

U.S. Air Race Board of Directors



Patricia Jayne (Pat) Keefer
President and Race Director

Pat was inspired by her mother's (Marion Jayne) victory in the 1971 air race from Columbus, Ohio to Managua, Nicaragua. She got her license and was racing the next year. After a third century of air racing, Pat counts 10 first place finishes with a variety of partners, including her husband Ken. Pat and her mom were awarded the Federal Aviation International Gold Medal in the longest race in history; the 1994 24-day Round the World Air Race. She has led 19 events as Race Director with a perfect safety record. Keefer is a frequent motivational speaker.

Patricia (Pat) Purcell
Vice President



Pat Purcell is a retired corporate pilot and was a regular in the air races in the 1970's and 80's flying her Comanche 400. Now she devotes her time to the organizing of the U.S. Air Race events. Her retirement is shared with her husband Joseph who likes to keep his feet firmly planted on the ground. He does share Pat's passion for bass fishing and their home in rural north Texas has a stocked bass pond in the front yard. Over the years Pat has shown horses, raised, trained and shown dogs professionally and spent 15 years in legitimate theatre production. Pat produces artist bears and friends under her King Designs label and she delights in annually designing and hand making "the air race bear".

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The U.S. Air Race, Incorporated is a non-profit, charitable, all volunteer 501c3 Texas company that produces and manages cross country events. The goals of U.S. Air Race, Inc. are to promote general aviation and the amateur sport of cross country air racing which rewards and improves pilot skills through competition. All proceeds support these goals and award Learn-To-Fly scholarships by drawing.

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