



WABASH COLLEGE

Class Agents Letter

Office of Alumni Affairs

P.O. Box 352

Crawfordsville, IN 47933

Web site: www.wabash.edu

Email us: alumni@wabash.edu

Phone: (765) 361-6369

Class of 1961

Class Agent

JB Bachman

jb61@bellsouth.net

February 2010

Dear Many Miler:

Greetings to you for the new decade! Most of us have now lived in nine different decades! And, I assume most of us got the sooooo sorry letter: "Based on the CPI...there was no rise in the cost of living during the past year, so your benefit will remain the same in 2010! Oh, really! No rise in the cost of living! Isn't that something? I used to by diet Tonic for 69 cents and it's now 99 cents. Oh, well! I'll just have to cut back on the Tonic and add more Gin!

'Hope you had a grand holiday season and brought in the New Year with proper gusto. I think Barbara and I lasted until 10:30.....

We now have our own Face book site: Many Milers of '61@Wabash College. At this time, it is completely open. Please feel free to add your comments, pictures or whatever. If outsiders get into it and cause problems, we'll have to set up an administrator but hopefully that won't be the case. Join in; get up to date and communicate. This will aide all of us to know about your reunion plans for..... yes, next year! Our 50th!

A couple of nifty inventions have recently entered my daily living.... First, is the Swim Suit Water Extractor made by Extractor Corp in South Elgin, IL. Now, this has probably been around for awhile, but I just started swimming last spring. You push your suit down in the chamber and hold down on the lid. Shortly, you have a suit that isn't soggy and dripping for the trip home. After several months of swimming at the YMCA, I worked up to a mile. That was a really neat goal..... But, when I went home, I fell asleep for 2 hours in the Lazy Boy, so I don't swim that much very often!

The other item is Vinturi Essential Wine Aerator. (Available at Brookstone for \$40.) You pour wine thru it and it increases the bouquet. I've tried it on a pretty good red and some lesser reds and found that it really improved the flavor! So there you have it!!!

Over the Thanksgiving weekend, I drove down to Greenfield, IN, and Doug Burns stopped on his way back to Pittsburgh after being with his 101 year old mother. We had a good visit. Doug had been to Japan on a special tour guided by the widow of a good friend. She was from the area where they travelled, so they saw things most tourists would not. Doug was surprised to see a vending machine right out on the street of a fairly large city. It dispensed sodas, water and various teas. He asked me how long a vending machine would last in one of our major cities. The Japanese have immense respect for property and other people, particularly elderly people. This isn't a religious thing; it's

imbedded in their cultural. Doug had also journeyed to France and Switzerland including a week in the Swiss Alps having exchanged his Caribbean timeshare.

Hal and Sara Sommer also ventured to the Alps

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to Everyone! We are beginning to hear the sounds of the holidays – the songs and music; the sniffs and smells – cookies and pine; and feel the warmth from knowing we have had another year of good living with family and friends. Of course, there have been some sad low spots, but Hal and I are happy to have each other and good health and happiness in our family.

We have run around a good bit in 2009 – gone many weeks from Easter to October. We spent 3 weeks in Germany and Switzerland. I swear we rode almost every cable car in the Alps! Visited the new Porsche Museum! Visited friends and relatives! And generally enjoyed ourselves! We are really feeling like 4812 Las Floras is home and are getting settled into new friendships and activities – still dancing in a couple clubs, traveling around the area to Porsche Club events, taking part in Coquina Crossing activities, etc.

For now, life is good and we are grateful!



Dressed up in Switzerland 1

Why not come down for a visit and share some good and happy times with us. We'd love to have you with us! We wish you all the very best for Christmas and in the coming year.

All our love,

Sara & Hal



View from hotel in Wengen, Switzerland



Old yellow Boxster

New red Boxster



Mike celebrated his 70th with a big party, including nearly 70 people and all of his family!

From: Tim Conlon

To: John B. Bachman

Sent: Monday, January 04, 2010 10:55 AM

Subject: Happy 2010

Hi JB:

Happy 2010 to you and yours.

MB and I had a quiet holiday time. I was in San Francisco for two weeks in December, helping a business client reset her company in the aftermath of the recessionary economy. MB joined me to visit with former neighbors and friends in the East Bay area. Christmas Day we talked with our two granddaughters in the Czech Republic, and then later had dinner with our son, daughter and her husband. The Monday before Christmas, the local daily newspaper published my essay about our society's inability to come together to address serious issues—education and infrastructure, to name just two—because the culture seemingly rewards disagreement and anger.

Our good health and ability to travel are just a few of the blessings we have. In a little over a week MB and I will go to Hawaii to enjoy our time shares on Kauai for about a month. It helps to break up the long high desert winter.

