



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 1972

Class Agent

Rick Fobes

2819 Loveland Street, #205

Naperville, IL 60564

rwfobes@gmail.com

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Gentlemen:

Happy New Year. (I know I'm a little late). Hope the year is going well so far. I've heard from a few of you, and will share that info later on in this letter. Please keep the news coming. This is a very interesting year for all of us. Most of us are turning 65, most of us have either retired, thought about retiring, or thinking about 2nd careers. We all are probably experiencing some changes in health (the normal: sore muscles, back, a little arthritis; plus, but hopefully not, issues beyond the normal.). All these factors are reasons why it's real important to share our lives with others in the Class of '72. If you don't take any initiative, it's very easy to lose track of friends, not only from college, but from high school, your hometown, or your past business. So, please stay in touch.

Wabash: Mission and Values

One of the many things which make me proud to have experienced Wabash and why I think the College continues to be unique and successful is that it firmly knows what it stands for, and what its values are. With my accelerated college teaching at North Central College and Elmhurst College (both good, solid liberal arts schools), I continue to see in both business and marketing texts how important it is for a Brand to have a solid mission and set of values. One needs to know who they are, what they stand for... in order to better understand where they are going. Many big corporations, as well as colleges and universities, have solid missions and values; others don't, or seem to change them every year. Wabash knows exactly what it is, and what it stands for:

>Wabash College

- Mission: To educate men to think critically, act responsibly, lead effectively, and live humanely
- Values: A rigorous liberal arts education; A personal context to teaching and learning; Individual Responsibility and Trust; A socially, economically, globally and ethnically diverse student body; A tradition and philosophy of independence...

Pretty impressive. **We should all be proud...**

News from the College

Monon Bell...6 Years in a Row!

The firm grip of Wabash College's defense was too much for DePauw in the 121st Monon Bell Classic. Wabash beat DePauw again, 27-3. The Little Giants maintained an iron-fisted hold on the 300-lb Monon Bell trophy for a sixth straight year. The defense dominated the previously high-scoring Tigers in front of a crowd of nearly 8,000. I didn't get to see the game in person, but what a great victory...WAF!

Annual Giving..."Loyalty Giving"

As you know our class historically is one the best classes in terms of % giving and dollars pledged. *Congrats to all.* The College just recently published names of alumni who have a good record of consecutive year giving...without break. This is obviously a goal of the school: for alumni to give something, anything every year. The College recently listed those from the Class of '72 with good, consecutive giving records (the consecutive years are indicated in ()). Congrats to all, and think about joining this group with consecutive years of donating funds to the College. Again, thanks to all who have contributed over the years; either a one time shot, or consistently over the years:

Class of 1972

Capt. and Mrs. Reed C. Birney (34)
Mr. and Mrs. John B. Bridge (35)
Mr. and Mrs. Daniel C. Butler (26)
Mr. and Mrs. Kim F. Ebert (36)
Mr. Richard W. Fobes (29)
Dr. and Mrs. Bradley E. Goff (35)
Mr. & Mrs. Michael B. Hammond (33)
Mr. and Mrs. Michael R. Howard (30)
Mr. and Mrs. Douglas C. Lehman (26)
Mr. and Mrs. Terry E. Patz (34)
Dr. and Mrs. Thomas W. Smith (32)
Mr. and Mrs. Gregg S. Spitler (33)
Mr. and Mrs. James H. Zavesky (36)

Sad News from the College: Long-time Wabash Professor **Richard Strawn** passed away recently at the age of 91. Dr. Strawn taught French, Linguistics, and Music to Wabash students (including me!) over four decades, beginning in 1951 until his retirement in 1987, and remained a vibrant part of the College's community throughout his life.

News From '72

Recently, **Bob Ivancevich** was honored by his Land O' Lakes (WI) community for his vision and hard work as President of the local Arts Center and Group... "Our dream was to raise money to buy this (local) building and to have a cooperative gallery there, artistry, and to support the arts in the community... and

look how far we've come," said Bob at the ceremony. And...he accomplished his goal. Now he's retiring and he's passing the leadership on. "Board members honored Ivan by presenting a bench with his name engraved on it." Nice work, Ivan.

Ivan has also been very good about keeping me up to date about news from other classmates, including **Rev. Pierce Klemmt** (who is slowly moving from full-time ministry to part-time lecturing...I hope I got that right, Pierce!), **Paul Gojkovich** and **John Failey**. We all need people in the Class to keep us up to date on others. *Please* send notes to me so I can share with everyone.

