

Louis E. Dieruff High School
Alumni Association Newsletter

Volume 3 , Issue 7

DHSAlumniNews@ptd.net

March 2018

7th Annual Mardi Gras: Mother Nature Can't Stop The Fun!

Photos By: *John G. Hughes, Jr. '61*

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

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President's Message

John G. Hughes, Jr. '61

Huskies In Harmony

In a world where discord has threatened to become the new normal, it is refreshing to experience harmony of any kind. I am proud to report that the Dieruff Alumni Association is filled with abundant harmony.

During the month of February, we enjoyed a pair of wonderful examples of harmony. On Saturday, February 17th, we held our 7th annual Mardi Gras Party at the East Side Youth Center. Even though Mother Nature tossed some nasty snowballs at our parade, the event brought out the best in us. Those faithful Huskies with fortitude and/or four-wheel drive vehicles gathered to celebrate Husky Pride. Alumni representing all different graduating classes bonded together for an evening of camaraderie. Our talented disc-jockey Dave Ziegenfuss, Class of '86, entertained us with a mix of music that appealed to all age groups, and kept the dance floor jammed. It seems that the "Electric Slide" has universal appeal. It also seems that Elvis never did leave the building.

For a quick view of the Mardi Gras highlights, click on this link:

<https://youtu.be/ECmQdClx2TY>

The second February event where accord (and a chord) played an important role was the Husky A Cappella Festival on February 24th. At the request of the Dieruff Key Club, the Alumni Association joined forces to support this novel activity. This partnering of alumni and students exemplifies the harmony that is possible, and amazingly rewarding.

As we proceed into 2018, I am encouraged by the opportunities for harmony... with fellow alumni, with current students and faculty, and with the community. Please join us and celebrate the joy that is uniquely "Blue and Grey".

With Husky Harmony,

John

(Editor's Note: If you can not click the link to access the video, please copy and paste into your web browser)



Alumni Profile: Mr. Roy Arlotto, Dieruff Faculty Emeritus

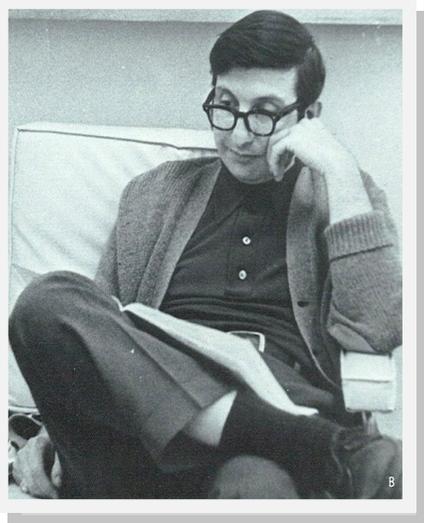
Official Husky Scorekeeper, Unofficial LED Historian

Joanne Ogrydziak '76

Dick Schmidt. Linda Repp Cruttenden. Skip Kintz. Ross Moore. Foo Belfield. Patti Sikorski Heffner. Anthony Ross. The names of these LED legends have echoed through decades of Dieruff's rich basketball legacy. Another name, however, stands out above all others as the one Husky who has been on the scene for more years than the others combined. Roy Arlotto, whose loyal presence alongside the Husky hardwood is as familiar to fans as the "Cheer, Cheer, Cheer" of our beloved Fight Song, marked his impressive 50th consecutive year this season as the official scorekeeper and statistician for Dieruff Boys Basketball.

Eager to learn more about his experiences within the hallowed halls of Husky High, I recently had the opportunity to sit down with Mr. Arlotto in a local diner. Prepared with my list of questions over a warm Panini and several refills of hot coffee, hours went by like minutes as I anxiously listened to his stories like a kid on Christmas morning. I soon set aside my blue and gray notebook and simply paid attention with wide-eyed awe; his tales of the early days at Dieruff were like nuggets of pure gold and I was tapping into Fort Knox.

Student sit-ins in the Commons, backwashing from the pool which caused a flood onto the gymnasium floor, a fire



in the auditorium which damaged the stage one week before the District Band Competition, the homeroom lottery which allowed lucky students to obtain tickets for the sold-out, standing room-only Dieruff-Allen basketball games. Mr. Arlotto's stories, recalled through his good-natured sense of humor, captivated my fascination. Although some of the characters were only names to me found in old LED yearbooks, the events came alive as Mr. Arlotto shared some of his favorite memories of our cherished school.

