



The DCAT Purr-spective

The Newsletter of Drum Corps Alumni Toronto • 55 Barber Greene Road, North York, Ontario M3C 2A1 • August /96

We should audition to be the Official Chorus of the 2000 Olympics in Australia. We could go from venue to venue singing while they raise the flags. We already know 2 national anthems; how many more can there be? We could impress the selection committee with *Waltzing Matilda*. We could dress up our "Swolly Jagman", Ross Eckensviller (name sounds kind of Australian don't you think?), in one of those hats with the corks hanging from it to keep the bugs off. We could call all our ladies "Shiela". We could throw some shrimp on the barbie (no, not midget tossing). We could get ~~Hulk~~ Paul Hogan to introduce us. Our official shoes could be Wallaby's. We could learn "Tie me Kangaroo Down Boy". God, I do run on... sorry!

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DCAT BUSINESS

Happy Birthday to us! We're heading into our third fun-packed year.

- The DCAT General Meeting and Election were held at our rehearsal hall on August 7. The election results are as follows; President, Orton Beaumont; Vice-president, Don Gill; Treasurer, Brian Hill; Secretary, Marg Gill; Publicity, Dave Cook; Historian, Joe Watson.
- We are now officially a "not-for-profit" organization. That means that we can actively seek donations and funding and issue receipts for tax purposes. Thanks to Tom Hamilton for his efforts.
- Brian Hill has been named Business Manager. He will be responsible for booking performances and organizing transportation and other logistics.
- Memberships are due for renewal. This year there will be a two-tier membership. One membership for participating members and one for associate members (newsletter only). The fee structure will be announced shortly.

FUND RAISING

- **Coca Cola Cooler Raffle** - DCAT will once again have a raffle for another one of those excellent Coca Cola Coolers. Tickets will be available very soon.
- **Garage Sale** - Saturday, October 6. Clean out your basements, closets and garages of all that unwanted stuff. More information to come.
- **The Second Annual Hallowe'en Dance** - Saturday, October 26/96 from 8:00 pm - 1:00 pm at the Etobocoke Masonic Lodge. Music provided by our own "D.J. Dave" (Partridge). If you were there last year, you know what a fun event this is, so start working on those costumes! Tickets are available now. See Brian for tickets (445-6757).

There is a card night in the planning, the date has yet to be set. We are also looking into DCAT Alumni pins with our logo on them.

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G.A.S. 1997, Baltimore, MD

G.A.S. 1997 will be held on May 2nd, 3rd, & 4th in Baltimore, MD sponsored by the Yankee Rebels Alumni. Brian Hill with the able assistance of Ann White is organizing this trip. There will be a bus for this trip. The cost for the weekend is set at \$300 and the payment schedule is as follows; September 1 - \$60 • October 1 - \$60 • November 1 - \$60 • December 1 - \$60 • February 1 - \$60. It would be appreciated if the payment schedule could followed as we have to send funds to the organizers far in advance of the event. Payments should be given to Brian or Ann.

CHORUS NEWS

Ted Key is set to return on Wednesday, September 4, armed with new ideas and music. Thanks to Gord Moffatt and Wyatt Gill for directing the chorus during the summer.

Sunday rehearsals will begin on Sunday, October 27 and every second Sunday thereafter.

Brian tells me that we are booked to perform at St. Joe's Winter Classic at the Kodak Centre in Rochester the Saturday before the G.A.S. Reunion. This will be a great tune-up for G.A.S. Details as they become available.

There are a couple of other things in the works. You will be kept up to date at rehearsal.

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G.A.S. 1999, TORONTO

We are starting **NOW** to organize for G.A.S. 1999 which we will be hosting. This is an incredibly large undertaking and everyone is expected to participate at some level. We will need people to come forward who have expertise or contacts in a number of different areas.

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Splash-o-rama 1996; Pool party at the Jennings's...

Just when you thought it was safe to go back into the water, you notice who the lifeguard is.. Marilyn (qualification: forced to watch two episodes of Baywatch).

