



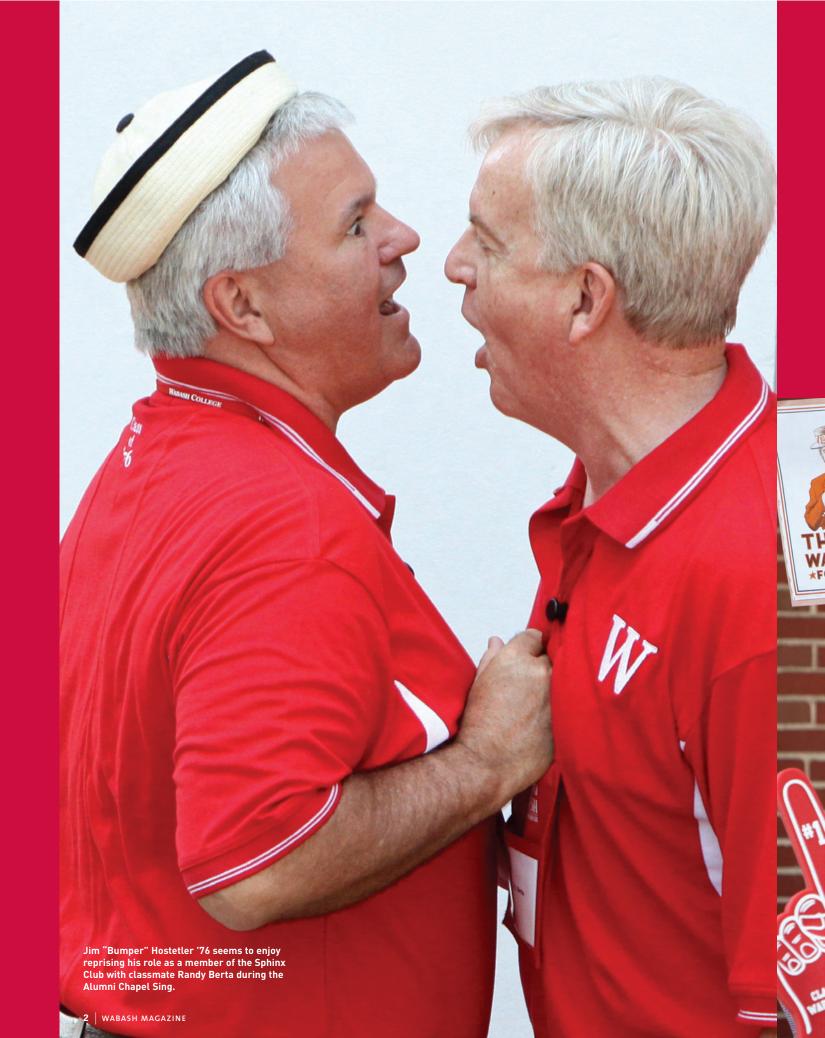


I came over and literally fell in love with the place.

Of course, I grew up in Danville, IL, so I didn't have to go too far from home. I figured that if worse came to worse, I could call my folks and they could come pick me up!

—Keith Nelson '71, Danville, IL, speaking about his freshman year to a student interviewer for the College's Scarlet Yarns alumni stories project during this year's Big Bash.





When my mom passed away just before Thanksgiving vacation my sophomore year, my classmates and my friends became my family, and my professors became surrogate parents. Whether it was my advisor, Walt Fertig, my later advisor, Karl Heinz-Planitz, or Peteris Silins, my friends and my teachers became my lifeblood.

—Jim Rendel '71, Lisle, IL

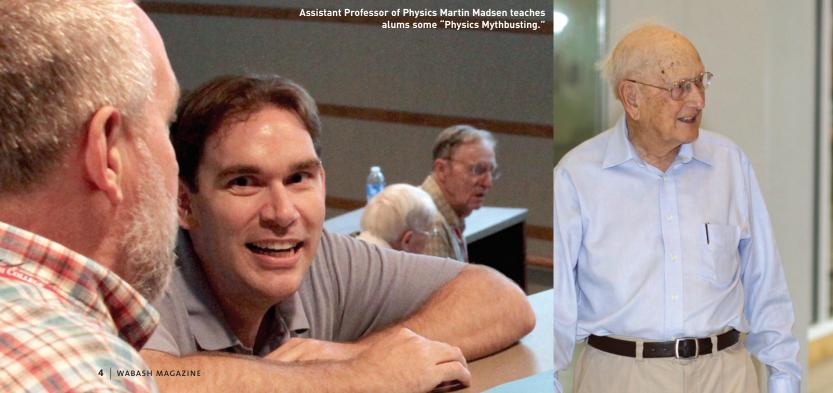
The Class of 71 paid tribute to the mentors of their Wabash days, President Thad Seymour H'78 and Dean Norman Moore H'63.



One afternoon it was announced that President Harry Truman was going to be coming through Crawfordsville by train. Our professors urged us to go down to see him. I was lucky enough to be right behind the train when it stopped and I was standing just 10 feet from Harry Truman. "I am very happy to be here in Crawfordsville, Indiana," he said. Then he smiled and said, "You know, I don't think I've ever seen so many Republicans in my life!"

Jack Schenk '51, Indianapolis, IN





Yes, I am come home again Where I and these others Grew from naïve awkward boy To something like a man . . .

