



Issue #24 December 2016

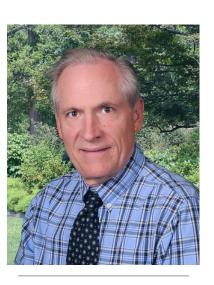
A Note from the Alumni Director

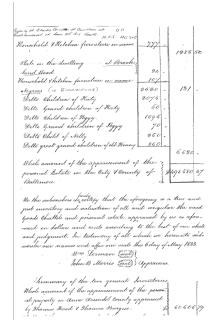
Much of my summer is spent cleaning out several rooms on the third floor of Brooklandwood, preparing for new office space. July and August are not the most inviting months for such a non-air conditioned task, which brings to mind a useful phrase from our school prayer, "to labor and not to ask for any reward." And so I do, and I don't.

My companion in this adventure, John Thorpe (our IB Coordinator and school archivist), and I excavate boxes of old donor records; a stash of costumes, programs and props from the 1996 fourth-grade play; pictures (framed and unframed); and old file carts full of 1950's Crusader report cards—much of which has been in residence for decades. We unearth boxes of personal World War II gear belonging to Dabney Cruikshank '36 and Walter Smith, and tuition and grade books from 1922-1924 with student names not in our school records.

Of particular interest are documents from the National Archives and Maryland Historical Society about slavery at Brooklandwood, constructed in the late 18th century by Charles Carroll of Carrollton and the centerpiece of our campus since 1952. That slaves labored on the sprawling Brooklandwood estate in the late 18th and first half of the 19th centuries is no surprise. They would have been house servants, skilled artisans, laborers and field workers that included indentured and convict servants (the latter two groups most likely white).

The documents are compelling: a 1798 Baltimore County tax assessment list notes that on the 530 acres of Brooklandwood are "13 able bodied slaves (and) 1 slave exempt—incapacitated," and an 1832 document, the year of Carroll's death, lists "Negroes" named "Katy, Peggy, Nelly and Old Henny'" with dollar values attached to each and totaling \$6,520





(\$181,858 in today's dollars). A year later "the value of all goods and chattels claimed to be a part of the estate" of Charles Carroll of Carrollton includes enslaved persons at the same aggregate value (but worth \$3,000 more in today's dollars).

A call to the editor of the Carrollton papers brings more information. In April 1833, the deceased Carroll's slaves include children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren of the aforementioned Katy, Peggy and Old Henny—all of whom "are said to have been born on the farm called Brookland Wood near the City of Baltimore, and to have lived there ever since and shewn to the appraisers on said farm the 22nd of April 1833." More slaves were on Carroll's other estate, Doughoregan Manor (now in Ellicott City). Further research will ascertain the status of slavery at Brooklandwood under subsequent owners George and Alexander Brown and until November 1864, when a new Maryland constitution bans it.

Charles Carroll's substantial wealth precludes the need to sell slaves, so generations of slave families can live on his estates—in contrast to many tobacco planters in southern Maryland, for whom slavery has for generations ensured prosperity, until decades of over-fertilization and lack of crop rotation devastate soil and harvest and slave-owning becomes a financial sinkhole. From Carroll's story we can better understand the dynamics of slavery in our home state, aware that enslaved men and women once toiled the land upon which we now tread.

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Voices from the Hill: Cliff Low '65

Fresh out of Williams College, where he was a chemistry major who spent more time in the theater than the lab, Cliff Low joined the St. Paul's faculty in the fall of 1969 to teach chemistry and manage the tech duties for the joint SPS/SPSG Upper School drama productions. (Your alumni director was in his very first class, freshman general science.) After his first year on the faculty, Cliff had misgivings about a teaching career but decided to "give it another year"—and he gave it 47 more, as he will retire at the end of this academic year, with 48 years of service to his alma mater.

The 1965 Crusader described Cliff as "one of the most perceptive and responsible members of the senior class" and with interests that "lay in the fields of mathematics and science, where he excelled...where a broken or disassembled radio or television would present a mystery to many, it meant an intriguing challenge to Cliff." His student activities included stints as a varsity manager and, in a harbinger of what would come upon his return to Brooklandville, stage manager for *George Washington Slept Here*. With his experiences at St. Paul's and Williams, an art-historian father who directed education at the Walters Art Museum and a mother who was a Radcliffe-trained classicist, it's little surprise that Cliff is ensconced in a campus arts position.

At St. Paul's Cliff has served as Dean of Students and chaired both the Science Department and the selection committee for our Athletic Hall of Fame. The evolution of the performance arts at St. Paul's and St. Paul's School for Girls, accelerated when the Ward Center for the Arts opened in 1992 and he became the resident lighting/sound designer and instructor. As an employee of both schools, Cliff now manages the theater space, designs the lighting and sound for all stage productions and serves as overall tech coordinator for the Ward Center. He's the man behind the music at campus ceremonies such as commencement processions and the raucous senior dinner put on by the Alumni Association each year. Cliff also co-chaired his 50th class reunion in

Most of the last 30-plus summers have found Cliff teaching oceanography to high school and college classes aboard tall ships with the Sea Education Association (SEA) of Woods Hole. He has accumulated over 70,000 miles of ocean sailing and two years of actual sea time during that time (imagine his frequent sailor miles!). Cliff has served as an SEA trustee for eleven years and continues as an Overseer of the organization. His three children (Nathaniel '91, Elizabeth '93 and Seth '97) are graduates of St. Paul's, as are his brothers, Bruce '60, and T.J. '68.

