



WABASH COLLEGE

Class Agents Letter

Alumni and Parent Relations

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Class of 1967

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Classmates --

I hope you are all surviving this crazy winter! We moved south to avoid all the cold, snow, and ice ... and for the last few weeks we've had cold, snow, and ice. Oh well, Spring is only a few weeks away.

Classmate news -- From all the replies we received from the last letter Duane sent out, it is readily apparent that we have two classmates who acknowledge receiving and actually reading our letter! Thanks to:

John May, who sent the following response: "OK - for reasons - beyond my scope of expertise, our class seem reticent and ill disposed to convey the real marrow of their post Wabash lives. It may be a sense of modesty - doctors, lawyers, CEO- CFO - professors and "experts" in fields that were only dreamed of - back in our day. Be that as it may, I'll add my two cents: To Chris Bird - Damnation and Hell Fire - think that you grabbed and shook many of us - May be it's trite - But Wabash Always Fights - and I hope to God that we do have the opportunity to offer you that smile of congratulations and offer a toast to your health when we see you at the 50th! For the mundane - Still knocking about in the hinterlands of Iowa. God - it's so beige during the winter. Laura and I have adapted to a "semi-retirement". Amazing how involved a Lego Kit becomes and serves as a family gathering point - sorta like gathering about the old hearth and catching up on the events or non events of the day. Don't laugh. There is something very satisfying in the tactical "click" of the pieces being assembled. Still have a mountain of books and magazines to read. Still find that car trips and Books on Tape were created for each other. Lastly - for now at least - have to agree with Chris about the work Duane and Earl have done and hopefully will continue to do keeping our classmates abreast of school matters and of our class mates - HINT - they need material, guys! Hope all is well with everyone."

and to loyal reader (and for this issue, major contributor) **Dave Decker**, who shared the following two items: (from a letter Dave sent to Steve Charles concerning the recent issue of Wabash Magazine) "Steve,

I want to congratulate you on the quality of recent Wabash Magazines. I find myself reading most of every edition, and I cannot say that was true in years past. I truly enjoyed the Flea Market Jesus piece especially, even though I loathe flea markets.

On page 16 of the current issue there is a small box recalling Phil Coons' account of 'Computer Dating' at Wabash in 1965. Well, somehow I screwed my courage up and filled out the questionnaire for that mixer. When I showed up to meet my date, there were rumors that one of the fraternities had scoped out the women and matched the best looking women to their fraternity members. I was told that my date was a 'Penelope Corcoran' from Western College for Women. I asked where she was, and the guy just gestured to this swarm of scared women in the Sparks Center, saying "over there somewhere."

I wandered over, and focused in on this redhead (now I know it was fake, but I had a thing for redheads then) off to the side with a few of her scared friends. I introduced myself and asked if she knew a Penelope Corcoran. She said, "Yes, that's me." So we had lunch, watched Wabash destroy Hanover in football, and in the evening, having about \$10 to my name, I walked her to The Snacker for a mutilated dinner. We got married in 1968 and have been together for 50 years this October 30th, the anniversary of the "Computer Date." I love her dearly."

cdd '67

and the following note Dave also sent us: "
I go, most of the time, to Wabash alumni meetings in my area. Last night I attended one in Winter Park (Orlando) Florida with Greg Hess, the President since 2013. I turned 70 today, so will confess to being an Old Fart, but I was shocked to learn that the new Wabash President was born when we were HS seniors. What got to me was his talking about the Wabash WE knew. He noted that the college had recently acquired the General Lew Wallace Motor Inn and had demolished it and turned it into a parking lot.
I quietly remarked to Ken Keopke '68 sitting next to me that I had FOND memories of the Lew Wallace Motor Inn.
He said "I did too!"
A woman at the adjacent table laughed out loud."

Here's an opportunity for some of the rest of you to chime in. Anyone else have fond memories of The Lew? Or maybe The Snacker? Or Tommy's? Or Carl's? I'm sure the statute of limitations has expired on all the activities associated with these and maybe other places we all remember, so feel free to share some memories, guys. (Remember we will be collecting some of these stories for our 50th reunion, so it might be a good idea to get the memory working now.)

Some sad news from the College which Tom Runge passed along recently: "It is with a heavy heart that I pass along the news that long-time Wabash Professor Richard Strawn passed away Sunday evening at the age of 91. Dr. Strawn taught French, linguistics, and music to Wabash students over four decades, beginning in 1951 until his retirement in 1987, and remained a vibrant part of the College's community throughout his life."

A full obituary can be found on the Wabash website:

http://www.wabash.edu/news/displaystory.cfm?news_ID=10476

French was my language at Wabash and I remember Professor Strawn, and the old language lab in the basement of Yandes Hall. Hmmmm, maybe there are some stories in your memory from language classes...seems like the German language guys always had a good time. Got any stories there, guys?

If you are a friend of Wabash on Facebook, then you know that the basketball, swimming, and lacrosse teams are all having some exciting times right now. (And if you are not yet a friend of Wabash on Facebook, then get connected. There are some great items posted there every week or so. It is a nice way to keep current on College activities.) You might also want to check out the Wabash College homepage once in a while to see the events covered there, like plans and pictures for the new housing that is under construction. And you can even make an on-line student referral or contribution to the College right on the web site. So, get connected.

A couple of future planning items:

The second Gentlemen's Classic football game will be at Hampden-Sydney College on 5 September. Here is an announcement from the Alumni Office on the event: There will be space for pregame tailgating for Wabash fans. You can see that in the document. We're setting up a catered tailgate for your convenience. We also hope to have a pre-game hospitality area at a popular spot in downtown Farmville the Friday night before the game.

There are not a lot of options for lodging in Farmville - we have blocks of rooms at the Hampton Inn and the Comfort Inn. The Hampton is preferred, we think.

Keep in mind that weekend is Labor Day weekend so plans will vary for alumni, family, and friends.

If you are planning events in and around the game, we ask that you please coordinate with the College Alumni office. Here is the web site for more information:

[http://www.wabash.edu/alumni/docs/Hampden-Sydney Travel Information.pdf](http://www.wabash.edu/alumni/docs/Hampden-Sydney%20Travel%20Information.pdf)

Another date for the calendar is October 10-11, the annual Wabash Day. So if you have some ideas for service projects in your area, start planning soon to make Wabash Day a successful event in your area.

Enough for now. Got to go take the blankets off the horses and donkeys now that the snow has ended.

Look forward to hearing from more of you in the near future...or maybe just more from John and Dave in case they are really the only two classmates who read our letters!

WAF,

Earl