



WABASH COLLEGE

Class Agents Letter

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Class of 1968

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Big Bash Weekend '07 was superb. I joined your Reunion Cohort to scout ideas for our big 40th next year. I was impressed by the beautiful and friendly campus and the well-organized events. For example, we merged with the Class of 1967 and helped them win the Sing on the Chapel steps. Wabash has modernized its facilities yet retained the look we remember. You must come and see the opportunities kids have these days. I visited with two personal heroes, John Zimmerman and Max Servies, and spent hours enjoying the company of great people and that rare luxury of hilarious reminiscence. Collegiality washed away those sub-cultures that divided us back then. All about Wabash men, every turn brought another friend, another smile, another story. Make plans now for **June 6-8, 2008**. Your life will be enriched.



Chuck & Becky Kraft, Jim & Helen Millikin, Jim Roper Celebrate our 39th!

Campus News: During **Big Bash '07**, TKE broke ground for a new house where the old Sigma Chi house is now being demolished. They currently use the former Phi Gam House. Delts began major renovations. Phi Gams, Kappa Sigs, Phi Delts, Phi Psi and Sigs all are in fairly new digs. Check the Parents Post monthly online newsletter at <http://www.wabash.edu/alumni/parents/post> The May issue has a ton of good links. Wabash alumni are engaged more than ever in career assistance and programs like the successful LSAT Bootcamp. Interesting list of where grads go can be found at: <http://www.wabash.edu/careers/employers/results>.

I don't know if you remember **Craig Chaudron** but he passed away on Aug. 21, 2006. He was born in St. Louis, Mo. A Professor for Second Language Studies at The University of Hawaii. Survived By Wife, Lucia; Son, Nicolas Kea'oalohilani; Daughters, Camila Kea Lucia and Cara La'i Ana; Brother, Doug.

Classmember Updates:

Steve Harvey Class of '68 sends:

Presently: Business owner – The McGuire Group, Los Angeles, CA since 1996. Talent Management, Executive Coaching, Career Management, Leadership Development services. Corporate experience: Human Resources – ARCO (Atlantic Richfield) 1968-1995; Indiana, Chicago, Los Angeles area. One son who is a successful Human Resources Manager in a technology company; one granddaughter – 9 years old who loves softball and soccer. Celebrated 40th wedding anniversary this year! Hobby is boating – unnatural for a guy from Indy but there is too much beautiful blue water here not to enjoy it!

Dr. Dave Cook: Can a report be an 'update' if it is the first one? I'll avoid answering that tree-falling-in-the-forest type question and just give a synopsis of life since graduation while not exceeding Mike Dybel's recent 730 word effort to do the same thing.

After graduating from I.U. Med School along with another 13% of our Wabash classmates in 1972, I started an internship on track to begin an Orthopedic Surgery residency the following year. Midway through that year it became clear that Orthopedics wasn't a good personality fit – but what *was* a fit was not at all clear. So I volunteered to join the Air Force as a Flight Surgeon: about the best duty you could draw without a clinical specialty, running neither the risk of being bored to tears as an induction center physician nor the risk of being shot as a Battalion Surgeon in 'Nam. While the Air Force was not making up its mind, I got an offer to become a Flight Surgeon for the Coast Guard – stationed in San Francisco no less. It took about one second's reflection to say "yes". I'd like to thank the U.S. taxpayers for funding a great two years. My tour included aviation medicine training with the Army at Ft. Rucker Alabama, training with the Navy in diving medicine at Pearl Harbor and in cold weather & isolated duty at Newport Rhode Island, and serving aboard an icebreaker for three months in Antarctica while seeing Samoa, New Zealand, Argentina, and Chile along the route.

Grooving on gas physiology in the service and having enjoyed my intensive care experience as an intern, I decided to go into Pulmonary/Critical Care medicine. Two years of Internal Medicine residency back in Indiana were followed by two of fellowship training at the University of California at Davis (in Sacramento, actually). Much to my surprise, following fellowship I boomeranged back to Indiana to accept an associate medical director position at the Methodist Hospital in Indy. A few years later I became the head of the Respiratory Medicine Department at the hospital and remained so until jumping ship to head up the Quality Management Department for the St. Vincent Hospitals system. For the past nine years I've

served as the Chief Medical Officer for a company that does health care management, analysis, and consulting work. In support of this new perspective, I completed a master's degree in Public Health in 2004.

Notwithstanding all the reports of classmates happily retired, as long as I enjoy working and mind and body permit, I'd hope to never quit. On the other hand, how much longer I want to or can continue to do part-time clinical work is problematic. I was not a night-owl even in college and in the last decade taking night call and still being functional the following day has gone from hard to impossible. Also, as our contemporaries have begun to shuffle off this mortal coil at an accelerating rate, the idea of spending every third weekend doing something other than slogging through ICUs has taken on much more appeal.

There *is* more to life than work....

My wife Lynda and I will celebrate our 32nd anniversary this fall. We have known each other since first grade and started dating after re-connecting at our 10th year high school class reunion! Lynda is a linguist by training and does non-profit organization governance consulting work. She just returned from her third volunteer trip to Afghanistan working with Kabul's orphanages and homeless children organizations.

