



# The DCAT Purr-spective

*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.*

**A**mid this busy holiday season let us take a moment to remember our good friend Paul Kelly who passed away on November 30th after a long and courageous battle with cancer. Paul's wife Judy and the family were with him. Our thoughts and prayers are with them. (see pages 2 & 3)

Ted Key has decided to move on. He has been the DCAT musical director since its beginning in 1994. He is responsible for what the chorus is today. We have many fond memories and thank Ted for his immeasurable contribution to the chorus and wish him well in the future.

I am pleased to announce that Wyatt Gill has agreed to become the DCAT musical director. Wyatt has been a member of DCAT since 1994. A strong tenor voice, Wyatt has also served as assistant musical director until career demands and family commitments made him cut back his participation.



Wyatt has directed the chorus on numerous occasions over the years including the GAS Reunion in 2003. He stepped in and took over for an ailing Ted Key. The Executive Committee is working to put together an instructional team to assist Wyatt. The chorus continues to be in good hands.

Since the last newsletter, the chorus has performed at the Royal York Hotel for the Shriners Past Potentate reception. It was a very splendiferous affair. The hall was cavernous and we wondered if we could be heard in the far reaches. Apparently we were.

The chorus also performed for the residents of the Donway Place and "Zack Night" at De La Salle.

DCAT held its 2nd Annual Dinner Dance on October 22 at Estonian House. It was a huge success with great food and a DJ that had the place jumping. Kudos to Edna Allen and her social group.

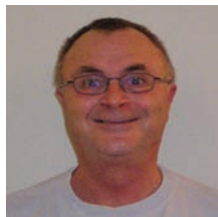
We wrapped up the year with our traditional last rehearsal Christmas Social on December 14 where friends and family were invited to celebrate the holiday season.

One last announcement, I have agreed to return to the publicity roll.

*All the best in the New Year and take care of yourselves... Dave Cook*

***The DCAT Annual General Meeting and Election took place on October 26th***

***The 2006 Executive Committee is as follows.***



John Jones  
president



Dave Wood  
vice president



Gord Irvine  
treasurer



John Dickinson  
business manager



Lois Nicholls  
secretary



Linda Norton  
membership



Dave Cook  
publicity

# Remembering Paul Kelly

*excerpts from the eulogy by Dan Moloney*



**A** fine and honourable man; a dutiful son; a wonderful brother; a loving and dedicated husband; a proud and devoted father; and a good friend.

What initially brought us together, and what helped strengthen our friendship for almost fifty years, could be called our keen interest in music and the performing arts. Or perhaps more accurately - our love of drum and bugle corps.

As Paul and I neared the end of our time at U of T (some may notice, I avoid the word “graduate”), Paul and I, along with our good friend, Chris McBride, decided to leave home and soon found an apartment near the school. A wonderful three-bedroom deluxe model that cost us a mere \$100.00 a month. So perhaps it’s not so strange that it soon became known affectionately as “The Pit”.

But we were proud of our new digs and within a few weeks we naturally decided to have a “housewarming” party. A party that would change our lives forever. And definitely, I have to say, for the better.

You see, by some fortunate coincidence, Mary Bryce and Judy Dolan, also had become friends during their high school years and were now nurses-in-training at Wellesley Hospital. And amazingly enough, when these two beauties found themselves with nothing much to do on this particular Saturday night, they responded to the urging of Bonnie Lindsay, their friend and classmate who was already at the party, who called and told them to..... allow me to paraphrase here. “Get your buns over here, girls. There’s a hell of a party going on”.

Fortunately Mary and Judy responded positively. And once they arrived this party went on for two more days.

By then it was clear that Paul and Judy and Dan and Mary had each become a “couple”. And within two years both Paul and I were each lucky enough to have married our soul mates. Our lovers; our “best friends”

*Friendships that last a lifetime.*

A lot has happened in these forty years. And despite what some have described as our initial “lack of focus” at U of T, our wives have definitely taken good care of us. They have always encouraged us and assisted us and are greatly responsible for whatever moderate success we may have enjoyed over the years.

As soon as Paul and Judy were married, they set off for Montreal. Judy re-launched her nursing career at the Royal Victoria Hospital and within a few short years Paul had become one of the youngest vice-presidents ever in the advertising business.

Not content with that, a year or two later they up and moved again to New York City. There Judy undertook to show those Yankee nurses just how good Canadian nurses could be while Paul focused on earning an MBA from Columbia. One of the most prestigious business schools in the world.

*Friendships that last a lifetime.*

It will surprise no one, I am sure, that in addition to business and his family, Paul had many other interests. And that wherever he dabbled, he often “over-achieved”.

As a youngster, for example, Paul took a few music and voice lessons and soon was singing solos at concerts.

When he first joined the De La Salle Band, Paul took up the baritone bugle; and within twelve months became our back-up soloist.

Later, when Paul switched to drumming, he won the Canadian junior tenor drum championship.

More recently, Paul was one of the initial founders of DCAT and the DCAT Chorus; and shortly thereafter he became our Treasurer and then our President.

Perhaps some of you share Paul’s interest in historical drum corps music. Do you know Paul has collected and catalogued over 2000 drum corps recordings?

