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Hi Classmates,

This will be the briefest of class news updates you've seen in a while. Not sure why, but September 2019 seems to be the busiest month of my "not so slow" life for the past couple of years or so.

**DR. ROB JOHNSON HONORED** – Some of us got back to Wabash in May for the 2019 commencement, and then stayed around for a reception in recognition of our honorary classmate, ROB JOHNSON, who received a doctorate in humane letters from the college! **GREG BIRK** organized the reception, and **TED FERGUSON** and I were among the attendees. Here's a picture of Dr. Johnson with some of his "doctors, lawyers, CEOs" (one of his favorite sayings) and others who ran track and/or cross country under his coaching.



**CELESTIAL HONOR FOR TOM** – Our own TOM BAUER has his name on an asteroid! Tom was a physics instructor at Wellesley College from 1986 to 2014. He developed instrumentation to use in both introductory and advanced laboratory classes, and developed software to control data collection from spectrometers to oscilloscopes. One of Tom's students did the naming. Here's a link with the details Its solar orbit is a little bit outside of Mars' by the way. (And if this isn't one of the coolest things around, don't know what is):

<https://ssd.jpl.nasa.gov/sbdb.cgi?sstr=tombauer;old=0;orb=1;cov=0;log=0;cad=0#orb>

**GRATEFUL, IN BOTH DIRECTIONS** – If you haven’t heard, according to **Forbes** magazine, Wabash ranks 10<sup>th</sup> nationally on the magazine’s list of most engaged donors for private, non-profit institutions. The only two colleges in Indiana to rank in the Top 10 are us and “that school up in South Bend” named Norte Dame. The **Forbes** magazine list says that our graduates measure up as some of the best in the country when it comes to its “Grateful Graduates Index.” Gratitude works both ways of course! No doubt you’re grateful for what Wabash’s education has provided to you, your spouse/family, and your legacy.

**TAKING GIANT STEPS** – You’ve heard from us in past class letters and from other alumni communications from the college about Wabash’s “Giant Steps” campaign. While I’m not the ‘rah rah’ fund raising type of guy, our classmate and Board of Trustees member **GARY REAMEY** certainly is! Gary’s been a key person in the Giant Steps effort, and in fact last month he took leadership in presenting a Giant Steps Red Letter Event in Nashville. My wife KATHY and I looked over the college’s need to increase its endowment, and we have “signed on” to Giant Steps by increasing our annual contribution to help meet or exceed this \$225 million goal. Wabash has already raised over 73% of this goal, with more than 8,400 donors on board. We hope you will consider doing so also. Here’s the link with details. <https://giantsteps.wabash.edu/>

**STAYING IN TOUCH** – Thanks to the web and mobile web, there are more ways than ever before to stay connected with Wabash. Here are just a few.

**Wabash’s YouTube Channel:** <https://www.youtube.com/WabashCollege>

**Wabash’s Alumni Web Page:** <https://www.wabash.edu/alumni/>

**Wabash’s Athletic Dept. Web Page:** <https://sports.wabash.edu/>

The college also has active Facebook and Twitter social media accounts, which you can easily find and follow.

**FINALLY** – Homecoming 2019 is just around the corner, with special events planned for September 26, 27, and 28. There will be a Chapel Sing on Thursday morning at 11 a.m., but (to the best of my knowledge) no one is administering “W” haircuts! Hope that if you’re close to Crawfordsville you’ll return to campus. I’ll be there Thursday night and all day Friday and Saturday, participating in the National Association of Wabash Men meeting with classmate **HERM HAFFNER**, and if you’re back at Wabash I’d love to connect with you. You can reach me at the e-mail or phone number on the front of this brief class letter. Details: <https://www.wabash.edu/alumni/homecoming>

“Long Shall We Sing Thy Praises,”

*John*

John Kerezy