



Rambling Willie

In God We Trust




Serving Jesus Christ in
Harness Racing



SEPTEMBER, 2014

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
Estrorace, LLC

Greg Gehman, Vice President
Knight's Landing Stable

Lori Romanetti
Moshannon Stables

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Adios Day at The Meadows

Race with the Son
By Chaplain Lee Alphen

Leaving the gate like a champion eager to run the race, the sun springs forth and runs the course across the sky blessing all in its path. Yes, the heavens declare the glory of God the Creator. At day's end, crops are nourished; our bodies restored; the breeze is energized; the day is a gift to all God's creation.

"Let there be light!" (Genesis 1:3) God said, and the universe jumped into existence. Those four words brought about a well ordered universe. Think about it. Some who deny the existence of God argue the universe just happened. Well guess what? "Let there be light," sure sounds like a "big bang" to me.

Of course God's plan was much more extensive and included planets and stars revolving around the sun. Then God made the earth with its oceans, lakes and rivers, mountains, hills and plains. As God continued building our home, He created all the plants and animals. Then once everything was perfect, God created men and women. God saw how good everything was.

The Lord's teachings are perfect. They give strength to His people. The Lord's rules can be trusted. They help even the



foolish become wise. The Lord's laws are right. They make people happy. The Lord's commands are good. They show people the right way to live. God's teachings are worth more than gold and sweeter than the best honey. Good things come to those who obey them. (Psalm 19:7-11)

God made the sun first because everything else in creation depends on it. God sent His Son into the world to remind us we could all depend on God and especially His Son, Jesus

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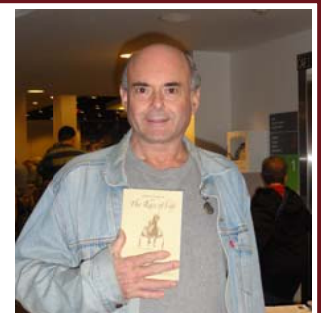


Amy Bondon and Roy Dinges

Roy Dinges shared his faith and love for the Lord with Amy and me for a good 30 minutes. It was great to hear his enthusiasm and appreciation for his church in Ocala.

Lewis Weitzner has been reading his Christian Harness Horsemen's Association Bible so much he has to hold it together with duck tape. We gave him a new one.

Members at
"The Hambo"
share their faith



Lewis Weitzner

Obituaries

Please pray for the families of these harness racing friends:

Jack Bailey, 81, Vernon Downs' all-time driving champion, died Aug. 16. Jack won driving titles at Hollywood Park in California, Washington Park in Illinois and at New York's Batavia Downs. He was a member of the Hall of Fame in many places.

John C. "Jack" Bertrand, age 82, passed away on July 15. Jack served in the US Air Force during the Korean War. Jack and his wife trained Harness Horses at their "Walkover Farm" in Foxborough, MA for many years. He was a retired member of the Teamsters Union where he was a sales rep. and driver for Wonder Bread in Framingham.



Arthur "Artie" Lance Bier, the father of Delaware-based horsemen Daryl and Sean Bier, died Aug 21. He was 74. One Valentine's Day, Atrie scored six wins in six drives at Northfield Park. The following week he beat Rambling Willie.

Terrence Blair, 67, of Washington Township, OH died June 26. He received his MBA from the University of Notre Dame and a BBA from Loyola University. Terry was the CFO of Buckeye Pools, Inc. since 1991. He was very active in politics serving as a State Representative since 2009 and worked very hard in support of the racinos.



Bill Brown, 79, of Ashland, KY and formerly Ohio, died July 27. Bill trained and drove Standardbreds for many years in Ohio. He and his brother Robert raced many stakes horses from their Brown Brothers Racing Stable.

William E. Clark, Sr., 76 of Parsonsburg, DE died August 8. He owned and operated Clark Trucking for many years. He loved horse racing and owned many Standardbreds over the years.



Craig Colston, 54, of Maineville, Ohio, died Aug 23. Craig was a 1982 graduate of Wilmington College, taught at Lebanon High School for 10 years and worked for more than 25 years as a financial consultant. His passion was Standardbreds, as he was an owner and fan.



Steve Dunkel, 60, the former paddock judge of both Roosevelt and Yonkers Raceway, died Aug 8. Steve began his career in 1975 as the assistant paddock judge, and in the early 1980s he was promoted to paddock judge. Outside of harness racing he was involved in the music industry and was one of the founders of the Long Island Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. He at one time worked for George Steinbrenner and the New York Yankees organization. He was also very active in politics and on one occasion he was assigned as the official escort to then President Bill Clinton and his wife Hillary.



Doctor Richard W. Fish of Crosby, MO peacefully went home to the Lord on June 26 at age 83. Throughout his earthly life, Doc's love of the Lord, family, livestock, hunting, fishing, and sports was instilled in his sons and their families. A proud Kansas State Alum, a passionate harness horseman, and an active member of their church, Doc would share his words of wisdom to all he encountered.

Franklin C. Gannon Sr., 81, died Aug 20. He lived primarily in Queen Anne's County where he raised cows and also raced Standardbreds. Franklin raced up and down the east coast from Virginia to New York for more than 50 years.



Jack Hood, 74, of Valparaiso, Ind., died Aug 6 due to injuries sustained in a car accident on Aug. 5. Along with his wife



Peggy and other partners, Mr. Hood owned many top Standardbreds, among them Manofmanymissions and Classic Photo.

