



WABASH COLLEGE

Class Agents Letter

Alumni and Parent Relations

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Class of 1968

Class Agent

Jim Roper

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February 16, 2017

Dear Friends in the Class of 1968,

Happy New Year! Congratulations on another successful trip around the sun. Getting serious about baseball here in sunny Colorado. Enjoying life and hope all of you are, too! I had a brief battle with kidney stones. Won it! Stay hydrated. It's painful. It did delay my skiing with John Hudson, MD, Retired. His wife Dot gets better every day, he reports.

Our classmate, **Bruce Gras**, is back!!! Read all about it in this letter.

If you have forgotten to call and do the Annual Fund gift, please do that. You can make your gift Online: www.wabash.edu/egift, phone: 877-743-4545, or mail: Wabash College / Annual Fund / PO Box 352 / Crawfordsville, IN 47933.

If you know a young man who might be a fit for Wabash, but haven't called Admissions at 1-765-361-6225 or emailed admissions@wabash.edu, please do that.

Meanwhile, life goes on. We are looking seriously at the 2018 **Big Bash** (our 50th). Hope your calendar is clear. **June 1, 2018**. Expect to start hearing from classmates about this. Lot's going on, so, here we go:



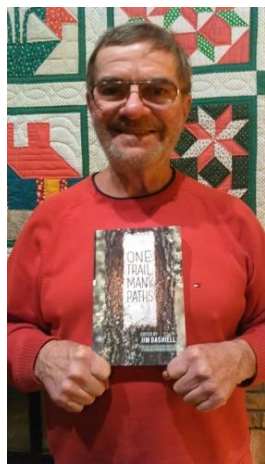
Spotted on Facebook

12-10-16

Dan Vannatter and the Governor, Arnold Schwarzenegger.

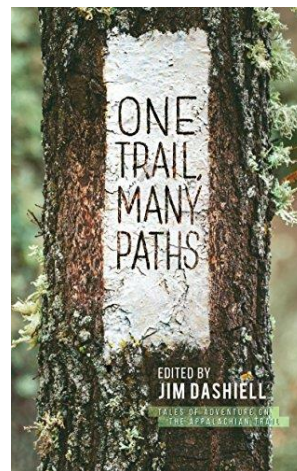
So, what's going on Dan? Did you set him straight?

Jim Dashiell 12-10-16



Hey folks in Facebook Land my book is DONE! It turned out very well but I'm prejudiced. The title is One Trail Many Paths and is available from Amazon in either Paperback or Kindle (e-book). Hope you all want one. What about your friends? Think Christmas presents. It is a collective effort by myself and 13 other author/hikers, each telling their own story honestly. There are many EXCELLENT writers in this book.

Their names are Danielle Breakell, Tanya Bajor Blakeman, Jean Deeds, Kevin Conley, Ryan Holt, Cynthia and Woody Harrell, Renee Neufeld, Al Olsavsky, Bonnie Karet, Jackie Kuhn, Kate Spillane Bolano, Kerry Smithwick and Neville Harris, owner of Woods Hole Hostel.



Hi Jim, It's Funnybone, otherwise known as Jim Dashiell MD. I've edited a book about hiking the Appalachian Trail, it went on sale from Amazon on Pearl Harbor Day, 2016. I held my first copy December 12th. Felt like a baby being born.

The title is One Trail, Many Paths. I have 13 of my hiker friends as contributing authors. Each wrote a chapter as did I. There's a great variety of folks including a married couple from Mississippi, a former Marine, sisters, a father-son team, strong women of all ages as well as a few guys. It's a great assortment of writing styles as only one was a published author. It will certainly appeal to an outdoor enthusiast but also someone seeking adventure thru other people's experiences.

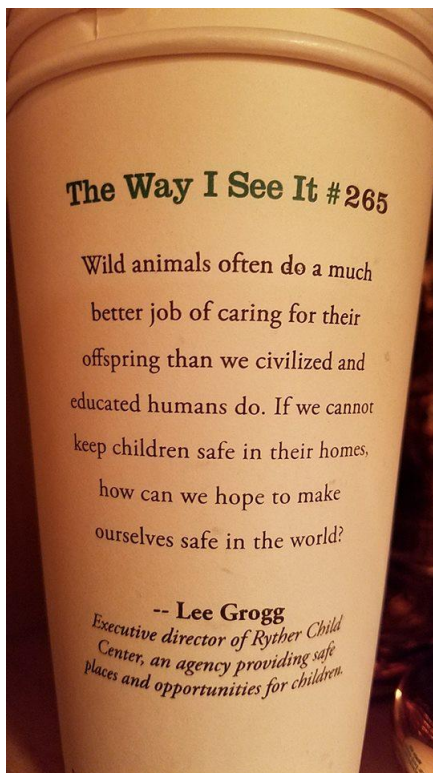
Jim, if you want pictures, more details, etc. just contact me.

