



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 1980

Class Agent

James E. Miller

9519 Greenthread Drive

Zionsville, IN 46077

317.769.4857

Jmiller44@indy.rr.com

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Greetings Classmates!

Last Friday's Summer Solstice reminded us all that one school year is over and another is looming on the horizon. But, before we look ahead to the 2014-15 school year, let's review the major highlights of another successful year at Wabash College.

- First and foremost was the inauguration of Dr. Greg Hess as Wabash College's 16th President. Dr. Hess has already outlined an aggressive, co-curricular academic agenda and strategic initiatives for the College, placing a special emphasis on enhancing student life for independent and fraternity-aligned students alike. One of his initiatives, approved by the Wabash Board of Trustees at its May 2014 meeting, is construction of six new housing units – consisting of two 40-bed residence halls, two 16-bed lodges and two 12-bed townhouses – on the west side of campus along Crawford Street. This is the first major construction project for housing, other than fraternities, at Wabash in over 50 years.
- The Trustees approved faculty recommendations to create new interdisciplinary majors in Financial Economics and Hispanic Studies and minors in Asian Studies and Business – all designed to enrich the liberal arts experience.
- Scott Feller will be charged with implementing those new study programs as the new Dean of the College, starting in July 2014. Dr. Feller has served most recently as Professor of Chemistry and Chairman of Division I.
- A total of 245 freshmen matriculated at the College last fall – a number comparable to recent years yet, more importantly, maintaining the quality of student enrollees that the College demands each year. Likewise, the College expects approximately 260 new, dynamic Little Giants in the fall.
- A total of 172 graduates joined our ranks as alumni at the College's 176th Commencement on May 18th. Honorary degrees were awarded to distinguished alumni: Cook Group CEO Steve Ferguson ('63), retired banking executive David Givins ('56) and Proctor and Gamble executive David Lahey.
- The "430 on 4/30" one-day giving challenge proved to be highly successful in late April. Nearly \$500,000 in gifts from more than 2,200 donors occurred that day, including an amazing 374 gifts from first-time donors.
- And, of course, the Little Giants captured the Monon Bell Classic for the 5th consecutive year with a 38-21 spanking of DePauw in Greencastle last November. The overall series now stands at 57-53-9, with Wabash now holding a one-game edge (38-37-6) since the Monon Bell was first presented in 1932.

Class Giving

Wabash's fiscal period for giving ends on June 30th. If you haven't already done so, please give to the College before next Monday or certainly at your earliest convenience. Giving to Wabash can be done in three easy ways (and all amounts, from a buck on up are welcomed):

Online at www.wabash.edu/egift

By phone at 877.743.4545; or

**By mail to: Wabash College
 Annual Giving
 P.O. Box 352
 Crawfordsville, In 47933**

Our Class has increased its giving to the College by 32% this year, including 12 donors who renewed their donations after a two-year absence. The Honor Roll for 2014 (thru mid-June 2014) is *Tom Hastings, Bob Cebul, Michael Lambert, Joe Impicciche, Mark Merkle, Paul Atkenson, Todd Moore, Bill Goebel, Mike Gullifor, Larry Klee, Charles Routh, Curt Keller, Herbie Highsmith, Alex Klefeker, Tim Kennedy, Ron Rychlak, Gene Mszar, Michael Wilcox, Larry Palmer, Ross Strodel, Jim Renshaw, Bubba Goodman, Clay Whitney, Mike Maddox, John Murphy, Greg Rose, Bob Vogt, Dan Bohn, Jud Scott, Jeff Garbers, Ken Williams, Mark Oetting, Lee Wertman, John Wittler, Brent Fulton, Doug Rogers, Tom Minogue, Duane Murphy, Emmett McAuliffe, Dave Stein, Chris Lanane, Charles Pockras, John Reuter, Chuck Rea, Tom Brandes, Jim McCleneghen, Bill Passodelis, Dave Hollowell, John Ritter, Brad Sterrenberg, Brian Case, John Sharkitt, Randy Braze, Terry Fox, Mario Obejas, Jeff Rensberger, Bob Perrone, and Jim Miller.*

Class News

Rich McLennan passed away last November in Louisville. A native of St. Louis, Rich received his law degree from Washington of St. Louis after graduating with honors from Wabash. He is survived by his sister, step-mother, and several extended family members.

Greg Rose, our loyal Far-East connection, is now President (and majority owner) at The Chicago Tokyo Group, Inc. A native of New Castle, Greg has resided in Tokyo for several decades but frequently responds to e-mails from his faraway Wabash brethren on a variety of topics.

I got to spend a few brief moments with *Mark Kafader* at his father's recent funeral on the southside of Indianapolis. Mark, a long-time producer of trade shows around the country (for Freeman Company), resides in Nashville, Tennessee with his wife, Lisa, and their three children.

As always, if you'd like to share some news, feel free to call me anytime at 317.769.4857 or drop me an e-mail at jmiller44@indy.rr.com. I always enjoy hearing from you.

Finally, Our 35th Class Reunion will occur next June at the 2015 Wabash Big Bash. Certainly, we'd like to significantly improve our attendance and participation at next year's Big Bash. You may have already heard from Alumni Director Tom Runge about this. Tom and his staff are committed to enhancing our numbers and is looking for some help from our class for our reunion. Specifically, if you're interested in serving in a key role for the 2015 Big Bash -- as class gift chairman, representing your living unit or overall reunion chairman -- please let us know at your earliest convenience. Tom Runge can be contacted at 765.361.6371 or at runget@wabash.edu.

Yours in Wabash,

JIM

James E. (Jim) Miller, Class Agent
Wabash College Class of 1980