



# 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 - December 2009**

## DCAT Board of Directors 2009/10



President  
Marion Shearer



Vice President  
Pat Maloney



Treasurer  
Dan Moloney



Business Manager  
John Fox



Publicity  
Dave Cook



Secretary  
Lois Nicholls



Social Director  
Edna Kingsley



Membership  
Linda Carscadden



Past President  
John Dickinson

The DCAT Annual General Meeting and Election was held on November 12th, 2009 at Estonian House. There were three positions up for election; President, Secretary and Treasurer. Marion Shearer was elected full term President after serving as appointed President for one year. Dan Moloney was elected as Treasurer, and Lois Nicholls was elected as Secretary. These are all two year positions.

Many thanks to Gord Irvine as he steps down from the position of Treasurer, a position he held for ten years. Gord will still be involved with his bass drum, his responsibility as one of the guards for the Queen and our "good humour man".

## FROM THE PRESIDENT – Marion Shearer

DCAT, now in its 15th year, continues to provide members with both a wonderful "extended family" and the opportunity to blend this camaraderie into "making great music".

Introduced at the 2009 GAS Reunion in Gettysburg, PA, as "The Great DCAT Chorus," members performing under the amazing direction of Conductor, Wyatt Gill, brought the audience to their feet. There was also the opportunity for us all to enjoy our own Gillian Maloney performing her well beloved visit of "The Queen".

"A first" in 2009 saw the DCAT "For the Love of Music Show" completely SOLD OUT with a waiting list for tickets. The entire Committee, led by our Business Manager, John Fox, and Co-ordinator, John Dickinson, deserves congratulations for putting together such a great choice of performing groups and promoting the venue so well. Since most of the audience immediately expressed their desire for tickets in 2010, it may necessitate considering a larger theatre or perhaps including a matinee performance.

As always, DCAT is faced with the challenge of raising money to

cover our operating expenses. These expenses are mainly for the rental of our rehearsal facilities which needs to be central to our members, have options for practicing in several small groups, holding business meetings, and provide storage.

Since the Executive decided not to raise the membership fees in 2010, it will be necessary to generate funds by increasing the number of singing engagements and DCAT is fortunate to have the services of Assistant Conductor, Gord Moffat, who may be needed to share the 2010 performance schedule. Gord's professionalism was certainly much appreciated in 2009 when he was called upon several times to fill in when Wyatt became suddenly unavailable.

As the newly elected President, I must thank the rest of the Executive, who make my job so relatively easy: Lois Nicholls, as Secretary, is wonderfully efficient and never seems to run out of energy; Edna Kingsley, our Social Committee Director, does an amazing job calling the membership when needed; Pat Maloney, as the Vice-President, is very supportive and helpful; John Fox, as Business Manager, works tirelessly on our behalf finding venues for us so we can be financial viable; Dave Cook, Publicity, always keeps his cool as well as

maintaining our website in wonderful shape, putting together the DCAT "Purr-spective," and any other publishing items we need; Linda Carscadden, Membership Director, should have her name in lights – not only has she continued to promote DCAT and recruited members but she has gone above and beyond raising money for DCAT through raffles, various sales, bus tours, etc. John Dickinson, Past President, for his untiring help and advice; and last but not least, I want to welcome Dan Moloney as our new Treasurer and thank him so much for

"stepping up to the plate."

Special thanks to Gord Irvine, our outgoing Treasurer, for all the help and encouragement he has given me and for all his hard work keeping the books for DCAT over the past ten years. We are all going to miss his sense of humour at Executive meetings.

Finally, I would like to extend my appreciation to all our Associate Members for your continued support. You are a very important part of the DCAT Family - thank you all.

**Notes from Nobleton** - The Chorus was introduced by Bob Cunningham and it was a fun performance. Apparently the Minister had promised that anyone who did not enjoy the show would get their money back, there were no refunds! The Afterglow was great with some enthusiastic audience members joining in the singing and kibitzing.

**Stouffville** - Our second performance at Stouffville United Church on Sunday, November 29th was a rousing success. The audience was very welcoming and did not want the concert to end.

**The DCAT Hall of Fame** vote was held on November 18th, 2009. Results of the vote will be announced at the Christmas Party on Wednesday, December 16th.

