

Wabash.

Class Agents Letter

Alumni and Parent Relations

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Class of 1968

Class Agent

Jim Roper

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Late January 2019

Dear Friends in the Class of 1968,

I was ready to send a letter out on January 1, but Windows 10 crashed and took the letter with it. Yeah! You'da thunk I knew better! I learned not to trust technology flying the D-model Aardvark! Here is the reconstructed missive, with some personal stuff and some amazing Wabash history. Please enjoy and send updates with photos when you can!



This beautiful photo came along right after Thanksgiving from **Wayne Kornas**. Striking!

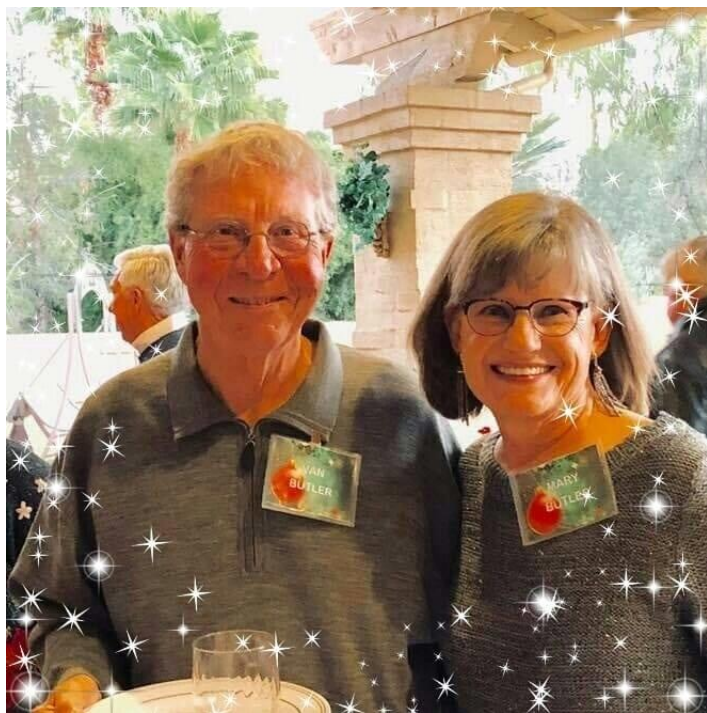


Early December I had a long telephone conversation with **Bruce Gras**, who was in a desperate situation with a rare, severe infection. Then, I got a nice update around Christmastime. He thinks he has finally turned the corner on that thing with help from the NIH and CDC. We talked about airplanes mostly. He had 153 traps in the Navy's RA-5C Avenger, a super-fast jet built with 1950s technology. I flew the super-fast F-111F. Did you know with the right fuel weight, it could cruise supersonic? On and on we went. All we needed was perhaps a Traditional Wabash Beverage! He is restructuring his books, and still doing music. **Keep getting better and stay in touch, Bruce!**

Mike Gallagher 12-13-18 Enjoying the kids in Vancouver.



Got a nice note from **Mark Sutton**. He described his Year of Miracles: successful back surgery, removal of a melanoma found by the back surgeon, and a fun trip to Key West for his brother-in-law's participation in an Ernest Hemmingway Look-Alike Contest. He moved to a new one-story home in Zionsville, and noted the miracle that was **not** to be was a Depauw victory in the Bell Contest.



Nice shot of Van and Mary Butler!

\$4 MILLION GIFT CREATES NEW RECRUITING INITIATIVE

When **Walt '68 and Kathy Snodell** are asked where they're each from, they laugh first. Then they explain. Walt is from the south side of Chicago. He's a White Sox fan. Kathy is from the north side of Chicago...and a Cubs fan.

Though their baseball loyalties have caused a few disagreements over the years, they both love their city, believe in all-male education, and want more students in and around Chicago to hear about Wabash College.

"Wabash really makes a difference," Kathy said. "I've seen it through Walt's life, through our grandson (Tyler Snodell '15), and I've seen what other people have done because of Wabash."

