

# Louis E. Dieruff High School Alumni Association Newsletter

Volume 4, Issue 5

DHSAumniNews@ptd.net

January, 2019

Dieruff Alumni Association

**2018**  
Year in  
Review



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*Soup Bowl Sunday*



*Honoring Roy Arlotto*



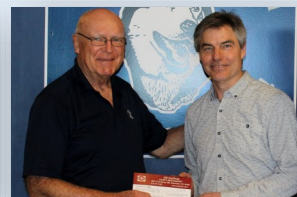
*7th Annual  
Mardi Gras Party*



*Key Club A Cappella Party*



*Honoring Phil Rishel*



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Award*



*Football Golf Outing*



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*Read With Andre Reed  
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*Alumni Associations  
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*Commencement  
Led by the Class of 1968*



*Annual Wrestling  
Reunion*

*Photos by John G. Hughes, Jr. '61*

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## President's Message

*John G. Hughes, Jr. '61*

### New Year's Resolution: Be Part of the Solution

On occasion, I hear (or read on social media) the lamentation of Dieruff Alumni: "Back in our day, our band was so much larger"... "the fans would fill up the gym for a basketball game"... "our choir was truly magnificent"... "Husky Pride isn't what it used to be". and on and on.

When I explore the sources of those less than complimentary remarks, I typically discover that the negative comments come from someone who just doesn't have the facts, and/or is not the least bit involved in our Alumni Association. As the saying goes, "if you're not part of the solution, you are part of the problem."

As you can see from our "2018 Year in Review", a major thrust of our association is to promote Husky Pride among the current students. We know that our support is making a difference. Our collective support of the athletic teams, the band, the choir, the theatre department, the AFROTC... of everything Blue and Gray... all translates into one powerful message: We Care!

You may be familiar with a beautiful story written by Loren Eisely. The tale involves an old man who was walking along a beach that was cluttered with starfish. He encountered a young boy who was eagerly throwing the starfish back in the ocean, one by one. Puzzled, the old man asked the boy what he was doing.

The boy paused, looked up, and responded, "Throwing the starfish back in the ocean. The tide has washed them up onto the beach, and they can't return to the sea by themselves." The old man replied, "But

there must be tens of thousand of starfish on this beach. I'm afraid you won't really be able to make a difference."

The boy bent down, picked up another starfish, and threw it as far as he could into the ocean. He turned to the old man, smiled, and said, "It made a difference to that one."

Last month, I had the opportunity to visit our Alma Mater with Karen Coleman, Cindy Fidler Wolst, Robin and Bob Jacoby. Our goal was to escort our Husky mascot, Kiska, and her puppy companion, Nadia, throughout the hallways, distributing candy canes and extending our good wishes for the Holidays. The response from the students and the faculty was overwhelming. The following link will connect you to a YouTube video of that experience, and will illustrate just how our "caring" is making a difference:

<https://youtu.be/3pCPCr9nWx8>

We invite all Husky alumni to join us in our effort. Make it your New Year's Resolution; be part of the solution. With your help, we can make a difference, indeed!

With warm Husky regards,

John



## Violin Donation: Memories, Melodies, and Opportunities

*John G. Hughes, Jr '61*

Many musicians consider a violin to be so much more than just a musical instrument. Ruth E. O'Connell, Dieruff Class of 1961, certainly agrees with that assessment.

Ruth recently donated her two cherished violins to Mr. Larry Flynn and the Dieruff Music Department, and she passionately regards those violins as a source of fond memories, beautiful melodies, and exciting opportunities.

Last month, as Ruth prepared to deliver her generous gifts, she invited me to sit with her and review the fascinating "history" of those stringed relics. Proudly, she produced a three-ring binder filled with photographs, program booklets and newspaper clippings chronicling those impressive memories.

Ruth's introduction to the violin occurred when she was just six years old. Her father presented her with an old violin that he had played as a youngster. She lovingly recalls playing duets with her dad, while her mother provided support and encouragement. Ruth vividly remembers her first solo performance. She was seven, and she played "Little Waltz in G" for the Welsh Cambrian Club in Allentown. What an auspicious beginning to a wonderful relationship with the violin!

During her early years at Herbst Elementary School, Ruth developed her skills with lessons from Mr. Santoro.

