

Contents

- **Our Reunion, June 2-4, 2006**
 - **Sobriety High School**
 - **Dr. Horton on Wisdom**
 - **Classmate Battles Cancer**
 - **Classmate Wins Award**
 - **Joe O'Rourke's Story Project**
 - **Dr. John Lawrie Dies**
- **Wabash Man in History: Gen. Canby**
- **Other News & Clever Amusements**



Pactoracles

**Class Agent's Letter For The Wabash College Class of 1971
June 17, 2005**

Our Class Will Celebrate 35th Reunion, June 2-4, 2006

Let's mark our calendars now, and notify our wives, of our 35th Reunion, June 2-4, 2006. I will be forming a reunion committee, and I am accepting both willing and unwilling volunteers for the committee.

All reunions will be the first weekend in June in an orgy of nostalgia known as the Big Bash. About 250 alumni returned at the recent Big Bash, and I was one of them. I hunkered down with the storytellers of the Class of 1965, and I had a wonderful time.

The College has a paradigm for the Big Bash, including colloquia, an enormously popular Alumni Chapel Sing, a golf outing, and a run/walk event. The Class of 1971, per our tradition, will put its own special, if not bizarre, spin on the reunion. Our banquet will be Saturday night, not Friday night as in past years.

Please begin to plan to attend the reunion, and contact me if you wish to be a willing volunteer to the committee rather than an unwilling volunteer.

Support O'Rourke's Story Project

Joe O'Rourke, retired professor of speech, is collecting stories of Wabash students. The book *Wabash College: The First Hundred Years*, published as part of the centennial, did not tell the history of the college from the students' point-of-view. He wants our stories to be available for *Wabash College: The Second Hundred Years*, in 2032.

We can send our stories to him at orourkej@wabash.edu or to P.O. Box 352, Crawfordsville, IN 47933.

Dr. John Lawrie Dies

Dr. John Lawrie, 71, former psychology professor, died last month after a recent automobile accident. He served on the faculty from 1964 until his retirement in 1994. He was a founder of the Wabash Institute for Professional Development. He published widely and played intramural basketball. He graduated from Beloit College. He earned his masters in Personnel/Labor Relations at Michigan and his Ph.D. at Wayne State University.

With Our Classmates. . .

Jim Czarniecki reported by e-mail on May 27 that he wanted the Class of 1971 to know that he has been battling stage IV colon cancer that was detected on March 11. "In general, I'm in good spirits after a 3 am emergency room run and surgery for what was thought to be an "intestinal blockage" (it was, but not the kind you really want to hear about). Now, after the belly—and that's a medical term—healed and four biweekly rounds of chemo, I have avoided the more onerous side effects (hair loss, nausea, most fatigue, etc.) and only picked up some of the annoying ones. All the details are at www.caringbridge.org/mn/jimcz

"Beyond this, things are mighty fine:

- Son Mark graduated U of MN law last weekend (cum laude and with the Lee Bearmon Prize for best paper on legal ethics and professional responsibility—"A Fox Guarding the Duck Pond?"—re *Cheney v, District Court*, 124 S.Ct. 2576 (2004).
- My daughter Laura started a full-time job (yea!) running a "bike camp" for the city of Portland (OR).
- Number two daughter Kate just finished Kenyon's year abroad program at University of Exeter in English lit, and is about to backpack thru Europe for two months.
- The youngest son Jack will graduate from Central High headed to Columbia College (IL) for film studies and journalism this fall.

And, Kitty's Graywolf Press is celebrating their 30th year and her 15th as executive editor of one of the finest literary presses in the nation.

"So, on balance, life is still good, worth fighting hard for, and is more of a blessing than one really knows or understands."

Mike Dill will receive the Alumni Award of Merit by the National Association of Wabash Men at Homecoming, September 24, 2005.

This article continues a series on Wabash men in history

Wabash Man Won Glory As Civil War General

Edward Richard Sprigg Canby, Wabash 1837, found himself in some critical parts of early American history.

He left Wabash for an appointment to West Point Military Academy. He fought in the Seminole War and was involved in the "Trail of Tears," the forced removal of the Cherokees and other Indians westward from the southeastern part of the country.

He earned the brevets of major and lieutenant colonel in the Mexican War. Shortly after the Civil War broke out, he was appointed colonel and put in command of the Department of New Mexico. In January 1862, he resisted the invasion of Confederate General Henry H. Sibley, whose ultimate objective was the conquest of California. Canby received credit for stopping the Confederates from the west.

