April 13, 2007

Meet Your New Class Agents

John Beardsley (JBeardsley@arbys.com) - After graduating from Wabash, I moved to Greencastle where I spent several years managing the local McDonald's. Thirty-two years later, after stops in Indianapolis and Bucks County, PA, I'm still working in the restaurant business. For the past 4 years, I've been employed as an Area Supervisor by the Arby's Restaurant Group.

I reside near Kennett Square, PA, the mushroom capital of the United States. I have 2 children, Megan, 27, and David, 23. Megan lives in the Philadelphia area and recently graduated with a marketing degree from Temple University. David lives in Edgewood, Maryland. I also have 2 stepchildren, Kelly Swayze and Casey Kampf.

Last August, I married Susan Woron. Susan, Casey, and I live, along with our 2 cats, in a new house we had built 3 years ago. (Fortunately, the mushroom houses are downwind of us.)

I haven't stayed very connected to Wabash over the years. I've read the newsletters and sent an occasional gift. Since the days that I lived in Greencastle, I've gotten together with Joe Hockberger, Pat Healey, Jim Hiatt, for the Monon Bell game. Since I moved east, we've gotten together for the home games (the boys voted never to go to Greencastle again). It's great to get together; it's true there are no better friends than old friends.

As I've gotten older, I realize how significant Wabash has been in my life. I volunteered to help out when I learned that we needed a class agent. From what I hear, the class of '75 has a reputation for being apathetic. I know that everybody has busy lives, but it would be great to hear from you. If you can find your way to do, send a small gift to Wabash. It's not the amount, but the participation percentage that counts. Most of us received financial aid from Wabash. (I wouldn't have been able to attend Wabash without the aid.) Your contributions help give that same experience that we had to another young man.
Kymn Harp (RKHarp@arnstein.com) - Since graduating Wabash College with the class of '75, I followed my dream by attending John Marshall Law School and becoming a commercial dirt lawyer. My office is in downtown Chicago, although my practice extends throughout the continental US.

Since Wabash, I've enjoyed two kids, two law firms and three wives. My daughter, Ashley (26), lives in St. Louis, MO, is working on her Masters in Procurement and Acquisitions and is trying to get a job with Anheuser-Busch (a company every Wabash graduate is sure to have more than a passing familiarity with). [Any leads within the Anheuser-Busch HR department will be appreciated.] My son, Ryan (22) is set to graduate in December from the University of Iowa - Tippie School of Business. [He will likewise be looking for a job – in the Chicago area. – Leads are appreciated.] My current wife, Kery, lives in Santa Fe, NM. Go figure.

Besides representing investors and developers of commercial real estate, I have been a volunteer for over 20 years with the Bridge Youth and Family Services in Palatine, Illinois, a community based non profit agency that seeks to assist "at-risk" children and their families attain behavioral and emotional health.

Demonstrating the value of being a Wabash Speech major, I regularly present seminars to commercial real estate investors and developers, lawyers and bankers on a variety of commercial real estate related topics.

I have volunteered to serve as Class Agent so I can reconnect with my past. It was more sane than my present. Life is fun, if not just a bit unpredictable. I wouldn't have it any other way. I look forward to renewing old acquaintances.

Joe Hockberger (duke1a@msn.com) - I graduated from Wabash with the class of '75, though I did remain 1 more semester for good measure. I spent the last 18 years living in Crown Point, but recently moved to Trevor, WI. I recently (2-8-07) wed Ms. Theresa Yeager. The marriage was performed by the Honorable Raymond Jagielski ('75) in his Circuit Court chambers in Chicago. Theresa has 2 sons (Josh a lawyer in Chicago and Nick a teacher/coach in Antioch, IL) and we are proud grandparents of 2 beautiful little girls (Grace is 3 and Ava is 1.5) with another little one due in June. Last year I sold my business to and began working for a previous competitor of mine... now I spend all of my time designing and selling, instead of balancing those duties with all the administrative nightmares that accompany ownership. The business move also allowed Theresa and I to move close to our granddaughters.
As far as Wabash news, Messrs. Beardsley, Healey and Hiatt (all '75) and I meet every other year in Crawfordsville for the Monon Bell game. We have been meeting for many years and have watched each other grow older, but stay the same. Such friendships are priceless.

I'd also like to mention that after many years of touting the virtues of Wabash to many friends and colleagues, there are currently 4 sons of men I played high school football with enrolled and playing for the Little Giants. It feels really good to see the tradition passed on to people I know.

It sure would be great to hear from the other '75 alumni. It would also be great to hear that every '75 grad put a buck or 2 in an envelope and gave the alma mater a little love. Remember ... it's not about the amount, it's about participation.

We’d like to take this opportunity to thank Bob Chamness and Brad Boyd for their years of hard work as our class agents. We hope to be able to continue their work in keeping the Class connected to the College and each other.

OK classmates – that’s the latest information on your new class agents. What’s going on in your world? Drop us an email or update your information on Wabash’s Alumni eServices (www.wabash.edu/alumni).