May 4, 2004

Men of ’59:

Gentlemen, to coin a cliche, we're down to the wire! We have **only until May 24** to register for our Big Bash Reunion celebrating 45 years of the Class of 1959. The College has put together a terrific agenda for reunioning classes beginning Friday morning, June 4 through Sunday, June 6, 2004. Looking at the schedule you have received, you will see that there are a lot of interesting targeted and optional activities throughout the weekend. Our class will have opportunities for some separate celebrations of our own. It is imperative that you make your reservation now, so that all the logistical preparations are properly accomplished. Return the mail-in form or, if you prefer, you may register online at [www.wabash.edu/alumni](http://www.wabash.edu/alumni).

As of May 1, we have the following classmates registered for our reunion:

- Burt Carlson
- Cart Radebaugh
- Don Smith
- Hoyt Miller
- Larry Franklin
- Len Loker
- Ron Smith
- Sherm Franz
- Tony Dowell

In addition to these gentlemen, Bob Wedgeworth and John Horner have committed to attend, as will your CAs. (Yes, class agents must register to be counted!) Wedgie has sent a note to encourage a good turnout and also gave us a brief personal update. We have received e-mail messages from Bob Webb and Jim Holmes with regrets and their news updates which are enclosed. If you are unable to join us at the Big Bash, we'd welcome your own news to share at the reunion. We prefer to hear it directly from yourself on campus on June 4-6.

We have an interesting venue for a great Class of ’59 Afterglow on either Friday or Saturday evening following the banquet. John Horner has offered his auto museum as a meeting place where we can enjoy pleasant conversation, a war story or two, perhaps a libation, and John's collected vehicles and automobilia. The museum is located a very short (walking) distance from campus, and this promises to be a highlight of our reunion for classmates and spouses. My inclination is to schedule this for Friday evening, which would be in conflict with dancing at the new fieldhouse. The advantage for Friday is that attendees will not likely be leaving after dinner, as some may plan to do on Saturday, and we'll still have time on Saturday to continue discussions begun on Friday evening. I’d like to hear from those planning to attend as to your preference for Horner's museum: Friday or Saturday? E-mail: bob.wild59@wabash.edu

If we have more Glee Clubbers attending, we should be odds-on to win the Chapel Sing. So far, we have only a 1st tenor, a bass and a baritone, so c'mon you Pride of Mitchum, help us take the first Alumni Chapel Sing prize at this reunion. For you non-Glee Clubbers, please take a little time to refamiliarize with *Old Wabash* and *Alma Mater*.

There are other competitions among the reunioning classes, and we should be strongly in contention:

- Total reunion attendees by class
- Percent of participation in annual giving by class
- Total contribution in annual giving by class
Here are the year-to-date GWF statistics as of the end of April:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class Year</th>
<th>Giving %</th>
<th>Annual Fund (GWF) Donations</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1954</td>
<td>57.1%</td>
<td>$48,390</td>
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<tr>
<td>1959</td>
<td>48.2%</td>
<td>$20,060</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1964</td>
<td>35.0%</td>
<td>$34,742</td>
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<tr>
<td>1969</td>
<td>33.0%</td>
<td>$87,882</td>
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<tr>
<td>1974</td>
<td>26.3%</td>
<td>$34,392</td>
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<td>1979</td>
<td>27.3%</td>
<td>$88,353</td>
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<td>1984</td>
<td>29.1%</td>
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<td>1989</td>
<td>19.6%</td>
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<td>1994</td>
<td>19.1%</td>
<td>$4,721</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>13.6%</td>
<td>$5,550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>All</strong></td>
<td><strong>27.6%</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

It is clear that our first challenge is to add several more '59 contributors to our GWF giving within the next three or four weeks. If you are usually a June (end of fiscal year) giver, please consider moving your gift up by a month to build our participation percentage. And if you have not been a regular contributor, please make this your year to join the annual campaign and help push your class participation to the top. Thank you. As for the high dollar amounts reported for a couple of classes, it is probable that one or two individual donors made large reunion year gifts. We'll let our participation drive our dollars.

We're looking forward to a great Big Bash Reunion next month, with a bunch of '59ers and spouses/friends joining the festivities. Call a classmate; tell him you want to see him there. Call or e-mail if you have comments, suggestions or questions.

Best wishes.

Bob

bob.wild59@wabash.edu
Old Wabash

From the hills of Maine to the western plain, Or where the cotton is blowing; From the gloomy shade of the northern pine, To the light of the southern seas; There's a name held dear and a color we cheer, Wherever we find it glowing And the tears will rise to our longing eyes, As it floats on the evening breeze. When the day is done and the western sun Is painting in flashing glory Across the skies with gorgeous dyes, The Color we love so well, We love to sit as the shadows flit, And praise it in song and story, We love to shout as the light dies out, A good old Wabash yell.

