



## **Dash for a Cure**

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This fall CarolAnn Garratt and Carol Foy plan to break the speed record for light-aircraft, westward around the world flight. However, this record-breaking attempt has a much greater purpose and meaning for not only CarolAnn and Carol but for the thousands afflicted with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, ALS. They are using the opportunity to raise significant funding for research into a cure for Lou Gehrig's disease. Combined, the two pilots have amassed more than 5000 hours of flying, instructing and racing experience. The goal of this record-breaking adventure is to raise \$1 million for research into the causes and possible treatments for ALS being done at the ALS Therapy Development Institute. CarolAnn and Carol will fund their record breaking flight entirely from their own resources; ensuring 100% of donations go directly to finding a cure for ALS.

Garratt and Foy are no strangers to philanthropic initiatives in their communities. Garratt volunteers her time flying students with the EAA Young Eagle program, the sick and needy with Angel Flights and instructing cadets with the Civil Air Patrol. To date, Garratt has raised over \$80,000 for ALS research through speaking engagements, her book, *Upon Silver Wings* and her first flight around the world in 2003.

Foy is an accomplished air racer, having found her passion for air racing in 1991. She won the 2478 mile Air Race Classic (ARC) race in 2006. Adding her flight instructor's license and multi-engine and instrument instructor ratings to her credentials has allowed Foy to become more involved in community initiatives by introducing students to the joy of flight.

Together, in a Mooney M20J, the female team will attempt to break the world record set in 1988, whose average speed was 54.6 mph, including all stops for refueling. CarolAnn and Carol are planning an average speed of 140 mph with only nine stops for refueling, which include stops for personal attention including changing the diapers the two plan to wear, much like NASA astronauts. Paying 100 percent of the trip expenses, the team is actively seeking corporate sponsors and donors to help raise the \$1 million.

## **About Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS)**

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Commonly known as Lou Gehrig's disease, ALS is a progressive, fatal neurodegenerative disease that attacks the motor neurons in the brain and spinal cord. While more than 350,000 people worldwide are afflicted with ALS, the cause of the disease is still unknown. Ninety percent of patients diagnosed with ALS die within five years. There is no known cure. The disease itself has no prejudice – and can strike anyone regardless of age, ethnicity or gender. Every 90 minutes another person is diagnosed with ALS.

## **About the Research Beneficiary**

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The mission of the ALS Therapy Development Institute (ALS TDI) is to find effective treatments for people living with ALS. The Institute is executing the world's most comprehensive discovery research and drug development program focused exclusively on ALS. Currently, there are thirty full-time industry trained researchers and technicians working collaboratively at the Institute. ALS TDI has partnered with the MDA and Augie's Quest to help fund this enormous research endeavor. By combining the passion and dedication of a non profit mission with the entrepreneurial and scientific spirit of a biotechnology company, ALS TDI is the leading drug discovery program for ALS, bringing the most promising leads closer to patient use.

**For more information:**  
<http://www.alsworldflight.com>

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