



Diman Regional Vocational  
Technical High School  
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION  
251 Stonehaven Road  
Fall River, MA 02723

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### Monthly Alumni Meetings



All meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month, except during the summer and when noted in the newsletter. They are held at 7:00 pm in the Diman Teachers' Room, located inside Room 251. Coffee and pastry are usually provided. We urge all former Diman graduates to try to attend at least one meeting per year. Seriously, just one meeting a year. It's a small commitment to show your support.

# ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

## DIMAN REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

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Volume 9, Number 2

November 6, 2015

## Diman Hall of Fame to Add Seven New Inductees

On October 18th at the Venus de Milo restaurant, seven new members will join the Diman Hall of Fame. This unique non-sports recognition was established in 1998 to honor Diman graduates, retired staff and community supporters of the school. This year's class of inductees reflects all three of these categories. New inductees, who were voted on by current Hall of Fame members include Diman graduates Paul Medeiros, Thomas Chace, Christopher Daniel Ferreira and David Jusseaume; retired staff members Roger Dugal and Edward Kerr; and community supporter Arthur Sunderland.

**Paul Medeiros** is a 1984 graduate of the Painting and Decorating shop. By graduation he was the Outstanding Vocational Student in this shop and was in the top ten of his senior class. After graduating from UMass Dartmouth he had embarked on a twenty year banking career. Currently he is the Senior Vice President at Bank Five. Along with his professional career, he has been involved with many community groups including being the first President of the Diman Bengal Education Foundation.



Standing: Christopher Ferreira, Roger Dugal, Paul Medeiros, Tom Chace;  
Seated: Wayne Sunderland, Patricia Kerr and Suzette Jusseaume

skills he demonstrated at Diman earned him a place on the Australian National team in 1987. After moving back to Somerset for a period and then returning to Australia, he started competing in professional rodeo competitions. He currently is the Safety and Logistical Supply Officer for the School of Pharmacy and Molecular Sciences at a local college.

Graduating from Diman in 1978, **Tom Chace** started a career in public safety by being appointed to the Fall River Police Department. After seven years of performing the duties of patrolman, he was promoted to Detective in the Major Crimes Unit.

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### *Hall of Fame continued...*

Retiring this year from that position, has earned him the distinction of being the longest serving Detective in Fall River Police history. His community activities have included CFC's annual Operation Christmas Telethon, officiating baseball and basketball games and recently a member of the Diman School Committee.

A member of the Diman class of 1984, **Christopher Ferreira** was an outstanding varsity athlete in Cross Country, Winter Track and Spring Track. After graduation, he joined the US Army which assigned him to many locations throughout the world. He has completed a tour of duties in Iraq and Afghanistan. Assigned to SE Mass for a period of time, he recruited 148 individuals for the US Army. Today, he is the Senior Instructor at the US Army Sergeants Major Academy at Fort Mitchell in Alabama. Continuing with his education after Diman, he has earned a BA, MA and is currently a doctoral candidate.

Retired Diman teacher **Roger Dugal** taught social studies for 35 years at the school. During this teaching period he taught every class offered in that Department and served many years as Lead Teacher. Beyond teaching he became involved in many activities at the school including the Key Club, student government, annual blood drive, working home athlete events, staff contract negotiating team and officer/board member Diman Teachers Association. Since retiring he has stayed involved with Diman by substitute teaching part time, is a member of the school's Five Year Planning Committee and Clerk for the Diman Bengal Education Foundation. Holder of three academic degrees, this practicing lawyer actively supports the Alumni Associations at UMass Dartmouth and UMass Dartmouth Law School.

After graduating with honors from the American Culinary Institute, **Edward Kerr** had the opportunity to work at many high end restaurants in New York, New Jersey and New England. Bringing these food trade experiences along with his leadership training from his US Army tenure, he turned Diman Food Trades shop into the Culinary Arts Department. By expanding the public dining room and increasing the number of community events, students in this trade area had a chance to experience real life food preparation. His passion for others was acknowledged

when he was awarded the Marian Medal from the Bishop of the Fall River Catholic Diocese. A few years after retiring from Diman, he passed away in 2012. His many kind deeds have left a positive legacy at the school and in the community.

