Alumni Association Newsletter

Volume 2, Issue 7

DHSAlumniNews@ptd.net

March, 2017

Inside this

2

6th Annual Mardi Gras Party
February 25th, 2017
For All Photos Visit: www.Dieruff-Alumni.org

Inside this issue:

President's Message

Alumni Profile

Mike Zambelli '72

Golden Anniversary Of
4-5
McDougal Street

Peter Carpenter

Dedication and 6-7

Order Form

Husky Fest
Giant A+ 8
Kiska's Korner

Upcoming Events

Football Golf Outing 9

Masthead





























President's Message

John G. Hughes, Jr. '61

"Calling All Alumni Voices...."

If you walked the halls of Dieruff High School during those early years (1959-1989), Mr. Carpenter probably touched your heart. He touched so very many hearts. It was as if we all were family.... The "Family von Carpenter". The halls were certainly alive with the sound of music. Now it is time to repay the favor. It is time to warm his heart.

Affectionately referred to as "Mr. C", Peter Carpenter served as Choir Director and devoted teacher for thirty years, from the day the doors opened in 1959 until 1989. He composed the score of the Alma Mater, and was the music director and conductor of Dieruff Broadway musicals, like "Brigadoon" and "Music Man". Indeed, Mr. Carpenter was Dieruff's "Music Man"

On Tuesday evening at 7:00 PM on May 9, 2017, the Dieruff High School Auditorium will be named in honor of Mr. Peter Carpenter. You will certainly want to be there to celebrate the event. The dedication will occur during the Dieruff Choir's Spring Concert. The concert will feature the current high school choir, under the direction of Dr. Jennifer Dodd, and the alumni voices led by Mr. Carpenter.

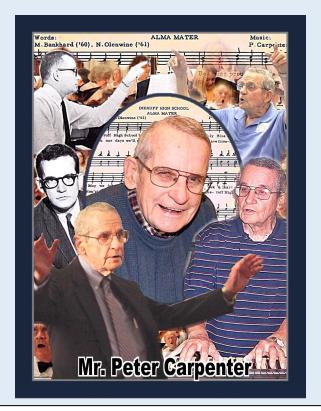
Final selection of the alumni musical pieces will be made shortly. Mr. C promises to choose "familiar standbys". Of course, the Dieruff Alma Mater and "Prayer for a School" will be included. Anyone wishing to join the alumni singers are invited to attend the brief rehearsal scheduled for 5:30 PM prior to the performance.

Alumni are being given an opportunity to place an early order for \$5 tickets to the concert. A limited number of preferred seats will be blocked off for alumni wishing to sing with the choir, as well as those who will watch the performance. Early choir registrants will have their names included in the special "Commemorative Program Booklet". For the nominal fee of \$20, any alum can have their name listed in a special section of the program booklet, entitled "Friends of Mr. C." It is in this tribute section that those of you who have had your heart touched by Peter Carpenter can express your gratitude. It's an opportunity for you to repay the favor.

The Dieruff Alumni Association also invites you all to attend a complementary reception following the concert where you will meet and greet our cherished living legend, as well as enjoy the harmony of fellow Huskies.

With warm Husky regards,

John



Alumni Profile — Mike Zambelli '72

Joanne Ogrydziak '76

Thanksgiving Eve, 1971. Mother Nature delivered an early holiday present to the Lehigh Valley a wintry whiteout that lit up the nighttime sky like snowy fireworks. With Allentown buried under a blanket of precipitation, the annual Turkey Day Game between Dieruff and Allen was postponed until Saturday and LED fans had to wait two more days to see their Huskies crush the Canaries in one of the muddiest games ever played at ASD Stadium. The Blue and Gray Fight Song echoed throughout the chilly afternoon as Number 38, across a marshy playing field with blurred yard lines, rolled into the end zone five times and kicked three PATs to tally a record-setting 33 points. The LED Alumni Association is proud to salute that quarterback, Mike Zambelli '72, this month's



honored alumnus who led his team to a 54-6 victory in a memorable rivalry match-up that this Husky will never forget.

