



## Amazing Grace Success

By Ginger Turner, ACS Board Member

God's Amazing Grace continues, every day! This past weekend was a real success, not because we raised money for the school or because we had a lot of participants, but simply because God is **Always Good** and He shows up **All the Time!** Saturday could not have been any better! Wildflowers were blooming all along the route, hand painted signs were in the ground reminding participants of God's majesty along their journey, and there was JOY in the air! God was present as Vaughn Williams delivered our prayer to start the race and God was present as families shared moments of triumph and closeness together. Our volunteers were phenomenal and our sponsors were generous! Blue Water Natural Foods provided our fruit, the Alpine Police Department guarded our route, and embroideryco.com provided our gorgeous t-shirts. We hope you will join us next year for our next race!



## 4-H Program Underway

By Debbie Skelton, ACS Board Member

We are so proud of our new arena that was generously sponsored and provided by several private donors and will allow our students to participate in 4-H Horse Programs. Practices have already started and students work weekly with their horses to perfect their skills and maneuvers. Mr. and Mrs. Hamby have contributed dozens of hours to prepare the arena for training and

shows, as well as preparing horses for riding and showmanship. This is a fantastic opportunity for our students, as well as our community.



## Jarratt & Dyer Family Fitness Trail

By Ginger Turner, ACS Board Member

A year ago, our Executive Director, Bobby Duncan, pursued a personal goal of installing a fitness trail around the perimeter of our campus that would encourage outdoor involvement and fitness for families in our community. After much prayer, Mr. Duncan was encouraged to ask Lance Jarratt for assistance on the dirtwork, who in turn involved Jim Dyer in providing materials for a fitness trail around the 21 acre campus. This past weekend provided a perfect opportunity to bring both families together at our Amazing Grace Race that started and finished at the beginning of the Jarratt and Dyer Families Fitness Trail, now open to the Alpine Community. The stroll around the campus not only provides access to our clean mountain air but also the beautiful views of the nearby Davis Mountains. What a blessing for Alpine!



## Medieval Chivalry!

By Mayson McBride, 10<sup>th</sup> Grade Student

*Below is an excerpt from a Discussion Board post that Mayson McBride submitted in her Great Conversation 5 Course:*

The medieval concept of chivalry ties in nicely with the Bible's ideals of masculinity. The idea that being chivalrous or courteous to a lady is wrong in fact goes against the bible. Christian men are taught to treat women with honor, "Likewise, husbands, live with your wives in an understanding way, showing honor to the woman as the weaker vessel, since they are heirs with you of the grace of life, so that your prayers may not be hindered," (1 Peter 3.7). Although it may be easy to think men being chivalrous or "showing honor as the weaker vessel" to women may demean them it actually shows great respect. Ephesians 5:33 says, "let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband." We as Christians should treat everyone with honor and respect, not just men treating ladies with chivalry. Ladies should also respect men and be courteous. This is apparent when Sir Lancelot offered Sir Gawaine food and a place to stay, "But as touching Sir Gawaine, he had reason to proffer him lodging, meat, and drink, for that proffer came of his blood, for he was nearer kin to him than he wist. But that as Sir Launcelot did was of his great gentleness and courtesy".

## School Choice with SB8

By Debbie Skelton, ACS Board Member



The Texas House recently voted on an amendment to SB8 to prohibit public funds to be used on private education, after the Texas Senate had passed the bill. The School Choice Bill would give parents the ability to choose where to send their children to school and ability to receive an annual credit for private education. This program would allow tax dollars to follow a student rather than a specific school.

Many parents believe they should have the choice to send their children to the school of their choice, one in line with their values

and beliefs. If they prefer a Christian school that teaches God's values, morals, and Biblical principles, then they should be able to use tax dollars to fund that specific education.

Governor Abbott believes that this program would allow children more educational opportunities and options. He stated that, "When a school does fall short of excellence, when it strays too far from the fundamentals or simply cannot meet the unique needs of a particular child, parents should not be helpless," he said. "They should be able to choose the education option that is best for their child."

Alpine Christian School loves the opportunity to help students who need close attention and specialized teaching that they otherwise would not receive in other schools. Parents can also be assured that their children are learning what is good, true, and beautiful with a focus on Christ. If parents are paying property taxes towards community education, shouldn't they be able to choose where their children attend school and who feeds their knowledge? This program would've aided private schools and enhanced community opportunities, especially for lower-income families.

