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A Note from the Alumni Director



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While many Crusaders know key dates in our School's history—the moves from Franklin Street to Rogers Avenue in Mt. Washington in 1923 (cost: \$55,000) and to the Emerson estate in Brooklandville in 1952 (cost: \$135,000)—far fewer are aware of the origins of St. Paul's School for Girls, which stem from a plan crafted in 1799, the year the U.S. granted its first patent for a seeding machine. Drafted by Eleanor Rogers, a member of the congregation of St. Paul's Church and wife of Col. Nicholas Rogers IV—a pal of the Marquis de Lafayette and courier of secret dispatches for the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War—Rogers's plan called for “an institution for the maintenance and education of poor female children.”

What became SPSG was first known as The Orphanage of the Benevolent Society of Baltimore, founded by members of the aforementioned St. Paul's Church and chartered by the Maryland state legislature in 1799. Various locations of what was then known as St. Paul's Girls' School included a building at 2411 North Charles Street, followed by a move in 1929 to a house at 2300 Warwick Avenue, known as “Evergreen,” where students lived while taking classes at Baltimore City public schools. Following a decade during which the school did not operate, a new St. Paul's School for Girls welcomed 86 students on its new campus in Brooklandville in September 1959.

While social interaction between the students of the two schools during the first half of the twentieth century was limited to furtive glances during Sunday services at Old St. Paul's, they have shared classes since SPSG's relocation to Brooklandville. One of seven priorities in the new St. Paul's School strategic plan is to further strengthen collaboration with SPSG across many areas, including alumni activities such as Blue-Gold Reunion Weekend each spring and alumni/alumnae gatherings around the country. Check out the [St. Paul's strategic plan](#).

Regular communication today between the heads of St. Paul's and SPSG (Dave Faus and Penny Evins, respectively) extends far beyond the occasional necessary conversation, as occurred in the 1970's when SPSG reported that a group of Crusaders had streaked across the SPSG campus. (The boys involved explained to headmaster Jack Ordeman that they were not streaking, but chasing the guys who'd stolen their clothes.) Our collaboration includes health and wellness programs across both schools, joint admissions events and training for student leadership groups such as the honor and disciplinary councils

Classroom collaboration is on the rise. St. Paul's students wishing to study French or Chinese do so at SPSG, whose students pursuing German or Japanese do so on our campus (both schools offer Spanish). The Ward Center for the Arts—perhaps the pinnacle of inter-school collaboration, for the facility is shared by the two schools not only for theater and dance, but dining, coffeehouses and other social gatherings—features productions starring students from both schools. An exciting feature of our STEM program is the annual Kinetic Sculpture Race, a club run by SP teachers and volunteers that included two SPSG students on the 2015 vehicle entries.

Back in the day, my classmates and I tried, usually without success, to find reasons to visit the SPSG campus. Today's students have plenty of reasons to do so. Without streaking.

Voices from the Hill: John Pforr '56



"I was detailed to the White House in 1966, where I spent two years protecting LBJ," says **John Pforr '56** of his time in the U.S. Secret Service. "I then spent two years with President Nixon, whom I'd protected earlier, when he was a candidate." When asked for an anecdote from his time around the most powerful man in the world, John recalls being told by President Johnson to turn out the lights. "As he made his way to his residential quarters, he'd bellow, 'turn out those lights; we can save some money!'" John chuckles at the memory. "And after he went upstairs, we'd turn them back on!"

John of course must maintain the oath of confidentiality he took when sworn in, in February 1965, so many stories remain untold. But he can tell a favorite, which occurred during the fall of 1965 when he was detailed to President Eisenhower's farm, outside Gettysburg. "Ike walked to the end of the lane every morning, and one of us accompanied him," John recalls. "I went with him on the last day of my assignment, and I later found on my desk an autographed picture of Ike—and he even spelled my surname correctly, which is rare! I was really touched by that." That John was later sent to Abilene, KS, as part of the advance team for Eisenhower's funeral was fitting.

One consequence of Robert Kennedy's assassination in 1968 was that all presidential candidates were immediately offered Secret Service protection. John was sent to New York to help provide round-the-clock

coverage for Richard Nixon, which included protection at the Republican National Convention in Miami Beach that fall, where Nixon was nominated. John relates another tale from the trail: "We'd just finished a meal at a restaurant in Montauk, on Long Island, and Nixon announced he wanted to walk on the beach. So there we were: he and four Secret Service guys, all in dark suits and glasses. As we walked the beachgoers gawked but kept their distance—I found out later that they assumed we were Mafiosi, with no idea they were seeing a candidate for president and his security detail!"

The most serious threat John's detail faced were the eggs and tomatoes hurled at a Nixon motorcade in Australia—"no gunfights," John says, "though the Huey helicopters taking us (Nixon's party) to the presidential palace in Saigon were fired on."

Following graduation as a 2nd Lieut. from the ROTC program at William & Mary, John spent two years as a combat support officer in Germany, where U.S. forces went on high alert during the Cuban Missile Crisis. His two years as a salesman for McCormick upon his return stateside were proof that he was not destined for a career in that field, so off he went to nine months of training for the Secret Service, learning how to prepare for trials, examine handwriting to detect forgeries, conduct surveillance and handle firearms. Then it was on to the White House.

