

Richard & Arlene Graham

Builder/Promoters

Richard of London, Ontario and Arlene of Selkirk met and married in Selkirk. Richard was unfamiliar with fiddle music but quickly learned to enjoy it as he heard a lot of it played by Arlene. He also picked up on the many dances associated with fiddle music. That was quite a feat for a city boy who loved rock and roll.



Arlene, on the other hand, loved fiddle music since she first heard it when she was about four years of age at a house party she attended with her parents. It was a tune entitled Silver & Gold twostep played by a fiddler friend of her parents. She also would sneak over to the community hall and peek in the side doors of the hall to watch the people square dancing. It looked very exciting.

Forward several years later, Richard bought her a fiddle for her birthday one year. Between a very hectic work schedule and four children involved in sports, she practiced as much as possible, ending up in tears a few times when the music didn't sound quite like it did on the records. Then she met Mr. Mel Bruce, a topnotch fiddler, who took her under his wing and encouraged her fiddling and later on sent her to fill in for some of his gigs when he was unable to attend due to health problems. Arlene played in several bands over the years, including the Country Jammers from Altona, the Moonshiners from Holland, Harvey Dueck Band from Miami, Highway 2-240 from St. Claude, Group Therapy from Carman, Garry Lepine from Portage La Prairie, the Trail Riders from Teulon, as well as Carm Colvin, Bryan Duncan and many others at various functions.

Arlene and Richard joined the Manitoba Fiddle Association in approximately 2002, serving as Board Member, then Arlene served as secretary of the Board, followed by running the Wall of Fame inductions for about fourteen years until the end of 2023. Congratulation on your induction to the Wall of Fame.