



## WABASH COLLEGE

### *Class Agents Letter*

Office of Alumni Affairs

P.O. Box 352

Crawfordsville, IN 47933

Web site: [www.wabash.edu](http://www.wabash.edu)

Email us: [alumni@wabash.edu](mailto:alumni@wabash.edu)

Phone: (765) 361-6369

---

**Class of 1958**

### Class Agent

Gordon C. Colson

6733 Jons Station

Zionsville, IN 46077

[gcpcj@tds.net](mailto:gcpcj@tds.net)

February 2009

My Dear Classmates,

The College is having a series of meetings with students re: alcohol. Good. I do hope the effort is successful, but, somehow, I am not confident. It seems to me that the problem goes back to the students' homes. The College gets these kids from an established alcohol culture. What can be expected of these kids when they go off to college where they have more freedom and more temptations?

I've lived in Boone County for just five years. It is not a populous place and yet there have been a number of teenagers killed in alcohol related auto accidents since I've lived here. A couple of months ago in Marion County (Indianapolis), a drunken teenager drove his car into a tree killing three of his companions. He was not hurt. Last year in Zionsville, a former Colt quarterback and his wife were arrested when the sheriff raided the graduation party they threw for their daughter. Some underage drinkers were also arrested. Others escaped by hiding in the woods! What are these people thinking? Not much.

Butler's president, Dr. Bobby Fong, is one of the college presidents who advocate lowering the drinking age to 18. He believes his Butler students ought to be able to drink in bars where the bartenders would control their drinking. Yeah, right! That's one of the dumber things I've heard in a long time. All he wants to do is duck responsibility.

I'm glad that President White has better sense!

Fong also stated that he learned to drink in faculty homes when he was a student. I believe him. But faculty who serve alcohol to minors are asking for big trouble. I know it has happened at Wabash and probably still does, but it's an accident looking for a place to happen.

Enough preaching, but I would like to hear your comments. Just drop me a line or an e mail, and I will put your thoughts in a class letter in March or April.

Heard from Ed Sidor who is still consulting those in need of consulting and cruising the Gulf of Mexico. Joe Felke had three stents put in a coronary artery a couple of weeks ago. He had a floral shop in Plymouth, which his son is now running. I think.

Jack Wyatt took his family on a cruise during the holidays. Neat! John Wilhelm wrote that everything is OK in the Region. Larry Faller is alive and well in Oregon, but I'd like to believe my Mishawaka friend has been out on the left coast much too long. Mauri Core appreciates his snow blower. Those folks up there in Northern Illinois have really been hammered. Mauri, with your coronary history, you had better not be shoveling! Let Pat do it. I gave Peggy an ergonomic snow shovel for Christmas so she doesn't hurt her back when clearing the driveway. Jim Govan says that when they get 2" of snow in Arlington, VA., it's a big deal. There's plenty of snow blowing out of the District of Columbia, and it ain't frozen water! Ernie Lewis joins me in hoping 2009 will be a better year. I'm just completing a model of an 1877 Gloucester fishing schooner, "Smuggler". It's been in the works for 6 months, at least. Maybe more. If you have seen the '30s movie "Captains Courageous" with Spencer Tracy (he won an Academy Award for his performance), the model is similar to the boat in the movie.

You ought to check out the Wabash website now and then. You'll get a better sense of what's going on at the College than I can give you. "The Bachelor", President Pat White's' blog and blogs by students and the Alumni Director are worthwhile and interesting. The Wabash Commentary, a conservative student organization funded by alumni and not officially recognized by the College, has a new website: [wabashcommentary.org](http://wabashcommentary.org).

Two commands: 1. Seek young men who might benefit from the Wabash experience and send their names to the Admissions Office. 2. Support the Annual Fund. Our college needs our support now more than ever! ---The endowment is down some 130 million dollars. Giving is down both in amount and in numbers. 25 or 50 bucks from all would really help. Hey, if you can and want to, give more!

Yours in Old Wabash,

Gordon