



The DCAT Purrr-spective

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DCAT is an organization dedicated to the preservation and joy of Drum & Bugle Corps camaraderie, bringing together past members, relatives, friends and associates in a social environment for the purpose of companionship and musical activities.

Reta Morrison 1928 - 1999



Photo was taken at GAS 99, May 2nd, 1999.

Excerpt from the Hamilton Spectator:

MORRISON, Reta Margaret (nee Button) - Peacefully on July 4, 1999 at St. Joseph's Hospital after a short and courageous battle with cancer, in her 71st year. Loving daughter of the late Edwin and of Florence Button. Survived by her loving husband Wilfred, sister Irene Jones, brother Reg Button, nephew Jim Jones, niece Colleen Jones, nephews Bruce Button, Dave Button, all of Hamilton, nephew Paul Button of Belleville and niece Linda Rees of Ancaster. Reta worked for the Bank of Nova Scotia for 33 years and was also a proud member of the D.C.A.T. Chorus of Toronto.

Reta was the salt of the earth. Reta was always there, running DCAT's canteen and draws. She encouraged the chorus; if Reta smiled, we did good! She got Wilf to rehearsals on time. She was the authority on all things feline and motels that would allow pets.

We will miss Reta.

It was really heartwarming to see the chorus turnout at the funeral to remember Reta and support Wilf. The chorus sang two numbers at the funeral, the first was Reta's favourite "Somewhere Over the Rainbow" and the second was the "Lord's Prayer". There was not a dry eye in the chorus. That was one of the most difficult things that I have ever had to do. The minister used lyrics from "Rainbow" in his sermon; it was very appropriate. The pallbearers were members of the DCAT chorus. After the internment we went to a reception to spend some time with Wilf.

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Pot Pourri...

Hot, hot, hot. Summer is here and the chorus is in it's summer routine. With Ted Key ensconced at Dickie Lake (*wear the fox hat*) the chorus is in the capable hands of Wyatt Gill. We have had a busy spring/summer. Turn outs for rehearsal continue to be strong. Glenda Richards and Wayne Burnett of Richburn Entertainment dropped by rehearsal to talk about our participation at the 1999 Royal Bank Seniors' Jubilee Concerts. A chorus consensus was that we should do a lobby show only. Unlike last year when we did a lobby show and stage show members will not have to take two days off work. Wayne and Glenda were disappointed but understood. They consider the stage show as the crown jewel. The lobby show gives us 30 minutes and lets us use all our toys as opposed to the stage show which gives us 7 minutes with no props. The date decided on is Friday, August 20th. The details of the performance will given out at rehearsal.

DCAT has placed an ad in "*Whole Note Magazine*". The ad promotes the chorus, invites potential new members out to rehearsal and contains a request for amature musicians (concert drummer, guitar, trumpet or woodwind to compliment our 8 part harmonies.

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Shrine Presidents Dinner - Monday, May 31

This was our third performance for a Shrine audience; I think they like us. This was also our first performance since GAS'99. With the pressure of hosting GAS behind us we were ready to cut loose and we did. We were asked to do about 45 minutes which gave Ted a chance to break in his new comedy routine with the chorus as a laugh track. They were as usual, a very receptive audience and really seemed to enjoy our performance. There was a lot of positive feedback afterwards. Some of us hung around the bar and watched the Leafs bite the dust.

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Ajax Home Week - Saturday, June 12

It was a hot, hot day. Don Gill arrived in his spiffy new convertible with the bazooka tail pipe. He left it running so he could play some music while they unpacked. Marg got the garment bags out of the trunk and hung them from the open trunk lid (*over the tail pipe*) and burned a hole clean through Wyatts bullet-proof garment bag. It was a mercifully short street parade (Rhonda X 8). We were positioned at the back of the parade and had the ambulance right behind us which was comforting. John Parkinson had 8 chances to get the halt right after Rhonda and blew them all. After the parade we did a performance in the Legion and we showed we could sing more than Rhonda. The newly elected mayor of Ajax was there and thought the chorus was wonderful. Ted said he could not make the performance, but we're sure he was there, cleverly disguised as a clown.

The Gills (Marg actually) invited the group back to their place afterwards for a barbeu-ue. **The "Lombada Pit"** (the sunken garden patio) was a real hot bed of activity. A little sensual Spanish music and strange things happen to people. **Whatever goes on in the**

Lombada pit, stays in the Lombada Pit. Unless I see it, of course... and I did. Let me see, there was Teresa, Terry, Barb Jennings, Ellie and Dianne. The lone male in the pit was Bruce Brackett, things got so hot, that he had to cool his butt in the fountain. Thanks to Marg and Don Gill for their hospitality.

Orillia '99 - What a fantastic weekend!

We assembled at the Fox's for a bite to eat and a rehearsal. This weekend the chorus was under the direction of Wyatt Gill. Our first performance was at the Birchmere Lodge. Tom Hamilton led the sing along portion and new chorus member Sandra King said she would be happy to accompany the sing along portion on the piano. Who knew she could play? She did a great job. It's always nice to do these shows. After that we were off to the Legion. There were a lot of friends and locals there. Wyatt led us through a great show. We did a few numbers before intermission. At this time the "Master of the House" cast got changed. The people at the legion didn't know what was going on. They were soon caught up with the cast's high jinx. After the skit the chorus did the second half of the show. A big finale and a great reception.

After the legion it was back to John and Dolly Fox's home for a barbecue (*party*). It was nice to have Dave Jewell join us for the weekend. The weather was threatening but it held off and we partied on in true DCAT fashion.

Many thanks to John and Dolly for organizing the performances and hosting the barbecue.

Hang on, the weekend isn't over yet. Rik Robinson and Betty Cannon had invited everybody up to their cottage on Kahshe Lake for a barbecue (*party*) on the Sunday. Sooo, we grabbed a few hours sleep and headed for the lake. It was a beautiful sunny day. There was canoeing, swimming and motorboat tours of the lake. More great food, conversation and a lot of laughs. Thanks to Rik and Betty for their hospitality. It was a great finish to a really, really fun weekend.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- ***Saturday, August 14th - Joe & Ann Watson barbecue in Bobcaygeon***
- ***Saturday, August 7th - Jennings Annual Pool Party.***
- ***Friday, August 20th Seniors Jubilee at Roy Thompson Hall.***

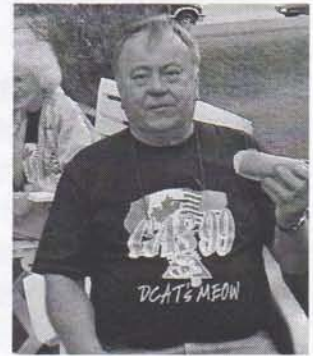
**What a fantastic weekend!
Orillia... the Legion & the Fox's**



The chorus



Master of the House



A man & his dog



The Gathering



Join me won't you!



Happy Birthday to June

Fun in the sun at Kahshe Lake



Mr. Don, hairdresser to the stars



Hats



Whoa!!



Sittin' in the sun



Captain Rik



Wishful thinking!