

Class of 1981

Class Agents

Peter Wright

Mike Robak

Alumni and Parent Relations Office

301 W. Wabash Ave.

Crawfordsville, IN 47933

765-361-6360

alumni@wabash.edu

wabash.edu

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It has been a good development for our class to have classmate Mike Robak become a Class Agent for our class. He reports on his connections with some of our classmates over this past summer.

Wabash has properly inaugurated the new Little Giant Stadium and Frank Navarro Field with an opening game that was also Homecoming by beating Allegheny 36 to 28. Ours is the last class to have been at Wabash when Coach Navarro coached the football team and of course, our freshman year he coached the Little Giants in the Division III Championship game.



On Saturday, October 16, 2021, Wabash will be hosting a Reunion Tailgate in Mud Hollow for our class' 40th Reunion. Wabash plays Kenyon in Soccer at John Fischer field and then Wooster in Football.

Here is the link to register for the reunion and yes for buying football tickets in advance.

(Schedule and Register: wabash.edu/BigBash)

There is a link on the Wabash Big Bash Reunion Tailgates page for those who are registered so that you can see which classmates are planning on returning to campus.

See who's registered:

https://www.wabash.edu/alumni/home.cfm?pages_id=365&orderby=year

Go ahead and register and encourage your fraternity brothers and roommates to do the same.

Mike's Report

Connecting in the Twin Cities

An email from me to several Class of 1981 folks for the final FY 21 academic year push for class giving resulted in an exchange of emails with classmate Brian Wyneken, who I realized lives very close to where I live in the Twin Cities. Brian was amenable to getting together for breakfast to connect and catch up after forty years away from Wabash and each other.

Brian recently retired and he and his wife Anne have been in the Twin Cities since 1989. It was a wonderful breakfast get together and, as Brian said, a good opportunity to get "the brain cells moving". Among other things Brian has accomplished in a long list of accomplishments over the last forty years, is receiving his JD from the University of Minnesota (The U in Minnesota speak).

During our reminiscence, we realized we were both in Dr. Alan Berger's Logic class. (Brian was a Philosophy major). Brian recalled an incident in which, while waiting for Professor Berger to appear for class in Center Hall, he could see from the classroom walking across campus akimbo, arms full of books and materials, and fending off the pack of semi-feral dogs that roamed the campus in those days. Brian also recalled that Dr. Berger's relocation from New York to Crawfordsville made the New York Times because of the difficulty philosophy professors at that time had in finding work. And, being the Librarian I am, I found the April 2, 1979 pg. A13 article which concluded with this paragraph (and which explains why the recollection of his campus walk was amusing to recall):

"He [Berger] relaxes in the evening by listening to classical music – on the radio, because his phonograph is broken. His future colleagues in Crawfordsville, where the radios play little but country music, have already suggested to Mr. Berger that he ought to have his phonograph repaired before coming here in the fall."

I am very grateful to have connected with Brian and hope to do the same with more folks.

A gathering of Sigs

When I was back on campus in June for the weekend that was earlier scheduled to be our 40th Reunion at the Big Bash, pledge brother Doug McKay mentioned a Sigma Chi rendezvous that was going to occur in August in Montana. The group got together at host Lawrence Klee's cabin in Nye, Montana. I asked Doug to send along some pictures and, boy, he had some great ones. Plus, he shared additional photos of the grand event from pledge brother John Hilbrich and Lawrence Klee. The classes represented by this gathering ranged from '78 to '82 with the Class of '79 dominating the group. The Class of 1981 was represented by John Hilbrich and Doug McKay. John is now residing in Bozeman Montana where four of his six kids live with the other two in Sun Valley Idaho and Chicago. After spending 40 years in the advertising business, John is starting a new chapter as a life coach. Doug McKay tells me it was an awesome event.

As they say in the blog/listserv world, cross posting for other years as well with the following picture and list of those in attendance:

From Left to Right beginning with the back row

Host – Lawrence Klee (in the red checkered shirt) – '80, Russell M Bostick '79, Clint A Strohl '82, John Brown '79, David Hensel '79, Randy Moore '79, Mike Prochno '79, David Harry Moore '78, Ron Bennett '79

Front row

Dale Kraus '80, Byron Lamm '79, Doug McKay '81, Akhilesh Chandoke '79, David Dessauer '80, (not pictured Mark Roche, '79, photographer John Hilbrich, '81)



And a picture of John Hilbrich at the gathering:

We hope to see you back on campus on October the 16th!

Peter and Mike