Thanks. Jim



Mike Gallagher - 12-18 -16 Seen in the penalty box before a Canucks hockey game. Father – daughter photo below. What's up, Mike?





Also Spotted on Facebook: Not sure where this came from or is going, but I like it.

Jim Dashiell

December 25, 2016 ·

My youngest granddaughter Lizzie has found an excellent book to read. Santa was very good to her.



We remember his father, Coach Owen Huntsman. Stan too was amazing! Stan Huntsman '54, Legendary Track & Field Coach Dies Stan Huntsman, who coached outstanding college

track and field teams for 39 years, led a dominant United States men's team at the 1988 Olympics in Seoul, and fought tirelessly against cuts in financial support for the sport, died Nov. 23 in Austin, TX. [Story here](#) (Control Click)

Spotted near Michael Dybel on FACEBOOK, 1-8-17:

The love of a family is life's greatest blessing. ❤️. My heart is happy!



So Sad to Report the Loss of our Friend

THOMPSON--Gordon T., passed on Monday, January 9, 2017 at his home in Manhattan. He was born in Evansville, IN on March 3, 1947. A graduate of Wabash College and the Columbia Journalism School, Gordy began a long career at The New York Times in 1968, where he met his wife, Nora Kerr. Among the positions he held in the newsroom were copy editor, editor of the L.I. Weekly, assistant Metro editor, Real Estate copy chief, and assistant News Technology editor. Moving to the Systems Department in 1992, he became Manager of Internet Services in 1994, after helping connect The Times to the Internet. He retired in 2001. He is survived by his son, Andrew Kerr-Thompson of NYC, and his sister, Ann T. Lynch of Las Vegas. Services will be held at 1pm, Sunday, January 15, at Cobble Hill Chapels, 171 Court St., Brooklyn, NY. 1/3

Gordy told me at our 40th **Big Bash** that he had not wanted to come back at first, but rejoining all his friends was one of the best times of his life. He offered “the sound of one hand clapping.”

Dates to Remember

Commencement 2017 – May 14, 2017

BIG BASH 2017 – June 2-4, 2017

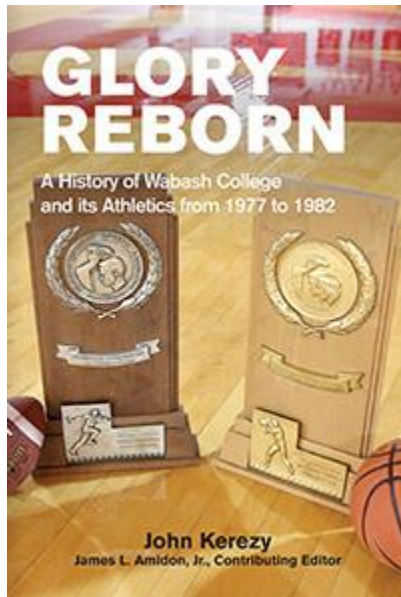
Glee Club 125th Anniversary Celebration - September 28-30, 2017

I received some nice notes at Christmas time. **Chuck Kraft** sent a gracious note. He will take his last paycheck on January 31, loves retirement, and he eagerly awaits birth of his second grandson in February. He looks forward to our **50th Reunion Big Bash in 2018**.

Ronnie Hill and Geri are doing fine in St. Louis. He says he treasures those Wabash years and friends. (I do too, Ron.) He just retired as a judge and is currently only employed as a grandpa to seven grandsons. He runs the four in town around to athletic practices and events. (They sound like big-time athletes—like his All-State grandpa). Three more grandsons in Boston.

Retired **Rev. Jason Reed and Anne** are doing well in Naperville. He relishes the “miracle” on Waveland Avenue, the emergence of the Chicago Cubs as actual winners. Hell froze over. Gotta love the Cubbies. Back in the day, the best hot dogs in the world were served up at Wrigley Field.

Dr. David and Lynda Cook are enjoying kids and grandkids in Indianapolis. He didn't say anything about retirement. And 2016 brought them ups and downs. They recently traveled to Iceland—the Arctic Circle end. I hope to have a coffee with Dave on my next low pass through Indy.