REFRAIN
Our Prayers are always thine, Our voices and hearts combine To sing thy praise when future days Shall bring thy name before us. When college days are past, As long as life shall last, Our greatest joy will be to shout the chorus.

CHORUS
Dear Old Wabash, thy loyal sons shall ever love thee, And o'er thy classic halls, the scarlet flag shall proudly flash; Long in our hearts we'll bear the sweetest mem'ries of thee, Long shall we sing thy praises, Old Wabash.

And loud and long shall echo the song, Till hill and valley are ringing And spread the fame of her honored, name, Wherever the breezes blow. Till sweet and clear the world shall hear, The sons of Wabash singing, And flying free the world shall see, Our scarlet banner go. The honors won by each loyal son, In highest rank shall instate her. Forever more as in days of yore Their deeds be noble and grand. Then once again ye Wabash men, Three cheers for Alma Mater What e'er befall, revered by all, May she unequaled stand.

Alma Mater

Dear Alma Mater at thy shrine of cherished memory, The hosts of Wabash meet to pledge undying loyalty. Within these sacred portals thy fires shall brightly flame And herald our devotion to thy most honored name.

These fleeting years we tarry here beneath the Scarlet sway Beguile us with their subtle charms, then quickly steal away. Do thou, our Alma Mater, turn back the hands of time Give us this joy forever and keep our faith sublime.

Dear Alma Mater, in thy hands rest all our hopes and fears, Thou Counsellor in College days-thou guide in riper years. Grant now thy benediction; vouchsafe thy care benign, That worthy, we may follow the precepts that are thine.
Correspondence from Bob Wedgeworth:

Thanks for your note about the reunion. I have been thinking about it a lot lately. I just lost two of the guys I started kindergarten with who remained close friends. The Wabash reunions represent the second longest link that I have outside of my family. Therefore, the reunions become more precious as each five year cycle rolls by.

As you know I retired from the University of Illinois in 1999. But I flunked retirement and allowed myself to be persuaded to go back to work in the fall of 2000. Since that time I have been CEO of an international literacy training organization with 1200 U.S. local affiliates and programs in 48 developing countries. I am having a great time!

It is very interesting developing programs for people with very modest abilities and very modest ambitions compared to the university students and faculty with whom I spent most of my working life. In order to do this job I live and work in Syracuse, NY. My permanent home is still Chicago. C.K. spends most of her time in Chicago with trips several times a year to Syracuse where she spends 2-3 weeks at a time. I get to Chicago about one weekend a month, but we take long holidays together in the summer and winter. She finds it liberating not to have me around all the time. I like it especially this time of year because I can watch all the basketball games I wish without feeling guilty.

Please give my best to Carole and Craig and I look forward to seeing all of you in June.

Robert Wedgeworth  
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Correspondence from Jim Holmes:

I thought you would be pleased to hear that my older son, John, was admitted to and plans to attend Wabash College this coming fall. Wabash was the only College to which he applied. This fact worried both his mother and I, but we were glad that he at least applied to College. Frankly, I was very surprised that he would consider going to a College that his father went to, given the normal state of rebellion of a 17-year-old teenager. I was also surprised that he would consider an all men's College. However, the reasons he gave I found impressive; that without the distractions of coeds he was more apt to focus on his studies and develop the self-control and maturity that he desired.

This last month, I took him (and his 13-year-old brother, Michael), to visit the campus and talk to the admission office as well as the financial aid office. We were all tremendously impressed, and I was surprised to see that Wabash corresponded to my memory of it over four decades ago. The staff, students and physical facilities were truly outstanding. I was shocked when a decision was made by Walter Blake and Clint Gasaway to admit John based on his potential and not upon his somewhat erratic high school record. They actually took the time and trouble to distinguish between John's performance on quizzes and tests and his course grades in high school. As a Professor who has taught at eight different universities in a career that has spanned 48 years, I have never seen a University administrator behave in such an intelligent and decisive matter. They invited John to compete for scholarship funds later this month. These are to be awarded on the basis of a students performance on tests administered and evaluated by Wabash staff, independent of high school performance. It is unusual to see an educational institution rely upon its own criteria and ability to evaluate the intellectual potential of entering students. It is something that makes me very proud to be a graduate of Wabash College and that my son has chosen to go there. My younger son stated that he is interested in attending Wabash as well. It is very difficult to impress a 13-year-old boy.

Since this is the first time I have communicated with you and my classmates, I will give you some personal information. Some of the details of my professional career are available in recent additions of Who's Who in America. I have the Holmes-Smyth effect in macroeconomics attributed to my research. I enjoy teaching and have been awarded Excellence in Teaching Awards and been nominated multiple times for Who's Who Among America's (best) Teachers by my students. Jointly with my wife, who is also an economist, I also am doing some very exciting research for which I have the ambition to change a basic paradigm in economics.

