



WABASH COLLEGE

Class Agents Letter

Alumni and Parent Relations

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Class of 1967

Class Agents

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Dear Classmates,

A couple major topics in this issue – Classmate News, as well as the 2016 Big Bash and its impact on our Big Bash next year.

Classmate News

Webster '67 honored as Fellow of the Ecological Society of America



Jackson "Jack" R. Webster '67, Professor Emeritus of Ecology with the Virginia Tech College of Science, has been selected as a Fellow of the Ecological Society of America. [Click here](#) for the VT news release. "In his nearly 37 years at Virginia Tech, the professor of biological sciences built a distinguished career, and his exceptional devotion earned him the university's 2012 William E. Wine Award honoring excellence in teaching . . . Webster is known for his decades-long research into ecosystem-level processes of aquatic ecosystems, biogeochemistry of streams, and riparian-stream interactions. During his career, he secured more than \$6 million in

grants as a principal or co-principal investigator and another \$32 million as a part of multi-university research teams. He has published more than 100 peer-reviewed papers and 35 book chapters.”

Big Bash 2016

Six members of our class (from L to R: Tom Werner, Mike Butler, Al Witte, Duane Hile, John May, Peer Lykke) attended the Big Bash 2016.



(Yes, we are older – some of us have less hair, some of us have more body, most of us have more ailments, but ALL of us still know how to have fun!!)

It was an enjoyable time reconnecting with the Sophs. They had a hospitality suite at the Hampton Inn and insisted we join them throughout the weekend. In case you haven't heard, the Class of '66 swept ALL of the awards – attendance, class gift, highest percentage of class member donations, Chapel Sing, and best class agent/reunion coordinators.

The six of us from '67 attended all of the reunion events, except the class dinners on Saturday night – we had our own mini-celebration at one of the local “restaurants”.

The Class of '66 had 66 guys sign the Big Red Book (that is a hint – even if you are physically at Wabash, if you don't sign the book you are not counted as being in attendance). They gave \$8.1 million, topping the Class of '65 who had given \$5.5 million! The percentage of class members who made a contribution for the fiscal year was 75%. (Note – only contributions from July 1, 2016 to late May of 2017 count towards that particular award, so make your next contribution after July 1, 2016 – more information will be provided later on the giving aspect of our class effort.)

And, they won Chapel Sing for the fourth consecutive time – it wasn't really close. '66 had matching shirts, they marched in singing Alma Mater (because of the heavy rain, the Sing was held inside the Chapel – actually a much better venue than on the steps), sang (very well) BOTH verses of Old Wabash, and finished off with fireworks at the end of the second verse. Your reunion committee is working on some ideas for this event.

Most of the classes this year tried something different - choreography, hats, posters, etc. Jon Pactor '71 told me he was at last year's Big Bash and no class did anything but sing deadpan! A big part of the Chapel Sing effort is what the evaluation sheet labels as "Intangibles". We definitely had that at our 45th, but the actual singing was deemed to have been better by the class of '62.

Big Bash 2017 – Our 50th!!

Our reunion committee – Earl, Clark, and I – have been working on the details for our reunion and we will continue to share those with you as we approach our 50th.

Our goal, as with previous reunions, is to sweep all of the awards where we have control.

In the coming months we will provide information on:

- target numbers for percentage giving, gift total (which we know is at least \$8.1 million), attendance
- ideas for the Chapel Sing (please start practicing BOTH verses now, if you haven't already started)
- a hospitality suite
- class shirts
- another great addition of the Memory Book, which Phil Coons is creating (Please complete the form and send it to Phil; also include a current picture.)

Above all, please attend, whether it is for a day or all weekend. This is such an enjoyable weekend.

I suggest you go to the Wabash web site and look for the latest class letter from '66. More info on what makes a successful and enjoyable Big Bash. A major factor is living unit coordinators who contact classmates and get them to attend the reunion. If you would like to volunteer to assist with this task, please let Earl, Clark, or me know. We are looking forward to seeing all of you next June.

Duane

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