

Pactoracles Class Agent's Letter For The Wabash College Class of 1971



March 29, 2021

# **Our Reunion Is Postponed To September 2021**

The college has made a tough but correct decision to postpone all of the reunions scheduled for June 4-6 this summer. The college is planning a special day for the

Class of 1970 and the Class of 1971. That day is September 11. There is no home football that day.

This class agent is planning to have some additional celebrations on Friday, September 10 and perhaps a breakfast on Sunday, September 11.



The Class of 1971 competes in the Chapel Sing at Big Bash in 2011. We had a great time although Dean Moore looks board stiff. Sixteen classmates are in this photo. Unfortunately two of them have passed away.

With mixed feelings, I am glad that the reunion is being postponed. I did not want classmates and ladies to come to campus and not have a good time because of possible Covid rules and regulations. I also did not want anyone not to attend because of Covid fears. Also, some classmates contracted Covid and are "long haulers." Hopefully, they will be better in September.

Details on what we will do and how we register are not confirmed yet. Keep a watchful look-out for details.

### **Exercise Your Constitutional Right To Get A Covid Vaccine**

I did not go to law school for nothing. The Constitution is clear. It guarantees each of us a Covid shot. The Second Amendment gives us the right to bare arms. So use that right and get the shots.

### With Spring, Wabash Is Returning To Some Normality

Fall semester essentially shut down most activities on the Wabash campus. As spring brings renewal to the trees and grounds, it is bringing some renewal to student life on campus.

Seniors took comps in January. A massive snow storm blanketed the campus in February. There is no spring break. The big news is that Wabash students should be eligible to get the Covid vaccines tentatively on April 9.

Academics continuing with classroom instructions where possible. Otherwise, they are virtual.



Students, wearing Covid masks, work on their fine arts projects. Photo by the college.

The Glee Club gave a concert in Chadwick Court on March 26. The singers wore masks and were properly distanced. My wife and I watched the concert via streaming. It was uplifting to hear *Old Wabash* and *Alma Mater*.

The 27<sup>th</sup> annual Wabash Moot Court was held virtually, March 20-25. Thirty-five students competed, Brad Johnson '71 and I were two of the 22 judges for the preliminary rounds. The judges for the finals were a federal district court judge Teresa Springmann, a judge from the Indiana Court of Appeals Leanna Weissmann, a Wabash professor Jeff Drury, and a Wabash alumnus Nick Maraman. Jake Vermeulen, a senior, was named Top Advocate. He is the first student to reach the finals four times. He is the grandson of David Hadley, a professor of political science during our era.



The Wabash College Glee Club, wearing traditional blue blazers and sporting Wabash Covid masks, performed before sparse, socially-distanced supporters in Chadwick Court, March 26. My wife and I watched via the computer. I took this photo while we watched.



The spring athletes are back in competition. Volleyball started its first Wabash season. Track is underway. Baseball is 7-7. It lost a one-run game to Washington U., ranked second nationally.

The students can, with some limitations, have visitors at their fraternity houses and dorms. I am now getting back to campus, but I need to be invited as a guest.

The college plans on a commencement in the new football stadium. The ceremony will involve the classes of 2020 and 2021. Last year's class had a virtual graduation and have already

received diplomas. Commencement will be 10:30 a.m., Saturday morning, May 15, 2021. The early start provides flexibility in case of foul weather.

### Tell Your Stories For The Class of '71 Book; Classmates, Family, And Friends Of Wabash Will Want To Know About Our College Days

I have had many conversations orally or in writing with classmates in recent weeks. Sometimes I was communicating with some classmates for the first time in 50 years or for the first time ever. But, it does not seem that way. Paraphrasing Lincoln, there are mystic chords of affection that bind Wabash Men. I am looking forward to more oral and written communications with classmates.

A historic book of about ourselves and our Wabash era is in the works, as prior editions of *Pactoracles* have promoted. Thanks to classmates and wives who have submitted their stories and anecdotes for the book. I know more are on the way, but many more are still needed.

Let's reflect, celebrate, and rejoice about our personal histories and our class's history in our unique era. Each of us has a story to tell. We need to tell them. Together our stories will portray our college days. Send me your stories and



Did any classmate attend this concert with these well-known bands? The year was 1971.

anecdotes for inclusion in our special reunion book.

The book will consist of three parts: (1) our stories and anecdotes, (2) articles on specific topics, and (3) our biographies. Our stories and anecdotes could relate to classes, friends, professors, Thad Seymour, Norm Moore, athletics, fraternities, dorm life, MXI, Chapel, food, attire, the Strand, Tommy's, townies, the Bank Cigar Store, *Bachelor*, other journalism, pranks, trips to DePauw, Saturday classes, blue books, the draft, Pan-Hel, parties, Ralph's Mother, glee club, pep band, theater, radio, the pancake house, Roberto's pizza, Perry's, etc.

