

110 per cent. That's a phrase which describes the commitment of Larry and Randi Smith to the sport of archery in Utah for nearly 40 years.

They met in 1980. As you might expect, Randi was involved in a community program, while Larry was a troubleshooter, helping fix that program. Randi was involved in the Utah Easter Seals organization, and with a community program teaching people to read.

In 1983, Larry and other archers started the Utah Wheelchair Archers, one of the first of its kind.

Randi and Larry started the Utah Hot Shots, a Junior Olympic Archery Development or JOAD program, in 1983. By 1987, Utah Archery Hall of Fame member Denise Parker, one of the program participants, was Pan American Champion at age 13 and on her way to an Olympic Games podium at age 14. Other illustrious Utah shooters emerged from the program as well, people like Chris Holding and Gavin Mower, and the program is still going strong today.

That same year, 1983, was the beginning of Salt Lake Archery, which Larry and Randi started with support from people including Gentleman Jim Pickering, Bob Jake Jacobson, Sherm Griffith, Ron Linna, Jim Hart, Bill West, Kim Holding, Joe Asay, and the irrepressible Budd Rose.

Two years later, Randi and Larry helped organize the first Utah Summer Games in Cedar City, They still run the archery competition to this day.

On the world stage, they helped coordinate the first Ski-archery competition for the 1986 Utah Winter Games, a sport which for a time was contested at the World Archery level. Despite being killed off at the world level by European sports politics, It's still a part of the Bryce Canyon winter festival.

Larry set records in the 1992 National Wheelchair Games in two separate rounds, records which still stand today. Meanwhile, Randi was the NAA's National JOAD coordinator for 11 years and committee chair from 2000 to 2004.

Larry and Randi started working with the United States Paralympic Team in 2004, with Randi being team manager for Athens 2004, and she became Head Coach in 2005. In 14 years as head coach, Randi's shooters took at least 73 World, Pan American, and Paralympic medals, including 21 gold medals. She was named by her winning athletes to capture the Order of Ikkos Award, the highest honor for a coach, three separate times, perhaps a record of its own.

Larry has run Salt Lake Archery for the past 35 years. Thousands of Utah kids have learned archery under his instruction - and passed the sport onto their kids and their grandkids. Perhaps no one will ever know how many archers have been created by his efforts. The range has been open to all over those 35 years, from Olympians to Veterans, Paralympians, to boy scouts earning merit badges, and just people who walked in off the street to check out archery.

Larry is a level 4 coach, while Randi is one of a handful of Level 5 Master Coaches. Randi has certified more than 250 archery instructors. Who knows how many more archers those instructors will help create.

110 percent. That was the name of the award that Randi and Larry received from Wells Fargo Bank and the Utah Summer Games in 1996.

Could there be a better description of this couple and their commitment to archery?

For their immeasurable contributions to archery in Utah, I am proud to announce the induction of Randi and Larry Smith to the Utah Archery Hall of Fame.