In order to help the College with recruitment and enrollment efforts in their hometown, the Snodells recently gave \$4 million to start the Greater Chicagoland Initiative.

The Giant Steps Campaign is a \$225 million comprehensive campaign focused largely on growing Wabash's endowment for scholarships, faculty, academic programs, and cross-cultural immersion learning experiences.

Jon Pactor (*a friend, '71 class agent, 100% Wabash*) just shared this with the fraternity advisors. Thought you might be interested as well. (*It's on the 4-point system.*)

Overall Fraternity Housing avg GPA = 3.129

ALL Campus avg GPA = 3.124

Overall Independent Housing avg GPA = 3.020

Overall Freshman Independent Housing avg GPA = 3.138

CHAPTER RANKINGS

1. FIJI 3.424
2. Beta 3.313
3. Delt 3.251
4. Phi Delt 3.24
5. LCA 3.186
6. Sigma Chi 3.008
7. Kappa Sigma 2.988
8. Theta Delt 2.972
9. Phi Psi 2.963
10. TKE 2.945

FRESHMAN CLASS RANKINGS

1. Phi Delt 3.408
2. FIJI 3.281
3. Beta 3.227
4. LCA 3.164
5. Delt 3.109
6. Phi Psi 3.078
7. Sigma Chi 3.022
8. TKE 2.909
9. Theta Delt 2.874
10. Kappa Sigma 2.633



Wabash College Athletics

1-17-19

Fourteenth-ranked Wabash basketball improved to 15-1 overall and 9-0 in @NCAC games with a 70-59 home victory Wednesday night over arch-rival DePauw. Four Little Giants scored in double figures, led by Harrison Hallstrom and Tyler Watson each with 14 points



Jim Millikin sends:



Jim...a summer update. After the Big Bash Helen and I went direct to Maryland for the birth of our fourth grandchild. Bear was born on June 5. In late July we rented a large house on Lake Waveland. All three daughters and families managed to get there for at least part of our 50th wedding celebration.

I proposed to Helen in the summer of 1967 while at the Senior Bench (it was closer to Center Hall back then). The picture below is the entire clan at the Bench, including a two-month old. The daughters got everyone shirts saying "Back Home Again" with the Indiana map and "for Helen and Jim's 50th" on the back.

The girls insisted on a re-enactment of the 1967 event ... that photo has been omitted!!

Jim M.

Steve '68 and Joanie Bowen (who donated \$2 million to the Giant Steps Campaign) and Paul '75 and Betty Woolls are Co-Chairs of the Giant Steps Campaign. The team in the [Wabash Advancement Office](#) can help you take a Giant Step for Wabash. Contact them at giantsteps@wabash.edu or 877-743-4545.

The 2018 Nov Chemistry Dept Newsletter is worth a long look. Here are excerpts (my red italics):

Dr. John Zimmerman H'67 (analytical chemistry, 1963-2004). Now well into his 15th year of



retirement, John still spends part of each day in his office working to support our classroom audio-visual equipment. None of you will be surprised to learn that John still walks the campus, cameras in hand. He continues to document all of the Wabash musical performances, as well as recording the Wabash scene and community activities. John says: "Bring on more storage hard drives!" Despite his busy schedule, in this last year John found time to travel to France, British Columbia, and Seattle, providing, of course, a visual record of the visits.

For John the 2018 Big Bash was the highlight of the year. He was pleased to touch bases with ten (out of a possible 15) chemistry majors from the Class of 1968 – the 50th reunion class. This was the class that walked across the stage with a diploma in one hand and (for many) a Viet Nam draft notice in the other. Shared memories of the varied solutions to their Nam dilemma was a focus of many discussions, half a century later.

As always, John looks forward to reconnecting with former students.

