

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 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 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 four decades. It is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization, totally dependent on its membership's time contribution. 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.

The Plano Pacers Running Club is proud to recognize Linda Kelly for her significant contribution to the club. Linda Musil, as she was known then, joined the club in 1991. For years, she ran in the races while assisting future husband Ken Ashby with club duties. She served as Plano Pacers vice-president in 1996 and as president in 1997 and 1998. During that period, Linda directed or co-directed most of the club races and prediction runs, as well as the inaugural Plano Balloon Chase run in 1998. On one occasion, she supplied prize money from her own pocket to enhance the fun of competition. She continues to volunteer her services and is currently the club's vice-president for 2017 and 2018.

Linda is a locally recognized runner who has competed at distances ranging from one mile to 100 miles. She has many Plano Pacers age group course records set over the past 21 years. Three times (1997-1999), Linda was first-place female in the year-long club Grand Prix Racing Series. She has won awards in state and national competitions sponsored by Road Runners Club of America, USA Track & Field, Avon Running, and Rock 'n' Roll Marathon Series.

Members like Linda Kelly don't join the club every day; they are few. Through her hard work and management skills, Linda has made significant contributions toward 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 Linda Kelly a member of the Plano Pacers Hall of Fame.

Dawn Burke Colvin

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President, Plano Pacers