

Louis E. Dieruff High School Alumni Association Newsletter



Volume 5, Issue 2

DHSAlumniNews@ptd.net

October, 2019

**MUSH HUSKIES
BEAT ALLEN!**

Dieruff's New Learning Dome Is "Out Of This World!"

John G. Hughes, Jr. '61

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BEAT ALLEN!



Many Dieruff alumni hold fond memories of the planetarium at DHS. Originally constructed in 1965, the facility was considered state-of-the-art at the time. For nearly 40 years, teacher Gary Becker provided fascinating learning experiences about the stars and space. When Gary retired in 2010, the planetarium was closed.

With the initial technology rendered obsolete, the space sat dormant for years. Budget constraints within the school district made funding a refurbished facility impossible.

In 2018, Mr. Lee Butz, a prominent Allentown businessman, led an effort to secure private donations to revitalize the planetarium. A number of local community leaders offered their

support, including State Senator Pat Browne who secured \$200,000 in funding. The campaign to secure the money required to refurbish the technology and the upgraded seating and amenities was successful.

A private ribbon-cutting ceremony was held on August 23, 2019. Now referred to as the "Learning Dome", the facility is equipped with advanced, high-tech operating and projection systems, and interactive technology. With training capabilities far beyond astronomy, the Learning Dome addresses the increasing demand for STEM (Science Technology, Engineering, and Math). Six ASD teachers spanning grades K-12 and representing different

schools throughout the district have received special training on how to use the new system and software.

I recently had the opportunity to witness a presentation conducted by Brandy Sawyer (the Allentown School District STEM Director) and a pair of Dieruff High School science teachers. Not only was I impressed with the exciting capabilities of the Learning Dome, I was absolutely in awe of the level of skill and obvious passion demonstrated by Brandy and her Husky colleagues.

It certainly appears that with this powerful combination of advanced software, equipment, and dedicated educators, the sky is the limit in the Learning Dome.



President's Message

Kay Kurtz '74

Since this is my first message as incoming President of the Dieruff HS Alumni Association, I want to take the time to publicly acknowledge and thank John G. Hughes Jr. for his tireless efforts, endless time and dedication to our Alumni Association over the past 7 ½ years.

I realize I have large shoes to fill and I hope that many will step up to assist our association to grow and move forward. One area that I can use help is with the management of our alumni website. If you are interested, please reach out to me at dieruffalumni@gmail.com.

I can't believe that Saturday afternoon is the scheduled Dieruff-Allen Football Game. The game begins at **1:00 PM** at JB Crum Stadium. Plan to arrive early and greet the football team as they pass thru the ROTC Saber gauntlet around 10:45 AM. This year your alumni association officers made the decision to put the Tailgate on "pause". We still encourage you to hold your own private tailgate festivities prior to the game or stop over to Big Woody's for a bite prior to the game. Bigger and better plans for a 2020 tailgate are anticipated.

Beginning in November, we will be accepting applications for the 2020 Recipients of the Alumni Association Wall of Distinction. You will be able to download an application from our alumni website.

Warm Husky Regards,

Kay

**KEEP CALM ...
AND MUSH ON!**



HUSKY PRIDE

Alumni Cheerleaders Show Off Their Pride

John G. Hughes, Jr. '61



“Push ‘em back... Shove ‘em back... Way back! When was the last time you heard that raucous football cheer flow through a cheerleader’s megaphone?”

On October 11th over two dozen alumni cheerleaders delivered some spirited nostalgia to a Friday night football game. They brought their Husky Pride to J. Birney Crum Stadium and blended their unbridled passion (and physicality) with the current Varsity and JV cheerleading squads.

Participants included: ('65) - Judy Laudenslayer Walsh, Linda Molinaro Warsham, ('67) - Paulette Diefenderfer Kish, ('81) - Barb Weiss Snyder, ('82) – Denise Litzenberger-Saraceno, (88) - Dee Jaye, ('90) – Brenda Nieves, Heidi Deutsch Santiago, Jennifer Schafer Stoudt, Shelley Thompson, Klean Wagner, ('91) Theresa Krauchick, Brenda Sabastro, ('94) Caroline Daher

Amary, ('96) Hiba Daher, ('98)- Roba Daher-Bozakis, ('99) – Sarah Martin Palma, ('02) – Ashley Donchez Falk, Sarah Hinkle Pastelyak, Shannin Crone Peters, ('05) - Jenny Lynn, ('10) – Shantel Castro, ('12) – Jaylin Babayan, Casey Smith, Melissa Washington and ('14) – Karina Romero.

The theme of the evening was PINKOUT – “Cheer For The Cure”. That theme permeated the stadium, with cheerleaders, students, and players donning colorful pink apparel. Even our canine mascots, Kiska and Nadia, sported pink ribbons. The result was a unified message of support in the fight against breast cancer. It also resulted in a memorable evening for all of us.