Water volleyball... what a hoot, especially if your playing in the deep end. I was hanging on to the ladder, Marg was floating in a rubber raft, Ann White and Karen Kerr were propped in the corners. Wyatt was playing centre forward and had nothing to hang on to. He was furiously doing the egg beater to avoid getting into a situation where Marilyn (Poolwatch Babe) would have to rescue him. She was busy playing for the opposition in the shallow end.

When I suggested that we change ends Marilyn (Poolwatch Babe) threatened to take her beachball and go home.

Sights to behold...

Damn, I thought that I was seeing double. Dolly Fox and Barb Jennings wearing identical 2 piece bathing suits. Well, more like Schwartzenger and Devito (Twins)... I wonder which one is the evil twin. Tom Hamilton's splashless dive... ya right! A phallic shaped floatation device that served as our floating volleyball net, and the prop for a few rude jokes. What kind of fashion statement was Dan Moloney trying to make with his "girlie" hat. Don Gill, looking very hedonistic in his wrap-around sunglasses and sleeveless ensemble.

A great turn out, on a great day, for a great party. Thanks to Jim and Barb Jennings for hosting this event.

We are a forgetful bunch (CRAFT) based on the container of things that Jim brought to rehearsal that were left behind (most of it belonged to Paul Kelly).

DCAT Xmas Concert... We are anticipating a large turn out for this event based on the turn out last year. This year, we will be issuing numbered tickets, based on the capacity of the room. Get your groups organized and get your tickets early. The tickets will be available very soon.

This month we add to our files; Laura Moffatt.

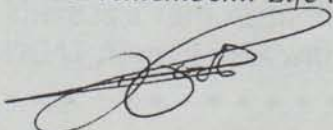
"We'd like to know a little bit about you for our files."

Laura Moffatt - Soprano, DCAT Chorus

Our grade nine class at York Memorial Collegiate, which was a "band" class, had only five girls, so we got a lot of attention. Unfortunately, one of the guys in that class didn't seem to be too interested in girls. It wasn't until the following year that I realized this skinny but likeable guy was really just extremely shy. I got tired of waiting for him to ask me out, and asked him to take me to a friend's party. The party turned out to be quite the necking session and I thought we had hit it off pretty good. A few weeks later, he asked me if I wanted to go see a "drum corps" competition. Now, I didn't know what the heck a drum corps was. Was it military? Was it a bunch of guys banging drums? Was this competition like a recital? I had no idea. So, I donned my prettiest, and probably lightest, dress for the occasion. Gord, (you guessed by now, I'm sure, although the skinny part might have thrown you a curve), picked me up and we headed to Varsity Stadium on a cold night. Everyone was dressed in blue jeans and other warm apparel. I felt quite out of place, not to mention damn cold.

Shortly after this, I was introduced to the York Lions Drum Corps and summarily informed that Gord was leaving me for a week in L. A. Well, you remember the good start at my friend's party? All I got before he left for L.A. was a hand-shake! Over the next few years, I got to see a lot of drum corps, the Province of Ontario, up-state New York, and Gord...in that order. Corps life was fun and I met many great people. There are many good times to remember...like weekends at Wasaga Beach...having the whole corps sing happy birthday to me, when Gord had forgotten it, a trip to Montreal in 1966... so many nice guys, (oops!). About this time I decided Gord was the right one for me, but by now he had decided to "play the field". After a particularly bad weekend, (I remember Gord and a blonde at a party... obviously over his shyness), we finally got back together and we've been inseparable ever since. I remember the Ambassador years as somewhat less stimulating and think this was when I was concentrating on starting a family. I happily did the mom/wife thing for the next 15 years or so. Then, WHAM Gord is talking drum corps, bands, marching, alumni... all that stuff again. After attending the G.A.S. reunion and watching the fun the chorus members had, I decide to join. Although, my enthusiasm for drum corps has waned, I am having a great time with the chorus. I am pleasantly surprised at what I can do and how good the group is. If you are reading this as a member, you know what I mean. There is the spirit and camaraderie without the pressure of competition. I hope the group stays together for a long time and always keeps the "social/fun" aspect in the forefront.

That's it for this month. Cheers!
and remember... *Life is a journey, not a guided tour.*



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