Jere Wysong '61







I came from the very industrial suburbs of Chicago and a very rigid English program. Then in freshman English here with Professor Donald Baker we read The Catcher in the Rye. It was a terrific book; I loved it. I had no idea such things even existed, or that you could read about them. I learned all of the characters. the plot, all that stuff.

Baker had one question on the exam: Was Holden Caulfield a phony?

My God—I couldn't breathe. I had never thought or envisioned that kind of question would be on a test. Needless to say, I flunked the test, but by gee we started doing a lot of thinking after that. I got a C in English, but that's where I started to think.

Earl Talbot '61, Chicago, IL

# Wabash

Wabash College educates men to think critically, act responsibly, lead effectively, and live humanely.

### The Journal of Wabash College Summer 2011

#### www.wabash.edu/magazine

DEAN FOR ADVANCEMENT Joe Emmick '92

765-361-6152 emmickj@wabash.edu

DIRECTOR OF ALUMNI AFFAIRS Tom Runge '71

765-361-6371 runget@wabash.edu

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS Jim Amidon '87

AND MARKETING 765-361-6364 amidonj@wabash.edu

EDITOR, WABASH MAGAZINE Steve Charles H'70

765-361-6368 charless@wabash.edu

DIRECTOR OF NEW MEDIA Howard Hewitt

765-361-6087 hewitth@wabash.edu

DIRECTOR OF SPORTS INFORMATION

Brent Harris

AND MARKETING 765-361-6165 harrisb@wabash.edu

CLASS NOTES EDITOR Karen Handley

765-361-6396 handleyk@wabash.edu

COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING Kim Johnson

SPECIALIST 765-361-6209 johnsonk@wabash.edu

ART DIRECTOR/GRAPHIC DESIGNER Rebecca Otte

Jim Amidon '87, Steve Charles H'70, CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS Howard Hewitt, Kim Johnson,

Tom Runge '71, John Zimmerman H'67

ADMISSIONS INFORMATION 765-361-6405 / 800-345-5385

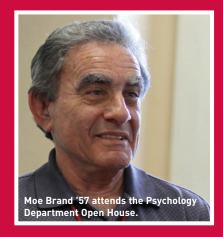
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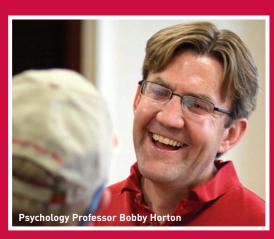
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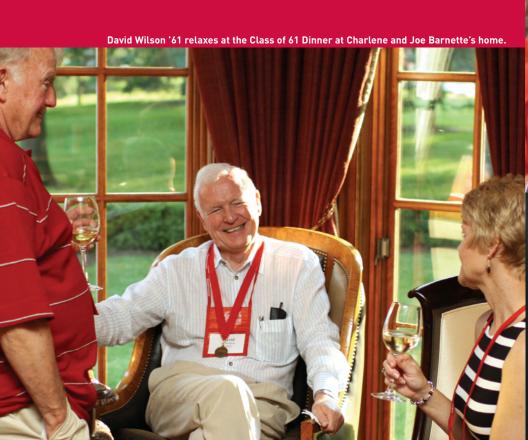


I was hitchhiking home at
Thanksgiving my freshman
year and Paul Mielke, my
math professor, picked me
up and took me all the way
to my home in Lake County.
During the ride, the kids and
I hit it off. So for four years I
became the babysitter for the
Mielkes, and for the rest of
their lives, they were my friends.

Anyone who knew the Mielke family was blessed. I saw love, I saw affection, I saw music.

This is the first time I've come back to Wabash without first stopping at their home. Even when I visited them when they were ill, they were grand people. One of the things that makes Wabash so very special is the affection I have for them, and that they were kind enough to have for me.

Dave McAfee '61, Granite Bay, CA



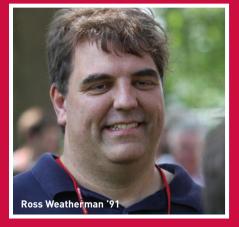




From Brigance and Harvey I learned to write and speak, and to speak without using adverbs: "Thou shalt not use adverbs; there is no such word as 'very'"!

**Bob Panzer '61** 











I am waiting with my brothers

As the girls from St. Mary's file out of their yellow bus

And I, we, are scouting prospects

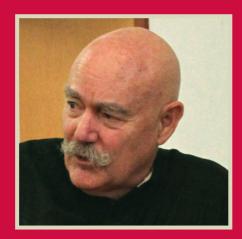
From second story windows, sometimes getting lucky

After awkward conversation,

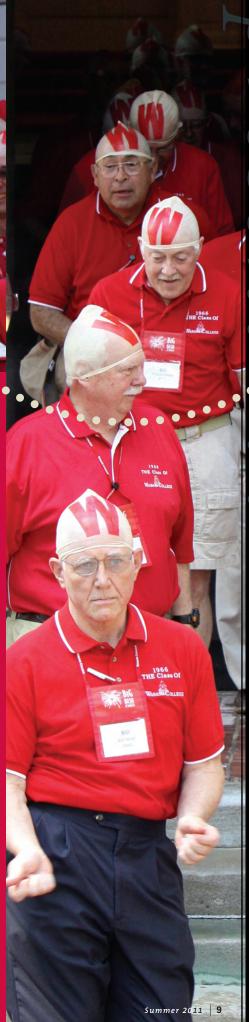
Dancing . . .

