



Rambling Willie
In God We Trust



Serving Jesus Christ
in Harness Racing



March, 2016

Christian Harness Horsemen's Association Newsletter

Remember...



I pray for all our
members every day.

Chaplain Lee

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Chaplain Lee Alphen
Racetrack Ministry

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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

lealphen@comcast.net

603-898-1927

603-401-7271 (cell)

Wanted
Praise Reports
Testimonies
Articles

Please send to Chaplain Lee Alphen
lealphen@comcast.net

or

157 North Main St · Salem, NH 03079



This
edition of
the
newsletter
is published
in memory
of Francine
Nori. Rest in peace Fran.

Yes, He Understands

By Chaplain Lee Alphen

Wanting to go to vet school, I packed up my car and headed to Colorado to establish residency. Back then New England did not have a veterinary school, and the acceptance rate for students from New England at other schools was very low. About two hours into my trip I realized I really did not want to be so far away from my family. Turning back and prayerfully rethinking my options put me in a better position to choose the path God wanted for my life. A year later God called me to begin the Racetrack Ministry at Rockingham Park.

Losing a parent, a child, or a spouse through death or divorce, is generally very traumatic, often causing us to adapt to a whole new way of living. Moving to a different race track by ourselves for the first time can be a little intimidating as we find new friends and housing and learn how everything works. Hopefully we remember to ask God to guide us and have family and friends to help us as we strive to make right decisions.

After Jesus was baptized, the Holy Spirit led Him into the wilderness (Luke 4:1) to prepare for the next phase of His life. Jesus too was embarking on something new and wanted to be sure His will was aligned with God's. Through prayer and fasting, Jesus became more in tune with His mission here on earth. Also, through the temptations of the devil, Jesus grew in His understanding of our struggles.

Satan is not happy when people turn to God and works hard to turn them away. The devil encouraged Jesus, famished after 40 days without food, to turn a stone into a loaf of bread. Jesus

could have done that very easily. However, that would have been acting in His self-interest rather than doing

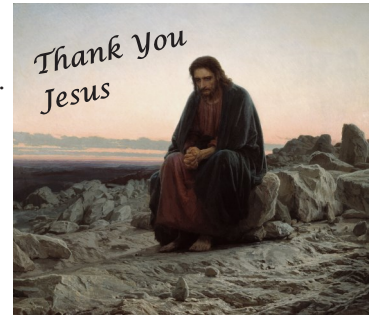
what God wanted (Luke 4:3-4).

Next Satan offered Jesus an opportunity to skip the suffering and the cross and paying the price for all our sins. The tempter told Jesus to worship him and he would give Jesus all the kingdoms of the world. Of course, Jesus knew that nothing this world has to offer is worth worshipping anyone other than God (Luke 4:5-8).

Finally, the devil misinterprets scripture telling Jesus if He jumped off the peak of the temple in Jerusalem the angels would rush to His rescue. Jesus was not interested in making God do things His way (Luke 4:9-12).

This Lent let's spend time listening to God. Perhaps the Holy Spirit will lead us in new and exciting directions or help us to better understand life's journey. Life does not end with the cross. Following Jesus, one day we too will experience the Resurrection.

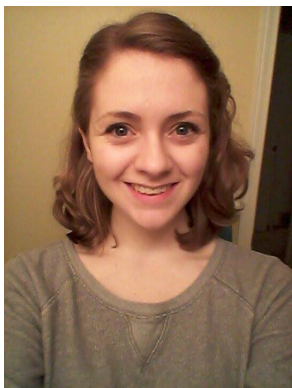
For Jesus, the first-hand experience of His time in the desert, complete with the harassing devil, was well worth it. All this helped Him to better understand our struggles. Through the death of those He loved, like Lazarus (John 11:32-36), Jesus knew what it was like to lose someone. Throughout His earthly life Jesus experienced everything as a human being. Yes, Jesus understands.



2015/2016 CHHA Scholars

"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding" Proverbs 9:10.

Michelle Thompson



Receiving a Christian Harness Horseman's Association Scholarship has made a huge impact on my education, and I am so grateful for the opportunities it provides.

I am in the second semester of my third year at the University of Guelph. I am completing my Bachelors of Science in Animal Biology, with a minor in Agriculture.

This Fall semester has been a great time. I have been able to take more agriculture-based courses, and I am very encouraged for this coming semester. The courses I have taken have made me even more sure of my trajectory of continuing in international agricultural development. I have been able to help out at my church by providing nursery care during service times. This has been a lot of fun for me, as I enjoy caring for the children and allowing their parents to have their own spiritual development and learning time. I love being involved on campus by participating in study groups, meeting people in the Power to Change group, and competing for the University ringette team. It's been tough being away from our broodmare, but I come back to help out when I can. I look forward to being able to spend time at the barn more consistently in the summer.

