

Wabash College
Class of 2013 Update
Spring 2019

MILITARY

THY LOYAL SONS

Dear Class of 2013,

Another class of Wabash men graduated on May 12, 2019. Alumni, students, and family members braved the May showers to watch the ceremony. One hundred and ninety-eight men received their diplomas. Hopefully, they received a crash course in maintaining their sheepskin diplomas. Welcome to the brotherhood Class of 2019.



A spectator finds shelter from the rain under the bleachers

The 181st graduation ceremony served as a poignant counter note to the news that Mike Raters '85 was stepping down as Dean of Students. Raters served as the college's Dean of Students for 11 years. These 11 years included the entirety of our time at Wabash. German Professor Gregory Redding '88 will serve as Acting Dean of Students until the college finds a permanent replacement. Mike Raters will be sorely missed. He is truly a Giant within the Little Giant community.

Wabash's annual Day of Giving broke all previous records. The event, which took place on April 10th, garnered 5,238 gifts amounting to \$1,165,444. Thank you to all the members of the Class of 2013 who participated in the event. Some of you even sponsored challenges that helped increase the total amount of money donated. Though I cannot find information about the various affinity challenges and who sponsored them, the Class of 2013 thanks you.

The intersection of Grant Avenue and Wabash Avenue will receive a facelift. Wabash has partnered with the City of Crawfordsville to revitalize and beautify the intersection. The plan includes new signage, larger sidewalks, and a bike path linking the college with downtown Crawfordsville.



Artist rendering of the new sign

HONORS WON

Many Wabash men join the military to serve their country. In this issue of the class letter, we wanted to highlight the military achievements from some of the members of the Class of 2013.

Jason Farbstein commissioned as an Ensign in the United States Navy on May 1, 2018. Initially, he was assigned to Portsmouth Naval Hospital in Portsmouth, Virginia as a trauma nurse. On October 8, 2018 Jason was selected for deployment aboard the USNS *Comfort*. The *Comfort* is one of the largest trauma medical facilities in the world, with 1,000 beds and 12 operating rooms. Thank you, Jason, for saving the lives of America's finest.



Jeromy Sisk serves as part of the Army Criminal Investigation Command which investigates allegations of criminal activity under the Uniform Code of Military Justice. This photo is from Jeromy's reenlistment in fall of 2018. The Lincoln Memorial is in the background. Thank you, Jeromy, for helping bring the bad guys to justice.



Know anyone else from our class currently serving in the military? Please contact us. We will include them in the next letter.

WHERE THE COTTON IS BLOWING

Here's some non-military updates about our classmates.

- Daniel Allen and his wife Adara welcomed their first child, a baby girl, Austen Elizabeth Allen into this world in February. Dan also graduated from Tufts University School of Dental Medicine in Boston in May and will be moving back home to Indiana for a 2-year pediatric dental residency at Riley Children's Hospital
- Adam Fein is an MFA candidate in graphic design at Rhode Island School of Design.
- Riley Floyd completed a judicial clerkship for Judge David F. Hamilton of the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit. In October, he rejoined the Indianapolis law firm of Hoover Hull Turner LLP as an associate. Riley practices primarily in the areas of commercial and appellate litigation, professional liability defense, and investigations.

O'ER THY CLASSIC HALLS

Why does Wabash have an armory? Does the building have anything to do with weaponry? The answer might surprise you.

Wabash debated adding military training to the college's curriculum during the early 1910's. This debate led to the addition of the Armory as part of the plans for the college's new gymnasium (today Chadwick Court). The college built the gymnasium and the Armory concurrently in 1917. Coincidentally, America officially entered World War I the same year.

Originally, the second floor of the Armory contained a basketball court. However, this basketball court had many secondary functions. Because of high enrollments and mandatory chapel attendance, the practice court served as a makeshift Chapel. Though the college never officially added military instruction to the curriculum, Wabash hosted a Student Army Training Corp during World War I. The Armory's basketball court served as a mess hall for the training corp.

The Armory never contained weapons during our time at Wabash (at least not that we know of). Some students from our class never experienced the building's hodgepodge of rooms and forced multifunctionality. For example, the basement of the Armory contained a computer lab, the first floor featured the writing center, and the third floor contained a mix of computer labs and lounge areas. The third floor even had a seldom used

pool table. Perhaps the building's best kept secret, the back of the structure housed the studio of the Wabash's very own radio station.

In short, it's through a quirk of history that the building has a name that denotes the stockpiling of weapons. Perhaps, if Wabash had debated adding underwater basket weaving to the curriculum in the early 1910's, we would call the building the Weavery today.

Special thanks to Beth Swift who helped with the information for this piece.



Photo of basketball court used as mess hall. Notice the basketball goal in the background. However, no weapons.

CULTURE AND TRADITIONS

Wabash experienced an enrollment crisis during World War II as young men joined the military in lieu of attending college. Enrollment at the college dipped to dangerously low levels.

Luckily, Wabash College secured a slot hosting a V-12 program for the United States Navy. The program ran from 1943 to November of 1945 and trained sailors for the war effort. Men in the V-12 program studied a general education curriculum separate from what remained of the general student population. Naturally, the V-12 program included a healthy dose of physical training. Wabash professors taught most of the classes, but Naval Officers taught classes that corresponded to naval training.

The program had a lasting impact on the college. Wabash hosted a reunion for the program's graduates in 2006. Though the college no longer has formal ties to the US military, Wabash still produces a proportionately large number of US servicemen.

Alumni Group

Becoming part of your local Wabash Alumni organization is a great way to stay connected. Make sure to join a Wabash Alumni organization: <http://www.wabash.edu/alumni/eservices>

Student Referrals

Interested in helping Wabash recruit the next generation of Wabash men? Referring prospective high school students is a great way to help. Follow the link below to refer a student

<https://www.wabash.edu/alumni/student/refer>

Annual Campaign

Make sure to continue donating to the Wabash College Annual Fund. Wabash gave us a wonderful education and it's important to pay it forward to future generations of Wabash men.

Interested in announcing an engagement, marriage, or event?
Put it in the next letter! Please forward you request to Rudy or me.

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