In sixth grade, she performed in Allentown's first All-City Elementary School Orchestra. The year was 1955, and it was then that her parents purchased another violin for her.

Her talents and appreciation for the violin continued to blossom, playing in the orchestra and string quartet at Central Junior High School, and then on to the Dieruff High School Orchestra. Earning several scholarships for lessons with revered violinists, Ruth refined her proficiency. She played violin in the Eastern District Orchestra, the Allentown Symphonette Orchestra, and the State Orchestra.

So now, we can certainly realize that Ruth's pair of violins hold a lifetime of memories and melodies. With abundant generosity, Ruth has donated those precious violins, along with newly purchased bows, to the Dieruff Music Department. Her hope is that those violins will successfully find their way into the hands of anxious students who will enjoy playing and performing as much as she has.

Ruth would also like to encourage other alumni who have musical instruments hibernating in closets or attics to make donations to the Dieruff Music Department. Those gifts can truly make a difference.



### 1964 Dieruff Husky Classmates,

**EVENT:** Class Party for DHS 1964 Alumni

**WHEN:** June 1, 2019

**PLACE:** Brass Rail Lehigh Street Allentown

**TIME:** 4:00 pm - 10 pm

**DETAILS:** Informal attire, family style dinner, 1-hour open bar prior to dinner, cash bar after dinner. Music from the 60's.

**COST:** Estimate \$25 pp

**RESPONSE:** Details To Follow



# 1964

## Alumni Association 2018 In Review (continued from page 1)



6th Annual Fandangle



Football Team  
Swim Party



Band Cookout



Spirit Week



HOF Football Raffle



Class Reunions



Sew What Club



Holiday Sing-A-Long  
With Peter Carpenter

And that's just some of the events our Alumni Association has been involved with in 2018



### Kiska's Korner

By Kiska V w/Karen Coleman

Even though it is after Christmas I want to share our Canines and Canes story. Every year we pass out many candy canes at Husky High just before the holiday break. I usually gobble a couple. Mom does not care because the mint gives me better breath. Got a lot of blueberry flavored greenies for presents. I wonder, do I have doggie breath? We met at Dieruff. Quite the team. Aunt Cindy, Robin, Bob, Nadia, Mom and me. We had our photographer Mr. Hughes along to record the event. We visited the entire school. We made special visits to the library, choir room, band room and art room. Gave out bags of candy canes to teachers to help us spread the joy. The kids were awesome. Nadia did a great job for being a pup. She is very friendly and loves people.

John led the way with his camera. He is a great opening act for us Girls. Then the kids saw us and

pure excitement. We disappear beneath the crowds of students. The only thing you see is the tips of our tails sticking out of the crowd. We were very busy giving lots of kisses and husky hugs. John got some really good pictures. With all those kids, it was good to have Nadia to help out. We were there over an hour and a half, which is a long time for us. A long day, but so very worth it. Mom and Aunt Cindy said that it made Christmas for them. Was just a wonderful day.

Looking forward to the Winter Sports Assembly. Of course, everything depends on the weather. I could probably mush to Dieruff (Ha Ha), but Aunt Cindy and Mom have to drive and if there is ice, well we stay home.

Did not make any New Year's resolutions. A definite advantage of being a dog. We live in the moment. If anything, I resolve to be a good

mascot and to teach the other girls Nadia, Misska and Elsa the fine art of being Diva Dogs. New Year's Day the house was filled with friends. Also, the smell of pork and sauerkraut. Love the pork, but the cabbage smell really offends the sensitive nose. But it is tradition. Wishing All a happy and healthy 2019. (Wow, I will be nine years old come July!)

Love,

*Kiska V.* Diva Dog



A festive poster for a Mardi Gras party. The background is dark purple with musical notes, stars, and hearts. A yellow and purple masquerade mask is at the top. A string of colorful beads runs across the top and sides. The text is in various colors and fonts, including green, yellow, and purple. A gold crown is at the bottom right.

