



## WABASH COLLEGE

### *Class Agents Letter*

Alumni and Parent Relations

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### Class of 1972

#### Class Agent

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Gentlemen:

As the year-end holidays are almost here, I thought it made sense to finally get a letter out to all of you...a letter that is *very much overdue*. Sorry for that... No Excuses...I sincerely hope all of you are doing well. I received a number of updates from you, which are included in this letter. Thanks so much! Even though letter writing is behind on my part, I have had "Wabash On My Mind" over the past few months. I attended the Homecoming festivities last September at the College. It was also our annual Class Agent meeting where we gather to share notes and get updates. Had the pleasure of meeting **Greg Hess**, 16<sup>th</sup> President of Wabash, who took over this important position last July from **Pat White**, who is now President of Millikin University. Greg has quickly learned much about our Alma Mater, and having met him, I think he will be great for the College.

The Campus looked great, as always. I attended a few receptions, the "Annual Meeting" in the Chapel (hearing the Glee Club singing "Dear Alma Mater" still gives me chills!) and the big Homecoming Luncheon with Alumni, faculty and friends of the College...A great weekend! Getting back to Wabash at least once a year should be a goal for all of us... It brings back such great memories. Can't wait to take my 2 year old grandson, Henry Thomas Fobes, to see the College. As you know, a few Fobes' have made their way through the Halls of Wabash!

Here's some overdue News from the College, then some news from you.

#### **News from the College**

**Annual giving...**Our Class, as always, performed very admirably in the FY '13 Annual Fund Drive. Average % Giving for each Wabash Class was 37.24%. Our Class % Giving was **41.05%**! *Nice Job to all who contributed*. Our Class roster is 190, and 78 of us contributed well over \$60,000. Thanks again to all.

**Monon Bell...** Hopefully some you saw the game, or at least visited gathering points across the nation to see the 120<sup>th</sup> Monon Bell game against those Dannies. Wabash won 38-21, the Little Giants' 5<sup>th</sup> straight Monon Bell victory. By the way this rivalry is the 12<sup>th</sup> oldest rivalry in College Football...Pretty impressive.

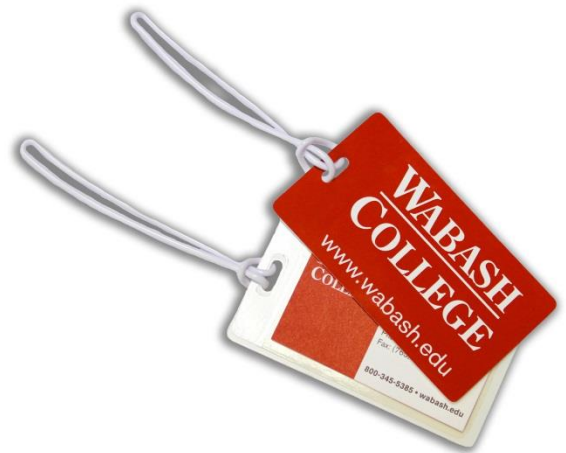
**College Dean...** Scott Feller, current Chemistry Prof at Wabash since 1998 will take over the Dean of the College role effective July 2014. He replaces Gary Phillips who will continue teaching at the College.

### **From The College:**

#### **"Spread the Fame of Her Honored Name"**

Wherever you go, you can show your Wabash pride! Send Wabash your business card and they will affix your card to a luggage tag, attach a strap, and send it back ready to use. You can send your business card to the College at any time or include it with your next gift. Business cards can be mailed to:

Wabash College  
Advancement Office-Luggage Tag  
P.O. Box 352  
Crawfordsville, IN 47933



They would prefer to have your business card; however, if you don't have a business card or want to use a different address, you can request to have Wabash create a customized luggage tag for you [here](#).

### **News From '72**

Recently heard from **Jim Carpenter**. "My wife and I started a film company in 2008 ([www.8180films.com](http://www.8180films.com)) and have produced three films since then. Our comedy documentary, The Coexist Comedy Tour, just became available on Amazon (on instant video) and iTunes (and is on Starz as well). And our most recent film, a noir psychological thriller, The Girl on the Train, starring Stephen Lang (Avatar), Henry Ian Cusick (Lost) and Nicki Aycox is now making the film festival circuit (Big Bear and Oaxaca in September) and Napa Valley (November). I also wrote a collection of short stories (Surviving My Happy Childhood) that is available on Amazon." Nice going, Jim!

