

Hall of Recognition Project

The Alberta Society of Fiddlers incorporated as a society in 1992. Until that time, there had not been a society in Alberta that helped to connect fiddle events in the province. Many fiddle contests and jamborees had been supported by their local communities, but had not been provincially advertised. As a result, the ASF was incorporated with the mandate to encourage amongst Alberta's public, young and old alike; a participation in, an appreciation for, and the preservation of fiddle music as a worthy cultural, recreational and heritage pursuit.

Recent discussions with ASF directors and executive have resulted in the idea of a Hall of Recognition - gathering of biographies of Alberta residents who have, in some way, contributed to preserving and promoting the love of fiddle music in their community and beyond. The ASF realized the urgency to collect these biographies as many of our friends who have contributed so much to our fiddling community are passing away, and we also have such a wonderful new generation of fiddlers we want to acknowledge.

Our intent is to collect these biographies and include them in our quarterly newsletter as they are received. The article would be placed once in our newsletter and then permanently placed on our website. Upon final review and confirmation with all parties involved, each article submitted will be included in this project. This will become a collection in itself to our membership. Biographies are welcomed from any member or non-member who will volunteer to collect the information on a particular person. The ASF is providing a guideline, which includes questions and information to gather to make the biographies brief but accurate and interesting accounts of the person's life who has made a difference in Alberta's provincial fiddling community. The end goal is to have these biographies placed permanently on our ASF website "Hall of Recognition" page.

Who can interview? Any Albertan that has contributed to his/her community through playing music, organizing events, volunteering, instructing, judging, square dance calling, sponsoring, building violins or inspiring others. You may choose to obtain information from the family of a deceased person if you wish to compile a biography of that person. Please obtain consent from the family first.

What information should you obtain: An introduction of the person, which should include their full name, date and place of birth, where they grew up, how long they have lived in Alberta, a brief comment about their spouse and immediate family. If deceased, please include the date of their passing. Occupation(s), submit a photo by mail or e-mail along with the article.

How they began their involvement in fiddle music: How old they were when they became involved in the fiddle community, why they chose fiddle music as an interest, who influenced them to love fiddle music and how they began to play the fiddle: lessons, another instrument first, volunteer work, other training or related work.

The extent of music in their lives: What impact was/has been created, hobby, semi-professional, professional, teacher, performer, etc. How this involvement has positively influenced others within their own family, community and beyond.

Something to share: A memorable event, what opportunities have resulted from being involved. The history of their instrument, contributions to their community, their all-time favorite tune.

Length of article: 600 to 1000 words (approximately 60 to 100 typed lines). If you submit a biography on a deceased person, their immediate family should be involved if possible, and permission must be obtained from the family to publish an article and confirmation given to the ASF committee. Acknowledged support and approval of the family if the person is deceased. Always ask permission for the interview with the potential candidate. List who the article is submitted by. Include the date of the interview.

Final Review required: The ASF Hall of Recognition Committee. Final copy to be approved by the ASF, the contributor and the candidate. If possible, submit the article as a typed file, sent as an attachment-word document or pdf.

Send to: Randy Jones, 907-15A Street, High River, AB T1V 1L7 email hanevjones1@gmail.com Phone 403-652-6440

The ASF envisions that the Hall of Recognition entries will grow into a complete collection of fiddle music enthusiasts. In Alberta, our history of fiddle music goes back hundreds of years and we are confident that it will carry on for generations to come. Let's look back into our history and obtain these biographies while we are still able. We want to acknowledge those that kept the tradition alive and we also want to know about the people across Alberta that are making a difference through their love of fiddle music. Please consider becoming involved by creating a biography of someone in your community.

Randy Jones, Sterling Cuthbert and Troy Gates: ASF Hall of Recognition Committee