June 5, 2014

Dear Men of ’66,

What A Day- What a Year!

430 on 4/30 was a terrific success. The Wabash community came together to financially support the College on one day unlike any other in the history of Wabash. Thanks to each of you who participated in this effort. See the following results provided by Joe Klen, Associate Dean for College Advancement.

Gifts and Donors
2,329 gifts were made as part of 430 on 4/30 (more than five times the original challenge).
2,214 unique donors were part of the day. This includes 1,626 alumni, 211 current students, and more than 170 faculty and staff.
877 people made their first gift of the 2013-2014 fiscal year on 4/30.
374 people made their first gift EVER to Wabash on 4/30.

Dollars
$465,421 raised on 4/30.
84% of the dollars on the day were allocated to the Annual Fund.

Class Statistics
The Class of 2004, who will celebrate their 10-year reunion in a few weeks at the 2014 Big Bash, led all graduating classes with 62 donors on 4/30.
The Class of 2015 led the four undergraduate classes with 63 students making a gift.
14 graduating classes had more than 40 alumni give on the day.
Every graduating class between 1961 and 2017 had 10 or more donors.
Every graduating class since 1948 had at least one donor.

Affinity Challenges
There were 37 affinity challenges by individuals or groups.
More than 850 affinity challenge codes were officially entered on gifts (some applied two codes to a single gift).
Top Affinity Challenges with more than 40 codes entered:

- New Donor NAWM (NAWM Board)—138
- Current Student (Jeremy Wentzel ’14, Zach Boston ’15, Carter Adams ’15, and Seton Goddard ’15)—121
- Phi Delt Jim Dyer (Jim Dyer ’83)—114
- Women on the Wabash Campus (Kim Johnson)—99
- Current/Former Wabash College Student Athletes (Brent Harris H’03)—83
- Current/Former Bachelor (Howard Hewitt)—45
- Stand TALL With Your Wabash Man (Lora Hess)—45
- Glee Club (Richard Bowen)—42

One hundred and seventy-two young men graduated from Wabash on 5/18/14 highlighting a great year overall for the College. Here is a nice blog from Tom Runge, Director of Alumni and Parent Relations that he sent to the seniors prior to graduation-it speaks to all of us.

[http://blog.wabash.edu/thegrunge/page/2/](http://blog.wabash.edu/thegrunge/page/2/)

**ADVICE TO SENIORS**

May 8, 2014

All of these are best accomplished in the twilight of day…solo…i.e., by yourself.

1. Walk to the Chapel. Walk up to the balcony and think back to Freshman Saturday. Find your spot. Sit there for a few moments. You are, my friend, a different man today. Relish it. Share your experience. Most of all put it to good use.

2. Walk to the senior bench. Sit there…after all you are a senior. (Make sure the latest paint job is dry, of course.) Look at Center Hall as your arm rests on one end or the other. Countless Wabash men have shared the same thoughts as you have right now. Let them flood your memory banks. It’s OK. Next time, the thoughts will be familiar…but different.

3. Take your time walking down Monon Bell way. Then head into the Allen Center. Once in the front door, turn around and take a good long look at the Monon Bell. It’s commonplace for you to know it’s there…but that’s not the same experience other Wabash men have had. That bell has a distinctive ring because it isn’t about just football, it’s about life. “Wabash Always Fights” means you always give your best. As players, as fans, as doers, and as leaders.

4. Walk into Chadwick Court…and listen….carefully listen. You’ll hear the basketballs bouncing, the sounds of crazy music, but most of all you’ll hear Wabash alive. The same echoes you’ll hear if you find enough time to walk across the football field, the baseball field, and the soccer/lacrosse field.

5. Finally, walk on over the Detchon Center. Walk in the mall side door…you just entered Detchon Center…and walk out the other side…you just walked out of Yandes Library. That one-minute walk eclipsed 52 years of Wabash history. Soak that up.

6. Take the sloping walk through the Arboretum from Detchon/Yandes to the corner of Wabash and Grant. Stop on the steps…given by a Wabash Class of long, long ago. To them, that corner was special. You walked in a boy four years ago — you’re walking out a Wabash man. They did the same thing over 100 years ago.
As you return to your living unit and the company of your friends, celebrate those long papers, difficult questions, oral comps, and every other experience. Every little bit, good and bad, made you who you are today.

