

# ST PAUL'S CRUSADER connection

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# Letter from Brooklandwood

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#### Tales from Mt. Washington

I enjoy a respite on a hot summer's day when Ed Cumor '48 and Bill Tanton '49 visit campus to talk of life on Rogers Avenue in Mt. Washington, the home of St. Paul's from 1923 to 1952.

These two Crusaders, longtime friends from Roland Park and its local public school, had tales aplenty. Members of the choir practiced daily on campus and at Old St. Paul's on Thursday nights (though neither Ed nor Bill were in the choir, Glenn Yarbrough, who earned international acclaim as a singer, was). Surprising, certainly to me, was the absence of a dress code on Rogers Avenue—though many boys wore blue knit sweaters with athletic letters sown on. Saddle shoes were popular, and with no hair code, wiffles abounded.

Though my two interlocutors were not boarders, they had plenty of stories about them—a memorable one involving Uly Gooch, class of '52, who inveigled Ethel the cook to let him into the kitchen to make dandelion wine.



"Gooch made the wine and put it into Cokebottles," says Ed,"and he'd sell them in the bookstore. But several bottles exploded one night, and when Mr. Charles Danner investigated, the gig was up." (Editor's note: Gooch continued his association with wine by becoming an Episcopal priest and an avid collector and dealer in antique furniture, silver and crystal.)

One student who led the school in demerits was not a bad kid, but just always on the wrong side of trouble—"he sometimes showed up in class wearing his PJs," recalls Bill. Numerous offenses warranted demerits—one example being three for dust under the bed. The front door was reserved for seniors, with demerits inflicted on hapless underclassmen who passed through it. Some boarders asked for trouble by sneaking out of the dorms and heading to Pleet's Deli on Park Heights Ave.—as did the editor of the 1949 yearbook when he absconded to New York with the publication funds (his penalty, if there was one, is not known, but the yearbook was published nonetheless).

Getting around wasn't so easy. Students walked to games at Friends and Gilman and hitchhiked to games further away, as many students' families had only one car, if at all. "Mayor (Theodore) McKeldin, who lived in Homeland, and his chauffeur would pick us up sometimes for school," Ed says. Street cars were a major mode of transportation for students—and then there was B.I. Whiteley '50, whose motor scooter inspired envy in many a fellow Crusader.

Not surprisingly, much athletic energy in those days swirled around lacrosse. The sustained success of St. Paul's in that era—on the heels of a 72-game win streak spanning 1940 into the spring of 1947—drove boys to great lengths. Students were expected to attend every St. Paul's game; a rule "quietly and heavily enforced," writes Angelo Otterbein '90 in our school history. Ed vouched for that: "Missing one without a good excuse would get you thrown in the showers the next day."

Mr. Louis Clark, when excusing the lacrosse players for a game, would ask that they not disrupt class—but would ask the remaining boys to give them a hand as they departed. At the end of each season, the Crusaders played a final game, against the High School All-Stars at Homewood Field ("St. Paul's vs. the World," as Ed put it). The games were close, with the Crusaders often jumping out to a lead but getting worn down by the opponent's deeper bench in the second half. But they came out on top four straight years, 1943-1946.

"As an 8th grader at Roland Park Junior High, I hitchhiked to all the SP games," Bill says. "The school spirit (cheering) really appealed to me. I asked my father if I could go to SP next year he said, 'If you do go, you'd better study and work hard. It's going to cost me \$250 a year (true). I could send you to Poly for free.'" Bill loved that St. Paul's students took their lacrosse sticks to class, played catch between classes and the bonfires the night prior to big games. "I have always felt that SP changed my life for the better," he says.

No doubt many alumni feel as Bill does.

*Readers are invited to send the author memories and anecdotes of their student days at our Mt. Washington campus.* 

# Voices from the Hill

# Remembrance of Things Past

**Trustee Minutes, November 9, 1906:** "Mr. Miles Farrow reported that the boys



Over the past twenty-five years as an engineer in information technology, Jeff Finke '87 has designed, built and operated networks of various shapes and sizes, and implemented Information Technology Service Management (ITSM) processes across enterprises and operational datacenters.

Jeff works at MITRE, an organization with more than \$1 billion in revenue and 8,000 employees. MITRE operates federally funded research & development centers, similar to the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab and the Lawrence Livermore Laboratory. Typically, federal agencies request assistance from these centers, which are run by entities such as universities and not-for-profit corporations. Jeff is working in the National Cybersecurity Center of Excellence, where he's supporting Risk Management Framework projects and improving the cybersecurity of various commercial industries. The results and findings of this work are made publicly available via National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)

were universally happy; that there had been no cases of homesickness, which indicated to his mind that the boys were well satisfied with the home that was being provided for them."

**Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes, September 11, 1941:** "Mr. Donald W. McDorman...a former teacher at St. Paul's School, was proposed by the Head Master as a necessary addition to the teaching staff...at a salary of \$800 per year, together with room and board at the School."

From the 1952 Crusader Yearbook, referring to the Monitor: "The first issue of the St. Paul's misguided bi-monthly arrived in November and was highlighted by an editorial which almost ruined the varsity football team and brought about a reorganization of the senior class. It was effective journalism, the effect being that the Associate Editor was tarred and feathered and run out of town."

**Fall 1968:** The Class of '69 is informed that, because their predecessors left the Senior Room in a less-than-tidy condition, they will not have a school-sanctioned Senior Room, so they construct their own in the parking lot.



"Special Publications" that include recommendations and public outreach with all information freely available in the public domain to industries working to improve their processes and become more cybersecure.

"We solve problems for industry," says Jeff, who holds a B.S. in electrical engineering from the Rochester Institute of Technology, an M.S. in information technology and an MBA, both from Johns Hopkins University. "Much of government consists of accountants, lawyers, managers and policy-makers," he says, "so government agencies hire contractors to design and implement specific projects." MITRE, in an advisory role, develops solutions for many agencies across the federal government.

Jeff presently works in a center that's part of NIST, which is housed in the Department of Commerce. (NIST impacts daily life by developing standards for buying and selling most anything, to ensure that consumers have confidence in what they buy—examples: the flow of ketchup out of the bottle, motor oil viscosity, units of measure). His current project is cybersecurity issues in the hospitality industry—his lab will gather technology, develop test cases and eventually publish findings describing commercially available products that represent best industry practices.

Jeff's brother, Eric (SP '95) lives in Vienna, VA, not far from Jeff, his wife, Ashley, and their four children—one of whom is the goalie on the Bethesda lacrosse team Jeff coaches (he notes that at least four other Crusader alumni are coaching in that program). He has fond memories of the environment and culture at St. Paul's. "Having been back to various Blue-Gold Reunion Weekends, I

## Alumni Association News

More than a hundred alumni and friends gathered in the Ward Center on September 28 to honor Martin D. "Mitch" Tullai with the announcement of a scholarship endowment in his name. Following the ceremony, Coach Tullai rode through a gauntlet of cheering students and down to watch the Crusaders defeat Curley on Tullai Field in Mitchell Stadium.

- Click here for pictures
- <u>Click here to watch video of</u>
  <u>"Tullai Day"!</u>
- <u>Click here to purchase a</u> <u>complete edited video of the</u> <u>entire program from "Tullai</u> <u>Day"</u>

#### **Upcoming Events**

**October 19: Friday Night Lights** in our new Mitchell Stadium. Varsity Soccer at 5 pm; Football at 7:30 pm, both games vs. conference opponent John Carroll

November 13: Washington, D.C., alumni reception, hosted by Chip Andreae '73, the historic Homer Building, 601 13th Street, N.W.

March 30, 2019, 6:30 pm: Brooklandwood Bash, Middleton Athletic Center

May 2, 2019, 11 am: Crusader Cup Golf Outing, Green Spring Valley Hunt Club, to benefit the Alumni Scholarship Fund

May 3-4, 2019: Blue-Gold Reunion Weekend, with cocktails and dinners for classes ending in "4" and "9" on May 4 was amazed at how well the professors I had remembered certain events," Jeff recalls. "It showed how invested they were in us—not just our academic and athletic success, but our success in being gentlemen and in life. I would not be where I am today without them, and for that I am truly and humbly grateful."

#### Letters to the Editor:

**From Steve Sanford '65**, about our June story on St. Paul's and Al Capone: "He came to Baltimore to move in with his brother, who was working for an cousin of mine, George Van Daniker, at the race track, and living in the 4600 block of Pimlico Rd and then, in 1940, at 5019 Palmer Ave. They actually may have been distant cousins through marriage. He only stayed a year or so and then left town (or was thrown out by his brother)."

#### **In Memoriam**

John L. Swarm '51 (August 2018) William B. Love '60 (October 2018)

## **Get Involved!**

Contact the Alumni Office...

- to get involved in Alumni Association activities and events, or to discuss hosting an event in your area—we have the budget; we need hosts and venues!
- with nominations for the Alumni Association Board of Directors and our Athletic Hall of Fame (next class to be inducted Fall 2019)

### Congratulations to Lou Baker '19



Lou Baker '19 Goes Back-to-Back at Denny McCarthy Golf Invitational on October 15, 2018! <u>Click here to read the full article</u>

#### **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!

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