



Class Agents Letter

Class of 1972

Class Agents

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Gentlemen:

Happy Spring to all of you. It's been a while since I wrote a letter to you, representing our class as one of your three Class Agents. Thanks to Tom and John for their great letters over the past year.

I thought I'd update you on a few things. Wabash continues to thrive in these challenging times. Student body size is 854 students, of which 256 are freshmen. Importantly, there is a good 90% retention rate of students as they move up from the freshman class. Almost 10% of students are International, which seems pretty good for a small men's College in Crawfordsville, Indiana. I just turned **75** last month, and I'm aware almost ALL of you will be doing the same sometime this year. How about that?!?! As one of my Birthday presents, my whole family (son, daughter, their spouses, plus 4 grandkids) are all driving down with me to Indy in May to see a pre-season Indiana Fever WNBA game (I, like many, am a huge fan of Caitlin Clark). Tickets have been purchased. They are quite in demand and very hard to find! Then, on our way home, we'll stop by Wabash and take a little tour of the College. My kids just love the beauty and splendor of the Campus. It's been a while since they have seen it. Should be fun.

The College

Obviously, one of the biggest news stories at Wabash these days (which all of you can relate to) is the planned new **Community Center**.

This 56,000 square foot building will be located in the heart of campus (where the 70 year old Sparks Center used to be) and will serve as a community gathering space, featuring main-floor dining for over 200 people and flexible upper-level event space for gatherings of 12-250. The



Community Center will include a restaurant and of course, Wally's Pub, plus a game room, living room, and other amenities and facilities. (The bookstore is now temporarily located in the Allen Center). The College broke ground for the new building in January. "Selective" demolition of the Sparks Center began just last week. Major demolition is expected to begin in late May.

"The new Community Center will bring town and gown together for meetings, fundraisers, and celebrations," said Wabash **President Scott Feller**. "We are excited for the endless opportunities the new building will provide for our students, but it will also be the place where our students can work with and learn from our neighbors and nonprofits. By working together, we will strengthen our community in every possible way."

For more info, the College has set up a website:

<https://www.wabash.edu/communitycenter/>

Alumni Giving

I know this is Tom Ristine's area of expertise, but I just want to mention that all of you should consider giving something financially to Wabash every year. As I get older, I realize more and more how much Wabash meant to me way back in the late 60's and early 70's, and how much it has given to me for all these years. From Annual fiscal year giving, to end of the year giving, to Day of Giving or even putting some giving in your Will (you should all have one!), it's a good idea. I just set up a small plan to pledge some funds every year for the next 5 years, through Joe Pieters at the College...easy and manageable. Whatever you can do will mean a great deal for the College, and mean a lot to you! Just go to Wabash.edu/give. By the way, this year's Day of Giving is April 30.

Thanks for listening.

News From You

I need some news from you! As you might recall, as Class Agents, John Bridge focusses his efforts on news and events going on at Wabash; Tom Ristine focusses on Giving matters; I'm responsible for Class of '72 news from you. But, I need some news!

I've been able to keep up a little with **Pierce Klemmt**, **Paul Gojkovich** and **John Failey**. Last summer, I visited **Bob Ivancevich** in Land 'O Lakes,

Wisconsin where he generously hosted the band I still play in, "Big Brother's Vinyl", for our performance in the city's annual Car Park Music Series. This was our third year in a row playing for the LOLA Arts Festival.

I also spent time with **Don Lawton** last summer for an overnigher in Indy, and he and a few others came up to Chicago late summer to see our band. Great to see all of them!

Also, thanks for the many notes I still receive from you regarding my heart attack almost 2 ½ years ago. I'm doing very well, but, to do so, I continue to do my weekly cardio exercises, plus enjoy a good healthy diet of foods that will hopefully keep me in good shape for years to come. But, you have to work at it! My only advice to all of you is to do your annual medical checkups, try to regularly do some sort of exercise in some way, and eat healthy foods. Don't put these things off! Hope all of you are doing well.

Ok, enough for now. PLEASE email me with some news:

rwfobes@gmail.com

Have a great Spring and Summer.

Rick