

# Louis E. Dieruff High School Alumni Association Newsletter



Volume 2, Issue 1

DHSAlumniNews@ptd.net

September 2016

## Welcome To 2.1: A JAMMED PACKED Issue!

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## The 4th Annual Fandangle

Even Mother Nature couldn't ruin our fun!

300 classmates laughing, singing, dancing, eating and drinking for five hours.

**Husky Pride at it's best!**

Collages by John G. Hughes, Jr.



## President's Message

John G. Hughes, Jr. '61



### Kindness Matters

Even though we are several months away from New Year's Eve 2017, it is fitting that we reflect on the lyrics of "Auld Lang Syne", that eloquent piece penned by Scottish poet Robert Burns in 1788. Profoundly he wrote, "We'll take a cup of kindness yet, for auld lang syne", which can be loosely translated, for the sake of old times and new beginnings.

As the new school year begins, Dieruff High School Principal, Mrs. Susan Bocian, and her leadership team have adopted the phrase "Kindness Matters....Rise Above" as the theme for the year. Every effort will be made to reinforce that positive culture.

Our Alumni Association proudly promotes "Husky Pride" by embracing a strategy of kindness. Just consider some of our most recent activities and events. We enjoyed the kindness of fellow alumni and guests at the "Fandangle", our mega-reunion for all classes held in late July. Kindness was in abundance in August as the Class of 1966 celebrated its 50th Reunion. Faithful alumni extended kindness to the Dieruff Football Team and Coaches as we hosted our annual swim party. Alumni kindness was on display as our association treated the Husky Marching Band to a Pizza Party

during "Preview Night", where the band previewed their new routine.

Mrs. Karen Coleman was recognized for 40 years of canine kindness, as she completed four decades of "motherhood" for our school mascots, Kiska II, III, IV and V. Decals bearing her image next to Kiska are displayed on the helmets of our football players, and a framed version of that decal was presented to Karen at the swim party.

Our Alumni Association is poised to continue extending kindness as we enter the school year. Our "Sew What?" Club will, once again, select projects based on community service. The club will also be collecting items to be distributed to the homeless in Allentown.

In an ongoing effort to raise funds for our "School Spirit Scholarships", our Association will be selling the Husky Magnets as well as the recently introduced merchandise with the embroidered logo. Most significantly, we shall be selling raffle tickets for the Commemorative Autographed Football, signed by 38 NFL Hall of Famers. This valuable keepsake was generously donated to our Alumni Association by Joyce Hemerly Reed-Eberly, mother of Alum and Hall of Fame recipient, Andre Reed. Her kindness is sincere-

ly appreciated. The drawing for that prized football will occur at the Dieruff vs. Allen Football Game.

Our Tailgate Party preceding the contest between these cross-town rivals is scheduled for Saturday, October 29, 2016. This event represents Husky Kindness at its best. With a huge contingent of Dieruff Alumni gathering for breakfast and warm embraces under the party tents, the tradition will include extending a kind welcome to the Dieruff Marching Band, the Cheerleaders, and senior cadets of the AFROTC. When the football team arrives by bus at Gate #2 of J.Birney Crum Stadium, our faithful fans will form a gauntlet that will funnel them onto Andre Reed Field. Then, we shall enter the stadium, position ourselves in the stands and cheer our Huskies on to their fifth consecutive victory over the Canaries.

And so, we all salute the theme of "Kindness Matters", and we praise Robert Burns as we take a cup of kindness, for auld lang syne.

With warm and kind Husky regards,

John

We dedicate this month's Alumni Newsletter to Richard "Dick" Burdick. Dick passed away on August 6, 2016, and was a very active member of the Alumni Association. He had stated that the last few years had been the best because of his active participation with the Dieruff Alumni Association. We are grateful for all he did for our school and he will be greatly missed. When you attend a football game, look for a little stuffed husky sitting there in the stands - "Dickie" will always be here.



Dick Burdick '72  
Always A Husky



## Alumni Profile - George Raad '69

David Ziegenfuss '86

In George Raad's life, every day is Christmas. He keeps a Christmas tree, a Green Bay Packers tree (his favorite NFL team), up in his home year round to remind him that today, like every day it's Christmas. He's lost some friends from the past, so that's why he lives each day like it's his last day.

George Raad is a man who is truly blessed. A loving wife, Linda, of 40 years, two successful sons, Chris and Greg, and just days before our interview, a second grandson, as well as a successful family business that is over 50 years old. One of the first things about George you will find out is his love for his Alma Mater and his former classmates at Dieruff High School...the Class of 1969.