The word is that bringing alumni cheerleaders back for a football game could certainly develop into a popular annual tradition. Spread the word.



Health | Medicare | SmallGroup | Life | Supplemental

<p>Medicare Annual Enrollment Starts 10/15 thru 12/7</p>	<p>Under 65 Open Enrollment Starts 11/1 thru 12/15</p>
	
<p>Randy Roberts Dieruff Class of 1980 610-419-0634 www.healthmarkets.com/local-health-insurance-agent/randyroberts/</p>	<p>Bill Zeky Dieruff Class of 1978 610-554-7332 www.healthmarkets.com/local-health-insurance-agent/bzeky/</p>
<p>Randy Roberts Insurance Agency 1424 Pennsylvania Ave. Allentown, PA 18109</p>	


GOHUSKIES!


Dieruff Huskies Attend Rick Braun Concert

John G. Hughes, Jr. '61

Rick Braun is really quite modest. He is certainly not the type of guy who likes to "toot his own horn".... unless he's performing in front of a large live audience. Then that talented Dieruff Alum exudes confidence and skillfully coaxes the sweetest sounds from his trumpet.

On Sunday, October 6, 2019, an enthusiastic contingent of Rick's family and friends traveled to the Miller Center for the Arts in Reading to watch this internationally acclaimed singer and smooth jazz trumpeter join forces with the Reading Pops Orchestra in a spectacular musical tribute to Frank Sinatra. Not only did Rick "toot his own horn", he provided engaging vocals to a wide selection of Sinatra favorites.

Following the entertaining concert, Rick graciously welcomed his siblings and families, as well as his adoring fellow Dieruff alumni, exchanging hugs and posing for photos. He was genuinely pleased with our faithful support.



With sincere humility, Rick also expressed how honored he was to have been selected as one of the six recipients for the inaugural year of the Dieruff High School Alumni Wall of Distinction. I realize that it has been stated countless times before, I would like to echo the words of so many others: "Rick Braun is one Class Act!"

Kiska's Korner

Kiska V w/Karen Coleman

We often use the Korner to help educate and share information to dog owners. Had one written about the necessity of using a leash and cleaning up after your pet. Up where I live, there is a problem with sloppy owners. We have a beautiful athletic field complex and people are not being responsible. Like many places, I could not attend a soccer match, because I was a dog. Sloppy owners are giving all us pups a bad name. So had a topic, but then the ACCIDENT happened.

We were at a home game, all was well, we were winning. Sitting on the bench by the wall and I went exploring. Mom thought nothing of it, I am always searching for gum. I picked up a piece of plastic covered wire and it stuck into my gum, behind the molars on the roof of my mouth. Started to choke and tried to use my paw to get it out. Nothing helped and I was in distress. I am fine now, but it was bad. Will not go into the gory details, but it could have easily been a sad outcome. Even the vet said I was one lucky dog. So, a couple of sincere thank yous. The trainer started

CPR by rubbing my chest and back. Know I really scared her. But thanks for the help. I weigh sixty plus pounds and was too weak to walk. Mr. Makhoul was on the field and he carried me to the van. Then we got to Valley Central and they could not find the cause. Thinking seizures, maybe a brain tumor. While waiting for the report, I had another episode and they opened my mouth and saw the foreign object, way in the back. Some mild meds and they took it out. Whew- it was horrible. So another lesson. Watch what your dog tries to eat.

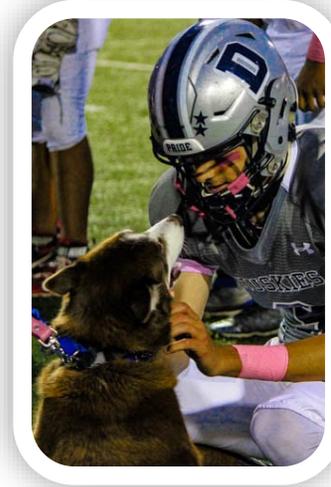
But on a happier note, we solved the mystery of the disappearing cat food. Mom feeds on the front porch. Old Oreo abandoned years ago, comes for food. But all of a sudden, we are going through tons of food. The rumor is there is a bear in Nazareth. Well no such damage, but where is all the food going? Mom watched a couple of nights. Luckily, the skunk had not returned. But we have other dining guests, two grey tigers and a huge red cat. They look good. Are they strays or are they pets just coming

to a buffet? Mom just puts out more food.

I also went to two critter blessings in honor of St. Francis. After the accident, Mom thought I could use some extra support. Actually, I was well-behaved. When Pastor Scott blessed me, I went right on my back for the belly rub. I do feel so much better.

See you at the football games.

Love,
Kiska 🐾, A Lucky Diva Dog



Holiday Recipe Edition

November 2019

The Holidays are fast approaching...they'll be here before you know it.

Once again, The Newsletter is having a "Holiday Recipe Edition" in November.

Last Year's recipes were such a hit, we couldn't wait till this year!

