



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 – February 2017

We have been busy since you last heard from us. We had our traditional Christmas Party on Dec. 14 and the Social Committee did us proud, as usual, although we are now in a new location.



An essential part of these celebrations is the announcement of a new member of our Hall of Fame. This year it was Dave Cameron, currently our Vice President who has many duties. You can read all about him on our website at <http://www.dcatchorus.ca>. The honour is certainly well deserved. Congrats, Dave!

We also collect toys for the Salvation Army, have various forms of fundraising for our chorus, dig into tasty goodies contributed by members and, of course, a sing-along, this year led by Pat Ison and Marion Shearer. A great success, as always!



We also had a performance at the Lakeside Long Term Care Centre in November and that was so successful that we were invited back to do another show this spring!



We are proud of “The Purrfections” who also performed at this event and we hope that they will continue to appear, with their beautiful harmonies and Sandy’s accompaniment, at the many shows we have lined up for the spring!



To continue the series we began in our last newsletter, which described the work of the chorus members who transcribe Wyatt Gill’s arrangement in order that they can be printed and also uploaded to our website to assist members in practicing at home, we will now present our Fundraising Director, Linda Carscadden. She writes:

When I joined DCAT in the fall of 2005, there was no organized fundraising. After two months, I became Membership Director and decided to do fundraising, as well. I organized bus trips to Casino Rama, a cruise on the “Serendipity”, dinners and entertainment at “Sisters”, a restaurant on Kingston Road, sold Christmas gingerbread cookies and Avon Products.

After a few years, I found it too time consuming to carry all the duties involved, so I suggested that the chorus appoint a separate Fundraising Committee, apart from the Membership chair, and I became the Fundraising Director.

With the help of the amazing members of my committee: Joan English, Marion Shearer, Lois Nicholls, Claire Hobson, Edna Kingsley, Shirley Hay and Sandy Hume-Bartholomew, we have been very successful. (I should also mention Lynne Kallas, who assists in many ways, although not a chorus member.) During the past year we have sold raffle tickets, held eight garage sales, sold

books, CDs, DVDs, Avon Products as well as bottled water, generating a total of \$4,181.15! And for the fiscal year that started in October, we are already at \$1,160.25. These amounts do not include our regular 50/50 draw, which takes place at every rehearsal.

We have done really well and, in addition, we have had lots of fun! As we sell items to each other and to the public, we have a wonderful social time with lots of laughter. Here are the photos to prove it:



Remembering Jim Allen



Edna Allen wrote:

Gone are the days we used to share
But in our heart you are always there
Never more than a thought away
Loved and remembered everyday

Jim Allen was a member of DCAT for 15 years.

For 86 years Jim's life was very full and active. He was an offset technician and teacher for 37 years and in his retirement, he was a driver for Pine Tree Senior Centre for over 20 years. He was extremely proud to have belonged to many community groups such as Scouts Canada, The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 258, The DCAT Chorus and the Scarborough Village Singers. He was a man who believed in giving back to the community.

Christmas time was always special as he and Edna were known as Mr. & Mrs. Claus and Jim's white beard fit the role very effectively.

Edna wrote: When someone you love becomes a memory. A memory becomes a treasure.

DCAT mailing address: DCAT c/o Orton Beaumont, 194 Bay Thorn Drive, Thornhill, Ontario. L3T 3V5
Visit our website: www.dcatchorus.ca