Wabash is still a unique, quality liberal arts school, based on the principles of authentic relationships, among other virtues. I suspect that is why you hear regularly and frequently from your classmates, through all these years. Tim




Sam & Susie Hildebrand
The First 50 Years
Family Celebration
December 22, 2009

WARMEST *Wishes*





John & Barbara
Merry
Christmas

& HAPPY NEW YEAR
All the best -
Julie & Jim



John & JoAnn Birdzell joined the ranks of grandparents in October with the arrival of Callum John Robertson Birdzell (pronounced Kaylum – a Scottish name!)

From: Beesley

To: Bachman

Sent: Sunday, January 10, 2010 10:28 AM

Subject: FW: Liberty Clipper

Why don't you alert our classmates to this in case they haven't gotten around to reading the latest issue of *Wabash Magazine*. (I think the return is probably to Charleston NC, not VA.)

From: jcbuford@aol.com [mailto:jcbuford@aol.com]

Subject: Re: Liberty Clipper

Thanks concerning the article. Steve Charles deserves all the credit. It's much more than I deserve! It's been a fun life--so far.

Would LOVE to have you and your sons on board. There IS room, and I've included Andy Huntoon's email (above). He's the coordinator for Liberty Clipper and will send you the detailed info. Liberty Clipper is being brought back from the Bahamas in APR, and Andy has agreed to meet us in Ft. Lauderdale on APR 17, drop us in Charleston, VA, on APR 24. Although Liberty Clipper will have a full crew, this is a familiarization Grumpy Old Men Bucket List cruise. We all get to work all the stations, from sail management to the helm, from the diesel engines to the galley. We'll all stand watches and participate. Cost is \$1075 per person, one heck of a deal to charter a 125 tall ship for a week for exclusive use. Looking forward! If you've got any questions, just give me a holler ((361) 244-4111, or email me.

See you in April, and Happy New Year! jcb

-----Original Message-----

From: Beesley <jonorm49@comcast.net>

To: jcbuford@aol.com

Sent: Sat, Jan 9, 2010 4:34 pm

Subject: Liberty Clipper

Enjoyed the article in *Wabash Magazine* and would like to be included in your Liberty Clipper adventure if you are able to put it together (and if I'm not already too late). Might even be able to talk my son and/or son-in-law (both Class of '88) to crew, provided you promise to bunk them "before the mast."

Norm Beesley '61

By the way, I am still hoping someone else from our class is going to go on that Clipper ship cruise that Buford is putting together for April 17th!

'Catcher in the Rye' author, 91, dies at home

By Elaine Woo
LOS ANGELES TIMES

LOS ANGELES — J.D. Salinger, 91, one of contemporary literature's most famous recluses, who created a lasting symbol of adolescent discontent in his 1951 novel *The Catcher in the Rye*, has died.

Mr. Salinger died of natural causes Wednesday at his home in Cornish, N.H., his son Matthew said in a statement released by the author's literary representative.

Perhaps no other writer of so few works generated

as much popular and critical interest as Mr. Salinger, who published one novel, three authorized collections of short stories and an additional 21 stories that only appeared in magazines in the 1940s. He abandoned publishing in 1965, when his last story — *Hapworth 26, 1924* — was published by *The New Yorker*. Rarely seen in public and aggressively averse to most publicity, he was often called the Howard Hughes of American letters.

Stories autobiographical

His silence inspired a range of reactions from literary critics, some characterizing it as a form of cowardice and others as a cunning strategy that, despite its outward intentions, helped preserve his mythic status in American culture. Still others interpreted his withdrawal as the deliberate spiritual stance of a man who, shying from the glare of celebrity, immersed himself in Eastern religions, particularly Zen Buddhism and Hindu Vedantic philosophy.

His stories — heavily autobiographical, humorous and cynical — focused on highly idiosyncratic characters seeking meaning in a world transformed by the horrors of World War II, in which Mr. Salinger was a direct participant.

His stellar fictional creation was Holden Caulfield, the teenage anti-hero of *The Catcher in the Rye*, who was, like Mr. Salinger, unsuccessful in school and inclined to retreat from a world he perceived as disingenuous and

hostile to his needs.

Michael Kreyling, a Vanderbilt University English professor whose specialties are Southern Literature and American Literature, last taught Salinger about two years ago in a freshman seminar class on books that never go out of print.

"*The Catcher in the Rye* is always going to be a 20th-century *Huck Finn*," said

Kreyling, a Nashville resident who has been teaching at Vanderbilt for 25 years. "It's a coming-of-age boy's book. It's always been relevant in there are certain things about the book that have made it a fixture in American culture."

Kreyling says it's unfortunate Mr. Salinger was such a reclusive figure.

