



## 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 their 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 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. In 2009, the Plano Pacers Running Club established a Hall of Fame to recognize those individuals who have made significant contributions to the club.

The Plano Pacers Running Club would like to recognize James Gabhart for his continuous commitment and support to the club. James joined the club in March of 1987 and soon found that he could win his age group category with relative ease at the races. After several years of running, James volunteered to help with the Junior Sprints and has been doing so for over 20 years. In 1995, James directed his first major Pacer race, a 5K and 15K combination, managing both races flawlessly. When not directing races, he was at the finish line doing timing, tag pulling, or compiling results. James also won the Pacer Race Point Championship in 1998, and was recognized as the Pacer Volunteer of the Year in 2000. In 2001, James directed all the Prediction Runs for the entire year. James used his truck as a mobile Pacer ware house, always prepared with any item needed at the races. Extra clip boards, sign-in-sheets, bibs, pens, cones, trophies, and tools of all type were available in his truck. He even had socks, gloves, umbrellas, and tents for use during inclement weather. James delivered equipment and assisted at finish-lines at non-Pacer events for which the club earned funds.

James possesses the qualities of creativity and initiative. He made the results board where a runner would put his race result card into its proper category upon completion of the race. James also initiated a quicker signup system at the Prediction Runs. He never sought the limelight, preferring others to take the accolades while he remained in the background. His humble demeanor and unselfish devotion of time given to the club became an example for other Plano Pacers to emulate.

His contagious laughter and his continuous participation at club events has become the trademark for James that has resulted in significant contributions towards meeting the objectives of the Plano Pacers Running Club. For all the reasons documented in this letter the Plano Pacers Running Club takes great pride in naming James Gabhart a member in the Plano Pacers Running Club Hall of Fame.

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Charlie & Terry Gonzalez  
President, Plano Pacers

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