



Plano Pacers Running Club, Inc. Hall of Fame

The Plano Pacers Running Club was formed in 1978 by the City of Plano Parks and Recreation Department and a group of thirty local runners. The objectives of the Running Club were the promotion and encouragement of healthful jogging and distance running. The objectives were supported by stressing the fun and exhilaration of running and its contribution to physical fitness, weight control and health. The club was directed to stimulate and maintain motivation among runners by increasing communication among runners and prospective runners. The club's plan was to publish a newsletter, hold regular meetings, fun runs, races, running clinics and related programs. The club would also mobilize its influence to promote the development of trails, tracks and running support facilities within the city.

The Plano Pacers Running Club has successfully operated as a family-oriented organization for over three decades. A great number of runners and non-runners have contributed to meeting the objectives defined by the City of Plano and the founding members. Starting in 2009, the club established a Hall of Fame to recognize those individuals who have made significant contributions to the club.

During the history of the Plano Pacers Running Club we have had the good fortune to have members step forward to lead the club and contribute to our mission. In 1981 fortune smiled on us when Cary Sherf joined the club after participating in several club races. The following year Cary started volunteering at club events, but remained active as a participant at the races, winning the semi-annual Pacers Championship Trophy competition four consecutive times in 1983 and 1984. As an officer of the club from 1984 to 1987, Cary, assisted by his wife Dana, served as Secretary in 1984, President in 1985 and Vice President during 1986 and 87. During this period, while working with Bob Luchsinger, he directed virtually all club races including the monthly races and the two club charity races. Cary was not only instrumental in getting local coaches, doctors, and trainers to speak at the monthly club meetings, but also international celebrities such as Arthur Lydiard and Peter Snell. In 1985 Cary founded the Balloonfest 8K which was held in conjunction with the City of Plano Balloon Festival. The race was run from what is now the Bob Woodruff Park. The following year Cary relocated the club's races from Schell Park to Bob Woodruff Park. Cary and Bob Luchsinger formed Apple Racing Systems, a premier race finish-line company. They donated their services to the club for the large races and employed club members to work other races. By using Plano Pacers members, Apple provided another source of income for the club and introduced the presence of the club to other communities. In 1986, through Cary's intercession, the Plano Pacers became the largest sponsor to bring the USA Cross Country Trials to Dallas. This elevated the Plano Pacers to being the most influential running club in the entire North Texas area.

Cary Sherf's leadership and hard work ensured that the club met its objectives during the 1980s. For all the reasons documented in this letter the Plano Pacers Running Club takes great pride in naming Cary Sherf a member of the Plano Pacers Running Club Hall of Fame.

Charlie & Terry Gonzalez
President, Plano Pacers

Date