"But, whether there's a difference between Salinger the person and Salinger the legend, we'll just have to find out," he said.

A prototypical misfit, Caulfield apparently became a fixation for the criminally disturbed, including Mark David Chapman, who killed John Lennon, and John Hinckley Jr., who shot President Ronald Reagan. But Caulfield also cared about children and other innocents, exhibiting moral outrage and a compassion for underdogs that resonated with the generation that came of age in the 1960s.

Catcher began to appear on college reading lists in the 1960s, and in the ensuing decades, *Catcher* became one of the most-banned and most-taught books in the country.

Tennessean staff writer Nicole Young contributed to this report.



Author J.D. Salinger was rarely seen in public.

Do you remember that “*Catcher In The Rye*” was assigned to us the very first week we started classes at Wabash? I don’t remember very much about it except that it was provocative! I had forgotten that it had only been written a few years before we had to read it!

----- Original Message -----

From: Joe Barnette

To: JB Bachman

Sent: Saturday, January 30, 2010 7:03 PM

Subject: Re: Thanks!

JB We had a good meeting this weekend and there is lots of hard work being done by the College administrators and the faculty. We had dinner Friday night with students and it was most refreshing and keeps reminding me of the value of four years in Crawfordsville at Wabash College. The students were interested, expressed opinions in a constructive manner and seemed to have an appreciation for the complexity of the issues facing Wabash and all of higher education. Let’s hope they all do well and will be able to help future generations of Wabash men. I am headed to a warmer place tomorrow. By the way Jim Cumming is doing well as he recovers from his recent hip surgery. I am sure that within a few weeks he will be able to challenge his Wabash rebound record. Joe B

From: Michele Tatar

To: 'JB Bachman'

Sent: Wednesday, January 06, 2010 8:49 AM

Subject: FW: Robert Murbarger '61-DECEASED ALUM

01/06/10- Received email from: fronheis2@aol.com

"Robert F. Murbarger '61 died last June 22nd at the age of 70. He had been living in Marietta, Georgia for several years, but was originally from Michigan."

Entry on ObitRegistry:

Name Residence Maiden Name

Robert F. Murbarger (Brief) Marietta, GA N/A

Age Approx. Date of Death:

70 - 06/22/2009

Notice

"Robert Farwell Murbarger, 70 of Marietta died Monday. No service will be held. Cremation Society of the South, Marietta"

A sad story. I remember Bob as a gentle person. I believe his family life was chaotic. We drive through Muskegon every summer on our way to Door County, WI, (We take a ferry across Lake Michigan at Ludington), and I always think of Bob at that time.

Hairs (Harry Lane Farree '59)

Sad news. Bob grew up one block from me in Muskegon and we we're close pals until high school when I went to Catholic Central and he to Muskegon High. We reconnected when I went to Wabash and he and Whitey took me to the Beta Rush party in Brown County. The trip south thru Crown Point to C'Ville and on to Brown County in the Sheridan's Olds 88 convertible and sustained by massive quantities Dreweys beer will never be forgotten.

Bobby and I used to ride their bikes out to the Lake Michigan Pier with our cane poles, two pails for the fish and a bucket of minnows. One Saturday we came home with 63 lunker perch and our two families had a great fish fry. Bob's father, a Wabash man in the 30's and his mother were quite the partyers.

Happy New Year, Denny Sheridan

From Norm Beesley....

I got this on the internet from the Elkhart Truth.

CARL P. HORNEMAN

MIAMI -- Carl P. Horneman, 71, of Miami and also of Elkhart, died Thursday (Jan. 28, 2010) in his Florida home.

He was born Sept. 23, 1938, in Danville, Ill., to Kenneth H. and Virginia (Pendleton) Horneman. He is survived by one sister, Anne H. Mueller of Blairsville, Ga.; and one stepbrother, Russell W. (Sandy) Horneman of Sarasota, Fla.

Mr. Horneman taught Spanish at Goshen High School from 1964 to 1984 and remained involved with his sister in a family farm partnership.

No funeral services or visitation are planned. Cremation took place with Elkhart Cremation Service, 2100 W. Franklin St., Elkhart, assisting with arrangements.

Note: I have received a note from Carl's sister, Anne. She will have a Memorial Service at the Culver Military Academy Chapel in May. She will keep us posted on that... It has been a difficult time for her, as they were very close.

Wabash was also saddened by the death of sophomore Josh Linthicum of Springfield, Ohio. He died as a result of complications from surgery in Cincinnati. He was a history major and played on the line for the football team.

Well, this letter is pretty lengthy. Please mark your calendars for June 3-5, 2011. We hope to have a record number of Many Milers returning to Dear Old Wabash!!!

Many Miles Before the Night.....,

JB