## Executive Director's Corner

By Bobby Duncan, Executive Director

As I pause and reflect over the past year, I am amazed at what we (parents, students, teachers, staff and the Alpine community) have been able to accomplish. By God's Divine Grace, He has guided us in His Holy Realm to manifest such goodness and beauty for the benefit of mankind and our community. What a testament to His Almighty Power. Below are some of His mighty miracles:

1. ACS approved as a Chartered 4-H School under the Texas Agrilife/A & M University System. As a 4-H School we have established:

- Horsemanship Program
- Public Speaking
- Photography
- Theatre

2. Our Horsemanship Program was catapulted off the ground through the support of generous donors who provided the monies, labor, fuel, materials, horses and time for our arena, horse pens, storage container and porta-

potties, etc.. We held our first show in March of this year. We will hold our second show this Saturday, April 22nd at 10:00 a.m. On April 21st at 8:30 a.m., Mr. Cody Crider, former Alpine resident and life-long horseman, will deliver his testimony to our students during Chapel. The Alpine community is invited to attend and listen to Cody's moving and motivating story of pain, loss, uncertainty, endurance and comeback. Cody will formally dedicate and bless our ACS Arena this Saturday as part of the opening ceremonies. Be sure to mark your calendar for May 13th where ACS will host the District 6 Preparatory Show which includes 23 Counties. May 27th will mark our Final ACS Show for the School Year.

3. The ACS Garden this last year produced over 400 pumpkins, an abundant and continual harvest of desi squash, zucchini, okra, roma tomatoes, "million dollar" basil, gorgeous sunflowers, and zinnias. We also planted Pawnee Pecan trees for future shade and generational harvest. We are so blessed to have our own water well to drip irrigate our crops and trees. We are so thankful to all the merchants, local community and garden sponsors who purchased our crops and supported our mission of getting kids back in the dirt learning how to plant, grow and harvest. We are also thankful to the Ardmore Health Institute for providing the funds necessary to purchase our tractor and implements. We have officially kicked off our new Spring/Summer growing season.

4. ACS had a record breaking Starry Knight Annual Fundraiser due to the generous support of our donors and Alpine Community!!!

5. Thanks to the Alpine, Texas American Legion Post#79 for graciously hosting the catfish fry benefiting ACS!!! The American Legion donated all proceeds to ACS!!! We are so very blessed and thankful!!!

6. Thanks to Lance Jarrett and Jim Dyer for donating all of the materials, labor, equipment, fuel and time for the 3,200 foot ACS Fitness Trail. The trail parallels the perimeter of our beautiful 21 acre campus. The trail is dedicated to the health and wellness of our students and the Alpine Community. Come one, come all and renew your mind, body, soul and spirit!!!

7. Our Amazing Grace Race 5K was a huge success!!! With the first step, we inaugurated the Fitness Trail for what will be millions of steps to come. And they, by the Grace of God, will come. "Yes, they will most certainly come", borrowing from a line from the movie, Field of Dreams.

Last, but not least, I would like to celebrate our parents, students, teachers, and staff. For without their dedication and loyalty to what we stand for, we would have none to serve. I so earnestly want for each of you to know that ACS is providing a Classical and Christian education to students who will lead and serve our great Country for generations to come. And this is not just pabulum.

The media inundates us every waking hour all that is wrong with society, our educational systems, families, traditional ways of life, etc. All we seem to hear about is crime, drugs, lewd behavior, corruption, unspeakable acts performed by adults in front of innocent children, curriculums that are so far in left field, etc. But there is good news happening in Alpine, Texas just as there was The Good News, Jesus, happening in Galilee! Again, by the Grace of God, parents are beginning to take back control of their children's education, upbringing and lives. Parents have a choice. Not only do they have choices, but these choices must be ones that parents can trust and rely on to be dependable, consistent and wholesome. And that is ACS's Mission. Never forget that.

### Upcoming Events:

**April 22** – ACS Horse Show

**May 4** – National Day of Prayer Ceremony

**May 25** – Awards Ceremony

**May 13** – District 6 Preparatory Horse Show

**May 27** – ACS Horse Show

**June 2** – Last Day of School



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