Husky Connections



July 2021

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President's

Fandangle 2021: A Safe Bet

As the countdown continues, Fandangle 2021 is only weeks away, and is set to open with the same flare and enthusiasm that has characterized the event for years.

Billed as the "mega-reunion for all classes", the Fandangle has established itself as the premier alternative to individual class reunions held at local banquet halls, often accompanied with hefty prices and imposing "minimums". With our Fandangle, twenty bucks has you covered, inside and out!

The East Side Youth Center offers the perfect venue, with the option of fresh-air under-the-party-tents, or indoors in the air conditioned banquet facility. Add to that an afternoon of sharing memories with old friends, drinking beer (or soda or water), and munching on typical picnic fare, as well as dancing to the sounds of a live D.I.



Because of health and safety concerns, this year we are requiring attendees show proof of a COBID-19 vaccination (or a recent negative test).

We hope that measure will provide some sense of comfort to those alumni with reduced immunities.

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and Hugs

The **Class of 1971** is embracing the obvious benefits of Fandangle, as they prepare to celebrate their 50th Reunion at our event. With over 60 of their alumni and guests registered, they will enjoy a separate tent designated for their group.

Celebrating their 45th reunion, the **Class of 1976** similarly will be joining forces at Fandangle. Even though the **Class of 1969** is not celebrating a "special" reunion this year, rallying their classmates to party together is always special for them. Already, they have an enviable group registered to party at Fandangle.

President's Message: <u>Husky Pride...Unleashed & Unmasked</u>



Kay Kurtz - President Dieruff Alumni Association

The motto of our Alumni Association is "Husky Pride....Unleashed". Well, thanks to the recent ruling by the Center for Disease Control, we can add another phrase to our motto, at least for our Fandangle: "...and Unmasked".

That's right, the mask mandate has been lifted in Pennsylvania, so for our Fandangle scheduled for July 31st, we will be able to see each other's smiling faces! How sweet is that?!!



And speaking of "sweet", as always, the site of our Fandangle is the East Side Youth Center. We want

you to know that you are welcome to BYOB...or anything else that will make you happy. We'll be serving beer, soda, and water... but if a bottle of bourbon lifts your spirits, just pack it with you. Same goes for munchies or desserts. We will be providing a variety of picnic fare and desserts, but if you want to indulge in ring baloney and cheese, or strawberry shortcake, just go for it.

Remember, we had to cancel last year's Fandangle because of the pandemic, so we have a lot of "catching up" to do. We want you all to have a good, safe and healthy time. And don't forget... smile for the camera.



Charitable Contributions Cap Campaign

You've heard the expression, "Charity begins at home." You've also heard that "Home is where the heart is." Well, for over 100 Dieruff alumni, Husky High is where their heart is, as evidenced by the charitable donations made to the Arlotto Campaign.

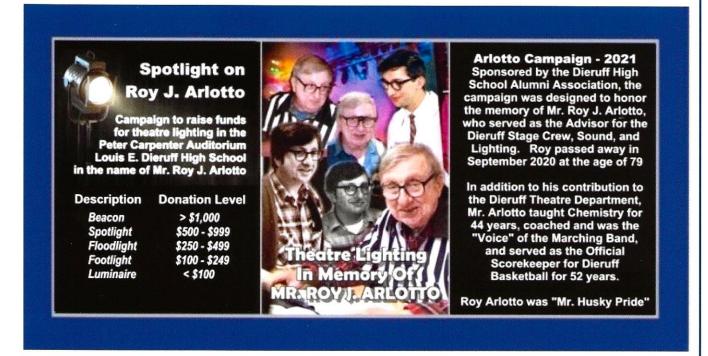
Reflecting a deep and enduring love for Mr. Roy J. Arlotto, recent generous alumni donations have put us over the top. We have achieved our goal of raising \$89,000, which will fund the purchase and installation of state-of-the-art theatre lighting in the

Peter Carpenter Auditorium.

On June 23, 2021, the officers of Dieruff High School Alumni Association presented a check, representing the donations received, to Dr. Julie Ambrose, Executive Director of the Allentown School District Foundation. The Foundation will be coordinating the funding for the lighting project.



