



## WABASH COLLEGE

### *Class Agents Letter*

Alumni and Parent Relations

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### Class of 1967

#### Class Agents

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Greetings Classmates and Welcome to the New Year! You guys have been quiet since the December letter – too much egg nog at New Years?!? Come on, LGs, let us hear from you.

### *Classmate News*

We did get this update from **Chris Bird**:

Dear Earl: my second bone marrow transplant in late 2014 appears to be going well.....so, here's my report/update:

After receiving a well-deserved 3 on Comps for my less-than-brilliant discussion of political theories, I attended SMU Law School in Dallas and thereafter practiced real estate law in Dallas for 41 years. My professional achievements include being the lead lawyer for the very first TEXXAS JAM (Woodstock-type rock & country music festival) in the Cotton Bowl, creating the first private street gated residential community in Dallas, developing the largest mixed-use horizontal community in north Texas, and servicing the largest portfolio of high-rise condos in north Texas.(I now live in a hi-rise). My peers and magazine editors were kind enough to repeatedly select me for inclusion in the "Super" and "Best" local and statewide lawyer rosters.

While at Wabash I met and married (47 years) a C'ville girl attending Purdue. We have been blessed with 5 wonderful children and 11 grandchildren.

Men plan; God laughs. Five years ago I was stricken with multiple myeloma cancer, and treatments of radiation, chemo and a bone marrow transplant led to my career retirement. I enjoyed remission for a few years but relapsed in 2014, and just recently emerged from my 2nd bone marrow transplant project. I hope to make it to our 50th.

Thanks to you and Duane for your service to our class.....best regards,  
Chris Bird W'67

### ***Old News***

This is a quick response to Earl's question in the December class letter about my participation or absence in a wrestling match (write up in the Bachelor that he referenced). Simply, I have no answer as to why I was not included, except maybe the person writing the article didn't check facts --- many of my teammates mentioned were designated to the wrong weight classes, we had more than seven returning lettermen every year, and Hall of Famer Dick Glover '65 was not mentioned. Apparently, the "reporter" was trying to fill space rather than do a proper reporting job.

Speaking of wrestling, the Little Giants finished 4<sup>th</sup> at the National Dual Tournament on Jan 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. And, won the Max Servies Duals with a 5-0 record on January 17.

The basketball team is improved from last year, but still struggling and is 11-7 overall. One of the wins was over nationally-ranked OWU.

The swimming team is having a bit of a tough year and is 5-2 in dual meets.

The indoor track and field team has competed in four unscored meets and finished 3 of 5 teams in a scored meet.

### ***Other Campus News***

The new housing construction is in full swing, or as full as it can be in the winter. There are more details on the website about the building designs and progress.



Beyond that, things seem to be quiet on campus. Think back to our days at Wabash and this was hibernation time, in the midst of finals. Also, the students now get a month break in the winter and finish first semester before the Holidays, so they do not have to rush back from Christmas break to take finals. “Back in our day . . . “

I include these comments, from Jay Williams '66 (who is on the Board of Trustees) regarding curriculum and student opportunities:

President Greg Hess, Dean Scott Feller and the faculty continue to expand the academic offerings on campus—in addition to creating alliances and programs with other colleges and universities such as Indiana, Purdue, and DePauw. It's very exciting that Wabash is not only offering more programs on campus but increasing the opportunities for students to achieve combined degrees (BA from Wabash and an MA/MS from another school) with our university partners in only five years. Higher education is increasingly competitive and these offerings are responsive to students who want more academic options and the ability to earn a graduate degree in less time and at less cost.

I'm personally excited about a new initiative, the Wabash Democracy and Public Discourse Initiative that was just started on campus this past fall. Under the direction of Prof. Sara Drury, students learn public discourse, how to conduct meetings, how to develop narrative discussion on and off campus, and how to ensure that all voices are heard and respected in a public meeting—underscoring the importance of free speech.

These students are supercharged, engaged, and committed to becoming involved in their communities. This program should help to dramatically increase the academic footprint of Wabash College as students travel to other communities and schools to facilitate debate and discussion on all types of topics and concerns. (And we certainly know from recent events the importance of inclusive public discussion to create solutions for major problems). The next Public Discourse Summit is planned for March.

### ***Annual Campaign***

Just a reminder to make your contribution for the 2014-2015 school year. Makes no difference what the amount is, but please send a check today.

### ***Humor***

A midget fortune-teller who escapes from prison is a small medium at large.

Every calendar's days are numbered.

When two egotists meet, it's an I for an I.

A man's home is his castle, in a manor of speaking.

A hang over is the wrath of grapes.

Does the name Pavlov ring a bell?

Acupuncture is a jab well done.

Keep warm!!!

*Duane*