Rosemary E. Noonan, 41, of Anderson, Indiana passed away August 29 as the result of an automobile accident. Rosemary and her husband, Olin raced mostly in Florida and Indiana.



H. Thomas Smith, 74, of Salem, died Saturday, Aug. 16. Tom received a BA from Fordham University in Bronx, NY. He trained thoroughbreds in New England and New York and then became State Steward at Rockingham Park. Eventually, Tom switched to harness racing which he thoroughly enjoyed for the last decade and even earned his driving license.



Alice Wardman, 76 of Brownsville, PA died August 11. For eight years Alice worked for the Pennsylvania Department of Revenue as a Tax Preparation Clerk and previously worked as an operator for Bell Telephone Company with over 17 years of service. Her son, CHHA member Rev. David Wardmen said, "She has finished the race that God has given her. She will be missed. Thanks for praying for mom."

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 Woebkenberg, 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, Greggie Welch, Jr, Bill Wick and Tony Working.

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

Kirby Clark's niece is in her fourth year of cancer treatments.

Greg Gehman is recovering from surgery.

Max Heath is slowly recovering from surgery.

Please pray for all the Christians who are being persecuted for their faith and for peace especially in the Mideast.

Lee Anne Taylor has kidney problems.

Priscilla has begun radiation. She goes every day for 5 weeks.

Robyn Rebleski is almost done chemo and starts radiation soon.

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Publications available while supplies last

Donations also accepted at www.chha.net.

Race continued from page 1 Christ. The sun continues to run the course. Its race has no finish. Standing trackside, perhaps you can't see the backside as you wait for the sun to round the final turn. But, the Son is there to see us home. Thank God, we are all winners when we run with the Lord.

Based on Psalm 19 and Genesis 1



Memorial Contributions

Memorials are posted at www.chha.net.

In memory of Rick Carson by: Margaret Carson

Praise Reports

Robyn Rembleski begins radiation five or six days a week October 12th. The center is a three hour drive. The good news is the it has an inexpensive apartment, state of the art equipment, an excellent doctor and a free massage therapist nutritionist and social worker. Then Robyn has the long ND winter to recuperate.

The Christian Harness Horsemen's Association Celebrates 30 Years at the Jug

Come and celebrate 30 years with the Christian Harness Horsemen's Association at a Prayer Breakfast Wednesday, September 17th, Juliette Day, at 6:30 AM. Join with other Christian horsemen and women and harness racing enthusiasts as they give thanks to God for 30 years of blessings. There is no cost for the event and it is open to everyone.

The Buckeye Valley Boosters in building #14 will provide a full breakfast in their building at the Delaware Valley Fairgrounds located between the track and the Coliseum where the horse sales are held. Pastor Samuel Forshtay and members of his praise and worship team will provide the music.

The Christian Harness Horsemen's Association (CHHA) was established in 1983 to serve Jesus Christ in harness racing. Weldon Stockwell of Sunbury, Ohio led the organization as Executive Director for the first 27 years. On January 1, 2011 Weldon passed the reigns to Chaplain Lee Alphen of Salem, NH.

CHHA is a growing network of Christians associated with harness racing who feel harness racing is a magnificent sport. Chaplain Lee prays for all our members daily. Members receive a free monthly newsletter. The organization strives to "Keep Christ Alive in Harness Racing."

For more information on CHHA or on the Jug Prayer Breakfast, visit www.chha.net or contact Chaplain Lee Alphen at leealphen@comcast.net 603-898-1927.

The New Meadowlands Grandstand—Great Job!

Jeff Gural, Jason Settlemoir, Sam McKee, Rachel Ryan and everyone else who provided input for the design and marketing of the New Meadowlands is to be commended. My guess is about half the fans at the Hambletonian were under 40 and included many young families. Many first time visitors were lured into the excitement with free hats, banners for their favorite horse, rides for the kids and lots and lots of fun. It is amazing to see all this modern, interesting facility has to offer. My favorite is the rooftop with its casual seating and panoramic view of the track. God bless you for catering to your customers.





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Salem, NH 03079

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Please indicate
address corrections.

Please Join Us For The Jug Week Prayer Breakfast!


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The real **Fr. Patrick** didn't hesitate to join Jimmy Takter in the winner's circle with Trixton after his name's sake made a break. He is pictured above with **Tom Milici**.



Newlyweds **Terry and Jim Raymer** made it all the way to the Hambletonian Oaks with not just one, but two fillies.



The best part of going to the big races and visiting the tracks, farms and training centers is having the opportunity to get to know our members. It was good to see **Dean Depasquale** pictured above.

Hambletonian Day 2014
At
The Meadowlands



Please keep the members of our armed services in your prayers. They are putting themselves in danger to defend our freedom. Yann Lamiqu, Tim and Melanie Hayes's son-in-law, is pictured above with some kids in Afghanistan.

More information on page 3



Please Join Us For The Jug Week Prayer Breakfast!



Share Faith

The breakfast is free, the music & fellowship is flowing, so bring your whole stable to the table!

Please join us for a powerful prayer breakfast to celebrate the CHHA's 30th anniversary and the many blessings the harness racing industry has enjoyed leading up to the 2014 Little Brown Jug & Jugette.

When: Wednesday September 17, 2014
6:30 A.M. to 7:30 A.M.

Where: Buckeye Valley Boosters Building
Fairgrounds, Delaware, OH

Come share in the celebration of God's many blessings on our families, our racing stables and our friends on this special day! Contact us via www.chha.net or Lee Alphen at 603-898-1927 for more info or to let us know you'll be there!