"I grew up in the 6<sup>th</sup> Ward", George begins, "around the Neuweiler Brewery and Egypt Star Bakery. The 6<sup>th</sup> Ward was the best place to live and the greatest experience for any young person to have. There were working class heroes there and we were taught to work hard and respect others," George continues, "We didn't have a lot of money, but that value of working hard taught us a lot and that stuck with all of us."

George's pipeline to Dieruff was through Sheridan Elementary and then Harrison-Morton Junior High. "I liked school and I liked all the teachers, but I didn't excel in the classroom. Gym was my favorite class. I should have hit the books harder, but I didn't...but I do take responsibility for what I didn't do."

But as underachieving as George may feel his academic side may have been, there were two places he excelled...on the sports field and in the social setting with his classmates. "I was voted class president for my junior year and then the next year, I didn't know I was nominated for senior class president. There were some sharp cookies running for president - real sharp cookies, but the day of the assembly came for the seniors and I was asked to give a speech. It was a quick one, about 40 seconds long and

believe it or not, I won. It's funny, but I always wondered what my classmates were thinking by not only electing me president once, but *twice!*"

George was on the football and baseball teams and got his varsity letter in baseball, where he played centerfield. He played as an outside linebacker and running back on the football team, and his dream was to play football at East Stroudsburg University for the great coach Charlie Reese. "I spoke with Charlie for three hours about wanting to play for him and I thought it was a 'done deal', but my grades were only ok at community college - a C+ average. I didn't apply myself in school, and then I received a letter that has stayed with me all my life. It was from the admissions office at East Stroudsburg. In essence, in one of the several paragraphs, was the line: *We're sorry, but we are accepting those students we feel that would benefit from a college education.* What prompted that letter were my grades from community college."

So in 1971, George Raad went to work. He was a knitting mill supervisor for Allison Manufacturing on Auburn Street for nine years, and on the side he worked with his father's business as a real estate agent. "My father worked for a top realtor, Earl Kester for five years. When my father became a broker, he opened our office in 1963". In 1972, George obtained his real estate license, "I didn't know anything about real estate, and I wasn't looking to get into real estate at all," George remembers with a big grin, "mainly because I saw how difficult it was. Sometimes you have to wait three months to get paid."

In 1979, George left Allison Manufacturing to go into real estate full time, "We plugged along and the business grew. I've been in real estate for 44 years and it's never been a job to me, it's been a passion. We strive for that personal service. We work very, very hard to make sure our name...my dad's name is *always* in lights". In the past, George has been the president of the Greater Lehigh Valley Association of Real-



tors, a position that his son Chris now occupies. "I get great joy selling a \$30,000 home as much as a \$300,000 one. The smile on someone's face when you've done your job right is priceless."

To this day, George is still the president of the DHS Class of 1969 and his classmates meet at a regular basis. "Diane Fritz and Karen Kocsis are my right arm, as is Peggy Yanger. I couldn't do things without them. When I call the ladies, they take it from there. They contact the chain and everyone is there for that next meeting. One thing is for sure, we have a good time when we're together", explains George, "I get the credit, but it is the whole group that pulls it together and they always do a great job. That's why after nearly 50 years of reunions, we still look forward seeing to each other".

In addition to working in real estate, George has been a coach and mentor to younger people for over 40 years, coaching at the Downtown Youth Center and later at the Mountainville Memorial. At one point he even coached current Dieruff head football coach Kyle Beller, "Through coaching you teach that no matter how many mistakes a player makes, they're going to rebound and what they do after that mistake is important. I tell kids, *life is all one big mistake and there are only solutions to it*".



### Calling All Singing Huskies News for Alumni Choir.....

Alumni Choir will be planning another concert  
and our 2nd Annual Christmas Carol Sing  
at several area nursing homes.

Dates and times will be announced.

If interested contact **Cindy Fidler Wolst** at:

Huskypride1974@gmail.com

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[www.giantfoodstores.com](http://www.giantfoodstores.com)  
(Use School Code: 23498)

**BUT HURRY - THIS YEAR'S CAMPAIGN BEGINS  
OCTOBER 7, 2016**

LET'S SHOW DHS OUR HUSKY PRIDE BY SUPPORTING THIS  
GREAT PROGRAM!





## Your Alumni Association in Action...

(Left) Whether it's wishing the DHS Football Team Good-Luck with the 5th Annual Swim Party, (Bottom) or feeding the band for the Annual "Preview Night", the Dieruff Alumni Association is there to continue support of the kids at Dieruff High.

