

# The Dragnet

ST. PETER'S SCHOOL

VOL. 27, No. 1

OCTOBER, 1964

\$3.00 A YEAR

## SCHOOL OPENS

School opened this year with the first classes on Wednesday, September 16. Dorm and school building interiors were extensively renovated over the summer, resulting in an immaculate campus appearance upon the students' arrival. The last year's entire kitchen staff has been replaced by the capable help of the present: Branko Kujundzic, supervisor; Madeline Kujundzic, cook; Thomas C. Cummings, steward; Joseph Bellucci and David Curtain. The school has a present enrollment of 87, 29 boys fewer than last year. This year's incoming freshman class is a small and select group of 11 boys.

## MR. McDOWELL

Mr. Richard McDowell, recently retired Dean of St. Peter's, is on the staff of the president at St. Michael's College, Vermont. We know both he and Mrs. McDowell would be very pleased to see or hear from our alumni and students. For that purpose, their address is: Mr. & Mrs. Richard McDowell, 100 Ethan Allen Avenue, Apt. A, Winooski, Vermont.

# Year of Change Opens

## FIRST HOME DANCE GIVEN

Saturday, October 5th marked the advent of two seasons here at Saint Peter's. It was the beginning of the football season in the afternoon and that evening the beginning of the "social" season.

Our first opponents of the "social" season were the girls from Rye Country Day School. They all came dressed in their finery and ready for the forthcoming struggle.

This engagement was being sponsored by the fifth form. Under the able direction of (coach) Bob Fox, refreshments were gathered and the Recreation Hall was gaily decorated.

The action commenced at 7:30 with the grand entrance of the girls. Both teams managed to keep up a frenzied pace until 11 when the whistle blew terminating the soiree.

The boys were all very cheerful for being able to compete in one of the most dangerous and tiring sports — *Dancing!*

## CHANGES IN THE CHAPEL

As all old students know, and many new students have heard, the chapel service has been changed, not only in time, but in content. Whereas, last year, and in preceding years, chapel was held in the evening, this year it has been moved to a morning slot directly before classes at 7:50. The purpose is to make time for an "activities period" from five to six in the evening when the students can participate in any of a number of varied interests.

The service, as we mentioned before, differs in format also. In conforming with the wishes of Bishop Donegan, the Ceremonial at the altar is that of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City.

Many of the chapel's physical aspects have too been changed. Mr. Fleischmann, a trustee and benefactor of the school, has kindly presented an ambry to replace the tabernacle that has been removed. It will be built in the paneling on the left side of the altar. The ambry contains the reserved sacrament. The cross has been suspended in front of the dorsal, on a curtain behind the altar.

Holy Communion is held every Wednesday and Friday morning at 6:30. On a Saint's day, however, this on a Monday, Wednesday, or Friday is different. If the Saint's day falls the schedule is not changed. But if it falls on a Tuesday or Thursday, the following day's Communion is delayed one day. The celebration of a Saint's day will occur on a Sunday if it is actually on a Saturday. Last year Holy Communion was held every morning at 6:30.

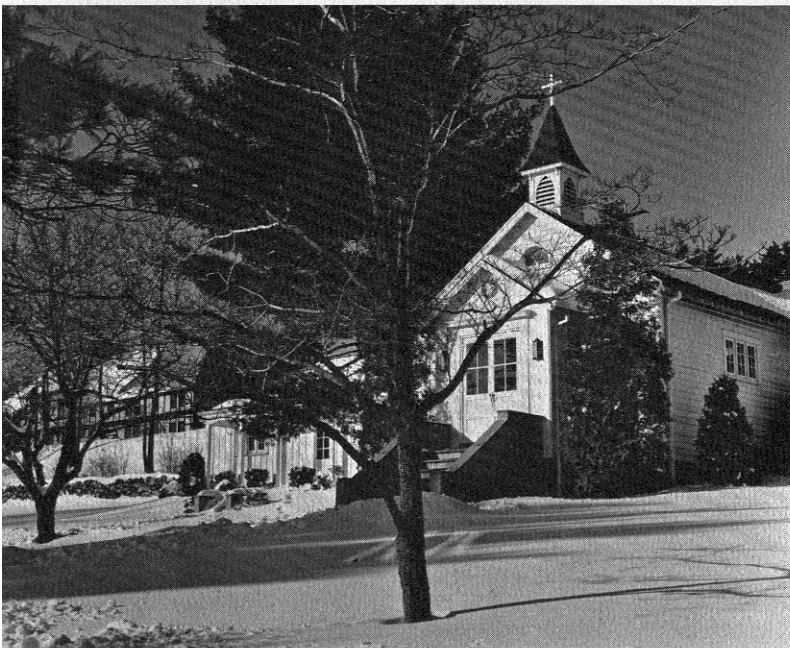
Aside from these changes, the most important other development is that of the "Vestry." The Vestry will con-

## FATHER LEEMING

Father Leeming, the founder and retired headmaster of St. Peter's, has had a busy summer and looks forward to a busier fall. In an interview he told this reporter that he had completed the music to his *Mass in D Minor* which was played at Trinity Church on Easter. He took services over the summer at St. Paul's Church in Overbrook, Pennsylvania. He then traveled to Cape Cod, Massachusetts, after which he has assisted at Trinity Church in Ossining, New York. Over this winter he will be doing some writing and will be directing the glee club at Peekskill Military Academy. In the spring the good Father will be on tour of six colleges and universities, taking him as far south as New Orleans. Father and Mrs. Leeming are now residing at "Field Stream" on Watch Hill Road on the outskirts of Peekskill.

sist of a faculty member and a group of students elected to represent the rest of the school at meetings. The Vestry's purpose is partly to get the opinions of the students and faculty concerning the chapel, and partly to decide just how chapel funds should be used, not only on the campus, but in the outside world. On Tuesday, October 6, the headmaster donated \$25 of chapel funds on behalf of the school to the committee in charge of building the new Peekskill Hospital.

