September 7, 2012

Greetings Gentlemen,

I hope everyone had a great summer and, for many of us, that you are adjusting well to a new school year. I was back on campus earlier this week where a new class of Wabash men is getting settled into college life. First impression, man do they look young. It is hard to believe we had that same look about us but I suppose that is the trick that time plays on us.

Well, the summer has been a busy one for our class as well. The first order of business is to say a big THANK YOU to everyone who made a gift to Wabash over the past fiscal year, which ended on June 30th. Our goal as a class was 67 donors and we came in at 71 in total, which is outstanding! Now for the challenge, you knew this was coming, right?

As you may have heard, at Big Bash 2013 we will be celebrating our 25th Class Reunion. One of the events at the Bash is a Class dinner on Saturday evening. There is usually a cash bar at the dinner, which is nice. However, what if I told you there was a way that we could change “cash bar” to “open bar”? Would that interest you? Well, it just so happens that there is such a way; it is called the Donor Challenge. The rules are pretty simple, if we have 75 donors between now and the RSVP deadline for the Big Bash then Tom Runge and the folks in Alumni Relations will pick up our bar tab at our Class dinner. This shouldn’t be hard to achieve, we need 4 more donors than we had this past year. It really doesn’t matter how much you give, ten bucks counts just as much as ten thousand, the total number of donors is what counts, not the total dollars. So, we are starting the Buy a Brother a Brew campaign, whether you are heading to the Big Bash, and we really hope you are, or whether you aren’t able to attend, please make a gift now to Wabash. Not only will you be helping the current students out, you will be providing a brother with a nice, frosty TWR.
In the near term, there are a few events upcoming which we want you to be aware of before we get into the Big Bash section of the letter. Of immediate concern is WABASH Day, which is this coming weekend, September 15th and 16th. It is not too late to get in and help out. You can find a list of WABASH Day sites here [http://www.wabash.edu/wabashday/](http://www.wabash.edu/wabashday/). Why not come out and pitch in?

Wabash is celebrating its 100th Homecoming at the end of the month, September 27th through 29th. You can find the specific details at [http://www.wabash.edu/alumni/homecoming](http://www.wabash.edu/alumni/homecoming) so be sure to get registered for the various events. Of special interest will be a Sphinx Club reunion and a Glee Club reunion. For all of my fellow Glee Club alums, be sure to get registered via the link above for the Glee Club specific registration as there is a lot going on. Sadly, while I will be able to make most of the Homecoming activities, I will be unable to make the Saturday evening reunion concert so I hope you can make it and please let me know how the event goes.

And now for some Big Bash 2013 updates. It is my pleasure to announce that two of our classmates will be serving as Colloquium Speakers during the Big Bash Reunion Weekend. Dr. Garrard McClendon, college professor and Emmy Award winning TV personality, has agreed to deliver one of the sessions. Also returning and speaking will be Ajahn Jotipalo Bhikkhu (formerly Don Sperry), a monk from the Abhayagiri Buddhist Monastery in California. Additionally, there might be a third classmate delivering a Colloquium, more news on that to follow. So whether it is two or three, plan on coming to the Bash to support our guys.

Everyone should have received a “Save the Date” mailer from the College by now, so mark down May 31st through June 2nd on your calendars now. Many of you may have received an email, phone call or both from one of the Reunion Reps. We wanted to give you a listing of the Reps for each living unit and where we still need help.

- Beta Theta Pi - Scott Quick - 317-910-2748 - quicklawoffice@gmail.com
- Delta Tau Delta – Gary Bacon – 317-313-0167 – garylbacon@aol.com
- Independents – Garrard McClendon – 800-975-6044 – garrardmcclelond@me.com
- Independents – Dave Hawsword – 785-822-7561 – p.david.hawksword@gmail.com
- Independents – **NEED A MARTINDALE REP-Please contact me to volunteer**
- Kappa Sigma – Doug Mawhorrr – 765-215-8996 – dmawhorr@gmail.com
- Lambda Chi Alpha – Brad Baldauf – 317-883-2435 – bgb1066@sbcglobal.net
- Phi Delta Theta – Scott Smalstig – 317-215-7373 – smalstigs@meridiansc.org
- Phi Gamma Delta – Jeff Short – 317-977-1413 – jshort@shortfamily.com
- Phi Kappa Psi – **NEED A HOUSE REP-Please contact me to volunteer**
- Sigma Chi – Marvin Massey – 630-665-8065 – marvinmassey@yahoo.com
- Tau Kappa Epsilon – Jeff Eslinger – 765-569-5902 – eslingj@rockville.k12.in.us
- Reunion Chairman – Greg Teague – 317-727-2303 – teague_greg@comcast.net

Don’t wait for us to call you because we will, if we haven’t already, go ahead and contact your Reunion Rep to get more information about the Big Bash and to let them know that you will be attending.
And before anyone starts with the excuses, we already have word that Ali Raheem and his family will be returning from JAPAN to attend the Big Bash. If they can make it back across the Pacific Ocean to attend, you can make it across the state or even the country to be there.

In addition to these Class Letters and contact with your Reunion Reps we have setup a Wabash College Class of 88 Facebook Group which will serve as our online rallying point. There is a group event listed for the Big Bash there and we have several guys already reporting in as attending. Planning to attend? Go ahead and let us know on the event page. If you aren’t in the group yet, contact me on Facebook and I will add you. If you aren’t on Facebook consider setting up an account and joining the group so you can keep up with all the latest Reunion news.

We have also identified a rallying point in Crawfordsville for the Big Bash Weekend itself. We are encouraging everyone from the class who will be staying in town for the Reunion to stay at the Holiday Inn Express, which is next door to the old Holiday Inn (now a Quality Inn, more on that in a moment). There is a block of 45 rooms reserved (well, 44 now that I booked my room) for ALL Big Bash classes, not just our class. We have also reserved the meeting room at the Holiday Inn Express to serve as our Hospitality Suite for evening libations and conversations following the Reunion dinners on Friday and Saturday. Simply put, just stay there, we really don’t want anybody having to get behind the wheel to get home. The GM at the hotel said the best way to book is to call them directly and tell them you are with the Big Bash. Room rates are supposed to be $99 for a standard room (1 king or 2 queen beds) and $109 for a king suite, which was pretty nice. The hotel phone number is 765-323-4575 and you can find additional hotel information here http://www.hiexpress.com/hotels/us/en/crawfordsville/cfjex/hoteldetail.

I can’t stress this enough, book a room early. Word is rooms will be going fast in C’ville as there are several weddings booked in town for the same weekend as the Big Bash. The Hampton Inn appears to be heavily booked already and I’m not sure you want to try any of the other hotels. As for the Quality Inn (old Holiday Inn), DO NOT BOOK a room there, not only has the quality slipped but there are serious questions as to whether they will even be in business by the time the Big Bash rolls around next year. For those who are considering other options, the Lew got shut down by the tag team duo of the Health Inspector and the Fire Marshall, so that is out. I am told the Riviera still has rooms available.

Online registration for the Big Bash opens just after the first of the year. We are trying to get attendance commitments as early as possible to build momentum and get as many guys from the Class of 88 back to Wabash as possible. At our last Big Bash in 2008 we had 13 classmates in attendance, to put it bluntly, that is pathetic; we can do better than that. Whether you can make it for the whole weekend or for only part of it, we want to see you there. The Alumni Office has a set a goal of 45 attendees, the record for any class is 77, how does 88 sound for a stretch goal? So there it is, the gauntlet is set before you, are you going to pick it up and see us at the Big Bash?

Wabash Always Fights!

Greg Teague ’88