

# Wabash '91

wabash1991.blog.com

## CLASS AGENTS

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Dear Classmates,

I believe that it's been about a year (Egad!) since our last letter to you. As a result, there is no way to summarize all that has happened at Dear Old Wabash in a spatially responsible manner, so I will hit only the most newsworthy items here, and ask you to visit our Class blog at <http://wabash1991.blog.com/> for further details. Hugh does an exceptional job of updating the site, and a ton of information is available there.

### **It's the economy, stupid**

Yes, the economy is down, and it has affected all of us in multiple ways. Many of us have struggled with unemployment and reduced earnings. So has Wabash. Wabash has responded to the economic crisis with budget cuts, reducing personnel expenses, and postponing non-critical projects all while reviewing the performance and investment strategy of the endowment.

The needs of our students do not change, so the Annual Fund is more critical than ever.

There is currently an alumni challenge to raise \$1 million in June. A group of alumni are pressing their gifts totaling \$500,000 to inspire the rest of us to contribute. Details are available at <https://www.wabash.edu/challenge/home.cfm>. A positive outcome will enable us to meet the annual giving goal at a time when it is most critical to the students.

I am a bit embarrassed to say that I have not yet made my donation to Wabash this year, but I am mailing it in today. Please join me in helping to surpass the challenge at hand. Likewise, I would like to thank the 68 members of our class who have already contributed. If you want to see who has given so far, the Honor Roll of Donors is updated constantly:

<http://www.wabash.edu/alumni/honorroll#class1991>

### **Rest in Peace, Bill Placher**

As I'm sure most of you have heard, beloved Professor Bill Placher passed away in late November. There's a great remembrance in the *Wabash Magazine*

([http://www.wabash.edu/magazine/index.cfm?news\\_id=6853](http://www.wabash.edu/magazine/index.cfm?news_id=6853)). Our College will never be the same without him.

### **Campus Tragedy**

I'm sure you all know about the incident on campus last fall that resulted in the death of a student. After an investigation, Wabash elected to withdraw its recognition of the Delta Tau Delta fraternity and terminate the lease of the building. The students all seemed to cope as well as can be expected after such a devastating loss and the inevitable controversial decision.



## Storytelling

You may want to check out a relatively new website, [wabashstories.com](http://wabashstories.com). It is a place to read wide-ranging stories from Wabash alumni and to post your own. Not a bad place to stop on a web surfing evening.

## Four Decades

As many of us have put our 40<sup>th</sup> birthday astern this year, there are surely plenty of good stories of how this event played out. For example, **Drew Crousore's** wife, MJ, surprised him with a weekend in Arizona shared by family and friends. Please share how you all celebrated or are planning to celebrate.

## Class News

Submissions have been dwindling as of late. Please drop us a line about anything going on in your lives. You'd be surprised how many people are interested.

**Jim Bowman** has merged his law firm in Richmond, VA to form FerrisBowman PLLC. Referrals from Virginia or DC are welcomed.

**Brian Deleget** (right) is working for Pacific Life. He and his wife have had their first child, Olivia Grace, in October.



**Tom Fisher**, Indiana Solicitor General, welcomed a son (Daniel Paul) on Father's Day 2008.



**Kim Jackson** has been named a Super Lawyer in Georgia for his efforts of representing the Man and maintaining the status quo.

**Tom Kilbane** (left) married Lisa Walters in Chicago on May 30.

**Karl Martens** reports the birth of their daughter, Tyler Hanrath, February 4<sup>th</sup> in New Hampshire.

**John Martin** is working at LeTourneau University in Austin, TX, and he and his wife are soon expecting to finalize their first adoption.

**Matt Mellady** and his wife, Boi, published a children's book about manners, featured in the *Baltimore Sun*.

**Luke Messer** (right) is running for Indiana's Fifth Congressional District. Details are available at [lukemesser.net](http://lukemesser.net).

**Pete Miesel** was married to Kristin Kohler in Boulder, CO on October 18.

**"What we have here...is failure to communicate"**

Besides the (very) occasional letter, and the continually updated blog, Hugh and I continue to search for better methods to allow our class to communicate with each other. With the explosion in popularity, we'd like to leverage the use of social media to encourage this communication, but we need to know your preferences. We will be posting a survey at the blog to determine if you all prefer LinkedIn, Facebook, or other means to facilitate this. Please e-mail or call us with advice and comments. Thank you. - Kip

