



WABASH COLLEGE

Class Agents Letter

Alumni and Parent Relations

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Class of 1968

Class Agent

Jim Roper

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September 9, 2016

Dear Friends in the Class of 1968,

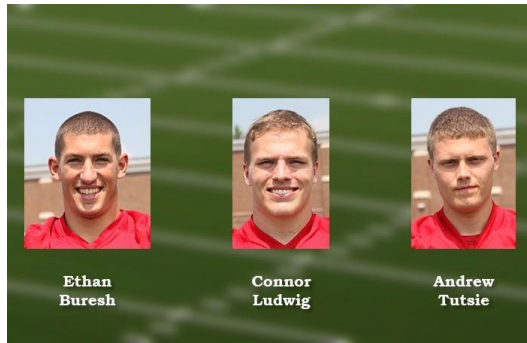
Here we go again. A bit slow on the home front after a great season of kid baseball. Now I'm cheering my oldest son's The Classical Academy (TCA) Titans football team. He's JV QB. We had some serious snow atop Pikes Peak in August. Not sure what that means, but I plan to wax the skis early this year. I will bring my camera to Homecoming Oct 8 weekend. Please join me in C'ville if you can. This letter grew fast, so, here it comes.



Here's Van Butler's Facebook page

8-9-2016

Happy birthday Van! Just back from the Bar D Chuckwagon with cowgirls Meghan Butler and Vanessa and [Kevan Butler](#)..



Ethan Buresh, Connor Ludwig, and Andrew Tutsie were named to the 2016 D3football.com Preseason All-America Team.

I received this from **Bob Hendren**. Haven't heard from Bob in recent memory:



Hey Jim

First, thanks for keeping us up to date on Wabash stuff. My years there were eventful and edifying. The Delt experience, on certain weekends, was a bit hazy due to the table games. Animal House the movie caught it well down to the TOGA parties. Great athletes and intellectuals.

As an update, I retired from the legal business when I started getting social security, and was awarded a 100% war related status from the V, for Agent Orange stuff and PTSD/Concussive brain damage. Well, Robbie would say I was always goofy, I guess.

As a further update I have launched an independent political party, The American Garden Party. We had our convention in Philadelphia last week and I am proud to report that we had 100% attendance by our delegates. Well, in the interest of full disclosure, I am the only member and delegate, so my attendance pushed me over the top and I am a bit bemused to report that I was selected by the AGP as it's presidential candidate, a campaign I launched at the beginning of President Obama's first term, vowing to myself that I would not interrupt his excellent administration. The American Garden Party is focused upon environmental demands. First, ban Roundup. I am particularly enraged the continued domination of chemical interests such as Monsanto and Dow Chemical. All of Europe

has banned Roundup. Here in our USA it is a battle for money and power, led by some nasty characters, such as the murderers George W Bush and Dick Chaney, and their evil puppet, Trumphshit. For a good description of Chaney, check out "The Mariner's Revenge" by the musical group, The Decemberists..,

Shutting down our 100 operating nuclear energy plants, and reclaiming the sites is another priority. Did you realize that the nuclear plant on Biscayne Bay is leaking? It was reassuring to hear local officials saying that "Oh, its really nothing to worry about for us. It is only affecting microorganisms." Denial is not just a river in Egypt.

Shutting down the pipelines and abandoning the grid is the keystone of my efforts. Embrace the liquid nitrogen economy? Sustainable, abundant, infinitely renewable. Store solar and wind with liquid nitrogen. Just like pumping water uphill. Home units are available, and hospitals are now producing their LN2 on site.

The other element of my campaign is humor. In fact, everyone I have spoken to about my campaign has smiled or laughed outright. This, bringing a smile to the faces, is perhaps the most satisfying element of my Quixotic quest.

Your old pal,

Bob Hendren

PS: I have attached a pastel I did depicting the Tower men, as well as a photo of the Trumppship Economic Advisory Team.

Our precious Gaia is at the tipping point. It's too late to wait and talk.

The trouble ain't that there is too many fools, but that the lightning ain't distributed right. Mark Twain

A leaf fluttered in through the window this morning, as if supported by the rays of the sun, a bird settled on the fire escape, joy in the task of coffee, joy accompanied me as I walked. Anais Nin



Anyone else like to offer an opinion, send it on over. Please include your personal update and photos!!!

