



Rambling Willie

In God We Trust



*Serving Jesus Christ in
Harness Racing*



JULY, 2014

CHRISTIAN HARNESS HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Remember...

I pray for all
our members every day.



Chaplain Lee

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Psalm 34:19

**"The righteous cry out,
and the Lord hears them;
he delivers them from all
their troubles."**

Set Me Free!
By Chaplain Lee Alphen

Watching the horses run free in the rolling green hills of Kentucky lifts my spirits. Here in New England, some lucky race horses are turned out in paddocks for a while every day. Others have their shoes pulled off at the end of the racing season and are set free to kick up their heels, romp around and play in the pasture.

Wait a minute! How can the horses be "free" when the fields and paddocks have fences around them? But, yes, they are free! They are free to run and jump and free from the dangers of the roads around them. To some extent, they are also free from people or other animals that might harm them. Most importantly, the fences help keep them from getting lost or hurt.

So, what about us? The Lord says, "I will rescue those who love me. I will protect those who call on my name." (Psalm 91:14) We too are free when we follow the Lord. We have our scriptures as our guide. When we listen to and follow the Lord, God puts a hedge of protection around us to keep us from evil.

We have a choice. We can be a slave to sin or free with God. Some in this "land of the free" keep pushing other agendas and

challenging our laws that keep us free. They are confused. There is no freedom in sin. Sin holds us hostage beckoning us down a road of destruction. Sure, the evil one makes his way sound glamorous and fun. However, when we begin to turn back to God, we see how trapped we were in our sin. We were not free at all.

God's law is a law of love. Even the Ten Commandments explain how to love. The first three tell us how to love God. The rest, honor your parents, don't kill, steal, ruin someone's reputation or jealously want what belongs to another, all teach us to love each other. (Exodus 20:1-17)

I pray we will once again be "one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all." Please pray with me. Our constitution promises us life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Our country was founded on Godly principles. Our nation was blessed because our forefathers honored God and upheld Christian values as the law of the land.

Today we have lawmakers who in the name of freedom want to choose who has the right to live. Others want to take away the free speech of Christians. While those with liberal agenda can do and say as they please. It appears justice today is siding more and more with the glamor

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2014/2015 Scholarship Recipients

Lindsay Hagemeyer says, "Harness racing and the 4H program have taught me leadership and communication skills that I can use for a lifetime." Lindsay will finish her undergraduate requirements this year and plans to continue on and become an equine and large animal veterinarian. Her plans are to continue to participate in the racing and breeding operations at the Hagemeyer Farms.



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Thomas Wine says he comes from a long line of hardworking blue collared horse people. Relatives on both sides of his family have taught him to be eager to learn, self-motivated and to persevere. "They helped me become the young man I am today." However, Thomas says he wants to be known for more than his hard work. He wants to be the first in his family to graduate from college.



Thomas is a very busy 18 year old

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Obituaries

Please pray for the families of these harness racing friends:

Irene "Granny" Bolon, 92, of Jerusalem, Ohio died May 26. Irene was the mother of two longtime Meadows Horsemen, Ben and Rod Bolon. She has many other family members who are a part of our Meadows Community. She was a beautiful woman who had a heart and love for God and Others.



Elizabeth Holl "Betty" Brandt, 93, of Logan, Ohio, died June 8. Betty and her husband, the late Richard Brandt, were partners in the former Dick Brandt Racing Stable. She was the recipient of the Ohio Lady Pace Award at the Little Brown Jug.



Warren Cameron, a third generation horseman who developed and campaigned the top pacers Brand New Fella and Direct Scooter, died May 29 in Astor, Fla., where he resided. He was 74. Warren was the son of Hall of Fame horseman Del Cameron. Del Cameron trained a top Grand Circuit stable and in 1944 moved his family, which included Warren and his brother Gary, to Pinehurst, N.C. Warren began working in his father's stable and learned horsemanship from the ground up and became a respected horseman. In 1960 Warren, then 20, became one of the sport's youngest two-minute drivers when he drove Newport Admiral to a 1:58.4 victory.

Stanwood Bray Churchill, DVM of Orleans, VT died June 11.

Dr. Churchill was a good friend of CHHA's John Klark. He bred, raised, and drove his beloved standardbreds from New York to Maine and Canada. As a director of the Orleans County Fair, he always made sure CHHA sponsored a race. He made sure there was a memorial race named for John these past two years since John Klark's passing, .



Erwin Grossman, a long time harness racing publicist, died June 20. He was 85. Erwin was a fixture for many years at Yonkers and Roosevelt Raceways covering Standardbred and Thoroughbred racing, handicapping horses for the *New York Herald Tribune*. He also traveled to numerous racetracks on the east coast to cover stakes races and special events.