This scholarship has truly allowed me to be fully focused on my education, and I cannot thank you enough.

Sincerely,
Michele

Thomas "Tee" Wine



My first year at Florida Atlantic University is going very well. Classes are very challenging and intriguing. Although I usually try to keep to myself, I have tried to be more outgoing and meet new people and experience new things.

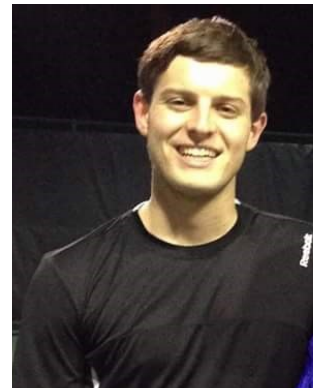
Outside the classroom I'm very busy which isn't out of the ordinary for me. I work every morning at the barn, jogging horses to cleaning stalls. Race nights you can usually find me paddocking 2 horses and washing up to 25 race bikes.

I have many things I want to accomplish this summer. First and foremost, I plan on going to Pocono Downs to race this summer. I hope my family and I do well. Also, this summer my dad and I would like to see either Boston or Washington D.C. for the first time, which will be a fun experience. Lastly, I do plan on taking summer classes online. This will give me the flexibility to leave school again this summer.

Thank you all with the Christian Harness Horse Association for helping me making my goal of going and graduating college possible.
God Bless,
Tee

Michele, Tee and Jonathan, we are proud of you and pray your studies help you to become everything God made you to be. God bless you!

Jonathan Hallett



I have been enrolled at the University of Central Florida since the Fall semester of 2015. I have found my new found passion for criminal justice and the multiple opportunities to pursue the career fields of becoming a criminal investigator or joining the Federal Bureau of investigation. I would have to first after college either join the military, which would be amazing because I am very patriotic. But more likely, I am going to join the police academy to get my experience to become an FBI agent.

Currently, I am in the Lead scholars program as well as the Lead scholars athletic committee. Which both involve volunteer hours and dedication to the clubs. I am also a huge fan of sports: I am on the Intramural volleyball, tennis, basketball 3v3, and basketball 5v5. First semester before I switched out of premed I was in AMSA (American Medical Student Association) as well as PPMS (Pre Professional Medical Society).

Just recently, I joined the pledge process for Sigma Pi's fraternity and have been enjoying the networking and all of the brothers since.

Jonathan

Please verify or add address on back

Please activate my FREE membership. My address is on the back.

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Please pray for my intentions _____

Phone _____

Circle one:

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electronically in the mail both

Please accept my donation of _____. Check Cash   

Please return to: leealphen@comcast.net

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OR

CHHA
157 North Main St.
Salem, NH 03079

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

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

Keyrings

are now available.

People love these beautiful handmade horseshoe nail crosses. The keyrings are every bit as beautiful as the crosses. 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!!!



Crosses measure about 2 inches

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

**Horseshoe Nail Cross
Order Form**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Crosses Qty: **Red** ____ **Blue** ____

Keyrings Qty: ____

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

Obituaries

Please pray for the families of our harness racing friends:

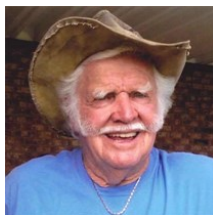
Walter L. "Boots" Dunn, 85, a horseman since the 1940s and USTA Director since 1987, died Feb 3. Walter was president of W.L. Dunn Construction Company of Cochranton, PA. He trained and drove his own horses, maintaining his amateur status and competing across eight different decades. He is believed to be the leading amateur driver of all time, with 1,152 wins to his credit. Walter also learned to train and drive from his late father, who started the family construction business in 1919, building bridges and roads and operating a gravel plant, with a team of oxen and later horses. The younger Dunn had his own equine business as a child, charging local kids a nickel for a ride on his pony. Walter and his daughter, Lisa, operated a private training center in Cochranton with two tracks and a farm for his racehorses, broodmares and young horses.



Shirley Ann Finn, 68, of Hidalgo, IL died Jan 14. Shirley worked at the Jasper County Tax Assessor Office and was a homemaker. She enjoyed working alongside her husband, Randall, in their harness horse business. She was a devoted mother, wife, grandma and great grandma.



Clinton Brice Gordon of Springfield, OH died Feb 10, 2016. Brice was a hard working master builder who built many, many homes around Enon and Springfield. He was well loved by all his family and friends and especially by his second wife, CHHA member, Clara Young Gordon. Clara used to have harness horses and really misses going to the races. Perhaps we will see her at the Jug.



