June 8, 2006

Big Bash 2006 was a huge success. As the saying goes, you just had to be there.

Bill Berry, Chorimeister, shared with you his impressions of the Chapel Sing at which THE Class at Wabash soundly subdued the competition, including all the Glee Clubbers in the class of 1961.

I wanted to share with you the source of the energy that lifted 1966 to the peak. Cal and Marsha Black invested enormous time in the preparations. Marsha baked small loaves of bread to insert into goody bags that she and Cal shopped for and stuffed. These were for the wives and contained munchies, water, trinkets, toys, magazines, and Wabash memorabilia. The irony was that the bags were almost too heavy for the wives to carry. Cal and Marsha shopped for and staffed the hospitality room at the Comfort Inn. Stan Walker set up the ice, beverages, and snacks Friday morning. Then, Cal and Marsha cleaned it up Saturday and Sunday mornings. Peggy and I also stopped by to help clean up, but Jay and Marty Fisher had done such a good job the night before, there was little to do.

Jay Fisher transported his red and white golf cart in the back end of his Cherry Red Dodge Ram all the way from Grand Rapids. When he arrived in C-ville, he affixed gigantic Wabash flags on the front posts of the golf cart and to the truck side rails. These vehicles were parked at the entrance to the Mall at 10:50 AM, just prior to the 11 AM chapel sing. John Horner ’59 loaned us his mint-condition 1962 burgundy red Pontiac and one of the white C-ville PD Blazers headed the caravan. When ’66 was called to the chapel steps to sing, the police lights and sirens activated and we began the journey to the chapel at perhaps 5 mph. Everyone on the mall first stood and watched, and then broke into thunderous applause. There must have been 200 camera flashes during the long journey. Several of our classmates also carried “Rhynie” posters, and raised them in the air during the parade and singing of “Old Wabash”. Jack Davis led us in a cheer of W-W-WAB-A-A-ASH, WAB-ASH, WABASH! This clearly set the stage for our singing the school song. Thanks Jack!

We had 39 class members plus spouses/significant others attend. They were:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Charlie Ayres</th>
<th>Charlie Bell</th>
<th>Bill Berry</th>
<th>Cal Black</th>
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<td>Jerry Blossom</td>
<td>John Coligan</td>
<td>Bill Cook</td>
<td>Jack Davis</td>
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<td>Lynn Dick</td>
<td>Jay Fisher</td>
<td>John Flanagan</td>
<td>Dick Gray</td>
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I served as the class photographer and took over three hundred pictures of the various activities over the weekend. So, we do have a nice collection of photos from this great reunion.

Jay Williams did a superb job as our master of ceremonies at the class dinner on Saturday night. He introduced Joe O’Rourke and his wife, Bev, and Joe presented the program for the evening. It focused on memories of Wabash and featured segments from Dennis Henry’s (’67) video of Wabash that he made during the years ’64-’67. Our other guests were Bob and Mary Angela Cooley and Hall Peebles.

Dan Newman and his wife, Kay, came from Zionsville, Indiana. Back in August, 2002, Dan was feeling run down and sleeping 20 out of 24 hours. He underwent some blood tests and was diagnosed with leukemia. He was hospitalized for 28 days and underwent seven days of chemotherapy. His red blood count returned. A more permanent treatment included a bone marrow transplant. Unfortunately, his brother was not a match. However, the physicians decided that they could use Dan’s own stem cells in his bone marrow. Dan is in remission and indicates that the success rate is climbing. He is a true example of “Some Little Giant”.

As of right now, our class giving percentage is 45.8%. If several more of our classmates are able to make a gift to the College before June 30, we could hit 50% which is huge for the College. Make your gift online at https://www.wabash.edu/alumni/egift or call the Annual Giving office at 877-743-4545. Below is a list of those in our class who have made a gift to Wabash this fiscal year:
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<th>Name</th>
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<td>Donald Race</td>
<td>David Riddle</td>
<td>William Robb</td>
<td>Max Rudicel</td>
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<td>Frank Sanford</td>
<td>Ken Schild</td>
<td>Judy Schmutte</td>
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<td>Jim Sedmak</td>
<td>Bill Steger</td>
<td>Terry Storey</td>
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<td>Bob Takacs</td>
<td>George Taybos</td>
<td>Roger Thies</td>
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<td>Rod Townsend</td>
<td>Jim VanDolah</td>
<td>Stan Vogel</td>
<td>Richard Vozel</td>
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<td>Milan Vydareny</td>
<td>Stan Walker</td>
<td>Dale Waller</td>
<td>David Ware</td>
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<td>Jim Wason</td>
<td>Dennis Whigham</td>
<td>Tom Wilhelmus</td>
<td>Jim Williams, Jr.</td>
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GO WABASH!

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