



## WABASH COLLEGE

### *Class Agents Letter*

Alumni and Parent Relations

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### Class of 1968

#### Class Agent

Jim Roper

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October 27, 2015

Dear Friends in the Class of 1968,

I enjoyed Homecoming and renewing great friendships. You can take a peek here at what I saw. I was able to hear an update on the direction Wabash is headed, physically and intellectually, from President Greg Hess, so enjoy that and send me any questions. Meanwhile keep using Facebook and /or keep sending those updates!

**Liberal Arts Colleges Dot Com rates Wabash tops in Faculty Accessibility.** The Wabash College faculty was named the Most Accessible and Approachable nationally in rankings released by liberalartscolleges.com. The website compiled the list from responses from its annual Liberal Arts Colleges Student Survey, a study that included responses from more than 2,700 current liberal arts students across the country. As liberalartscolleges.com stated in introducing the rankings, "without a doubt, great professors lead to a better experience for students." The Wabash faculty topped the list of 20 and was joined in the top-five places by Colby College, Pitzer College, Washington and Lee University, and the University of the South (Sewanee). - See more at: [http://www.wabash.edu/news/displaystory.cfm?news\\_ID=10621#sthash.pKzc35YF.dpuf](http://www.wabash.edu/news/displaystory.cfm?news_ID=10621#sthash.pKzc35YF.dpuf)

From **John Greves:**

Jim, Fabulous 1968 CAL!! You do a smashing job with this. We are all well and my 6 granddaughters are growing and now doing soccer, tennis, swimming and cycling. Still at cardiology three days a week but pretty light consultation in relation to the life and death cases of earlier times. Mari retired from the Vancouver School District (22,000 students) after 20 years this past January so more family time for sure. Thanks, WAF, JHG



From **Mike Gallagher**, re **John and Dot Hudson:**

Jim, I stopped over to see them last nite, just leaving now. Dot is doing a lot better, seeing some good progress. They have a new puppy, Rosie. -Mike

This would be **Van Butler**: “Saying goodbye to our home-sweet-boat in Bretagne. Fun week on the Canal de Nantes a Brest!” (Trip to France?)



To view the October 2015 Wrestling Newsletter click on the link below  
[http://attachment.benchmarkemail.com/c52838/October\\_2015.pdf](http://attachment.benchmarkemail.com/c52838/October_2015.pdf)

This edition gives details on the new wrestling facility, which Coach Brian Anderson calls, “**The baddest room in Indiana.**” It also gives the schedule for the season. Check it out! You may recall last year Brian produced **two national champions.**

When you finish that fine read, you will REALLY enjoy this trip back in time, a **1968 Wabash** story published in the Indianapolis Monthly:

<http://www.indianapolismonthly.com/features/wabash-college-is-not-for-everyone/>



Here is our own **Steve Bowen**, Chairman of the Board, with his son, Dave, class of '99, who is a real entrepreneur. Steve is teaching a class at Wabash in ethics this semester. Said he has six students and loves every minute.

## MAKE A GIFT

If you're ready to invest in Wabash, make a gift to the Annual Fund. Call 1-877-743-4545 or email [giving@wabash.edu](mailto:giving@wabash.edu).





Here's a walk around campus. Sign is new. Sugar Creek is low—mostly sand showing. Not much has changed.



\*\*\*\*\***BIG NEWS!**\*\*\*\*\*

On the left is where the Delt House used to be when we were students. On the right is the “new” Delt House. The Recolonization of Delta Tau Delta has **passed legal hurdles**. According to President Hess, Wabash is waiting for a plan of action from the “local” Delt contingent to get things started to reinstate Delta Tau Delta at Wabash!!!!





Since I didn't see a ton of our guys, I had dinner with friends from other classes. That's (L-R) **Duane Hile '67**—my wrestling team bud, me, **Pete Allen '73**—one of the really nice people on the planet, and **Anthony Douglas '17**—a junior, pre-med, great kid, who joined us to guide a discussion of the “Liberal Arts Plus” initiative the college is doing.



Here's **Jay Fisher '66** who is making a legal point at lunch, then offering his amazing hospitality in the tailgate mode behind the stadium. He had a great little heater under his canopy, since the temperature never got much above 40. And it rained. A very special Little Giant!

## THINK ABOUT IT.

If Wabash seems to fit a kid you know, we would love to talk to you. Call 1-800-345-5385 or email [admissions@wabash.edu](mailto:admissions@wabash.edu)

Here are attendees from the Beta reunion, **Bill “Walt” Gilman '66** and **Bill Ferguson '66**. Walt is keeping Bill up half the night, just as he did to me prior to my Rel 1 final in 1967. Walt is still hilarious. He maintains the battle of Psoriasis was won by Tegrin!

