



WABASH COLLEGE

Class Agents Letter

Alumni and Parent Relations

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Class of 1968

Class Agent

Jim Roper

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Late May 2017

Dear Friends in the **Class of 1968**,

It's that time again. Good stuff from your classmates. My email server was hacked in early May. Please use jim.roper@hotmail.com. Send me an update! Also, here's interesting news from Wabash—a great wrestling season. One national champion. My hours under guidance of Coach **Max Servies** were at the top of my Wabash experience. Those were great days with brethren **Mark Sutton and Duane Hile**--good, tough guys on the mats. I never got to ski with **John Hudson** this year, because we both had our jousts with the medicos. My schedule has more than one baseball game per day with our 4 kids in Colorado during April and May. It's a good kind of busy. Phone calls are coming to remind you of our **50th Reunion Big Bash** coming up a year from June! Circle your calendar!

Received this kind note from **Buzz Madsen**:

Jim,

Once again, a great newsletter. Glad to see Bruce is back among the living. If there are any plans on reprising a Wabash version of the Blues Brothers' "We're getting the band back together" for the 50th, let's let Bruce really do a sound check before prime time... Went through Colorado Springs yesterday on our way from Orlando to Phoenix. Were your ears burning?

Our plans for 2017, are to keep our home in France and farm in Wisconsin and downsize by selling our home in Orlando and moving to Phoenix for our future snowbird years. My "survivor" 1950 GMC pickup should be back on the road in a few weeks with a fully restored engine, new rollers, and maybe working brakes (!).

Best regards,
Buzz

Hey! If anyone passes through Colorado Springs, my number is 719-302-2682. Good for a free beer at least!

Got a nice note from **Mark Sutton**, commiserating with my stones episode. He added:

Carmel High School, where I used to coached, sent a couple of wrestlers to Wabash this year. I still go to all of Carmel's meets. But we had a weekend off, so I went over to the Max Servies duals to watch them roll. Max's son was officiating and we talked with Don Shelborne, who was also there, between rounds. Don gets out his phone and we even called Max in Florida to check in and let him know we were thinking about him during the event named in his honor. He sounded good although Tim acknowledged that he and Nancy have had some medical issues. I doubt that we'll make it back to Homecoming. Callaway and I did attend the Monon Bell game and realized that the previous time either of us had attended Wabash also lost that one. We've pretty much decided we're jinxes when we go in person. But, kidney stones or other physical maladies notwithstanding, I'll look forward to seeing you at the 50th.

Stay well,

Mark

P.S. Please relay my greetings to Hudson as he flies by you on the slopes.

Dan Vannatter and the Governor—from Dan:

Jim, I was in LA with Betty to attend my granddaughter's 'naming ceremony', a Jewish ceremony that I had never experienced. My youngest married a Jewish elementary school teacher and converted. Following the naming, I took the whole crowd to the Fairmont for brunch. Arnold came in and sat at the next table with his bodyguard (is that funny or what!?!) and his daughter (a dead ringer for Maria). During brunch I asked a waiter if Mr. S would mind shaking hands with an Old Green Beret. He actually came to our table, we spoke for a few minutes (he was truly gracious, loved America, and said some

very polite things about those of us who have worn uniforms), shook my hand and departed. Two superb events on the same day!

I am doing some very interesting Advising with small companies with technologies that you would enjoy seeing in action, ranging from adding an Intelligent Rail to the M4, building new bomb disposal equipment to thwart IEDs, to a new armored vest that is light weight, form fitting and can stop multiple rounds hitting the same place. I also am dabbling in an all-optical switch technology that replaces 2 19-inch racks with something the size of a pizza box, uses no power and is protocol agnostic. And, this AM was working with two companies on a new robotic vehicle that is inexpensive, can climb stairs and can carry an array of sensors that are game changers. I have found, Jim, that by charging less than a secretary, I can have multiple clients and work hours I control while making a very good living that does not seem like work.

Betty and I are headed to Florida Sunday for a Rock-n-Roll cruise with 11 bands from our timeframe (Animals, Spencer Davis, 3 Dog Night, Turtles, Family Stone, et al) and we will be at sea for 6 days. We have some costumes and are looking forward to some of our own 'dirty dancing.'

I am looking forward to the 50th. In the interim, please take advantage of our open door policy and 5 guest rooms here at the Vannatter hacienda if you ever come this way. I wish you well, Dan

Posted 2-24-17

Nine Wabash wrestlers advanced to Saturday's final day of competition at the 2017 NCAA Division III



Wabash won the 2017 NCAA DIII Midwest Wrestling Regional title and will send a school-record seven competitors to the national championship tournament in two weeks. The Wabash wrestling team finished third at the 2015 NCAA Division III Tournament and fourth in 2016. Riley Lefever won his third straight national title at 184 pounds in 2016. Devin Broukal was crowned the 133-pound champion.



