



The DCAT Purr-spective

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

The Mother of all Garage Sales

The weatherman cooperated and we had a great day. We started putting the tables out at 7:00 a.m. and we had our first customer at 7:55 a.m.. Our first sale was a pair of white court shoes.

The tables were overflowing with previously enjoyed treasures. We had everything plus the kitchen sink, a bathroom vanity and sink combination complete with hardware.

You say that "the fridge you just bought won't fit in your trunk", hey, no problem, we deliver.

Garage sales sure attract a variety of people - both selling and buying. There was the very well dressed lady who bought all our blenders and Art Deco-ish pieces. There was the guy in the grey flannels and jacket who we all thought was a government type making sure we were charging the appropriate tax.

Then he bought a rusty old saw and headed for the used clothes rack.

The guy that showed up as we were packing up and asked where the shoes were. He said he was here earlier but he wasn't wearing any socks.

There was Ellie and her blue light specials; Ann White doing her markdown madness; Brian Hill flogging coffee & muffins; Jim Tufts doing plug-in demo's (are you sure this thing works?). OK, so the first lawn mower didn't work, that's ok we've got three of them, pick another one. No madam, the element isn't supposed to heat up, the pot is insulated.

The strangest sight was the bride groom, his best man and two ushers, all in their tuxedos, doing the garage sale thing. It was 10:00 a.m. and the wedding wasn't until 2:00 p.m. The groom was nervous and chatty, his friends were focused, buying an air mattress, an ironing board and a couple of things for the groom to take on his honeymoon... a book titled "Is there Sex After Death" and a game called "Tongue Twister".

All in all it was a fun and profitable day. Thanks for efforts of the people sorting and setting up the tables on Friday night and the super sales staff on Saturday.

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DCAT BUSINESS

- **Membership fees** have been set for 1996-97. There is a three tier membership structure; i) Full (Chorus) Membership \$60 if paid by October 31, 1996 or \$65 to be paid by March 31, 1997. ii) \$30 for an Associate Membership (newsletter only). iii) Hardship Membership (see or call Ort Beaumont 905-881-1668)
- **DCAT Wear.** Anyone needing DCAT golf shirts (\$30 or \$35), jackets (\$60) or hats (\$15) should talk to Brian Hill (445-6757). The new golf shirts will have the crest embroidered rather than silk screened. The silkscreened shirts we have on hand will sell for \$30, the new embroidered ones will sell for \$35. There is also a black leather and melton winter jacket (optional) available. There will be a sample at rehearsal shortly. They sell for about \$120 if there are at least 12 people interested.

FUND RAISING

- **The Second Annual Hallowe'en Dance** - Saturday, October 26/96 from 8:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. at the Etobicoke Masonic Lodge. Music provided by our own "D.J. Dave" Partridge (see this months bio). 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).
 - **The Euchre Night** has been postponed until the new year.
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G.A.S. 1997, Baltimore, MD... Update

Your second installment of \$60 is due.

Any person going with to G.A.S. as part of the DCAT group should at least be an associate member (\$30). This would apply to friends relatives etc.

Itinerary; Friday, May 2nd we will be in Washington D.C. from about 10 am to 3:30 pm. There will be some wreath laying and performing, possibly with Princemen. Details to follow. Friday evening is the Beer Bash and the first four choruses perform.

Saturday afternoon - individuals etc. Saturday evening - banquet, the remaining four choruses perform, including DCAT. Sunday morning breakfast.

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UPCOMING CHORUS EVENTS

DCAT Xmas Concert... Sunday, December 1st at the Thornhill Golf and Country Club. Tickets (free) are available now on a first come basis. The tickets are limited to 200 (including the chorus) based on the capacity of the room. Children will not need tickets. Please don't take any more than you need and return those you don't need.

Sig's Evening... Monday, December 2nd at the Fort York Armories. Details to follow.

