



The DCAT Purr-spective

DCAT (Drum Corps Alumni Toronto) 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.

The Newsletter of the Drum Corps Alumni of Toronto - November 2008

The DCAT Annual General Meeting and Election was held on October 22nd at Estonia House. There were four positions up for election and one appointment. Marion Shearer was appointed President; Pat Maloney was elected Vice President; John Fox was elected Business Manager; Linda Carscadden was elected Membership Director and Edna Kingsley was elected Social Director.

Board of Directors 2008/09



President
Marion Shearer



Vice President
Pat Maloney



Treasurer
Gord Irvine



Secretary
Lois Nicholls



Membership
Linda Carscadden



Business Mgr.
John Fox



Publicity/Web
Dave Cook



Social Director
Edna Kingsley



Past President
John Dickinson

To all members of The DCAT Chorus

It has been both my honour and privilege to be able to represent this wonderful organization for the past year as its President. I want to take this opportunity to thank all those individuals who, when asked by me, came forward and gave of their time to help make the project that they were involved in a success. I especially want to thank John Jones for his guidance and help when I first took on this responsibility; I in turn offer the same help to the individual who takes over for me.

It was a very busy yet very satisfying year for me and for all members of DCAT to host the 24th annual GAS reunion as well as to put on our third annual For the Love of Music Concert. In my opinion, both these projects brought out the class that is The DCAT Chorus.

With the guidance of both Wyatt Gill and Gord Moffatt as well as a strong Executive, I believe that we are on the path to bigger and better days ahead. This is a good organization with a unique sound and presentation for its audiences, but it is going to take all of us to give 100% of our time and efforts to be able to achieve these plateaus.

My sincerest best wishes to all

John Dickinson

Past President DCAT Chorus

DCAT Chorus Christmas Party

Wednesday, December 17th, 2008.

Rehearsal from 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm and party from 8:30 pm - 10:00 pm. Friends and family welcome. Please bring a new unwrapped toy for a needy child.

ZOOMER SHOW

The chorus performed two shows at the "Zoomer Show" on Saturday, November 1st and Sunday, November 2nd. held at the Direct Energy Centre; Exhibition Place. The Chorus was well received and got a number of new member inquiries.

The inaugural "DCAT Hall of Fame" nominations were made on Wednesday, November 19th. The results will be announced at our Christmas party on Wednesday, December 17th.

We were saddened by the passing of Edith O'Halloran, wife of DCAT member, Gord O'Halloran. The Chorus was honoured to be asked to sing at the funeral on Friday, November 21st. We sang You'll Never Walk Alone, Over The Rainbow, Amazing Grace and Fare Thee Well Love.



Swampy (aka Gord Irvine) on Parade in the Guelph Santa Claus Parade

For the Love of Music

Another show has come and gone, and reflecting back on this last one, I realize that its time to re-evaluate the process in which the show is organized. In my opinion, it is time to bring into this process, proper sponsorship to help



us with the advertising that we need to ensure a complete sellout each and every year. From the comments I received this year, it's obvious that we are on the right track as far as the entertainment value is concerned. However, I did receive some negativity regarding one group—enough said, I will try to do better in the future.

This show is indeed a labour of love on my part and I still believe it can be the single biggest money maker for us each year, but we have to take advantage of all aspects that are open to us. That includes everyone getting involved in selling ads for next year's

program. I hope to have someone in place to handle this project very soon. It is also my hope to get involved with the Zoomers Assoc. and see what avenues might be of interest to us; after all, this is the age group that we should be

targeting. Zoomers now publish a magazine and I think we should advertise our show in it and I will follow up with them to see what this would cost.

To the Organizing Committee of our show, once again for your time and efforts, my heartfelt thanks goes out to all. A special thanks to Bob Cunningham and John McTaggart for their involvement in this project.

John Dickinson

For The Love of Music (Director)



BOBCAYGEON REPORT

Saturday, August 23 dawned sunny clear and calm, no wind or rain. My neighbour, Anne had her rosary on the clothesline to ward off foul weather and it worked this year.

Marion Shearer and Lynn Voorhees were the first to arrive carrying a cooler, chairs, sunhats and happy faces. They staked out their space near the water. The festivities commenced! By early afternoon between 20 and 30 DCATs had arrived and settled on the dock and the grass. The Queen (Gillian) chose a quiet corner with a lake view and snoozed. Why not!

Our bar was the hang out spot for the ladies for a change... standing room only. I'm sure the chatter, laughter, music and clinking glasses carried across the bay.

Anticipating the arrival of Wyatt, Tara, Payton, Aiden and Parker Gill, our granddaughter Victoria and Marg Gill took position at the top of the driveway. Finally a van pulled up and Wyatt emerged, opened the hatch back and tossed out several balls of various sizes and colours meant to help entertain the munchkins. Payton and Victoria immediately took off next door to play in the bunk bedroom while Marg and other grandmothers entertained Aiden and Parker.

There was an assortment of snacks, munchies and dips. The barbecues were fired up, orders were placed with the barbecutioners and the feast began.

A rousing game of Bocce Ball broke out. I don't know if a winner was decided but who cared?

As evening settled in, the partiers started to disperse except for the kids who hung out next door - remember when we could hang in?

Later in the evening it was nice to see the Gill munchkins head off home in their jammies, sound asleep as they were carried to the car. Like Charlie Brown, said, "Security is sleeping in the back seat of the car after you've been somewhere with your Mom and Dad. You don't have worry about anything, Mom and Dad are in the front seat and they do all the worrying; they take care of everything." What a wonderful thought.

We love having this event every year and thanks to all that came. See you next year.

Bobcaygeon Fall Fair '08

The Bobcaygeon Fall Fair celebrated their 150th anniversary this year. It was held the last weekend in September and again, the weather cooperated. As it was a special celebration this year, the Fair Committee invited more participants. The Toronto Signals came to march in the parade. When we knew they were coming for sure we thought, why not have another barbecue and offered up our compound. The Sigs thanked us, but as they had a very early start that morning they decided to leave right after the parade.

Joe and I made sure to promote the Sigs and told one and all to come to see a really big band. They did not disappoint. As they marched down main street the atmosphere was palpable. The Honour Guard of Ellie, Sherry and Maude was very impressive. It was wonderful to see all the DCAT's in the corps. All around us, people were saying WOW, who are they, are they ever good! What a wonderful addition to our parade and I was very proud of them.

As we walked home after the parade, we could hear them marching into the fair grounds and then play their concert. We paused at our side door and listened. What an emotional experience it was for us... all our buddies, right here in Bobcageon. To top off a great day, a few DCAT's - the Moffatts, Beaumonts, Camerons and Sherry who had driven, did come back for yes, another barbeque. Music, laughter, bebies around the bar (of course) with many tall tales of drum corps and other nonsense. For us, a great finish to our Bocageon summer '08.

Annie in the Tundra and Joe the corps guy.



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Visit our website: www.dcatchorus.ca