**Dieruff Huskies**  
Join in the fun 8th Annual  
**Mardi Gras Party**  
**Saturday, Feb. 23, 2019**  
7:00 - 11:00 PM  
East Side Youth Center  
1140 East Clair Street  
Allentown, PA  
Sponsored by:  
**Dieruff Alumni Association**  
Ticket Price: \$15 in advance  
\$20 at the door  
Includes beer, soda, mixers,  
and snacks Dancing to live DJ  
**Tickets available at Stahley's,  
Dieruff Main Office, or online at  
[www.dieruff-alumni.org](http://www.dieruff-alumni.org)**

**This Is the BEST PARTY of the YEAR!**

**GET YOUR TICKETS TODAY!**

## Dieruff High School Class Reunion Committees

Kay Kurtz Vogel '74

Whether your Class has an established reunion committee, or you're starting from square one, the Dieruff Alumni Association is here to assist you with your reunion plans.

Since 2012, we've assisted individual classes plan their reunion, and in some cases, help plan a milestone birthday party for their class. We can help in the following ways:

**1. Reunion Surveys** - We've contracted with Survey Monkey to send out reunion questionnaires to your fellow classmates regarding ticket pricing, type of meal, music, location, etc. Information is compiled to help reunion planners to not second guess what their fellow classmates want in a reunion.

**2. Create a Reunion Link specific to your event** - reflects tickets prices, promote additional events related to your reunion weekend (tour of school, next day breakfast, golf tournament, etc.)

**3. Train a Class representative to serve as administrator of your class information on our all-year alumni website** – no need to have multiple databases. Our 22,000 plus database is backed up every evening by our service provider.



Kay Kurtz Vogel '74

As site administrator, I've received requests from alumni who want to know how to review class rosters, lists of registered classmates, who's coming to a reunion/event, who's deceased etc.

All this information is available to you and can be found on our website under the **CLASSMATE PROFILES** section.

### How to view class rosters:

Click on **CLASSMATE PROFILES** found on the top margin of homepage. Scroll down to any year.

Click on a year – Information will appear for the specific year you selected

An Alumnus Profiles Box appears which reflects the following information:

- How Many Registered Alumni for a Specific Class Year
- Deceased classmates (In Memory)
- How Many Contain an In Memory obituary
- How Many with Military Service

You can click on any of these selections for more specific information. From this section you click on **"Show Alumnus Photos"**. This displays the yearbook photos in alphabetic order. For more information on a specific classmate click on their name...It's that easy!

### Next month – How to manage and change your profile information

**4. Ability to accept online registration and credit/debit card payments** – no need to establish an organizational checking account at a financial institution that only has activity every 5 years. We can maintain separate registers for individual classes.

**5. Ability to purchase DHS alumni lanyards** with badge holders for name tags.

**6. Assistance the night of your event** at your registration table – allows your committee to mingle with your classmates during your happy hour versus manning the table!

If you partner with us, our gift to you is an "In Memory" book listing deceased classmates and their obituaries.

We're here to help. Send us an email via our website and we will answer any questions you may have.



# UPCOMING EVENTS

To get your event listed, please email event before the 24th of each month to: [dhsalumninews@ptd.net](mailto:dhsalumninews@ptd.net)

- February 1:** WINTER PEP RALLY 1:30PM-2:35PM ALL ALUMI WELCOME  
(Snow Date: Friday February 8th)  
Richard Schmidt Gym
- February 6:** Alumni Association Monthly Meeting 6:30PM  
Meilinger Center
- February 23:** 8th Annual Mardi Gras 7PM-11PM  
East Side Youth Center (SEE PAGE 5 FOR DETAILS)
- March 6:** Alumni Association Monthly Meeting 6:30PM  
Meilinger Center
- June 1:** Class of 1964 Party 4PM-10PM \$25PP  
Brass Rail (SEE PAGE 3 FOR DETAILS)
- July 27:** 7th Annual Fandangle 2PM-7PM  
East Side Youth Center (DETAILS TO FOLLOW)

All events can be found on the DHS Alumni Website: [www.Dieruff-Alumni.org](http://www.Dieruff-Alumni.org)



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Ads are only **\$25.00**  
(DHS alumni only \$20.00)  
Coupons Encouraged



Louis E. Dieruff High School  
**Alumni Association Newsletter**

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We publish an online digital.pdf copy of the Newsletter 10 times annually.  
All digital copies will be emailed monthly between September — May and a double issue will be emailed for the June/July Fandangle edition.  
There is no August edition

Publication dates may vary, but most issues will be published by the 20th of the month. Deadline for inclusion for each month's edition will be by the 5th of the current month, unless arrangements are made. Please email articles, advertising and events to:  
**DHSAlumniNews@ptd.net**

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