July, 2005

The Alumni Office has created an interesting new plaque. For old eyes that can’t read the dedication, Alumni Director Tom Runge says, “It’s an award that honors the late Dr. Dorman Hughes, long-time Class Agent for the Class of 1943, and goes to the class agent or class agents who, in the opinion of our staff, did the most work in organizing their reunion.” Here’s Tom’s photo of the plaque with essentials excerpted:

Details of giving for the fiscal year are now available. 36% of all alumni gave a generous $4,914,449.

58.8% of the class of ’42 provided a gift of $105,492. Donors are Janice Anderson, Baumgartel, Byerrum, Carter, Chamberlain, Chase, Coons, Degitz, Denk, Forbes, Annabelle Foust, Harrington, Harris, Helmen, Ireland, Lee, Lockhart, Matthews, Mielke, Moore, Parkhurst, Mary Lou Pribe, Randak, Rettig, Rich, Romine, Scharf, Schroeder, Martha Ziegner, and Zimdars. The Pepsico Foundation made a matching gift for Haines Lockhart. Also, please give credit here to Martha Moon van Deusen, a friend and generous donor.

50.0% of the class of ’43 provided a gift of $29,808. Donors are Jim Anderson, Austin, Benz, Bond, Boyer, Bracken, Collett, Judy Evans, Fisher, Frazee, Freeman, Hubbard, Kelley, Janet Krache, Laufenburger, Luzader, June Manien, Meyer, Martha Million, Moynahan, O’Rear, Mary Ann Ormes, Pulver, Marty Stafford, Evelyn Tandy, Onnie Walker, Watson, Joyce Whitney, Whitridge and Young. Our fervent thanks to all of you!

Bill and Marj Moore have sold their wonderful old house and moved into an apartment. Their new address is 447-C Heritage Hills, Somers, NY 10589. Their daughter Jennifer, an excellent photographer, has created a slide show of their new digs that we have enjoyed. One of the pictures is of two Eastern bluebirds in the process of feeding meal worms to their offspring. Thought you might enjoy it.

Age related infirmities plague most of us now. I’m just getting around to answering a fine letter I received from Marty Meyer dated June 28. Last winter while traveling in Florida Marty
located his old classmate Ray Greve in Venice, FL. He hadn’t seen Ray since they attended Notre Dame’s Midshipman School just after their graduation from Wabash in May, ’43. Recently Marty called Carl Kelley to tell him of his meeting with Ray and to convey Ray’s good wishes. See Pp. 72 through 76 of the ’42 yearbook for photos of Marty, Carl and Ray in that yearbook’s account of the basketball season, in which Ray was captain. Marty also gave me a photo of him, Carl and me taken at ’43’s 60th reunion in 2003! Here it is:

Continuing with Marty’s letter, he says, “For several years I have been trying to locate John (Jack) Long, classmate and friend of mine at Wabash but with no success. Jack was from Chicago and left school at the end of his junior year, probably to enter military service. Jack was a member of our basketball and baseball teams. His picture appears on pages 72 and 84 of the 1942 yearbook…” Marty hoped that my October, 2004 newsletter containing a photo of Dr. John S. Long would complete the connection, but that failed. John said that no one ever referred to him as “Jack”. Finally, upon looking at the 2002 Alumni Directory I noticed that there were two men named Dr. John S. Long, one from the class of ’43 and the other from the class of ’47! I guessed correctly that military service did indeed prolong the education of Jack Long. Using a phone call to his wife Leota, I learned that Marty was the friend he sought. Jack had a great career as Professor in the School of Humanities & Science at Southern Methodist University in Dallas. Then I was distressed to learn that Jack had died on December 12, 2004. Leota had received many encomiums from his friends and the Alumni Office, but I missed them because I was agent for a different class! Sigh. I called Marty, and we commiserated with one another about the coincidences, many very sad, engendered by war. We are comforted, however, by the miracle of our own survival, in which we are privileged to continue sharing our unique heritage.

I’ve enjoyed yet another fruitful exchange with Hugh Collett. You may remember Fritz Slemmer, who was artist-in-residence at the college during our undergraduate days. Hugh took lessons from Fritz and owns several paintings of his that only Hugh’s family has ever seen. He has sent us copies for the college archives. They will be included in a retrospective exhibit of Fritz’s paintings this October. Here is an unfinished portrait of Hugh’s father that will be included in the exhibit. It is a perfect likeness. I knew him well.

The new college year is almost here. 250 new students will join us on Freshman Saturday, August 20. Classes begin on August 25.

The first home football game will be at 1 PM on September 10 with Kalamazoo. Homecoming will be at 2 PM on September 24 with Earlham.

The Phi Delts will be in their new home by the opening of the school year. Its beautiful new building will be on its old footprint at the corner of Walnut and College Streets. On the next page are photos taken by Tom Runge of both the new house and the ongoing Phi Gam construction, which is already up to the third story. The old Phi Gam house shows in the left of that picture.

Cheers! PTM, July 31, 2005
The new Phi Delta Theta house

The Phi Gamma Delta construction