**Dues** for the 2009/10 season are \$75. for a full time member and \$35. for associate members. They are due now.

**GAS 2010** - Co-hosted by Archer-Epler "Musketees", Audubon Bon-Bons, St. Lucy's Cadets, and Brooklyn United April 30 – May 2, 2010 - Lancaster Hotel Resort, Lancaster PA. *See website for more details*

**The DCAT Christmas Party Wednesday, December 16th, 2009**

**Estonian House - 7:30 pm to 10:00 pm**

**Please bring a new unwrapped toy for distribution to a needy child.**

## THE BOBCAYGEON BASH

Saturday, August 29th arrived and as usual, it was cloudy, slight drizzle and cool. This has become a tradition, even though my neighbour, Ann once again put her rosary on the clothesline. No matter how much we looked to the sky or down the lake, we knew a "Sunny Day at the Lake" was not happening and 30 plus people were coming.

The family, after a conference (more like a panic discussion), decided on an alternative arrangement - let's have the party in Joe's office aka the garage - it was like a scene from a Judy Garland/Mickey Rooney movie. A very sober look around determined a necessary major clean up with whatever creativity we could think of to make the place presentable. Anything that was drum corps, DCAT or whimsical to hide unsightly bits were used, plus some old sheets. The floor was given a good cleaning, and streamers and balloons were hung. By 1:00 p.m. most of the guests had arrived and seemed quite happy with the party room. As usual with DCAT, within a short time drinks, nibbles and laughter filled the room but

mid-afternoon – a miracle – THE SUN. The exodus to the lake was speedy and a large circle was formed, pictures taken and the warmth of the sun was outdone by all the smiling faces. A too short but energetic game of "Hit the Piñata" was held even though the piñata was, to say the least, unusual. I had forgotten to buy a real one but son-in-law Brian and granddaughter, Victoria made one with an LCBO bag and masking tape (see picture) - all those involved in the bashing enjoyed it anyway. Also, Marg Gill had brought some lawn darts and I don't know who won but the shouts and cheers could probably be heard across the lake. Once again, the sun left – so back to the "Joe's office".

BBQ time with lots of delicious food and music. Jersey Boys was played, of course, which prompted a sing-a-long. There is nothing like a spontaneous rehearsal after a few bebies – Wyatt's ears must have been ringing in Ajax and of course, dancing went along with it. All in all, a successful day at the lake with the 50/50 draw netting over \$100 for the Chorus.

Thanks to all who braved the trip despite the weather.

*See you next year, Annie in the tundra and Joe the corps guy*



# For the Love of Music 2009

I would like to start by saying that in the responses I received not only from the audience, but also from the participants, and members of the DCAT Chorus, I can only conclude that this was by far the best production that we have put on to date.

My congratulations go out to John Fox for his work on the ticket sales and to Pat Ison for a job well done on ad solicitation. To Jim and Barb Jennings, another great job on the bar, and to John McTaggart, well done from up above in the booth. To Dave Cook for his expertise in doing the layout for the program, and to our secretary, Dolly Fox for keeping my grammar and spelling corrected. This was Chuck Saulnier's first opportunity at stage managing and it went the smoothest that it's been so far and last but not least, there was Bob Cunningham - what can be said about Bob? Seriously, what can anyone say about Bob? All I know is that I am happy to call him a friend and besides, I for

one was glad he found the theatre! To the entire Executive Committee including those I have already mentioned as well as Gord Moffatt - I want to let you know how much I appreciate your input and help in this venture.

I think that the future looks very bright for this show as long as we keep building on our successes and correcting the little things that pop up each year.

To all the members of DCAT who contributed through ticket sales, program ads, or helped where ever they could, I personally thank all of you and hope that it will continue.

From my family to yours, May The Joy And Peace of The Coming Holiday Season bring you Peace, Happiness and Good Health.

*Merry Christmas*

*John Dickinson Show Co-ordinator*



The DCAT Chorus



Unionville High School Choir



Peterborough Pop Ensemble



East York Barbershoppers



CADRE



Toronto Optimists



The Queen

**Congratulations to Rick Hosie and  
Maureen Haddow *nee* Jennings *now* Hosie**



on their marriage on  
Saturday, November 7th  
at St. Rita's Church, North Bay.



Rick & Maureen (centre) with Jim  
Bartholomew and Marilyn Mighton (left)  
Don (best man) and Marg Gill (right)

**Cheers to a lifetime  
of bass drumming**



Gord Irvine  
age 3 years



Gord Irvine  
now

**Before the Queen,  
we had the Queen Mum.  
Who knew?**



***She really liked Biker Chicks!***



**Remember...  
Roy Thomson Hall  
2001**



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