



WABASH COLLEGE

Class Agents Letter

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Class of 1961

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Dear Many Miler:

The 100th Homecoming Weekend at Wabash College was a beautiful and warm end of September. The grand celebration on Friday night witnessed the gala completion of the Campaign of Excellence a year ahead of schedule and \$8 Million larger than planned. The Glee Club reunion found over 60 alumni singing with over 40 current singers. Over 100 singing on stage in Salter Hall to a packed, standing room only crowd who begged for more!

The football team had lost to Allegheny the week before. Carnegie Mellon had easily defeated Allegheny, so the task was daunting! After slipping behind 21 to 0 in the first quarter, one of the coaches figured out a few things, and by the half, Wabash was up 28 to 21. The final score was 54 to 28! The queen contest was not a lot different than in our day... some rather attractive, some near vulgar! The Wabash College campus is now totally NON-SMOKING! (But I sure do miss watching J. Harry Cotton fire up his pipe with those wooden kitchen matches...)

By now, you know that the Little Giants handily defeated the DePauw squad 23 - 0. The Dannies have scored one touchdown in the last three games! In their defense, they have had a series of coaching changes since Nick Mourouzis retired. They will be back! They are now an NCAC league opponent! Unfortunately, Oberlin also snuck up on our team, so with two losses, the team wasn't invited to play after the Monon Bell game. Not only did the Dannies not show up at the game (they turned back 1000 tickets); they failed to show up at our TV party here in Nashville! Their alumni office failed to do anything to announce the venue and send pom-poms. We normally have 18 to 20 DePauw people. This year there were 4 plus two small kids! And, there was a valiant effort by 15 young Dannies to steal the bell @ 4 am on Thursday before the game. They caught some guys sleeping, but when all the noise started up, 30+ rhynes came storming out of the chapel and sent the boys home to Greencastle without the Bell. The handle was broken in the attempted heist, but by game time it was welded and painted bright red!

Several of you have asked what happened this year at the Big Bash Reunion weekend. It was well attended. The Class of 1962 handily won the sing. They also awarded the College a check for \$2.7 Million with 68.8% giving - both substantial by any measure. BUT, our Many Miler records are still intact. '62 had 48 returnees vs. our 53. So, be proud of our great Class! This fiscal year, however, we fell dreadfully off of our norms. Of 125 members, only 64 contributed for

51.2%. I hope we will see a rebound for 2013 as we normally have been above 60%. In our reunion year, we had 91 supporters for 72.2%!!! I feel so very fortunate that Vic Powell was able to join us for our gala dinner at the Barnettes' last year. It may have been one of the last functions he was able to enjoy before his passing.

Note: Joe and Charlene Barnette were attending the reception after their son was married. It was outside under a tent.... And, you guessed it: a huge storm blew in and the event planner asked everyone to evacuate! Charlene told me they won't be doing any more tent parties!

Following a 55th high school reunion in August, I attended "Hoosier Boys' State" Sunday at Wabash. Just for attending Boys' State and spending a Sunday afternoon on campus, they are automatically awarded a \$17,500 scholarship. I believe there were a couple from KY, OH and IL also. It was fun to talk to them and their parents. There was a lot of enthusiasm and a pretty good crowd. Each young man was awarded a certificate at the end of the program. You will remember that well over 10% of our class had attended Hoosier Boys' State at IU.

The freshman class was again in the 250 range and by all measures another outstanding class. You may have noticed that less than 50% of the class pledged a fraternity. Keep in mind that the Delta Tau Delta house is not yet active. Things are changing! Yet, the houses are near capacity with 910 students attending. Of interest is that there is a new fraternity advisors group which meets regularly on campus. The exchange of good ideas is helpful to all. One of the challenges now is that the guys just aren't being trained at home to take care of themselves. Someone has to go thru the very basics of life!!

Again, alumni played a key role in referring over 1000 young men to the College. This is a good time to perk up your ears and make note of young men who are getting ready to make serious effort about college. May be a little late for most seniors, but sophomores and juniors should begin to think about their choices. From the students I have engaged, I am quite impressed.

Picture of 1961 Glee Club:



From the archives: While I can't identify many in this spring trip photo for the glee club, Jerry Barton is over Mitch's left shoulder and I am behind his right....

Tim Conlin and I spent some great time on the phone recently. H says that at 3500 feet, Bend gets winter in early November and it lasts until tax day... He and MaryBeth spend a month in Hawaii during the long winter, so they can enjoy the rest of the year! Tim has become very active in the community of about 85,000. He advises me that according to a Google study, men live longer if they stay in touch.... So, when will I hear from YOU?

