

WABASH COLLEGE

Class of 2012 UPDATE

September 2012

WABASH TO CELEBRATE 100th HOMECOMING

[Register Now for Homecoming](#) – September 27-29

In just a few short weeks, Wabash will celebrate its 100th Homecoming tradition. Perhaps of equal note, it will also be the first Homecoming since 2007 without the famed Class of 2012 on campus. It would be great to have a good number of '12 guys back to enjoy a relaxing weekend.

You might have gotten an invitation in the mail, but we wanted to make sure you're aware of all the activities planned.

Events start up Thursday, September 27 with the Class of 2016 undergoing that famous rite of passage called "Chapel Sing."

The \$60 million Challenge of Excellence has been successfully completed (thanks again to those of you who helped through the Senior Gift campaign) and the College is having a reception to celebrate. Those of us who went to the Campaign's kickoff during junior year will recall that these celebrations should not be missed – a fun time to visit with fellow alums, professors, and students. The reception begins Friday evening at 6:00 p.m. with a cash bar that runs until 10. The program will begin at 7:00 p.m. and the reunion will likely continue late into the night. As new alums, we should probably stop by the Iron Gate and visit with John and company.

On Saturday, the annual Homecoming Alumni Chapel meeting will be held at 11:00 a.m.. During the Homecoming Chapel, a number of fellow alums will be recognized for their service to the College and honorary degrees will be conferred upon Dr. David Hadley (Political Science) and Dr. David Phillips (Chemistry) – two of the longest serving professors in the history of the College.

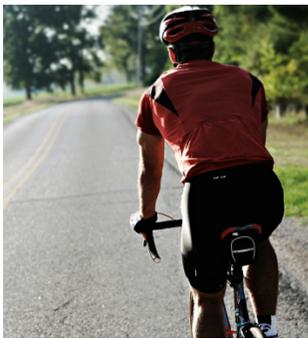
After Chapel, head over to Knowling Fieldhouse for the "Celebrating Leadership" luncheon, for additional food and fellowship.

Finally, Saturday afternoon has full schedule of football, soccer, and Glee Club. Our football team enters the season ranked 10th in the D3football.com preseason poll and will host Carnegie Mellon at 2:00 p.m. at Byron P. Hollett Little Giant Stadium.

MILLER TRAVELS ACROSS U.S. ON BICYCLE

By Adam Miller

@PedalAdamPedal is a cross-country bike adventure raising funds for my upcoming non-profit organization called Let's Have A: Ball. I developed the idea for the bike trip back in March while sitting in my dorm room in Martindale.



I began biking in San Francisco on August 1st and as of August 27th, I'm currently in Omaha, Nebraska.

Two years ago I purchased my bicycle from Rotten Robbins, the bike store in Crawfordsville, and rode it nearly 1,800 miles before the trip across country. So far I've biked about 1,400 miles in 27 days.

The biking itself has been a lot more challenging than I had anticipated - I experienced IT band injuries in both legs which set me back a few days.

If you're like me then you had never heard of an IT band or what its function is. Essentially the IT band is a tendon that runs down the side of your leg, starting at your hip connecting down at the knee. Mine were both pulling away from the bone at my knee causing extreme pain, but I received a (free) physical therapy session

in Fort Collins, Colorado and haven't had many problems with it since.

One neat story that has happened was in Eureka, Nevada, literally in the middle of nowhere. As I made my final descent into town there was an older man standing in the middle of the road waving me down. I rode up to him and we talked about what I was doing and he asked if he could bike up the summit with me the next morning. Of course I said yes and met him and his grandson the following morning.

On our trek up the mountain I told him that I was from Indiana, and it turns out that he was born in raised there - in a town 3 miles from my hometown!



But it gets crazier. My grandfather passed away when I was three years old and I have no memories of him; but it turns out that this man in the middle of Nevada knew my grandfather.

It's neat little connections like this that have made this trip unforgettable. Feel free to check out my route on PedalAdamPedal.com and if I'm coming through your neck of the woods let me know and we can get together for a drink. #PursuePassion

For more information about Adam's journey, you can go to his website <http://www.indiegogo.com/PedalAdamPedal>. There you can also make a donation to support his business, and see other cool stuff about the trip!