Now, do what I didn’t do. Take a moment the next day or before you pack up to say a sincere thank you to those who changed your life here. You’ll live forever…but they may not. Let them know you care and you’re thankful. Every time you’ll cut down the nets of another life challenge won, make sure they get a piece of that net. They weren’t in it for money or for fame, they did it for you.

I am very sorry to report that we have lost another classmate, Paul Sweeney. It is always difficult to share this kind of information, and I hope each of us will reflect on the wonderful memories we have of our classmates. His obituary follows.

Paul Sweeney

Paul Joseph Sweeney rode his last curtain call Thursday, May 15, 2014, at the John F. Keever Hospice Solace Center after a long fight with cancer.

He was born June 18, 1944, in San Francisco, CA, to the late Joseph and Roberta Sweeney. At a young age, he moved to Los Altos, CA, in what is now known as the “Silicon Valley” to be close to his grandparents who were among the first to plant fruit orchards in that fertile area.

Paul was a graduate of Wabash College and Indiana University, where he received his master's degree in theatrical scenic design. Following college, he came to Asheville where he enjoyed a 20 year tenure as an associate professor of theatrical design and technology at the University of North Carolina at Asheville. He was honored with the founders award in 1992 as the educator of the year by the United States Institute of Theatre Technology, Southeast Regional Section.

For every summer from 1974 to 1994, Paul took great pride in being the scenic and lighting designer for the Opera Workshop at the Brevard Music Center where he designed critically acclaimed scenery for over 100 operas and musicals.

As a member of St. Joan of Arc parish since 1973, Paul was devoted to his faith and his parish community. He served in many capacities, including that of a member of the parish pastoral council and as a lector.

Surviving him are his beloved wife of 44 years, Guillermina Martinez Sweeney; their son, Randall Sweeney, and his wife Lexie, and their children Benjamin and Rosalyn, of Philadelphia, PA; their son, William Sweeney, and his wife Cameron Wilson, of Moscow, ID; their daughter, Deborah Sweeney, and her daughter, Katherine, of Charlotte, NC; and a special goddaughter, Melissa Guerrero of Asheville. He is also survived by his brother, John Sweeney and his family, of Northfield, VT, and cousin Betty Denno and her family, of Merced, CA.
The family will hold a prayer service Wednesday, May 21st, at 7:00 PM at Groce Funeral Home on Patton Avenue, followed by a time where friends will be received. A funeral mass will be held at 10:00 AM on Thursday, May 22nd, at St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, followed by a short graveside service at Forest Lawn Memorial Park.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to either St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, 768 Asbury Rd., Candler, NC 28715; or to CarePartners Hospice and Palliative Care, P.O. Box 25338, Asheville, NC 28813.

I am also sorry to report that Stan Walker has decided to retire as our co-class agent. Stan has been a stalwart in his support of, and service to, Wabash College through the years. Stan and his wife, Peggy, have supported the College in so many different ways and their friendship is something Marsha and I cherish. Stan is a man of principle and strong moral fiber. He is a family man, a man of faith, a patriot who served his country in the Army retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel and certainly Some Little Giant! Stan and Peggy, thank you so much for your contributions to Wabash College through the years.

Because of Stan’s retirement, I have asked Jay Fisher to become our co-class agent, and he has accepted the challenge. He wanted to know if he had to go through any pledgeship before he is qualified for the duties and obligations of this highly sought after position. I have told him that he must complete his probationary period without any incidents and that the probationary period lasts a lifetime. He will serve as our Chapel Sing coordinator for our 50th reunion, and I am sure he will come up with something unique like he did at our 45th when he introduced the “W-condom caps!” We look forward to Jay’s contributions.

The Little Giant Legacy Golf Outing is on June 19 in Indy and there is still room for sponsors and golfers. This outing will support a project to professionally display all of the athletic team photos from yesteryear to the very present. They will be displayed in the Allen Athletic Center and will be grouped by the various sports. Joe Haklin ’73, Athletic Director, is in charge of this project and he may be contacted at Haklinj@wabash.edu or at 765-361-6233.

The College will end the fiscal year on June 30, 2014 so if you haven’t made a gift to the College yet, please consider doing so by that date. None of us paid the “full freight” for what it cost to educate us, and that is still true today.

“These fleeting years…."

Cal