen,
leealphen@comcast.net

Or
157 North Main St · Salem, NH 03079

Memorial Contributions

In memory of **Sharron Adams** by: Michael Carter, All and Kendra Casselman, Grace Clearwater, Jerry and Billie Haws, Charlie and Dot Morgan, Ohio Harness Horesmen's Association and Michael Soehnlén

In memory of **Donnie Conrad** by: Roselea Conrad

In memory of **Harold "Sonny" Dancer** by: Larry and Joan Martin

In memory of **Dick Macomber** by: Larry and Joan Martin

In memory of **Dick Taylor** by: Susan and Alan Finn

In memory of **Francis Smith Tridico** by: Heaven is Easy Ministries

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Salem, NH 03079

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[To Donate Now—Click here](#)

Choose a Free Gift with your donation



Rambling Willie Remembers

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

Gifts

10 Rambling Willie Note Cards (see picture) (\$20) donation

Horseshoe Nail Cross necklaces and key rigs—see below

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

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

Sound Mouth—Sound Horse, The Gager Method of Equine Dental Care
by ER Gager and Bob "Dusty Rhodes" (\$20) donation **new book**

Horseshoe Nail Cross Necklaces and Keyrings

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.



Roger Huston



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

**Horseshoe Nail Cross
Order Form**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Necklace Qty: Red ____ Blue ____

Keyring Qty: Silver ____

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

Obituaries (Cont.)

Dr Gordon Gilbertson, DVM, 95, of Kent County Ontario, died. Dr Gilbertson's hands on training and driving experience and treating horses as a veterinarian helped him revolutionize the way horses are tied into jog carts and race bikes by inventing the Quick Hitch. In 1980, Dr. Gilbertson secured Canadian and US patents.



Hilda Heydt, 89, of Pleasant Hill, OH, a pioneer of women in harness racing, died April 29. Hilda was born in Germany. In 1936 she and her parents fled to Holland and later to Johannesburg, South Africa to escape the Holocaust. Following her parents' divorce she moved with her father in 1938 to New York. She attended Penn State University and moved to Lexington where she began as a groom in harness racing. This started her on a career that spanned seven decades. Women in harness racing in the 1940's were not given the opportunities that men were, but Hilda helped break through those barriers gaining her training license in 1949 and becoming one of only three women to hold such a license. She went on to train and breed many top horses including the world champion Torrid, Mr. Budlong. Hilda had no siblings and never married or had children. She made harness racing and her love for horses her life. Her breeding farm in Pleasant Hill remains and is now owned and operated by Rick and Margie Polhamus. *Kim and Ross Hankins's Grandmother, Neva Burreight, who began her career in 1916 was another woman license holder. I wonder who the third woman harness racing pioneer was.*

Wayne Hyatt, 69, died May 26. Wayne earned his training and driving licenses while working for Ezra Eads. He worked for many trainers over the years. Later he became the farm manager for Mr. Joel Black's Killydonnell farm, at Sahbra Farm in OH, for Ed Ryan in PA, and for Dr. Nick Loutsion's farm in Canonsburg, PA. He also operated a small stable, racing mostly at Northfield Park. In 1995 Wayne retired from racing and moved to Texas with two broodmares and raised a number of nice horses, usually selling the yearlings in Canada.

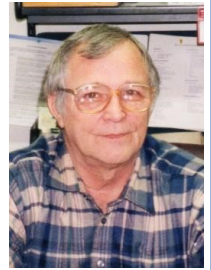
Gerald D "Bear" Keene, 72, of Batavia, NY, died May 5. Bear was a trainer at Batavia and Buffalo. During his career his trainees won 149 races. His best season came in 2008 when he conditioned 33 winners. He also enjoyed farming and was always there for his children.

Bill Davis Langley of BC, 54, died. For decades, Bill dominated the harness racing scene on Canada's west coast. Originally from Ontario, he made the move west in the early 1980s. Bill was a two-time O'Brien Award winner, receiving the O'Brien Award of Horsemanship in 2003 and again in 2014. That year, Mr. Davis rebuilt his stable after losing a number of horses in a barn fire that June.

Rick MacLeish, 66, of Ocean City, NJ died May 30. Rick

was a three-time National Hockey League all-star and a longtime Standardbred owner. He was a Standardbred racehorse enthusiast and he owned several horses since purchasing one for \$5,000 while a minor leaguer in the Boston Bruins system.

William Larry "Bill" Nibert, 80, of Richwood, OH, died May 14. Bill is a veteran of the United States Navy. Bill bought Nelson Blue's insurance agency in Richwood and started Nibert Insurance, which continues operations to this day. He served as mayor for more than 25 years and as a director of the Ohio Harness Horsemen's Association.



John N. Perrin, 65, died May 26. John, the son of the late Illinois Harness Horsemen's Hall of Fame member, Dorman and Elizabeth Perrin, was well known throughout Midwest race tracks.

Arthur George Shaw, 77, of Jensen Beach, FL, died June 5. Arthur earned a law degree from Northern Illinois University. Then he followed in his dad's footsteps and became a leading Standardbred driver, driving horses from New York to California. He was one of the top driver/trainers in the country. He was also one of the first single importers to import Standardbreds from New Zealand to the United States. Later on in life he pioneered the dual hemisphere Standardbred stud service in the US where in the off season he would fly the horses to New Zealand to stand for stud. Arthur and his wife, DeDe also built the largest Shaklee business in the world.