Jere Wysong '61

My freshman year I took freshman Speech/English with Brigance, who was world famous, and Robert Harvey, who was a former editor of the *Indianapolis Star*, and both were very strong on clean, unadorned writing. When you prepared your speech, Brigance would have



you write it out. Then he would take brown paper tape and cut just exactly the size of the line and tape over the offending words and type what you should have said—a labor of love...





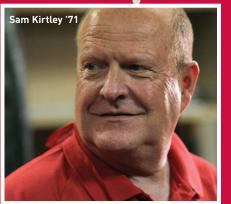
There's no substitute for being at table with the people you care about. I have fond memories of the occasional seminar class over pizza and beer at the home of the late Bill Placher; I know what little I know about wine and whiskey from tastings with David Kubiak and David Blix; and most of the interactions I have these days with fellow Wabash alums happen around some kind of dining table.

Adam Fronczek '01, Chicago, IL









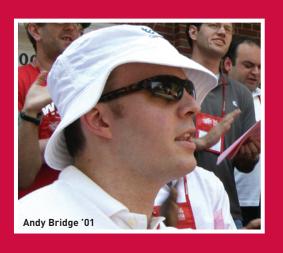






We were playing Bradley, had just scored a touchdown, and I was playing left halfback. For the two-point conversion, the ball was pitched to me, and I had the option of running or passing. I lifted up my arms to throw because the receiver was open in the end zone. The ball, being wet, slipped out of my hands and went straight up in the air, so I caught it and ran into the end zone for the two-point conversion. The Indianapolis *Star,* in a story the next day, stated that a touchdown was scored with a two-point conversion on a pass from Moore to Moore!

Jay Moore '61, Lake Wylie, SC











When I was a freshman pledge at the Kappa Sig house we were required to be in our seats at the stadium when the football game began. One Saturday a pledge brother and I were running late to get to our required seats at the football game and still had to run all the way around the outside of the fence to get to the entrance. We were going to be in big trouble. The teams were already on the field when we came up behind the visitors' stands and saw President Lew Salter walking along the fence.

"You running late?" he asked. It took us a moment to realize that we were talking to the president. We said, "Yes, sir."

So he reaches into his pocket and pulls out a huge clump of keys and pulls out the key that opens the padlock that will let us directly into the stadium so we could zip across the track and into our seats before kickoff.

That he would do that for us was impressive, but even more so that he carried the keys to every door at Wabash, knew exactly which one to choose. He was that invested in the place and the College. He wasn't just a president; he was part of the school.

Mark Decaroli '91, Middletown, NJ



It's a cliché that at class reunions everyone wants to show up with the prettiest wife, the smartest children, the fanciest car, and the longest list of professional triumphs, even though we know no one's life is that perfect. And if we have lost a job, or haven't yet found "the one," if our home is in

foreclosure or if some egregious error has caused trouble in our lives, we tend to leave those things at home, which is somewhat dishonest.

Even worse, there are perhaps some who stayed away this weekend out of a feeling that their lives are not yet perfect enough to show off to their classmates. Maybe they'll be ready to come in five years, or in ten. Maybe they'll never come back to Wabash.

Of course, that's not what friendship is about. The truest relationships in our lives are built on the willingness to share the things in our lives that have not always gone well in the hopes that we can provide each other with some of the forgiveness and grace and compassion that every one of us needs. When we do that, we allow each other the vital opportunity to escape the shame that shuts down our lives and keeps us from growing. We allow each other the grace to see the possibilities that lie before us instead of being stuck in the mistakes of the past.

Thankfully, I believe that many Wabash relationships are not limited to maintaining the facades we see in many human relationships. I want to invite all of you to be thankful for the real, authentic, and honest friendships that I believe have always made Wabash the unique community that we know it to be. I invite you to seek out those relationships and sustain them.

Adam Fronczek '01, associate pastor, Fourth Presbyterian Church, Chicago, from his sermon at the Big Bash Sunday morning worship service.



Big Bash videographer Drew Zromkoski '11













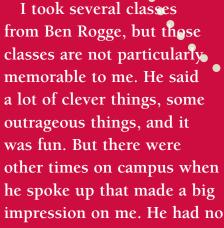








2011 Colloquia presenters included: Tom Fisher '91 ("Defending Federalism"), Tony Gigli '01 ("Deafness and Independence"), Bill Kovacs '71 ("Ruminations on Retirement"), Jay Want '81 ("Everything I Needed to Know About Health Care Reform I Learned at Wabash"), and (below right) Khurram Tahir '01 ("Opportunities for U.S. Businesses in China").





fear of going against the grain, of being in the minority of one—he had so much confidence in the rightness of his views. Those instances are still with me 40 years later.

> Bob Main '61, Professor of Economics, Butler University (Read more about those "Ben Rogge Moments" at WM Online.)





### **Reunion** by Jere Wysong '61

From across the cavernous new gym, With the quarter-mile track, sand pits, Hurdles, high jump stands, On the other side of the divider curtain I see, hear, the excited crowd, Older now, some fifty, sixty years.

Women and men, drinks, wine glasses, Bottles in hand, murmuring, Finding old brothers, introducing New or old wives, making Old and new jokes, shared laughter, cheer As classmates, friends appear.

And I know, even as I sit here On my shining scooter That is my latest link back to life, That more than any crowd, Congregation, meeting hall, I have come home, am in love again With an ideal, principles, A faculty who lived these, With memories of innocent boys Singing, shouting on Chapel steps, Trying desperately to remember Those wordy verses.

