



Class Agents Letter

Class of 1977

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Hi Fellow Class of '77ers,

Spring has arrived, although you cannot tell it from the snow on the ground here in Northeast Ohio. Welcome to our most recent class news update. Let's begin with a "countdown" of sorts: 787 days from today, June 4, 2027, will be the beginning of our 50th reunion celebration at Wabash College. Men, please mark June 4-5, 2027 on your calendar now! Chat with your spouses/significant others, and make a decision NOW to come to this Golden Anniversary of our graduation from the Academic Halls of Crawfordsville.

Wish I had loads of news from fellow classmates this time around, but there's not. Remember you can always email me (john.kerezy@tri-c.edu) or text me at 234-542-4487 or find me on social media (I'm out there) with updates about celebrations, retirements (for the few of us who haven't retired yet), and other special milestones in our lives.

FROM THE COLLEGE

This time, want to draw your attention to a couple of interesting stories about other alumni doing great things. Josh Kline '99 and his wife Monica have begun a fund and program to promote entrepreneurial exploration and development at the college. The fund supports entrepreneurial experiences and related professional development opportunities for Wabash students, such as internships, fellowships, and immersion experiences. It also supports established professional development programming such as small business internships and provides micro-grants to student entrepreneurs. This is a great investment into the future of Wabash men! Here's a link to the story:

https://giantsteps.wabash.edu/?pagetype=news&news_ID=13438

Tim Jeffers '87 is a key person behind the successful effort to place a Desert Storm/Desert Shield Gulf War memorial on the National Mall in Washington DC. Construction on it is underway now, and the memorial will be opened in spring 2026, just ahead of the nation's bicentennial. Fascinating story. Here's the link:

<https://www.wabash.edu/news/story/13436>



DAY OF GIVING 12

April 30 will be date for the 12th annual Day of Giving at the college. “Sing Thy Praises” is the theme in honor of the 125th anniversary of the greatest college song in the land, “Old Wabash” being sung with its current lyrics for the first time in 1900. The 11 previous Days of Giving have raised more than \$12 million, directly benefitting more than 3,000 students with scholarship funds.

There’s also a bunch of “challenge grants” or affinity challenges involved in the Day of Giving. You might hear from an athletic team classmate or a fraternity brother or someone like GREG BIRK asking you to make a donation. Kathy and I always give to Tau Kappa Epsilon and *The Bachelor* groups, for example. It’s fine to “split” your donation into multiple groups to help meet all of these matching gift challenges. Do participate – thanks!

VOTE FOR YOUR CLASSMATE



We’re fortunate to have one of our own, RHENWICK YOUNG, running for a position on the Board of Trustees at the college. You’ll remember him from the basketball team, Pre-Law Club, SSAC, and Malcom X Institute while he was our classmate at Wabash. Rhennick had a 35-year career with Marathon Petroleum, including serving as treasurer and a chief business development officer at the company. Rhennick and his wife Jayne are at just about every Little Giant football and basketball contest within an hour’s drive or so of their home in Dublin. His full biography is online with the ballot. Be sure to vote (deadline is April 22) and vote for Rhennick.

Here’s the link to details and where you cast your ballot:

<https://www.wabash.edu/alumni/vote/>

OTHER DATES TO SAVE

“After the Bell – All Roads Lead from Wabash: How the Little Giants of Liberal Arts Shaped Classical Liberal Scholarship with Daniel D’Amico” – Tuesday, April 22 (on Zoom, [sign up here](#))

Commencement – May 17

Big Bash 2025 – June 6-8 (this is a great event to attend, even if it’s not a reunion year) Register here: wabash.edu/bigbash

Ringin’ In the Class of 2029 – August 23

Homecoming: Alumni Chapel, Luncheon, and Football vs. Denison – September 27

131st Monon Bell Classic at Wabash – November 15

MISC. ODDS AND ENDS

Although he and Carroll are retired and living in Switzerland, GREG BIRK still pops into Indiana as often as possible to visit. He made it to Wabash back in February to help wish our honorary classmate ROB JOHNSON a happy 85th birthday.



Greg Birk returned to Crawfordsville in Feb. to help celebrate Coach Rob Johnson's birthday, he also came across our classmate and track teammate Dr. Bob Einterz! Bob now works a few days a week at the Wabash Wellness

HERM HAFFNER and Kitty were down on Florida's Gulf Coast for a long vacation, which they've been doing annually for nearly 20 years. He and I and my adult son got together for a day of fishing in the Gulf. Nope, we didn't catch the big one, but we did bring in a couple of medium-sized fish on a beautiful, sunny Saturday at the beginning of March.

My wife Kathy and I have purchased a small place in the town of Ruskin, Fla, about halfway between Tampa Bay and Sarasota, with the intention of become snowbirds once I retire. (More about that next time).

FINALLY

In keeping with the Day of Giving theme, want to close this letter with the final verse from our other college song, Alma Mater. And back in 2000, when there was an Alumni Glee Club gathering at the college, the current (then) and alumni members sang this terrific song. If you wish, you can close out this letter by hearing that recording, linked just below.

Dear Alma Mater, in thy hands rest all our hopes and fears,

Thou Counsellor in College days, thou guide in riper years.

Grant now thy benediction, vouchsafe they care benign,

That worthy, we may follow, the precepts that are thine.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ASyr25Xg-zc>

Best for Wabash Always,

John