June, 2014

Gentlemen:

Hope everyone in the famous Class of ’72, Wabash College, is doing well! It’s finally feeling like summer here in the Chicago area. What a winter! As usual, there has been a huge gap in my letter writing to all of you. No excuses. Many of you sent me information about your lives late last year. I included all of that great info in my last letter. Please email me some info about what is going on with you these days. As we get older (all of us are now in the 64 range!), keeping in touch (to me) even becomes more important. I suspect many of you are thinking of retirement, or thinking of stretching that work time longer to keep income coming, or are fully or partly retired, or somewhere in between. Please send me where you are in all of this. It’s pretty interesting as we get to the big 65 years old.

My first career in Advertising is well behind me. My second career in college teaching is in full swing and I love it. The good thing about teaching, if it’s in your DNA, is that most schools are always looking for part-time teachers. As long as you can walk and talk, and your mind is ok, you can teach well into your 60’s. (Many schools, not all, require an MBA). I’m doing most of my teaching at North Central College in Naperville…very rewarding: Undergrad and MBA classes. As some of you know, our College’s past President, Andy Ford, consulted at NCC for some time. It’s a great Liberal Arts school (not as good as Wabash, of course). Wabash competes against NCC in some sports. Some of my students have actually heard of Wabash, which is nice.

Anyway, email me some news of where you are in life: rwfobes@gmail.com
News from the College

Annual Giving…
The College is in its final push for Annual Giving for FY ’14. Our Class has been a leader among all classes at Wabash…Let’s continue that. You have until June 30th to make your contribution. Any dollar amount you can afford is encouraged. % of donors is very critical. Please do what you can.

You can all make gifts in three easy ways:

a. Online at www.wabash.edu/egift

b. By phone at 877-743-4545

c. By mail to:

Wabash College
Annual Giving
PO Box 352
Crawfordsville, IN 47933

Here’s a list of our Class of ’72 who have given so far this fiscal year:
(My apologies if the list is not up to date!)

Acton, Badgley, Barnes, Baxter, Birney, Boner, Brammell, Bridge, Buktenica, Butler, Cameron, Campbell, Chambers, Daniels, Dean, Degitz, Dreyer, Ebert, Failey, Goff, Grube, Hagaman, Hammond, Hansen, Hiatt, Howard, Hurd, Hussey, Jones, Kenley, Klemmt, Lehman, Leonard, Loftus, McGar, McQuillan, McShane, Myers, Mynsberge, Nielsen, Ottinger, Prunier, Pulver, Quick, Ransom, Ristine, Russell, Schell, Shelbourne, Simpson, Smith, Spitler, Vahey, Vogel, Welter, Weston, Wetzel, Wilson K, Wilson B, York, Zavesky, Yeazell

As you notice, My Name is not on there. As soon as I hit “Send” on this letter, I will make my annual contribution…I promise!
If Your Name is not on the list, Please contribute today! Thank you.

The “430 on 4/30” One-day Giving Challenge.
This was a great success and was driven entirely by email and social media. It produced extraordinary results: more than $465,000 in gifts from more than 2,200 donors; 374 first-time donors; 37 affinity challenges (that led to more than 800 gifts); and 10 donors (at least) in every class from 1961 to 2014. Thanks to those in our Class who participated. I thought this was a very innovative idea. Good job to those at the College who developed this program.
College Construction.
FYI, The Board of Trustees approved the construction of six new independent men’s housing units, consisting of two 40-bed residence halls, two 16-bed lodges, and two 12-bed townhouses, on the west side of campus along Crawford Street. Stay tuned…

News From ‘72

From Steve Crowley: “Allow me a moment to catch my classmates up on my life. I've lived in Germany for most of the past 23 years while working at the Frankfurt International School. I teach fifth grade, coach volleyball, run environmental and chess clubs, and sit on the Board of Directors. Guess I'm in the running for the longest established expat in the class. In two years I'll retire and turn to wandering the beautiful hills and valleys that surround our campus. My son, Ben, just turned 16. My daughter, Enya, is in 3rd grade. Yes, I'm still in kid mode... Both are marvelous. My wife, Sabine, shares our adventurous life. (I recommend the Absinthe Bar in Antibes, the Zen Tea House on the island of Reichenau in Lake Constance, and the Brunnenkopf mountain hut near Kloster Ettal from our recent journeys). I'm aiming toward attending our 50th class reunion. Hopefully, they'll still accept my passport. I'll be the guy living off German social security checks.” Thanks Steve. We should all join you in Germany for our 50th!

For those of you who had not heard, I'm very sorry to report that Ray Griffith passed away on January 8, 2014. I know Ray lived in Indianapolis. My condolences to his family. If any of you have any remembrances of Ray, please pass them on to me, and I will include them in my next letter.

Finally, The College held a wonderful event last February: “Wally Tunes…A Wabash Symposium on Music and the Liberal Arts”. It featured a wide variety of scholars and very talented artists, all discussing or performing something related to music. I was fortunate to participate in the Symposium (thanks to Tom Runge’s idea), speaking on my involvement over 38 years of playing in some kind of rock and/or blues band, highlighting the issues, demands, challenges in creating a band, making it successful, and having fun along the way. My presentation was called “Band on the Run” (thanks to Mr. McCartney). It was held in Salter Hall. Great experience. Spent some time with John Failey who attended. We caught up on our lives. John is a very talented musician, so I was honored that he attended.

The Campus looked wonderful by the way. One can easily forget how great our College is until you visit the campus. Hopefully we'll all be there for our 45th! (2017).
That's all for now. Keep the emails coming, Please!!!: rwfobes@gmail.com  You will be included in my next letter! Have a great Summer.

My best to all of you.
Rick