



WABASH COLLEGE

Class Agents Letter

Alumni and Parent Relations

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Class of 1961

Class Agent

JB Bachman

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August 2015

Dear Many Miler:

Greetings to you! We hope you have had a great summer. This was Freshman Saturday at Wabash. I got a text from Pete Pippen: "Just returned from the "ringing in" of the Wabash Class of 2019. Our oldest grandson George is the THIRD generation Pippen member to be rung in. The class is 251 strong and the "smartest" ever (high school GPA average 3.87) A very proud grandfather of Dear Old Wabash! Regards, Pete"

The flip side of this is Norm Beesley's disappointment that his grandson wanted to study Japanese and Wabash does not yet have that as a major. He would have been Beesley #14 I believe.

"I think you know that my grandson, Andy Hurst, broke the Wabash Legacy chain by choosing to go to Yale – now a coed school as you may know. [His great grandfather (my dad, 29), grandfather (me) and father, Chuck '86, plus several uncles and other relatives were all Wabash grads.] Last week he left for Hakodate, Japan, on a fellowship to study Japanese for 8 weeks, toting a back pack, a roll-on suitcase and an eight-foot surfboard! He has been studying Japanese since Junior High School (in Chesterton, of all places)."

I guess a class of 251 is pretty good since Steve Klein left Wabash in the middle of the recruiting year. He is now at Albion. The original estimate was 275. Michael Thorp '86 has joined Wabash as the new Dean for Enrollment Management....

OK, the BIG football opener is at Hampden-Sydney on Saturday, Sept. 5 @ 1:00 PM. I so wanted to go to this return engagement, as much as anything else to see their beautiful campus. It's not likely I will get there any time soon as it is in the absolute middle of Virginia... The nearest town is 6 miles away, and the students serve the volunteer fire department! Be on the

lookout for time to watch it on the internet. It should be an exciting weekend. There is no cost for admission to the game, but there is a cost of \$10 to park a vehicle.

Wabash is ranked 10 in Div III preseason .The Little Giants have made the Playoffs 7 times since 2001; 6 of those made it to second round. Interesting that Wabash was 2nd in NCAA Div III home attendance in 2004 and 2006, 4th in 2008, 2010, and 2012. Pretty impressive.

ALERT!!!! Our 55th Reunion will be during Big Bash weekend next June 3-5, 2016. Get it on your calendar so when you are contacted you will be able to make it. The 2015 version saw 339 Alumni back (record is 389). Class of '60 got 26 back (record is 27). The class of 1965 got a new record 76 members back and gathered \$5.5 Million to eclipse the Many Miler record. The Chapel Sing went to Class of 2005 who also set a new 10 year reunion by 15 guys with 55 returning. '05 also had the distance award by Abe Lucas who came to the Athens of the Midwest all the way from Hong Kong!

The College once again saw an increase in numbers of givers and \$'s. 4677 alumni contributed to the College (41.03 %.) Many Milers were right at 50% with 51 donors (including widows) and that is a drop from 59% in 2014. The Class of 1965 had 105 donors, and the Class of 2004 had 101!

To: 'Charles Quillin'

Subject: RE: Western Pennsylvania Association of Wabash Men [How many were there from your class? Any Phi Deltas? I thought about going with the idea that some of the guys that harassed us poor pledges might show up. But then I didn't think I could do it.](#) **From:** Beesley

[I am surprised so many 60's returned.](#)

From: Charles Quillin'60

[Norm: There were 26 of us back for our 55th. That almost tied the record for 55ths. The 50th year class this year broke all records with 76 returning. Wabash does a nice job with this dedicated weekend for Alumni reunions. College looked great with lots of landscaping and plantings. -- Charlie](#)

From: Jim Nichols

Hi John,

I ran into a nice essay on what it really means to be a Gentleman. Thought of Wabash's one rule, and how it creates real Gentlemen by creating manly men. This essay clarifies for me what being a Gentleman is all about. Wanted to share it with you.

[The Art of Manliness](#)

I've been working on getting new knees for 3 years now. All that running and hiking, 20,000 mi or so, just wore them out. The left replacement went fine, and I was back on the trails in 3 weeks. The right one, replaced in July '12, got a hospital infection (4% do), and I am having the final (7th!) surgery July 6 to insert a new kneecap (old one was destroyed by the infection).