Senior Riley Lefever capped his career with a fourth national championship to become the second wrestler in NCAA Division III history to win four titles. Wrestling | 3/11/2017 11:08:00 PM |



UPDATE:

Four-time National Champion Riley Lefever was just named the Division III Wrestler of the Year! As an English major and our head Resident Assistant, Riley is a great example of a Wabash man who excels in sports, academics, and campus life. Congratulations Riley!



Chuck Kraft: quality time with the grandkids!



Similar situation for Dan Vannatter, who writes:

Well, we have the "quiet house syndrome" once again now that our grandsons have headed back home to Mississippi with Mom and Dad. Great visit, wish the weather had cooperated. Final picture of the boys with Papaw.



Jim Dashiell 3-17 :

I'll do about anything to sell a book. Had a good day at my book signing as well as a little orthopedic work.



Wayne Kornas had a Happy Birthday thing!



Jim Dashiell – 3-23-17

My youngest granddaughter Lizzie did great in a musical at her school in Carmel tonight. All the kids are so talented. Jim Dashiell

Mike Gallagher - 3-24-17 Seems to be doing Amsterdam by canal. Need some selfies here! I did that in 1976. I recall the buildings leaned outward for lifting furniture to the upper floors. Stairs were too narrow. Also, no wooden buildings were allowed after a disastrous fire in the 1400s. Beer was pretty good, too. Am I wrong?



[Roger C Senkbeil](#) 3-20-17 sez:

This isn't exactly "right on" but I couldn't resist!





Wayne Kornas – 3-31-17

Sailin' with the mouse.

Do you know a young man who might be a fit for Wabash? Do you have time to visit a nearby high school and man a station on their college day program, to find such a young man?

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Dr. Dave Cook had a tough year. He passed me some pointers on “must do” things in Italy, as I am looking at a trip there with my wife and 4-kid entourage. (No antique stores!) I will probably spend most of my time keeping the herd on course. For you, Dave sends:

I hope I'm done with my personal "annus horribilis". I lost my 36 year old son, Scott last March (apparent heart attack), my 91 year old father in June, and my 93 year old mother this March. At work, my lead software developer left for the greener pastures of consulting and has not been replaced. I'm deciding whether to try to cut back hours further or just pack it in altogether. And, with apologies to my right-leaning classmates, I remain highly distressed over the nation's current leadership.

On the positive side, my grandson Henry is now 18 months old and a delightful and fearless bundle of energy. (Boy, does he wear us out!) Lynda and I are leaving in a few days for several weeks in Provence and will be on a cruise with several of her siblings from Montreal to Boston in August. I continue to enjoy performing in at least one play a year with the Indianapolis Dramatic Club. - kai - Dave

One of the greatest aspects of the Class Agent job is staying in contact with good people. Wabash guys. Solid citizens. Your class mates. For over a decade, I have spent most of my time with my kids at home. Great! But I have come to believe that regardless of your lot in life, once in a while, it is good for your mental health to have a conversation with an intelligent adult.

I had a nice chat with **Peter Kennedy**, who had just returned from a two-week business trip to Europe. So, he's still workin'. Investment banking. He and Carroll like to spend time in northeast Wyoming whenever they can get away. Said he looked forward to seeing everyone at our **50th Reunion!** We shared the experience of dancing with the Selective Service after Wabash. Peter had just finished his training for a job at a bank when he got his call. Officer training, field artillery, jump school, then a year in Vietnam with the 101st Airborne Division. I was at Pleiku at the same time he was at Camp Eagle (Hue-Phu Bai). He joined Bank of America upon return to the US. He continues in a family version of the investment banking business. Two of Peter's sons have graduated from the 'Bash.

We agreed that the glue that holds alumni and students together might just be Academic Rigor. Peter told a story of a mother who really wanted her son to attend Wabash College. She pushed him to finish homework and study hard. When she met with the high school counselor to talk about her son's college future. She told him, "You can always tell a Wabash man." She did not know the counselor was a Wabash graduate.

He answered, "Yes, you can tell a Wabash man. But you can't tell him much!"



Mike Dybel – 4-8-17
Updated his FB profile photo.

Nice shot, Mike.

Posted by [Steven Johnson](#)