Eight o'clock classes, Early morning walks across campus Half-dressed, half-awake, And even then, the wonder Of confronting a brilliant lecture, A fundamental question.

Yes, I am come home again, Where I and these others, Grew from naïve awkward boy To something like a man.

Up the green hill, past the old bookstore, The Scarlet Inn, where mine, hundreds more, Initials are carved forever, we hope, On golden oak aging tables.

I am in Center Hall Again, and I see, hear faculty giants That will always be with us: Dr. Donald Baker, Dr. Harry T. Cotton, Dr. Richard Strawn, Deans Kurtz and Rogge, President Trippet, Their pointed questions, their sonorous renderings Of play and poetry and text. I hear Aristotle and Kierkegaard, John Donne, Auden, Yeats, T.S. Eliot, "I will go now, and go to Innisfree..." "April is the cruelest month..." "Breeding lilacs out of the dead land... And there are anxious exams, too, In blue book, long hours writing in quiet, scholarly rooms, The Gentleman's Rule reminding us That we are Men of Honor.

Weekends, or after Saturday morning classes, I am dating townies or waiting with brothers As the girls of St. Mary's file out of their yellow bus. And I, we are scouting prospects From second-story windows, sometimes getting lucky After awkward conversation, dancing. Later, road trips to IU, Friday and Saturday parties, Catching sleep as we could, falling in love again, So much breathless passion.

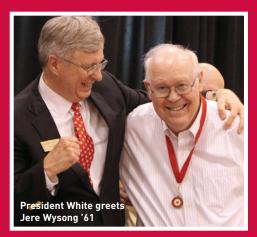
And so, in all of this, these memories Of celebration, stolen hours, the quiet, long hours Reading reflecting, thinking beyond ourselves, Writing, presenting, discussing the prose, poetry, plays That captured us, the giants whose Passion and intellect drove us to want A more perfect life, in all of this present, Here and always, we are blessed.



Class members returning: 58

Awards Won: Dorman Hughes Award (Sam Hildebrand, Denny Sheridan, J.B. Bachman), Trophy Cup, 1928 Attendance Trophy, Hovey Award (for setting an all-time record of giving, with more than 70 percent of the class making a gift to the College).

50th Reunion Class Gift: \$4,701,000











Reunion Chair Sam Hildebrand '61

Bob Bock '61 is honored for his artwork which graced the "Many Milers'" commemorative shirts.

# **HONORING RETIREES**



My Dean of Students was Norm Moore. He was, to many of us, Wabash.

When I came back for my senior year I owed the College \$400, I hadn't registered, and got called into the office.

Norm was a man of few words. He said, "I see you

haven't registered and you owe the College money. How are you going to take care of it?"

I said, "I don't know. I guess I'll have to find a job." He said, "We need a person to take roll in Chapel." I said, "Sure, I'll do that."

He said, "Don't you want to know what it pays?" I said, "Sure."

He said, "\$400. I'll tell the Business Office to apply it to your account."

When I became Dean of Students years later, some people decided to pay tribute to Norm by having an oil painting of him hung in the Dean's office. So Norm looked over me every morning...

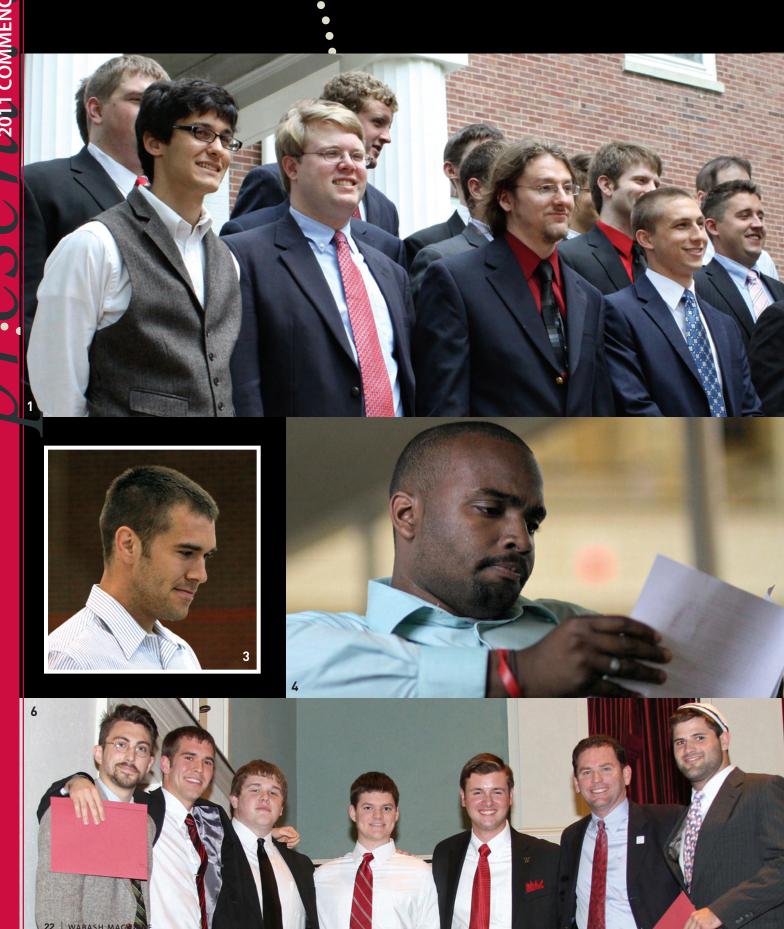
> Tom Bambrey '68, former Wabash Dean of Students and Director of Athletics, who retired last spring

