

Louis E. Dieruff High School Alumni Association Newsletter

Volume 2, Issue 9

DHSAumniNews@ptd.net

May, 2017

Celebrating Mr. C

To See All Photos Visit: www.Dieruff-Alumni.org

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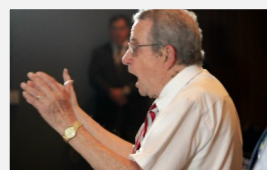
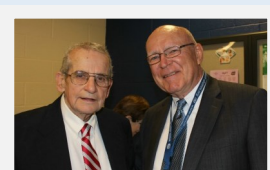
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President's Message

John G. Hughes, Jr. '61



For the Husky faithful, the Dieruff Alma Mater always tugs on the heartstrings. Those who experienced the unequalled rendition delivered on May 9, 2017 at the auditorium dedication walked away with tears of joy on their cheeks and indelible Husky paw prints on their soul.

The memorable event was the Dieruff High School Choir Spring Concert, creatively bundled with the dedication of the auditorium in honor of Mr. Peter Carpenter. Hundreds of alumni choir members and friends had returned to the school to celebrate the historic occasion.

The talented student choir, under the direction of Dr. Jennifer Dodd, offered an impressive mix of musical selections. Poetically, the last piece presented before the Alumni Choir assembled at the front of the auditorium was "One Song". The profound lyrics resonated, *"One song of love, one song of peace. One song to make our troubles cease. Just imagine what tomorrow would bring, if we could sing One Song"*. I truly believe that what followed in that concert was a spiritual response. Our Alma Mater was that "One Song".

Many of the returning alumni choir members have dedicated

their lives to music. They are truly the best of the best. Their first selection was the "Hallelujah Chorus" from Handel's Messiah. Although typically sung during the Christmas Season, all of Peter Carpenter's choirs deemed this piece one of their favorites, and the legendary choir director masterfully led the choir through this piece with precision and drama. The alumni and student choirs then blended their voices for "Prayer For a School".

The time had then arrived. Peter presented a framed original manuscript of the Dieruff Alma Mater to Principal Susan Bocian. He then told the story about how he had composed the music for the school song back in 1959 when the doors first opened. Next he introduced Marilyn Bankhard Mayer, Class of 1960, who was one of the co-authors of the lyrics. Marilyn has flown up from her home in Naples, FL for the ceremony. Unfortunately, the



other co-author, Nancy Olenwine Parsells, Class of 1961, was unable to make the trip from North Carolina.

With the poise and confidence of a man who had stood in that auditorium and had directed his choirs in the Alma Mater thousand of times, Peter Carpenter raised his arms in front of the combined Student and Alumni Choirs. The audience came to their feet in reverence. Powerful voices filled the auditorium with unequalled strength and harmony. The lyrics were crisp and poignant. This truly was a moment to remember. The Dieruff Alma Mater had become that "One Song".

I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to all of those who contributed to this very magical, unforgettable dedication in honor of Peter Carpenter.

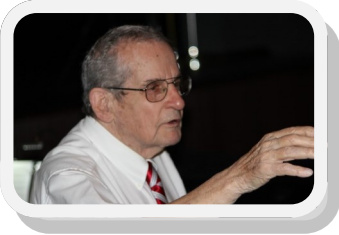
Bearing proudly Blue and Grey,

John G. Hughes, Jr.,
Class of 1961

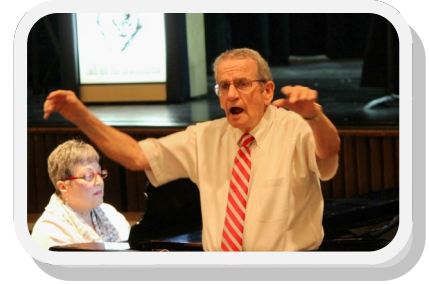
Click on below to view:

Hallelujah Chorus - <https://youtu.be/nzj6DnvT5Dg>

Alma Mater - <https://youtu.be/jvwAwkyqNPo>



Tributes To Mr. C



I am glad you were my choir director at Dieruff.

I am glad that you had Dieruff choir reunions.

I am glad that your wife was my class advisor.

I am glad to see that you never changed since we became acquainted with each other in our many organizations.

I am thankful for your wisdom and knowledge throughout your eighty eight years of life and many more years in the future.