On May 31, 1862, he was appointed brigadier general. He was ordered to the east where he served as an adjutant general in Washington and, in 1863, went to New York City for four months to restore order after deadly draft riots had erupted July 13-16 over the Union Conscription Act of 1863.

On May 7, 1864, Canby was promoted to major general of volunteers and placed in command of the Military Division of the West Mississippi. He reorganized the forces of N. P. Banks and, with the cooperation of the navy, captured Mobile, Alabama, which surrendered April 12, 1865. The next month, he received the surrender of the last Confederate armies.

After the war, he served on Reconstruction Duty in the South. In 1870, he went to the west coast. In 1873, he received a promotion to command the Division of the Pacific. Captain Jack and other Modoc Indians attacked and killed him during a peace conference in California on April 11, 1873. Captain Jack was later hanged for the killing. Gen. Canby was buried in Crown Hill Cemetery in Indianapolis. A collection of his papers is housed at the Filson Historical Society, 1310 South Third Street, Louisville, Kentucky.

Time Is Running Out: Donate To The Annual Fund Before July 1

Thanks to the classmates, listed below, who have contributed to the college this fiscal year that will end June 30. The list is current through June 10, 2005. Please join the list and help the Class of 1971 reach its goal of 50% participation. We can make contributions by sending a check to Wabash College, P.O. Box 352, Crawfordsville, IN 47933 or online at www.wabash.edu/alumni/egift.

Skip Adams
Alton Amsterdam
Jerry Anderson
Jim Ball
Bob Bogigian
Jerry Bowman
John Brackemyre
Bill Braun
Jim Bromley
John Brown
Rufus Burton
Ed Corley
Jim Czarniecki
Mike Dill
Andy Dziubinskyj
Jeff Eaton
Nelson Flynn
Ron Flynn
Jack Gould
Dave Gray
Rick Gregory
Fred Haase
Gary Hansen
Bob Harlan
Bill Hausmann
Pete Hawley

Gordon Hayes
Cloyce Hedge
Trey Holland
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Bob Prentiss
Mark Randak
Greg Rasmussen
Philip Rifner
Carl Royal
Tom Runge
Bill Rydell
John Ryder
Tim Shickley
Orlo Shoop
Jim Smith
Charles Steen
John Street
Pete Toft
Kurt Unterscheutz
Steve Weliever
Steve Wildman
Tom Williams
Andy Young

Graduation At Sobriety High

by Jim Czarniecki '71, *CEO, Sobriety High School and President, Sobriety High Foundation.*

On June 13, 2005, thirty-three high school seniors at a Twin Cities high school received their diplomas in a two-hour commencement ceremony with more than 300 in the audience. In addition to the expected processions, speeches, inspiring music, and award presentations, all candidates were formally introduced, one-by-one, with their full name and a two-minute description of where they came from, how long they had been enrolled, and where (college, military, workforce, etc) they would be going. Oh, and their total years, months, and days of their sobriety. They graduated from Sobriety High School, a school for teens with alcohol and/or drug problems.

But it is more. Sobriety High is as much about life and recovery as it is about education and academics. It is about family restoration among families who have been torn apart by chronic disease. It is about a learning community of students, faculty, parents, and community volunteers. *(continued on next page)*

Graduation at Sobriety High...

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Founded in 1986 and incorporated in 1989, Sobriety High was one of the first two "recovery schools" (sometimes called "sober schools") in the nation. By 2000 there were a dozen in four states. Now there are more than thirty in a dozen states with at least ten more in development. It is fitting that Minnesota, long a leader in treating addictions—both the world renowned Hazelden Foundation and the first hospital-based treatment center St. Mary's are at least 50 years old and are located there—is the home to thirteen of the thirty schools. Sobriety High operates three campuses with 123 students enrolled in the Twin Cities metro area.