Received an interesting a truly remarkable email from **Rod Kenley**. I include a slightly edited excerpt below:

"I had an interesting experience this fall. My company (Aethlon Medical) makes a blood filtration device that extracts viruses from circulation. It is used much like an artificial kidney (dialyzer) in dialysis... In early October, I was contacted on a Saturday by a nephrologist in Frankfurt Germany who I didn't know. He explained that he was a member of a patient care team that had just received a physician evacuated from Sierra Leone who had contracted Ebola. This nephrologist (Dr. Koch), who had become familiar with our device from reading about it in the literature asked me if there was any way they could get their hands on some to use as a clinical intervention with this Ebola patient."

"We treated the patient for six and a half hours. Blood samples taken before and after the therapy indicated four days later, no virus could be detected in the patient's plasma and he ultimately recovered and returned home to Africa. A science reporter from Time magazine called for an interview and the doctor and I obliged which led, two weeks later, to our device being included in their annual "Genius" issue as one of the top 25 best inventions of 2014."

Rod went on to say that he and his team continue to help others in many countries to improve the devices to treat Ebola. Tim ended his letter saying: "I guess it's good news that the U.S. has not had any Ebola patients since (earlier episodes) but it has certainly been a whirlwind past 5 months for yours truly".

Received a nice note from **John Failey**. He and wife Jill continue to reside in Indy, but they seem to travel all over the world on a fairly consistent basis, which is great! Here's his note:

"I went to NYC recently to attend the Chamber Music America National Conference. Lots of doings and sessions appropriate to concert presenters like Ensemble Music Society, time to meet with artist managers to discuss future season stuff and hear showcase concerts and meet the musicians first hand. I like to do this every few years and always learn a lot." Keep it going, John!

Kim Ebert has been re-elected as managing shareholder of Ogletree Deakins, one of the largest labor and employment law firms representing management. Kim has served as Ogletree Deakins' managing shareholder since 2010. In the last year under Kim's leadership, Ogletree Deakins added two offices – in Mexico City and Milwaukee – increasing its footprint to 47 offices across the U.S., in Europe, and in Mexico.

Had a nice lunch with **Don Lawton** a few weeks ago in Indy. He continues to practice dentistry, but like many of us, is cutting back on hours during the work week. Don, wife Molly, and son, Samuel continue to do great work in the Ukraine. Don and I still get together and play music, which we started with our band, The Thundermen, way back in high school in 1966. Whoa!

I am very sorry to report the deaths of two classmates. I also apologize for taking too long to do this. I know some of you may already have this info, but others may not...

First, I recently received the following note from Sherie Hambidge, wife of **Jim Hambidge**. At her request, I include the note below:

"Dear Rick,

I am writing to tell you that my husband of 42 years Dr Jim Hambidge passed away on June 4, 2014 at Vanderbilt Medical Center following the sudden and unexpected return of Mantle Cell Lymphoma. He had undergone what was thought to be a successful stem cell transplant on Dec 6, 2013 and returned to his internal medicine practice in Evansville on Apr 1, 2014. Jim was honored as St. Mary's Medical Center 2014 Physician of the Year on May 3."

"I would appreciate very much your including this in your class notes. He was mentioned in the obituary of the *Wabash* magazine. I did not send any information to Wabash and would not have known that was printed if it had not been for a very kind letter that I received from Skip Burhans."

"Thank you so much! If you would like additional information, please feel free to contact me. (Sherie's email is hambidge@wowway.com)

Sincerely,

Sherie Hambidge"

Some of you may know that **Tim Hewitt** passed away last October after a long illness. Tim was a Phi Delt, father of 3 Wabash men, football player, former President of the Indianapolis Water Company, civic leader, husband, and past winner of the IAWM Spirit of the Monon Bell Award. I share a part of a note sent to Tom Runge and Lee Clark '73 from Tim's son, Ben, Wabash '05"

"We are all very saddened by (my dad's) passing, but glad he is in a better place. His last infection really took a quick toll and we are glad he didn't have to suffer for very long.

We want to thank you both, all his classmates and the other members of the Wabash community who reached out, who visited, who prayed, who simply did what was right and good. Though I coach at our alma mater's arch rival now, I'll always remember and always be truly thankful for such a wonderful brotherhood of men who go above and beyond for every cause.

The coming days promise to be tough, but we will rest easier knowing that he was supported all the way."

"All the best,
Ben Hewitt '05"

Tough news to report. Thoughts and prayers certainly go out to, and will continue to go out to all of Jim and Tim's family and friends. Blessings to all.

Have a good rest of the cold Winter.

Please email me with any news you have about yourself, or others from the great Class of '72. Contact me at: rwfobes@gmail.com

All the best,
Rick