



WABASH COLLEGE

Class Agents Letter

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Class of 1950

Class Agent

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Dear '50ers — from sunny Florida:

For your info this type in this letter is known as 12 point. I'm not too sure but what it might not be better if it were a little larger for all us old folks.

The bad news, just about the worst I can relate, is that we lost the annual Monon Bell game (at home) to DePauw 14-7. The Tigers finished 8-2 and we dropped to 6-4 after winning our first five games. It was DPU's first win in four years and the overall series is now tied 51-51 with nine ties. Overall 11,500 attended the game.

Gracious! I have so much correspondence since the last letter that I can't believe it and don't know how I'll get it all in one letter. Well, anyway, I'll give it a try.

Carolynne Rudrow has reported that I missed the death of Jack P. Wright's wife, "Tommye," on August 19 following some kind of surgery. The Wrights lived in New Jersey but had gone to Florida where I believe one of their offspring lives in the Boynton Beach area. Tommye (and Carolynne) had become very close friends, as had their husbands while they were at Wabash. Both women worked for the College. Of course, they have maintained a very close relationship although living on opposite coasts.

Just yesterday I received notification from classmate Bob Morris of the Nov. 14 death of Marsh Jones '50, who had been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. He and wife Dorothy had moved to Madison, IN sometime in the last year where a memorial service is slated Dec. 12.

Bob said he saw only Bob Risley from the Class of '50 at Homecoming in October.

An e-mail last week informed me that Hugh Busenbark, who started with us as a freshman but graduated in 1951, resides in the winter about four miles from us at Ft. Myers Beach. Called him and we are going to get together once he gets done with his repairs from Hurricane Charley damage. He attended our 50th reunion.

Pete Stuntz, who lives in Wisconsin, was in Branson and became acquainted with a fellow who lives in my hometown of Flora. Pete sent him an e-mail with some pix and sent me a copy of it. It was nice to see his father, who was a well-established businessman in Delphi where I had a newspaper at one time.

From the Class of 1952 letter I learned that Delta Tau Delta fraternity celebrated its 110th anniversary on Sept 18. In that letter class agent Ken Beasley said, "I still marvel as I walk by the Center Hall plaque honoring the names of Wabash men who served during the war -- the Civil War, that is." Don't know how many of you remember Charlie Finch '51, but his class agent reported his death at his Missouri home. I don't really know the details but feel certain it was unexpected. Charlie was exceptionally loyal alum. I was sent four different letters from class agents who attended the annual Class Agents' Forum in September. Although I was in Indiana, I didn't go since it's rather tough getting around all the time on a walker. Reports from the letters were that it was another great weekend to recharge your batteries. Did notice that Dick Griesser, Class of '51, had this to say: "Dear Men and their ladies etc." I'm sure his attitude that a lot of Wabash wives read the letters is true. I'm glad. Now, if they just send me some info once in a while.

Through October 21 only nine contributors had given to Wabash since the fiscal year began on July 1. That's a paltry few. It's about time you start helping and get your donation in. As far as I'm concerned, our class effort is far too puny to date.

Gleaned from the October 29 report of the Board of Trustees meeting:

- Time was spent on ways to insure that every Wabash graduate has a number of career opportunities available to him.
- Two central priorities of the next strategic plan will be reshaping the residential experience for students and ensuring that every graduate is prepared to pursue life and living after Wabash.
- Life after graduation was another topic. Many programs used in the Schroeder Career Center are sound, but too many students don't take advantage of them. Changing the focus will be considered.
- It was noted that the Campaign for Leadership has transformed the physical plant of the College and provided unprecedented learning opportunities for students. The \$136.1 million in gifts and pledges have positioned Wabash soundly.
- The College's endowment has rebounded to approximately \$300 million, off a fraction for the quarter, but up 15.2 percent from the previous year.
- The Buildings & Grounds Committee urged the College to consider maintenance and custodial issues for newly renovated and constructed fraternities so that Wabash might protect its investments in the same manner it does for all of its facilities.
- 250 new students started classes this fall. None of them had left as the meeting was being held: 71 percent of the frosh pledged fraternities, up significantly over last year.

Note from Bob Hoey, West Lafayette, IN says his son-in-law and daughter now live in Naples where he is a golf pro. Didn't say at what course. Will expect to see them sometime this winter. He had an interesting comment, after recalling how much George Carscallen had helped him in math while he was a student: "The thing that makes Wabash great is the teachers who love to teach. Classes are not an impediment to their research but the reason they are there"

Paul Francis of Oak Brook, IL sent a write-up he and wife Mimi had gotten in a paper there telling about the last 50 years supporting each other's efforts and dreams. Because of all their work for Mount Sinai Hospital and its Access Community Health Network, they were honored in May by the Network at the Heroes hi Health Gala in May. Officials renamed a center on Chicago's west side as the Paul and Mimi Francis Health Center. The article about the couple concluded with this statement by Paul, "When you find something worth while, throw into it whole-

heartedly in order to see results. You have to find that right match, enjoy it and have fun. It's the truth with anything in life." In a separate note to me Paul said, "I was at Wabash for two wonderful years. That set a pattern for my life."

For your info, our oldest son, Joe, drove us down to Ft Myers. Left home Oct. 23. On Nov. 12 son Dave '91 and wife Christie got their third offspring in 44 months. After two sons, it was a daughter and they were pleased.

On the way to Florida we stayed at Cullman, AL. I needed help getting my chair placed at the motel breakfast table and asked the man at the table next to us for help. Turned out he was a 1975 Wabash graduate who lives here in Florida. Sorry, I've lost his name. While we were talking, another man said he heard us talking about Wabash and that he was a 1969 graduate. Lives in Florida but is general manager of US Technology, manufacturers of plastic abrasives at Canton, OH. Small world!

And, Carolynne Rudrow sent a chuckle:

There was once a man and a woman who had been married for more than 60 years. They shared everything. They had talked about everything. They had kept no secrets from each other, except that the little old woman had a shoe box in the top of her closet that she had cautioned her husband never to ask about or open. For all of the years, he had never thought about the box, but one day the little old woman got very sick and the doctor said she would not recover. In trying to sort out their affairs, the little old man took down the shoe box and took it to his wife's bedside. She agreed that it was time that he should know what was in the box. When he opened it, he found two crocheted doilies and a stack of money totaling \$25,000. He asked her about the contents.

"When we were married," she said, "my grandmother told me the secret to a happy marriage was to never argue. She told me that if I ever got angry with you, I should keep quiet and crochet a doily. "The little old man was so moved he had to fight back tears. Only two precious doilies were in the box. She had only been angry with him two times in all those years of living and loving. He almost burst with happiness. "Honey," he said, 'that explains the doilies but what about all this money? Where did it come from?" "Oh," she said, "that's the money I made selling the doilies."

Then Carolynne offers this prayer: I pray for wisdom to understand my man; Love to forgive him; and patience for his moods; because if I pray for strength, I'll beat him to death....."

Here's wishing you the very best in everything you do. ALM