

Class of 1969

Class Agent
Ken Crawford

11 November 2025

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Gentlemen of the Class of 69,

On this 11th Day of November, I wish everyone a Happy Veterans Day with a special thank you to all of you who served. This is a day of remembrance for all veterans and especially those who served in WWI, WWII, the Korean war, and the Vietnam war. We remember the 82,000+ who served in the four wars and never returned home, now buried in unknown graves around the world.

My last letter was April 2025. My apologies for not writing you a letter sooner. The spring and summer passed all too quickly by...I spent too much time at the 'ol fishing hole. I hope everyone had a good summer and fall, before the snow and arctic cold hit us this weekend. Winter is coming, and life at Wabash goes on. The fall semester is passing quickly. Students had their fall break 16-19 Oct, with Thanksgiving recess 24-28 Nov. Classes end 12 December with final exams 15-20 December. And so it goes at 'ol Wabash! Wabash College always extends a warm welcome to you. Come back home to Wabash whenever you can.



131st Monon Bell game is this Saturday, 15 November at Wabash. The 8-1 Little Giants will meet the 8-1 DePauw Tigers on the Wabash gridiron in what will be a close and hard-fought game. Both teams lost to #16 nationally ranked John Carroll in Ohio. On game day the sunny weather will be perfect in the upper 60's. The game is sold out. When tickets went on sale 28 Sept they were sold out in two days at Wabash and DePauw. The 250 seat backs were sold out in minutes. Those without tickets can watch the game live on the Wabash website or at one of the several watch parties around the country. <https://www.wabash.edu/alumni/mononbell/>

Student enrollment has 908 students at Wabash this fall, the largest student body in a number of years. On 23 August President Feller rang in 270 freshmen who hailed from 18 states and 15 countries. The class census in September showed 264 freshmen '29, 215 (250) sophomores '28, 195 (214) juniors '27, and 216 (223) seniors '26. (spring semester numbers). For classes 28, 27, and 26 the spring census was 687. The fall census shows 626 attending for the three classes. The attrition from spring to fall is 61 students, for a minus 8.8%. The reason for the attrition is not identified. It is possible some students will return to Wabash at a future date.

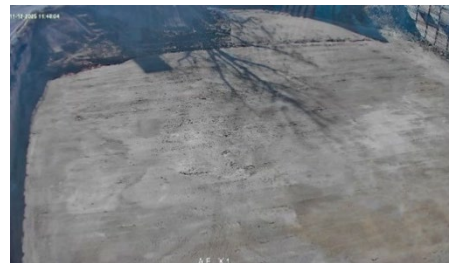
The **New Community Center** is finally under construction and currently a big hole in the ground. A lot of dirt was removed to take the foundation level down almost 60 feet (pics). Not sure yet when the first concrete will be poured for the foundation. This will be a two-year construction project. You saw in the Board of Trustees minutes the USDA Rural Development loan has been approved and the College has signed off on the terms of the loan so the funds can now be obligated. This has been a long process. I think the USDA waited for the cows to come home before finalizing the loan. There are certain advantages for Wabash being in an economically deprived area in the middle of corn fields in Indiana. Rural Indiana is a beautiful place to be. Great people! You can discover more details about the project here: <https://www.wabash.edu/communitycenter/>



8 September



13 October



11 November (cam)

Our **Dean Moore Scholarship** has awarded scholarships to five students this October. Details on the students and the amount awarded is not yet available (in next letter). It is interesting to note the book value of our DM fund on 30 October was \$ 960,908. The market value of our fund on 30 June was \$1,102,671. The market value generates the income for our scholarship. The income from the market value on 31 Dec 25, are the funds made available to our scholarship fund on 1 July 2026, and for award in the fall of 2026. A very special thank you to all who have given to our Dean Moore fund.

Big Bash 2025 in June saw over 300 alumni returning to campus for a beautiful weekend and a host of activities and excellent food (as always) from Bon Appetit. I think one of the highlights of Big Bash were the classes singing "Ol Wabash" in the chapel. Many great performances! The best moment was when all classes went on stage and all sang 'Ol Wabash. The spirit and volume of so many alumni singing "Ol Wabash" together was deeply moving. "Ol Wabash" is the longest college fight song in the nation. This December it will be 125 years when "Ol Wabash" was first sung. I am trying to find out if the Glee Club will have a special event in December on the anniversary of the first singing.

The Annual Fund this year on 30 June raised \$3,983,898, setting another record. This is the 12th straight year in a row Alumni giving participation has been over 40%. 4,934 alumni donated to the College in fiscal 2024-25, with 646 donating in June. The 40% alumni participation is a high percentage, compared to other colleges with 10-20% participation. Our Class of 69 with 81 donors ranked eight in the top 25 donating classes. We were fourth in class participation with 48.80%, behind Class of 61 with 48.84%, Class of 68 with 49.34%, and class of 67 with 52.86%. Notice the top four classes with the highest participation are in the 1960's with classes '91 and '93 close behind. 23 classes had 40% or better participation.

The **430 Day of Giving** raised \$1,825,622 with 8,355 gifts, up from \$1,719,176 and 8,039 gifts in the 2024 Day of giving. On behalf of the College, I extend to all who donated to the Annual Fund and the Day of Giving a sincere and heartfelt thank you for your gifts to the College. This is indeed an excellent display of the philanthropic spirit of Wabash alumni.

Dr. Scott Brown is the New Dean of Students replacing Greg Redding who stepped down in June to return to teaching. Scott has more than thirty-five years of experience in higher education, including being a dean at six different colleges. You can meet Dean Brown via Zoom on December 8 by registering here: <https://www.wabash.edu/events/afterthebell-scottbrown>.

If your contact information should change, please let me know or email Pam Rager in the Alumni Office alumni@wabash.edu. We enjoy keeping in touch with you! And we hope you will keep in touch with Wabash.

Once again, I want to sincerely thank you for your support and all you do for Wabash College. As part of a great alumni organization with a very strong philanthropic tradition you can be proud of all you have done for Wabash over these many years. You have helped make Wabash College one of the best colleges in the nation. I am sure we can continue to do that.

With November passing quickly I wish all a very Happy Thanksgiving and a good holiday season ahead. Enjoy the holidays and stay safe.

GO WABASH! BEAT DEPAUW!

WABASH ALWAYS FIGHTS!!

My Best Wishes to all!

Ken

W69

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