

CRUSADER CONNECTION

NEWS FOR THE ST. PAUL'S
ALUMNI COMMUNITY
SUMMER 2012 VOL. ONE, NO. 2

A Note from the Alumni Director



Charley Mitchell '73

cmitchell@stpaulsschool.org

410-821-3036

School Spirit: Of Cannon and Engine



Alumni from approximately the mid-'60's to the early '80's may recall the small cannon that fired from the hill to mark each St. Paul's lacrosse goal scored on the lower field. Booms reverberating throughout the valley alerted the entire campus of the team's good fortune and were consistent with our long national tradition of symbolic firing to mark civic milestones. Unfortunately, the growing number of neighbors similarly alerted may have played a role in the cannon's demise. Your school wishes to know how long the cannon was in service, and both its origin and fate. Alumni with any information, including anecdotes, on this subject—with a

special plea to any who nobly served their school on firing crews—are invited to contact me. I will share what I learn in a future newsletter.

Photo Courtesy of Class of 1969

Other spirited St. Paul's traditions have featured a white fire engine that pied-pipered its way down the hill and around the field, siren blaring and students following; Tippy Sunderland '74 putting hexes on opponents as Dancing Harry; ear-splitting air horns; "Beat Loyola" in '78 painted on unfinished roofs of new campus houses; and a wide range of skits, banners and pep rallies. The thread running through these creative antics is, of course, a manifestation of the St. Paul's spirit, that together we create a whole greater than the sum of its parts. Please send me your campus spirit stories and remembrances, regardless of field or sport, and do include photos and names of instigators and participants for future communications.

Thanks to all who suggested names for this monthly missive. Congratulations to John Coulson '80, whose distinguished service to his alma mater continues with his submission, "Crusader Connect" (modified slightly by the editorial committee). Due John (father of Steffens '14 and Charlie '15) are widespread public acclaim and a gift from the alumni office for his creative effort.

Voices from the Hill: Mitch Koppelman '69

Correction: Last month's profile of John Steele '03 gave an incorrect graduation year. John is indeed a member of the Class of 2003, and I apologize for aging him ten years without permission.



After graduating from the Rochester Institute of Technology, Mitch plunged into photojournalism with United Press International. His 1973 coverage of the scandal engulfing Vice President Spiro Agnew—which began during Agnew's tenure as Baltimore County Executive and dogged him to the White House—earned Mitch, at age 22, a Pulitzer Prize nomination; his photo of Agnew leaving Baltimore's federal courthouse appeared on the cover of Newsweek. Mitch went on to cover presidential campaigns and five presidents; travel on Air Force One; and shoot natural disasters, civil strife, World Series games and Super Bowls. In 1982 he joined the new USA Today as founding Director of Photography; three years later, in 1985, he went to Reuters News Agency (now Thomson-Reuters) to help launch their global pictures service. Mitch currently manages the TR broadcast business in the Western Hemisphere, where his clients include major news networks throughout the Americas that use TR's images and video in their own reporting operations. He works in the company's offices in Washington, New York's Times Square and London when he's not visiting clients in Canada and Latin America. If you catch news video of the current strife in Syria on, say, CNN, chances are it's video stemming from one of Mitch's network deals.

Few realized during Mitch's St. Paul's days that his poor eyesight precluded athletics, but many admired his facility with a camera. He was the Upper School's photographer and videographer, and he helped launch the St. Paul's closed-circuit TV station in 1968 that began producing weekly shows for the school community. The 1969 Crusader yearbook is a showcase of his work. Mitch still credits the St. Paul's teachers who taught him determination, perseverance, integrity and faith; and how to deploy thoughtful and respectful arguments that challenge authority. A father of four, he's an avid sailor whose generous donation of a "Day on the Bay" is a popular silent-auction item at the annual Bull Roast.

Mitch says his finest St. Paul's moment was winning the school's inaugural "Athletic Excuse Award," bestowed on him at graduation—"the school darkroom," he reflects, "was a great place to hide." He's pleased that the honor endures, for the school thereupon retired the award in the belief that no one would ever match his creative determination to avoid sports.