Chorus Xmas Social... Wednesday, December 18th (last rehearsal before Christmas). A traditional social evening for friends, relatives and associate members.

St. Joe's Winter Classic... Saturday at the Kodak Centre in Rochester. This is the weekend before G.A.S. This will be a great tune-up for G.A.S. Details as they become available.

We have been asked to sing in LeRoy again... to be decided.

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G.A.S. 1999, TORONTO

Attached is a chart of the DCAT Committees that have been set up to organize the G.A.S. 1999 Convention. We are starting to plan now and we need everyone's help to make this a success. So, please let Tom Hamilton (416) 282-0981, Chair G.A.S. '99 Committee know on which committee you will participate.

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Triva Nickname Game!

Match up the Real Names to the Knicknames (answers on last page)

Nicknames

Nasal Sweet Thing _____	Scoop _____
Young Doctor _____	Ollie _____
Dials _____	Moose _____
The Elephant _____	Lux, Gunther _____
Willy Lump Lump _____	Chicken Hawk _____
Feathers _____	Chaffed Ankles _____
The Bear _____	Alky Jack _____
Swampy _____	Satch _____
The Bird _____	Bubbles _____
Calhoun _____	Fingers _____
Candy Ass _____	The Rug _____
Radar _____	Lassie _____
Flazoot _____	Thumper _____
Hollywood _____	Mosleem _____
Stinky _____	No Pay _____
Buzz _____	Lolly Too Dums _____
Baby Huey _____	Captain Video _____
Daddy _____	Killer _____

Real Names

Dave Jewell, Frank Adams,
Jack Grosvener, Bill Coy,
Dan Moloney, Alf Medhurst,
Bruce New, Fred Johnson,
Bob Roy, Bruce Smith,
Don Gill, Brian McDowell,
Jack McMullan, Pat Moloney,
Bill Selfe, Paul Mosley,
Henry Sliwinski, Ted Key,
Dave Partridge, Al Coy,
Allan Anderson, Gord Irvine,
Harvey Partridge, Al Baggs,
Steve Eatman, Tom Barber,
Wayne Richardson, Al Miller,
Ron McCormick, Glen Copp,
Joe Watson, Neville Sweeting,
Lorne Ferrazzuti, Brian Hill,
Jim Bartholomew, Bob Tzaduk

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

This month we add to our files: Dave Partridge (D.J. Dave)

I have hesitated sending in my Bio because, although I'm a paid up member, I haven't been able to participate as much as I'd like to.

As a husband and father of a still relatively young family out here in "Hooterville" (Cambridge), I find it difficult to make the regular trips to rehearsal and commit to time away from my family right now. My days of parenting would have been over a few years ago but my wife and I couldn't find anything interesting on TV one night (about 11 years ago) I guess and the product of our boredom, Dave Jr., was born 9 months later. Our third child, 8 years behind Melissa and 10 years behind Steven. In a few short years though he will be wanting to do more *without* his parents than *with*, and I will be free to sing, march or just "hang" with who I choose. I hope that DCAT is still around then... My wife and I look for other ways to occupy our spare time now.

My introduction to Drum Corps came at a very young age, longer ago than I can recall. I remember my brother Cliff, and I being in tow with my father Harvie, a.k.a. "The Bird Man", for several years around the Port Credit Legion Band, the Saints Sr. B corps and eventually the Ambassadors when they and the Saints amalgamated.

Reading Gord's bio in July issue reminded me of a short tenure I had with York Lions as a 15 year old 3rd soprano. Dad sent me there with John McCrory's son Tom, as he figured it was time I got my feet wet. Gord was York's soprano soloist at that time. I couldn't have had more than 3 or 4 rehearsals under my belt when I marched my first parade, never playing a note. Just about the time I realized that horns weren't my thing, Ambassadors' drum instructor Fred Johnson was short cymbal players and put the call out. My father volunteered my services. Those first few rehearsal were tough. Nothing seemed to please this guy. Playing for Fred was a valuable experience though. It prepared me for boot camp that was to follow in a couple of years. I soon found out that everyone at one time or another caught Freddys' wrath.