4-16-2017

Easter sunrise, Gallatin headwaters, Yellowstone National Park - my backyard 😊

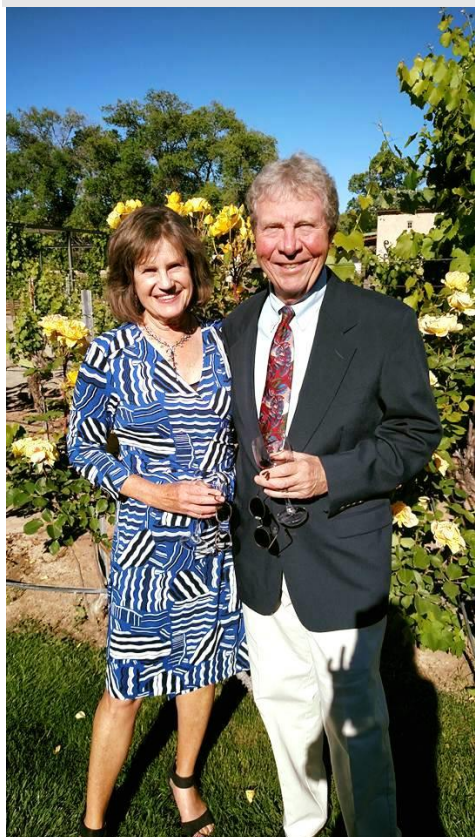


[B Scott Klika](#) 4-16-17



Two medium sized kingfish ending up as delicious fish-head stew and carpaccio; definitely no need to question its freshness; consumed with yet another Nelson great white.





Here's a nice photo of **Van and Mary Butler**. The caption on Facebook says they are visiting the Casa Rodena Winery, a Winery/Vineyard in Los Ranchos de Albuquerque, New Mexico.

I sent out some email inquiries and received a wonderful response from Rich Gower, MD:



Richard G. Gower, MD, FAAAAI, FACP
Past Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine,
University of Washington School of Medicine
Principal Investigator, Marycliff Clinical Research
Spokane, Washington

Richard G. Gower, MD, FAAAAI, FACP, is a Past Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine at the University of Washington School of Medicine and on the staff of Sacred Heart Medical Center in Spokane. He is past president of the American College of Allergy, Asthma

and Immunology (ACAAI), and a fellow of the ACAAI, the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology, and the American College of Physicians.

After receiving his medical degree from the University of Colorado School of Medicine in Denver, Dr. Gower completed a residency in internal medicine at the University of Miami Affiliated Hospitals in Miami, Florida. He then completed a fellowship in allergy/clinical immunology and vasculitis at the University of Colorado Medical Center in Denver.

He has been primary investigator in more than 150 clinical studies on the treatment of asthma, allergic rhinitis/conjunctivitis, sinusitis, atopic dermatitis, chronic urticaria, bronchitis, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, and hereditary angioedema (HAE). Dr. Gower has presented papers at national and international meetings concerning diseases of the respiratory tract as well as urticaria and angioedema and is the author of several publications.

Dr. Gower is also past president of the Intermountain West Allergy Association; Western Society of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology; and Washington State Society of Internal Medicine, and he is a member of numerous professional societies. In 2013, Dr. Gower was awarded the ACAAI Distinguished Fellow Award. He is a past chair of the ACAAI Public Awareness and Education Campaign. A major goal of this national campaign is to educate the public about allergies and asthma. Dr. Gower addressed these important issues on Capitol Hill at a national level for years.

In recent years, Dr. Gower has been an author of several publications regarding hereditary angioedema and urticaria, including two international consensus guideline papers, and has participated in many urticaria and angioedema education sessions. In 2015 Dr. Gower closed his medical practice; however, he still continues in clinical research and is involved with several companies as a consultant. He is also still active in the ACAAI.

Dr. Gower has 3 children, 1 girl and 2 boys. His daughter is a teacher locally and she has 3 young boys. One of his sons is attending a Masters Program in Music and Sound Technology at Cal Arts in Los Angeles; and **his other son and daughter-in-law are Professors of Philosophy at Wabash College**. Richard is married to the same young lady he wed 49 years ago.

Richard's hobbies include spending time with his grandsons and family, gardening, a penchant for fly fishing, hiking in the mountains, reading, attempting to golf, and traveling the world. Now that he is semi-retires, he has more time to enjoy these hobbies.

ENDOWED PROFESSORSHIP NAMED FOR BOWEN

MAY 24, 2017



Stephen S. Bowen wrapped up his tenure as Chair of the Wabash College Board of Trustees as the fifth longest-serving chair in the College's 185-year history. As a tribute, Wabash President Gregory D. Hess announced that an endowed professorship will forever bear Bowen's name.

https://www.wabash.edu/news/displaystory.cfm?news_ID=11025

Here's a FB post by the young lady pictured with Steve Goldsmith

Back at Harvard Kennedy one more time to lecture in the Innovations in Government class about my Second Avenue Subway work. I had a great time - I even showed part of one of my FB Live videos from opening night and they loved it. Lots of thoughtful questions and Professor Goldsmith wove my case study into the other readings the class had done. What made it even better is that I worked for him while on the project, so we were able to tag team quite a bit. I was up front almost an hour, and the students were from all over the world. A gratifying experience, and I thank Steve for asking me again.



I'm calling this a wrap. You may be hearing more and more about our 50th Reunion Big Bash. Make plans for June 1, 2018. Join the crowd doing the calling and planning. Jump in. The water's fine.

Get those health screens!
Take good care of yourself,
Jim Roper '68



Two new Weblos.



Baseball champion.



Varsity pitcher and umpire!