



WABASH COLLEGE

Class Agents Letter

Alumni and Parent Relations

P.O. Box 352

Crawfordsville, IN 47933

Web site: www.wabash.edu

Email us: alumni@wabash.edu

Phone: (765) 361-6369

Class of 1968

Class Agent

James E. Roper

jimroper@ropersbooks.com

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Dear Friends in the Class of 1968,



I went back to C'ville for the Class Agent Forum last weekend. Saturday began dreary and overcast with light rain. Note—no Saturday classes, chapel not mandatory, only Phi Delt pledges wearing pots. Guess they don't make 'em quite like they used to, do they?!

The only '68er I saw was Ben Austin enroute to the "Gentleman's Classic" football game, called such because it pitted two of the nation's four male private colleges still standing. Pre-season D3 poll ranked #15 Wabash battled #21 Hampden-Sydney College from Virginia. As you see below, Wally was in great form, the crowd was large and noisy, and Wabash won its opening game, 34-21. H-S had an All-American quarterback who threw well, but Wabash played strong D. The photo below shows the TD end of a third quarter 26-yard pass from Michael Putko to Houston Hodges.





I hit the bookstore for a nice red baseball cap with the white “W”. My just-turned-7 son Will claims anything with that letter on it, so caps don’t last long around here. After landing in the Denver Airport, I was stopped by a nice lady wearing a blue Andrew Luck jersey. She asked, “What does that W stand for?”

I replied, “Wabash, of course.”

She said, “My son is a freshman. Been there two weeks! We’re so proud, so glad he is there.

He pledged Fiji.” Then she took one of those “selfie” shots with me grinning at her phone.

She said she was in town for the Colts-Broncos game.

I said, “Good luck with that!”

Wearing the W, I’ve met nice Wabash folks from Yellowstone to Pike’s Peak. Try it and tell me about it when you send an update. End the drought and help me give you a better letter!

The other event on campus was a Beta Theta Pi mini-reunion, organized by Cal Black ‘66. I was able to re-acquaint with wonderful friends I had not seen in about 47 years. Just WOW! Here is the list of attendees:

Gary Dillon ‘65 – Doctor and Indiana State Senator

John ‘66 and Patti Flanagan – Still in Homewood-Flossmor

John Goodrich ‘67 No change!

JB Goodrich ‘00

John ‘66 and Nancy Herrin Still Lawyering in Indy

Sam ‘61 and Susie Hildebrand

Kelley House ‘90

GB Landrigan ‘85

Bob ‘65 and Alice MacCallum - Retired from Foreign Service (kinda!)

Mel Machuca ‘66 (Author of a great book.)

Mickey ‘65 and Ann Metzler Not yet retired from the practice of Law. Teaches.

Ron ‘64 and Connie Nichols

John Roberts ‘83

Jim Roper ‘68

Bill Andrews ‘69

JB ‘61 and Barbara Bachman

Del Bartlett ‘65

Pat Becherer '65 Still doing civil litigation in San Francisco. Still amazing!
Charlie '66 and Janet Bell - A career in Education in St Charles. Had a school named after him.
Roger Billings '59
Tom Billings '63
John Birdzell '61
Jeff Birk '74
Cal '66 and Marsha Black Inimitable.
David Brewer '90
Don '65 and Jenny Buehner Great guy.
Dudley '64 and Judy Burgess
Jeff Dickison '85

Here is a photo of the Beta reunion. Recognize anyone?



From the website:

Wabash Among Best in U.S. News Rankings

Wabash College is ranked among the best national liberal arts colleges by *U.S. News & World Report* in its annual listing of the best colleges, which was released Tuesday.

Wabash was once again the only Indiana school to make the CBS Moneywatch's list of best professors ...

Wabash on Princeton's Best List

Wabash College was named one of the best institutions for undergraduate education by the Princeton Review in its annual listing of the top 379 schools across the country.

But we already knew all that...

Dates for your calendar:

September 27, 2014

Homecoming

October 11-12, 2014

WABASH Day

October 25, 2014

Family Day

November 14, 2014

Athletics Hall of Fame Induction

November 15, 2014

Monon Bell Classic @ Wabash

MICHELLE L. JANSSEN NAMED DEAN FOR COLLEGE ADVANCEMENT • July 1, 2014. Wabash College President Gregory D. Hess has announced the appointment of Michelle Janssen as the Dean for College Advancement. She will begin her tenure at Wabash on Friday, August 1. As the Dean for College Advancement, Janssen will oversee the Annual Giving, Major Gifts, Advancement Services, and Alumni and Parent Relations functions at the College. She brings nearly three decades of successful fund-raising experience to Wabash, most recently serving as Vice President of Alumni and College Relations at Berea College, in Berea, Kentucky.

I met Michelle. She seems knowledgeable and enthusiastic. She should do good things for Wabash! Berea College sounds like an interesting place. Look it up! But they hover around 14% Alumni giving, versus the 41% who support Wabash. Speaking of that, **Great job, guys! The class of 1968** has been in the “green” category of 40% or better since FY2004. We also are usually at the top of the “Unrestricted Giving” amount column. Last year we had 88 donors for \$389,784. Our annual goal is the “five-year high” which is 91 donors. So if we can get three more guys to throw in 20 bucks this year... we will look a tad better in the gift line. For the College, \$3,271,804 is the second highest Annual Fund dollar total behind FY13, the year that 1968 hit 91 donors.

You can make your outright gift to Wabash by cash, check, or credit card. Please make your check payable to *Wabash College*. You can also use your credit card to make a one-time gift or to make your gift in multiple monthly payments. [Make a credit card gift online](#) or call (877) 743-4545. If sending your gift by postal mail, please send your gift to Wabash College / Annual Fund / PO Box 352 / Crawfordsville, Indiana 47933-0352.

Admissions Information: The class of 2018 is 262 strong, representing 20 states and 7 countries. Some stats: 83 are alumni referrals, 52 are legacies, 36 Boys State delegates, 13 Eagle Scouts, 7 Valedictorians. If you know a high school student who might be a fit, or if you took the time and energy to go find one, please call 1-800-345-3485 or email admissions@wabash.edu.

Looking for your input on this idea! Send it with a nice update, complete with photos!!!

Wabash College bought the city block from Crawford Street to the west, along West Wabash Avenue. Photo below shows what it looked like last weekend. They haven't turned a shovel yet. But wait! The plan is to put up new independent housing there with 150 beds. The largest facility in the new housing complex is a Hall. The Hall will hold 40 students and cost roughly \$4,000,000. An idea surfaced which



got lukewarm support from class agents. So, here, please feel free to pass feedback to me or Tom Runge on this idea: *"What if each class took on the challenge of raising \$1,000,000 in new money for a Hall as part of their 50th reunion fundraising? Four well connected classes - 1965, 1966, 1967, and 1968, with strong records of engagement and support. Each class is in the 50th reunion "giving window." One of the Halls could be named in honor of these classes. 50th reunion gifts of \$1,000,000 for each class – gifts and pledges. Classes get together and pick a name for the Hall. Each class honored at their 50th for this and other significant gifts to the College. Plaque in the Hall honoring the classes who made it happen."*



My older kids continue their competitive baseball careers, in spite of parental drama that caused us to change teams. Next year (Jan-Aug) Josh will play for 12U Majestic Baseball at the majors level, and Matt has signed up for the AAA level 14U Falcons, two terrific teams. Matt plays QB and corner for his school football (dad is a line coach), and the twins will try Academy Little League at the coach-pitch midgets level. Therefore, all is well in Colorado!



This is my update. Please send yours!
And take good care!

WAF,
Jim Roper '68