Personally, I have had a very interesting life and pursued adventure. I sail my 31' sloop on Lake Erie (much less than I should) and have sailed on both oceans. For over two decades, I spent my summers gold prospecting, riding horses and camping in Northern California and the high country of Colorado. I have a couple of really nice Indian horses (they were Mustangs raised on the Apache and Navajo reservations) I brought back from Colorado, which we ride less frequently than we should. I take Michael and his friends, many of whom I was a Boy Scout leader for, camping and hiking in the Allegheny Mountains just south of here and use these horses to pack and ride.

This summer, Michael and I have been invited by some old prospecting and hunting buddies of mine to search for a lost Spanish cache near the Continental divide in southwest Colorado. My friends will furnish us with horses and kit. We will drive out there in our new Roadtrek motor home, kayaking, biking and camping along the way. My wife Pat may join us or she may fly out for part of the time. She has had many adventures with me, and says that, because of my well-known inability to spell, I confuse adventure with adversity. I admit I enjoy some adversity with my adventures and she has surely shared both with me often.

I hope that you will understand my choice not to attend the class reunion but rather pursue adventure and my research. I send my best regards. If you're interested, I'll tell you how the search for lost Spanish treasure turns out. I'm sure we will have lots of adventure. The last time I went with these guys (without Mike) to the high country, we suffered a snowstorm (these can be fatal there), had to cut down a tree to bridge a raging stream, two of us then shinnied across it and walked out 5 mi., and left the horses on the other side with one of the guys for three days before he could ford the stream bring the string out.

Best wishes,
Jim Holmes
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ecoholme@Buffalo.edu
Correspondence from Bob Webb:

Dear Bob:
I thank you for the news and information from the college. Alas, I will not be with the class this early June. I have had conflicts in the past due to vacationing, and this occurs once again. My wife is still quite active operating a thriving retail business here in Madison, Indiana, and with five markets to attend, etc, we must find nooks and crannies of time for getting away. This time, we fly to Vancouver on June 5th, tour for two days, board an excursion train and 11 days later end up in Niagara Falls, Canada. I haven't been on a train since the 6th grade, so this WILL be fun, and sorry to say, actually may be more fun than bangin' around with you characters. I have told Margie that, out of sheer fortitude and courage, I WILL make our 50th, just to see who is left standing.

I am finishing writing an addendum for my great grandfather's Civil War diary (143 pages and pictures galore), which has been in progress since 2001. (I retired in June, 2001.) Am writing quarterly articles for a local newspaper on the Lewis and Clark Expedition. Margie and I were on a tour with Dr. Gary Moulton, renowned historian and editor of the Journals, for 10 days last summer, and they asked me to write that. And I do the PR work for the paper on all the Civil War Roundtable meeting programs. I have given four speeches to that organization and to a Midwest Conference. Back on "our day", I hardly paid attention to genealogy....Turns out, the first wife of General Thomas J. Jackson, "Stonewall", was my first cousin, four generations removed, and many more relatives who lost their lives, etc.

As many of you may not know or have forgotten, our own religion professor, Dr. Thomas Jonathan Jackson Althizer, later of the "God is Dead" movement fame, was the only living male heir of General Thomas J. Jackson, having obviously descended from the one daughter that lived, Julia Jackson. Amazing!

The key reason why I have not been evident around ole PsiWash over the years has been my almost total immersion into the life here at Hanover College. Hardly a seminar or theatrical production or sports contest occurs without me out there, along with working out at least four days a week at the Horner Fitness Center. So they have adopted me, and the coaches and I banter back and forth all the time. I, for one, was deeply disappointed and saddened by the demise of the old ICAC (Indiana Collegiate Athletic Conference), for it had just matured into a conference with intense rivalries, most often brought to fruition by knocking one another out of national playoff pictures. Somehow, Depauw wandering off to Texas and Tennessee, and Rose Hulman to God knows where (and even Wabash to Western Pa) just doesn't get it for me. I know Hanover and Wabash destroyed each other's hopes in football and basketball at least once each, just like Depauw and Wabash have done to each other. Rose Hulman knocked Hanover right out of the basketball national picture in the very last game, about five years ago. I don't suppose Humpty Dumpty will ever be reconstructed in that manner again, but even Franklin and Manchester were coming on and becoming quite competitive. Enough rueing.

Golf is now beckoning on the calendar horizon as I write this. And we will most likely return to St. George Island in October once again for our annual pilgrimage to the sea.

For now, thanks so much for keeping in touch on our behalf. I'll hug my wife aboard the train on the 6th and onward from there in memory of you yoyos back at PsiWash. Have a great gathering, and since I can only remember about half of Old Wabash anyway, I wouldn't be much help at this point.

Bob Webb'59
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