Collages by: *John G. Hughes, Jr.*





## Celebrating 40 Years With Karen Coleman and Kiska

David Ziegenfuss '86

During the 2016 football season, the Louis E. Dieruff football team will be wearing this commemorative logo on the left rear of their helmets.

This logo celebrates the 40<sup>th</sup> season for Karen Benckert Coleman as she and the past Kiskas were not only on the football field, but were also there for public appearances, reunions, pep rallies, sporting events, photo ops and other Dieruff functions by spreading Husky Pride.

Over the years as Kiska's mother, she has been helped by her late husband, MSGT Ronald Coleman, as well as Cindy Fidler Wolst and Robin Jacoby, along with her father Bob and Kiska's BFF Mischa.

As Karen said, "Most people only get this kind of tribute after they have passed on, I'm glad I was here to enjoy it". We are too, Karen and we thank you for your 40 years of passion and Husky Pride.

### Kiska's Korner

By Kiska V w/Karen Coleman

Misha & I are anxiously awaiting cooler weather. Been so very hot and humid that we have spent much time napping in front of the air conditioners. Even our walks have been limited.

But we did have some summer fun – the Fandangle was great. Even though it poured, we were dry and cool inside the East Side Youth Center. I loved the hot dogs and turkey barbeque. Misha chowed down on some picnic food, too. A lot of Husky Pride that day.

We did not get to any sport practices. Don't know how the kids did it. When the heat index is one hundred, we girls stay inside.

We did a Meet and Greet with the Class of 1966. They toured Dieruff. It was a nice morning of husky hugs & kisses. They loved us and we loved them.

Had a lot of pictures taken of us. After Mom finishes this article for me, we are off to Husky High for more pictures. Uncle John gets some great shots. I have a bad habit of putting my ears flat so sometimes I look a little nerdy (just a habit showing how happy I am).

Actually, a little cooler this morning. Can fall and cool days and long walks and football be near? Do know (Mom told me) it is the start of a new academic season. So sending husky hugs & kisses to everyone at Dieruff. Hoping the year will be filled with learning happiness and Husky Pride.

Husky Hugs & Kisses,

*Kiska* Diva Dog



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# **Dieruff High School Alumni Association**

*Husky Pride... Unleashed*

## **Win a Prized Autographed Football Signed by 38 NFL Hall of Famers**



Every original autograph on the football was signed at the Hall of Fame Ceremony in Canton, Ohio during the 2014 enshrinement that honored Dieruff High School Alum Andre Reed. Names include:

Lem Barney, Detroit Lions, CB  
Bobby Bell, Kansas City Chiefs, Line Backer  
Elvin Bethea, Houston Oilers, Tenn. Titans, DE  
Willie Brown, Oak. Raiders, Denver Broncos, CB  
Dave Casper, Oakland Raiders, TE  
Curly Culp, Houston Oilers, DT  
Dermontti Dawson, Pittsburgh Steelers, C  
Joe DeLamielleura, Clev. Browns, Buff. Bills, OLine  
Mike Ditka, Chgo Bears, Phila Eagles, Dal CB, TE  
Carl Eller, Minn. Vikings, Sea. Seahawks, DE  
Dan Fouts, San Diego Chargers, QB  
Ray Guy, Oakland, LA Raiders, Punter  
Chris Hanburger, Wash. Redskins, LB  
John Hannah, NE Patriots, G  
Mike Haynes, NE Patriots, LA Raiders, CB  
Paul Hornung, Green Bay Packers, Halfback  
Ken Houston, Hous. Oilers, Wash. Redskins, LB  
Sam Huff, NY Giants, Wash. Redskins, LB  
Claude Humphrey, Atl. Falcons, Phila. Eagles, DE

Jimmy Johnson, Dallas CB, Miami Dolphins, Coach  
Charlie Joiner, H. Oilers, Cinc. Beng, SD Chargers, WR  
Sonny Jurgensen, Phila. Eagles, Wash. Redskins, QB  
Jimmy Langer, Miami Dolphins, Minn. Vikings, C  
Steve Largent, Seattle Seahawks, Wide Receiver  
Marv Levy, KC Chiefs, Buffalo Bills, Coach  
Tom Mack, LA Rams, LG  
Randall McDaniel, Minn. Vikings, RG  
Anthony Munez, Cinc. Bengals, OLine  
Andre Reed, Buff. Bills, Wash. Redskins, Wide Rec.  
Charlie Sanders, Detroit Lions, Tight End  
Gale Sayers, Chicago Bears, Running Back  
Billy Shaw, Buffalo Bills, Offensive Guard  
Charley Taylor, Wash. Redskins, Wide Receiver  
Roger Wehrli, St. Louis Cardinals, Cornerback  
David Wilcox, SF Forty Niners, Linebacker  
Aeneas Williams, AZ Cardinals, SL Rams, Safety  
Rayfield Wright, Dallas Cowboys, Tackle  
Jack Youngblood, SL Rams, Def. End