Construction on the project has already been initiated and will be completed in time for the 2021-22 school year. It is with sincere gratitude that we recognize the faithful alumni who have supported this campaign with their generous gifts.



ARLOTTO CAMPAIGN DONORS

Beacon Level

Michael & Michelle Arlotto Dieruff Alumni Association John & Jinny Hughes Carmella Saraceno

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Joanne & Ronald Bauer Elizabeth Carpenter Russell & Susan Geise James & Dina Hughes Kenneth & Linda Krasley Megan Davis McCormick Jonnie & Adeline Rushatz

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Wall of Distinction Honoree: Thomas M. Henderschedt



As we celebrate the birth of our nation's independence, we turn our attention to the men and women whose careers have dedicated their lives to serve our country. It is appropriate, therefore, that this month, amid the fireworks and flag-waving, we recognize a Husky who is one of our military's finest. The Louis E. Dieruff Alumni Association is very proud to introduce our first Wall of Distinction honoree for 2021, Rear Admiral Thomas M. Henderschedt, USN, from the Class of 1988.

Following his high school years as a cadet in the Dieruff High School AFJROTC program, Thomas attended George Washing-

ton University to attain a degree in International Affairs. His training continued at the Army Command and General Staff College and at the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies from which he earned a Masters degree in China Studies.

An expert in China relations, Thomas currently serves as the Senior Defense Official in the People's Republic of China. He and his wife Erin are the parents of four sons and reside in Beijing, China, where Thomas's commission has him assigned to the United States Embassy. He has also served at the Joint Intelligence Center in the Pacific, the Office of Naval Intelligence, and as the United States Navy liaison at the American Institute in Taiwan. In addition to his multiple awards and decorations from the United States Department of the Navy, Thomas has been prestigiously commended for his outstanding leadership in Naval Intelligence.



The son of a pastor, Thomas's determination to serve his country was firmly planted in his dreams as a young boy. Even as a child, members of his local church community were impressed by his outstanding character and are not surprised by where he is today. To quote the eloquent words thoughtfully expressed on his letter of nomination, "Thomas embodies the spirit of an American patriot. He is an alumnus who possesses the qualities that we want to inspire in our youth to keep Husky Pride thriving."

We salute you, Rear Admiral Henderschedt. You are a loyal son of Dieruff and we are proud to call you one of our own.

Congratulations Dieruff Class of 2021

Their smiles told the story! And for those who had their smiles hidden behind face coverings, you could read it in their eyes. The joy of high school graduation is unlike any other. It is a time to celebrate accomplishments; it is also a time to bid farewell to long-time friends, and commence new beginnings.

The sixty-second annual commencement for the Dieruff High School Class of 2021 was held on June 18th. The ceremony possessed many of the traditional elements, with one major exception. For the first time ever, the commencement was conducted at J. Birney Crum Stadium. Fortunately, the evening weather was picture-perfect.



Class of 1971 preceded the procession of the graduating seniors.

Next, there was Kiska, escorted by Karen Coleman and Cindy Fidler Wolst. Recently groomed for the occasion, our mascot pranced like her Diva Dog self, to the rhythm of "Pomp and Circumstance".

Proudly, representatives from the

With faculty members forming a gauntlet along the Dieruff endzone, two columns of about 500 seniors from the Class of 2021 entered the

massive stadium, to wild applause and fist bumps. Those smiles broadened!

The "Presentation of Colors" by the Dieruff AFJROTC Senior Cadets was flawless, setting the tone for a beautiful graduation ceremony. As expected, Principal Mike Makhoul's remarks were sincere and impassioned, and the trio of student speakers were remarkably impressive.

As each of the graduates walked across the riser to receive their diploma, their image was projected onto a pair of Jumbotron Screens that flanked center stage.

Following the traditional turning of tassels, eight members of the Dieruff Choir sang the Alma Mater, putting a lump in everyone's throat. "To you we ever will belong, we salute you Blue and Grey."