Tom E. Harden, 74, died Jan 31. According to harnessracing.com, "If you were lucky enough to go to the winner's circle at the Delaware County Fair, you probably exchanged a friendly hello with Tom. Mr. Harden, a former Morrow County sheriff and commissioner. He was a sort of traffic cop at the gate which allows folks access to the track to cross to the winner's circle."

Donna M. Holtermann, 51, died Dec 20 at her home in Vero Beach, FL. Donna was an avid traveler. Her husband, CHHA member Craig Holtermann said, "She was full of life and spirit. We enjoyed traveling together, and when I asked her where she'd like to go, she replied, 'Wherever you take me, I'm going.' We had a lot of fun together. [...] She always saw the bright side of things." Donna had a great love for the Lord and enjoyed spreading His good news.



John Anthony "Tony" MacRae, 80, died Jan 31. According to his family, he went to be with his wife of 51 years, Kitty, in Heaven. Although his body had become tired and frail,



his spirit was full of grateful appreciation for a life well lived. He was strong-willed, witty, faithful, and generous to the people he loved. He enjoyed reminiscing about his 50-plus year career as a Standardbred driver and trainer. He won over 1,100 races.

Domenico Putorti, 73, died recently. He was born in Italy and moved to Canada when he was 14 to be with family. Later he and his brother bought a horse farm. He was the horse whisperer before there was a horse whisperer. He was the caretaker of his parents until they passed away. His brothers were business partners and supporters. Though he never had children his nieces and nephews filled that gap. He teased them and spoiled them as his own.

Pius Soehrlen, 76, died Jan 15 at his home in Navarre, Ohio, after a battle with cancer. Pius trained and drove Dream Of Glory, who won 50 of 86 career starts and set world records and earned divisional honors before becoming an influential sire. He bred and campaigned many top winners over the years and was inducted into the Wall of Fame at Northfield Park in 2005.

Jane Smith died Thursday Jan 14 in Philadelphia, PA after a prolonged battle with cancer. Jane and her husband Tom worked with harness horses for many years, spending all of their time working for the David Wade Stable. Her funeral was held on what would have been her 58th birthday. Pastor Joe DiDonato officiated and it was a beautiful celebration of her life. David and Ann Wade flew up from North Carolina to show their sympathy and support to Tom and his family. Meadows Driver Dan Rawlings drove 5 hours each way just to spend an hour with Jane's family. Her obituary ended with the words, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith" from 2 Timothy 4:7.

Natalie Broeman Todd, 96, Of Deerfield Beach, FL passed away Feb 1. She was preceded in death by her husband, Dr. Frank P. Todd Sr. Surviving her are her children; Mark (Carol) Todd, Bob (Casey) Todd, Terry Millhoan, Sue (Roger) Wellman, and Karen Todd.



William B. Weaver III, 79, died Feb 10. He enjoyed enormous success as a breeder despite breeding a small number of horses each year. Bill bred influential trotting sire Valley Victory as well as several division champions. Valley Victory was the sport's top 2-year-old colt trotter in 1988 and won 11 of 14 lifetime races before being retired at age 3 because of illness. His offspring include Victory Dream and Muscles Yankee and Continentalvictory. Victory Dream and Muscles Yankee also produced Hambletonian winners, with Muscles Yankee sons Deweycheatumnhowe, Muscle Hill and Muscle Massive winning the sport's top trotting race in consecutive years (2008-10). He was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2014. According to HRU, 2/12/16, Murray Brown called Bill, "one of the finest persons it has been my privilege to have known."



Walter Vincent Adamkosky, 95, died Feb 11 in Reynoldsburg, OH. When he was 19 Walter went to work for the USTA. Retiring in 1985, his 46-year tenure there interrupted briefly when he served in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II. As a First Lieutenant, Walter heroically completed 35 perilous missions co-piloting a B-17 bomber, all before his 25th birthday. But with characteristic humility he always resisted any suggestion that he was a hero. Upon retirement from the USTA, it occurred to him that he was free to attend daily Mass, which he did for years.

Betty Bostic, 94, of NJ died Jan 3. Betty worked as a bookkeeper for Vernon Dancer until moving to New York to work for Roosevelt Raceway from 1966 to 1972. In 1972, she took a position with the State of New Jersey Racing Commission as an inspector and issuing licenses at Freehold Raceway. She retired in 1989. Her husband Jerry Bostic trained for a number of racing stables, including Alan Myer and Vernon Dancer, and had a public stable. He later became a New Jersey Racing Official, serving as a judge at



Prayer Corner

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

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, 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, 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, Harold Dancer, 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, Donna Holterman, John Hostler, Jesse Hughes, Don James, Thelma Klark, Kenny Kane, 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

Freehold and Atlantic City Raceways. Their son Bob Bostic of West Melbourne, Florida, trained and raced on the East Coast and then acted as Track Superintendent at Liberty Bell Raceway in Pennsylvania and Beulah Downs in Ohio.