Please submit your family's favorite Holiday dish (Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's) ...whether it be an entree, appetizer, soup, salad, side dish, dessert or alcoholic.

We want you to share the food that reminds you of home and family.

Please submit your recipes by **November 4th** (send as many as you want) to:

DHSAumniNews@ptd.net

Thank You For Your Participation!



"Sew What?" Club Continues to Serve

John Hughes, Jr. '61

As the new academic year of 2019-2020 resumes at Dieruff High School, the popular after-school sewing club sponsored by the Alumni Association continues to flourish.

Ruth O'Connell and Jinny Bankhard Hughes, both 1961 alumnae, have operated the club for the past eight years. Sewing projects are selected for their community service value. Accordingly, the club members not only learn a valuable skill, they also experience the satisfaction of "giving back".

Another distinct benefit of the weekly gathering is social in nature. The members learn how to relate to each other, as well as to their adult mentors.

On Monday, October 14th, the participants in the "Sew What?" club even gave up a day off from classes (an in-service day). They voluntarily came into school where they engaged in sewing mastectomy pillows that will be donated to a local hospital. Judging from the smiles in the accompanying photos, sharing slices of assorted pizza was an added bonus.



LED Class of '64 Football Players Continue Tradition

David Ziegenfuss '86

Saturday, August 27, members of the LED 1963 football team made their seventh annual visit to the varsity team and new Head Football Coach, Dave Lutte, during DHS's scrimmage at J. Birney Crum Stadium.

Ray Roche and Ron Berta presented 20 Yocco gift cards for each week's top Offensive and Defensive Husky, on behalf of the 1963 team.

Thank you to the Class of 1964 for continuing to reward the football team. Husky Pride!

Class Of 1969 Is "Golden" At 50th Reunion Celebration

David Ziegenfuss '86 Photos by: John G. Hughes, Jr. '61



Some classes have, well, class.

Take the LED Class of 1969, who celebrated their 50th Class Reunion on September 21. This wasn't an event 50 years in the making...it is an event that has been happening since June 1969.

The Class of '69 is still led by their 50+ year Class President, George Raad and his devoted group of very active lieutenants, who continuously present a class get together every five years.

With over 200 classmates and guests in attendance, it was an outstanding event—complete with an old fashion photo booth.

Their get togethers have now become annual with many attending the All-Class Reunion at the Fandangle in July.

Here's to you class of '69 and we look forward to your 55th Reunion in 2024!

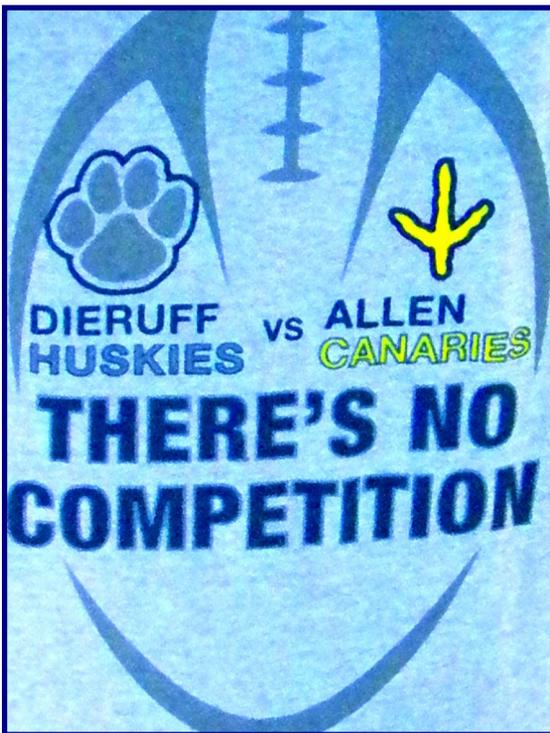
All photos can be found on website: www.dieruff-alumni.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

- October 25:** Pep Rally 1:30PM (All Alumni Invited)
Richard Schmidt Gym
- October 26:** Varsity Football vs. William Allen 1PM
J. Birney Crum Stadium
- November 4:** Holiday Recipes Due For Newsletter
dhsalumninews@ptd.net (**SEE PAGE 5 FOR DETAILS**)
- November 21&22:** Dieruff Theatre Department
12 Angry Jurors (**SEE PAGE 7 FOR DETAILS**)
www.ticketor.com/dierufftheatre
- December 4:** Holiday Sing with Peter Carpenter 6:30PM
(DETAILS TO FOLLOW)

All events can be found on the DHS Alumni Website: www.Dieruff-Alumni.org



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26 1PM
ANDRE REED FIELD AT J. BIRNEY CRUM STADIUM
HUSKIES
v.
CANARIES



Louis E. Dieruff High School
Alumni Association Newsletter

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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

All articles and photos are property of the DHS Alumni Association Newsletter. Visit the Alumni Association website www.Dieruff-Alumni.org for more information and advertising opportunities.