

**The NYSMHS proudly nominates**

**JAMES ROBERT REGAN, Grafton, Ohio**

James Robert Reagan is Jim to some and Bob to others. He discovered his love of horses at the young age of nine when he started taking care of ponies for the local furniture store owner in his hometown of Waverly, New York.

Throughout his life he has trained and shown many types of horses including saddlebreds, hackneys, walking horses, road ponies and other pleasure horses. In 1963, he bought his first Morgan, Nubbin's Colonel, and Jim became a regular in the Morgan and open classes throughout Western New York and Pennsylvania. He was attracted to the Morgan breed for the versatility and dispositions he had seen in horses owned by such friends as Mary Arnold and Bernie Dunn. Jim has always loved a horse that could trot whether in harness or under saddle. In addition to his fulltime job as a pipefitter on the railroad, he trained Morgan horses that carried their owners in showing victories and on country trail rides and drives throughout Western New York State. He has been an active supporter of the 4-H equine programs in Steuben County, and a founding member of the Bath Saddle Club. In the early '80s, friends and family talked him into trying excellent driving skills in obstacle driving. This began a new passion for Jim. He soon became one of the drivers to beat in carriage obstacle classes with his gelding Doc's Golden Boy and his young mare, Braecroft Amber. In 1993 at the age of 78 he was showing nearly every weekend in both driving and riding classes, promoting the Morgan horse in both breed and open shows. Jim is known for his generosity in helping new enthusiasts get started and lending a hand at the shows. While being an avid competitor himself, he has never hesitated to offer a fellow competitor a tip that might improve their performance.

In 1994 Jim moved to Ohio to live with his daughter, Janeane. Although his vision has kept him out of the show ring in recent years, he can be seen on the rail at shows and at 85 he is just as sharp as ever at picking the winners.

Submitted by Janeane Reagan