Letter From Brooklandwood

By Charley Mitchell ’73, Director of Alumni Relations

Mr. and Mrs. Mitch Tullai recently reminisced about their early days in Brooklandville, following the arrival of St. Paul's, in 1952, from the Rogers Avenue campus in Mt. Washington. Jim Boyer, who had been the St. Paul's trainer and a Major League baseball umpire, had given Mr. Tullai's name to Headmaster Appie Middleton. Mr. Tullai, following an interview with Mr. Louis Clark, joined the faculty, taking the spot of legendary teacher and lacrosse coach Jim "Ace" Adams (who had departed for Army), whereupon the young Tullai family took up residence in the south gatehouse, at the entrance to campus.

"The area around campus was sparsely settled, and the school was isolated then, recalled Mr. Tullai, now Senior Master Emeritus. "One problem was that many people didn't have cars, and there was no public transportation out here." Just down the hill was Windy Valley—an institution frequented by decades of Crusaders either exercising senior privileges or sneaking off campus, for sodas, ice cream and greasy hamburgers. "The faculty families all had their meals in the mansion," he recounted. He also served as advisor to the Monogram Club, whose members apparently made off with a door and sold it to raise cash for athletic trophies.

St. Paul's had no gym for the first few years following the move, so practices and home games were at the Girls' Latin gym. After the Kinsolving Gym was built, campus dances were scheduled, along with athletic events, and girls became more frequent visitors to campus. "Girls from St. Tim's would come, and campus faculty would chaperone the dances" recounted Mrs. Tullai. Eyebrows were apparently raised at the
"twist," which became popular in the late 1950's.

The Tullais recalled that the school sold much of the statuary that had dotted the estate of Capt. Isaac Emerson, the prior owner of Brooklandwood and a chemist whose patent for the formula of Bromo Seltzer, a headache remedy, had made him a fortune. One piece of statuary went unsold, that of a woman adjacent to the pool house. Mr. Jim Ratcliffe, observing the proprieties of the day, put a t-shirt over the woman's torso, thereby drawing the students to the statue to remove the shirt and triggering the law of unintended consequences.

Faculty who lived on campus shared "on-call" duty for the boarders, who lived in what is now Ordeman Hall, and intervened when one became ill or some sort of emergency arose—or when the boys rang the victory bell at night, which they figured out how to do remotely. Duty at times extended beyond the boarders; on occasion Mr. Tullai was summoned to the mansion in the middle of the night to reassure resident Mr. Albert Cauffman, who was certain he'd seen the ghost of Capt. Emerson roaming the corridors. Mrs. Tullai also reported seeing a white apparition hovering above the grand staircase.

"Mr. Middleton and Mr. Ratcliffe did a great job overseeing the move to Brooklandville," Mr. Tullai recalled. "The Mt. Washington campus had been really popular, but they created an atmosphere conducive to learning, and many had the sense that St. Paul's was a really good place to be." When the Tullais moved to Lutherville, they took with them 35 years of memories, many formed with other campus faculty families such as the Clarks, Mitchells, Longstreths, Rentkos, Ratcliffes and Williamses.

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**Stadium Renovation**

Our alma mater is upgrading the grandstand, press box, and storage and team facilities at Tullai Field. Grandstand seating will be expanded and modernized, and a renovated press box will serve both the St. Paul's and SPSG fields. Plazas at the north and south corners of the field will include locker rooms and equipment storage and offer a viewing and gathering area for spectators. The existing grandstand was removed in early October; completion of the project is anticipated in time for lacrosse season in the spring.
Voices from the Hill: Warren Powell '73

"A single tagline for me is 'decisions under uncertainty,'" writes Warren Powell '73, a graduate of Princeton and a professor in the University's Department of Operations Research and Financial Engineering since 1981. The start of his career coincided with the deregulation of freight transportation that created a sudden need for improved planning tools. This need drew him into an industry known as "truckload trucking" (think "Uber for freight") which then introduced him to the challenge of making decisions in the presence of very random customer demands.

"I'm intrigued by the various ways that decisions and uncertainty arise in everyday life," Warren says. His interest in decisions under uncertainty ("stochastic optimization" in the language of academics) grew out of the problem of finding the best truck driver to assign to move a truckload of freight, without knowing what might happen in the future. This led him down the path of developing advanced models for the newly deregulated trucking industry, which then grew into projects in rail, air and ultimately energy.