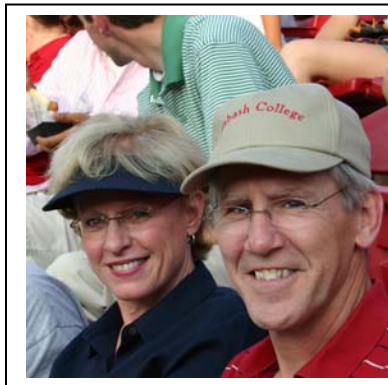
Several of the sober schools around the country are modeled on Sobriety High's program, curriculum, and motto: education, *with love, respect, and dignity*. They are very successful. According to Hazelden's Center for Youth & Family in Plymouth (MN), a teen completing treatment (usually 30-60 days in-patient or six to twelve months out-patient) and returning to his/her mainstream school will relapse 85% of the time during the first three months. On the other hand, according to the Association of Recovery Schools, students enrolling in a sober school relapse less than 30% of the time in the *first year* that they return. Sobriety High's eight-year average is 26%.

The schools find themselves on a spectrum focusing from the clinical (more like aftercare or an extension of treatment) to the academic (college prep). Sobriety High is the latter as 68% of its graduates matriculate at institutions of higher learning and nearly 10% enroll in the military. Three weeks ago, a Sobriety High alum (class of '96) graduated from the University of Minnesota School of Law; four graduates are currently serving our country in the Middle East.

By nearly every measure these schools are a success, and they are often operated on a per pupil cost *less than their neighboring public schools*. Sobriety High spends \$10,200 annually per pupil as compared to \$12,600 for Saint Paul Public Schools and over \$14,000 for schools in the Minneapolis School District. Ironically, and for a wide range of reasons, the political will barely exists to support these schools. Sobriety High, a public charter school, gets only 77% of its revenue from public funds; 23% must be raised from the private-sector.

This situation is improving slowly, but remains a struggle. The Sobriety High Foundation works with communities that want a recovery school. Usually a grass roots group of parents, educators, and chemical health professionals organize to develop the school. In the next twelve months, Sobriety High will open three more schools, two in Minnesota and one in California. A year from now one or two more will come to fruition in Massachusetts.

One final note: it took Sobriety High from 1986 to 1996, eleven years, to produce the first 33 grads. Among the 33 who received their diplomas on June 13 were numbers 200 and 211. That's 211 productive sober citizens who, but for a recovery school, would likely be on the streets, in jail, hospitalized, homeless, or . . . dead.



Ron Flynn '71 (right) and wife Paula (left) contemplate the great time that they will have at the 35th Reunion of the Class of 1971 on June 2-4, 2006. Notice that they are all smiles. They were also reminiscing about some weddings of Phi Deltas that occurred in cornfields in the early 1970s. This photo was taken on June 10, 2005 at a Wabash alumni outing at the Cincinnati Reds v. Baltimore Orioles game in Cincinnati. The Flynns, long-time residents of the Cincinnati environs, are the proud parents of Katie, Martha, and Charlie. Being with alumni will bring a smile to all of the Class of 1971. I look forward to your smiles at the reunion.

Please send me your updates and comments. If you get this letter via e-mail, please print it and share it with your family. My contact information is on the last page of this letter.

Wisdom Is Humble, Professor Horton Tells Students

When I catch an interesting Wabash speech, I try to catch a copy of it to share with Classmates. The following is such a speech by Dr. Robert "Bobby" Horton, professor of psychology. He delivered it as part of the initiation of members of Phi Beta Kappa this May. He has finished his fourth year at Wabash. He is a graduate of Richmond University. He is well regarded by the students. He earned his masters and Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. His wife Naomi, baby son Marshall, and he live in Crawfordsville.

It is this point in the ceremony where the president of Phi Beta Kappa is given the opportunity to say a few words of his or her choosing.

In thinking about what I might say to you today, I ran through a diverse array of possibilities from a monologue regarding your responsibility as the leaders of tomorrow to a top ten list (David Letterman style) of the reasons to celebrate your PBK initiation.

I'm sure you would prefer the latter rather than the former, but my wife forbid me to take that route after she heard of some of the things I was considering for the list. Evidently, humor is not my specialty.

In the end, I drafted three different sets of remarks about three different topics, and I chose the remarks that I hope will make me as memorable to you as was the Phi Beta Kappa president who spoke at my initiation ten years ago. Given that I don't remember who that was, it seems that I have set the bar of expectation appropriately low.

As Secretary Culley just noted, Phi Beta Kappa is a society devoted to "philo-sophia"...the love of wisdom, and it is this quality that we honor in you today. Of course, if we are going to honor the love of something, we would do well to know what that thing is.