1. Professor of Biology John Munford: "For 31 years his lectures were the gold standard of the department—he's helped generations of students get into medical school." 2. Professor of Education Deborah Butler, 26 years: "Her vision for the future lifted teacher education at Wabash from the brink of closure to the highly respected program it is today." 3. Professor of English Tom Campbell—"a free spirit and committed teacher and scholar who made us all better at what we do." 4. Professor of Classics Joe Day, 28 years, "raising up our students to the highest intellectual level possible." 5. Professor of Classics Leslie Day, 28 years, "master teacher who has rewritten our understanding of Greek archaeology." 6. Professor of Chemistry Bob Olsen, 32 years, "a masterful teacher." 7. Head Basketball Coach Mac Petty, for 35 years "the consummate Wabash gentleman." 8. Director of Campus Services pays tribute to Ron Copeland, retiring after 41 years: "It is commonly said of custodial work that we are most successful when we are invisible. That means that most of you here today did not get to know our friend, Ron Copeland. He did his work well. Those who noticed him most were those of us who got to work alongside of him and appreciate his quick smile, willing hand, and warm heart."

Tributes to our retiring teachers will be published in upcoming issues of WM.













Wabash College is guided every day by President Elihu Baldwin's vision of a disruptive liberal education that affirms the search for truth and supports and sustains deserving students regardless of financial means. It is a vision that



seeks unapologetically both to change students by enabling them to think for themselves and to change the world around us by living out the core principles and beliefs that affirm our humanity.

Continuity and change—a seemingly impossible duo. These are the two poles of the disruptive Wabash experience, an unsettling dialectic of experience that has served to energize the College from its beginning and to keep it from becoming complacent, indifferent, and irrelevant.

The work of the liberal arts and of being liberally educated is that of continuously changing yourself and the world around you by asking the right hard questions. It's about making the impossible possible. It's about being willing to be unsettled. It is about having the courage to be better and to settle for nothing less.

> Dean of the College Gary Phillips, from this year's Deans' Breakfast Speech

1. Nineteen new members were inducted into the College's chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, including seniors Seth Einterz, Adam Brasich, Chris McCauley, Will Weber, and Jake German. 2. Wedgeworth Library Research, Scholarship, and Creativity Award winners Michael Holmes '12, Michael Nossett '11, and Adam Schenk '11 pose with Robert Wedgeworth '59 and his wife, C.K. 3. The winner of numerous honors in chemistry, initiated into Phi Beta Kappa, and the former president of the Wabash Christian Men's group, Austin Drake earned the John Maurice Butler Prize for Scholarship and Character. 4. D.J. Singfield looks over the program during Commencement practice in the Chapel. 5. Jake German was this year's winner of the Frank Hugh Sparks Award for All-Around Student Achievement. Among his accomplishments: initiated into Phi Beta Kappa, president of the Sphinx Club, a member of the golf team, taught in Ecuador, studied in Spain, interned with Career Services, earned the William Nelson White Scholarship, and begins his studies at the Maurer School of Law at Indiana University this fall. 6. George Lewes Mackintosh Fellows Jacob Stump, Austin Drake, Austin Flynn, Lucian Lupinski, Michael Nossett, and Brandon Tritle posed with Dean of Students Mike Raters '85 during Awards Chapel. 7. Adam Auter '11 leads the initiates into the Lovell Lecture Room as Professor David Blix '71 reads his name at the beginning of the 2011 Ritual of Initiation of the College's chapter of Phi Beta Kappa.



All of your studies have pushed you to see more deeply into the realities and the mysteries of life. And you have established deep and lasting friendships with each other. One of Wabash's most important traditions, the

Gentleman's Rule, has pushed you to take full responsibility for your own actions.

You may be tempted to believe, like the Las Vegas commercial says, that "what happens at Wabash stays at Wabash." The truth is that what has happened during the last four years has marked and shaped you. You will carry these experiences with you for years to come.

One of my favorite scenes from Homer's The Odyssey is Odysseus' encounter with the Sirens, who sing enchanted songs that lure sailors off course and send them crashing to their deaths on the rocks.