Honored Dieruff Alumni Award - Keith Groller

Selecting the recipient of the Honored Dieruff Alumni Award is a tradition that began twelve years ago. The award recognizes Dieruff graduates "who have made significant contributions to their community and have attained a measure of accomplishment and success in their life endeavors.. and they continue to exemplify those ideals that portray the true meaning of Husky Pride - service, honor, commitment, integrity, and character."

Each year, the recipient of the award is invited to be the keynote speaker at Commencement. The recipient of the Honored Dieruff Alumni Award for 2021 was Mr. Keith Groller, Class of 1979. What a most appropriate choice!

As he positioned himself at the podium midfield at J. Birney Crum Stadium, he appeared totally at ease. Five hundred seniors in caps and gowns sat before him. In the stands were another thousand or so family and friends of the



graduates. School board dignitaries sat immediately behind him. Numerous cameramen were poised to film his address and project it live onto a pair of giant screens. For many people, such a role would be most intimidating, even panic-provoking. But Keith Groller is not like most people. He was in his comfort zone.

Keith is best known as an accomplished sports writer for The Morning Call. He has been there for over 40 years. In addition to his work at the newspaper, Keith has been the host for a local sports radio show for 29 years. He has also been a co-host of a weekly sports show on local cable television. It is no wonder he appeared so composed at the speaker's podium.

Keith's commencement message was direct and emphatic: "Find your passion... and give it your all." Keith walks his talk. From the time he was at Dieruff High School, his passion was writing and sports. Three months after graduation, he began work as a sports writer at The Morning Call. He has been there ever since.

In his closing remarks, Keith Groller shared one final piece of advice: "Keep that Husky Pride!"

FLASHBACK: DHS Alma Mater Penned by Ghostwriter

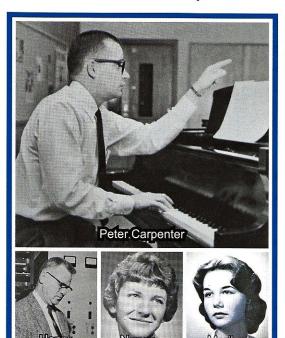
Both submissions were superb! The lyrics submitted by Mary and Nancy were just perfect, and <u>both</u> verses were selected for the Dieruff High School Alma Mater. They blended nicely with the melody, and coupled quite well with each other.

It was the summer of 1959, and the doors to the new high school on Irving Street were due to open in September. The legendary Peter Carpenter had composed an original score for the Alma Mater, and a select group of students was invited to create and submit lyrics for consideration.

The competition was keen, but the reward was truly magnificent: to have one's name connected to the Dieruff High School Alma Mater forever. Each and every time that anthem would be played, credit would be given to Peter Carpenter for the music, and to the chosen wordsmiths.

The decision was finally made. The first stanza and chorus was created by "Mary Jones", and the second stanza was written by Nancy Olenwine. Nancy, an incoming Junior, was thrilled with the honor. And Mary? Well, there was no Mary Jones at Dieruff High School!

With a reasonable amount of detective work, it was determined that the author of those chosen words was Marilyn Bankhard, a Dieruff Senior. Her father was Mr. Henry



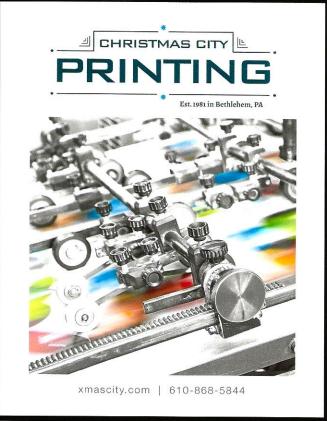
Olenwine

Benkhard

Bankhard, head of the Vocational Department at the high school. Being quite sensitive to his crisp image, he strongly advised his daughters, Marilyn and Jinny (an incoming Junior) to "fly under the radar" and remain inconspicuous at Dieruff.

Marilyn believed that the last thing she wanted to do was to earn notoriety as the author of the Alma Mater. So when she penned her entry, she affixed the name "Mary Jones". In retrospect, we know her father was extremely proud of Marilyn for her contribution to Husky Pride. And her contributions continue. It was Marilyn's generous gift to the Arlotto Campaign that pushed it over goal. How poetic it is that Marilyn Bankhard's donation will help enhance the Peter Carpenter Auditorium. "Bearing proudly Blue and Grey".