George Ernest Hobbs, 83, of Harrington, DE, died June 10. George and his late brother Edward worked with their father on the family farm until their father's death. His career as a Standardbred trainer and driver began at the age of 16, and he remained active in the sport currently as an owner, racing in New Jersey and locally.

Darwin J. La Clair, 76, died June 22 from injuries sustained in a farming accident. At 14 Darwin started a very successful career driving, training and caring for standard bred horses. His family is quite involved in racing. Darwin also served as the maintenance supervisor at Vernon Downs for 15 years.



Eileen B. Lancaster, 91, of Columbus, NJ, died June 3. She was the beloved wife of William for 70+ years.

Kenneth Martin, 71, of Fair Haven, Vermont, died June 5. Ken's greatest love of life was his horses. He loved tending to them, racing them and going on the fair circuit with his best friend and horse buddy, his granddaughter, Amanda.

Edward Allen Paske, 81, of Nicholasville, KY, died June 17. Edward owned Lexington Joint and Clutch, Inc. for over 45 years. He served with the US Army, raised, trained and raced Standardbreds, and he loved to race Camaros and Corvettes.



Prayer Corner

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



Debbie Boardman, Jana Brocco, Gary Bryant, Rick Carson, Wayne Cowdry, Janet Dehart, Maryanne Doherty, Chaplain Tom Farley, John Fowler, Margaret Groce, Marilyn Hankins, Mary Haskell, Karen Hettrick, John Hufford, Betty James, Bob Kinsey, Wilma Mattuci, Joyceann McClelland, Priscilla McFayden, Mrs. Miller, Corey Murphy, Randy Nix, Pierre Noel, Fran Nori, Jay O'Neil, Dee Parsons, Patsy Payne, Robyn Rembleski, Del Smart, Rose Sinclair, Jimmy Sommers, Jack Taylor, Gary Tyron, Fred Ward, Sr., Alice Wardman, Betty Wogoman, Marty Wobkenberg, Chaplain Yurian and Joyce Zeasapolowski.

These friends are also in need of our ongoing prayers:

Chaplain Kelly Blanton, Gary Bennett, Amy Bondon, Peter Blood, Marilyn Bondon, Diane Boyken, Lois Boyken, Phyllis Bunch's mom, Kevin Burns, Mary Burton, Carol Ann Case, Joan Collins, Anthony Coletta, Donny Currier, Jr, Dale, Harold Dancer, Dick, Blanche DiDonatto, Jimmy Doherty, Dennis Drenth, Chaplain Tom Farley, Nora Fenner, Barbara Elrod, Barbara Fowler, Sylvain Gagnon, Dr. Howard Gill, Bob Goth, David 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, Thelma Klark, Kenny Kane, Katherine Lonager, Faye Mackey, Pedro Martinez, Jr., Melissa MacNeill, Kaye McDonnell, Dean Miller, Raymond Miller, Stewart Nemiro, Bill Parker, Elaine Parlin, Rita Polese, Bruce Ranger, Donnie Richards, Ken and Peggy Roper, Rev. and Mrs. James Slack, Tom Smith, Brad Strawser, Tony, Lorraine Truitt, Gregg Welch, Jr, Bill Wick and Tony Working.

Please pray for those serving in the military, especially Joshua Hankins, Yann Lamiqu and Chris Petruzzo.

CHHA turns 30 this year. We are planning a big celebration including an evangelization event at the Meadows Adios Weekend – July 26-27. Please pray that many people come to know the Lord.

Kathy Auer has back problems.

Ray Bartram, past chaplain at Evangeline Downs in Louisiana has undergone some tragedies. His daughter and grandson were killed in a head-on collision. In addition, their son Tommy was injured in a riding accident. Tommy has had multiple surgeries in the past couple of weeks.

Daryl Bier broke his pelvis in a race at Pocano.

David Clark's family is struggling. His dad requires dialysis 3 times a week. His mom broke her leg, arm and back and separated her shoulder requiring surgery. His 50 year old sister is losing the battle with cancer.

John Fowler's body is not adjusting well to oral chemo. He could use a few prayers.

Cindy Helringer is scheduled for surgery on July 22.

Jimmy has been fighting cancer and infections and now has Hospice.

Justin, 12 yrs old, had surgery to remove a small cyst on the outside of his brain. He also deals with turrets each day.

Rev. Aaron Peternel has a virus that has attacked his heart.

Is God calling you to be a Prayer Partner?

Why not join 60+ other members in this important ministry? Call or email Chaplain Lee Alphen today.

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 return to: leealphen@comcast.net

Please accept my donation of _____. Check Cash   

OR

CHHA
157 North Main St.
Salem, NH 03079

Credit Card # _____ Exp Date ____/____

Name on Card _____

50 50 Raffle Donation \$5 each, \$25 for 6; \$50 for 15 I would like _____ tickets for a total of \$ _____.

Deluxe Protecto Harness Raffle Donation \$5 each, \$25 for 6; \$50 for 15 I would like _____ tickets for a total of \$ _____.