Do you enjoy wine? Are you a fan of opera? How ‘bout Formula 1 racing? Or perhaps you have a question about philosophy, or politics, or economics.

Well no problem. Just ask Paul.

Mind you, it was always wise to allow plenty of time for the answer. Those of us who knew him well understood that Paul took great pride in being extra thorough with his information.

So on balance it seems clear that Paul enjoyed a full and wonderful life. But to truly understand Paul, and to fully appreciate him, you have to know what he himself was most proud of.

It is often said that a man should be measured by his legacy; by what he leaves behind. And I know for certain that Paul's most compelling motivation; his pride and joy; the lasting legacy of which he is most proud; is his wife and family.

Judy; and Meghan and Siobhan; and Owen and Rory.



***Remembering Paul Kelly by Fred Johnson from the Cadre website***

I first met Paul in Toronto when he joined the Canada's Marching Ambassadors Drum Corps in 1964. Paul was an outstanding drummer from the De La Salle Drum Corps and, having aged-out, decided to continue drumming with a Senior Corps. He performed with the Ambassadors from 1964 through 1967 and was the Canadian Individual Champion for Tenor Drum in 1965. Paul and Judy moved to Montreal in late 1967 where he instructed the Metropolitan Drum Corps. Paul was a member of the Canadian Judges Association (CJA). He also judged for DCA. In 1994 Paul joined the Drum Corps Associates Toronto (DCAT) chorus, where he performed both as a choir member and soloist — plus served as their President from 2002 to 2005. Paul was one of the original members of our CADRE drumming organization. His support for, and dedication to, CADRE will not be forgotten.

Paul was an outstanding drummer. A drummer and - until his passing - a dedicated student and supporter of the rudimental art form. Paul never stopped learning. I still remember his positive attitude, enthusiasm and work ethic when he was introduced to lifts and levels, Stone's stick control, coordinated hand independence and upper level solos such as Tribute to Doctor Berger, Running The Flam Accent etc. He was a perfect student. As an instructor I will never forget Paul, Rick Hosie and Bill Selfe as a tenor drum section playing their "book" and going contest-after-contest with an absolute minimum of execution errors. They were simply outstanding by any standard.

Paul admired Judy greatly; he was extremely proud of each of his children and was amazed by their resourcefulness. He was immensely appreciative of the respect and the support he enjoyed from his family; but most important of all - he loved them all deeply; and would talk endlessly about the bright future he wished for all of them.

And so, my friends, that is how Paul should be remembered.

A good friend; a proud father; a dedicated and loving husband.

We will miss you Paul.

*This friendship has lasted a lifetime.*

*Some personal and fond memories...*

Blood, sweat, tears and discipline at the Shell Tower... talking about rudimental drumming 'till closing time at the Palace Hotel... watching him learn to read and write music with all those damn questions... the day he and Mosley presented me with their "chicken scratching" entitled "The Ambassadors Field Presentation" which they had concocted on a Toronto street car (I still have their original)... the "Pit" (downtown Toronto) and so on.

Let me conclude with what Paul was all about. Scranton PA, September 2005 CADRE's "Red Shirt" group had just finished rehearsing. Kelly (I very seldom called him Paul) and I have a long talk... family... the great guys... the drumming... the judging... etc... just the two of us. Then he tells me he wants to play something. OK... go ahead. This guy - as sick and as weak as he was from the cancer treatments, and as tired as he was from the rehearsal - stands up and plays "Running The Flam Accent" on a rudimental bass drum!!!! Some drummers reading this piece will understand the significance of that. For those who don't, contact me... I'll send you the solo.

He's up there in the big practice pad in the sky still learning about the rudimental art form and looking for Jimmy Inrig so they can prepare a future drum line for all of us. We just lost another great one.

Kelly ... I'll never forget you.



## Presidents Corner

*This column is the first of what I hope will be a regular update on the direction of DCAT from my perspective as your President. It is a responsibility that I take seriously and with great pride.*

Over the past year, we have attempted to get more input from the membership so that we can make DCAT an even better place for all of us.

We conducted the membership survey in July and more recently held a planning session that asked the question “Where do we want to see DCAT in the future”?

The messages which I heard loud and clear were that our members want DCAT to be a place where:

- We honor our traditions, heritage and friendships.
- We share a love of singing and performing with each other and others
- We respect and care for one another.
- We support each other and communicate effectively and honestly.
- We run the organization in a professional and responsible manner
- We resolve issues quickly and openly.
- We develop the skills and talents of our members.
- We work to earn respect from our community and from our peers.

I believe these messages are not independent. In fact, I believe it takes all of them to make DCAT the kind of organization we can be proud to belong to. I also believe that throughout its history most of these ideas have been a part of the DCAT experience. We have a strong foundation.

I wish to thank every single member of DCAT for your contribution to this work. DCAT belongs to its members.

I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge the enormous contribution made by Tey Key to the creative and musical progress made by DCAT over its history. He laid a foundation of excellence without which DCAT would not be what it is today.

It is also with sadness that I acknowledge the passing of Paul Kelly. He was my friend. I will miss his insight, enthusiasm and counsel. Gone too soon. Our hearts are with Judy and his family. I know he is singing somewhere.

Till next time.

John Jones