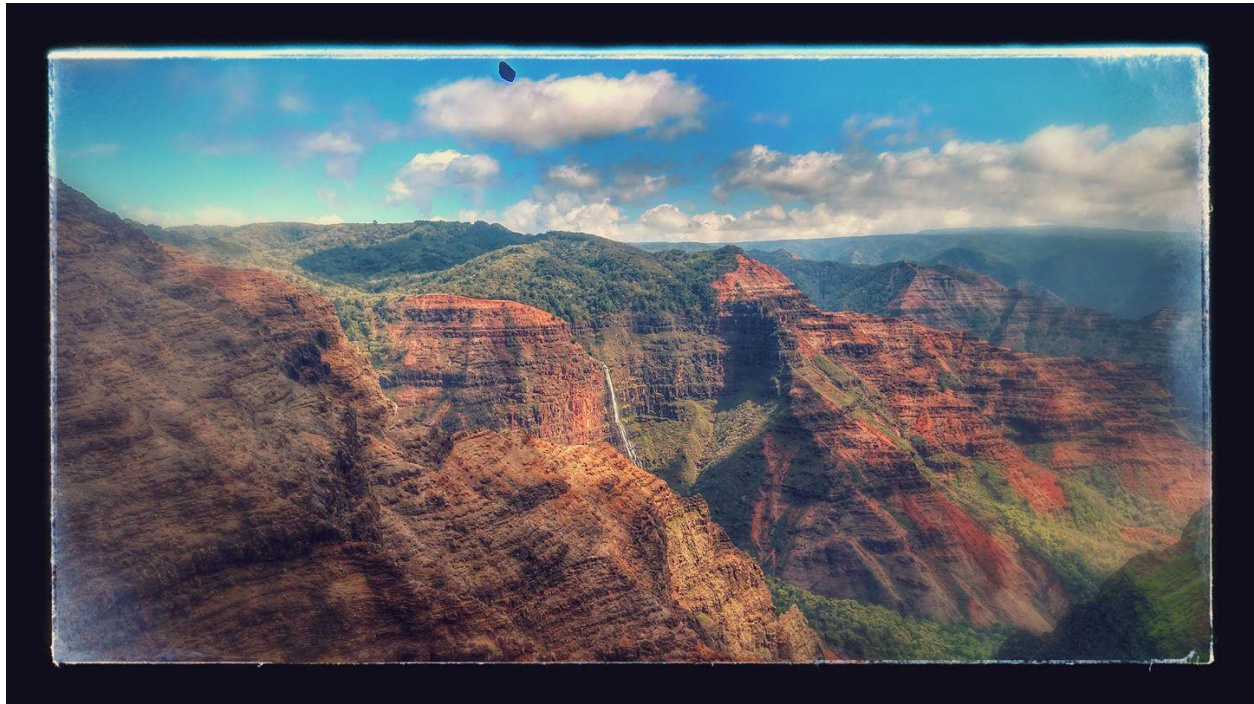
John Kerezy '77 is also a Class Agent. I have not yet read this book. But I plan to, right after Jim Dashiell's!!!

"Glory Reborn," by John Kerezy '77.

The College is also excited to announce the release of a new book, *Glory Reborn: A History of Wabash College and its Athletics, 1977-1982*, which will be on sale Saturday in the Wabash Bookstore and in the Allen Center.

The book, written by alumnus John Kerezy '77, chronicles Wabash's unexpected run to the 1977 Stagg Bowl (Division III National Championship Game) in football and the excellence that all of the College's sports teams enjoyed in what is long known as the "golden age of Wabash athletics."

Posted by Van Butler, 2-4-17: The Falls at Walmia Canyon.



From Steve Hoffman. Grunge's Successor

Wabash is ranked #1 in the nation in Princeton Reviews top alumni networks. You are making a difference! All of us at Wabash and the alumni body appreciate your efforts. Here is the link:

<https://www.princetonreview.com/college-rankings?rankings=best-alumni-network>

Princeton Review just included Wabash in its college guide, *Colleges That Pay You Back*, and ranked the College's alumni network number one in the country (plus top-20 rankings in nine other categories).

Wabash in the Princeton Review

Best Alumni Network	#1
Top Internship Opportunities	#3
Everyone Plays Intramural Sports	#3
Best Athletic Facilities	#8
Best Career Services	#8
Most Accessible Professors	#10
Best College Theater	#15
Best Health Services	#16
Professors Get High Marks	#18
Top 50 - Colleges That Pay You Back	#38



Mike Gallagher

Zihuatanejo, Mexico

2-12-17- I think Mike and Kathy like this place!

Also, they are providing a scholarship!