## **Raffle Tickets \$10 Each 6 Tickets for \$50**

**Drawing Date: Saturday, October 29, 2016  
at the Dieruff vs. Allen Football Game  
J. Birney Crum Stadium**

**All proceeds benefit the School Spirit Scholarship Fund  
of the Dieruff High School Alumni Association**

**To purchase tickets, visit the website: [www.Dieruff-Alumni.org](http://www.Dieruff-Alumni.org)**

## Thank You Dieruff Alumni

*Frank DiSimoni, Dieruff Band Director*

A big thank you again to the Alumni Association for providing dinner for the Band Students at Parent Preview night.

Here are the dates and info for our upcoming **Band Competitions**. Alumni are of course welcome to attend and cheer us on.

Starting times haven't been posted but most start around 6pm. You can visit [www.yea.org](http://www.yea.org) and click on "USbands" to look up the dates and schools and directions. Here are the dates and locations:

**September 24** - Souderton HS

**October 1** - North Penn HS

**October 8** - Nazareth HS (we will leave right after we perform so the kids can go to the Homecoming Dance)

**October 15** - North Warren Regional HS, Blairstown, NJ

**October 29** - PA State Championships (we will leave the William Allen Game after 3rd Quarter for West Chester University)

**November 5** - Nationals at JB Crum

Schedule for Nationals will not be posted until the week before Nationals.

If any Alumni are interested in helping the band this year with equipment please call me at the band office at **484-765-5623**.



I would also like to thank Ray Reppert and his wife for donating water, Gatorade, ice and snacks for our band camp this year. We really appreciate it!

Also, we will start selling tickets for our March 24th 2017 performance at Carnegie hall in New York City in September. Cost is \$50 per seat and \$40 for the bus (if you want to take the bus). Call my office or email me for more info at [DiSimonif@allentownsd.org](mailto:DiSimonif@allentownsd.org)

Thank You again for all you do!



## 2016 Dieruff Varsity Football Schedule

8/26	<b>Emmaus</b>	<b>7:00 pm</b>	
9/02	@ East Stroudsburg North	7:00 pm	
9/09	<b>Pocono Mountain East</b>	<b>7:00 pm</b>	<i>Youth Night</i>
9/16	@ Stroudsburg	7:00 pm	
9/23	<b>Allentown Central Catholic</b>	<b>7:00 pm</b>	<i>Shirt Off Our Back</i>
9/30	@ Bethlehem Liberty	7:00 pm	
10/07	<b>Pleasant Valley</b>	<b>7:00 pm</b>	<i>Homecoming</i>
10/14	@ Pocono Mountain West	7:00 pm	
10/22	<b>East Stroudsburg South</b>	<b>2:30 pm</b>	
10/29	@ William Allen	1:00 pm	<b><i>The Game</i></b>





## In The News

**Class of '64 football players** met with Dieruff Coach **Kyle Beller**. They presented him with Yocco's gift cards to recognize offensive and defensive players of the game throughout the 2016 season. This presentation has been a tradition by the Class of '64 team for several seasons.

Photo left to right:

**Ron Berta, Larry Belles, Coach Beller, Ray Roche**



The **1965-66 Dieruff wrestling team** at the Hamilton Family Diner. There were almost 20 people there including 14-15 wrestlers from that and nearby years. **Tom Persing**, who was assistant coach, and his wife also attended. This event was organized by **Robb Trexler**.

Back Row, Left to Right: **Glenn Butler, Rich Kruk, Harry Graff, Ted Lopszonski, Carl Smith, Robb Trexler & Ron Trexler**, Middle Row, Left to Right: **John Howard, Abe Youwakim & Jim Rizzotto**, Front Row, Left to Right: **Rick Lentz & Coach Tom Persing**



**Neal Schiff '64 (center)** and his wife Linda with **Rick Braun '75 (left)** at the Birchmere in Alexandria, VA, where Rick was performing in late July.



