Crusader CONNECTION

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Letter From Brooklandwood

By Charley Mitchell '73, Director of Alumni Relations

Ghosts, and thus the stories about them, tend to resonant in uncertain times—the Industrial Revolution, the introduction of the telegraph and telephone, and the continuing evolution of modern technology likely generated societal uncertainty along with progress. A 2009 survey from the Pew Research Center found that 18% of American adults "have seen or been in the presence of a ghost," and 29% believe they have "seen or been in the presence of" someone who has died.

Old places and spaces, with lots of inanimate human forms, such as dolls and portraits, are ideal settings for the sightings and sounds of ghosts. Many ghosts are figures "from the past with unfinished business," according to Ruth Robbins, a professor of Victorian literature at Leeds Beckett University in England. The most unsettling images of ghosts, she says, are those just barely glimpsed, or—"you can hear it, you can smell it, you can sense that it is really big." Berkeley sociologist Claude Fischer believes that "in a dangerous, unpredictable life, spirits help to explain misfortune."

Brooklandwood, the late 18th-century Georgian mansion built by Charles Carroll of Carrollton for his daughter, Mary Caton, has allegedly long been the home of Annie the Ghost. This apparition of a small girl instills cautious excitement amongst our Lower Schoolers on their tours of Brooklandwood and sends many alumni into the world with, at the least, a heightened sense of the supernatural.

Annie, the daughter of Mary and Richard Caton (whose name gave rise to the town of Catonsville), died at a young age in Brooklandwood in the

late 1790s. Though the specifics of her demise are unknown—theories include a fall and illness—young Annie likely died of disease, perhaps dysentery or typhoid fever, infectious diseases spread by contaminated water. Her spirit has remained a part of the fabric of Brooklandwood, and while this writer is unaware of tales about Annie from three generations of Browns and the family of Isaac Emerson—all prior owners of the mansion—the St. Paul's community has many such stories, starting shortly after our school's arrival on the property in 1952.

Long-time teacher/coach Mitch Tullai recalls his wife, Jean, reporting a white apparition hovering above the grand staircase; and, in the 1950s, being summoned to the mansion in the middle of the night to calm teacher Albert Cauffman, who was certain he'd seen a ghost roaming the corridors. Several years ago, one staff member skeptical of such accounts heard a loud bang late at night inside the second-floor board room; with no logical explanation at hand, his skepticism evaporated.

Larry Smith, who's had a variety of roles since coming to campus in 1976, is a believer. "When working late one night in my office, in the basement of the mansion, I heard what sounded like playing and laughing just outside my door," Larry recalled. "I thought it might be Jessica Ordeman, since the Ordemans lived upstairs and she was often in my office. But no one was there. I was freaked out, and to this day am reluctant to be in the basement at night alone."

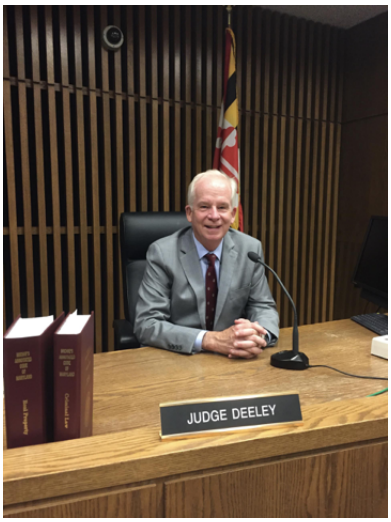
What ought we to think when intelligent, rationale people report such incidents? "We can't explain it, and it leaves us unsettled for ages," Ruth Robbins, the English professor, says. But that 2009 Pew survey found that, while 23% of adults who did not attend church weekly believe in ghosts, only 11% of those who do are believers—so perhaps regular chapel attendance can offer a degree of certainty to even the most staunch rationalist.

Annie—whoever, or whatever, she is—may one day try to communicate via Facebook, Twitter or Snapchat—"for ghost stories have always made use of modern technology," says Robbins. Friends of the deceased often keep their Facebook pages alive with posts, some in efforts to communicate with the dead. So perhaps ghosts are not as far from us as we think—especially in a venue as hospitable as Brooklandwood.

Readers are invited to send the author their accounts of interactions with spirits in and around Brooklandwood.

Voices from the Hill: Carey Deeley '69

"I like to get to the essence of an issue quickly," says Judge **Carey**



Deeley '69 during a recent visit to campus. Carey was appointed by Gov. Larry Hogan in 2016 to the Circuit Court of Baltimore County, in a ceremony attended by several hundred family, friends and fellow Crusaders.

Carey's sights weren't set on law school at an early age, much less on the bench. "I wanted to be like (SP English teacher) Tom Longstreth or be a doctor, but as a senior at St. Paul's, I really had no idea where to apply to college," he says. "But one day Mr. (SP history teacher Louis) Clark suggested the University of Virginia as a place to launch a medical career, so off I went." Carey labored in the premed vineyard until organic chemistry, that bete noire for many an aspiring physician, redirected him to the English department and that Longstreth-inspired teaching career.