Dale H. Serfass '68

I remember wanting to audition for "The Lion's Club Stars of Tomorrow Competition" and when I gave Mr. C my song and began to sing it, he played a completely different tune as I sang. I stopped and asked him what the heck he was playing since it was not what I wanted. He said it was the song that was going to make me a winner. Sure enough I won first place that year and performed throughout the district. I guess he knew me as a singer better than I knew myself!

Greg Annoni '88

Mr. C inspired me to do my best in all walks of life. He was by far the best and most memorable teacher I've ever had. I love to sing and some of my best friends were also in the choir. I still have relationships with some of them 40 years later.

Dianne Phillips '78

Having Mr. C for Advanced Placement Music in my Senior year allowed me to go further into my Music career when in College. I still remember the one Solfeggio tune which Mr. C said, "I have students who walk up to me years later and sing this to me." And I still do remember it almost 40 years later. Mr. C. is a shining star in the realm of teachers and is a true guiding light to so many! He started the Music Program from nothing and built lasting memories. Hopefully education will return to the Arts in Allentown, they miss what Music and the Arts bring to students.

Nancy Meckstroth '79

From the moment I had the honor of being the first freshman male selected for "Varsity Voices" you left an indelible mark on my life and my love for music and singing. Your enthusiasm inspired me to always strive to be the best I could be. I had many wonderful teachers during my years at DHS, some of whom to this day I also call "friend". God bless you with continued health and happiness my friend.

Andy Hausman '86

I remember thinking I would never be able to sing "I have a little shadow" in one breath, but with his encouragement I did. I remember coming to the realization that in the choir room I was comfortable and with people who were my friends. Mr. C fostered that "family".

Kathleen Bachman Troutman '80

Even though I wasn't the best singer, you pushed me to always do my best and I hoped I made you proud when I sang. But my fondest memories with you are when we were just "talkin' baseball".

David Ziegenfuss '86

When I think of my dad, I think about so many students whose lives he touched -- the gift of music he brought to so many people -- how much he cared, deeply, about each student. I'm honored to be his daughter.

Jodi Carpenter

A PS from Jodi: Hello! To commemorate Mr. C.'s 90th birthday, my mom and I are asking for his former students to send pictures, memories, and/or birthday wishes so that I can compile them in a photo book that I'm creating. Please include your maiden name (if applicable) and graduation year with your response. You can email your stories, pictures, and wishes to me at joannasireland@gmail.com. Please send your info to me by July 10 so that I have enough time to compile the book before the big day. Thank You! Jodi

