



Issue 8, Summer 2013

A Note from the Alumni Director



Charley Mitchell '73

cmitchell@stpaulsschool.org

410-821-3036

On June 8 St. Paul's sent 89 graduating seniors into our lifetime Alumni Association. Watching the ceremony—the first on the renovated Hamilton Lawn, in front of Brooklandwood—brought to mind graduations of yore, not least my own, when one classmate climbed the east steps of the porch, received his diploma to standard applause, went down the west steps and straight to the parking lot, ne'er to be seen again. In those days our alma mater, lacking an alumni program, often lost track of graduates once they left campus. This year we asked the seniors for their personal emails and cell numbers at the dinner we host for them, two days before graduation (the meal is followed by a session with a hypnotist—the state he's able to induce in a few of our boys must be seen to be believed).

Last fall we received more than 200 responses to our alumni survey. Results were useful and encouraging: Most would send a child to St. Paul's (geography permitting), many wish for more alumni events in other cities, 53% had attended a Blue-Gold Reunion Weekend and 36% are willing to speak to students on campus. Young alumni (2000-2012) reported either "extremely good" (76%) or "good" (24%) preparation at St. Paul's for college. The alumni office will address several of these opportunities in the coming year, sponsoring more gatherings in other cities, jointly with SPSG (and during which we'll introduce the new heads of each school); having more alumni visit campus to speak to our students about their careers and experiences; and starting a mentoring program allowing our older alumni to help our younger, college-age guys network for internships and jobs.

I interact with students in the Upper and Middle Schools and plan to work more closely with those on the Spirit Council in the fall. We have the original metal cannon that fired to mark goals and touchdowns; some

alumnus' attic is housing its cast-iron successor, which deserves resurrection on the Hill. And if anyone knows what became of the white fire engine that in the 1970's drove down the hill and around the field, siren blaring and banners waving, to rev up the home crowd, please be in touch. You can see it in action once again, thanks to Mac Kennedy, my Boys' Latin counterpart, who recently sent me the link below to the 1971 SP-BL football game—our victory that sunny afternoon gave us the championship. That festive fire engine appears early in this [16-minute film](#) (in which your alumni director is #24).

Voices from the Hill: Marques Dent '02



Marques grew up in the Ednor Gardens-Lakeside community of East Baltimore and is a twelve-year Crusader. He was lured to Nashville to attend Tennessee State University, from which he graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Business Information Systems. While at TSU, he joined Air Force ROTC and won a full academic scholarship. Marques is a proud member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, the first black Greek-letter fraternity, founded in 1906.

At age 21 Marques was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant in the United States Air Force and was stationed at Scott Air Force Base in Illinois, where he attended night school at Webster University and earned an M.S. in Information Technology Management. In 2010 Marques began working at the Pentagon, where he supported the Chairman of Joint Chiefs of Staff in the National Military Command Center. His duties included maintaining secure communication channels for the Chairman and serving as a Presidential courier, wherein he delivered in person top-secret correspondence to the White House. Marques concluded his military career in September 2012 with the rank of Captain and as a decorated officer, earning an Air Force Commendation Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Global War on Terrorism Medal (given for serving in the fight against terrorism, with the goal of restoring peace) and a Most Outstanding Unit Medal. "At the end of my military career, I was blessed to see President Obama begin bring our troops home safely, which made my service all the more meaningful," he says.

Currently Marques is a Legislative Assistant for 44th District Delegate Keiffer Mitchell, Jr., who works in the St. Paul's admissions office when not performing his legislative duties. Marques is also an adjunct professor at Kaplan Higher Education's TESST College location in Baltimore while working as an IT contractor responsible for Server Administration, Network Security and Top-Secret Desktop Support at the Defense Information System Agency at Fort Meade. He's also working towards his Doctorate in Urban Education and Leadership at Morgan State University, where his research focuses primarily on college preparation in the Baltimore Public school system and the effects of beginning college prep at the elementary school level.

In 2008, Lt. Col. Eric P. Oliver, Marques' commander at the time and mentor, told him to fill his "ruck sack" with all the educational equipment he could find, and only then would he be able to effectively lead and serve his community. Marques is devoted to service and education, and believes firmly that information is the key to success. Deeply rooted in his community, he coaches youth baseball at Northwood Baseball

League and is the President and founder of the D.E.N.T. Group (Delivering Educational Needs Together), which offers free IT training at the Oliver Community Center, where the first graduating students received their certifications in June—their newly won certification meets the Department of Defense compliance requirements for IT professionals who work on government computers and is recognized as collegiate-level training. Other D.E.N.T. Group initiatives include “Back to Baltimore” school-supply drive and “Holiday Help For Baltimore,” to which St. Paul’s donated nearly 10,000 lbs. of food that went directly over 400 needy families in Baltimore.

“St. Paul’s welcomed me as a five-year-old first grader in 1990,” recalls Marques.” My teacher, Mrs. Julie Meyers, saw my fear yet recognized my potential. As a sixth grader Mr. Rick Brocato harnessed my energy and focused my passion.” When he arrived in the Upper School, “Mr. Skip Darrell told me to help others, because it feels good!! As a senior, Mr. Howard Schindler pushed my resolve and prepared me for my future,” he remembers. “The strong, family-oriented environment that St. Paul’s provided me during my youth has shaped my approach to mentorship and a life of service.” Marques mentors young Upper School students and is a frequent guest speaker on campus. “I enjoy educating and enlightening our future Crusaders,” he says. “I feel a responsibility to reach back to help the youth, because their success is a direct reflection of me.”