Hailing from the blue-collar, mining community of Hazleton, Mr. Arlotto attended Lehigh University after graduating from Freeland MMI in 1958. He arrived at Dieruff in the Fall of 1961 instructing in the afternoons to fulfill his senior year student-teacher requirements. Subsequently, an unexpected vacancy in the LED Chemistry Department opened the door for his 44-year career as a full-time educator. Hired by Principal Henry Weidner, who had hand-picked his young faculty members, Mr. Arlotto began at the start of the 1962-1963 school term and remained in the classroom until 2006. He received national recognition during his outstanding tenure, and his analytical writings were published in the "Journal of Chemical Education."

Back in the '60s and '70s, it was not uncommon for teachers to supplement their starting salaries with income from part-time work. An avid basketball fan, Mr. Arlotto took on the role of Dieruff's PA Announcer for all home games and was consequently offered the job of scorekeeper at the start of the 1968-1969 season. The rest is history. Half of a century and eleven different head coaches later, Mr. Arlotto, wearing his trademark dark-rimmed glasses, can still be seen at all Varsity and JV games recording stats for our Huskies. Teaming up with Mr. (Bernie) Schimmel and Mr. (Peter) Carpenter for the presentations of the Spring Musicals, he also served as the advisor for the stage crew, lighting, and set design. Interestingly, it was



his responsibilities to the musical production which kept him from attending the famous "Stall Game," the 1969 PIAA play-off meeting at the Penn Palestra during which Coach Schmidt slowed down the pace to stop Penncrest High's towering offense. The Huskies successfully held the ball and shut out their opponents during the entire first period. I had listened to the play-by-play of that memorable game on the radio and was looking forward to hearing from Mr. Arlotto what it was like to have seen all the action from courtside in that historic Philadelphia arena. To my disappointment, that was the ONE game he had missed that season because of his commitment to the '69 production of "The Music Man." "Back then," he joked, "we weren't concerned about the Freddys. We had to worry about the Bernies," referring to Dieruff's no-nonsense theatre director Bernie Schimmel.

Today, outside of basketball season, Mr. Arlotto's interests still involve music and chemistry. He enjoys his collection of opera vinyl records which he transfers to CDs, and has acquired an assortment of old chemistry sets and glass apothecary bottles. A familiar face at many of our alumni activities, he and Mr. Carpenter have remained close and continue to see each other every week for Sunday Dinner. Mr. Carpenter heartwarmingly commented about his good friend, "We are like brothers."

(CONTINUED ON PAGE: 5)

Pizza Party For Acapella Choirs

John G. Hughes, Jr. '61

Perhaps it was the afternoon rehearsals that made them so hungry. Or maybe that's just the natural state for today's young people. Whatever the reason, the participants in the Husky A Cappella Festival held on Saturday, February 24, 2018 displayed ravenous appetites.

Our alumni volunteers that worked the pizza party sure got a workout! Their task was to get about 100 people through that "chow line" quickly and efficiently, in time to change clothes and be ready for the 7:00 PM show.

Four 8-foot tables, strategically positioned in the high school's Meilinger Cafeteria, boasted an array of tubs (filled with soft drinks and water), 35 colorful cardboard containers holding steaming pizza pies, chips and pretzels, and sumptuous cupcakes (generously baked and decorated by June Laubach Hinkle '75). A short Youtube video of the pizza party can be viewed by clicking on the following link:

https://youtu.be/MFqNbES_sNO

The students had gathered at Dieruff High School to perform in the Husky A Cappella Festival, organized by Faculty Advisor Mr. Jeffrey Dutt and the Dieruff Key Club. A total of ten groups participated, including the Dieruff AFROTC Step Team and the Dieruff Marching Band Front Team. A Cappella choirs representing Nazareth High School (2), Freedom High School, Whitehall High School, Atlantic City High School, and Muhlenberg College (3) were all part of the show. The stage in the Peter Carpenter Auditorium was alive with rhythm and harmony.

The Key Club had invited the Alumni Association to partner with them, and host the pizza party, and also assist with ushering. Alumni also helped at the concessions counter. Our alumni

thoroughly enjoyed immersing themselves in this project. During the meal, Mr. Dutt acknowledged the contribution of the Alumni Association, and a warm round of applause expressed the appreciation of the students.