Hopefully, after 6 mos of PT, I'll be good as new, just 3 1/2 yrs older. I'm still leading monthly hikes for the Sierra Club (for now from the trailhead with radios and some talented help). Earlier, I led 84 hikes without repeating one through 2009. Great hiking area around here! Now we repeat some, since we have almost all new people. Except for the knees, I'm in pretty good health. I decided (in support of all the surgeries) to see if there could be such a thing as a 75 yr old bodybuilder. Being stronger minimizes the impact of each surgery. With weights, stairs, and a recumbent bike, I've doubled my strength since Jan. (not too surprising considering where I started). Took some testosterone boosting and bodybuilding supplements, and have seen some progress. Well, what the heck, why not? Working out with weights 3 times a week, and aerobically twice a week keeps me out of trouble. Walking 3 - 4 mi on the weekend helps also. FYI, my tour company Sierra Odyssey Custom Tours is active. See [Sierra Odyssey](#). Our local tourism organization, Ridgecrest Area Convention and Visitor Bureau RACVB), is comprehensively promoting a Wildflower and a Petroglyph Festival. I am on the board and also specialize in selling filming locations in our area to producers, directors, and location scouts. (Iron Man, Just Add Water, Planet of the Apes, Hildalgo, Holes, Star Trek V, Jurassic Park, Dinosaur, and others). See [RACVB Filming](#). The remote mountains and deserts are my bailiwick.

Good to have an excuse to chat, but once I got started, can hardly stop...

Cordially,

Jim

From Tim Conlon:

JB: You are good on your word. When earlier Wabash was omitted from "value-based" liberal arts college citations, you counseled patient for President Hess to deploy his management communications skills. Thanks for spreading the word of "Her Honored Name." Tim



Wabash Is A "Best Buy"

The 2016 edition of the *Fiske Guide to Colleges* lists Wabash as a "best buy." [Full Story.](#)

Wabash Shines in Princeton Review

by Kim Johnson

August 4, 2015

Once again Wabash College was named one of the best institutions for undergraduate education by the Princeton Review in its annual college guide.

Inclusion in the Princeton Review's "Best 380 Colleges" means that Wabash ranks among the top 15 percent of 2,500 U.S.-based four-year colleges. The review includes detailed profiles of the best schools with rating scores in eight categories. Wabash received an overall academic rating of 93 with scores of 98 and 99 in the categories associated with teaching faculty.

In addition, the Princeton Review's college guide includes lists of top-20 schools in 62 categories, which are based on surveys of 130,000 college students collected during the 2014-15 academic year.

Wabash ranked in the top-20 in eight categories.

"These rankings reflect what I'm privileged to see everyday: students engaged in the development of their full selves, in the classrooms with their professors, in the theater with their directors, on the fields with their coaches, and in their living units - alongside their smart, talented, and focused peers and fellow leaders," said Dean of Students Mike Raters.



The liberal arts college for men consistently gets high ratings for its faculty, including No. 5 for the "Most Accessible Professors" and No. 19 for "Professors Get High Marks." Students cited highly knowledgeable "top notch" faculty who push them academically and challenge their thinking, but are supportive and helpful. For the first time Wabash ranked in the top-20 (No. 7) for Best College Theater.

"I appreciate the recognition from the Princeton Review," said Dean of the College Scott Feller. "The high ranking for faculty

accessibility and engagement is not surprising based on the conversations I have with our students on a daily basis. The high ranking for our Theater program is especially well deserved and reflects the work of a group of incredibly talented students, staff, and faculty who enrich our campus community."



Long time Wabash Theater Professor Dwight Watson said, "It is an honor to be recognized as a top-ranking theater program. I am extremely pleased that others may see this ranking and may come to know and appreciate the teaching and creative energy of our theater faculty and Wabash students."

The College's Schroeder Center for Career Development again received high marks for its

efforts, ranking No. 11 in "Best Career Services."

"We continue to be extremely pleased with our national rankings related to Career Services," said Dean for Professional Development Alan P. Hill. "Because of the strong alumni and family

support and mentoring, our young men realize professional outcomes that lead to successful lives."

Among the other top-20 rankings, Wabash also ranked No. 11 in both "Best Athletic Facilities" and "Everyone Plays Intramural Sports," No. 15 in "Lots of Greek Life," and No. 3 in "Easiest Campus to Get Around."

Wabash has been featured in every edition of the Princeton Review's college guide since the service was established.

"The Princeton Review quantifies what we have known all along about Wabash College," said Dean for Enrollment Management Mike Thorp. "We are able to provide our students with a high quality educational experience that spans well beyond the classroom."

I think I missed telling you that Professor Ann Taylor became the Chair of Division I.

"I grew up on a farm in Glyndon MN. I attended Concordia College in Moorhead, MN where I earned my bachelors degree in Chemistry with minors in Biology and Mathematics. I earned my PhD in Chemistry from Purdue University. I met my husband Patrick while volunteering at a homeless shelter (he was director, I was a volunteer) in Lafayette. We have three children: Henry 13, Harmony 11 and Hope 6

I have been involved in the last two accreditation reviews at Wabash...My favorite place on campus is the Haenisch Reading Room in Hays Hall. It has the best view of the arboretum...

