

Louis E. Dieruff High School
Alumni Association Newsletter

Volume 2 , Issue 6

DHSAlumniNews@ptd.net

February, 2017

The 6th Annual Mardi Gras Tix On Sale

Joanne Ogrydziak '76



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Attention Huskies ! You don't have to travel to New Orleans to celebrate the annual February festivity. The LED Alumni Association is proud to present its biggest event of the winter season, Mardi Gras 2017, right here on the East Side! This sixth annual alumni dance party, which kicks off another full year of Dieruff activities, will be held on :

Saturday, February 25, from 7:00 pm to 11:00 pm at the East Side Youth Center.

The Annual Mardi Gras Party, which began in 2012 as the very first event sponsored by our newly-founded alumni association, is a great opportunity to put on your Dieruff Dancing Shoes

with the former Rockin' Robins disc jockey, DJ Dave and chase away the wintertime blues. So, you Happy Huskies, contact your fellow graduates and reserve your class's own table today. Tickets are still only \$15 per person, and can be purchased in the Dieruff Main Office, on-line via: www.dieruff-alumni.org, or from our good friends at Stahley's Restaurant. Although this great price already includes beer, soda, mixers, and snacks, you are welcome to BYOB and munchies. Also, raffle drawings will be held and class photos will be taken. Remember to buy your tickets now as they will cost \$20 per person at the door.

Come celebrate the cold weather as only Huskies can do. See you on February 25th. You won't want to miss it!





President's Message

John G. Hughes, Jr. '61



Dieruff Auditorium To Be Dedicated To Mr. "C"

DIERUFF HIGH SCHOOL
ALMA MATER

Words: M. Bankhard ('60), N. Ottenwine ('61)
Music: P. Carpenter

1. Dieruff High School be our stay, Bearing proudly Blue & Gray;
2. Thru our days we'll ne'er for-get Stand-ards, you have firm-ly set.

May we for Thy spir-it's teach, Help us e'er seek & learn. Now
Hon'ring you we'll al-ways try to live a-right, O Dieruff High!

hail our al-ma-ma-ter's ro-ys & may we proud-ly say, To
you we ev-er will be-long, we sa-lute you, Blue and Gray!

In our current caustic social environment, where animosity and discord abound, it is refreshing to witness joy and harmony.

It was during the February 9th Allentown School District Board Meeting that I heard a most welcome unanimous accord on a proposal that was presented by Dieruff High School Principal, Mrs. Susan Bocian. The Board enthusiastically approved naming the school's auditorium in honor of Mr. Peter Carpenter. This initiative was spearheaded by the Dieruff Alumni Association.

Affectionately referred to as Mr. "C", Peter Carpenter was the first music teacher and choir director at Dieruff when the doors opened in 1959. He composed the music for the Louis E. Dieruff Alma Mater, and produced many Broadway musicals at the school. For thirty years, his love of music and love of teaching young

people touched the hearts of his adoring students.

At the age of 89, Mr "C" continues to attend Class Reunions and Alumni Association events, taking great pride in leading the returning alumni in the Alma Mater.

A formal dedication of the auditorium will be held during the Dieruff Choir Spring Concert scheduled for May 9, 2017. Several hundred alumni choir members are expected to return to Dieruff for the celebration.

Indeed, "to you we ever will belong, we salute you Blue and Grey". We also salute you, Mr. Peter Carpenter, and extend our deepest congratulations to you for this well-deserved recognition.

With warm Husky regards,

John



John Hughes takes the Oath as President of the Dieruff Alumni Association, by placing his hand on a 1960 Dieruff yearbook, as First Lady, Jinny watches on January 22

Hail To The Chief!

David Ziegenfuss '86

I, John Glenn Hughes, Jr, do affirm that to the best of my ability, I will promote, represent and lead the Louis Edgar Dieruff High School Alumni Association. To spearhead Husky Pride to all alumni members and to the community. To support all Huskies from all years and defend our school from our enemies to the west.

So help me Kiska

With these words, John Hughes officially took office for his second term as President of the Louis E. Dieruff High School Alumni Association.

Since taking over as President 4 years ago, John has spearheaded the Alumni Association to many wonderful programs for both the alumni and the current students at Dieruff. Just a few of these events have been the annual Fandangle, Sew What? Club, the Steven's Kiln, football team swim party, the annual Soup Bowl planning meeting, Operation Recognition, the upcoming Peter Carpenter Auditorium Dedication and most importantly being the OFFICIAL PHOTOGRAPHER for all things Dieruff.