Wabash Mourns Three Retired Faculty and Staff Members

Wabash mourns the death of three retired faculty and staff members. **Nancy J. Doemel**, who established professional grant writing at the College during her 31 years as director of corporate and foundation relation. [Read Story](#); **Horace Turner H'76**, Director of the Malcolm X Institute of Black Studies. [Read Story](#); and **P. Donald Herring H'84**, Collett Professor of Rhetoric and Dean of the College, Emeritus. [Read Story](#) (Control/Click)

Hi Jim, you asked about Team Ryan. That picture was taken in Fortville Indiana with family friends of ours who we met in San Francisco 40 years ago. Ryan is 39-year-old son who was an elite marathoner throughout



his 20s, before injury, work, and marriage. He made a comeback in June by

running a 50 mile ultramarathon in the Utah mountains, with 14,000 feet of elevation gain. His wife Sarah surprised him by having 50-100 family and friends wear these Team Ryan shirts on Race Day, all over North America.

Regards, Mike Gallagher

So I asked Mike about his family, and he sez:

Our daughter Jean got her MBA from the University of Chicago and has been in the tech world most of her career. She is now living in Santiago Chile where she is the Country Controller for Apple.

Ryan is living with his wife Sarah in Sonoma California where he is a sales manager for an organic food distribution startup company. He worked for REI and Merrell for a decade before that. He is an avid Mountaineer, hiker and backpacker and runner, and is currently summitting many of the 14,000 foot peaks in the California Sierra Nevada.

Mike

Nice! JR

Circle your Wabash calendars:

October 21-23, 2016

FIJI 150th Anniversary Celebration

October 22, 2016

Family Day 2016

November 12, 2016

123rd Monon Bell Classic

A veteran group of 22 returning varsity players will pace the Wabash team in the 50th season of **soccer** for the Little Giants. <http://bit.ly/2aqA1y5>



The Wabash golf team earned All-Academic Team honors from the GCAA after posting a 3.1 cumulative GPA.

Bill McCluskey sends this Photo from Derry, Northern Ireland. The Peace Bridge. From an internet tourism site: Officially launched on 25 June 2011, Ilex built and manages the Peace Bridge as part of Derry~Londonderry's regeneration programme. Funded by the European Union's PEACE III programme (Shared Space Initiative), the £14.5m Peace Bridge has become an iconic structure for the city, connecting the two



sides of the River Foyle. Three years since its launch, the bridge has been embraced by citizens and has radically changed the way people perceive the city. With over three million crossings to date, the Peace Bridge has become a focal point in city activities and events, including the New Year

celebrations and launch of City of Culture year.

Here's some material that may help you do some recruiting for **Old Wabash**:



Wabash Continues to Garner Accolades

• February 26, 2016

Wabash College is used to the accolades but lately it's been a lot of fun.

Business Insider is a website focusing on business. It released two recent college rankings featuring Wabash. The online publication named Wabash College No. 5 in the nation for "25 Colleges With Alumni Who Will Jump-start Your Career."

- See more at: http://www.wabash.edu/news/displaystory.cfm?news_ID=10771#sthash.QYqV1FvT.dpuf

Just a week prior, *Business Insider* called Wabash one of the "Most Fun Colleges in the Nation."

"Sports are a huge part of life at Wabash — more than half of the student body plays on one of the school's Division III athletic teams. In return, the campus exudes school spirit for both NCAA and intramural games," the site shared with its readers."

But that's not all. *The Princeton Review*, earlier this year, named Wabash No. 5 in the nation for "Alumni Networks" AND "Internships."

- See more at:



http://www.wabash.edu/news/displaystory.cfm?news_ID=10771#sthash.QYqV1FvT.dpuf

I heard about this tragic crash in Virginia, but did not know the Wabash connection.



Borinstein '19 Dies in Plane Crash by Jim Amidon • August 13, 2016

Luke Borinstein '19

A Wabash man known for his "eagerness to do good" died Friday in a small airplane crash in Fredericksburg, Virginia. Luke Joseph Borinstein, a 19-year-old sophomore, was among six people who died in the crash.

His mother, Lisa, and younger sister, Emma, were also killed. He is survived by his brothers, Drew and Beau.

- See more at: http://www.wabash.edu/news/displaystory.cfm?news_ID=10868#sthash.UpDBS8yL.dpuf

Six Programs Prominently Ranked by Richard Paige • September 9, 2016

Six Wabash College degree programs rank among the top one percent of programs nationwide, as College Factual released its rankings of U.S. colleges and universities.

Inclusion in College Factual's rankings means that Wabash ranks among the top 17 percent of nearly 1,400 four-year colleges in the United States. College Factual's listings are focused on the different aspects of the education an institution provides, including factors like overall quality, best value, and rankings for specific majors.