In 1990 Warren founded CASTLE Laboratory, devoted to research in computational stochastic optimization with initial applications in transportation and logistics, but eventually grew to include energy, health, business analytics and, for a period of time, optimal learning in materials science. These diverse applications exposed him to all the different languages that evolved in academic research for dealing with these problems, eventually leading him to call this the "jungle of stochastic optimization."

One of Warren's areas of research is on "optimal learning," which addresses the challenge of how best to collect information as efficiently as possible, primarily in settings where doing so is expensive and time consuming. Practical examples include figuring out the best price to charge for a product on the internet; calculating the highest concentration of a disease in a population; where to gather information to find the best path to respond to an emergency; and how to identify the best drug to treat a disease, out of thousands of potential combinations. "Each of these problems requires making observations and taking measurements to determine which choice works best," he says.

Warren is the author, coauthor or editor of three books on the subject (with a fourth on the way) and has published more than 230 refereed papers. He's garnered over $44 million in research funding and created software programs used by industries that later became FedEx Ground and UPS Freight. Warren is a co-creator of a model used to dispatch
over 66,000 drivers for 20 of the largest truckload carriers in the U.S. He holds an honorary degree from the University of Quebec and is a past winner of the Daniel Wagner Prize, given for excellence in applied mathematics. His love of mathematics dates back to 8th grade at St. Paul's when his soccer coach, math teacher and much-needed mentor, Tony Tyler, took an interest in him. This interest grew until senior year, when he became the next in a line of single-student calculus courses taught by Nelson Sweglar.

Given Warren's career, it comes as no surprise that at St. Paul's he won the Alumni Medal for the highest GPA and prizes in U.S. History, Science and Advanced Math. And having been coached through senior-year physics by Warren, this writer can attest to his early and intuitive understanding of complex subjects that led to this quote on his senior page in the 1973 yearbook: "I dunno; ask Powell."

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**Remembrance of Days Past**

"The School at this time [1906-1909] was closely patterned after the English choir schools and for the next decade and more a familiar sight on Charles Street every evening during the week, and twice or more on Sunday was the boys of the School in academic caps and gowns, shepherded by Mr. Farrow, marching to services at St. Paul's." Francis F. Beirne, "St. Paul's Parish: A Chronicle of the Mother Church (1967), 143.

From an editorial in the Monitor, January 25, 1952: "Another defect is the lack of cheerleading at varsity games. St. Paul's should have a well-equipped and well-trained cheerleading staff …new cheers and yells need to be invented and a special cheering section established where all the St. Paul's rooters can sit together and cheer together." The editorial closes with a plea for halftime entertainment and refreshment sales.

From the 1962 Yearbook: "The Monogram Club is completely self-supporting, earning most of its money from the sale of cokes. Members sell cokes and hot dogs at all home football and lacrosse games…and Christmas trees in downtown Baltimore. The club has the privilege of a "club room" which members are allowed to use at certain times during the day."

**August 28, 2017:** Henry Hopkins '38 celebrates his 100th birthday—could Henry be our oldest living alumnus?

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**Coordination with SPSG**

Since passing a shared Strategic Plan for Coordination in 2013, the Boards of St. Paul's and SPSG have emphasized finding ways for the Schools to work together for the benefit of students, while maintaining each School's mission-driven, single-gender educational philosophy. The Board Presidents recently sent a letter to parents highlighting recent actions, such as hiring a shared security team and pursuing mutually beneficial campus improvements. [Click here to read their letter.](link)

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**Alumni Association News**

Alumni Association Officers for 2017-18

- President: Josh Scheinker '92
- Vice President: Brent Hargest '02
Save the Date! Friday, March 23, 2018, for the Brooklandwood Bash (formerly the Bull Roast). Details to come.

Click here to see this year's Alumni Association Board of Directors

- Contact the Alumni Office if you'd like to get involved in Alumni Association activities and events, or if you're interested in hosting an event in your area—we have the budget; we just need hosts and venues!

Nominations sought for:

- Alumni Awards, to be given at Blue-Gold Reunion Weekend (May 4-5, 2018)
- The Alumni Association Board of Directors
- Our Athletic Hall of Fame (next class to be inducted in 2019)

Crusader Connect App

Headed west and want to find fellow Crusaders in Carefree, AZ? 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 database. 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.

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
Christian Louzan '10 (May 2017)
Roger Streett Whiteford '56 (July 2017)
James J. Mulligan, Jr. '52 (July 2017)
John E. Brandau '36 (October 2017)

Back Issues Beckon!

Insomnia? Looking to avoid someone? Read back issues of the Crusader Connection. Click here for back issues.

Remember the St. Paul's Fund—your School needs you!