Mike Zambelli, an Emmy Award-winner whose name is synonymous with Lehigh Valley sports, has been coming into our living rooms since 1988 through the magic of Service Electric Cable TV. Starting out as a color analyst with the nation's first cable company, he became the TV-2 Sports Director in 1994 and today has thirty-one years into his broadcasting career. We hear Mike providing the play-by-play coverage of local high school sports, Lehigh University Men's and Women's Basketball, and all Mountain Hawks' home football games. He is also the voice of the Lehigh Valley IronPigs Baseball Team, the Triple-A affiliate of the Philadelphia Phillies, and has hosted the Pennsylvania Cable Network's analysis of PIAA state football and basketball tournaments. Fellow LED alumnus and Morning Call Senior Sports Editor Keith Groller '79 shared his thoughts on Mike, commenting that he is "pure class and professionalism, and (like Keith) proud of where he came from." This Husky agrees. When I contacted Mike to introduce myself from the alumni association and to request an interview, he graciously offered to meet with me in the midst of his hectic schedule during the recent post-season play-offs. We spoke about the excitement and the anticipation of that evening's District XI 6A semi-final double-header – the inaugural high school basketball games to be played in downtown Allentown's spectacular PPL Center. Mike, of course, covered that, too.

The son of a hard-working Italian immigrant, Mike Zambelli grew up only a few blocks from Dieruff and confessed that, as a youngster during the '60s, he never missed a Husky basketball game even if he had to sneak in through a back door. Tickets were hard to come by during those championship years, and Mike was determined to be among the sold-out crowd of faithful Husky fans. Dieruff's East Side Gym was THE place to be as he followed Skip Kintz and company, and he knew that he wanted to someday be a part of Dieruff's rich basketball legacy. Years later, with three letters for football and four for golf (he played as a ninth-grader while still at Harrison-Morton), Mike realized his boyhood dream as he went on to earn two more varsity letters in basketball while playing for the iconic Dick Schmidt.

Along with Coach Schmidt, Mike fondly recalls Coaches "Jeep" Bednarik, Keith Newhard, Clem West, and (teacher) Roland DeLuca, (guidance counselor) Mike Meilinger, and Principal Joseph Barrett. Former teammate and current LED Athletic Director Melvin Riddick '73 remembers hours spent in "Doc" Warmkessel's training room practicing putts with Mike (who later went on to win the Pennsylvania State Publinx Golf Tournament). While browsing through the '72 Ledannus, I also noticed that, after Mike had sacrificed his star fullback position to switch to quarterback during his senior year, the Huskies went on to win the last five games of their season. In recognition of his outstanding LED athletic career, Mike was honored at the 1972 Kiska Sports Banquet as the MVP in football, basketball, and golf, as well as with the coveted Kiska Award. He also represented Dieruff that year in the National Football Foundation and College Hall of Fame LV Chapter of the Scholar-Athlete Program. Twenty-four years later, following countless community-service citations, Mike was again acknowledged by his fellow Huskies when he became a 1996 inductee into the Dieruff Hall of Fame.



During our brief meeting, however, what impressed me most about Mike Zambelli was his obvious admiration for his father. He humbly diverted any accolades to his Dad – a man who had arrived from Italy with a third-grade education and who rose to be a leader within his community. Mike proudly reminded me that his father, Vincent, was the first Zambelli to be inducted into the Dieruff Hall of Fame in recognition for his sixteen years of loyal service to the LED community. Having served as President of the Dieruff Booster Club from 1974-1981, and then as Vice-President from 1982-1986, Mr. Zambelli had adopted Dieruff and its students as his own. His distinguished plaque, added to Dieruff's Wall of Fame in 1986, is fittingly displayed with his son's, and reminds us what a father-and-son duo, both ambassadors of Husky Pride, can accomplish.

As the most recognizable sports personality in the Lehigh Valley, Mike Zambelli has been the recipient of numerous awards for excellence in play-by-play announcing. In addition to his alma mater, he has been inducted into the Halls of Fame of LV Football, the LV All-Star Football Classic, LV High School Basketball, and LV Golf. From the basketball court at the Irving Park playground to the helm of the Service Electric broadcasting booth, the '72 Husky has never forgotten his blue and gray roots. The LED Alumni Association is proud to call Michael J. Zambelli one of its own.

Oh, and Mike's game record from that '71 Turkey Day Game? Still unbroken.

The Golden Anniversary Of McDougal Street

David Ziegenfuss '86



Left: The original Port Records label. Though the record never went gold, we celebrate the Golden Anniversary of it's release

Galahad searched for the Holy Grail, Stanley searched for Livingston, Alex Haley searched for his Roots; and for me, well, I had the story told to me by my mother that I had been searching for, for over 30 years. The story of McDougal Street.

What was McDougal Street you may ask? It was a record recorded by two of my mother's classmates (Class of '67) that was released in the winter of 1967. A real, honest to goodness 45 rpm record made by a couple of girls from Dieruff called I, She & Me.

