



WABASH COLLEGE

Class Agents Letter

Alumni and Parent Relations

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Class of 1962

Class Agent

Thom Feit

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April 2013

Gentlemen of '62,

It was a warm fall afternoon. After finished speaking there stood I, on a raised platform in that first floor classroom at the south end of Center Hall. He began by looking over his notes. Then in a firm, strong voice that filled that room and I suspect several other spaces in that building he began. "Mr. Feit, the introduction to a speech should sweep into the body of that speech as a major highway moves into a city. It travels directly, not interrupted by traffic signals or intersections." There were other comments, but I understood the major failing and left to revise my Speakers Bureau speech.

Clearly that advice given by Dr. Brigance has stayed with me, and served me well as I passed it on to my students. All of us have similar memories; taking lessons learned at Wabash into the life we have lead these past fifty plus years. There then becomes a time to repay for those life lessons.

Last year the members of our class, seventy nine in number, pledged support to Wabash during that fiscal year. We won the Edmund O. Hovey Annual Giving Award as the Class of '62 ran away from the field with 65.79 percent participation from their class making a gift to the College.

To date this year only thirty five have continued that pledge. I am told that first; during the 50th reunion year many classes reach a zenith in their pledge to support Wabash. Second, some classes witness a decline in pledges during the following year. While the excitement of a golden anniversary may have waned, the need for support of Wabash has not diminished.

Stark figures: in 2012 - 79 members pledged to support, by April 2013 - 36. That is a sad comment on our commitment to our alma mater. Understand that Wabash operates on a June 30 fiscal date vs. some other date. The still remains ample time to complete this task of matching the 2012 benchmark.

Members of our class who have pledged as of this date: Mike Ball, David Brink, Gary Byers, Norm Carrico, M.D., Michael Davis, David Downen, Steve Drayer, Tim Emmitt, Thom Feit, Terry Fewell, Brian Fry, Bob Fuller, Dave Grandstaff, Pat Haney, Dan Harwood, Jim Hedback, Tom Hess, Ph.D., Dick Hummel, Ph.D., John Jaqua, Jr., Jim Johnson, Don Kerner, M.D., Bob Koonz, Jim Little, Lee McNeely, Kiefer Mendenhall, Marv Meyer, Bruce Monroe, Jack Nutting, Bill Racey, Larry Ritzenthaler, Dick Stephenson, Brent Sutton, Bill Thompson, Tom Whowell, Mal Young, Ph.D., and Ted Zieke. Both the college and I give you thanks for the support. To repeat the mantra of last year, "It is not the amount you pledge; it is the pledge to support that marks you."

For more information about how to pledge, you may use any of these three easy ways:

- Online at www.wabash.edu/egift,
- Phone at 877-743-4545,
- Mail to: Wabash College Annual Giving, PO Box 352, Crawfordsville, IN 47933

In news from our classmates

George Hodges writes of an address change: 11525 Owen West Rd, Hopkinsville, KY 42240. He adds this "...until such time as Kentucky updates from dial up, Internet (connection) cannot be justified -thus I am in business with USPS and happy to have it."

Michael Thomas responded with a note that included, "I'm still in the 19th century, but charging hard for the 20th." [*While I understand, perhaps Michael meant to add a century to each number – or not.*]

John Hays, in response to my last Class Agent Email also sharing issues with technology. "I am struggling now with an old laptop and my very bad eyes, but I will get a new big PC with Windows 8 (magnification and audio). And I will write something. We look forward to welcoming you to our islands. Aloha."

Thanks to Rod Bell who “Liked” our Gentlemen of '62 Facebook page, and for this from Frederick Obenchain who also posted on Gentlemen of '62 timeline: "This should be a helpful site for all of us but you should know that when I viewed the site we were "sponsored" by an ad from a "Mature Dating" service. Doesn't appear as if any of them are DePauw grads!"

A note from Gene Nelson: “We moved from Comcast to Verizon, so my email address changed. As to what I am doing—I am doing pro bono immigration work with Zoila M. Gomez, an experienced immigration lawyer in Lawrence, MA. I am trying to keep Lawful Permanent Residents (LPRs or “green card holders”) who have spent most of their lives in the US from being deported for things like having a non-violent fight with an ex-girlfriend or serving time years ago for a minor offense. Unfortunately, I don’t think the immigration reform will do anything about this kind of thing. I’m also getting my nose rubbed in a fundamental problem with the law: the people who really need help are too poor to pay a lawyer.” Email: genelson3@verizon.net

In notes from Wabash

President Patrick White, who announced he was stepping down as the College's 15th president last May, will serve Millikin University as its Interim President beginning July 1. President White expects to serve as Interim President for 12-18 months while the university searches for a new leader. The position was attractive to Dr. White for a variety of reasons.

“Growing up in Dixon, Illinois, I have known about Millikin and its excellence all my life,” President White said. “James Millikin’s founding commitment at the start of the last century to an education that would join theory and practice, the liberal arts and professional life, creativity and knowledge finds expression now in the University’s pervasive engagement in ‘performance learning.’ This dedication to putting ideas and methods into action drives students, faculty, staff, and alumni to make a positive difference as vital leaders shaping the next century.”

I am sure that we of '62 wish Pat and Chris much good fortune in this next chapter of their life.

A final thought

In closing, my wish to all is for an enjoyable spring and summer. Our plans are to stay around our Valley of the Sun for the first part. Then using our RV, we shall perhaps travel toward southern California or maybe north to Colorado for some

time. Later on in September, we will be joining other RVs back in Sedona, AZ as the group takes a leisurely journey touring the four corner area of AZ, UT, NM, CO – and then up to the Durango / Silverton area. That followed by a week at the Albuquerque Balloon Festival. Well that will be our summer – what about yours?

You can share comments at either of these websites:



thegentlemenof62.blogspot.com/



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Wabash Always Fights

Warm personal regards,

Thom