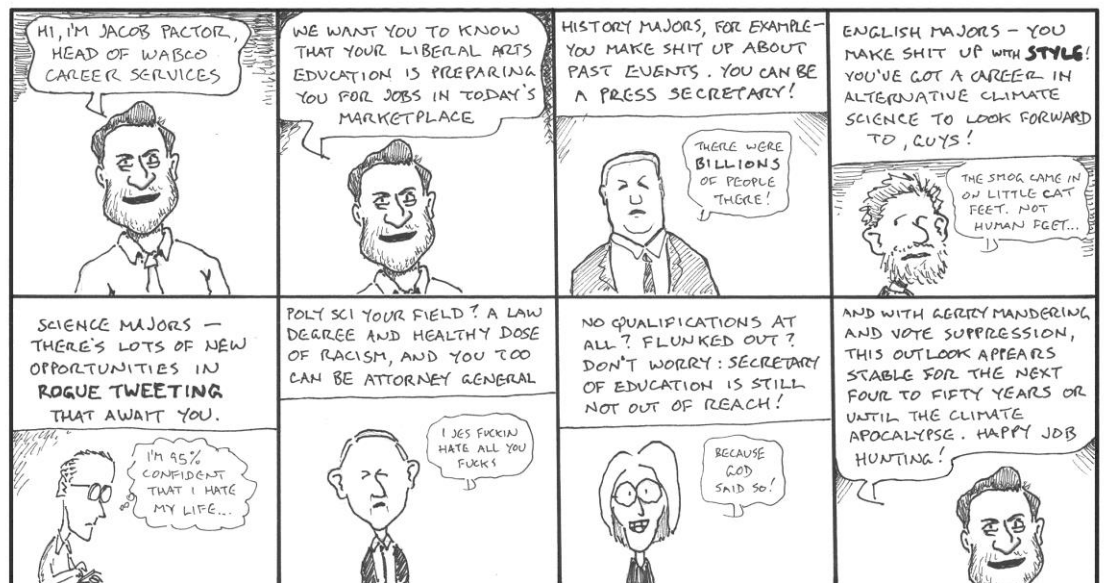
Our 16-year-old high school student Bella with her mother Noami at the annual Ninos Adelante breakfast. She takes six hours of advanced English classes every week after her full days of regular high school classes.



In the cartoon on the right, our great friend, Jacob Pactor '04, Class Agent and teacher in Indy. Was recently selected to direct Career Services at Wabash.

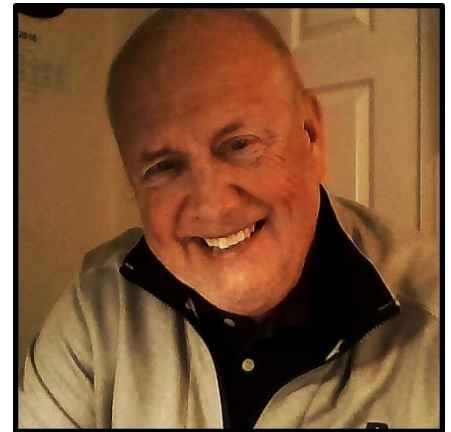
CARTOONING 101

A FULL CREDIT COURSE IN FOOLISHNESS BY MORILLO



I know a lot of 1968er's who had the career question man-handled by the Selective Service.

WE FOUND BRUCE MALCOM GRAS! Here is his report: As it turns out, what doesn't kill you does indeed make you stronger, either that or evermore foolish! Hard as it is to admit, it nearly killed me when my now ex-wife, Hedy, walked out on me after the 3rd of my four spinal surgeries over the last four years. Fortune has made me stronger, though, and I believe far from foolish. Fate brought my new and wonderful wife, Ruth, and I together quite unexpectedly. She is 15 years younger, a lawyer and works at FDA. She is a real pro, head square on her shoulders, and I cannot imagine what life was like before we found each other. Now, I reside with her in the Shenandoah Valley in Virginia with our dog Cody quite peaceably. Specifically, we live in Berryville, a small "artist colony" community, and in a historical landmark house. Retirement has been very rewarding for me as well. Sure, Hedy was a setback. But as we learned at Wabash when you are tossed down to the dirt, you just get your ass up quickly and without whimpering, dust yourself off, and get back on that damn horse! Now firmly astride again on my pony, I have been building out my creative side in music and books. There are many avenues to pursue in both. My problem is more like a kid in a candy store, figuring out what I want to do and doing precisely that. The secret that Dean Moore taught me and likely many others too was to "assert yourself with excellence, not empty words." And so, I am attacking the Billboard Pop charts with my music production, and doing well initially on SoundCloud. I am also successfully following James Patterson into a revival of the old "novella" book publishing format, focusing on writing that reads like you are watching a movie. There you have it Ropes. Life could be worse, of course, but for now, it doesn't get any better for me. Peace to our '68 Brotherhood!***



And that's all, folks. Please stay in touch with an update, and support Wabash as you can. Take good care!

Jim Roper '68