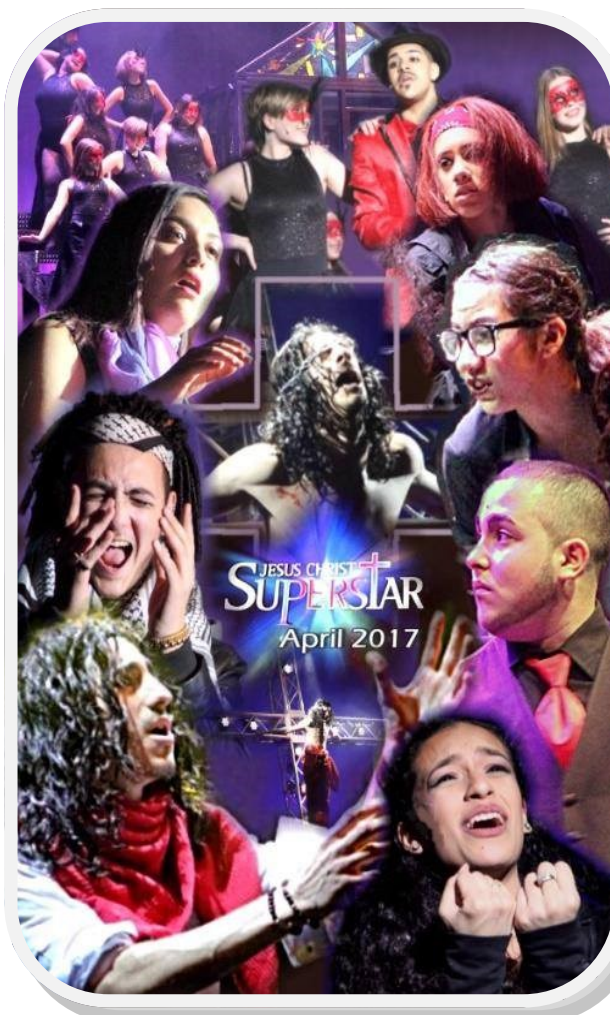
Dieruff Superstars Shine On Stage

Joanne Ogrydziak '76

Watch the 2017 FREDDY AWARDS
Thursday, May 25th at 7PM
69 WFMZ-TV

I confess. I admit it. I'm a Dieruff Theatre Company groupie. Ever since the opening "Good Morning, Baltimore" in the 2012 LED production of "Hairspray," I was hooked. The following years featured the outstanding presentations of "Aida," "Chicago," "In the Heights," and the 2016 blockbuster, "The Producers." With a Husky heart that bleeds Blue and Gray, the enthusiastic accolades and thunderous standing ovations have moved me to tears. Halfway through this season's final performance, Morning Call Senior Sports Writer Keith Groller (LED '79) tweeted, "Dieruff has hit another HR." Yes, Keith, we all agree. It was hit out of the park. It was hit out of the East Side.

Dieruff's skyrocketing drama program, which was resurrected in 2009, has clearly earned the reputation of "raising the bar" in local high school theatre. This year's spirited production of "Jesus Christ Superstar" was no exception as Producer/Director Sarah Hinkle Pastelyak (LED '02) and her team took on yet another formidable challenge with their over-the-top presentation of the Tim Rice / Andrew Lloyd Webber masterpiece. Based on the Gospels' accounts of the week leading up to the Passion and Crucifixion, the 1970 rock opera is entirely sung with no spoken dialogue. While each perfectly-cast actor and ensemble member gave a superb performance, this proud Husky was particularly impressed with Leigha Montes' devilishly creepy portrayal of Annas, the sinister sidekick of the high priest Caiaphas. Also, Nikki



Perez's powerful delivery of "I Don't Know How to Love Him" just about brought me to my knees. I couldn't stop sobbing. I would bet that, even on the Broadway stage or in a Hollywood recording studio, it was never sung more beautifully.

I was fortunate to have been at all three of the sold-out performances, and wished that I could have seen at least three more. What was distinctly innovative about this year's production was the contemporary setting in which the show was presented. At the onset of the overture, video displays alerted the audience to the rioting mob which tore through the packed auditorium to culminate its impeccably-choreographed

action on stage. Cameo appearances by Dieruff administrators, seen as news broadcasters, were laced through the stirring footage. Haunting images of artwork, which represented scenes from Pilate's Dream before the Trial, were alluringly projected to enhance the simplicity of the set design. The fabulous finale, which had the entire audience on its feet while cast members danced in the aisles amid cheering applause, was truly a celebration. These hard-working, talented, and dedicated kids are our superstars. Delightfully entertaining, their "behind the scenes" interviews can be viewed at www.youtube.com/watch?v=HAAM05mVNp0.

Brilliantly created and produced by senior Hannah Schoeppel, the 40-minute YouTube video provides a candid, humorous peek into the theatrical lives and the "what's the buzz/happenings" of the JCS cast members.

So, as we grateful alumni join the world-wide television and internet audience to hail our Huskies on Thursday, May 25, we salute Mrs. Pastelyak and Company for another amazing season. Nominated for the fourth consecutive year for "Outstanding Overall Production of a Musical," Dieruff will again take center stage at the Freddy Awards to showcase a number from its recent production. This is The Big One, folks. You won't want to miss it. Be sure to have a box of Kleenex nearby because, no matter how many years it's been since you flipped the tassels on your graduation caps, Husky Pride will soar from your hearts. This groupie guarantees it.

Dieruff High School Alumni Association

Husky Pride... Unleashed



Dieruff Fandangle

A Mega-Reunion For All Classes

Join fellow Dieruff Alumni (All Classes) and Friends
for an afternoon of great fun, music, drinks (beer,
soda, water), and all-you-can-eat catered food.

Saturday, July 29, 2017

2:00 - 7:00 PM

**East Side Youth Center
1140 East Clair St., Allentown, PA**

Advanced Tickets Only

\$20 Per Person

**Tickets on Sale at
Stahley's, DHS Main Office,
or on-line at our
website below**

www.dieruff-alumni.org



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when booking two or more nights
Sunday-Thursday
(Excludes Holidays)**



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Kiska's Korner

By Kiska V w/Karen Coleman

According to T.S. Eliot, "April is the cruellest month." This April was dreadful. Magnolia stopped eating and after many trips to the vet and second opinions, on April 6th she crossed the Bridge. She was old and all the time on the streets had aged her. Even though she beat me up, we had become friends. I miss her and I hate to see Mom sad.