I recall snapping the ball to the right knee of fullback Fergie, who then spun in a circle, faking 2 handoffs, and ran 65 yards up the middle for a TD. Good ol' days.





### Jim Funnybone Dashiell

Well I'm in Katmandu. Have been here a week. Just returned from a 5 day hike. Bad GI's. Must have been the water. This is one crazy place. Cows on the major streets, crazy traffic, no stop lights or signs, crowded, dirty, hot, awful roads, hamburgers should be called ox burgers, etc. (I think this was Jim's honeymoon. A later post complained further of the serious bout of dysentery—the Katmandu Revenge?)

### For those who follow the Wabash experience closely, please check this out:

President Hess has directed a Wabash “expanded footprint” that includes four broad areas:

**CIBE** – Center for Innovation, Business, and Entrepreneurship (**Control/Click for details**)

<http://www.wabash.edu/alumni/docs/CIBE.pdf>

**Global Health** - <http://www.wabash.edu/alumni/docs/Global%20Health.pdf>

**WDPD** – Wabash Democracy and Public Discourse Initiative (Control/Click ) -

<http://www.wabash.edu/alumni/docs/WDPD.pdf>

**Digital Arts** - <http://www.wabash.edu/alumni/docs/Digital%20Arts.pdf>

According to Grunge: “These efforts are taking nothing away from our liberal arts core and are adding real opportunities for additional student experiences and better professional development.”

Wabash College President Greg Hess said his mission at Wabash can be summed as “trying to get better fast.” He told the assembled Class Agent group that he envisioned Liberal Arts to be Challenging, Confrontational, and administered with Compassion to the student. He added a 4<sup>th</sup> C, to provide a Compass, which distinguished Wabash. He said the college has experienced a 6.25% draw on the endowment, which he hopes to reduce below 5% next year. Endowment management will be outsourced next year.

On the right is **Dudley Burgess '64** whom I see from time to time at Monon events in Denver. He guides tours of the Grand Canyon. Also, you see **Jim Hutcheson '68** who began his Wabash experience in Dudley's pledge class at the Beta House, and finished after a Vietnam Sabbatical. Jim is retired, but volunteers his time for nursing projects and supports his 95-year-old mother. Some Little Giant!



**The Gras Family**

Here's our man **Bruce Gras '68**, who has battled back from pancreatic cancer for a third time. I have tracked his recent travels from Florida to Hawaii. He has announced his marriage to lovely Jessah. I hope to see Bruce if he passes near Colorado during a trip!



Below I have attached a quick impression of the Homecoming game activities. I'm not sure I cared for the gray jerseys—I'd take heliotrope over gray. Very sure I didn't care for the rain and cold wind! The Fijis won the Homecoming Queen and the mural contests. I did like the final score, 38-0. Wabash pounded the Hiram Terriers, and video highlights are posted on the Athletics page. Your Little Giants are now 7-0, ranked #9 by d3football.com, and headed for a fantastic collision with the Dannies on Nov 14. The defense has allowed 42 points in 7 games! I apologize if some of the photos are too small. You may not want see *those* anyway!



This link gives you the view from a drone, piloted by Howard Hewitt, of the new housing project as it grows along Crawford Street. You will see in the aerial shot how the new housing joins the red brick campus collage, too. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d3Vidi5t-NQ>



What you will observe in the drone flick are Townhomes in front (12 guys) and behind are the Halls which house 40. The plan is to empty Martindale in January '16 into the new housing while a seriously needed redesign is done to Martindale.



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On the left are **Charlie Bell '66**, and **Marsha and Cal Black '66**. Cal has organized a Beta Theta Pi reunion in conjunction with homecoming for the past few years. He said the demand is high for this event, and I must say they are really fun. I see guys I haven't seen in 50 years. It's magic! Below are scenes from this gathering:

That's me on the left, San Francisco lawyer **Pat Becherer '65**, Dr. and Indiana state legislator **Gary Dillon '65** and Illinois teacher extraordinaire **Charlie Bell '66**. (Photographer put down his wine glass to take this photo.)



The photo on the right is **Mickey Metzler '65**. He graduated from law school with **Squire Neal** in '68, and both were handed a rifle and sent to 'Nam! Ha!



This wraps up your latest bundle of Wabash news. We took the kids to Disney World over Fall Break and had a ton of laughs. A great escape. Please send me your updates—your friends would really like to know! Get those health screens—mine are scheduled—and take good care.

WAF,  
Jim Roper '68