



THE BOYS' LATIN SCHOOL OF MARYLAND

this week at 



**July 8, 2013**

## **Pride & Tradition: Francis Hopkinson Smith**

**Francis Hopkinson Smith** was born in Baltimore on October 28, 1838. In a speech reported in 1915 he was proud of his roots and labeled himself an “old Baltimorean.”

Born in a house on St. Paul Street he was raised at 312 Cathedral Street in Baltimore. According to a 1942 story by longtime *Baltimore News American* columnist and Carey School for Boys graduate (Boys' Latin) “Carroll Dulaney” (pseudonym for Richard Steuart), in his childhood Smith attended Dr. Evert Marsh Topping's school which went onto become The Carey School for Boys and then Boys' Latin School.

Smith's father was an iron founder and dealer in hardware.

*The Baltimore Sun* reported in 1915 that as a young man Smith sat on an awning on Pratt Street in downtown Baltimore on April 19, 1861 and saw some of the first shots of the Civil War fired – a week after the Confederate attack on Ft. Sumter. On that day a southern sympathizing Baltimore mob attacked the Sixth Massachusetts Militia on its way to Baltimore's Camden Train Station for its final leg on its trip to Washington, D.C.

Smith had several careers: engineer, artist, illustrator, and short story writer. After the war Smith went to New York City and in a few years time was able to secure \$50,000 worth of building contracts because of his iron foundry background.

He became an engineer by profession and an artist by choice. He was a successful engineer and did much work for the federal government including the foundation and pedestal for the Statue of Liberty in New York Harbor. He built many lighthouses including the New London, CT., project which took six years to build. The Race Rock Lighthouse which took six years to build sits at the easterly main entrance to Long Island Sound, off New London, CT and Fisher's Island.

As he grew older, Smith devoted more and more time to his hobby, which was painting. Smith traveled frequently to Europe and became known for his work in portraits, genre, and illustration. He also painted in water colors and became so accomplished that there were plenty of buyers for his finished work many of which were completed in Venice.

Smith accidentally began his career as a writer when he was in his fifties. A remarkable after-dinner raconteur, he decided to commit his stories to paper and wrote numerous books and short stories. In collections such as *At Close Range*, Smith's stories were fresh yet businesslike, in the style of a newspaper reporter. Perhaps his best

known work was entitled *The Fortunes of Oliver Horn*. One of his better novels with a Baltimore background and flavor was entitled *Kennedy Square*.

He was a descendant of Francis Hopkinson, a signer of the Declaration of Independence from New Jersey. According to [www.USFlag.org](http://www.USFlag.org), Francis Hopkinson designed the original American Flag with 13 red and white stripes and 13 stars in a blue background.

Hopkinson Smith died unexpectedly in New York City on April 8, 1915. He was 77 years old. His estate was valued at over \$35,000 at his death including a contract with a motion picture company to produce a film based on his *Kennedy Square* book.

## **Homecoming 2014**

Plans are still in the making, however, Boys' Latin has secured the weekend for Homecoming 2014: May 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> 2014. We will have our Alumni Luncheon on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and later in the afternoon our varsity lacrosse team will host Gilman School.

Saturday night we hope to have our reunion gathering in the Alumni House as we honor all the reunion classes along with the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of BL's 1964 Maryland Scholastic Association varsity lacrosse team. Mark your calendars today.

## **Alumni Notes**



**Mike Kalista '01** (left) and **Dan Lacher '01** (right) celebrate **Mike Cheek's '01** 30<sup>th</sup> birthday last week in Charleston, SC.

**Jon Frederick '08** is now living in the DC area and is working for Koon's Toyota in Tyson's Corner. If anyone is looking to purchase a new Toyota see Jon.



BL connected people helped lead the Lisbon (Howard, County) 1st annual 4th of July Parade. Left to right, MS history teacher **Chris Maisel '04** in Vietnam uniform, US History teacher **Butch Maisel** in WW II uniform, **Elissa Maisel** as Rosie the riveter WW II, **Gus Carky**, parent of **Doug Carky '98** and former assistant Varsity baseball coach and varsity ice hockey coach in WWI outfit, and **Ira Seidel '90** in a US Civil War uniform.

**Colin Heacock '13**, **Mac Pons '13**, and **Ben Pridemore '13** all were selected to play on the South team in the High School All-American lacrosse game this past weekend. Prior to the game *The Baltimore Sun* featured the threesome in an article. *The Sun* asked the BL stars about their season and their loss in the championship game. Colin responded: "Really, I wouldn't have traded it for anything. If I could have gone to Loyola and won the championship rather than be at Boys' Latin with all my friends, I would have still gone to BL and lost with my friends. I just grew so close with all those guys. They're all my brothers now."

To read the entire article click [http://articles.baltimoresun.com/2013-07-05/sports/bs-va-sp-under-armor-feature-boys-0706-20130705\\_1\\_mac-pons-armor-all-america-lacrosse-classic-ben-pridemore](http://articles.baltimoresun.com/2013-07-05/sports/bs-va-sp-under-armor-feature-boys-0706-20130705_1_mac-pons-armor-all-america-lacrosse-classic-ben-pridemore).

## Summer Action at BL

A lacrosse tournament hosted by the Baltimore Crabs took place with BL as its home base. Games were also played at RPCS, Gilman, and Loyola University. To view some of the action and some beautiful views of BL's campus go to <http://lacrosserecruits.com/news/>.

## BL Athletics

In the Under Armour All-American Underclassman lacrosse tournament the Baltimore team defeated the team from Washington 17-11 in the championship game. The Baltimore team went undefeated (4-0) in pool play. **Shack Stanwick '14**, **Hugh Mosko '14**, **Matt Sacks '15**, and **Hunter Moreland '15**, and **Tally Bruno '14** all represented BL on the Baltimore team. Stanwick was named the tournament's MVP.

## 105 Years Ago

At the annual prize-giving day at Boys' Latin the Rev. Dr. John Timothy Stone, pastor of the Brown Memorial Presbyterian Church, gave a speech to the student body speaking on the "The Word Able, and Some of its Relationships to Life."

Headmaster **James Dunham** awarded the arithmetic prize to **Oliver C. Zell, Jr. '11**, the spelling prize to **Fendall Marbury '13** and the prize in writing to **Charles T. Bagby, Jr. '11**. Head boy awards were given to the following students: **Robert France '13**, **Edmund Law Rogers Smith '12**, **Charles Snowden Piggot '11**, **Henry Evans Corner '10**, **John Sharpe Dickinson '09**, and **Robert W. Johnson '08**.

## 50 Years Ago

**Henry Hopkins '03H** lost 7-5, 6-3 to Frank Roberts in the third round of the *Baltimore Evening Sun* Municipal Tennis Tournament. Henry currently sits on the Boys' Latin Board of Trustees.

## 25 Years Ago

The tuition rates at Boys' Latin School for the coming year 1988-1989 ranged between \$5,025 for pre-first to \$6,795 for twelfth grade students.

**(Boys' Latin School) is made to fit the boy.** BLS Advertisement, October 21, 1902  
*Baltimore Sun* Classified section.