Thank you John for all your hard work and dedication and here's to FOUR MORE YEARS!

Alumni Profile

Jinny and John Hughes '61

David Ziegenfuss '86

It's June 1965 – somewhere on the Pennsylvania Turnpike. A man's t-shirt flies through the air, followed by a pair of pants, a skirt, some socks, underwear, a brassiere, a ladies blouse and a dress shirt. As the car pulls over to the side of the road, 22 year old newlywed John Hughes gets out of the driver's side of the car and chases down the flying items. The zippered rear window of his new bride Jinny's '63 Pontiac LeMans has blown out sending their entire wardrobe scattered across the Turnpike. On their way to Fort Benjamin Harrison in Indiana, the young couple laughs their way through the entire trip as they entered their second week of marriage.

What has become an annual February tradition for the Newsletter, we focus on not one Alum, but a couple...those who have met and married because of Dieruff High School. This year we honor the First Family of the Alumni Association: Jinny and John Hughes.

Over 51 years later Jinny and John are still married and still laughing. But their story really begins in the fourth grade at Ritter Elementary School in Miss Harvey's class. That's where 9 year old John Hughes first met Virginia Bankhard. "We had the same class and the same teacher together for 4th, 5th and 6th grades," Jinny explains. "But we were just kids who lived near each other and played together."

John says that for him it was about the 6th grade when he really first noticed the little red headed girl with lots of freckles, but it was in the 7th grade at Harrison-Morton that he wanted to "go" with Jinny. "All my buddies were 'going with someone'. I thought 'Go where?'. They said 'No you have to get a ring and give it to a girl'. So I went downtown to the finest jewelers and bought a ring. At school the next day, I gave it to her and you know what she did? She ran away from me! I chased after her and said 'Look, I spent 59 cents on this and you are going to wear it'." 35 years later John would take that same 59 cent friendship ring to a jeweler, who used it as a mold to make a gold version of the same ring. This time, however, it included two real diamonds.

John and Jinny "went together" but as both of them say, they were just part of a group of kids that hung out together, usually going to movies or to the Dolly Madison for ice cream after school.

After Harrison-Morton, they both attended Allentown High for 10th grade...and shockingly dated other people! As Jinny recalls, "I dated West End boys and John dated West End girls."

By 1959, they were juniors at the brand new Louis E. Dieruff High School. "Dieruff was a new frontier," John remembers. "You were no longer a small fish in a big pond like at Allentown High. You now could be a big fish in a small pond. At Allentown, you had to fight to make the football or wrestling team, but at Dieruff High you had a better chance. Sure there was competition, but you really felt like you could do anything. Principal Weidner said to us the first day of school, 'We have no history, no reputation – zero, and it will continue to have none unless you kids do something. You've never been on a wrestling team before, go out for wrestling. We need people for student council, the Key Club, for the drama department. Go do it – and people did'. Most of them did three, four activities and in the yearbook they had a list of all of the above. Yes, there was still competition, but it was all inclusive. Maybe you won't be the president of the Key Club, but you can still be a member. Maybe you won't be a star athlete, but you can still be on the team. We were building something here. We were part of the beginning. It was an honor."

"You didn't have to excel to be part of the group, being a member of the group made you somebody," Jinny explains.

John continues, "As corny as this sounds, we all knew Louis Dieruff – he just wasn't a name on the building. He was a real person involved with all of us and the school."

"And he loved us," says Jinny. "He was always there for us. He was practically at every game and every event. The night we performed the play *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes*, after it was over he came backstage and shook hands and gave hugs, telling us how proud he was of us and what great kids we are."

In June of 1961, Jinny and John graduated from Dieruff and went their separate ways in college; John going to Lehigh and Jinny going to Rider. They still remained close and wrote to each other, but still dated other people. John explains, "During our sophomore year we were having a frat party at Lehigh and I called Jinny at the



sorority house at Rider, not to be my date, but I thought she and some of her sorority sisters might come up. So Jinny rounds up a bunch of sisters and they come up to Lehigh. And I'm looking at her and the moment hits me...why do I want to hook her up with someone else? So during the party I said to her 'Maybe you and I should go out sometime'. So things started to develop between us and we started to go together and we got engaged our junior year. Five days after graduation we were married in the Lehigh Chapel." And off to Indiana down the Pennsylvania Turnpike.