My favorite food is Chocolate!

From: James Wood [mailto:jim.wood@jrwpartners.com]

Sent: Monday, August 03, 2015 7:56 AM

Subject: Hey there

Thanks for the 4th card. Neat idea. Great holiday in my mind. What is the date of the 55th dinner? I'm sure we will be juggling grandkid graduation stuff. Had two grandsons graduate from college in May (Butler, Davidson). Then took them fly fishin up in the Va Appalachians. Killed the rainbows. Each of them caught a 9 pounder--big rainbow. Stayin busier than hell. Thought I gave up sittin on boards but was asked to be a trustee on the Astronaut Scholarship Foundation over at the Cape so could not turn it down. Lot of fun but lot of work. Jan in love with one of the Apollo 13 boys. If you want a ride to Mars, i think I can get you a seat. Hope you and Ms. Barbara are well and havin some fun. Wood here =

'Sorry to say that we have lost our "senior" member recently. Lowell was extremely well liked and very active in the Crawfordsville area. He did USAR first and came to Wabash later, as did several who were there with us.... Our sympathies go to Betty and family.

From: Austin Brooks [mailto:Brooksa@wabash.edu]

Sent: Wednesday, August 12, 2015 12:13 PM

JB, Barney and Betty are fellow church members so we have been in fairly close contact with Lowell's situation. We will go to the calling this evening and the service tomorrow and relate your condolences, Hope all is well with you and Barbara. Aus

Hunt & Son Funeral Home

Lowell Barnett

(March 16, 1930 - August 10, 2015)

Lowell Barnett, 85, of Crawfordsville, passed away Monday, Aug. 10, 2015 morning at Franciscan-St. Elizabeth Health in Crawfordsville. He was born March 16, 1930 in Crawfordsville, the son of Carroll and Lela (Switzer) Barnett. He married Betty Jane Wehner. She survives. He was a graduate of Wabash College. He served in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War. He is retired from banking and real estate industries. He was known to be a very generous man. He was a member of the Wabash Avenue Presbyterian Church.



In addition to his wife, he is survived by son, David Barnett and daughter, Becky Barnett, both of Crawfordsville; as well as five grandchildren, Kyle, Jenna, Sara, Jeff and Marie; and four great-grandchildren. Funeral services are at 10:30 a.m. Thursday at Hunt & Son Funeral Home with the Rev. John Van Nuys officiating. Burial is at Oak Hill Cemetery North. Friends and family can pay their respects from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home. Memorial Contributions may be made to Wabash Avenue Presbyterian Church.

From: Robert Panzer [mailto:rrpanzer@gmail.com]

Yes, Wittenberg on Saturday. I was going to the game -- haven't been since the day, but I must be in Madison for a celebration of a life well lived bash on Sunday. I'll keep you posted. Last year my bro-in-law & I met Lonnie Therber, '59, for lunch & stayed the day. Get two Naptown townies talking about the south side & (BTW, Therber lives in Carmel, but not on Barnette's street & so does a high school classmate whom I see when in town) This year I'm going to try to get Joe B. away from his tenders to meet up with a kissin' cousin who coached at St Joe's for years & whoever wants to talk about the old days when a high school junior could hitchhike from Hanover to C'ville for a high school dance & stay at the Phi Delt house. Those days are gone. After Labor Day, when I get things going, I'll email you with hopes you'll pass it on to area Many Milers & civilized old men.

Lowell Barnett -- really nice guy -- USAF vet who came back to school, then RRD & banking. At our 50th, he blew me away, introduced me to his wife & told her all about my senior chapel speech! Bob

The football schedule is as follows:

9/5 @ Hampden-Sydney

9/19 @ Allegheny

9/26 Wittenberg

10/3 Hiram College **NOTE: This is HOMECOMING WEEKEND.**

This is the 60th Anniversary of the Class Agent council, plus NAWM Board, A state of the College address by Pres. Hess, a Liberal Arts Plus Initiative meeting. Alumni Awards Chapel will be at 11:00 on Saturday.

Barbara and I are honored to represent the College at the inauguration of Anderson University's 5th president, John Pistole (of TSA fame). Barbara is an Anderson alumna and grew up with John's older sister. Cal Black'66 went through FBI training with John. I remember him as an excellent free-throw shooter for the Anderson Indians. He is quite tall!

Well, we hope to be living in Indiana soon, and wish you all the best!

Many Miles Before the Night.....

JB