Thomas N. D'Altrui Sr, 96, died Jan. 29. He was born in Villaricca, Italy, and raised in Newark, NJ. Thomas was an executive, inventor, manufacturer and industrialist as owner of D'Altrui Industries in Elizabeth, NJ for 48 years. His lifelong love of harness racing forged the creating of DI Farms in Hillsborough, NJ. He served the Standardbred Breeders and Owners Association of New Jersey as director for 34 years (Man of the Year, 1983), director of Harness Horse International for 34 years (Man of the Year, 2000) and director of the United States Trotting Association for 18 years. Thomas Sr and his son Tom, under the banner of DI Farms, bred many stakes winners from their small broodmare band.

Obituaries continued on page 4



Richards, Lori Romanetti, Gerald Russell, Tori Scott, Madisyn Smith, Brad Strawser, Tony, Lee Anne Taylor, 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 Petruullo and Elizabeth Welch

Special Intentions for this month:

Lew Arsenault has cancer and pneumonia.

Chuck has some health issues.

Anthony Coletta has improved from his original condition but will still require care the rest of his life.

Bev Crane is recovering from multiple broken bones and surgeries and is still in a lot of pain.

Sharon Fry is in stage 4 lung cancer.

Greg Gehman had a stroke.

John Ginnetti Jr is in rehab after getting hurt in a fall.

Chaplain Peter Guilfoyle fell and shattered the bones in my left arm and elbow.

Maddie Rose Harp, 5 weeks, is having health issues.

Delbie and Pat Insko lost their 43 year old son to cancer.

Karla, 47, has a very advanced/ aggressive type of breast cancer.

Nelson Malin has cancer and is close to death

Jeff McAlister had heart surgery.

Steve Oliwa has cancer.

Ken Peter and his crew are on a freighter going through dangerous territory in The Indian Ocean.

David Reid is experiencing some health issues.

Lori Romanetti has ongoing esophageal issues.

Steve had a quadruple by-pass.

Butch Ward has leukemia.

Pam Wardman had a questionable mammogram showed a calcified spot and her sugar is low.



157 North Main St
Salem, NH 03079
USA



Information at www.chha.net

Please indicate
Address corrections



Nail Cross Keyrings now available
See page 3 for details



From Lyndel Adamsky...

Mom (Peggy) came home today with her rehab nurse- she pretty much approved of the house- just no throw rugs- she has one more week at the rehab center and should be discharged next Monday. I thank everyone who stood with us for Mom's total healing. It has been a long road since 1/8. So thankful for God's LOVE & GRACE- Blessings- Lyndel

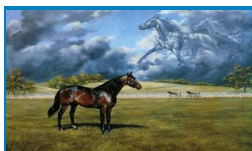
From Joan Harp...

Maddie Rose Harp's medicine is starting to clear up the sores, she still has a couple of appointments coming up, with a dermatologist and urologist. (Maddie is less than two months old.) Thank you so much for the prayers. Joan

From Cindy Graham...

Mom is doing really well all things considering .. praise God! I am trusting for continued strength for her.

Regina Beinhauer's Cocker Spaniel, GCH Silverhall Strike Force, won Best of Breed in the sporting group at the Westminster Dog Show. Congratulations Regina!



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

Memorial Contributions

- In memory of **Bobby Newman** by: Sharon Teefy
- In memory of **Francine Nori** by: Bruce Ranger
- In memory of **Boots Dunn** by: Rick and Regina Beinhauer
- In memory of **Irving W Mauran** by: Irv and Cheryl Mauran
- In memory of **Shirley Finn** by: Carl Becker—Fair Meadow Farm
- In memory of **Jane Smith** by: Pastor Joe DiDonato

CHHA in Florida

Join us Tuesday, March 22, 2016 at Spring Garden Ranch in DeLeon, Florida for lunch with Jack Levine.

Jack was a top Madison Avenue advertising executive, owned a successful television production company and raced as an amateur harness driver. Eventually he became an author, philanthropist, nationally known public speaker and addiction expert.

Jack is now in full time ministry in Orlando, FL. You will definitely enjoy his dynamic, inspirational presentation.

The event will be held trackside at the Spring Garden Ranch Restaurant at 12:00 Noon. Lunch is on us! Diane Hugel of Rockingham Park is providing the meal.



See page 3 for a list of Jack's books. It is a real blessing to call Jack a friend. Come and meet him so he can be your friend too.



Jack Levine

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. Applications must be postmarked by April 1.



See page 2 for an update on this year's CHHA scholars.