

**Wabash College**  
**Class of 2013 Update**  
**Fall 2014**

***Ding Ding!! Ding Ding!! Ding Ding!! Ding Ding!!***

Yesss... it's that time of year.... Wedding bells of several of our classmates!! .... Oh, and the Monon Bell game, of course! Two Saturdays ago, your Wabash Little Giants accomplished the feat of six straight Monon Bell victories over that team to the south of us. I've been told by another Wabash alumnus that in fact this ties the longest streak for HAVING the Bell. At the time that Wabash won 8 straight games over our rival to the south, the Bell had not actually been in existence yet! (I didn't fact check him because he's a historian in his day job; so if you've heard or read differently, please let me know!!) Check out my Facebook wall posts for a GREAT video of me ringing the beautiful Bell!!

I'm sure you've been asked this question as often as I have: "Do you miss college?" Each and every time, the first thing I want to BLURT out (which, to be sure, I refrain from saying) "Does a bear [you know what] in the woods??" Of course I miss college! I miss pretty much everything about it (except, of course, the late nights writing papers that I put off until the last minute— like this letter which I told my co-class agent Trevor Poe I would write about 4 weeks ago. Thank you for always being patient with me, Trevor!). But, invariably, my response ends up as, "I miss it, but it's nice to be working and actually making some money." Everyone seems to accept that response in a way that insinuates they at least half expected that's the logic I would have. Mostly, I miss the people that I was able to see every day; so it's always nice to interact with my Wabash class of 2013 brothers any chance I can.

One of my most recent opportunities was initiated by my need for some help. I was in the market for a new vehicle—specifically looking for a Chevy truck. In the midst of doing research to find EXACTLY what I wanted, I saw a Facebook post from Corbin Richards '13. I realized he is hustling and selling vehicles at Hare Chevrolet in Noblesville, IN. I contacted Corbin and asked him some questions about the Chevy trucks and he was extremely helpful in making me aware of all the things I should know! I'm living in Valparaiso in northwest Indiana and a trip to Noblesville is about 3 hours one way. But, in my mind, NOT buying from my fellow Wabash alumnus was NOT an option. So I hopped in my little blue Civic and made the trek! Corbin and his team were so helpful and made the entire process a breeze. I don't mention this story to promote Corbin and Hare Chevrolet in Noblesville, IN (...well, I kind of do...); I mention it because I see this story as one example of the many experiences I've had since graduating that involve other Wabash alumni who have been extremely helpful. I hear this so often and I say it all the time when people ask me about my decision to go to Wabash: If I knew as a senior in high school what I know now as a Wabash alumnus, I wouldn't have even looked anywhere else. We can find stories of the Wabash Mafia in full force all across the globe!



The past two paragraphs prompt me to ask a favor of all of you who are willing to take some time now or whenever you can spare 10-15 minutes. Either email me @ [jj.peller@yahoo.com](mailto:jj.peller@yahoo.com) or send me a message on Facebook.

What do you miss most about Wabash since you've been out? (Include any stories that others would enjoy hearing!... as long as they're not (too) inappropriate.)

What are you most looking forward to in your life after Wabash; or what has been the best part of being out of Wabash so far?

Will you share a story of how a Wabash connection has helped you accomplish something since you've been out?

I would love to take these responses and share them with our class as I receive them!

Prior to the first home football game this year, we had our annual Class Agents meeting. I was there (age 24) and there were Class Agents well into their 70s (maybe even 80s). The ideas and opinions for what information a class agent should be sharing and how it should be shared were as diverse as the ages of people in the room. And, as we know, everyone has his own belief system. My belief—and this is not right or wrong, it's just my opinion of my role as class agent—is that you can find updates in real time on the Wabash website @ [www.wabash.edu](http://www.wabash.edu). By the time I write this letter, edit, re-edit (as any good Wabash writer would, right??!) and then email it out to you, new, more exciting news will exist on Twitter, Facebook, and all through the Wabash College web site. To be sure, I most definitely will share BIG TIME updates and upcoming happenings and provide my thoughts. But I'm certain that the latest scores and cover stories are much better described on the Wabash site. Ultimately, this letter is for everyone in the class of 2013 and I don't want my belief system to interfere with what everyone else wants. SO, if you're passionate about certain things that you want to hear about, let me know! If you have stories or personal news to share with everyone, let me know!

I think I probably speak for most of us when I say we don't stay in touch with everyone as well as we thought when we first graduated. "Yeah, we'll talk every Sunday! We'll meet up at XYZ Bar in Who-Knows-Where, Indiana the third Thursday of every month!" Not practical— at least as far as I've found. But these quarterly class letters are a way to know more about what's happening in the lives of the guys we graduated with who we very much want to stay in touch with but don't always find the time. So the information in here is only as good as the information that Trevor and I have about all of you! And, as I'm clearly trying to say, I don't do a very good job staying in touch with all of the guys I saw on a daily basis at Wabash for our four years there. So, please, take time to share with me and/or Trevor what's going on in your life. And don't be surprised if we reach out and ask YOU specifically to share an update!! And if you say no, you should feel bad about that (yes, I'm willing to guilt you into sharing info with us).

And I have done a poor job of updating about marriages (mostly I become aware of a marriage via Facebook, so if we're not friends yet, find me now, please!). If you've been married or started a new job since we've graduated and you haven't seen it mentioned in a class letter yet (and if you don't mind sharing) please send me that info. I would like to send out special, individual notes as I hear about these things!

I'm still figuring out a lot of things with my life after Wabash. I'm still, a year and a half later, trying to figure out my "process" for balancing work with everything else that we have to do in life (including how to be the best class agent I can be for you all!). And I realize it's a journey— sounds cliché, but it's true. We live and we learn and we (hopefully) improve. "Progress, not perfection" (Denzel Washington quote from his new movie *The Equalizer*.... And another quick digression: Robert Downey Jr.'s new movie *The Judge* is also AWESOME; and they mention Valparaiso, Indiana in it!! Pretty neat.) So I ask for your help in my goal to provide you all with the insights into the lives of our

classmates. You can help Trevor and me by keeping us informed so that we can inform everyone else too.

I will do my best to keep my letters short and sweet but as packed as possible with the life stories and info about the guys of our class. I hope you're all well. I miss you all. Please let us know what's new and exciting in your life! Until next time....

Sincerely,

J.J. Peller

Trevor Poe

Wabash '13

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