Jim Cumming was kept off water skies in August following a procedure to repair one of his hip replacements. He said it was a whole lot less cumbersome than the original operation when he had both hips replaced several years ago. He and Suzie had entertained her nursing school friends from DePauw for their 50th reunion in June. Time flies when your havin' fun!

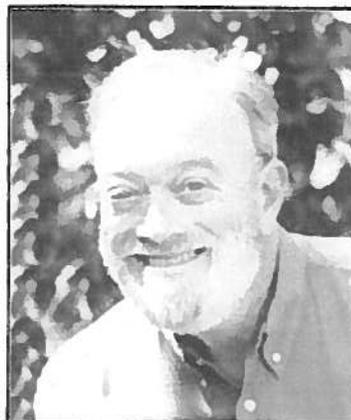
Don Weddle reports that for his birthday he bought a new Corvette Grand Sport. Vicky gave him a California Duster to keep it clean!!! Otherwise, they report generally good health.

JoAnn and I were at a conference the last couple of days down at the West Baden Hotel.....The young man handling valet parking, after inquiring about my Wabash plates and engaging in some conversation, turned out to be a very nice young man from Orleans who is a Beta and a member of the basketball team.....I regaled him with stories of Charlie, Willis and the gang.....(and he asked me if we were still shooting at peach baskets at the time....(not really.) from John Birdzell.

Sorry to report the loss of another classmate. Tim Murphy has been fighting renal failure for many years. I went through Bartow some 30+ years ago. Tim graciously got my Chevy AC working quickly!

Timothy I. Murphy

(June 22, 1939 – August 8, 2012)



Bartow – Timothy Ignatius Murphy, age 73, passed away Wednesday, August 8, 2012 at his home due to complications from renal failure. Born June 22, 1939 in Youngstown, OH, Mr. Murphy was a resident of Bartow since 1962, moving from Illinois. He was co-owner of the Murphy Chevrolet dealership in Bartow for many years. He was also affiliated with Murphy

Motors, Polk-Murphy Insurance Agency & Budget Auto. He was a member of the Saint Thomas Catholic Church & Knights of Columbus. He was past president of Bartow Chamber of Commerce & committee of '76; Chairman: Bartow United Way & Volunteer of the Year in 1981; recipient: Bartow Lions Club Outstanding Citizen Award for 1975. Past President Bartow Kiwanis Club; recipient: Bartow Rotary Club Medal of Honor; Member: Chamber of Commerce Task Force on Education & Advisory Council for Bartow High School. He served as "Santa Claus" for over fifteen years to children of Bartow including schools & churches. He is survived by his loving wife of 41 years, Jane Murphy; son: Mitch Murphy; three daughters: Kelly Parker & husband Sean; Molly Murphy all of Bartow; Maureen Waters & husband Matt of Valdosta, GA; brother: Colin Murphy of Lakeland; sister: Colleen Kremer & husband Larry of Lakeland; six grandchildren: Owens, Judd & Ben Parker; Bailey Murphy; Lillie & Maggie Waters. Funeral services were held on Saturday, August 11, 2012 at Saint Joseph Catholic Church in Lakeland. Memorials may be made to: Bartow Kiwanis Club, PO Box 1021, Bartow, 33831.

The *Princeton Review* has again recognized Wabash College as one of the best institutions in the country for higher education: Best Classroom Experience – 12th

Easiest Campus to get around – 5th

Everybody Plays Intramural Sports – 17th

Best Athletic Facilities – 18th

Most Accessible Professors – 19th

This is based on surveys by 122,000 students. "We commend Wabash College for their outstanding academics, which is the primary criteria for our selection...."

During a week in Panama City FL we thought Barbara had eaten some bad food, but when we got home, we found that she had partially passed a kidney stone. They loaded her up with antibiotics for a couple of weeks, and then got it out. She was fortunate not to suffer severe pain which is the norm. Now she is back in good order and taking care of 8 year old Grayson!

Now that the election is over, the only thing showing up in my email is ads for bedbugs, belly fat and ED!!! Be sure to send your holiday photos...

Barbara and I wish you and yours a very pleasant and peaceful Holiday Season. We're probably going to stay on our ridge here in Tennessee most of the time. It has been a beautiful fall and I am grateful that as recently as the day I write this I have been able to sit on the front porch to read nearly every day in the comfort of the sun!

Many Miles Before the Night.....

J B