



Class Agents Letter

Class of 1974

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Dear Gentlemen of the Glorious Class of 1981,

We interrupt your regularly scheduled life to announce (in advance, because we're planners now) that we're going to ramp up communication over the next six years. Yes, you heard right: **six years**.

"Six years you say??" Yep. Six years. And before you roll your eyes and mutter something about Medicare paperwork, let's be honest: time is moving faster than a Wabash freshman sprinting across campus late for chapel.

Why is that? It's this thing psychologists call the "proportionality effect": *"As you age, each unit of time (like a year) becomes a smaller fraction of your total life experience. For a 10-year-old, a year is 1/10th of their life. For a 50-year-old, a year is only 1/50th. This shrinking proportion can make each year feel shorter in retrospect."*

Translation: remember how endless sophomore year felt? Now six years will fly by quicker than your grandkids swiping past your Facebook posts.

And yes, most of us are officially past age 65, which means the calendar events below will sneak up faster than a pop quiz in Econ 101:

Events to Tattoo on Your Calendar (okay, maybe just pencil in)

- **The 45th Class Reunion**

Big Bash: June 5–7, 2026

- **The 50th Class Reunion**

Most likely the first weekend in June 2031



- **Wabash Bicentennial**

*2032: 200 years of Wabash College being Wabash College. (Fun fact: the day after the founding in 1832, the trustees “knelt in the snow and conducted a dedication service.” Side note: Mike once suggested in *Barrickman’s Revenge* they were actually hunting for a bottle stopper. Mild chastisement ensued.)*

Prologue for the 45th: A Brian Wyneken Cameo

Shortly after the 2025 Big Bash, Brian Wyneken sent Mike an email full of stories (and photos!). Apparently, a few months earlier he got a surprise “Facetime” from Greg Birk (’77—former admissions and cross-country coach), alerting him to a Red Pack reunion at the Big Bash.

So Brian and his wife Anne packed their bags and came back to campus in large part to see Coach Johnson again. They hit the Friday Coach Johnson gathering, then Brian basically turned the weekend into his personal Wabash World Tour:

- Tried out his new **melodeon** in the chapel (Brian has taken up the melodeon to pursue music training in later life for the “joys and side benefits (e.g., brain health).)
- Chatted with the new choral director.
- Wandered buildings trying to remember where things used to be (relatable).
- Played detective with old cross-country courses around Montgomery County.
- Hit the Lew Wallace museum.
- Sat in on a history forum about track and XC.
- Capped it all off attending an impromptu concert by Gordon Bonham ’80, Frank Fish ’79 & Paul Karash ’78 in the new Williams housing unit....



& played a few tunes on the melodeon for “show and tell.”



Brian closed his missive with this: “The visit revived long dormant memories of good times and some less so, but it was good *to see* familiar faces of people no longer frozen in a time long past.”

Now imagine what our 45th will be like if you—yes, you—show up. Melodeon optional.

What's Coming Your Way Soon

We'll be sending out monthly memos between now and the 45th. Expect updates on things like:

- **Ramsay Archives:** Peter just got the inside scoop from archivist Nolan Eller '11, who's building ways for alumni to upload memories, photos, and artifacts. Think of it as Instagram, except the followers are future historians.
- **Bachelor Archives:** Hugh Vandivier recently pulled the August 29, 1980 issue. Reading it is like opening a time capsule, but with less hair and more polyester. *"Here is a link to the Bachelor Archives online, where you can read that article [here](#). What do you remember?"*
- **Reconnecting:** We'll be asking for living unit reps to help spread the word, boost attendance, and track down classmates. Recall Wabash has an alumni directory where you can [Find classmates here](#).
 - The trick is to make sure the information is accurate and everyone can help by notifying Alumni eServices with updated information
 - Password: If you cannot remember your username or password or have problems or questions about using Alumni eServices, please contact the Alumni Office at alumni@wabash.edu or at 765-361-6360.
- In addition to the Alumni Directory, you can access
 - Bachelor Archives: Search articles online from 1908 through spring 2010.
 - Class Agent Portal
 - JSTOR (short for "journal storage") provides access to more than 12 million journal articles, books, images, and primary sources in 75 disciplines.

- Basically, it's like a scavenger hunt—but the prize is beer at the 45th and of course the opportunity to reconnect.

We're aiming for **record-breaking attendance** in 2026. (The record for a 45th reunion is 50.) Which means: dust off your Little Giant spirit, mark your calendars, and start prepping stories that make you look cooler than you really were.

Yours in Wabash,
Peter and Mike