During the 100 year history of the school which was started by Father Diman, many leaders over the years have kept his vision alive by offering vocational education to local high school students. Such a leader during his tenure on the Fall River school committee was **Arthur Sunderland**. In the Diman yearbook of 1950, he is highlighted with having the vision and courage to ensure Diman Vocational is well equipped with state of the art facilities and resources to ensure students receive the best vocational education training available. Before Diman Vocational became a regional vocational technical high school in 1963, a public leader like Sunderland needed to champion the cause of vocational education and have the authority to provide financial resources. His nine year school committee tenure demonstrated such a commitment to Diman.

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**Nominations:** The Diman Hall of Fame was established to honor those alumni and non-alumni who are part of the Diman "family" and who have contributed greatly to Diman. In addition, nominees to the Hall of Fame may be those graduates who have contributed to society away from the Fall River area in such a manner that deserves recognition.

**Eligibility:** Teams (like soccer and VICA) may also be nominated and must have graduated ten years prior to induction. Employees of Diman must be three years removed from their full-time employment at Diman. Those who are neither graduates nor school employees, but have contributed to Diman in a significant way, may be nominated as well.

**Process:** Please consider nominating someone to the Diman Hall of Fame. Simply write a 1- or 2-page letter describing your nominee's achievements or contributions. Please list the address, phone number and email addresses of both yourself and the nominee. If they are a Diman graduate, please list the year of graduation and shop they attended. Send the letter as an attachment to any Hall of Fame Committee member.

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## **2016 Hockey Game**

The *Alumni vs. Diman Varsity Hockey Game* will be held late February or early March of next year.

Stay tuned for more updates here and on Facebook.

## **Golf Tournament - 20th Annual**

The Diman Alumni Golf Tournament is celebrating its 20th year in 2016! Stay tuned for updates on special happenings to commemorate this milestone. We are booked for Saturday, June 11 at the Swansea Country Club. More information to follow in this newsletter and on our Facebook page.

## **Scholarships**

For information on what is required to apply for one of our Alumni Scholarships for the 2015-16 school year, please visit the Diman website or you can contact the Guidance Office or any of the Alumni Committee members. Deadlines for scholarship applications for the upcoming year are due by April 30, 2016..

## **Memorial Scholarships**

If anyone is interested in setting up a scholarship in someone's memory and would like some information on how to do so, please contact John Viveiros or Dennis Abdow. You can also attend an alumni meeting and we will help set that up for you.

## **Class Rings**

The Alumni Committee has a beautiful display case which house all the school rings collected to date. We are still looking for the following rings to add to our ongoing display: 1950, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1996, 2002, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2010 & 2011.

If you know of anyone who might have one of these rings and might consider donating it to the Alumni Committee, please pass this information along. Their name would be proudly displayed on a plaque with their ring in the display case.

## **2015 Car Show**

The Diman Alumni Car Show was a fantastic success; always a great show of cars and great people. As our 3rd best turnout and fundraiser - we had 138 cars. Thank you all who volunteered your time to help you again this year. And a special thank you to Johnny Angel for providing the tunes and announcements.

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## **Ongoing Fund Raisers**

*The Diman Alumni Association currently has two ongoing fund raising programs:*

### **The Perpetual Fund**

With this program, a minimum of a \$25.00 donation will allow a person to have their name or the name of a person so named to be inscribed on a brass plate and attached to a wooden plaque on display in the public entrance hallway outside *Room 251*. There are several different donation levels on the plaque. The brass plate can be moved up as donations accrue over time. All donations are tax deductible. Please call John Viveiros for more information at 508-965-2513.

### **Newsletters Sponsors**

We are always accepting sponsorship ads for this newsletter. For \$25.00, your business name, website and phone number will be included in the newsletter for one year in our Sponsorship section. We currently send out over 350 mailings for each issue.

## *Next Meeting*

**Thursday, December 3rd**

**7:00 pm**

**Diman Teachers' Room  
Inside Room 251**

## **\* Class Reunion Notices \***

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**IF YOU ARE PLANNING A DIMAN REUNION AND WOULD LIKE TO POST IT IN THIS NEWSLETTER, YOU MAY CONTACT US OR ATTEND AN ALUMNI MEETING HELD ON THE FIRST THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH.**