Over the years Jinny and John lived in Chicago (while John was stationed in the 5th Army Headquarters) and then moved to Lancaster where John worked for Armstrong Cork, before heading to Long Island to work for an office equipment company which was owned by the family of one of his college fraternity brothers.

In the early 1970s, they bought the office equipment business and remained in Long Island raising their three children, Kelly, John and Beth, who have blessed them with 8 grandchildren.

In 1992, Jinny and John sold the business and going full circle, moved back to the Lehigh Valley.

During the years Jinny and John have hosted annual reunions for their class from 1961. Jinny tells the story, "The idea came from Dorothy Johnson Bretz, who was in our class. Her husband went to Catsauqua and his class had an annual get together every summer. We thought - what a novel idea, let's try to get our class back together. And once we moved back, we got in touch with our high school group and started to go out together and it just mushroomed." Over the years, the parties have been themed related, utilizing James Bond and the Olympics as some of the themes. But mostly it's been a way to get back and reminisce about the early days of Dieruff. John puts it best about their picnics, "You're on this side of the grass, we're glad to see you!"



Tributes To Dennis McGinley

Last month we asked the readers to send us their thoughts of Coach Dennis McGinley. We present them to you in the memory of a great man.

Thank You to everyone who contributed.

I met Dennis in the 1950's at the Jewish Community Center. He was the aquatic director, swim coach and instructor. I also knew his wife, Joan, and his two older children, Mike and Kathy.

At the JCC, he created "air mail" swim meets. Dennis would set aside a Sunday and we would have an in-house swim meet, record our times and mail them to another JCC. Then we would anxiously await the return mail from the other JCC. We would open the letter, compare the times and declare the winners.

When I became a student at Dieruff, Dennis became Mr. McGinley. He was now my teacher and director of the aquacade.

Whether I called him Dennis or Mr. McGinley, he was a fine man with a great family.

He was a role model for many people. Although he is missed by family and friends, his influence on others will always be remembered.

Ruth E. O'Connell '61

I swam for Dieruff High School in 1971, 1972 and 1973. Coach Dennis McGinley instilled in me a great work ethic that I have carried with me through my life. He taught us that through hard work, sacrifice and dedication we could all better ourselves. Coach McGinley was a GREAT coach, mentor and friend.

Thanks Coach, I will always remember you.

Greg Ebner '73

Inducted into the Dieruff Hall of Fame, the Pennsylvania Swimming Hall of Fame and the International Swimming Hall of Fame.

The Dieruff swimming facility was named after him: Dennis A. McGinley Natatorium. He was saluted by the American Red Cross with its highest honor, The Clara Barton Volunteer Award,

after teaching swimming and water safety courses for 50 years.

What more can anyone say after all that? I can say it was a privilege to know and swim for such a great coach.

You don't really realize the guidance and life lessons you are learning as a young adult at that moment in time. We were 16, 17 and 18 year old boys and girls.

"Young adults", was a stretch for some of us. It's only after years of living and then reflecting on those moments that you comprehend and appreciate what you have been taught.

"It's water over the dam (Dennis A. McGinley)", he would always say. At the time this statement seemed somewhat meaningless to this then, 17 year old amateurish and immature young man.

My current interpretation of this seemingly meaningless statement seems very profound now. It's okay to make mistakes. It's okay to lose.

As long as you try harder and do your best next time. And, always try to be better. The challenge races he held the day before big swim meets were not only to pick the best swimmers for tomorrow's meet.

They were also meant for each of us to challenge ourselves to be better.

I've often thought of Mr. McGinley throughout the years. Never understood why I thought of him; just out of the blue, until now.

He helped to make me a better person. For some of us young adults he helped to lay the foundation of qualities that when finally taken hold, made us better.

I was one of many of his swimmers that took the Red Cross Life Saving class and became a life guard. I guarded at the Jewish Community Center Day Camp one summer and I went on to guard at several other pools throughout my college days. I actually saved a little girl one summer.

I can't help but wonder after 50 years of teaching so many others to save lives... how many people Mr. McGinley was responsible for helping to save?

Oh, and another lesson I learned... Don't judge a book by its cover.

I was not the fastest swimmer on the team my senior year. But certainly, I could swim faster than Mr. McGinley.

One day at pre-practice (every physical education period my entire time at high school was spent practicing in the pool) Mr. McGinley challenged me to a race.