As a record collector, music historian and disc jockey, finding this particular record was important to me. As the years passed, I would continue to look for the song. Eventually, I found a copy on eBay. It was listed by a record dealer in (of all places) San Francisco who thought that the girls might have been from the Bay area because the song was a local hit.

But I still wanted to know more. I remember that my Mom had told me that one of the girls was Gina Rega, so after joining the Alumni Association and starting the newsletter, I wanted to find Gina and know the story of McDougal Street and the group that sang it I, She & Me. After years of searching, I finally found Gina and when I spoke to her the first time, I tried to keep my excitement contained. Her response: "Wait, you want to interview me about a record I recorded back in high school?" I did, very much.



"Hitchhiking" on stage in 1967 L to R: Gina, Cheryl, Nancy

The story begins when Gina Rega (who had attended Harrison-Morton) met Nancy Gerhart (who had attended South Mountain) in Peter Carpenter's "Music Theory" class. Nancy explains, "We needed an 'artsy' class to fill out our curriculum and because we both loved music, we believed that this would be easy for us." As a result, they formed a friendship. They would hang out and go to the dances at the HUB (the high school dance club that was held at the YMCA on 15th Street for about 10 years during the mid-60s to early 70s).

GINA: "We went one week to see the Shillings (a local group led by Tom Ross) and that's where we met Cheryl (Dilcher), a girl from William Allen. She had eyes for Tom, but I ended up marrying him. We would rehearse at Cheryl's house. It was Cheryl's mother who taught us to sing in harmony."

The girls became friends and realized that when they sang together, they sounded good. In fact, they became so good that they were able to back up recording star Ronnie Dove (One Kiss For Old Times' Sake and Happy Summer Days) as well as other acts performing at the HUB.

NANCY: "Cheryl could play guitar and we The opportunity arose for the girls to do a played maracas and the tambourine, so we had the percussion. And we did some of the frat parties up at Lehigh - and when you're underage, it was kind of scary, cool but scary. We did quite a few frat parties, because we played folk rock, which was a favorite music of college kids December day in 1966. back then. We had Cheryl's mom as a guasi-manager, but we knew we needed a real manager.'

GINA: "So we skipped school," NANCY: "And hitchhiked to New York" **GINA:** "And a truck driver on his way picked the three of us up, took us there and let us off and we were on MacDougal Street! Then the police picked us up" NANCY: "We had a specific person we were going to see, a guy from Australia who was a manager and we had heard about him. When no one could finds us, Cheryl's brother knew what we were doing and gave our parents the information. As we were going down the hall to this

guy's apartment, the police were there waiting for us. The cops then took us to the precinct and we played and entertained everyone that came in that night." GINA: "My dad came to pick us up and there we were singing for the policemen. Boy did I get it when I got home though!"

While they didn't succeed in the original attempt for a manager, they did find one locally in the form of a local entrepreneur, Angelo "Skeeter" Sorrentino.

NANCY: "Angie payed for everything. He put out a lot of money. He paid for the recording and the travel and hotel. All the families were there as well."

GINA: "And he paid for our clothing too, and took us to the Playboy club after the recording session."

NANCY: "Angelo's family owned a construction business, so we used to practice there after school. He totally backed us. I think he thought we'd be the next big thing. He had us in parades, bought clothes for our TV appearances and photo shoots...I don't think we could have ever paid him back for what we had made. He spent a lot of money to promote us. We didn't make any money personally, but it was one of the greatest experiences."

session on the caveat that they brought their own written material (to save money rather than using an established song writer). Skeeter arranged a recording session for the trio in New York City, at Jubilee Recording Studio on a cold

NANCY: "They told us that we should have original material and bring in our own songs. We would practice at Cheryl's house. They had a piano and one day, while it was disassembled, we were playing with it, like a harp. I like dissent chords and what became the hook of the song came from that piano's harp in the living room." Nancy was also responsible for adding the song's famous "Purr".

(McDougal Street cont. on next page)

The Golden Anniversary Of McDougal Street

Continued from page 4

GINA: "And we used our experience hitchhiking to New York for McDougal Street. That's how we wrote the song."

They needed another song for the flip side and another personal experience would be used for the song Look (Down Below Your Window) - a fun little ditty with fabulous harmonies.

GINA: "We got the idea 'Look down below your window', because we were at Todd Kreplev's house in Emmaus throwing stones at his bedroom window. He was in a band from Emmaus and they did Rolling Stones stuff. The guy was really cool when you're 16. So the three of us went to his house and we were throwing stones at his window to try to get him to look down at us."