A second part of the book will be on specific topics. These should be mostly historical pieces. Does anyone want to write a short essay on any of the following topics? If so, call me or e-mail me to discuss.

Alternate Wabash newspapers Athletics Athletic Equipment Athletic Facilities Co-Education--done Crawfordsville eateries, shopping, Debate Team Draft & draft counseling Emerson Lake & Palmer Fraternity Integration Glee Club Homecoming Letter writing: how we communicated Malcolm X Institute Monon Bell Upset Win 1967 Pan-Hel Presidential Candidates In Town Ralph's Mother Scarlet Masque Student Senate Student Strike Wabash Traditions Wives' Club Other

The stories and anecdotes do not have to be long. I have received some submissions that are a series of unrelated paragraphs, and I have received some that are two pages. As a guide, try to keep each submission to about one 8 ½ by 11 sheet or less, singlespaced in Word format. I will insert photos or other artwork into or around the text. The articles may be, as a guide, two pages. I reserve the right to edit each submission. I will review each submission and send the edited version to its author.



Dan Holderbaum '71 sent this photo of a head or arm-band that he picked up after Ralph's Mother. Does anyone else have things from this cultural event?.



This ad for a movie at the Strand Theater on Green Street appeared in a November 1967 Bachelor. The ad assumes everyone knows the theater's location. I accept submission on paper or via e-mail. E-

mail submissions should be in Word format. Send to me at pactorlaw@iquest.net or jonpactor@gmail.com. I will e-mail a receipt within 24 hours, and if you do not get a receipt, call me. My mailing address is at the end of this letter. I will also acknowledge receipt of paper submissions.

A third part of the book will be biographies. Classmates can tell about their families, careers, hobbies, and other accomplishments. I will send you guidelines on biographies later on.

I accept submissions on old-fashioned paper or via e-mail. If e-mail, send them in Word format to me at

pactorlaw@iquest.net. I will e-mail a receipt within 24 hours, and if you do not get a receipt, call me. My mailing address is at the end of this letter. I will acknowledge receipt of paper submissions.

Thanks again for your help on the book. That's the Spirit of '71

### **Dr. David Phillips**

David Phillips, professor of chemistry, passed away on March 4, 2021. He served on

the faculty from 1968 to 2004. He was Wabash's first inorganic chemist. He and I had become friends from our common interest in preserving and promoting the history of Wabash College. He finished Max Servies' book on the history of Wabash sports. Along with Dr. John Zimmerman he authored *Wabash College, An Illustrated Campus Tour.* He also authored *The Pioneer Chapel, A guide to the portraits.* He supported Wabash students and the community, including his attendance of many of the college's athletic and cultural events. He was 83. The photo at right is of David Gray '71, left, and David Phillips at the Big Bash in 2011.





This is a photo of a pledge paddle of Ted Elchison '71, who recently wrote to a pledge brother: "Got a phone call from the Indiana state police in 1993. The city cop that owned the apartment building that I lived in at 110 W. Wabash Ave. sold the building to a state trooper. He found my paddle and tracked me down." letters as in correspondence minutes and notes of student aroups pennants photos of college life, poems programs from varsity sports playbills from the Scarlet Masque Ralph Mother memorabilia report cards Satyr newspapers Student Senate records Student Strike records textbooks tuition statements yearbooks

Writing anecdotes and sharing memorabilia will be fun. And it is something all of us can do to make our 50<sup>th</sup> extra special. Send your artifacts or archives via e-mail to me at pactorlaw@iquest.net or by mail to me at 7380 Holliday Drive West, Indianapolis, IN 46260.

Thanks for reading *Pactoracles*. It is my honor and responsibility to serve the Class of 1971. I welcome your news, comments, and questions and especially your stories of your Wabash student days.

Please print and share this letter with your family if you receive it by e-mail.

Your Brother In Wabash,

Please provide me any

our era as soon as vou

can. Please don't throw

anything away. Some

bills or receipts from

eateries, stores, hotels

Blue Key Stunt Night

scripts

blue books and other

Dick Gregory's visit to

campus

Debate Team records

fraternity memorabilia

Glee Club records (paper

and vinyl)

Crawfordsville

artifacts may be:

athletic letters

blue books

examinations

IFC records

college i.d. cards

artifacts or archives from

IN R Pactor

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It will be weird to return to normal.

## **Donate Or Loan Your Artifacts**