**From Dan Grube:** “My grandson (whom I'm raising), Zachariah Morgan-Grube, is considering attending Wabash after he graduates from Tech High School, here in Saint Cloud, Minnesota. We planned a visit to Wabash to coincide with my trip to Indiana for the North Central class reunion. He had a wonderful time at Wabash. Besides getting an excellent tour of the campus, and having an opportunity to meet with Chip Timmons of the Admissions staff, Zach also had two outstanding visits with Wabash's Athletic Director, Joe Haklin, and with Professor Rick Warner in the History department. Zach has expressed an interest in teaching history. Zach plays football, hockey, and baseball.

My grandfather (my father's step-father), Earl M. North, was a member of the class of 1902 at Wabash. When I was helping my father go through some of my grandmother's belongings, I came across a newspaper article about the class of 1902, and the circumstances under which the entire class had been kicked out of the college. Those students who returned after a year's absence, graduated in 1902. While a student at Wabash, I gave that newspaper article to then President Thad Seymour. Shortly before he left Wabash, President Seymour sent me a hand-written note telling me that he still had the newspaper article in his desk. I hope he presented the article to the Lilly Library as some sort of historical record of what happened to that class.

So, time will only tell if this "Wabash Legacy" thing skips every-other generation, and my grandson ends up attending Wabash.

My son, Adam, who is a graduate of the Indiana University School of Law, lives in Maple Grove, Minnesota. My daughter, Amber, lives here in Saint Cloud, Minnesota, and is raising my other two grandchildren, Ebony, my 12 year old (going on 25) granddaughter, and my 9 year old grandson, Calvin. My wife for 34 years, Mikki, passed away in February of this year.”

Appreciate the news Dan, and very sorry for your loss...

**From Steve Fritch:** “I will summarize the past 40 years briefly: Pam and I celebrated our 40<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary this month. My law practice, although small, has provided us with a beautiful home and the ability to travel. I am winding down my practice and using the extra time to explore art photography with the help of Adobe software. (Travel and photography make a great pairing.) New Orleans stimulates all the senses and continues to recover from Hurricane Katrina at a steady but sometimes uneven pace. I encourage all of you to visit at least once, just not in July, August or September when weather is an issue.

The real point of this email is to express my thoughts about the Wabash experience now 41 years in the rear-view mirror. I feel I under-utilized the benefits offered on a quality campus with so many dedicated professors. Being young and away from home trumped scholarship and a curiosity of a wider world. I see pictures in the Wabash Magazine of young men seemingly more mature and engaged in the world around them than I was in 1972. Yet I took away from the Wabash experience more than I brought to it and that may have been enough to secure a life well-lived. Best wishes to all...”

Great thoughts Steve...

**From Hugh McClelland:** "Here is some McClelland News-- In March of this year I retired from GEICO after 40 rewarding years. I started with the company in Washington, DC right out of school, about the same time Warren Buffett bought his first share of our common stock. I like to think that I did right by GEICO and GEICO did right by me over my career.

Last year was our 40th college reunion, this year is our 45th high school reunion. Next month Linda and I are headed to Marion, IN to renew friendships from many years ago at Marion High School, the home of the Giants. I played for the Giants in high school and the Little Giants in college. The best part is that Linda and I graduated in the same Marion class so we both have friends to see, in most instances friends in common. And yes, she'll see old boyfriends, and I'll still see old girlfriends. I think the operative word here is OLD.

Son Colin (Wabash '06) just earned his PhD in Astrophysics from Notre Dame in May of this year. We are very proud of him for many reasons (I'm still not positive that we picked up the right baby at the hospital). The best news is he has a job—he and wife Emily are headed to Huntsville, AL where he joins Lockheed Martin in their missile defense systems. There is no doubt in our mind that Wabash prepared him for life after college.

Son Hugh (Wabash '01) is a vet at the emergency hospital in Gainesville, FL. He and wife Terri are the proud parents (Linda and I are the extremely proud grandparents) of Picchu Shumsie McClelland, 15months young. Picchu means "mountain" in Quechen, Shumsie means "sunshine" in Arabic, and McClelland means she is our granddaughter! I'm not as certain with Hugh as I am with Colin that Wabash prepared him for his DVM because he majored in Religion and minored in Art. My sense is Wabash's "It won't be easy but will be worth it" mentality prepared him when he decided to dramatically change direction once he was out of college. He is easily the best Word with Friends player I know." Thanks much, Hugh...

**From Don Shelbourne:** "My youngest son Brian graduated from Wabash as a Beta and basketball player majoring in economics in 2012. Carol and I had a great time watching him play basketball all 4 years there.

Carol looked over the building of a villa for us in Naples 7 years ago so we spend at least a week a month there in the winter. She's playing a lot of bridge and I'm playing a lot of golf. I've finally got my handicap down to 13 and am playing 3-4 times/week. We have 4 grandkids from my daughter Erin ages 11, 9, 7 and 3 so with them living close we're spending a lot of time now with grandkids' games like I'm sure many of us are.