Follow Skip Darrell '60 across the United States

Follow Skip Darrell '60 and his sister Molly as they bike their way east this summer, from Oregon to Virginia, blogging as they ride: <http://darrellscycleamerica.wordpress.com/>

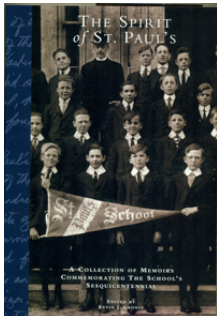
A Look Back at St. Paul's

- Spring 1941: the inaugural St. Paul's yearbook is published: "a highly commendable book," according to Headmaster George S. Hamilton. St. Paul's has "55 boarders and 138 day scholars"

on the school's Mt. Washington Campus, at Rogers and Hyland Avenues. Faculty includes Louis Dorsey Clark. One student has been "making puns, good and bad, constantly since his entrance to St. Paul's in 1938." The aggressive ad-sales staff procures a display ad from the Druid Ridge Cemetery.

- January 21, 1954: Ground is broken for the new Arthur B. Kinsolving gymnasium, the completion of which "will fill the only remaining lack in St. Paul's campus," according to the 1954 Crusader.
- The Spectator Club, 1958: According to the 1958 yearbook, the Club's mission is "to stimulate interest among the more capable students of the senior class...and is attained by invitation only." Preston Hartman is President, Bill Kerr is Secretary-Treasurer. Members must give a speech to the group each year, and "if a majority of the members present feel the oration fulfills the high standards of the Spectator Club, the speaker is then awarded his dangler, symbolic of his contribution."
- The 1959 Crusader was the last year book to include the Gun Club, whose officers are John Carr, Randy Bland and David Kommalan (President, Vice President and Secretary-Treasurer, respectively).
- Winter 1968: The School founds the Blue Key Society, "to greet visiting teams upon their arrival and to assist them in any way possible during their stay...not only did a member of the club meet the team, but he remained with them throughout the athletic contest. In this way, the boy could assist the visitors with medical supplies, supply them with oranges or other refreshments at halftime, or give aid in any type of emergency." The 12 members wore blue key armbands.

Memorabilia



In 1998 St. Paul's published "The Spirit of St. Paul's: A Collection of Memoirs Commemorating the School's Sesquicentennial," edited by Kevin J. Cronin, then of the upper school history faculty. These 60-plus short vignettes of St. Paul's through the ages (well, from 1932 to 1997) illuminate the values and spirit over six decades and two campuses, at Mt. Washington and Brooklandville, that remain part of the St. Paul's foundation. I will periodically share stories from "The Spirit," including one by Randall Coleman '65 about his father, who, as an enterprising student in the class of 1939, sold Al Capone a ticket to a St. Paul's dance.

If you have St. Paul's memorabilia you no longer wish to keep, please consider donating it to the school archives. We are grateful for recent gifts of old issues of The Monitor and St. Paul's Magazine and old uniforms.

"Crusader Connect": An App to Track Fellow Alumni



Headed to Miami and want to see which fellow Crusaders are in the area? Our new, free app for the iPhone, iPad and Droid is just what you need. "Crusader Connect" will allow you to find contact information easily for any alumnus in the United States who resides in our data base. Alums can update their contact information, share photos and class notes, check news and scores and network with fellow alums via LinkedIn. Over a hundred alumni have downloaded "Crusader Connect"; more are doing so each week. We hope that this convenient app will help us all stay better connected. Download it with the easy steps found at this link:

www.stpaulsschool.org/connect

Young alumni: Please note that you cannot log in with a St. Paul's email address, for those addresses are deleted shortly after graduation.

State of the Reunion: Blue-Gold Weekend 2013

Save the date for next spring's Blue-Gold Reunion Weekend: May 3-5, 2013, with a special welcome for five-year reunion classes ending in 3 and 8. The varsity lacrosse game will be played on Friday May 3 at 4 P.M. and will be followed by a casual Blue-Gold cocktail party. Reunion hosts are being enlisted to help organize their class reunion activities (classes of '63, '68, '73, '78, '83, '88, '93, '98, '03 and '08). Please let me know if you are interested in helping out with the reunion for your class.

[Click here for the story of the 2012 Blue-Gold weekend in pictures.](#)

Upcoming Events

Alumni Crab Feast, Thursday August 30, Chesapeake Bay Beach Club, Stevensville.

Alumni Golf Tournament, Friday October 26, Elkridge Club

Football Cocktail Party (with Boy's Latin Alumni Assn.), Friday November 9, Boy's Latin Alumni House

For information and to register, please contact [Charley Mitchell '73](#)

[Click here for our more detailed calendar of events.](#)

Thank you for Remembering the Annual Fund!

Thank you for your generous contributions to the 2011-12 St. Paul's Annual Fund. Gifts from 28% of our alumni raised close to \$400,000 to support professional development for teachers, field trips, speakers, robust arts and athletic programs and financial aid for deserving students.

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

[Unsubscribe](#) from this eNotice.

powered by [finalsite](#)