WOODRUFF SAVES MAN'S LIFE

By Stephen Woodruff

"Luck is where preparation meets opportunity." – Seneca

Like many of you, this past summer since graduating has been a blur for me.

We are now all coming upon this fall with different circumstances than we've been familiar with the past four years. I know we are all looking forward to being



able to share with each other some of the major milestones of life after graduation.

In my case, on June 10th I happened to be in the right place, at the right time, **to give a man a second chance at life.**

This summer, I was still working the same part-time job I've had the past three summers: as Lifeguard Manager at Splash Island Waterpark in my hometown, Plainfield, IN. We have about a 2,500 person capacity, and during the heat of the summer (especially this one) it can be physically and emotionally draining.

In this instance, we were at our person capacity on one of the (many) 100+ degree days.

I was talking with some of the lifeguards when we heard two long whistle blasts come from the edge of our leisure pool, signaling an emergency situation. About 50 feet away an older gentleman was unconscious and being pulled out of the pool by our lifeguards. I had arrived within seconds and could see he was completely gray & blue with no signs of breathing.

I immediately felt for a pulse, and when I found no signs of one, began CPR while the other lifeguards set up the oxygen bag to give him breaths and AED to monitor his heart rhythm.

We continued this care for several minutes until the ambulance arrived. The gentleman was transported from our facility with a faint pulse, but it was unknown whether he was going to make it or not.

We received good news a few days later that the gentleman not only was alive, but was awake and talking with his family. Our staff was credited with the emergency care of giving him CPR and oxygen that both prevented brain damage and a drowning.

This kind of event can have different kinds of effects on the people that were involved. In my case, it rejuvenated my love for my job. In the simplest sense, I was happy to know that my job provides the opportunity to help people.

In terms of good karma, just a week after this incident took place, a full-time building management job for our Recreation Center opened up. I was able to use this example in my interview and landed the job. I now have the comfort of knowing that I can now provide for my family for the time-being, and that all of my perseverance and hard work had paid off.

Interested in sharing your own story? Just shoot an e-mail to either Tyler (tjwade12@gmail.com) or Kyle (kylebender15@gmail.com) and we will be sure to include it in our next class update!

WABASH COLLEGE

Class of 2012

A Letter to the Class of 2012 from Greg Estell, VP of the National Association of Wabash Men

Gentlemen of 2012;

Congratulations, again, as you start your lives after Wabash. It's an exciting, challenging (and often tense, uncertain) time. You're going to see success, and certainly some failure. What will be important is to learn from both – think critically – and use those experiences to strengthen yourself and the people around you.

Tyler asked if I could provide some thoughts on “being a good alumnus.” I'd rather suggest that, as you take these next steps, you look at how you can leverage your Wabash experience and connections to help you move through life. As you do that, and see the value it adds, you will by default become a “good alumnus”.

I trace my success today directly to a Wabash man who helped me land an interview that yielded an absolutely fantastic job (note it's fantastic entirely in hindsight – at the time I thought it was going to drive me crazy). I learned a ton, succeeded in a very demanding situation that far outstripped my meager experience, and met my wife. That man's recommendation changed my life. Without it I have no doubt I'd be in a different place than I am today.

Little did either of us know the impact his actions would have on the rest of my life – he was a friend, only three years older than me. Similarly, you won't know today the effect of the “little things” you do to lend a hand to one of your classmates or friends. Or the effect of someone putting their reputation on the line to help you. But those small investments have a very good chance of yielding life-changing results. I encourage you to make them frequently. As you do, you'll find others doing the same for you. Together you will thrive.

Together – not alone. You are on your own now, but you will never be alone, away from the talent, wisdom and entertainment of fellow Wabash men, unless you choose. So choose engagement. Seek out Wabash men in your area. Learn about them and their families. Seek their counsel and offer your assistance. They will help you. If you don't know where to start, call or text me (414-303-3456). Call Tom Runge in the Alumni Office. Ask some other alum you may have met during your undergrad years. If we can't help directly, we'll help find someone who can. But, for God's sake, don't think you're done with Wabash, that it has nothing left to offer you after graduation. Trust me, there is more to come – you only have to choose to participate.