I'm still working doing only knees and have added 2 younger guys with me to take care of knee replacements, which are getting more common now that my patients are getting older.

Had dinner with **Ivan** (Bob Ivancevich) and his wife recently when he was in town and it was fun catching up with him. Thanks for keeping us up to date on things."

**From Tom McShane:** “Not much to report. I’m still working as a civilian professor for the US Army Command and General Staff College. I’m the Director of a small branch campus, running a graduate program for mid-level Army officers. The main school is at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas; my campus is on Fort Gordon, outside Augusta, Georgia. Better weather than Kansas. Hard to believe we’ve been here since 2006; longest we’ve ever lived in one place after 30 years as an Army lawyer. Will probably retire further south to Florida in a couple of years.

Finally got back to campus last fall for the TKE 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Great time, but it was probably one of the few times in recent years Wabash lost a home football game. Reminded me of old times (no offense intended, honest!)”. None taken!!

**From Jerry Dreyer:** (Note: Jerry wrote me some news some time ago, and I actually read it to those who attended the Big Bash, but I never included it in a class letter, until now)...

”Please pass on my best regards to all of the guys in the Class of ’72. I go back to C-Ville a couple of times each year to visit my mom. My dad, Gerry (Wabash ’44), passed away last year. He was fiercely proud of being a Wabash man, and that pride carries down to me. My first grandson, Ashley Allen Hitt will inherit some of that pride and at least consider Wabash (in the future!)...”

Thanks Jerry.

Sorry to report that **Tom Sharp**, a longtime Loveland CO resident and Sigma Chi while at Wabash, died August 14, 2013 at Medical Center of the Rockies with family by his side. (Per his obituary)...”His last memory would have been of a sunny, morning bicycle ride on Sunday, August 11 at Boyd Lake State Park-a favorite way to start a day.

He was born in Frankfort, Indiana in 1950 to John Sharp and Joan Sharp. He graduated from Frankfort High School and went on to graduate from Wabash College with a degree in psychology. His career in marketing and sales provided the ability to see and live in numerous parts of the country including Indiana, Kentucky, Colorado, southern California and back again to Colorado in the late 1980s where he stayed and entrenched himself in activities afforded by life near the mountains.” Our best to Tom’s family.

I’ve had some great contact with a few our Class of ’72 over the past few months. Besides **Dan Grube** (saw him at my high school reunion in Indianapolis), I spent a wonderful evening in Chicago in August with **Bob Ivancevich** (and wife Sue) and **Pierce Klemmt** in Chicago. We all went to dinner, then spent some wonderful time just reminiscing about old times and listening to some great music from the late 60’s in Ivan’s home (Is there **any** better music than music from the late 60’s??). Ivan continues to do well, commuting with Sue between Indy, Chicago, and Wisconsin, and serving as President of Good Dogs of America and Chairman of Land O’ Lakes Area Artisans. Pierce continues as Senior Rector at

Christ's Episcopal Church in Alexandria, Va, and he and wife Tuke continue to do well...

Speaking of music, I spent some great time with **Don Lawton** this summer in Indianapolis. Our high school band from 1966-68 (The Thundermen) continues to get together each summer and play at some local high school reunions in the Indy area... 4 of us from the original band are still in the band! We always open with "Time Won't let Me" from the Outsiders, and end our 2 sets with "Midnight Hour" (Rascals version)...What a time...and...we still sound pretty good! Don continues practicing dentistry in Indy, and he and wife Molly continue doing great fellowship and support work in the Ukraine and other places throughout the world.

Finally, I continue teaching part-time (Adjunct Professor!) at North Central College in Naperville, IL, and Aurora University in Aurora IL. Starting in February, I'll also be teaching an MBA level Marketing course at Elmhurst College (thanks to former Wabash Dean of Advancement Joe Emmick for making that introduction!). My goal is to teach in a contracted ½ time position at one institution, rather than a few courses here and there at 3 institutions, but that's kind of the way a part-time professor's life goes in this profession. I love teaching undergrad and graduate level classes in Marketing, Business, Advertising, Consumer Behavior and other related courses...Thank heaven I got my MBA from Indiana University in 1976 after my time in the US Navy!

I also continue playing in two Chicago area bands (blues, rock, etc)... So I am very lucky! My two children, Katie and Rich, both have their own lives and families in the Chicago area, and I'm very fortunate to have a total 4 grandkids: Abbie (13), Emmie (11), Olivia (9), and Henry (2)...A good life!

Thanks to those of you who emailed me some info...Keep the emails coming Please!!!: [rwfobes@gmail.com](mailto:rwfobes@gmail.com) You will be included in my next letter!

My best to all of you.  
Rick