In addition, College Factual considers Wabash to be an excellent value, ranking in the top nine percent of all schools nationally, saying "Wabash College's emphasis on high quality education, combined with its overall low net price, delivers students a great value for the money."- See more at:

http://www.wabash.edu/news/displaystory.cfm?news_ID=10877#sthash.5GDXXJtY.dpuf

FROM BRUCE GRAS:

Hi Jim, I have just returned from NYC and my cancer treatments there. Until I had to go there last month, I was making good progress in getting my books finished. Since I have gotten back this week, I have finally accepted that at the ripe old age of 70, I am completely retired from all my long time professional activities. Now, I am turning all my attention to my books and their sorely belated publication.

Amazon wants to pick me up under their imprint to help them compete with James Patterson and Little Brown's new market thrust with the reinvented Novella format from Patterson called "BookShots." However, I have turned them down for two reasons. First, I do not want the pressure that comes from signing with a major publishing house and having to produce under their imprint. That's not good for my health. Second, they could not assure me that even one of my books would get published before the end of the year. That is unfortunate since I realistically do not know how much time I have left.

So, I have established my own imprint and am going to publish my books as eBooks through Kindle Direct Publishing instead. I am planning to ride Patterson's coat tails if possible with my own version of his concept called SnapBooks. This is because I am not only doing the same thing he is today, but the 20 or so books that I have drafted over the last decade or so have already been authored in that same new format of his.

Now, my Dad, who is a Professor Emeritus in English from George Mason University, is helping me by doing the down and dirty deep editing, at least for the first books until I can afford a respectable and reliable editor for my imprint.

I expect that the first book in the "We Spy!" SnapBook Series will be published by Friday next week as will the web site for my company, SnapBook Press, Inc.

For starters though, you can see the video on YouTube that I produced this weekend as a promo. Here is the link: <https://youtu.be/HOe9A8zTPg4> .

Hope all is well with you and your family. God Bless, Bruce

Bruce Malcolm Gras

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I asked Bruce more about his situation and he replied:

Actually, I am not doing chemo. I am doing hormone therapy right now in NYC at the Cornell Medical Center to buy time. I am waiting for the Weill Institute up in Ithaca to finish engineering a "virus" to insert into my system. They are using my genome to do this. The virus breaks down the "shell" that all cancer cells have to remain invisible to your lymph system, Once that is gone, the lymph system attacks the cancer cells and removes them. This has worked elsewhere in clinical trials such as the one that I am in. So, I am hopeful.



Found on [Facebook](#) 9-5-16

Steve Johnson makes his third annual finish of a cold and wet 11K race through the Montana hills. Tough enough!

Wabash Gets More High Marks in the Princeton Review

Full article in the C'ville paper: http://www.journalreview.com/news/article_c15830ea-6f14-11e6-9592-57975fd5f9c1.html

Wabash College continues to hold its place among the best institutions for undergraduate education by the Princeton Review in its annual college guide.

Inclusion in the Princeton Review's "Best 381 Colleges" means that Wabash ranks among the top 15 percent of 2,500 U.S.-based four-year colleges. The review includes detailed profiles of the best schools with rating scores in eight categories. Wabash received an overall academic rating of 94 with scores of 98 in the categories associated with teaching faculty availability and engagement.

Well. I just watched the Wabash vs Albion football contest on my computer screen. The Albion announcers were annoying, and the Little Giant first game mistakes and turnovers were worse than expected, but the outcome was an overtime win, 41-34. Wow! What a dramatic game to watch!

JOIN WITH MORE THAN 5,000 OTHER ALUMNI and friends who annually support the Wabash students and faculty by **making your Annual Fund gift now.**

There are sthree ways f or you to allocate your gift. In addition, when alumni celebrating a reunion during the 2017 Big Bash Reunion Weekend make a gift, they are supporting Wabash students and helping their class achieve their **. 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.

Wabash has the 27th highest graduate giving rate among National Liberal Arts Colleges.



Scott Kliika. Happy September Birthday.

Still doing the ex pat thing in Thailand?

Lookin' good!



For the guys who live in the Indianapolis area, please consider coming to Homecoming on October 8 Weekend. Let's get together for some conversation, TWB, tailgating, and a great football game. I'll be the guy in the "W" hat hauling the camera around, talking with students & faculty, and generally sticking my nose into everything. Please join me if you can. Meanwhile, take care and **get those health screens.**

My best to you!
Jim Roper '68