



Rambling Willie

Keeping Christ Alive in Harness Racing!

Since 1983



In God We Trust

Christian Harness Horsemen's Association Newsletter

June 2016

Remember,

I pray for all our members every day.



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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 Harold "Sonny" Dancer. Rest in peace Sonny.

Riding White Horses

By Chaplain Lee Alphen

Let me tell you a little bit about heaven, the New Jerusalem.

In a vision God took Ezekiel to a very high mountain in Israel overlooking Jerusalem and then to the temple (Ezk.40:1, 5). There was an angel measuring the water running east from the temple. First it was ankle deep, then knee deep and eventually too deep to cross on foot (Ezk.47:1-5). The water in this river kept rising and the river kept expanding. The water in the Dead Sea turned fresh, nourishing "swarms of living creatures" (Ezk.47: 8-9). The fishing would be good all along the shore and there would be many kinds of fish (Ezk.47:10). Lining both banks of the river were lots of trees bearing fruit each month for food and offering their leaves for healing (Ezk.47:12).

In John's vision, only one tree appeared to be on both sides of the river, "the tree of life producing twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit every month" (Rev. 22:2). Where have we heard about the tree of life before? How about in the story about Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden? "A river watering the garden flowed from Eden" (Gen. 2:10). Adam and Eve were expelled from the garden because they disobeyed God and could not be allowed to eat from the tree of life and live forever (Gen. 3:22-23).

Ezekiel's river flows from the temple of God (Ezk.47:1). John's river flows from the throne of God and of the Lamb in the New Jerusalem (Rev. 22:1-2). Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world (Jn. 1:29). So in both visions the river flows from the same source, God, the source of eternal life (Jn. 3:16).

John sees plenty of life giving water for everyone to drink and fruit to eat to live forever. The leaves are for the healing of nations. "No longer will there be any curse" (Rev. 22:3). Here in this life we are

under the curse of sin. "There will be no more death, mourning, crying, or pain" (Rev. 21:4). In the new heaven and new earth the

leaves of the tree of life will put an end to evil for everyone inscribed in the Lamb's book of life. (Rev. 21:27).

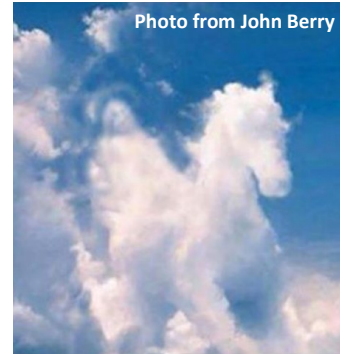
As God walked with Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden (Gen. 3:8), God will once again live among the faithful. "The throne of God and the Lamb will be in the city [...]. They will see God's face" (Rev. 22:3-4)

John Harmelink reminded me of the hymn, "Victory in Jesus." Yes, Jesus sought us and bought us with His redeeming blood (Rev. 5:9).

Now all of us believers will enjoy the crystal river (Rev. 22:1) and streets of gold (Rev. 21: 21) in God's presence.

Oh, and one other thing. John also saw heaven open, and Jesus, who is the Word of God (Jn. 1:1), return riding on a white horse (Rev. 19:11). The armies of heaven followed Him also riding white horses (Rev. 19:14). Perhaps we will ride the white horses in heaven. According to noted prophecy expert, David Jeremiah all believers will be riding white horses in the army of heaven as witnesses when Christ returns to defeat evil, *Agents of the Apocalypse: The Victor*. We don't really know where heaven is or too much about it. However, Paul tells us, "No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love God" (1 Cor. 2:9). I expect heaven will be much, much better than the Garden of Eden. Along with John Harmelink, I'm claiming victory in Jesus. How about you?

Photo from John Berry



Victory in Jesus—Lyrics

I heard an old, old story,
How a Savior came from glory,
How He gave His life on Calvary
To save a wretch like me;
I heard about His groaning,
Of His precious blood's atoning,
Then I repented of my sins
And won the victory.

