



WABASH COLLEGE

Class Agents Letter

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Class of 1960

Class Agent

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Class of 1960

Nothing like beginning a class letter with an overworked cliché, but here goes: there is “good news” and “bad news”! With the current economy, there has been nothing but bad news. But for the 2007-2008 giving year (July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008), we really had some good news for the class finally broke the 50% barrier of class members making a contribution at a rate of **50.8%**. The 50% mark was being pursued for quite awhile and 50.8% of you made this an accomplished reality. Slap yourselves on the back. Congratulations! The preceding year, 2006-2007, only registered 48.8% of us so a 2% growth is something we can all be proud of. Now comes the bad news; as of March 15, 2009, we are only at the 35.5% rate as compared with 38.7% last year, our record year. So in this difficult economic environment where we even see our retirement savings diminished, if not decimated, I am still at it asking you to consider Wabash. I would certainly like to see us continue to go over the 50% mark.

The College too has taken it on the chin during these times. Wabash always celebrated its endowment. Earnings from these funds have allowed the College to drive down educational costs to students while delivering a quality education to those same students. The endowment in this current environment has lost more than one hundred million dollars. Translated, this reduces the College’s ability to assist students as it has been accustomed. Now obviously as a class we can’t rescue this loss with our annual giving; however, as a class surrounded with the total Alumni body, we all can make a real difference at this time to Wabash. As Alumni we can preserve levels of financial aid which the College offers so that academically qualified young men can gain a quality education. We can further ensure the availability of funds made available to support the value-added educational opportunities provided through the emersion trips which contemporary students now participate. These experiences are proving to be life-changing for many current students. We can never go back and participate in this current campus experience. Our financial participation is providing for the Wabash of the future. If we value what Wabash has done for us, then we should want to see that the current and future College is sustained. And the ultimate product from the Wabash experience will be the educated leaders who will bring about societal development in the future. Please take into consideration the needs of students as you scrutinize and prioritize your budget and determine your discretionary giving.

One other important item to consider is our Golden 50th Reunion on **June 4-6, 2010**. Dick Kite is really acting like “some Little Giant” in stepping up to the plate and volunteering to Chair our reunion. I hope you are giving serious consideration in assisting Dick in making our 50th a most memorable time. To guarantee a successful reunion will take many hands. Turnout is essential to a successful **Big Bash Reunion**. To get our ranks out for the weekend will take personal contact. Dick is asking many of you to serve in the initial capacity of contacting fellow classmates from fraternities and living units. There will be other opportunities to assist Dick which will be forthcoming. The Reunion is neither Dick’s responsibility nor mine; it is **OUR’S!**

So to wrap this up; please get your 2008-2009 annual gift into Wabash before June 30, 2009, or you will probably receive an e-mail or telephone call from me reminding you. A gift now and at this time in the College’s life is most important. The other is to mark the **June 4-6, 2010** date on your calendar with the goal of making every effort to get back to the College for our Golden 50th Reunion; associated with this is the willingness to volunteer and assist in making that Reunion memorable for all.

Sincerely,

Charlie Quillin, Class Agent