Let’s start this Class Letter with another stroll through the Wabash College website (www.wabash.edu). On the front page is a photograph of the new Phi Delta Theta house. What a beautiful structure. Looks like the Phi Delts will have strong Rush this fall!

Moving into the Alumni and Parents section of the site, you will see Big Bash Reunion in the column on the left side. Take a look at what we’re going to be doing this coming June 2-4, 2006 for our XXXXth Reunion. Cal has arranged a block of rooms and a hospitality suite for the Class of 1966 at the Crawfordsville Comfort Inn located on US 231 at I-74. Please contact the motel at 765-361-0665 to make your reservations now!

In a recent letter from the Society of Class Agents, our governing body, your Class Agents learned that we had been awarded the Myron G. Phillips Award for performing most significantly in our roles of communicating with the class, encouraging financial contributions, recruiting new students, and exhibiting Little Giant spirit. Two key elements in achieving the award were the arm-twisting that our Class Gift Chairman, Jay Fisher, engaged in and the communications that Cal sent containing the insider knowledge that he possesses. Speaking of arm twisting, as we move towards our XXXXth Reunion, please consider making a rather substantial gift to the college, including deferred gifts through estate planning, as a way of marking this milestone year and supporting quality education. Thanks to Cal, Stan and Jay, our stats for the 2004-5 fiscal year included seven class letters and philanthropy of $77,162.00 from 87/197 or 44.2% (widows included).

Each month, we receive copies of Class Letters from classes on each side of us. (Each of these letters can be found at http://www.wabash.edu/alumni/class_agents/recent).

This month we received letters from 1965, 1967 and 1969. Here are some excerpts:

Peter Pactor ’65 summarized the events at his XXXXth Big Bash reunion.

- The class honored R. Morris (Morrie) Adams for his 25 years’ service as Class Agent with a certificate and a Wabash College captain’s chair with his name engraved on it. Peter reported that Morrie for once was speechless.

- Joe O’Rourke’s Class Dinner speech centered on who was going to write the Wabash stories of the past century. He showed the Dennis Henry video containing the pole fight, pajama snake line through the Strand, and campus life in the 1960s while volunteering a number of stories related to visits members of the class periodically made to the Montgomery County jail.
• Larry Blount donated the Wabash Always Fights magnet. Jim Graham possessed the magnet while he was fighting cancer. When Jim passed on, the magnet went to Larry for his ordeal. Larry delivered the magnet to Peter at the class dinner requesting that it be sent to a class member struggling with the disease.

• Of course, there was commentary therein about the camaraderie enjoyed and the threats of the W haircut following the class and all-Reunion sing of Alma Mater and the Fight Song on the chapel steps, a highlight of the weekend.

Duane Hile ’67 reviewed his class’ plans for their XXXXth Big Bash Reunion in 2007. Duane remarked that the changing physical features that come with age should be of no concern when deciding to attend the reunion because, after all, we’re not there to pick up chicks. Duane did note some fashion statements to avoid: nose ring and bifocals, spiked hair and a bald spot, pierced tongue and dentures, shorts and varicose veins …

The Dean of Formatting Class Agent Letters, Rob Gorham, authored the Class of 1969 letter. (Rob even presented a talk at a Class Agent Forum on using Publisher or some exotic program to introduce digital photographs and other graphic matters into class letters. While we understand how it is done, we don’t have any digital photographs to insert. Any help???)

On the College Scene

✓ The search is underway for a new college president. The Board of Trustees hopes to have an announcement at its winter meeting of Andy’s successor to assume the office after Commencement, 2006. The Board has granted Andy a sabbatical during 2006-2007 during which Andy will have time for transition-related opportunities.

✓ The President named emeritus professor Rev. Raymond Williams to succeed Dean of the College Mauri Ditzler, who accepted the position of president of Monmouth College in Illinois.

✓ The Board has redirected the Strategic Initiative/Plan following goal accomplishments to focus on three areas: Before Wabash, At Wabash, and After Wabash. As these themes suggest, close scrutiny will be given to more critically identifying the right student for Wabash, retaining that student, upgrading student housing and a campus/community center, integrating athletics and academics, analyzing the curriculum, and committing to career services as the student enters the Chapel on Freshman Saturday.

✓ The football team, ranked second by the NCAC football coaches, starts its home season September 10 against Kalamazoo College with Homecoming just two weeks later (9/24) against Earlham. DePauw is an away game (11/12).

Let us hear from you, and don’t forget the Big Bash in June 2006.

Cal     Stan     Squier     Jay