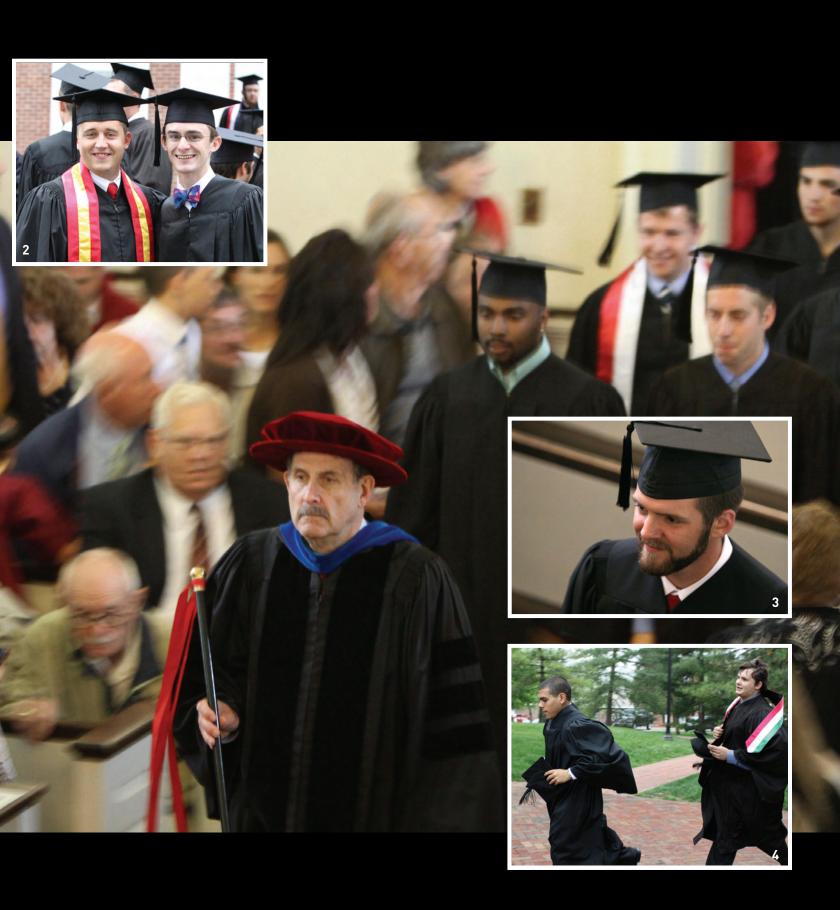
As you leave Wabash, you will hear many of these enchanting songs. They will call you to focus only on your own self-interests and to ignore larger questions about the qualities of a good and just life. Wabash has given you the chords to resist these songs of death. Draw on the wisdom that you have explored... draw on your own spiritual traditions... draw on each other... to shape a life that sees beyond these narrow self-interests and is lived well—not only for your own sake, but for those whose lives and worlds you will touch and influence.

> Chris Coble '85, from his Baccalaureate sermon, "On the Banks of Sugar Creek"

1. Brian Burzon '11 sings with the Glee Club during Baccalaureate 2. Jake German and Luke Robbins 3. Cody Stipes. 4. Nick Salfity and Andrew Sparks run to Baccalaureate. 5. Professor of English and Faculty Marshal Tobey Herzog leads graduating seniors into the Chapel for the service.







## 2011 Honorary Degree Recipients

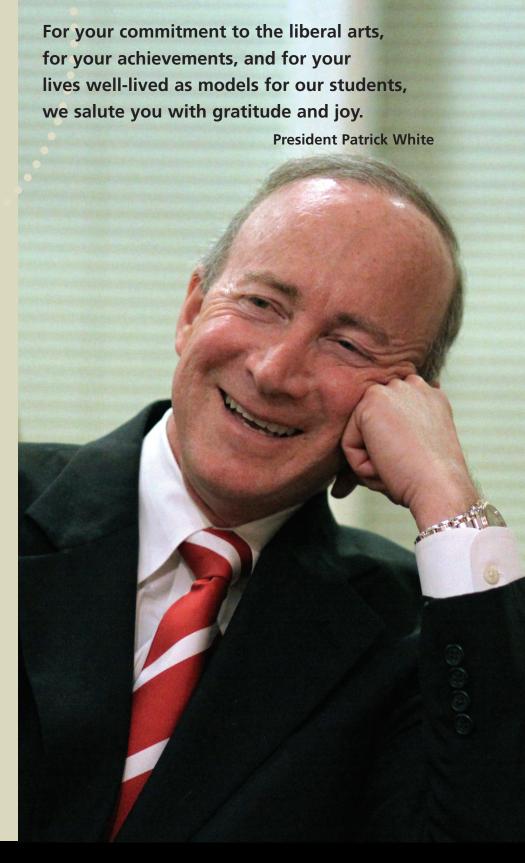
Wabash honors you today for your work and service as Governor of the State of Indiana through difficult years, for your steadfast commitment to the possible and the principled in getting things done, and for your life of high achievement in the noble and messy vocation of politics.

> -Pat White, introducing Indiana Governor Mitch Daniels

If I'd not chosen to go out of state to see a little more of the world for my schooling, I'm just certain I would have chosen Wabash. In fact, I chose an all-male institution, and my choice seemed right for me at the time.

So my admiration for this institution has grown over the years as you have thoughtfully chosen to maintain that tradition and that option for young men. One could not imagine a finer education available, and there's no place I'd rather be associated with than Wabash. I think your particular mission is more important now than ever in your history.

> —Governor Mitch Daniels, Doctor of Laws



Wabash is proud to honor you as an innovative thinker, leader, and entrepreneur, whose life has been lived in bringing together constant and passionate learning and thoughtful action.

> —Pat White, introducing Bob Charles '59, botanist, entrepreneur, creator of the Happy Meal, and philanthropist

So much happened here to me that significantly shaped my life. I had faculty that I thought really cared about me as a person. They were always there, and they could always help me.

I learned how to think and how to solve problems. Wabash helped me develop a lot of confidence, taught me to be prepared, and to anticipate the unexpected.

People sometimes look at my career and ask, 'Why did you take such a risk?' I try to explain to them that, 'Where you see risk, I see opportunity.' That's just the way I look at things, probably because of that confidence I picked up here and from what I learned from my dad.

> -Bob Charles '59. Doctor of Humane Letters



You exemplify a life lived in the active engagement in the central problems of your time. Wabash honors you for your life of leadership and action in public service and your commitment to the highest ambitions of American higher education.