Absolutely! A chance to beat the coach! How could I say no? Then he said, "Feet first". What? Feet first? Obviously, he left me in the dust.

Guess it was just, "water over the dam"!

Brett L. Lane '78

(Continued On Page 5)

Tributes To Dennis McGinley Continued

My two favorite recollections of Coach McGinley are from life lessons he taught outside of the water. One morning, during my sophomore year, as we girls with our free-flowing, waist-length hair were about to enter the pool, Mr. McGinley abruptly stopped us and angrily reprimanded us for not having our long locks pulled back and tucked under swimming caps. He emphatically reminded us that not all schools have natatoriums, and that we should be grateful for such a fine facility at LED. Mr. McGinley was absolutely right! I was so ashamed of myself for ignoring the rules that I never forgot my bathing cap for class again. I clearly remember that day whenever I enter Dieruff's beautiful natatorium which, today, fittingly bears his name.

I also flashback to 1976 as I reflect on another example of Coach McGinley's warmth and benevolence. As a senior, I often cut out of Study Hall (yes, I did that!) to go down to the pool to swim laps. One sunny afternoon, as I entered the pool area from the locker room, I noticed a group of young children in the shallow end who were there for water-safety instructions. Instead of insisting that I leave, because the pool was not available at that time for a "free" swim, Mr. McGinley amiably invited me to stay and to spend that period assisting with the youngsters. I never forgot the kind manner in which he turned the situation around to provide me with an opportunity to help others, instead of doing something for myself.

Mr. McGinley was not just the LED Aquatics Director. He was Dieruff Swimming. We Huskies were blessed to have had, not only a beautiful swimming facility, but to have had him. Mr. McGinley reminded us to appreciate and respect what we were so fortunate to have, and to joyfully share our time, treasure, and talent with others.

Yes, Coach, swimming is fun. But you taught us so much more.

Joanne Ogrydziak '76

Dennis was a second Dad to me growing up & kept me going in the water @ D.H.S. before I knew what a "Speedo" was... I was taught to swim the old way...!

Steve (Speedo) Long '64

I was a swimmer, on the swim team at Dieruff, but by the time I got there as part of the first freshman class, Mr. McGinley had retired from coaching, but was still the Aquatics Director. Through my mother, though, I had already known his name and that he was an excellent teacher.

After Coach McGinley got to know me and realized that I was on the swim team, he privately worked with me to improve my technique and to become a better competitive swimmer, even though I was far from the best swimmer on the team. During the course of my time at Dieruff, Mr. McGinley would invite me to come to classes where he was teaching a new stroke technique and ask me to demonstrate them to the class in the pool. What an honor!

Ironically, my very last class ever at Dieruff was, of all things – swim class. It was a bit emotional for me. Mr. McGinley let the class pretty much play around in the pool, but I savored every second of it - swimming laps in far left lane (closest to the stands), while the rest of the class did what they were doing. When the whistle blew for everyone to leave the pool and get changed, I continued to swim – up and down the pool. About 10 minutes later, as I stopped, Mr. McGinley came over to help me out of the pool, shook my hand, said a few private words to me and wished me luck. My Dieruff career was over, and the rest of my life was about to begin. But those last few minutes with him gave me some of the most precious memories of my life.

David Ziegenfuss '86

GOLF OUTING DETAILS

Saturday MAY 20, 2017

7:15 am — 7:55 am Player Registration
8:00 am Shotgun Start



4 Person Scramble

Cost per person: \$80 (\$90 after May 18th)
Cost per Foursome \$320 (\$360 after May 18th)

Price Includes :

- Cart
- Green Fees
- Hot Dog and Beer at Turn
- Longest Drive
- Buffet Dinner & Beer after the outing

Additional Games

- Birdie Pack
- Pot of Gold
- Longest Drive
- Raffles

Make Checks Payable To:

Dieruff Alumni Association

Send To:

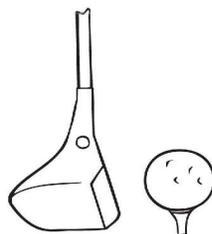
Kyle Beller
47 W. Saucon Street
Hellertown, PA 18055

For More Information

Contact:

Kyle Beller
610-762-7075

Lynn Beller
610-390-7071



DIERUFF HUSKIES FOOTBALL



5th Annual Husky Golf Outing

Allentown Municipal Golf Course

8:00 AM Shotgun Start

3400 W. Tilghman Street
Allentown, PA 18104
610-395-5108

Saturday May 20, 2017

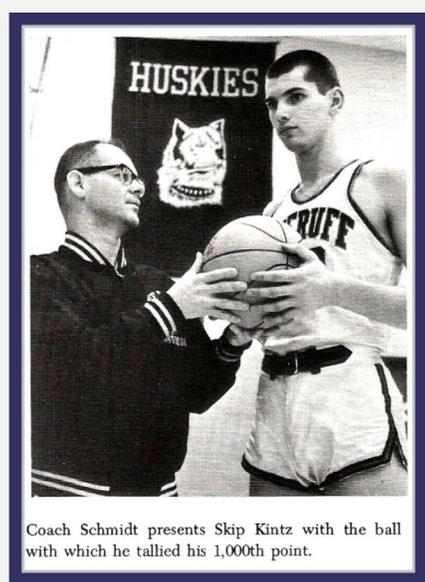


Meeting A Childhood Hero: Remembering Skip Kintz

Joanne Ogrydziak '76



As a kid, I could not get enough of Dieruff basketball. Each day after school during the winter months, I eagerly awaited the familiar sound of the Evening Chronicle as it was tossed against our front door on Emaus Avenue. I'd hurriedly grab the paper off of the snow-covered porch to search for John Kunda's articles and Husky box scores. On game nights, I'd don my favorite blue and gray sweater, and then anxiously tune in to WKAP's Al Raber who delivered the action to us "live from the East Side Gym with Dick Schmidt and his Huskies." I was in Heaven. My older brother, who went to Allen, shook his head in bewilderment as his little sister,



Coach Schmidt presents Skip Kintz with the ball with which he tallied his 1,000th point.

glued to the old RCA Victor in the dining room, celebrated every Dieruff point. He did not understand that, due to a fortuitous shift in boundary lines within South Allentown, I knew as a grade-schooler that I would someday walk the halls of LED and that I already had the Heart of a Husky. There was no explaining and no turning back.

For a youngster growing up in Mountainville, it was a long hike to Irving Street. So, those much-anticipated live radio broadcasts became the vehicle by which I followed Coach Schmidt and his championship squads. The name I heard (and read about) the most was Skip Kintz. Skip, who along with teammates Jan Kapcala, Mike Lopsonzski, Jeff Arbogast, and Greg Schmidt, was the record-setting, high-scoring hoopster of the starting five which went on to capture the first ('65-'66) of Dieruff's four consecutive District XI crowns. Willard "Skip" Kintz III, who transferred down from Stroudsburg after his sophomore year, holds the distinction of being the very first Husky to reach the 1,000-point mark. This recognition is especially commendable because Skip played at Dieruff for only two seasons, and all field goals, including those successfully shot from outside the arc, still counted as two points. Deservedly named a Parade Magazine All-American and an All-State selection (AP and UPI), Skip went on to be recruited by West Virginia University, a Division I school, at which his single-game free-throw percentage (14/14 – 100%) still leads in the records book since February 4, 1969.

Last summer, as members of the "Tough as Nails, Strong as Bricks" Class of 1966 gathered for their 50-year reunion weekend, I had the opportunity to introduce myself from the LED Alumni Association and to speak with Skip and his dear wife, Jane. I shared with them my many memories of Dieruff basket

ball (begging my mother to drive me to the Harrisburg Farm Show Arena for the PIAA play-offs) and I reminded them that Skip's name still appears atop the 1,000-point banner which is proudly displayed in the Dick Schmidt Gym – the same gymnasium in which packed sold-out crowds cheered for "Schmittys" powerhouse teams, The Pride of the East Side. How lucky I was to meet one of my childhood heroes! Not many people get that chance. As Jane warmly smiled at his side, Skip humbly dismissed my adulation and then graciously invited me to stay at their Sarasota home for the upcoming Dieruff mini-reunion held annually in Florida.

On Thursday, January 26, I received an urgent message to contact Bob "Bulldog" Hontz, Skip's close friend and fellow alumnus from '66. With profound sadness, Bulldog informed me that Skip had passed away that morning. I will forever be grateful that I had the opportunity to meet Skip Kintz who, as Bulldog thoughtfully expressed, "will continue the Dieruff Pride in the Sky."