Unfortunately, wisdom is a difficult thing to understand. It is not a term that is easily defined, and it is discussed more frequently by poets and philosophers than it is by laypersons or scientists. We know that wisdom is a way of approaching a judgment or decision, a way of seeking an answer....it is most often equated with insight, knowledge, or, depending upon one's choice of romantic poets, self-awareness.

But these ideas don't tell us how to be wise, how to practice it in our day to day life. And so, I thought I would take this opportunity to offer what I regard as three characteristics of wisdom and/or a wise person.

First, wisdom is thoughtful, it transcends emotion. It is considerate of ideas and works to keep emotional biases at bay as it strives to understand. It seems like an easy enough thing, giving precedent to thought rather than emotion. But it is actually more difficult than it seems. In fact, psychologists are mounting new evidence each day that much of what we do is tied to automatic, emotional, visceral, and yes thoughtless, processes. In fact, the status quo is to go through life guided by how we feel: We do what feels good and what makes us feel good about ourselves. In effect, our thoughts and beliefs are as much a result, rather than a predictor, of what it is we do. And of course, there is no fault in this. Such hedonism, one could argue, is in our nature and may even serve us well across multiple situations and domains. However, wisdom goes beyond the basic and ordinary. It is effortful, hard work, but it focuses energy upon ideas and approaches a problem with an open mind and a goal of objectivity, such objectivity that is undermined by emotional investment.

Second, and relatedly, wisdom is selfless. As one strives for objectivity, one has to understand that the most powerful emotional baggage that we bring to any discussion involves those things that are self-defining. We have cherished beliefs that we think encapsulate who we are, and we are often unwilling to offer these up for perusal and investigation. Unfortunately, it is exactly these cherished beliefs that are most important to consider, about which discussion and dialog would be most valuable. Of course, such discussions also hold the most potential for damage. Indeed, invalidating one's core is a risk that people are often unwilling to take. However, the wise person is devoted to truth, independent of what that truth may mean for the existing self. He or she is devoted to progress, independent (Continued on next page)

Wisdom...

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of what changes that progress may require, and so, the wise person does his or her best to take the self-interest out of the equation....to understand the nature of self-investment, and to use such investment only as another piece of information on which to base a judgment.

Finally, because it is thoughtful and selfless, wisdom is humble. If social psychologists converge on no other idea, they converge upon the notion that people are fundamentally egotistical. We all think we are a little better than we actually are. We take a little more credit than we deserve, and we blame others for misfortune a little too readily than we should. Indeed, the world is filled with entitlement and inflated feelings of self-worth, with people doing all they can to convince others of their value, to avoid seeming incorrect, unsure, or indecisive. On the other hand, the wise among us understand the complexity of the world, understand that different people often hold dear and as equally true beliefs that are diametrically opposed. Indeed, because they do not stake their identity upon one or another set of ideas, the wise are willing, and even eager, to subject their ideas to scrutiny, to be proven wrong when appropriate, and as a result to continuously progress and refine their understanding of the world. The wise among us embrace a learning process that demands an openness to different, sometimes conflicting ideas, a willingness to listen carefully to arguments without mustering an immediate response and defense of one's position. Where most of us listen, or read emails, only in an effort to marshal our forces for a retort, the wise person engages objectively with new ideas because he or she regards them as legitimate and important, indeed, as legitimate and important as one's own.

And so, Wisdom is thoughtful, selfless, and humble, among other things, no doubt. And if it seems a difficult task, to be wise, you're right. Wisdom flies in the face of natural inclinations to be emotional, visceral, and self-interested. It requires extraordinary strength, courage, and self-regulation, qualities that each of you embodies and that played no small part, I'm certain, in your success at Wabash College.

And so, as you leave Wabash and define more clearly yourself and your definition of success, I encourage you to be thoughtful, selfless, and humble. Live the wisdom for which we honor you today.

I conclude my remarks with one of my favorite poetic stanzas, one that speaks to the benefits of Wisdom. Percy Shelley writes in the second to last stanza of "Prometheus Unbound":

"Gentleness, Virtue, Wisdom, and Endurance,
These are the seals of that most firm assurance
That bar the pit over destruction's strength.
And if, with infirm hand, Eternity, mother of many acts and hours
Should free the serpent that should clasp her with its length,
These are the spells by which to reassemble an Empire
Over the disentangled doom."

Kind Regards To The Little Giants of 1971



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