



WABASH COLLEGE

Class Agents Letter

Office of Alumni Affairs
P.O. Box 352
Crawfordsville, IN 47933
Web site: www.wabash.edu
Email us: alumni@wabash.edu
Phone: (765) 361-6369

Class of 1959

Class Agents

Roger Billings
billingsr@nku.edu
Craig Green
cgreenteam@att.net
Bob Wedgeworth
rwedge@uiuc.edu

June 15, 2009

Dear 59ers,

The 50th Reunion of the Class of 1959 is now history and your Class Agents could not be prouder. It was a beautiful weekend in Crawfordsville highlighted by several major accomplishments.

- ❖ We tied with the Class of 1934 for the highest percentage of returnees at 50%. One of two members of that class was present! Actually we would have won, but two members of the class came on evenings when the attendance book was not available.
- ❖ We smashed the record for attendance by a 50th reunion class in winning the overall attendance prize by returning 71 members of the class.
- ❖ We won the annual giving award with 57.9 % of the Class of '59 contributing. We presented the College a check for a little over \$1 million.
- ❖ We came in second behind 1984 for the Chapel Sing competition, but we upstaged all competitors by entering the campus on John Horner's antique fire truck.
- ❖ Sherm and Hoyt won the Dorman-Hughes '43 award for Reunion Chairmen.

Our special thanks go to Sherm Franz and Hoyt Miller and their conference call committee that produced such an outstanding turnout. Commendations go to Tony Dowell for leading the Class Gift campaign and to Chris Johnson who produced the 2009 Memory Book for our Class. Tom Runge, Director of Alumni and Parent Relations, his Assistant Michele, and the other campus staff did a superb job of organizing and managing the entire Big Bash weekend!

One of the Reunion highlights was the '59 Glee Club led by Bob Nelson. Nellie sent out recordings, sheet music and rehearsed the guys so well that they gave several riveting performances for the Class and the entire Big Bash. Nellie is "Some Little Giant!"

John Clements, encouraged by Ray Riddle, joined us briefly, traveling all the way from Dubai. Bob Gough, encouraged by Lonnie Thurber, joined us for the Class dinner on Thursday. At that dinner, Sherm remembered being curious about the Class of 1906 who returned at the end of our freshman year. Thinking that members of that class would have been born about the time the first graduates of the College celebrated their 50th, this conceivably connects us all the way back to the founding of the College.

Vic and Marion Powell joined us for the Class dinner and French Professor; Richard Strawn visited briefly during the reception that preceded it. President White gave a moving tribute to our Class to conclude the evening.

Two widows of Class members, Nancy Smith and Sophia Carr received 50-year medallions in memory of Don E. Smith and Bob Carr. Our long-time Class Agent, Bob Wild received the first medallion and read the Class roll of the other recipients.

Following the Class dinner the '59 Glee Club performed featuring Hoyt Miler in solo on a beautiful spiritual, and Arturo Fontanes in his signature solo of "Marry a Woman Uglier Than You."

We want to extend our thanks to all of you who supported and encouraged the plans for the 50th Reunion, but could not attend. Memory Books and 50-year medallions will be in the mail shortly. Also, Fred Pipin has two size LARGE shirts for the first ones who request them. They are available for \$25, which includes mailing and handling. Thanks to Fred, the shirts were a big hit!

Watch the College web site for photos of us and others taken during the Big Bash weekend.

Sincerely,

Roger, Craig and Bob
Class Agents