Nourished and energized, the talented participants presented a most impressive and entertaining performance. Highlights of the show can be viewed by clicking on the link below:

<https://youtu.be/bLbYe-aqqyk>

(Editor's Note: If you can not click the link to access the video, please copy and paste into your web browser)



DHS Alumni Association is Selling Old Yearbooks!
Your Alumni Association has been given old yearbooks from the School Library. These books were taking up valuable real estate and the library was planning to recycle them!

This Month's Featured Yearbook is:

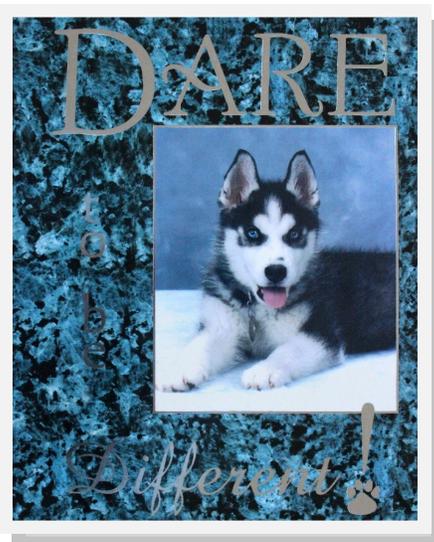
DHS Class of 1998 –

Celebrating their 20th Reunion from DHS!

Cost is \$25.00. First Come, First Served. Proceeds from the sale of yearbooks will support the many initiatives your alumni association supports at DHS.

Complete the online order form found on the homepage of our website. Reach out to a fellow classmate if they are in need of a yearbook!

For More Information Visit: www.Dieruff-Alumni.org



Kiska's Korner

Kiska V w/Karen Coleman

March 12th, I did the Dieruff Iditarod!!!! I was wondering what to write about this month and did not want to complain about the lousy weather and power outages. Mom got a call on Friday afternoon and an invitation to come to Husky High for a celebration for Phil Rishel. He is quite a young man. He is an Eagle Scout. He has a GPA of 4.713. He owns eight Dieruff swimming records and has just won a gold at the District XI swim meet. Met him and his family and best of all, they are dog people.

I thought I was just going to do a Meet and Greet in the Main Office. No way, I was to lead the parade through the halls of Husky High. It was my own Iditarod. There is no way I would pull a sled through snow, so this was the greatest. I was the lead dog!! Lead dogs are the brightest of the pack. I wonder what my GPA is? I am sure it cannot compare to Phil's. But it was a great experience and Mom thought I did really well. Loud music, cheering kids, pictures. It was a true expression of Husky Pride. We have so many good kids at Dieruff and it is wonderful to celebrate their victories. I was very grateful to have been a

part of this event.

I also got my caramel candy from Mrs. Bocian. Aunt Holly had Starbursts and my water dish filled with bottled water. I really needed a long drink after the hike and giving kisses really dries out the tongue. Talked a bit and there will be a planning session for a program next fall. So many schools, colleges, even airports are using Comfort Dogs to help with stressful situations. Going to up my visits to school, at least once a month and meet with kids and staff who just need a Husky Hug. Think I would like to do a Lunch Bunch, especially if we have Doritos. With our crazy world, pet therapy is becoming more widespread. Must say, Mom knew that forty-two years ago when she adopted Kiska II. So excited about that.

Also saw a video of the Girls, Elena and Miska. They are really growing and so full of pep and energy. There is so much work to do as mascot, so I am happy to have some help. I will be eight in July and the husky energy is declining.

I have actually become sedate and quite the lady. Think the Girls are

going to be a handful, especially if they double team me.

Think spring. Mom had to replace two porches and I am eager to stretch out on my new deck and enjoy the warm April breezes. I also need the sun. Husky coats change color through the seasons. This winter I went really chocolate brown. Need the sun to bring out my red highlights. And I so love to nap on the porch.



Hugs, Kiss

Kiska V, Diva Dog



Roy Arlotto (Continued From Page 3)

From a young boy who sent a noxious sulfur odor through his parents' house from his attic chemistry lab to his appointment as Chairman of Dieruff's Chemistry Department, Mr. Arlotto's dedication to his students has touched the lives of thousands of Huskies. A few of his former students expressed their sentiments for their favorite teacher:

"Best teacher throughout the school. Knew everything about chemistry, but also knew a lot about everything else. That's what set him apart in my book.

Best teacher I ever had."

"Mr. Arlotto is the smartest, coolest teacher at DHS. His chemistry class was the most interesting subject that I have ever experienced. He always loved to quiz our Academic Team and we really learned a lot from him. I hope he never retires."