Chorus

*O victory in Jesus,
My Savior, forever.
He sought me and bought me
With His redeeming blood;
He loved me ere I knew Him
And all my love is due Him,
He plunged me to victory,
Beneath the cleansing flood.*

I heard about His healing,
Of His cleansing pow'r revealing.
How He made the lame to walk again
And caused the blind to see;
And then I cried, "Dear Jesus,
Come and heal my broken spirit,"
And somehow Jesus came and bro't
To me the victory.

I heard about a mansion
He has built for me in glory.
And I heard about the streets of gold
Beyond the crystal sea;
About the angels singing,
And the old redemption story,
And some sweet day I'll sing up there
The song of victory.

Words and Music by E.M. Bartlett
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**See page 4 for the history of the
hymn "Victory in Jesus."**

A Cowboy's Prayer by Anonymous

An old cowboy was riding his trusty horse followed by his faithful dog along an unfamiliar road. The cowboy was enjoying the new scenery, when he suddenly remembered dying, and realized the dog beside him had been dead for years, as had his horse. Confused, he wondered what was happening, and where the trail was leading them.

After a while, they came to a high, white stone wall that looked like fine marble. At the top of a long hill, it was broken by a tall arch topped by a golden letter "H" that glowed in the sunlight. Standing before it, he saw a magnificent gate in the arch that looked like mother-of-pearl, and the street that led to the gate looked like gold.

He rode toward the gate, and as he got closer, he saw a man at a desk to one side. Parched and tired out by his journey, he called out;

'Excuse me, where are we?'

'This is Heaven, sir,' the man answered.

'Wow! Would you happen to have some water?' the man asked.

'Of course, sir. Come right in, and I'll have some ice water brought right up.'

As the gate began to open, the cowboy asked 'Can I bring my partners, too?'

'I'm sorry, sir, but we don't accept pets.'

The cowboy thought for a moment, then turned back to the road and continued riding, his dog trotting by his side.

After another long ride, at the top of another hill, he came to a dirt road leading through a ranch gate that looked as if it had never been closed. As he approached the gate, he saw a man inside, leaning against a tree and reading a book.

'Excuse me,' he called to the man. 'Do you have any water?'

'Sure, there's a pump right over there. Help yourself.'

'How about my friends here?' the traveler gestured to the dog and his horse.

'Of course! They look thirsty, too,' said the man.

The trio went through the gate, and sure enough, there was an old-fashioned hand pump with buckets beside it. The traveler filled a cup and the buckets with wonderfully cool water and took a long drink, as did his horse and dog.

When they were full, he walked back to the man who was still standing by the tree;

'What do you call this place?' the traveler asked.

'This is Heaven,' he answered.

'That's confusing,' the traveler said. 'The man down the road said that was Heaven, too.'

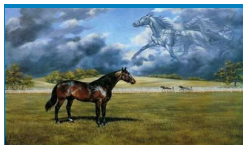
'Oh, you mean the place with the glitzy, gold street and fake pearly gates? That's hell.'

'Doesn't it make you angry when they use your name like that?'

'Not at all. Actually, we're happy they screen out the folks who would leave their best friends behind...'



Drawing by Ernie Lowell



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

Memorial Contributions

In memory of **Dick Macomber** by: Scott Perkins

In memory of **Archie Peel** by: Robert Colbert

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

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Please pray for my intentions _____

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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.



Roger Huston

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!!!

**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

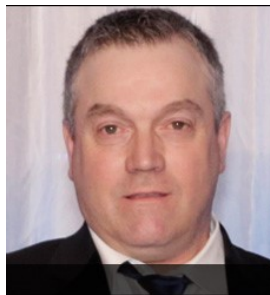
Albert J. Beachy, 86, of Millersburg, OH, died April 15, at his residence following a brief illness. He was a member of the Amish Church.



William Leo Bresnahan, 83, of Port St. Lucie, FL, died April 17. He was the owner of Freehold Dairy Inc., World Class Transportation and was a managing partner and breeder of Fair Acres Farm. Bill resided in Freehold and Manasquan before retiring to Florida. His favorite pastimes were harness racing, playing tennis, coaching baseball and basketball and being on the sidelines cheering on his grandchildren at sporting events. He loved to travel and visited every state in the USA. He was a devout Catholic, member of the Knights of Columbus.