A Look Back at St. Paul’s

April 1854: As noted in the last issue, a fire destroyed the Parish Day School that had opened at St. Paul’s in 1849. More information has become available, from the April 29, 1854 edition of the *Baltimore Sun*:

“About one o’clock this morning, the alarm of fire was sounded, which was found to proceed from the large and beautiful St. Paul’s (Protestant Episcopal) Church on the corner of Saratoga and Charles Streets. Notwithstanding the heavy rain falling at the time, the firemen were on the spot and used every effort to stay the ravages of the flames, but without success, and the whole edifice in a few hours was a mass of ruins.” *Editor’s note*: The Boys’ Latin alumni director reports that rumors the fire was started by a Topping School student are baseless (Boys’ Latin began as the Topping School).

March 1902: Under the heading, “Sporting Miscellany,” the *Baltimore Sun* reports that “an exciting game of basket-ball was played yesterday by the City College Reserve team and the St. Paul’s Brigade at the Guild House, the quarters of the latter team. The score was a tie, 9 to 9. Bealmear made the star play of the evening, throwing the ball the whole length of the gymnasium for a goal. Henniman did the best work for the St. Paul’s Brigade.” *Editor’s note*: Research is under way to identify both the “St. Paul’s Brigade” and Messrs. Henniman and Bealmear, whose buzzer-beater must have electrified the crowd.



Spring 1932: “I would find it difficult indeed to single out a more valuable, dedicated, loyal member of my staff than Ernie Bowles!,” writes Headmaster George Hamilton, of the school’s custodian on the Mt. Washington campus. Mr. Bowles, was “strong as an ox” he recalls, as he trims the hedge, mows the lawn, fills holes in the kitchen driveway and dons a white coat for gala occasions—“but his heaviest, most difficult, and most essential responsibility was the antiquated, hand-fired coal furnace. The dark regions of the cellar were Ernie’s domain—his castle.” *Editor’s Note*: The back story appears on page 103 of Angelo Otterbein’s ‘91 *We Have Kept the Faith*: When Ernie offers Mr. & Mrs. Hamilton mint juleps on the porch of the manor house on the Mt. Washington campus, as the Hamiltons are considering the headmastership at St. Paul’s, their decision becomes easy.

May 2003: The St. Paul's Golf team completes a 16-0 season, defeating D.C. and VA golf powerhouses Gonzaga, Georgetown Prep and Woodberry Forest. "This team would have done well on the collegiate level," says Coach Rick Collins. Four Crusader golfers finish in the top 20: Greg Rodgers '04 (#1), Trip Bare '04 (#3), Mike O'Neil '05 (#4) and David Feeley '05 (#18).

Meeting Up

On June 27, 30 young alumni in the downtown area got together at Porter's in Federal Hill, in a joint event with SPSG. Crusaders present ranged from classes 2003 to 2010, with Robi Debell '06 taking the distance award by coming in from Washington for the evening. Fueled by draughts from the tap of owner and alumnus Kevin Cooper '92 and appetizers supplied by the alumni office, lively discussion included reminiscences of pranks pulled, goals scored (and allowed), exams aced, weddings attended and vacations taken. Business cards and client leads were much in evidence. Your alumni director (who raised the average attendee age somewhat) thanks the downtown Crusaders for helping arrange the get-together and promises a return engagement, perhaps in the autumn.

Crusader Golf Outing, Thursday, September 5

Join fellow alumni at Elkridge Club on September 5 for a Crusader golf outing, with lunch at 12 noon and a shotgun start at 1 P.M. All proceeds will go to the St. Paul's Alumni Scholarship Fund, for needs-based financial assistance for children of alumni. The NFL season opens that evening with the Ravens taking on the Broncos in Denver, so plan on partying into the evening. For more information and to register, [click here](#).

In Memoriam

John Randolph Gimbel '65

Read Back Issues of "Crusader Connection"!

Distraught over missing earlier issues of this newsletter? Despair no more! [Click here](#)

The Annual Fund

The books have closed on our 2012-13 Annual Fund, and we hit our goal of raising \$1,350,000 to enrich the St. Paul's experience for our students and faculty. The generous support of our alumni, parents, grandparents, former parents and friends made this possible, and we thank them all. Good news for those alumni who have yet to fulfill their pledges—those can be accepted during the month of July, and will help get us to our alumni participation goal of 30%. Fulfilling a pledge is easy: [LINK](#)

In addition, close to \$30,000 was raised for the Alumni Scholarship Fund, which provides needs-based financial aid to an alumnus to help him send a child to St. Paul's.

**Physical Address 11152 Falls Road Brooklandville, MD 21022-8100 Mailing Address: PO Box 8100
Brooklandville, MD 21022-8100 410-825-4400 [Contact Us](#)**

[Unsubscribe](#) from this eNotice.

