



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.

The Plano Pacers Running Club would like to recognize John Ketchum for his outstanding contributions to the club. The Plano Pacers Running Club is an all volunteer organization which depends totally on service by the membership. If the club had a volunteer of the decade award John would have a lock on the 1990 to 2000 decade. For over 10 years John was always available to support the club sponsored events. His contributions included course set up and tear down, as well as everything from race registration to race results. For years John brought the trophies to the club races along with the ice and drinks. He then worked race registration and in partnership with other members would do quick and accurate race results. John did so many different tasks on race day that the newsletter editor would list his credits in the volunteer section of the newsletter as follows: "John Ketchum - trophies, drinks, ice, registration, results, etc. etc. . .". On one cold and dark race day morning, wind chill of 11 degrees and heavy sleet, with the runner's safety in mind, John helped redesign the 5K course in real time to work around the course conditions. In addition to all of his race day work John also served as an officer for the club. He was the Treasurer for four years from 1993 through 1996. In this capacity he was responsible for the finances of the club. John volunteered for a number of work assignments for private races to earn money for the Plano Pacers. Our newsletter editor once noted that "Without members like John Ketchum there might not be a Pacers Running Club for the rest of us to enjoy".

John M. Ketchum, Plano Pacer, runner and tireless volunteer has made significant contributions toward meeting the objectives of the Plano Pacers Running Club. For all of the reasons documented in this letter the Plano Pacers Running Club takes great pride in naming John Ketchum to the Plano Pacers Running Club Hall of Fame.

William C. Johnson
Chairman, Plano Pacers HOF Committee

Date