Tiffany Jo Fischer nee Clark, 51 of Addison, IL died April 16. Tiffany was the beloved niece of CHHA member Kirby Clark.

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 and earned the nickname "The Dominator" for his stellar driving and training numbers that earned him multiple training and driving titles at Cloverdale Raceway and Fraser Downs. Bill was a two-time O'Brien Award winner, receiving the O'Brien Award of Horsemanship in 2003 and as the inaugural recipient and again in 2014. That year, Mr. Davis rebuilt his stable after losing a number of horses in a barn fire in June.

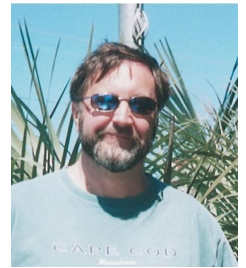


Louis Andrew Pontone, 82, of Staten Island, NY died April 28. Louis and his brothers joined their father in the casket business. He shared a passion for race horses with his son, Thomas. Together they started TLP Stable in 1996. They had the privilege of owning one of a kind horses. They had two Hambletonian winners, Muscle Hill and Market Share, and won Breeders Crown titles with Art Major, Market Share, Muscle Hill (two titles), Red Bow Tie (two titles), and Shark Gesture. Other top horses they owned included Cathedra Dot Com, Holiday Road, McArdle, Metropolitan and Wishing Stone.



Kenneth A. Rumble Jr, 58, died April 26. Ken was an avid harness racing fan for most of his life and owned some race horses for the last four years. He was very proud of his stable name, Thatsideofthefence, LLC. His top

pacings mare, Memumsnotnice, was named mare of the meet by the Upstate New York Chapter of the United States Harness Writers Association during its night of distinction at Batavia Downs last December. He also thoroughly enjoyed family trips and vacations.



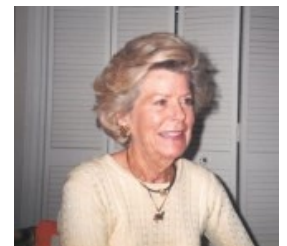
Robert Arlen Tourangeau, 78, of Scarborough, ME, died April 28. Robert enjoyed a long and varied career in the business world. He opened a clothing store, Nice and Daffy, earned a master's degree in substance abuse counseling which led to his second career. In 1997, he started his own counseling business, Interventions Inc. Robert was also very active in his AA community and was blessed to have celebrated 35 years of sobriety. He particularly enjoyed golf which led him to start Clubs by T, where he custom fit and designed golf clubs for many family and friends. His greatest passion was for his race horses. He served as chairman on the Maine Harness Racing Promotion Board and director of the Maine State Breeders and Owners Association.



Frances Winters Tridico, 87, of Columbiana, OH died May 6. "Fran" as she was affectionately known, was the co-owner of the former Plaza Restaurant in Calcutta where she treated everyone, including her employees like guest in her home. She had been a longtime member of St. Aloysius Catholic Church, where she had been active in the Altar & Rosary Society, and was at the time of her death, a member of St. Jude Catholic Church in Columbiana. She was involved in the Ladies Guild and the Jude's Dudes Senior Group at St. Jude. Fran was CHHA member, Stephen (Lynn) Smith's, mother.



Mary Van Lennep, 95 died April 1 in Gulf Stream, FL. She was a part of the harness racing community for many years as the wife of Fred Van Lennep, owner of Castleton Farm, The Red Mile, Pompano Park and The Horseman and Fair World magazine, died. After her husband passed, Castleton Farm was operated by a trust, and Mrs. Van Lennep continued to reside at the farm. After the farm was sold, Mrs. Van Lennep split her time between Lexington and Florida, as she had done with her husband for many, many years, until more recently living year-round in Florida.



Obituaries are
on page 4



HTA Scholarships

Harness Tracks of America is awarding \$15,000 in scholarships for post-secondary education to daughters and sons of licensed trainers, drivers, caretakers, management personnel, or young people themselves who are actively engaged in the harness racing industry. Application deadline is July 2nd. Visit

www.harnesstracks.com or contact Heather McColloch at (330) 467-4101 ext. 2204/2205 or hmccolloch@northfieldpark.com for more information.

