



WABASH COLLEGE

Class Agents Letter

Office of Alumni Affairs

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Class of 1950

Class Agent

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June 2010

- Hey You Guys,

Several members of the Great Class of 1950 attended the Big Bash Weekend June 4-6 (our 60th Reunion). Locals (Indiana) Tom Payne, Jim Spears, Bob Quirk, Pierce Green, were there. Hank and Millie Ahlers came from Brookfield, WI and Allan Wright drove all the way over from Bloomfield, NJ.

We had a great time. It was good to see "Old" friends and learn about their families and what they had been up to since we had last been together. Several of us had lunch with Vic and Marion Powell (Vic came to Wabash in our sophomore year for a 2 year appointment and never left). We also invited Jean Williams, widow of Prof. Eliot Williams, to come to the Golden Little Giants' Dinner on Saturday night as a guest of our class. Consensus of our link with the past: Old Wabash is in "good hands" and the future of the College looks bright.

The last copy of the Bachelor (voice of Wabash since 1908) during our Wabash undergraduate years dated Sunday June 4, 1950 stated "more than 140 men were graduated today in ceremonies marking the one hundred and twelfth commencement exercises. The class of over 140 men, by far the largest in the history of Wabash was made up largely of veterans of military service"

The Bachelor went on to state that: 49 were married and they had 33 children, 94 were veterans, 13 states and 2 foreign countries were represented, 78 planned to go into business and 53 were going to grad schools. Whether you were there on June 4, 1950 or you moved on we have every reason to be proud to say that we are all WABASH MEN.

As we look forward to our 65th reunion, there are a couple of things we need to do.

First, if you haven't yet made your annual contribution to old Wabash please do so TODAY as the College's fiscal year ends June 30, 2010. Foundations, corporations,

prospective students and their families and others look to see what percentage of alums donate to their alma mater.

If you have made regular contributions to the Annual Fund and have not made your 2009-2010 gift, please do so NOW. We want your name on the list, your gift is important. A gift of any amount is better than NO GIFT.

There are 3 easy ways to make gifts:

1. On line at www.wabash.edu/egift or www.wabash.edu/10reasons
2. By phone at 877-743-4545
3. By mail to: Wabash College, Annual Giving, PO Box 352, Crawfordsville, IN 47933

LET'S SHOOT FOR 100% FOR 1950!

Tom Payne sent me a note that I would like to share with you. He writes:

"George: I have lost in my computer what I have spent a couple of hours trying to put together, my impressions from the two days we spent at 60th year reunion. I'm not up to recreating all of that. Perhaps I can summarize my overall impressions AND the impressions of the fellow alumni I talked with during the most pleasant two days. Wabash was good in our day. We agree it's better now thanks to the continuing efforts of dedicated trustees, administration, faculty and alumni. The students entering are better prepared: they get better, more hands-on teaching from superb scholars with outstanding skills and resources, more is demanded of the students and they respond. The campus is a classic beauty, the facilities are first class. Current financial challenges are being faced with a realism that would surely make Frank Sparks proud.

Ben Rogge, a man we all admire, in his 1963 Breakfast for Seniors speech on "HOW TO BE A GOOD ALUMNUS" offered some pertinent, moving thoughts. Here are some extracts:

"I want to talk of what you should and should not demand of this, your college, in the years ahead. I want to talk of the right and wrong uses of what is sometimes called "alumni pressure". To begin I would not ask you to demand that this, your college remain always what you will come to think it was when you were here..... Change is inevitable and do not ask of your college that it defy all the rules which govern human institutions and remain as you imagine it was in its Golden Years when you were on campus..... Do not demand that its faculty be of one type and one point of view..... Nor even should you demand that all of the faculty be hell-roaring Free Enterprisers like Ben Rogge. On the contrary, you should demand of your college that its faculty should contain real diversity of point of view on the great issues of human affairs..... that your college always remain true to the words of John Stuart Mill.... "There is always hope when men are forced to listen to both sides of a question.'" (His entire speech is available on the Wabash web page.)

Ben also mentions that it was appropriate for alumni to shower the college with money (not in those precise words). So why not send a check soon... and another one later. What ever you send will be well used and appreciated." (End of Payne)

Second, you can send me a note and let me know how you are and what's going on. I'll let the rest of the guys know "what's up with you and yours".

If your schedules permit let's meet at Home Coming this year on September 25, 2010, mark your calendar!

If you haven't made a gift this year please do so.

Send a note to: George S. Haerle, 9255 Tamarack, Indianapolis, IN 46260

Phone: 317-846-8567

E-mail: mimihh@att.net

Thanks for your consideration and your gift. Thanks for being a WABASH MAN and a member of the GREAT class of 1950!

George Haerle