*{I was one of those guys with the draft on my heels—but wait—there's more. From **Dr. David Phillips**—He arrived after we left, but many of us have met him on campus, at the Scarlet Inn, etc. Great guy!}*

Dr. David Phillips H'83 (inorganic chemistry, 1968-2004). Last fall David completed his work on "Some Little Giants", Max Servies' history of Wabash athletics. David's contribution covers the period from Max's retirement in 2000 through last fall's memorable Bell Game. Jim Amidon has nearly completed the editing process, so hopefully publication is not too far in the future. David has embarked on a new project, "Scientists at Wabash," a collection of biographical sketches of the lives of the College's science faculty. This will keep him occupied for at least a couple of years.



Initiation into the Hovey Chemical Society – 2018

A few years ago, after the formal initiation David began taking the new members of the society to Hovey's Rock, where he would hand out copies of a brief article on the Hovey Rock Battle and provide a brief anecdote about Hovey. This year's group picture (next page) is taken at the site of Hovey's Rock (shown here). To read an account of the Hovey Rock Battle, click on this link:

https://www.wabash.edu/alumni/docs/Hovey_Rock.pdf

(Not too long and an **unbelievable** read!)

From Todd Eads.



Dr John Hudson's wife, Dorothy, is in recovery mode from serious back surgery. On top of that, they are moving from Boulder to Broomfield, a little closer to Denver, Colorado. Dot is a fighter and we hope, pray and fully expect her to bounce back to 100%.

What the Ropers do when they aren't composing letters

Here's Joshua, hs junior, in Arizona with mom for showcase baseball. His competitive team won Colorado state championship last summer, with Josh's pitching record 5-0. He was Honorable Mention (among 26 high schools in Colorado Springs) All-City at catcher, batting .429 in 4A varsity. Wants to play baseball at the next level. He's National Honor Society, last summer visited Vanderbilt and Harvard on academic invitations, IU prospect camp. Spent 10 days Germany with a school group. He's doing okay.



Here's Matthew, a senior, who will probably go to college locally at UCCS, where many friends attend. In his final football game, he caught one touchdown pass and threw for 2 TDs. Long story. He received a big award at the football banquet—**Warrior Ethos**—team first, never quit. He stepped up and did well whatever they asked him to do. Also, he was HM all-conference pitcher for 4A baseball. Another good kid. We're lucky and proud.



The twins, Seth and Will, (in Wabash attire) play Little League and are into everything. Everything! I took them skiing last weekend. We're going again next weekend! The powder is nice this time of year!



sports.wabash.edu



Buzz and Stephany Madsen, Alan and Connie Hatfield and Van and Mary Butler gathered at the Butler's Arizona home for the Monon Bell game. Now THIS is a great photo of some wonderful people!

If you know a young man who might be a fit for Wabash, contact admissions:

Phone: 1-800-345-5385 or 765-361-6225

Fax: 765-361-6437

Email: admissions@wabash.edu

Website: www.wabash.edu

Sad News

I learned in December that Hammond Gavit High School Football Coach George Smith had passed last December. I missed his Christmas card in 2017, and now learn why in a Card from Betty. He was a terrific role model and father figure and coach for guys who later played at Wabash, such as **Adeo Nicolai, Wayne Kornas, Doug Jones, Marty Newcomb, and me.**



Jim Dashiell

December 9, 2018

This is a picture of me and my siblings at my house this August. Brother John, sitting in the dark shirt, died yesterday from complications of lung cancer. My other brother Jeff and I were able to visit him for a couple of days earlier this week in Omaha where John was visiting his daughter for Thanksgiving.

I watched the Bell game in Denver with the Colorado Wabash gang and Beta roomie, **Dr. John Hudson**. Someone took a photo, but I never got a copy. If you are out there ... please send it.

I think this is a wrap! I'd better send this letter before another cyber-storm hits. If you owe me an update, (or if you don't), please send it. I just passed my physical. Good for another year. Doctors know a ton more than they did in the dark ages of our youth. Please get those health screens.

Wishing you all the very best,

Jim Roper '68