ADVERTISE IN OUR MONTHLY BULLETIN 1/4 Page Ad: \$20/ Mo. Business Card Ad: \$10/ Mo.

Giant Cash For Causes Gift Card Order Form

Name			
Address			
City	State	Zip _	
Phone	Email		
Number of \$25 cards Number of \$50 cards Number of \$100 cards			\$25 BARD \$50 BARD \$100 BARD \$100 BARD
Total Amount Due \$			Causes

Clip order form and mail, along with check payable to "Dieruff Alumni Association", to John Hughes, 2038 Majestic Overlook Drive, Bethlehem, PA 18015

Upcoming Events









Calling all Huskies from the Bicentenial Year!

Plan to celebrate with your fellow '76ers on Saturday, July 31, 2021 on the open, spacious grounds

of the East Side Youth Center.

Enjoy the summertime afternoon with your classmates at the annual Fandangle which will include a catered, all-you-can-eat buffet, a DJ, and music. Beer, soda, and water will be provided. Total price of the event is only \$20 per person. A designated area, with our own tent(s) and tables, will welcome alumni from the Class of 1976.

So, mark your calendars today, and keep your Husky paws crossed that the pandemic recovery will allow us to make this happen. For further information, or if you have any questions and/or comments, please "message"

Joanne Ogrydziak '76

via the Dieruff Alumni Association Website

via the Dieruff Alumni Association Website www.dieruff-alumni.org or call 610 791-2882.

See you on July 31st

Class of 1971 50th Class Reunion July 31, 2021

Held with Alumni Association Fandangle

Class of 1976 45th Class Reunion July 31, 2021

Held with Alumni Association Fandangle

Class of 1965 55th Class Reunion Saturday, October 30, 2021

Northampton Community Events Center

Class of 1966 55th Class Reunion September 18, 2021

The Barristers Club, 1114 W. Walnut St., Allentown

Class of 1961 60th Class Reunion, October 15, 2021

West Coplay Maennorchor

Class of 1970 Reunion, October 16, 2021

Fullerton Fire Company

Upcoming Events



Fandangle 2021 Ticket Order Form Please send one (1) ticket for Fandangle 2021 to: Same Grad. Class				
Street Address				
City	State	Zip		
Phone	Email			
check one > Upon arrival at the event on July 31, 2021, I agree to provide (check one) proof of negative COVID Test (within 3 days) or COVID Vaccination				
Signature	Date			
Send this completed form, along with check in th Dieruff High School, 815 N. Irving St., Alle	ne amount of \$20, made payable to entown, PA18109, Attention: Dier	o "Dieruff Alumni Association", uff Alumni Association.		



Louis E. Dieruff High School Alumni Association

Louis E. Dieruff High School 815 North Irving Street Allentown, PA 18109

"Husky Connections"
Alumni Bulletin

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Husky Howls & Hugs

Hi Everyone

June was busy. My first event was Senior Fest. What a hot and humid night. Gave lots of hugs and kisses. Kept drinking

lots of water, need to hydrate! Maybe I was thirsty from all the Doritos and icing I licked from the cupcake. Good 'ole Uncle John got some great pics of me and the cupcake.



For the first time, I went to a golf tournament. It was a fundraiser for Dieruff football. Aunt Cindy drove us to Limeport and it was a nice long ride. I so love my car rides and I love her van.

Spent a morning getting groomed. With the pandemic, it had been a long time since I had a bath. Unless we are soaking wet, huskies rarely have a doggie odor. Wanted to look my beautiful self for graduation.

Graduation at the stadium was wonderful. We had the best weather. Loved walking back on the field. But I was a bit confused. Saw all these white chairs, but no football team or cheerleaders. Saw and kissed Uncle Mike aka The Principal, and things started to become more normal. Then I heard the



roar of the crowd; I went into Diva mode and led in the class of 2021. The ceremony is too long for me but we did get to hear a few speeches. Mom wanted to hear Keith Groller. He is one of her favorite huskies.

No events for awhile. Going to rest & enjoy air conditioning.

Love, Kiska V.

A very tired Diva Dog