



WABASH COLLEGE

Class Agents Letter

Alumni and Parent Relations

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Class of 1974

Class Agents

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July, 2014

To the Men of the Class of 1974:

This letter may be described as the letter of “lists and thank-you’s” since my purpose is to thank everyone who traveled to Crawfordsville last month for our 40th class reunion, everyone who helped convince you to attend Big Bash 2014, and everyone who made a monetary contribution to the college in fiscal 2014, plus a few “special” thank-you’s.

First, thank-you to the 25 men who officially registered for Big Bash 2014 and our 40th reunion (and the anonymous few who did not register):

Neil Allen	Jim Benecke	Dan Berning	Jeff Birk
Tom Bridge	Mark Dewart	Vic DeRose	Brent Doss
Dave Dumser	Terry Gaff	Doug Given	Bob Hall
Bob Harris	Kurt Homann	Jim McDaniel	Art Milford
John Musgrave	Bill O’Bryan	Chris Patchell	Martin See
Phillip Smith	Paul Tipps	John Van Drie	Carl Winkler
John Zinn			

A big thank-you to **Jeff Birk** and his family for inviting the entire class of ‘74 and their spouses to join him and his Beta brothers at his beautiful C-ville home for food, drinks, and story-telling on Friday evening after the official college functions.

Thanks also to **Kurt Homann** for leading our class in the Chapel Sing contest Saturday morning. No, we did not win this competition; however, I do not think we finished last either.

After a tailgate party in the Sigma Chi parking lot enjoying some Michigan craft beers compliments of **Chris Patchell**, we welcomed an engaging group of guests to our class dinner in the Sig Chi dining room on Saturday night including former professors **Phil Mikesell, David Hadley, and Bill Doemel**, current Athletic Director, Joe **Haklin**, Grants Coordinator, **Deborah Woods**, and Pre-Health Advisor, **Jill Rogers**. Unfortunately, former President **Thad Seymour** and his wife, **Polly**, and **Chick** and **Janet Clements** were late cancellations as was Spanish professor **Dan Rogers**.

After the dinner, **Dr. Tom Bridge** proposed a toast to the memory of Dr. Keith Baird who died earlier this year. To further honor Dr. Baird, Tom passed the hat and collected \$660 for Dr. Doemel to deliver to the Montgomery County Community Foundation for the Dr. Mary Ludwig Building Fund for the Montgomery County Free Clinic. The Wabash College Class of 1974 received a thank-you note from the Free Clinic stating our donation will help provide much needed health and dental care to many in the (Montgomery County) community.

I cannot thank enough the men who stepped forward to serve as Living Unit Representatives for the Class of 1974 and who helped make Big Bash 2014 such an enjoyable weekend. Those men were:

Bill O'Bryan (Phi Delta Theta),
Bob Hall (Phi Gamma Delta),
Kurt Homann & Jeff Birk (Beta Theta Pi),
John Gildea & Terry Coffinbarger (Sigma Chi),
Hal Wendling (Lambda Chi Alpha),
Bruce Ikawa (Tau Kappa Epsilon),
Bob Harris (Kappa Sigma), and,
Jim McDaniel & Paul Smith (Independents)

A special thank-you to **John Musgrave** for volunteering to serve as our Class Gift Chairman. Under John's leadership 60 donors, or 34.88% of our class, contributed \$51,665 to the college in the fiscal year which ended June 30, 2014. These donors were:

**Rick Adams
Jim Benecke, Jr.
Jeff Birk
Bob Black
Tom Bridge
Rick Brown
Chip Burgess
Terry Bushing
Robert Cooper
Vic DeRose
Mark Dewart
Duane Donahue
Steve Dumont
Dave Dumser
Mike Eckerle
Floyd Fetter
Terry Gaff
Mike German
John Gildea, CPA
Doug Given**

**Carl Gjeldum
Bob Hall
Bob Harris
Kurt Homann
Bruce Ikawa
Chuck Johnston
Ben Kessler
Kevin Marsh
Dan Masten
Tom Maury
Craig May
Jim McDaniel
Mike Medler
Baird Milford
John Musgrave
Jack Myers
Steve Nelson
Phil Nysewander
Bill O'Bryan, Jr.
Darrell Olson**

**Ben Park
Chris Patchell
Jim Pattison
Ralph Rohrer
Steve Santello
Mark Schnepfer
Martin See
Dave Shapiro
Bob Smith III
Paul Tipps
John Van Drie, Jr.
Ron Waugh, Jr.
Rick Weber
Hal Wendling
Clifford Williams
Wink Winkler III
Terry Wise
Gary Wollenweber
John Zinn**

Some brief highlights from Associate Dean for College Advancement Joe Klen's just released year-end report:

- 5,208 alumni, parents, and friends made gifts to the Annual Fund for \$3,271,804. The FY14 Annual Fund dollar total is the second highest unrestricted dollar total in the College's history.
- 4,538 alumni made gifts to the College (both Annual Fund and restricted gifts). This is 377 more alumni donors than FY13. This was the fourth consecutive year for the College to realize an increase in the number of alumni donors. This is the highest number of alumni donors in a single fiscal year, breaking the previous FY02 record of 4,314.

- Alumni participation was at 40.15% in FY14 versus 37.24% in FY13 and 35.06% in FY12. FY14 is the first year above 40% alumni participation since FY03.

A nice way to welcome the college's new Dean for College Advancement, Michelle L. Janssen, to Crawfordsville may be to make your fiscal 2015 donation to the college on August 1, 2014 when Ms. Janssen officially begins her tenure. Before coming to Wabash, Ms. Janssen served as Vice President of Alumni and College Relations at Berea College in Berea, Kentucky.

I will close with some statistics put forth by the National Association of Wabash Men Admissions Committee:

- For our most recent recruiting cycle (July 1- June 30), Wabash alumni and friends of the College referred 1,060 students.
- At this time, the Wabash class of 2018 is 266 strong. Of those 266 students, 80 were referred by Wabash alumni and 52 are legacies.

Have a referral (or referrals) to make? [Refer a student online](#) or call the Admissions Office at 800-345-5385.

Yours in Wabash,

Paul and Mark