Lynda and I do lots of traveling, though typically to far less challenging places than Southwest Asia; more commonly Europe, Central America, and the Far East. Periodically I do a more challenging sans-spouse trip: last year canoeing the Yukon River from Whitehorse to Dawson (with, among others, Ron Berg – class of '69) and this fall a kayaking trip in the Sea of Cortez.

Our brood of two has finished college: one earns a living carrying a Sheriff's badge and firearm, the other hopes to become a Benedictine monk.

I enjoy exercising my digital SLR camera on our jaunts as well as closer to home and have also started to do some theatre work again after a long hiatus from the Scarlet Masque.

Hope to see you all at the 40th year reunion a year from now.

So there it is in 725 words.

Dr. Robb Pocklington: Checks in as Associate Dean for Student Advising, Southern Methodist University. "Where did that time go? I have three daughters between 19 and 36. Four grandchildren. I'm now in my third career after fifteen years as an arts administrator and eighteen years as an English professor. If I can put plane fare together, I will come to the 40th."

Al McElfresh: Al is the President of Haddon Savings, a 102 year-old-banking institution in New Jersey. During his sophomore year at Wabash, Al took a trip to Phu Bai, and wherever else the Marine Corps needed him. He served in Vietnam 18 months, fall of 67 until the summer of 69, and was released early to finish at Wabash. Al has three children and five grandkids, the sixth on the way. The latter's father, Al's son, is a squad leader in the 82nd Airborne Division, currently serving in Sadr City, Iraq. Al's daughters live nearby. In his free time, he likes to sail his 40-footer. He is making room on his calendar for Big Bash 08.

(Note from Jim Roper: When my son was deployed, I was the all-time goodie-box champ. Flat rate priority boxes ship for eight bucks, and I packed 'em full of beef jerky, jollyrancher sours,

sports magazines, and oatmeal marshmallow cookies. If you would like to send a bit of Americana to Al's son, shoot me an email and I'll coordinate with Al. Airborne!)

James Kenneson: Retired in New Mexico. Enjoys writing and gardening. He began writing after Wabash, publishing articles in Harpers and Readers Digest. His travels to Egypt and the Middle East facilitated his translation of notable works from the Arabic. Meanwhile, James spent a "day job" career in nursing and nursing administration until retiring about a year ago.

John Shangler: Here you go, Jim - 39 years in a few sentence fragments: From Wabash to UC Santa Barbara, and then (with thanks to Dan Swinehart, Wabash '66, who got me hooked on computers) into a string of SF Bay Area/Silicon Valley software start-ups and one diversion to Waukesha, WI. Married since 1978, one stepson. Currently running my own company in Menlo Park, CA and considering a move to Research Triangle Park, NC. [Shameless advert: if your business has to produce reliable, secure software, check us out at www.reasoning.com.] Looking forward to any updates from classmates and Lambda Chi brothers! - Regards - John

Jim Caughey: After graduating and teaching school, Jim decided to change careers and went back to Law School. He now has a practice in Indianapolis and lives in a home he built on property that his folks had owned. Still married to Karen, whom we know from his married years at Wabash, with daughters and grandkids.

Stan Kowaleski: Spent a career in manufacturing. Currently in the HR side (hard things other people don't want to do). Works for a high tech firm in Tipton, Indiana. His company made engine parts for the F-111 that Tom Runge and I flew. Stan has three kids: Oldest daughter has a 12-year-old son, youngest daughter is an architect and will deliver another grandchild next month, and his son will marry in October. When I called Stan, he was refinishing a crib for the grandbaby. He plans to attend Big Bash 08!

Bill Markin: Retired a couple of years ago in Ohio. Was a partner in a marketing and consulting business. He enjoyed scuba and wrote two books on management and change. Says he loved every minute until health issues slowed him down a bit. He raised three kids, has four grandchildren. He will try to make the reunion!

Dr. Richard A. Stout: Rich is finishing 27 years as an Economics professor at Knox College in Illinois where Lew Salter went to be dean and then came back to be president at Wabash. Rich went to IU for his doctorate. He's been helping the reunion cohort spread the word.

Tom Thorning: Called from Carmel, California. He sold a business and was able to retire about nine years ago. Three kids, one still in the house. He credits the "difficult, rigorous, and wonderful" experience at Wabash for helping him through the years. About five years ago, Tom joined a group which founded a nonprofit organization. Check out www.dalailamafoundation.org. His focus is education, and he currently works on things like books on ethics for kids. He has placed Big Bash 08 on his calendar.

Gary Claybaugh: A nice report came in from Gary. He joined the Air Force in 1966, served in Vietnam, then finished college at University of Arizona where he played baseball. He will send an updated bio. He has three daughters and one grandson. He now works as a developer of small, high end divisions. He wants contact info on Bill McCluskey.