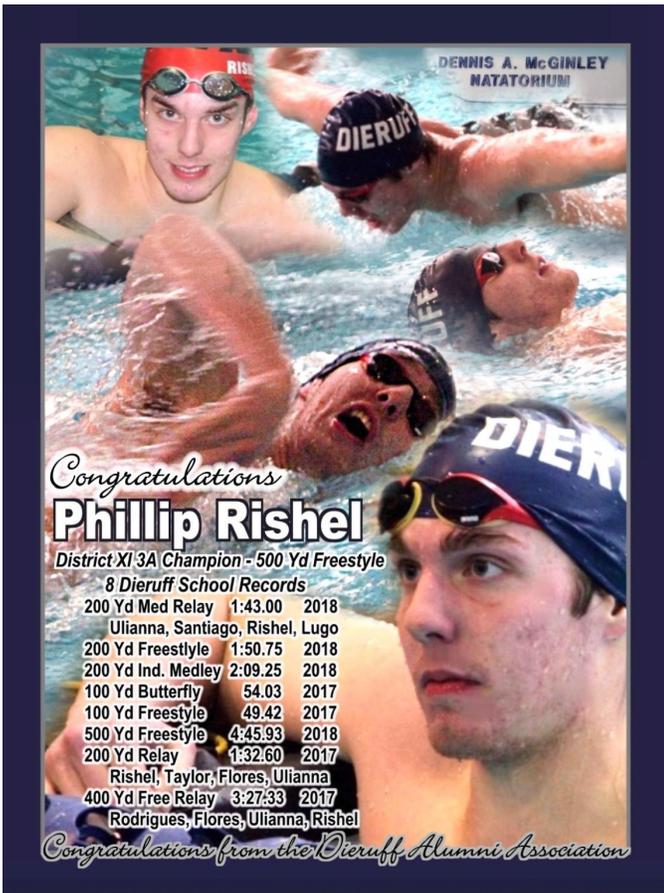
"Mr. Arlotto made chemistry class very fun even though it was hard."

This final quote, my personal favorite, was from a William Allen scorekeeper who shared his thoughts about Roy

Arlotto when he remarked, "You won't find a more dedicated guy or a person more loyal and devoted to his school."

That says it all. First time I ever agreed with a Canary.





**Dieruff Alumni Association
Congratulates
Phillip Rishel '18
On His Outstanding Achievements**

Dieruff District XI Swim Champ Flies Like an Eagle

John G. Hughes, Jr. '61

An article in last month's Alumni Newsletter announced that Dieruff Swimmer Phillip Rishel had his name posted six times on the record board in the Dennis McGinley Natatorium. Well, get out the ladder once again for a major update.

On February 15th, in the last swim meet of the season (at William Allen), Phillip Rishel was a member of the relay team that captured a new Dieruff record in the 200 Yard Medley Relay. The old record was established in 1964 by Morrow, Fischl, Long and Constantine. Now, the names of Ulianna, Santiago, Rishel, and Lugo will appear on the record board. For Ryan Ulianna, that represents his third school record. For Rishel, that's his seventh!

But hold on! There's more! On Sunday, March 4th, Phillip Rishel struck gold in the District XI 3A Championships held at Emmaus High School. He earned first place in the grueling 500 Yard Freestyle event with an incredible time of 4:45.98! That eclipses the Dieruff High School record established by Mike Seip in 1975. Rishel lowered that record by nearly 14 seconds. That makes a total of **EIGHT** Dieruff swim records currently owned by Phil Rishel. Phil is truly a scholar-athlete, holding a GPA of 4.713 (on a 4.0 grade level - advanced courses account

for the significant overage).

There is another significant honor that Phillip has earned. On Saturday, March 10, 2018, Phillip Swalm Rishel was recognized at the Eagle Scout Court of Honor, receiving Scouting's highest rank advancement.

On Monday, March 12th, Dieruff High School honored Phillip with a hallway parade, with alumni, classmates and faculty paying tribute to this "champion".

It is with tremendous pride that the Dieruff Alumni Association salutes Phillip Rishel, his family, coaches, teammates and Boy Scout leaders. Congratulations!