Prayer Corner

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

Sherry Adams, 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 McIvor, 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, 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 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.

Victory in Jesus—History

Eugene Bartlett, author and composer of both words and music, was born in Missouri. After finishing Hall-Moody Institute in Martin, Tenn., he began teaching in singing schools. Because of his musical gifts and talents, young Bartlett was a sought-after music teacher. In 1918, he established the Hartford Music Co. in Hartford, Ark., and published many shape-note songbooks featuring his songs and the songs of contemporary writers.

For more than 20 years, Bartlett conducted singing schools throughout Arkansas, Oklahoma, Texas, Alabama and Tennessee. For several years he edited a monthly music magazine, Herald of Song, promoting singing schools, including news of local personalities and advertising the newest songbooks.

"Victory in Jesus" was written in 1939, two years before Bartlett's death. The song first appeared that year in "Gospel Choruses," a paperback songbook published by James Vaughan in Lawrenceburg, Tenn. Since the early 1960s, "Victory in Jesus" has become popular among evangelical congregations, and the recent hymnals published for these churches have included it.

Source: http://www.popularhymns.com/victory_in_jesus.php

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 Petteernel, 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, 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 Petruzzo and Elizabeth Welch

Special Intentions for this month:

Betsy Aracena, Chaplain Omar's baby daughter, has spinal bifida and several other serious health problems.

A friend of Sam Britton's has a brain tumor. He also asked us to pray she finds God.

Karen Carter's abdominal cancer returned.

Bill Emerson is having serious health issues.

Chaplain Nash Garabedian has severe pain in his leg, hip and back.

Pray for **married couples** who are struggling.

Let's pray for **all our family members** and their faith.



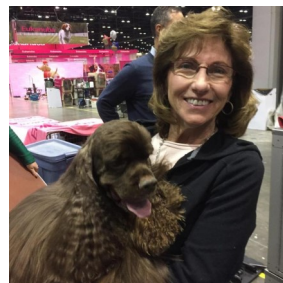
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USA



Please indicate
Address corrections

Information at www.chha.net

Blessings



Regina Beinhauer is pictured here with her cocker spaniel, **Striker**, who was named Best In Breed at the prestigious Westminster Kennel Club 2016 Dog Show.



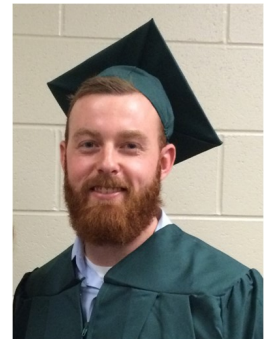
Rich and Sandy Thorstenson have really blessed the people at the Delaware, Ohio sales and at the Little Brown Jug as the face of CHHA for the last several years. Rich recently retired from Honda and now they are moving to Clayton, Delaware to be close to Sandy's family, the Kinglseys. The good news is they are planning to come back to Ohio for at least some of the sales and especially for the Jug. They will be missed in Ohio. However, they are hoping to host a CHHA table at the tracks in the state of Delaware. Thank you Rich and Sandy for your dedication to CHHA and **Keeping Christ Alive in Harness Racing!**

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.

Let's congratulate **R. Matthew Cline**, son of Lisa Schwartz, who just earned his Bachelor of Science in Computer Science with a Mathematics Minor. This is what happens when you put those scholarships to good use.



Stacy Chiodo's
Western Ideal filly

SOUND MOUTH - SOUND HORSE, THE GAGER METHOD OF EQUINE DENTAL CARE

by E. R. Gager and Bob "Dusty" Rhodes



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P.O. Box 2056
Vincentown, N.J. 08885

Sound Mouth—Sound Horse, The Gager Method of Equine Dental Care

Learn how to:

1. Safely inspect horses mouth
2. Recognize dental care needs
3. Judge quality of dental care
4. Treat mouth injuries
5. Recognize tooth related performance problems
6. Use dental tools
7. Save money on feed bills
8. Determine horse's age

new book

Ed Gager donated some of these books in memory of Harold "Sonny" Dancer.

See page 3 to order a copy.