He landed at Norfolk Academy, teaching English and coaching lacrosse and soccer for three years. Volunteering in an emergency room, watching a physician stitch up a hand one night, extinguished any residual desire to go into medicine. By then Carey's slow-cooked epiphany was complete: He wanted to help people solve problems and move their lives forward; a career in law seemed just what the doctor ordered.

Carey was one of many budding law students inspired by the romanticized concept of the lawyer Atticus Finch in *To Kill a Mockingbird*. Intrigued by the widely televised lawyering during The Watergate scandal, he returned home to start law school at the University of Baltimore, selling suits part time at JoS. A. Bank to help his cash flow.

The summer after his first year, Carey scored an internship in the Baltimore City Circuit Court to absorb first hand all that goes on in a courtroom. Further inspired to become a trial lawyer by the internship, Carey later switched from day to night school to work full time as a Law Clerk for a Baltimore County Circuit Court judge – the Bench on which he now sits – until finishing law school and passing the Bar exam. After passing the Bar, Carey joined the trial group at Cook, Howard, Downes & Tracy, which later merged with Venable LLP, resident in an office within a block of the Towson courthouse.

Carey recently ruminated on why he would leave the familiarity and comfort of a career in the private sector — in which he "tried every type of case and kept everyone's kids out of trouble"—to become a judge. "I'd been doing the same thing for 37 years—keeping folks out of court, getting them out if they'd gotten in, and trying cases if necessary —and the idea of helping people move forward with their lives, one that had motivated me to go into law in the first place, was still very much alive." He wanted to marshal everything he'd learned in almost 40 years in and around the courthouse and put it to work on the bench, where "you can really help people with their problems—and besides, not many lawyers 65-70 years old are still trying cases."

In 2011, Carey joined a team within Venable LLP that had been representing a death-row inmate in Alabama since 2001, seeking a reversal or at least a new trial, on grounds that his legal representation at his first trial fell below constitutional standards. At Carey's investiture, this man's taped testimonial about how much Carey's efforts had meant to him proved a powerful element of the ceremony.

"All law clerks think they can be judges," Carey notes, and he was no exception, though he came to understand the challenges as he got

older. "The experience is invigorating, challenging, energizing and awesome," he says. Carey feels a great debt to St. Paul's, which played a role at every juncture. "I was a 12-year man, and Mr. Clark nudged me toward UVA," Carey recounts. "Tom Longstreth inspired me to teach. Teaching provided a foundation for communicating in court. And, in every regard, the St. Paul's community supported and encouraged my forward movement." Carey served St. Paul's as a trustee and legal counsel, and his three children: Trip '01, Hunter '04, and Lindsay (lower school) all attended.

Carey is thankful for the opportunity to serve the public on the Bench at this time in life. He reveres the legal system. He says he goes to work each day, hoping to "solve the problem." "After all, the courthouse, is the last step before chaos."

Remembrance of Days Past

"Mr. (Headmaster Henry Thompson) Holladay brought up the question of corporeal punishment…it was understood and agreed that such punishment in general should cease, but that in the event of a serious breach of discipline the boy's parent would be advised of the alternative between expulsion and switching before the latter should be administered." *Trustee Minutes, January 30, 1930*

St. Paul's is accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. I.R. Kraybill, Executive Secretary, to Mr. [S. Atherton] Middleton, *Trustee Meeting Minutes, December 16, 1946* (Editor's note: Accreditation was for three years.)

The *Monitor* of May 29, 1952, makes note of a letter published that week in *Life Magazine* in response to an article, "Lacrosse Outgrows Baltimore." The letter, from Mr. Boone Strickland, notes that the headmaster of St. Paul's School has forbidden his students to take their lacrosse sticks to church.

Members of the Finance Committee are advised that "Mr. (Nelson) Swegler was proposing the acquisition of additional equipment so the video tapping (sic) of the geometry lessons could be done in color instead of black and white." *Minutes of Finance Committee meeting, September 21, 1972.*

Alumni Events

Brooklandwood Bash

Crusader Cup Golf Outing
Thursday, May 3
Click here to register

(formerly the Bull Roast)
Friday, March 23
Click here for tickets, or to donate an item or be a sponsor

Friday-Saturday, May 4-5
Blue-Gold Reunion Weekend
Click here to register

Alumni Association News

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!

In Memoriam

Ian Driskill '08 (October 2017)
Richard Cross '86 (November 2017)
Harold "Chuck" Donofrio (November 2017)
Russell Sparrow '11 (December 2017)
Paul "Don" Mallonee '62 (February 2018)
Edwin Chapman '42 (February 2018)
Charles "Bert" Sadtler '45 (February 2018)
Scott Thomas '00 (February 2018)
John "Denny" Turner '62 (February 2018)

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!

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.

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