



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, 2011

The 6th Annual For the Love of Music concert on October 22nd was a great success and one of the best DCAT Chorus performances ever. The theme this year was "songs without words"; what a concept. Wyatt had us well prepared and you could feel it at the sound check... we were ready. The audience wasn't singing along but they were sure enjoying the performance.

The Annual General Meeting/Elections and Hall of Fame Nominations will be held on Wednesday, November 16th. The Executive positions up for election are President, Secretary and Treasurer. The results of the Hall of Fame Nominations will be announced at our Annual Christmas Party on December 14th which is also our last rehearsal date before the holiday break. Don't forget your unwrapped gift for underprivileged children.

On Friday, December 9th, another dinner at Sisters Restaurant on Kingston Road with "Elvis" and others - cost is \$40 per person. See Linda Carscadden.

What a flight! What a sight! WHAT A SHOW!

On October 22, 2011, DCAT held the 6th annual "Love of Music". A special thank you is extended to all the DCAT members, associate members and volunteers who were behind the scenes and did a marvellous job. The more we do this show, the more professional we become!

Show Design by Ort Beaumont; Stage Direction by John McTaggart with Chuck Saulnier's help and his seven volunteers; performer co-ordinators, Charla Murray and Karen Kerr; selling of bar tickets by Marilyn Mighton and son, Brian plus grandson, Blake; bartenders, Tina Jennings and Rebecca Wood; Bob Cunningham who scripted MC comments (after falling ill) and passed them on to Gord Irvine, who filled in as MC; Pat Ison who sold all the program ads; Dave Cook, who did a very professional job on the program as well as the Heritage slides on drum corps and backdrop slide of American/Canadian flags; Barb Jennings, who set up the bar and lobby tables; Mandy McTaggart at the ticket desk; John Fox, who handled 80% ticket sales; and Dolly Fox, our Secretary who documented everything. As well, to our Chair this year, Jim Jennings who kept us organized and on track throughout! And to our industrious DCAT members who did so well at selling tickets!! Well done, one and all!!

Our program opened with DCAT singing the National Anthem, followed by "Wee Small Hours" and "Rhonda". Unionville High School was back for the sixth year – a very accomplished group, under Brenda Uchimara's guidance, followed by the Filipino group for a second year – a real crowd pleaser with their young singers/dancers from 7 to 18 years of age. The Silver Leaves Brass Ensemble (from Preston Scout House) were next, a new addition this year who were impressive. After intermission, The Queen spoke to us via Skype from Australia with Dave Cameron and John Moffatt as her military guards – very amusing indeed! Another new addition this year was the entertaining ladies group, The Harmony Singers. And to complete the wonderful evening was DCAT once again performing the theme of 'songs without words'; that is, words added to instrumental songs – "On the Square", "Great Gate of Kiev", "Superman", "William Tell", "Stars and Stripes", and to wind up, "Maple Leaf Forever" and our special drum corps song, "Never Walk Alone".

The 50/50 draw was organized by Linda Carscadden with Edna Kingsley and Sandy Hume with many helpers both in the Theatre and lobby – congratulations to the Sturino family from Second Signals Band who won the draw. The Afterglow in the lobby kept us around for an hour or so, to mingle with family and friends.

Another very successful concert for DCAT!!

- Dolly Fox, Secretary for "Love of Music" Committee

Summer Socials

BBQ IN BOBCAYGEON – August 27th

The day dawned with BLUE SKY AND SUN - a perfect start to the day. It certainly made setting up easier, knowing we had nothing to worry about and it guaranteed us we would have lots of visitors with happy faces. People started to arrive just after 11.00 a.m. and garnered the best spots for watching the lake and the entertainment that takes place on it when the weather cooperates. Most people came well supplied with their comfy outdoor stuff: chairs, sun hats, sunscreen, coolers, and donations of food. When one entertains DCAT, you don't have to organize activities – that takes care of itself. Welcome hugs, drinks poured and the chatter begins.

A very pleasant addition this year were little ones. Wyatt and Tara brought their 3 munchkins – Payton, Aidan and Parker. Val brought her very cute little grandson, Kieran and our granddaughter, Victoria was also there just starting her week's holiday at Grandma and Grandpa's. The croquet set came out and also the paddle boat was launched. This helped to entertain the children and some of the adults as well. Sandy entertained us with her version of swimming in very shallow water, and Wyatt and Tara paddled off leaving some to wonder if they were leaving Grandma Marg to supervise the little darlings. They were gone just long enough to enjoy a few quiet moments on the lake and each other's company.

After John and company husked the 24 corn (I should have bought more!), the BBQs were lit and the gourmet chefs took over, each with their own version of the perfect steak, hamburger, chicken or pork. Salads and sides were plentiful. The highlight of the feast was a very large birthday cake Don had us order for Margaret. She was very surprised and pleased, and after a rousing singing of Happy Birthday, Marg cut and served the cake. Of course, the munchkins were front and centre.

Our bar is a favorite hangout and we are always amazed how many people can fit around this 5 ½ ft edifice. The 50/50 draw was held and Shirley Hay's friend visiting from Florida was the winner.

As evening descended, many decided to "get on the road" before dark. A campfire was lit which encouraged some to stay longer and definitely the younger ones. Usually marshmallows are the desired snack but our daughter provided ice cream cones for those who wished. Again, the munchkins were front and centre for this special treat.

The overnight group ended up inside sipping tea till the Wee Small Hours!!!

A special day spent with our dear DCAT friends. Thanks for coming. Next Year – we will see!

-annie in the tundra and joe the jester and band guy.





The BBQ at Jim & Marilyn's - July 30th

Marilyn Mighton and Jim Bartholomew held this fund raiser for the Chorus and 38 people came to party – for which Angelo and John from Barbarian's Steak House were hired, John to be chef and Angelo to tend bar. A black and white theme dressed the tables which made the outdoor garden setting pure "eye candy" and a gorgeous bouquet of off white flowers graced the glass table in the lounge near the bar - I think we all felt a little special. We were entertained in the afternoon by Barb & Jim's grandson, Taylor and 2 other musicians who played African djembe drums to various rhythms. There was a rousing rendition of Happy Birthday to Jim Bartholomew who would celebrate on August 3rd. Refreshments were flowing as the afternoon with Marilyn's son, Brian assisting at the bar and his sons, Blake and Kurt offering nibbles. Then the main course was served – beef tenderloin, salmon, various salads and much later, scrumptious cupcakes. Then the other musicians arrived – a 5 piece Cuban group and as you can imagine, DCAT was up and at it quickly. The samba, lambada and various gyrations of all kinds and a conga line led by the trumpeter. We were all "cookin".

A perfect day and a spectacular setting.

We raise a glass to Jim and Marilyn for their support of DCAT. THANKS, JIM AND MARILYN.

– annie in the tundra



Jazz at Sisters' Restaurant - Friday, September 9th

An evening of great music and fun with The Red Peppers Jazz Band organized by Linda Carscadden as a fund raiser for DCAT. Great music, and food. We virtually took over the place. What a fun evening, attended by over 50 people.

The band had as much fun with us as we did with them. They are not use to such a large group at that venue. We sang a few tunes at intermission. The trombone player knew Ted Key, so there was an immediate connection.

Singing, dancing, napkin waving...oh, what fun!



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