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 28, 2018
2:00 - 7:00 PM

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

Advanced Tickets Only

\$20 Per Person

SAVE THE DATE

www.dieruff-alumni.org

Class of 1986
50th Birthday Celebration



Saturday May 19, 2018
5:00PM - 10:00PM

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\$35.00 PP

- Hot & Cold Buffet
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- Coffee & Hot Tea
- Dessert (Birthday Cake)
- 4-Hour Photo Booth
- Dancing & Entertainment
- Special VIP Guests
- Cash Bar Available

Deadline to purchase tickets: May 1, 2018

Order Tickets :
www.Dieruff-Alumni.org
email any questions or reserve tickets at:
DHSAlumniNews@ptd.net



Alumni Wrestlers Coordinate Reunion Event with Fandangle

John G. Hughes, Jr. '61

The first two alumni wrestlers reunions (held in 2016 and 2017) were extremely successful. And now, Rob Trexler (Class of 1966) and Abe Youwakim (Class of 1967) are planning a major "extravaganza".

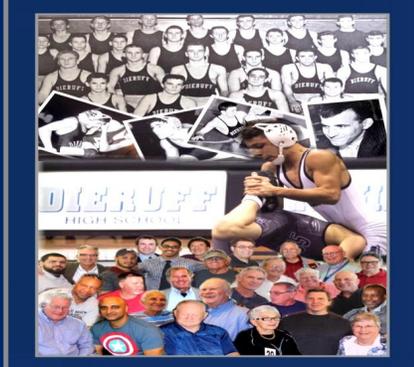
Rob and Abe have scheduled the Third Annual Dieruff "Grapplers Get-Together" for Saturday, July 28, 2018. The event will be held at the Hamilton Family Restaurant and will run from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM.

They have carefully selected that date so that attendees can also participate in the Alumni Association's "Fandangle", the mega-reunion for all classes that is

planned for that same date from 2:00 PM to 7:00 PM at the East Side Youth Center.

Talk about "Husky Harmony"! There are several Dieruff classes that have already scheduled special celebrations at the Fandangle. The Class of 1968 has been celebrating the "50th Anniversary of their Senior Year" all during 2018, and is developing plans to make the Fandangle a celebration extraordinaire.

Huskies certainly have a way of pulling out all of the stops and showing their Husky Pride.



3rd Annual Wrestling Reunion

All Alumni Wrestlers & Coaches are invited to join us on

Saturday, July 28, 2018
11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Hamilton Family Restaurant
2027 Hamilton Street
Allentown, PA 18104

SAVE THE DATE

Dieruff High School

Husky Fest



**May 4,
2018**

3:00PM TO 7:00PM

Dieruff High School
Rear Gym Parking Lot
Rain Location: Gym

Get the Word Out!

Sponsored by Dieruff Student Council, Clubs and Activities

COME OUT AND
MEET SOME OF
THE LOCAL
MASCOTS
INCLUDING
MELVIN FROM
THE PHANTOMS!!

**LOCAL FOOD
TRUCKS!**

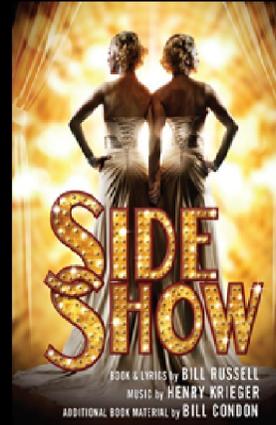
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April 26, 27 & 28
Showtimes:
April 26 7PM
April 27 7PM
April 28 2PM

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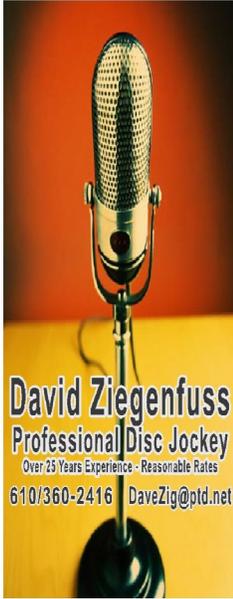
UPCOMING EVENTS

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

- April 26, 27, 28:** Dieruff Theatre Company "Side Show"
Peter Carpenter Auditorium (SEE PG 8 FOR DETAILS)
Visit www.ticketor.com/dierufftheatre/ for tickets
- May 4:** HUSKY FEST 3PM-7PM
Rear Parking Lot (SEE PG 8 FOR DETAILS)
- May 19:** Class of '86 Turns 50
Coplay Saengerbund (SEE PG 7 FOR DETAILS)
- July 28:** 3rd Annual Grapplers Get Together 11AM-1PM
Hamilton Family Restaurant (SEE PG 7 FOR DETAILS)
- July 28:** 6th Annual Fandangle 2PM-6PM
East Side Youth Center (SEE PG 7 FOR DETAILS)

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

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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:

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