NFL Hall of Famer **Andre Reed '81** and the Andre Reed Foundation, presents Dieruff Head Football Coach, **Kyle Beller '97** and members of the 2016 football team a check for \$2,500 for new football equipment through Riddell.



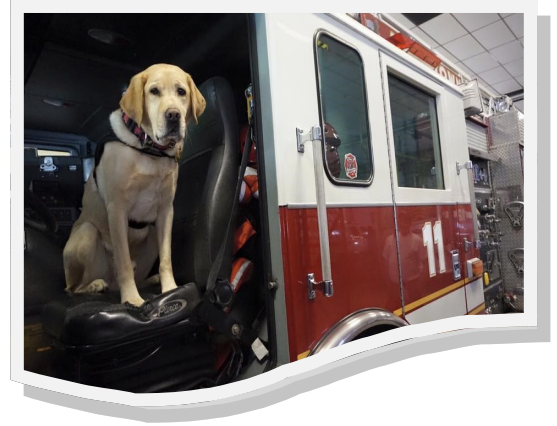
Do you have something to tell us that's "IN THE NEWS"? Let us know with any pictures to [DHSAlumniNews@ptd.net](mailto:DHSAlumniNews@ptd.net)



# Safety Tips

## Judge and the Chief

*Lee Laubach '84*



### Fire Safety Tips for the Fall and Winter Season

No matter what type of device you use to heat your home, making sure your heating devices and/or systems are in good working order is an important part of learning some fall fire safety tips.

#### Gas and Oil Heating System Safety Tips

- Get your oil furnace cleaned, inspected and serviced by a certified HVAC (heating, venting and air conditioning) contractor every year before using it.
- Gas heating units need to be cleaned, inspected and serviced by a certified HVAC contractor every two years.
- If you have any fossil fuel (oil/gas/wood/coal) burning furnace, make sure that you have a sufficient quantity of fully functioning carbon monoxide detectors installed in your home.

#### Space Heater Safety Tips

- Make sure that any space heaters are surrounded by at least three feet of empty space.
- Never place clothing or any other objects on a space heater to dry.
- Do not place space heaters near furniture or drapery.
- Turn space heaters off when you leave the house or go to bed.
- Avoid storing any combustible items near heaters.

#### Fireplace Safety Tips

- Get your chimney inspected each year to make sure that it is safe.
- Hire a chimney sweep to clean out your chimney every fall.
- Repair any cracks in fireplaces.
- Use fireplace screens to keep sparks and fire debris inside the fireplace.
- Never use gasoline to start a fire in the fireplace.
- Never leave a fire unattended.
- Make sure that combustible materials are not stored within three feet of your fireplace.
- For natural gas fireplaces, get all connections and lines inspected before use each season.
- Remember that outdoor fireplaces can be just as dangerous as indoor units; observe all safety precautions when using them.

Until next time - Keep Safe!

*Judge*

Hometown Hero

Judge's dad is Allentown Fire Chief, Lee Laubach '84, who will be in a new featured safety article every couple of months

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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

- September 30:** Dieruff Class of 1961 55th Year Reunion 3:00PM-7:00PM  
Christopher's at the Knights of Columbus 15th & Greenleaf St.
- October 5:** Alumni Association Monthly Meeting 6:30PM  
Meilinger Center
- October 29:** Dieruff-Allen Game. Tailgate at 10:00AM, Kickoff at 1:00PM
- November 5:** Class of 1976 40th Year Reunion. 5:00PM-10:00PM  
Palace Center, 623 Hanover Ave
- November 12:** Dieruff Theater Department Fundraiser with Lucky 7. 6:00PM-11:00PM  
Northampton Community Center, 1601 Laubach Ave, Northampton
- November 19:** Class of '74 Turns 60 with the Large Flowerheads. 4:00PM-10:00PM  
American Club of Coplay, 300 Cherry St, Coplay

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



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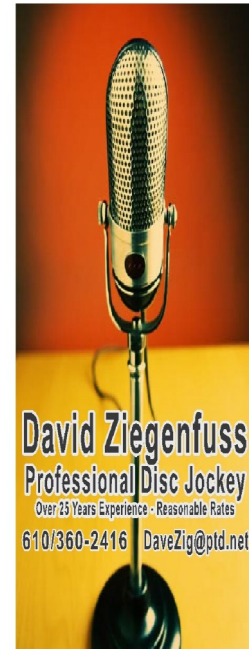
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Louis E. Dieruff High School  
**Alumni Association Newsletter**

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**[DHSAlumniNews@ptd.net](mailto:DHSAlumniNews@ptd.net)**

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