But instead of moping, we headed to Husky High to supervise the kids with their clean-up. Lots of kids and adults. A lot of good organization. Awesome project. Misha and I greeted everyone and then we decided to walk around the building. That is Misha's usual route. The two of us had a great time together.

Mom has been to a lot of high school musicals. She says she is doing "Scouting Reports." But one Saturday night, Aunt Cindy came to the house.

When I see Aunt Cindy it always means we are going to an event. After the usual hugs and kisses, I was waiting for my working collar and leash. They did it, they put on their coats and no collar and no leash. Tried the Pity Me Look. Did not work. Tried the Dirty Look as they left. Then onto the couch for a nap to mend my broken heart. Mom came home and she told me that I was SUPERCALIFRAGILISTICEXPIALIDOCIOUS. Whatever.

The first week of May is Be Kind to Animals Week. After hearing all the horror stories from Reading, please celebrate this event. If you see abuse, stop it or call Animal Control. Hug and give your pets extra love. Pet lives are so much shorter. Seems funny not to hear Maggie's hoarse meow. To celebrate the week, I have a new brother, Kibbee Coleman. He is a grey, chubby cat. He loves food and this is why Mom adopted him. Strangely, he has a short, stubby tail, just like Maggie's. I wonder???????

I have been singing a lot in preparation for the Spring Concert. Misha and I are getting groomed. Thinking maybe our sequin scarves. Back-up singers have to look glamorous. I am hoping to be in the mood to belt out the Alma Mater. I have trouble with the Fight Song - just cannot get the words. But when they play it, Misha and I are usually coming onto the field. We plan on doing a Meet and Greet after the concert. Cannot wait to see Mr. C. Hope all of you are planning on attending this gala event.

Love,

Kiska V, Diva Dog



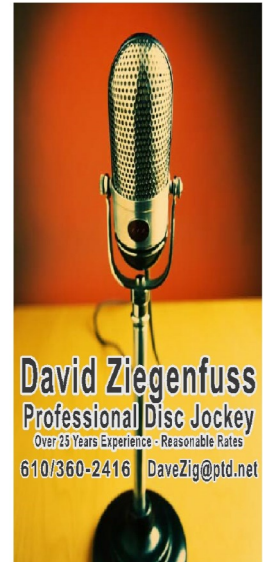
UPCOMING EVENTS

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

- June 7:** Alumni Association Meeting 6:30PM
Meilinger Center
- June 16:** Dieruff High School 58th Annual Graduation 6:30PM
PPL Center
- July 5:** Alumni Association Meeting 6:30PM
SITE TO BE DETERMINED
- July 29:** 5th Annual Alumni Association FANDANGLE 2PM-7PM
East Side Youth Center (SEE PAGE 5 FOR DETAILS)
- October 27-28:** Class of 1967 50th Year Reunion
(See Below)
- October 28:** Dieruff-Allen Game Tailgate 11AM
Game 2PM J. Birney Crum Stadium
- May 19, 2018:** Class of 1986 Turns 50
Details To Follow

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

Book Your Events Today!



Dieruff Alumni Association Members

Receive A

\$50.00 Discount

For All Events

Over 4 Hours

Class of 1967 50th Year



Friday 10-27-17 will meet at Stahley's for fun and food.
Sat 10-28-17 Tailgate 11:00 AM at Stadium before the Dieruff - Allen football game
Sat 10-28-17 2:00 PM Dieruff - Allen football game
Sat 10-28-17 50th Class reunion Dinner party and dance at the Ice Palace on Hanover Avenue

Additionally, our class is invited to walk with the Dieruff graduation Class of 2017 on Friday, June 16, 2017 at the PPL center. Please let me know if you will be attending the June graduation.
 It will be a honor to be present during our 50th year after graduation.

Any questions please e-mail either Monna Lou Henninger monnalou@cbheritage.com or call 610-704-2510 (cell) or email Steve Henninger stevehenninger64@gmail.com



Louis E. Dieruff High School
Alumni Association Newsletter

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We publish an online digital .pdf copy of the newsletter 11 times annually, with two special printed editions for the Fandangle and Dieruff-Allen Game tailgate. All digital copies will be emailed by or on the 5th of each month. Deadline for inclusion for the next month's edition is by the 24th of each month, unless arrangements are made. Please email articles, advertising and events to: DHSAlumniNews@ptd.net

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