Get together with your friends. Make it an event (even a simple one). This month I'll join eight other Wabash men for our "28th Annual" bachelor party (the group ranges from 5 to 20+, depending on timing and location). Doesn't matter if we have any bachelors or not, we get together and have a hell of a good time. Speaking of good times... It may not be wise to document these events (digital photos, Facebook, etc.). We had so much fun at our first bachelor party; we decided to document the festivities. Everyone got a copy (snail mail in those days). Upon more sober consideration we then burned them all and never wrote another thing or took another photo. Some images remain more vivid if they live only in your memory!

Finally, give thanks for the opportunity you had to get a Wabash education. You may have loved it, you may have hated it. As you move through life you will find it likely has given you a leg (or two) up on many of the folks you are working with. Hopefully you will understand the most important thing to know is that you DON'T know – and that Wabash has helped equip you to figure it out. Don't laugh too hard at the hapless grads of some other schools who, convinced they know all the answers, so aptly demonstrate they don't. Learn from them – and those around you – thankful for intellect Wabash helped develop. Then stay in touch with your favorite professors, keep them updated on what you're doing, and offer to share your experience with current students.

As you do these things, think back on how all of that happened. It didn't happen because you paid your tuition and in exchange got the education you bargained for (though I certainly hope that's part of it, and certainly understand you may have busted butt!). Even if you paid full freight, you paid less than half the actual cost. The rest of that expense came from alumni and friends of the College who have donated their treasure for nearly 190 years. Every year, more than \$3 million of Wabash's operating budget comes directly from the pockets of Annual Fund donors. Wabash and the opportunities you enjoyed wouldn't exist without that generosity. Pay it forward. Doesn't matter if it's \$5 or \$500 – what matters is giving a little back every year to help the guys following you.

I've been fortunate enough to support Wabash almost every year since I graduated – including some pretty lean times. I've paid back my scholarships and financial aid many times over. And it's a pittance compared to what I've gained. There's a debt to Wabash I can never repay, and a return that will enrich my life forever. The same will be true for you – if you choose to embrace it. I pray you will. And you will be a good alumnus.

WAF,

Greg

Men of 2012 don't forget to refer high school students to the Admissions Office so they can work on recruiting the next generation of Wabash Men. Or you can volunteer to work at a college fair in your area. For more information, go to <https://www.wabash.edu/alumni/admissions>

WABASH Day and the Monon Bell game are quickly approaching. To see how you can get involved with other Alumni in your area, go to: <https://www.wabash.edu/alumni/ra>

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Class of 2012

Class Notes:

- Marc Noll married his wife Megan in July.
- Brandon Doebler married his wife Jessica in September.
- Seth Bawel married his wife Kelsey.
- Tyler Buresh married his wife Krista.
- Greg Rhoads married his wife Jess.
- Tom Schabel started a new job working at Royal United Mortgage in Indianapolis.
- Jake Moore traveled to Cameroon to begin his work with the Peace Corps.
- Chris Zabriskie accepted a job as Coordination of Advancement Communications at Marian University in Indianapolis.

Have your own news to share? Send an email to tjwade12@gmail.com to be included in the next newsletter!

Thanks to the following men who have already donated to the Annual Fund for the 2012-2013 year:

Andrew Alexander

David Hauck, Jr.
Andrew Swart

John Holm

Jonathan Horn
Tyler Wade

John Jurkash

If you have not yet made your contribution for the year, be sure to go to <https://www.wabash.edu/alumni/egift> to make a contribution today. Every little bit helps to make sure that the next generation of Wabash Men receives the caliber of education we were fortunate enough to enjoy.

Important Dates:

WABASH Day (Sept. 15-16) 100th Homecoming (Sept. 27-29) Monon Bell Classic (Nov. 10)