John's son and daughter-in-law served in the CIA; his wife, Lynn, a former faculty member at SPSG, still fills in as a Spanish teacher there and at the Middle School. John, a former member of the Alumni Association's board of directors and winner of the Association's Outstanding Alumnus Award in 2002, is a most loyal Crusader, attending virtually every game and supporting his alma mater however he can. "My brother Charles '51 and my father-in-law, Bill Keigler '47, are Crusaders," John says. "St. Paul's gave me an excellent core education along with lasting friendships, including with my football and basketball coach, Mitch Tullai. Supporting the school has always been important to me, and I hope all alumni feel the same way."

A Look Back at St. Paul's

Fall 1933: St. Paul's defeats Boys' Latin to win the B-Conference championship. "In winning the championship, St. Paul's has demonstrated clearly what can be done in a short time," wrote *The Monitor*. "A few years ago, the School was practically unknown athletically. People thought of St. Paul's as a fine old choir school."

One day in 1944: Walter F. Herman '44 answers 104 of 105 questions correctly to finish second nationally in *Time Magazine's* current events competition.

Baltimore Sun, October 6, 1951: Mitch Tullai rushes for 170 yards and two touchdowns in Western Maryland's rout over Randolph-Macon, 46-7. Mr. Tullai goes on to great success as a history teacher, football coach and Abraham Lincoln scholar and presenter for 41 years at St. Paul's.

November 17, 2012: The Crusader football team caps off an undefeated season with a dramatic overtime win in the B-Conference championship game against John Carroll, when QB Anthony Pino '15 hits WR Robbie Suite '13 with a two-point conversion pass in the end zone to seal the one-point victory.

Alumni Association News

The Crusader Network rolls out this week! More than 60 alumni have signed on as mentors, to help with networking and career advice. Let the alumni office know if you would like to be a mentor, or would like to contact one. Thanks to David Cornbrooks '03, Brent Hargest '02 (Alumni Association Secretary) and Mike

Rosolio '00 for chairing the effort.

Planning for the 44th annual Bull Roast and Auction, chaired by Mark Schindler '00 and Will Gore '08 and scheduled for February 20, 2015, continues apace. Please let the alumni office know if you can be a sponsor, wish to volunteer and/or have items or "experiences" you could contribute on behalf of our alma mater.

A grand alumni cocktail reception was held on October 16 in the New York City offices of Trevor Bond '79 at Rockefeller Plaza, where 30-some alumni and guests joined Headmaster Dave Faus and faculty members Howard Schindler and Mitch Whiteley.

Upcoming Events:

(please let the alumni office know which ones you plan to attend)

- **November 17**, 6-9 pm: San Francisco Bay Area Alumni Cocktail Party, Waterbar, 399 Embarcadero (hosted by Headmaster David C. Faus and Brian D. Riley '91)
- **November 19**, 6:30-9 pm: Los Angeles-area Alumni Cocktail Party, the Pavilion Club at UCLA (hosted by Headmaster David C. Faus and Dimitri Hajimihalis '08)
- **November 26**: Turkey Bowl, Tullai Field (students and alumni)
- **November 26**: Alumni Basketball Game, Pollock Gym
- **December 11**: 9p.m.; Young Alumni Bowling Bash, Mustang Alleys
- **December 19**: Alumni Hockey Game, Patterson Park
- **December 22**: Young Alumni Day, Brooklandwood

Memorabilia



The military history club recently inspected a small-caliber rifle found in the mansion safe. A brass plate on the stock reads "Alex. D. Brown, Brooklandwood." Brown was the son of George Brown, the third owner of Brooklandwood. Research is under way to determine the model and make of the weapon.

Sartorial Notes

An exciting addition to St. Paul's apparel line is the navy-blue blazer with a customized lining. It's hand-stitched and finished with the school shield embossed on the buttons. To order one of these unique blazers, [visit this webpage](#). St. Paul's receives a percentage of all sales. Orders must be placed by November 10th for a January 2015 delivery.



Crusader Connect



Headed west and want to find fellow Crusaders in Kansas City? Our free app for the iPhone, iPad and Droid is just what you need. This SP Alumni App allows you to find contact information easily for any alumnus in the U.S. who is in our data base. Alumni can update their contact information, share photos and class notes and network with fellow alumni via LinkedIn. We hope this convenient app will help us all stay better connected—download it with these easy steps: [download](#)

Please note that you won't be able to download if your email address does not match the one in our records. If you are so advised, please email me at cmitchell@stpaulsschool.org with your preferred email address; once we make the change you will need to wait several weeks until our vendor updates the data.

In Memoriam

George Getschel '96 (October 2014)

Capt. August von Born Millard '59 (September 2014)

Insomnia? Read Back Issues!

Distraught over missing earlier issues of "Crusader Connection"? Despair no more! [Check them out on the website.](#)

Our upward trend in alumni giving continues, as 27% of alumni contributed to the Annual Fund in 2013-14—an impressive increase of 5% over the 22% figure of the prior year. **So please [Remember the Annual Fund.](#)**

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