NANCY: "Within a few minutes of hearing us, the owner of the recording studio (Jerry Blaine) wanted to buy our contract. He liked the sound, a 'McGuire Sisters' type, and Skeeter wouldn't sell it to them. The contract was binding, as all our parents signed for us. I think he thought, 'If they (Jubilee Records) think that they're that good, maybe I need to hold on to them'. When he wouldn't sell the contract, Jubilee Records refused to do a final mix of the song for us. So Skeeter had to get somebody else to mix the song, and when we heard it, I cried. What we heard while singing, was not the quality of what we heard as the finished product." Jubilee Records would go on to have four top 100 hits in 1967.

Skeeter took the final demo and pressed a few demonstration copies to shop the song around to other record labels. He finally reached a deal with Port Records to release the song in late February 1967. To promote the song, the girls would make appearances at local dances, including the Allentown Fairgrounds and

Notre Dame Bandstand. They also appeared on the Hy Lit and Jerry Blavat television shows. During the Blavat Show, however, a strange incident happened.

GINA: "The power went off while we were on camera! There we were on stage and the power went off, so they kicked the back doors open and we did the shot from an alleyway behind the studio.'

NANCY: "We were kind of isolated from the kids on the Jerry Blavat Show. The regulars we saw dance every day, the stars, we didn't get to meet any of them. We were brought in, did our thing and escorted out"

Sadly, the song would never chart nationally on the Billboard Hot 100, but would make the local charts on WAEB (where it was a NEW WAEB MUSIC POWER SOUND), WKAP in Allentown and WRAW in Reading.

There was one major change to the group when Cheryl left I, She & Me to be replaced briefly by Ellie Thierer.

NANCY: "Cheryl's mother saw her daughter's talent, so she pushed us all, and in the end, I think it was her pushing us so much that led the group to dissolve."

Cheryl would move out to California and eventually record music of her own. Sadly, Cheryl Dilcher passed away in 2005 at the age of 55.

Nancy married a drummer from one of the backup bands shortly after she graduated from Dieruff, though no longer married. Nan still continues to sing at her church and also enjoys karaoke.





Nancy Gerhart '67 and Gina Rega '67 holding a framed copy of their song McDougal Street

late husband Tom Ross (of the Shillings) and wrote songs (including one recorded by Johnny Cash titled "I've Got Jesus In My Soul"). She also plays in an award winning bluegrass band, Big Valley Blue Grass. (www.BigValleyBlueGrass.com).

And after 30 years, I finally had my story about McDougal Street...but wait, there was one more question I had to ask..."Did you know you spelled the song wrong, it's MacDougal not McDougal?"

GINA: "We were 17 and didn't know, because at heart we were just a bunch of kids going through a new experience."

Below is a link where you can hear and see the video for both McDougal Street and Look.

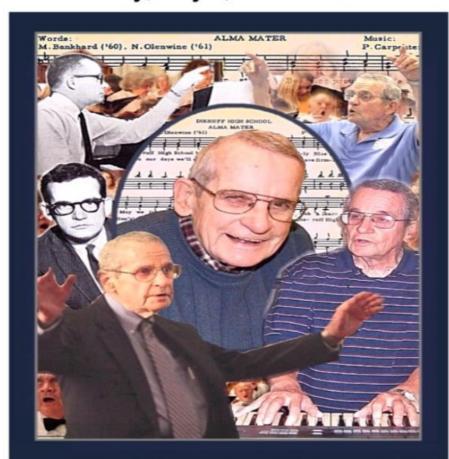
McDougal Street https://www.youtube.com/watch? v=DEz2xgWWvFs

Look (Down Below Your Window) https://www.youtube.com/watch? v=AYyi2yY3pSc



Dieruff High School Choir Spring Concert

Tuesday, May 9, 2017 7:00 PM



Dedication of Auditorium in honor of Mr. Peter Carpenter

Order Form

Name	
Address	
City	State Zip
Phone	Email
Dieruff Alum?	Class?
It yes, select choir se	rith the Alumni Choir? Y N ction: Soprano_Alto_Tenor_Bass_ ost-concert Reception? Y N
	Dedication/Concert @ \$5 \$ ogram Book Sponsor @\$20
	Total \$

Send check payable to "Dieruff Alumni Association" addressed to Dieruff High School, Attn: Alumni Assoc., 815 N. Irving St., Allentown, PA 18109



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: \$1843.82

for Dieruff High Schol

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



Kiska's Korner

By Kiska V w/Karen Coleman

This month, I would like to dedicate the Korner to my BFF Misha. On March 6, Misha celebrated her fourteenth birthday. Fourteen is an advanced age for a Siberian. Good food, care, love, and exercise have all helped to keep Misha so healthy. She gets walks several times a day. Many people see her twice daily walk around Dieruff. But fourteen years old is a milestone.

