

PRESS RELEASE:

Ed and Geraldine Berbaum are a dynamic, heartwarming husband and wife duo performing Old-Time Music for audiences of all ages for over 25 years. Their lively, happy fiddle music has its roots in tradition with a “down-home” flavor. In fact, audiences, especially children, are encouraged to “join the band” playing a variety of rhythm instruments, such as spoons, maracas, and the old-fashioned dancing puppets on a stick called limberjacks or patty-wacks. It’s easy and fun, making wonderful photos for the family album. Ed and Geraldine play their Old-Time Music on fiddle, guitar, alto saxophone, tin whistle, mandolin, banjo, mountain dulcimer, and harmonica. Geraldine adds sweet vocals and has been known to call a square dance and break into a surprise clog dance too! Their musical diversity includes hoe-downs, polkas, jigs, reels, square dance tunes, waltzes, schottisches, quadrilles, and old-time gospel songs--many of which date back over 1,000 years and were passed down through generations. You might recognize some, such as “Turkey in the Straw,” “The Golden Slippers,” and “My Darling Nellie Gray.”

Throughout their entertaining careers, Ed and Geraldine have had many TV appearances including a major role in a PBS-TV documentary, “A Journey to the Endless Mountains,” which airs throughout the USA. Since 1980 they have recorded over 30 old-time fiddlers for a Library of Congress project set up by their teacher, the late Jehile B. Kirkhuff of Rush, PA, one of the finest World Champion Fiddlers of the last generation. The Governor’s Heritage Affairs Commission of Pennsylvania has recognized them as “practitioners of a living art form reflecting the highest aesthetic quality.”

Ed and Geraldine left their banking and teaching careers behind them over 25 years ago to pursue the roots of American music and a lifestyle to fit their musical talents. They enjoy a small homestead in Montrose, Pennsylvania when they are not traveling to perform at fairs, festivals, schools, libraries, churches, and community events. The couple has developed a variety of programs for stage, special concerts, and as strolling minstrels--for children, seniors and general audiences. Many of their performances are enjoyed by the public in the North and Southeast as they tour in their motor home. They are devoted to teaching, preserving and sharing the joys and beauty of music traditions.

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