Donations also accepted at www.chha.net.

30th Anniversary Raffles

Winners need not be present

Modified 50 50 Raffle

Win pays 25%; Place pays 15%; Show pays 10%

Tickets \$ 5 each; \$ 25 for 6; or \$ 50 for 15
To be drawn September 13 at Suffolk Downs

Deluxe Protecto Harness

Tickets \$5 each; \$25 for 6; or \$50 for 15

Donated by Al and Myra Terwilliger

To be drawn July 27 at The Meadows

50/50 Raffle draw date was moved to September to allow more time to build up the purse.



Scholarships Continued from Page 1

Lindsay

Lindsay also says, "Faith, family and my church have had the greatest impact on my life. Without my beliefs and constant prayers, I would not be who I am today... The Hagemeyer family helped form the Olive Branch Methodist Church in 1847. I am proud to be a member... We love the church and consider the Olive Branch Church members as an extension of our family... I enjoy assisting with the planning of youth activities and fund raisers... I also volunteer to serve food at Our Father's Kitchen"

CHHA is pleased to award Lindsay the 2014/2015 Weldon and Nancy Stockwell Scholarship.

Thomas

who believes God has a different plan for him and says, "He (God) has me out there trying to make a difference in this world." Coaching JV basketball at his old high school, working seven mornings a week at Pompano and every race night helps him to keep his eye on the prize and away from young people with bad habits. He does not like being around kids who smoke, drink and don't have any self-control.

Thomas will receive his AA degree in the spring and then continue to pursue a business degree at a Florida university.

CHHA is pleased to award Thomas the 2014/2015 John and Janet Klark Scholarship.

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of evil.

Guess what? God is going to win. "The righteous cry out, and the LORD hears them; He delivers them from all their troubles." (Psalm 34:17) Actually, please pray all of Psalm 34 with me. If you and I join our voices with the masses of Christians across the country, God will hear and deliver us and this great nation. I am making a commitment to continue to pray Psalm 34 this month for our country. OK, I'll pray it for both the United States and for Canada. Please let me know if you decide to join me in praying Psalm 34.

"Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint." (Isaiah 40:31) With God's help we will always be free like the horses in the fields.

Praise Reports

Karen Hayes thanks God for her great granddaughter, Colette Lamiqu, daughter of Melissa and Yann Lamicq. Melissa is the daughter of Stirling Brook Farms Manager, Tim Hayes and his wife Melanie.



Colette Lamiqu

Phyllis Bunch's mom is improving. God sent her some excellent people to help her. Praise God!



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Please indicate
address corrections.

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50/50 Raffle

Protecto Harness Raffle

Suzanne D'Ambrose Receives Award

Suzanne D'Ambrose is the winner of the 2014 Stanley Dancer Award from the New Jersey Chapter of the United States Harness Writers' Association.

Suzanne is a retired high school teacher and mounted police officer. She and her retired standardbred, Indy (Independent Act), now spend their time representing harness racing at various events in New Jersey. Indy loves to be petted and graciously eats the carrots his fans feed him.

Thanks to her boundless energy and enthusiasm for racing and harness horses, Suzanne is a tremendous asset to our industry. CHHA is proud of Suzanne and delighted one of our members won this prestigious award.



Susan and a standardbred she trained for the Austin Texas Mounted Police

Chaplain Joe DiDonato Throws 1st Pitch

Hundreds of horsemen, track employees and members of the community turned out to honor Pastor Joe DiDonato at a recent Washington Wild Things baseball game.

Pastor Joe threw out the first pitch and even announced a few innings on the PA system, harkening back to his former days as a radio DJ in Pittsburgh.

A picnic dinner for family and friends during the game, and a fireworks display afterward completed the night, as the longtime Meadows chaplain was honored for his years of service to horsemen and the community.

Courtesy of The Meadows Standardbred Owners Association



Former Major League All-Star Bill Bucker
Pastor Joe DiDonato and Andrew DiDonato

Rambling Willie—A Legend

Bill Finley reminded us that Rambling Willie is a harness racing legend in his June 27 issue of the *Harness Racing Update* lead article. Rambling Willie won over 40% of his races: 128 wins in 304 starts in spite of bowed tendons and other injuries. Other great horses: Bret Hanover won 62 out of 68 starts and Cam fella won 62 out of 80 starts. It appears Rambling Willie had much more stamina than these harness racing superstars.



Of course we know Rambling Willie's secret. His racing success was an answer to the prayers of his owner, Vivian Farrington. Vivian tithed Rambling Willie's earnings to the church her father pastored.

Memorial Contributions

Memorials are posted at www.chha.net.

In memory of Irene Bolon by: Rev. Joe DiDonato

In memory of Oreste DiDonato by: Rev. Joe DiDonato

In memory of Doug Ackerman by: Richard & Regina Beinhauer