-Pat White,

introducing Walter Massey, President of the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, former Director of the National Science Foundation, former President of Morehouse College

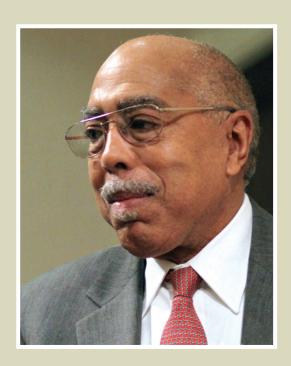
I am a graduate of Morehouse College—we call ourselves Morehouse Men. I'm very pleased to realize that in a few hours I will be a Wabash man.

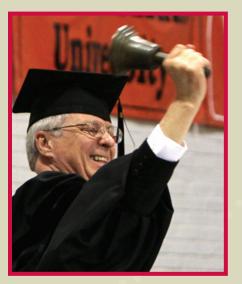
This really is a special institution. At Morehouse we've tried to learn from your institution over the years, and to share our own experiences with you.

For so many reasons, both personally and professionally, this is such an honor for me.

—Walter Massev

Doctor of Science and Humane Letters





Today our keen and loving focus is on you, the 177 men who make up the Class of 2011.

You have not always agreed with one another or your faculty—or your president—but you have always been respectful of one another's ideas and opinions, even when that has not been easy.

You have been teachers just as you have been learners, and you provide a model for all of us here today of the great value of civil discourse in a democratic society. Men of the Class of 2011, we are proud of you today.

**President White,** welcoming graduates to the 173rd Commencement

1. James-Michael Brazill 2. Stephen Maynard 3. Josh Raspopovich 4. Nick Salfity and Adam Phipps 5. Alex Moseman 6. Filip Lempa 7. Professors Eric Wetzel and Aus Brooks '61 8. Blair Powell and twin brother, Blake 9. P.J. Tyson 10. D.J. Singfield, Jake Surface, and Gregg Schipp









We know we are doomed. This information is not new.

We must eventually move over so that some more adapted and complex organism can take our stead.

With this perspective,

then, life becomes quite simple. The message is as clear as what Kurt Vonnegut's son replied when his father asked him the meaning of life—"We are here to help each other through this thing, whatever it is." We must care for each other, men, for ideals, for the good that exists in everyone.

And I believe that. We are not adapted to a life of solitude. We need communities of decent, caring folk. The fact that we all care about this mighty little College is a good start. It binds us together into a community in which our small efforts and accomplishments are magnified and multiplied.

We can save the world, gentlemen, even if it means enjoying, together, the precious blink of an eye that defines man's time on it.

Jake Surface '11, from his Commencement address, "Our Greatest Strength"

PHOTO BY JOHN ZIMMERMAN H'67



1. Josh Bolton 2. Professor of History Stephen Morillo 3. Ryan Bowerman, Andrew Gilman, David Birrer, Austin Drake, and Joel Bustamante 4. Jake Surface with his mom, Julie 5. Greg Schipp 6. After the walk under the arch, President White leads the grads in "Old Wabash."







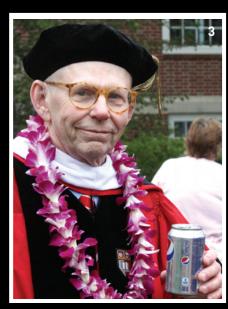


















Many of you may be wondering, Why in the world is the title of this speech "Ding, Ding"? What does that even mean?

But what better occasion to emphasize this at a College where freshmen are rung in

with a bell by the president and seniors are rung out on their Commencement Day?

"Ding ding" is also the sound of the clanging of the Monon Bell, the trophy from a game that's about much more than winning or losing.

But "Ding Ding" is more than a sports victory, academic success, or personal achievement. That sound represents a way of life. As we leave and branch out into the world, let us remember to take that way of life with us and to serve those around us."

> Deonte "D.J." Singfield '11, from his Commencement address, "Ding Ding"

1. Clifford Hull, President White, Luke Robbins 2. James Fitzpatrick and David Wichlinski 3. Professor of Religion Bill Cook '66 4. Tian Tian's mom traveled from China to celebrate her son's graduation from Wabash. 5. Professor of Economics Frank Howland talks with Long Cao '11 and his family. 6. Ian Starnes 7. Beta Theta Pi pledge brothers mark their graduation with a group photo. 8. Cole Hatcher 9. Tommy Mambourg and D.J. Singfield



When I ring in their class on Freshman Saturday, I tell our young men that the students standing next to them in Chapel that day are their teachers. Those men may become their best friends in College, their true brothers in this band of wonderful brothers, and they may meet at the Big Bash Reunion years later to realize that their best imagination of who they are as men, as gentlemen, and as citizens, has been and will be shaped by their friendships formed by Wabash.

**President Pat White** 











1. Ryan Grand '08, Kyle Grand '11, with their father, Bob Grand '78 2. Patrick Concannon and his family 3. Seth Einterz '11 with his father, Bob Einterz '77, uncles, Mike Einterz '83 and Andrew Einterz '89, and cousin, Michael '05 4. Under the arch: Robert Trahin, Cory Tiedeman, Tian Tian, James-Michael Brazill, Fenton Blew, and President White 5. Chris McCauley and his family 6. Teammates P.J. Tyson, David Seibel, Brian Van Duyn, and Tanner Coggins 7. Class of 85 classmates Jim Davlin, Baccalaureate speaker Chris Coble, and Dean of Students Mike Raters 8. Andrew Sparks '11 with brother, Justin '08, and uncle, John Moody '67