Steve Goldsmith: We told you that Steve is a professor at Harvard. Here's the rest of the story: He and his wife, Margaret, have four children, two boys and two girls. His youngest enters college next fall. They are attending schools from Colorado to D.C. Steve travels a lot as Chairman of an equity investment firm, and volunteers as Chairman of the Corporation for National Service (Americorps and similar groups). When I asked about hobbies, he said, "All I do is work." So the work hobbies would be writing books and opinion articles. He looks forward to attending the 40th Reunion of the Class of 68.

Michael Hamilton: Spent only one year at Wabash. A geology project on Sugar Creek led him to Indiana University, Bachelors and Masters Degrees, and a successful career in geology. He lives in Spokane.

Thomas Davis: Checks in from Elkhart, Indiana. He has three kids, six grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren. Tom works in RV industry. He joined the National Guard in 1966 – field artillery. He transferred credits from Goshen College and got his Wabash BA.

Dr. Bill VanderHaar: I skied with Bill six years ago. Wonderful to hear from him again: "Much has happened in the last 6 years. I retired from daily work in 2002 after reaching the pinnacle of my profession as head of Bayer's consumer research worldwide. Had people in the US, England, Australia, France, and Germany at various points, and traveled extensively over the last 10 years. Not as glamorous as it might sound. Created a plan at age 50 to retire at 55, and nearly achieved it! Only a few hiccups along the way deterred my plan.

A divorce occurred about the same time as retirement. Won't go into details, but it was a drawn out, costly mess and happened at a very difficult time in life. Psychologists say death in the family, divorce and retirement are the 3 most influential times in a persons life, and I went through all of those in about 1.5 years. A very tough period.

However, moving on the good times. I subsequently met a wonderful German woman (Gabriele or Gabi) whom I married 2 years ago and we are extremely happy together. I moved from NJ after retirement to North Carolina. Spent the first 6 months in Charlotte (after looking at a variety of NC cities) and then bought a house on Lake Norman north of Charlotte. Best move I ever made! The lake is wonderful. Like vacation everyday!!

Retirement time is a bit more relaxed as I'm sure many of our classmates know. But the days still seem to be filled. Exercise at the gym, errands to run, house and "honey-do" projects, etc. I sing in a barbershop quartet and direct a barbershop chorus. Play a lot of golf. Do taxes for HR Block in the tax season. Do some volunteer work for a local church. Support my wife in her art and decorating projects by building small woodwork pieces. Somehow the days get filled!

My daughter and her husband live near Ramstein Germany where he is an Air Force LtCol working on a NATO project; trained as a C7 pilot and can't wait to get back into flying. They have two kids who I wish I could see more!! My son lives closer in North Charlotte and works for Joe Gibbs racing (NASCAR); they also have two kids. So 4 grandchildren who hopefully will all be in the area in the next few years.

Would love to see any of you guys and your have an open invitation if you are ever in the Charlotte area. We look forward to a ski vacation this winter and will think seriously about Colorado so we can hook up with you all!" Til later!!! Peace. Bill

Jim Powers: Jim retired as the Corporate Credit Manager of Faraday, Inc., a national company which makes fire extinguishers and other similar products located in Jackson, Michigan. He is now in the credit consulting business. His company is Credit Department, LLC and his website is thecreditdepartment.net. He advises companies on credit issues, collection of accounts receivable and the like. He and his wife Becky have three children. Daughter Megan, 30, graduated from Hope College and has a masters from Regis University. She is a teacher in Denver. Daughter Ann, 26, graduated from John Carroll University and is also a teacher in Denver. Son Drew, 21, is a senior at Lehigh University who is spending the summer in Italy (which explains why Jim is still working).

John Leahy: John retired from Eli Lilly & Company in 2006, as Associate General Counsel. He was also General Counsel for the Elanco Animal Health Division of Eli Lilly & Company. John and his wife Phyl live half of the year in Fort Myers, Florida and the other half of the year in Carmel, Indiana. John's handicap is now back down to where it was when he played for the Wabash College golf team 40 years ago. John and Phyl have two children. Daughter Jenny, 36, is a housewife living in Carmel, Indiana and the mother of three sons (which keep John and Phyl real busy). Daughter Kristin, 27, lives in Southern California where she is currently pursuing her masters degree in dance therapy.

Jim Roper: After graduation I joined the Air Force, flew spotter planes from Pleiku, Vietnam, and Luang Prabang, Laos. I trained indigenous pilots in Thailand, and did operations analysis in Cambodia. Later I flew A-10s and F-111s, and parachuted into Grenada as Air Liaison Officer with the 1st Ranger Battalion. Notably for Wabash College, I commanded the 493rd Fighter Squadron at the same time Tom Runge '71 commanded the 492nd at RAF Lakenheath, England. After retiring in 1994, I wrote two books of memoir and currently work on a third and fourth. I have four sons, one of whom returned last year from 10th Mt Division duty in Afghanistan to meet his beautiful daughter, born in October. I spend most of my time as a stay-at-home Dad while my wife Liz serves in the Air Force. Some recent big news: Liz is pregnant with twin boys. Due in October. Wow! **See you at the 40th!**

Submitted with warm regards to all,
Jim Roper 68