So there I was, at the ripe old age of 15, touring the land with Senior Drum Corps. That was 1966. I marched until the end of the '68 season. I was in Ottawa with the corps in '67 when we won Nationals. Tragically, unbeknown to us, Dad's father had passed away earlier that day, taking away a lot of the luster to his first National Championship as a Senior "A" Director. But life marches on, and so did I, for one more year.

In '68 I left the corps, my family and my friends behind to serve in the Royal Canadian Navy. I returned home in '71, met my wife Patricia, got a job, had a brief fling with Commanders (Ambassadors had folded), got married, had kids and almost forgot about drum corps until 1991 when my daughter came home from school and asked if she could join a corps. The kids had seen pictures around the house of Dad and I and the Ambassadors but never seemed that curious about it. She said this guy was at her school today and said they were going to Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana and Texas! The corps was the Kiwanis Cavaliers. I hadn't heard of them before but decide to check them out anyway.

Melissa joined and was hooked. A year later after watching his sister and hearing Cadets of Bergen County blow the "roof" off Seagram's Stadium, Steven was hooked, left hockey and lacrosse and joined. Both were drummers, Steve on 5th Bass, Melissa in the pit on timps. One of the highlights was watching her "gold metal" performance at individuals in '93. Dave Jr., at 6 years of age, joined their Kadet program and marched with the Cavaliers in Christmas Parades that year as a mascot.

It was a magical feeling watching all 3 of them march together. This was a Junior Corps and very different from what I had experienced as a kid, but it was good... it was Drum Corps!

I was hooked again and spent '92 & '93 helping the Cavaliers with fundraising and their Kadet program. Currently I am doing some volunteer work for the ODCA marketing team. Ex Del member - Bob McFarland and I are back working for the '96 Canadian Open Drum Corps Championships. We worked together for the '93 show.

The ODCA is going thru' a transitional stage and needs a lot of help promoting the drum corps activity. It has been a large part of my life at different times but always a valuable and worthwhile one. We must do what we can to keep it alive for many more kids to experience the passion and excitement of Drum Corps.

Nickname Answers

Nasal Sweet Thing . . .	Neville Sweeting	Scoop	Dave Jewell
Young Doctor	Dan Moloney	Ollie	Al Miller
Dials	Brian McDowell	Moose	Alf Medhurst
The Elephant	Fred Johnson	Lux, Gunther.	Jim Bartholomew
Willy Lump Lump	Bill Selfe	Chicken Hawk	Henry Sliwinski
Feathers	Dave Partridge	Chaffed Ankles.	Frank Adams
The Bear	Pat Moloney	Alky Jack	Jack Grosvener
Swampy	Gord Irvine	Satch	Allan Anderson
The Bird	Harvey Partridge	Bubbles	Bob Roy
Calhoun	Steve Eatman	Fingers	Ted Key
Candy Ass	Ron McCormick	The Rug	Jack McMullan
Radar	Joe Watson	Lassie	Don Gill
Flazoot	Lorne Ferrazzuti,	Thumper	Bruce Smith
Hollywood	Brian Hill	Mosleem	Paul Mosley
Stinky	Glen Copp	No Pay	Wayne Richardson
Buzz	Tom Barber	Lolly Too Dums	Bruce New
Baby Huey	Bob Tzaduk	Captain Video	Bill Coy
Daddy	Al Baggs	Killer	Al Coy

Congratulations to Ort and June Beaumont's daughter Stephanie Beaumont for being nominated in two categories at the recent Canadian Country Music Awards. (As you read this the Beaumonts are vacationing in Greece).

That's it for this month, thanks to Paul Kelly and Jim Bartholomew for their help with the nicknames and Dave Partridge for his bio.

Happy Thanksgiving to all.

Cheers

Dave Cook (757-2043)

