Induction of Lois Nicholls

by Marg Gill



Marion Shearer Lois Nicholls Marg Gill DCAT President Inductee Presenter

I am honoured and pleased to have been asked to say a few words about our first female inductee to our Hall of Fame Lois Nicholls. Lois was with us from the very first meeting held at the Moose Hall on Birchmount Avenue, and I would have to say she has probably made every practice, show and event that we have been involved in. Once we started rehearsing to put a chorus together, she became the section leader for the sopranos and any new member or potential member who stepped through the door was welcomed with enthusiasm and was totally looked after by her.

I think of Lois as the 'start and finish' person of our chorus. She is the one person who not only sets up and takes down, but drags our equipment wherever we happen to be performing and does

it tirelessly and happily, (no bitching and complaining here) and most often without any assistance. I'm not sure we could perform without her. Lois has been a soloist in both a tap dance routine for 42nd Street, and Up on the Mountain numbers as well as singing the intro music for Beautiful America.

Along with trying to teach the front row of the chorus to do a line dance, and we all know what a challenge it was for some of our male members, she patiently worked with 10 of us, 3 of which were guys, Ted, Wyatt and Jim Jennings, to learn an Irish step dance to go with our musical number Lord of the Dance. This turned out to be an incredibly athletic undertaking, but added a tremendous amount to our show at that time. Thinking about it she is probably the only one of us who can still do it. Once Don and I became snowbirds for 3 months of the year, I relinquished my uniform responsibilities to Lois because I knew she would be able to look after outfitting new members, size changing pieces for members as our bodies changed and, keep track of who has what. This I know is a job in itself since I was responsible for uniforms from the beginning.

Lois next was asked to run for the position of Secretary and has now been doing this job for almost 2 years. From personal experience I know this is a time consuming, exasperating, and frustrating at times job, as I was secretary for the first 8 years of DCAT.

I'm sure I have left something out, and I'm sorry if I have, but most everyone here are very aware of how hard Lois works for us and has from the start. She has taken on all tasks willingly, with an upbeat attitude; a capability that makes her a very unique individual; and most importantly, extremely valued member of our organization. To that end a heart felt thank you is extended from each and everyone of us.