When Kiska IV got too sick to work, Misha took over. For two years Misha did solo mascot duty. Then I arrived on the scene-an energy-filled and very naughty puppy. Mom would live for Friday nights when she could hand me off to Mr. Jacoby. I gave Misha a lot of puppy tackles and even some really cheap shots when she was not looking. But that is being a pup. As I aged and learned

the mascot job we have evolved into the perfect team.

But Misha is more than a mascot. She is a certified therapy dog. When she was a little over a year and a half, she passed her therapy dog test. Since then she has been visiting nursing facilities. By 2013 she received her certificate of merit for making over two hundred fifty visits. By now the visits number close to four hundred. Doing mascot duty has cut down on her visit time. Misha also does Christmas pictures with residents at both Gracedale and Cedarbrook. What can be better than a Christmas picture with a sled dog?

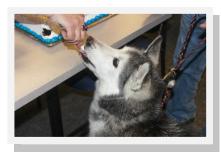
In 2008 Robin started training for agilty. Quite rare for a husky. The usual rule for a husky owner is NEVER OFF LEASH. We love to run and run we do. In agility, it is off leash. Misha won two ribbons for agility. Now as she is getting older, lessons and trials are fewer.

But wanted everyone to know that my buddy is more than a pretty face. She is a

beauty with heterochromia, one blue and one brown eye. This is a common husky trait. My friend is a true Renaissance woman, multi-talented. Aunt Ruth always says, "There are worker bees and queen bees." She is definitely a worker husky. A very happy birthday to my fellow mascot, teammate, mentor, and buddy. Mom is searching for a recipe for kale biscuits....very inside joke..

Husky Hugs & Kisses,

Kiska V, Diva Dog



Misha enjoying her birthday cake

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

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 3: Alumni Association Meeting 6:30PM

Meilinger Center May 5: Husky Fest 3PM-7PM

Gym (student) Parking Lot

May 9: Spring Concert/Peter Carpenter Auditorium Dedication 7PM

(SEE PAGES 6 + 7)

Peter Carpenter Auditorium

May 18: Band Concert 7PM

Peter Carpenter Auditorium

May 20: Football Team Golf Outing 8AM (SEE PAGE 9 For Details)

Allentown Municipal Golf Course

July 29: 5th Annual Alumni Association FANDANGLE 2PM-7PM

East Side Youth Center

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





THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Husky Pride

Sponsorship

This is our 5th Annual Husky Golf outin and each year, as it grows we are hoping to make this a classic-a tradition-of the to make this a classic-a tradition-of the Dieruff Football Family. In order to make Decruit Football Family. In order to make this our biggest fundraiser ever, we are looking for individual and corporate sponsors. Your help not only funds the golf event, but all proceeds go to the team for the 2017 season.

Types of Sponsorship

\$100.00 SPONSORSHIP

Includes: 18" x 24" tee sign displayed t golf tournament and on sponsor page for Homecoming Game : Pocono Mountain West Saturday October 14

ADDITIONAL SPONSORSHIP **OPPORTUNITIES:**

- PRIZE DONATION
- MONETARY DONATION

Player Registration 80 per player x ____ Golfer(s)

Mulligans- Purchased at check-in			
Play	er(s) Na	ame(s)	
1			
2 3			
4			

Sponsor Registration

Name:	
Company:	
Phone Number:	
*Email:	
Address:	
Sponsor Type:	

Registration forms must be received by May 17th, 2017. Submit completed registration form along with check(s) made payable to:

DIERUFF ALUMNI ASSOCIATION c/o Athletic office 47 W. Saucon street Hellertown, PA 18055

Book Your Events Today!



Dieruff Alumni Association Members

Receive A

\$50.00 Discount

For All Events Over 4 Hours

Alumni Association Newsletter

David Ziegenfuss '86, Publisher Dana Ziegenfuss, Editor

Contributors

John Hughes '61 Kay Kurtz '74 Pam Wescoe '86 Cindy Fidler '74 Joanne Ogrydziak '76 Karen Coleman (Faculty)

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

All articles and photos are property of the DHS Alumni Association Newsletter. Visit the Alumni Association website www.Dieruff-Alumni.org for more information or advertising opportunities.