Thank you, Skip. You are a true LED legend and a Husky hero. You will be greatly missed by your many '66 classmates and by the entire Dieruff community.

Final Push For Giant A+ School Rewards

Dana Ziegenfuss, Editor

Friends of Dieruff, the Giant A+ Program is about to enter it's final month and we need your support for ONE FINAL PUSH! This program ends **MARCH 16, 2017**. Please make sure that you plan your shopping trips to Giant before that date. Every dollar counts and goes directly to the students at Dieruff.

Our goal of raising \$2,000 for Dieruff is going to be a challenge, so we need your support and it doesn't cost you anything extra. Currently we have raised **\$1,465.44**.

If you haven't registered yet for Dieruff go to www.giantfoodstores.com and register Dieruff's school code: 23498, or email us here at the newsletter: DHSAlumniNews@ptd.net and we can register for you. Just send us your Bonus Card number and last name and we will do it for you. Thank you all again for your support!

**ATTENTION ALL DIERUFF ALUMNI
DO YOU HAVE A GIANT BONUSCARD?**



THEN YOU CAN HELP EARN \$\$\$ FOR DIERUFF!

USE YOUR BONUSCARD WHEN YOU SHOP AT GIANT & A PORTION OF YOUR GROCERY BILL WILL BE DONATED TO DIERUFF HIGH SCHOOL!

DON'T HAVE A GIANT BONUSCARD? IT'S EASY TO SIGN UP!
GO TO ANY GIANT FOOD STORE OR ONLINE AT

www.giantfoodstores.com
(Use School Code: 23498)

Since October 7th, we have raised:
\$1,465.44
for Dieruff High School

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

Dieruff Huskies

Join in the fun 6th Annual

Mardi Gras Party

Saturday, Feb. 25, 2017

7:00 - 11:00 PM

East Side Youth Center

1140 East Clair Street

Allentown, PA

Sponsored by:

Dieruff Alumni Association

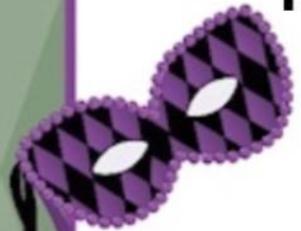
Ticket Price: \$15 in advance

\$20 at the door

Includes beer, soda, mixers,
and snacks Dancing to live DJ

Purchase tickets

**at Stahley's, Dieruff Main Office,
or online at www.dieruff-alumni.org**



THE HUSKY A CAPPELLA FESTIVAL

Friday February 24, 2017



7:00 PM

Louis E. Dieruff High School Auditorium
815 N. Irving St. Allentown, PA

Tickets: \$10 Adults
\$5 Students

Featuring:

The Kutztones, The Acafellas, The Dynamics, The Girls Next Door, InAcchord, Noteworthy, The Vocal Vikings from Atlantic City High School, Palisades High School, fourtissimo, The Lehigh Valley Harmonizers, The Lehigh Valley Chorus, Freedom High School and introducing Siberian Sound from Dieruff High School

Sponsored By: The Dieruff High School Key Club
Proceeds to Benefit: The Allentown Boys and Girls Club

For Tickets: Please call Mr. Jeffrey Dutt at 484-765-5500

Allentown Community Event

Featuring the



vs.

The ASD Dream Team

Free Autograph Session
following the game . . .



Ticket Pricing

Student Admission: \$6 in Advance/ \$9 Door
General Admission: \$7 in Advance/ \$11 Door
[Lap Sitters Ages 3 and Under FREE]

Courtside V.I.P. Seating: \$20 Very Limited Seating
Includes Wizards pregame meet & greet, Free lanyard and team poster giveaway

[First Come ~ First Serve Basis]

NOTE: To reserve your V.I.P. seat you must call the AFJROTC at (484) 765-5563 or 5564. For more information? Contact the AFJROTC at (484) 765-5563 or 5564.

All other seating complete the order form below

Date: Saturday, February 25th, 2017

Time: 2:00 PM, Doors open at 1:00 PM

V.I.P. Meet and Greet: 1:15 PM

Host: L.E. Dieruff H.S. AFJROTC

Location: L.E. Dieruff H.S. Gym

Cut along dotted line and return order form to your teacher along with amount due!

Ticket Order Form ~ NOTE: All children must be accompanied by a parent or adult.