So at year's end we shall bid Cliff farewell. Our theater-goers shall miss his theatrical expertise, our students his wisdom and our colleagues his amusing remarks at campus gatherings. And when asked why, with 48 years under his belt at age 70, he doesn't stay two more years to hit 50 years of service, he deftly replies, "because then I'd be 72!"

Campus Found in Archives

A reel of 16-mm film labeled "Mt. Wash. St. Paul's Old Film," in the inimitable cursive of Louis Dorsey Clark, featuring 26 action-packed minutes from our Mt. Washington campus (1922-1952):

- nattily dressed faculty and boys preening for the camera
- masters exiting a building, including Mr. Clark and Don McDorman '33
- dorm and classroom scenes
- basketball and lacrosse—note, at the 24-minute mark, guys trying to mark Howdy Myers
- Headmaster George Hamilton supervising chores—boys working off demerits?

The film, in fragile condition, has been digitized by Siobhan Hagan of the Mid-Atlantic Regional Moving Image Archive—please help us identify faculty and students who appear in the film, and the era. I thank colleagues Cliff Low '65, Jeff Yingling and Jill Wagoner for their help.

Watch Film



- "During a part of the year, a case of Scarlet fever unfortunately occurred, which was the occasion of much disturbance, no little confusion, & not a little extra expense to this school. The boy had to be isolated and nursed for many weeks." "A Statement from the Rector for the Year 1899"
- o "Mr. Wyatt reported Miss Treadway, the new matron, had entered upon her duties and so far proven satisfactory (after which) Edgar Allan Poe was elected a member of the Board to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Bernard Carter." Trustee Minutes. October 10, 1912
- The Crusaders take the B conference football crown with a win over the Latinists (as Boys' Latin was known), "emerging from a tough contest with six points to their opponents' nothing." Zeigler, MacCubbin and Hoshall, who "showed some flashy running," lead the way for St. Paul's. The Monitor November 23, 1934
- o "The Monogram Club will hold the second in its series of informal dances tomorrow night at the Lower School building...because of the fact that cutting at the last dance was poor, games such as pie plate dances and number dances will be employed to liven up the party. The decorating committee is planning a surprise." The Monitor, November 27, 1941

Alumni Association News

Save These Dates:

December 16, 2017: Alumni Hockey Game at Patterson Park, 5:15 pm.

March 24, 2017: The Brooklandwood Bash/Bull Roast & Auction (Pollock Gym) <u>Get</u> tickets here

May 4, 2017: Crusader Golf Outing (Elkridge Club)

May 5-6, 2017: Blue-Gold Reunion Weekend (campus), honoring classes ending in "2" and "7"

Win a 2017 BMW 2 Series Convertible and support the Alumni Scholarship Fund in the "Give St. Paul's A Lift!" raffle! Tickets are \$100—only 999 will be sold. Winning ticket to be drawn at the Brooklandwood Bash/Bull Roast & Auction on March 24 (need not be present to win). Get tickets here



Alumni around the nation: Thanks to Marty Dixon '98 for hosting a great Crusader alumni reception in Atlanta in October. Headmaster Dave Faus met up in November with Crusaders in New Orleans. Contact the alumni office if you're interested in hosting an event in your area—we have the budget; we just need a host and a venue!

Nominations are being accepted for alumni awards (to be given at Blue-Gold Reunion Weekend on May 5), the Alumni Assn. board of directors and our Athletic Hall of Fame.

To The Editor

Butch Darrell '58 writes: I particularly enjoyed Lou Shroyer's story about George Hamilton (Oct. issue). To its credit, St. Paul's has kept the emphasis on character development where unfortunately the education bureaucracy and many schools have lost it in favor of standardized testing and "skills instruction" in preparation for the next academic level.

Former faculty member Skip Frey writes: Thanks for continuing to send me the Crusader Connection. The October issue was especially interesting because of the piece on George Hamilton. George and his wife Vivian were close and lifelong friends of my mother and father, and their daughters Diane, Welby and Linda were contemporaries of mine. We had a formal, lighted badminton court at our home, and every Friday night during the summer my parents hosted the Hamiltons and several other couples, all of whom were very close friends, for informal matches (and the occasional cocktail). Like George Hamilton, these were intelligent, pleasant, honorable and fun individuals, just as were so many of their generation. I cannot remember a single incident of anger, unpleasantness, inappropriate language or other misbehavior among any of them. I often feel that they were the last generation of true ladies and gentlemen.

Despite being a Gilman alumnus, I can imagine what a wonderful experience it must have been to be at St. Paul's with "Mr. Hamilton" as headmaster.

Greetings from the SP/SPSG Boards of Trustees

A priority of the St. Paul's and SPSG Boards of Trustees this year is increasing coordination to provide more opportunities for students at both Schools. Earlier this week, St. Paul's Board President Elizabeth Robinson and SPSG Board President Joanne Bartlett wrote parents to review highlights of the fall and to look forward to upcoming coordinated initiatives. Read their letter here.

In Memoriam

John C. Pohlhaus '48 (November 2016) William Pugh '82 (November 2016)

Back Issues Beckon!

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

Remember the Annual Fund—your School needs you!

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