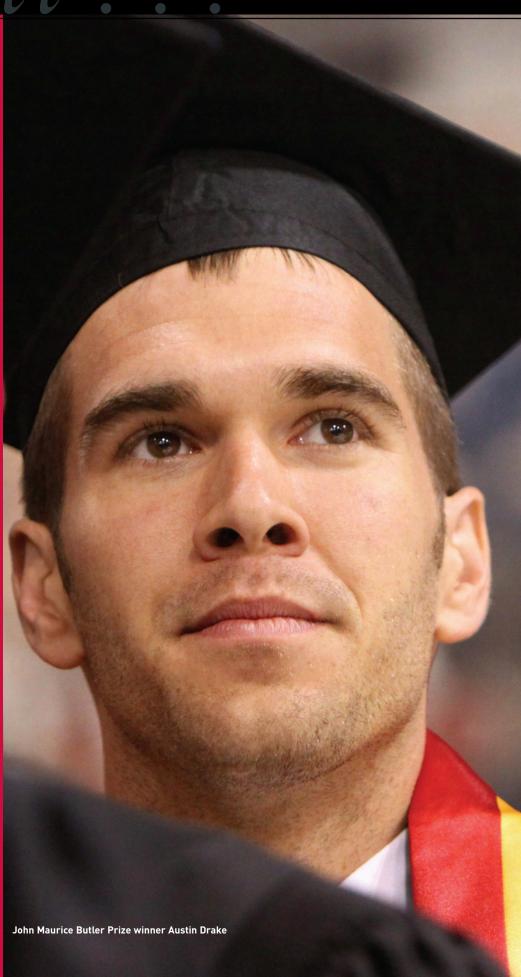


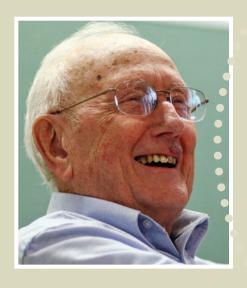
As students here and as graduates of Wabash, we were given a commission to go forth and share with the world the ideals and wisdom that were passed on to us.

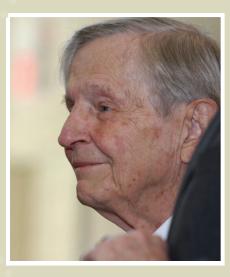
We are inheritors of a noble tradition bequeathed from one generation to the next by the likes of Byron Trippet and Norman Moore and Bill Placher. We are the heirs of Paul McKinney and Ben Rogge and Norwood Brigance. We are the metaphorical sons of Thad Seymour and Lew Salter and Andy Ford. We follow in the footsteps of Eric Dean and Hall Peebles, Aus Brooks and Willis Johnson, Ed McLean and Mac Petty. We stand on the shoulders of Don Baker and Tom Campbell, Jack Charles and John Fischer, Vic Powell, and Peter Frederick.

We carry that tradition forth with us from these sacred halls and we pray that we might be worthy witnesses to others.

Father Michael Reding '86, pastor of St. Bartholomew Catholic Faith Community, Wayzata, MN, from his homily at this year's Big Bash Sunday morning Mass



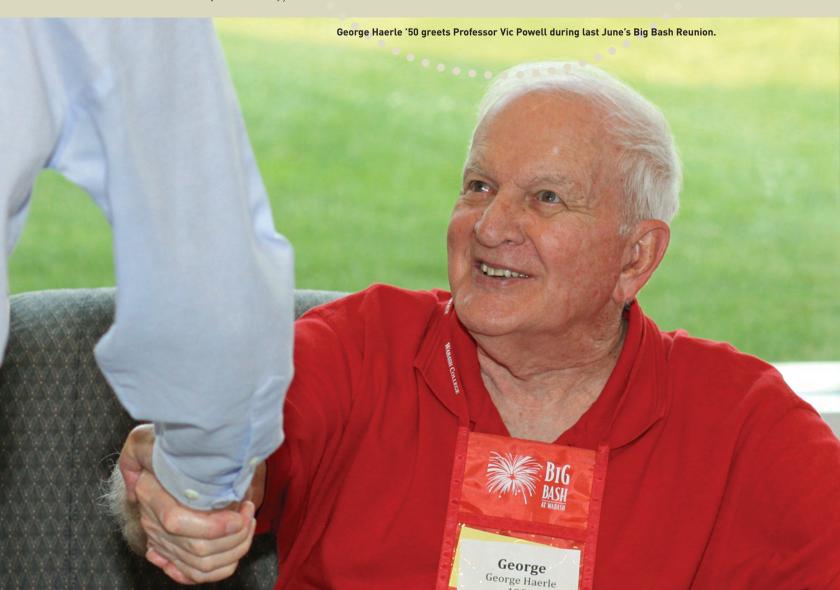




In all of this
the giants whose
passion and intellect
drove us to want
a more perfect life,
In all of this present,
Here and always,
We are blessed.

Jere Wysong '61

This edition is dedicated to Dean and Professor Vic Powell H'55 (1919-2011), Professor Ed McLean H'03 (1929-2011), and all of our teachers.





P.O. Box 352 Crawfordsville, Indiana 47933-0352

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

# Last Glance I was amazed at what an education at a liberal arts college—at a relationship-filled College—can do for you in the big world But after Wabash is over, sometimes life gets busy. The biggest regret I have is that I didn't keep up communication with my classmates, my friends, and my faculty who were my lifeblood here. I just want to encourage everyone to stay in touch. Get back and stay in touch. Jim Rendel '71