Parent's Name: _____ Student's Name: _____

Telephone #: _____ Grade: _____ Teacher: _____

of Student Admission Tickets _____ @ \$6.00 ea = \$ _____

of General Admission Tickets _____ @ \$7.00 ea = \$ _____

Return to your teacher no later than 21 February 2017 Total Amount Due: \$ _____

For V.I.P. Seating call the AFJROTC office at (484) 765-5563 or 5564

Make Checks payable to: L.E. Dieruff AFJROTC [Returned Check Fee: \$20]

Orders will be picked up each Friday in the schools and tickets will be returned to students the following Monday.
Watch your children's backpacks!

Kiska's Korner

By Kiska V w/Karen Coleman

Mom was cleaning and found a copy of this poem. She only had one copy. Very rare. Mom has no computer smarts so when she copies an email - many, many copies (that is if someone has replaced the ink for her in the copier). The email came from my foster mom Kathy at Husky Rescue. One copy and from my shelter. Had to be fate.

After reading it, sniffing and hugging me, Mom announced that this would be Kiska's Korner for February. For anyone who has loved a dog or cat, you know that special bond. True love. Here is a poem by Janine Allen which explains how that special bond begins, especially if it is a rescue. Yes - another tissue alert!

I rescued a human today. Her eyes met mine as she walked down the corridor peering apprehensively into the kennels. I felt her need instantly and knew I had to help her. I wagged my tail, not too exuberantly, so she wouldn't be afraid.

As she stopped at my kennel, I blocked her view from a little accident I had in the back of my cage. I didn't want her to know that I hadn't been walked today. Sometimes the shelter keepers get too busy and I didn't want her to think poorly of them.

As she read my kennel card, I hoped that she wouldn't feel sad about my past. I only have the future to look forward to and want to make a difference in someone's life. She got down on her knees and made little kissy sounds at me. I shoved my shoulder and side of my head up against the bars to comfort her.

Gentle fingertips caressed my neck; she was desperate for companionship. A tear fell down her cheek and I raised my paw to assure her that all would be well. Soon my kennel door opened and her smile was so bright that I instantly jumped into her arms. I would promise to keep her safe. I would promise to always be by her side. I would promise to do everything I could to see that radiant smile and sparkle in her eyes. I was so fortunate

that she came down my corridor. So many more are out there who haven't walked the corridors. So many more to be saved. At least I could save one.

I rescued a human today.

Mom and I wish we had such writing skills. Hope you enjoyed it. On these cold, winter nights, give your pet an extra hug.

Husky Hugs & Kisses!

Love,

Kiska V, Diva Dog

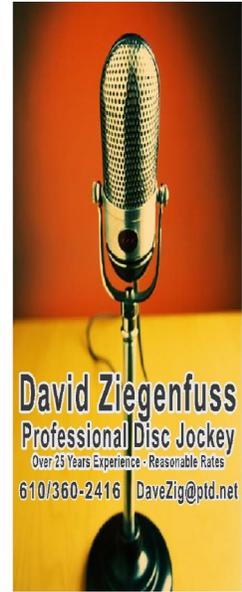


UPCOMING EVENTS

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

- February 24:** Husky A Cappella Festival 7PM
Dieruff Auditorium (See Page 8 For Details)
- February 25:** Harlem Wizards ROTC Benefit 2PM
Dick Schmidt Gym (See Page 8 For Details)
- February 25:** 6th Annual Mardi Gras Dance 7PM
East Side Youth Center (See Page 7 For Details)
- March 1:** Alumni Association Monthly Meeting 6:30PM
Meilinger Center
- March 8:** Dieruff Art Exhibit (through March 30)
Allentown Art Museum
- March 12:** Dieruff Art Exhibit Reception 1PM-3PM
Allentown Art Museum
- March 25:** High Notes Gala 5:30PM
Symphony Hall
- April 5:** Alumni Association Meeting 6:30PM
Meilinger Center
- April 27, 28, 29** Dieruff Theater Department: *Jesus Christ Superstar*
April 27 & 28 @ 7PM, April 29 @ 2PM
Dieruff Auditorium
<https://www.ticketor.com/dierufftheatre/event/jesus-christ-superstar-28902>
- May 9:** Spring Concert/Peter Carpenter Auditorium Dedication 7PM
Peter Carpenter Auditorium
- May 20:** Football Team Golf Outing 8AM (See Page 5 For Details)
Allentown Municipal Golf Course

Book Your Events Today!



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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 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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