C. Richard "Dick" Stambaugh, 69, of Union Bridge, MD died May 14. His wife Cheryl "Cheri" administers the Maryland Standardbred Race Fund. He served in the U.S. Army, seeing action in Vietnam. Dick enjoyed gardening, working outdoors and tinkering in his shop. He was employed as an electrician with Lehigh Cement Co. of Woodsboro for many years and was also a milk truck driver and an independent long-haul truck driver.



Thomas H. York Jr, 92, or Newark, OH, died May 17. He began his career in the wood business. By 1958, he had become a successful full-time log buyer and eventually became the vice president of procurement for the Dean Company. Thomas moved to Zanesville, OH, and purchased Southeast Ohio Timber, as well as a pallet company, Industrial Crate and Lumber. He also had a passion for Standardbred racehorses and devoted 30-plus years to being deeply involved in the sport as an owner and breeder, working with trainers Terry Holton and most recently, Jim Arledge Jr. He and his wife, Kathy, loved to travel the country to spend time with friends and watch their horses compete.



Obituaries

Sharron Ruth Adams, 76, died May 20 at her home in Bellville, Ohio, with her loving family by her side. Sharron, born in Ontario in 1939, moved to the US with her husband, Albert in 1962. Later they became proud American citizens. Sharron was a strong, loving and caring wife, mother, grandmother, nana and friend. Among her many interests were walking on Winterwood Farm, the family's horse farm that she helped create, maintain and operate. She was also a wonderful planner and her organizational skills were second to none. She enjoyed holidays and birthdays and particularly having the family together and making each family member smile. She was a beacon of strength and even in her final days encouraged all family members to remain strong. Neighbors and friends will also remember the famous coffee cakes prepared especially with love. While Sharron was never boastful, she strived for perfection in everything she did. The world has an emptiness created in her absence, but all gained immeasurably by knowing her. For information on the celebration of her life, please send an e-mail to



Winterwoodfarm1@gmail.com. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Christian Harness Horsemen's Association or New Vocations Race Horse Adoption Program. For her complete obituary see www.chha.net.

Anthony "Tony" DePaloa, 80, of Toms River, NJ died June 4 of complications from surgery. He proudly served in the United States Army then went on to work for the United States Post Office for 38 years. In 2014 he was appointed to the New Jersey Racing Commission.

Morton Finder, 82, of Brooklyn, NY, died June 1. Morton raced horses at Yonkers Raceway, the now-defunct Roosevelt Raceway, The Meadowlands and other leading harness racetracks throughout the country dating back to the 1950s. He was part of 1966 Triple Crown champion Romeo Hanover. He was also an astute and successful handicapper. In 1971 Pine Hollow Stud Farm was recognized as the New York State Breeder of the Year. In later years he bred and owned many stakes winners and was part of the syndicate that owned the great pacer Niatross. He was known for his philanthropy, supporting such charities as Henry Street Settlement.

Obituaries continued on page 4



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

These friends are also in need of our ongoing prayers:

Joe Adamsky, Jason Apperti, Jordan Aracena, 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, Bill Emerson, Jeff Frizzell, Sylvain Gagnon, Greg Gehman, Dr. Howard Gill, Bob Goth, Barbara and Brent Graham, Debbie Gray, Sherie Hankins, 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, Michael Klark, Larry Lawter, 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 Niels, Bill Parker, Elaine Parlin, Ronnie Parker, Waverly Parsons, Susan Parks, Aaron Petternel, Rita Polese, Joanne Ranger, Donnie Richards, Lori Romanetti, Gerald Russell, Tori Scott, Madisyn Smith, Brad Strawser, Lee Anne Taylor, Marsh Townley, Lorraine Truitt, Mel Turcott, Justin Vance, Max Walton, Steve Warner, Gregg 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 and Elizabeth Welch

Special Intentions for this month:

Vivian Cord has afib problems.

Curtis Edholm shattered his arm.

Jockey Remi Gunn is in hospice.

Barbara Kinsey broke her ankle.

Sandy Kuhn is the new The Delaware (Ohio) Fair manager. Let's pray she has a positive impact on The Jug and harness racing at the fairgrounds.

From Art Plant has had a virus for several weeks.

Ray Sharpe had kidney surgery.

Please pray for safe travels for everyone during this busy summer race season.



157 North Main St
Salem, NH 03079
USA



Your horse can too

Information at www.chha.net

Please indicate
Address corrections

Join us for lunch at Gaitway Farm Monday August 8th



**Roger Huston and Jimmy Larente
Race Day at McGhees Mile**



**Steve LaCasse
At Scarborough
Downs**



Behind the gate at Pinehurst

Roger Huston blessed everyone at McGhee's Mile as he announced the baby races for the second year. Lots of food and deep blue skies made for a perfect day.

It looks like God sent blue skies and gorgeous weather to Pinehurst as well for their baby races where Kate Walker had her usual picnic spread of at the Victory Racing Stable. Starter Paul Battis kept everything rolling perched in the back of a pick up truck.

Chaplain Nash Garabedian has been visiting and praying with the folks at Scarborough Downs.. Steve LaCasse and all the snow birds have returned to Maine from their winter retreats.

I hear I missed Julie Working at Carl Allen's barn by a week. Hopefully I'll catch her next time.

Larry Lederman is back in action. He announced the qualifiers Mondays in June at Gaitway Farm.

Around the Tracks And Training Centers



**Chaplain Nash Garabedian, Makenna
Laughlin and Allie Hiscock
at Scarborough Downs**



Larry Lederman

New Jersey Event Monday, August 8th

CHHA will be at Gaitway Farm in Englishtown, NJ Monday, August 8th. Join us for lunch and a message from Meadowlands announcer, Sam McKee. Music will be provided by Marybeth DiAngelo and her friends.