The Vestry will consist of a faculty member; the First Acolyte, Harris Jordan; and the Senior Sacristan, John Acton. Also included in the Vestry will be a prefect elected by the other prefects; a representative of the 5th form, Jim Morrow; the 4th form, Randy Lyon; and the 3rd form, Bob Schofield.





## SAINT PETER'S DRAGNET

SAINT PETER'S SCHOOL  
PEEKSKILL, NEW YORK

FR. WILLIAM H. CRAWFORD, HEADMASTER

Editor-in-Chief ..... Duke Ellis  
Sports Editor ..... Dave Webster  
Contributors ..... Ulmer, McNeary, Immenman, Mack  
Typists ..... Ulmer, Robinson, Giarraputo, O'Gara  
Advisor ..... Mr. Regan  
Photographer ..... Mr. Charles Williamson

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### THE HEADMASTER'S LETTER

The beginning of the school year seems a time of confusion and uncertainties. The new boys have a job to settle in to a new routine, new friends, and ways that are not like home. Old boys are looking around to see what has changed; and if there has been a change, they are making comparisons. The Faculty and Headmaster wonder if everything decided at the last staff meeting in June has been carried forward, if all the books have arrived, if the schedule has any bugs in it, if Mrs. Jones is satisfied with her son's room and roommate; and so on. Then, big league baseball and football are going full tilt at the same time; the America's Cup Race is in progress, not to mention the tennis matches. All in all, it is a full, and a sort of mixed-up period. And so it is a comfort to know that Orphan Annie has been rescued from the Jersey salt marshes and has a new home and that Daddy Warbucks will soon return from *partibus incognitis* and a fresh series of hair-raising episodes will be soon under way. We all like certainties and the beginning of school doesn't seem to offer many.

All through the school year we shall see this montage of certainty and uncertainty. In this sense school is a small slice of life: it is a composite of the strange and untried, with something new each day, and the predictable and routinized canon of chapel, classes, study, sports, meals, and lights. The daily schedule (monotonous as it gets at times) is like a fence around a large pasture: it confines us within some limits for our activity. Yet it permits us to do a great deal. It also offers us opportunity to do very little. We can stand at the fence looking over and wishing we were "out there"; and we can sit down. The choice is ours.

The daily round of the school is our way of measuring time. It doesn't really make much difference what time it is by the clock, but it does

make a whale of a difference what we do with the time in our scheduled day. And time is always beginning and it is always ending. For the new boys and the under formers, the end of the time may seem far off. For the seniors, this beginning of school time is also the beginning of the end. By the time you read this, graduation will take place in less than eight months! And the third formers will be fourth formers. Some will be on the honor roll and some will not return. And, again, the choice is ours.

Many times this year you will hear me say a prayer which begins with these words: "Defend us, O Lord, against the misuse of time that can never come back . . ." Never ask why it is repeated so often; you know.

Our schedule, day after day and week after week, is also like the frame around a canvas. And what kind of picture is put on the canvas is again our choice: we are painting it. So you see that this school routine, this dependable and predictable pattern of life, has its variety and its uncertainties, too. It represents time and opportunity; it represents effort; it is for writing letters, for work and for play, for helping a friend, for saying our prayers. What we do with it does, in a real sense, measure the stature of this school. In a greater sense it measures your progress in the difficult and often hectic process of growing up.

All of us must always be concerned with time: there is so little of it. It is always later than we think. This does not mean that we must be worried about it; our only concern must be that we are making the best use of it. If, at the end of each day, we can take stock and say that we have done all we should have done, then we may know that our time has been well spent. And this is a sign of constructive living.

### THE EDITOR ON THE PROGRESS OF THINKING

The process of my thinking is now involved with analyzing itself for this editorial. This is an immense task because the whole of the human being is totaled in his thoughts. Nothing affects us that does not become a thought or a mental response. For thought is more than reflection and creation or reasoning. We are not profound nor imaginative even the lesser part of each day. Thinking and thoughts comprise all that is in one's mind. Thought is mental pre-occupation, and a second in our lives does not pass in which we are not to some extent mentally involved. If you doubt this, tell your mind to stop thinking at once. Note the results. For the mind is where we assimilate all that occurs outside ourselves and inside our beings. Since we live, something is always occurring. And if we can assimilate nothing, we are not living.

How much is contained and controlled by our thinking processes? All of life is. For each person is his own center of the universe. Within each of us begins all and ends all. The human being is a self-contained universe with interrelating parts correlating to those corresponding or contradictory parts in others. In a like manner I may live with you if I like you, against you if I dislike you, or inside you if I love thee, but if something turns off my mind, you cease to be. And not only do you cease to be, but the world stops and the universe is dead. Without the mind and thoughts, stars and planets are not realities. Without the process of one's thinking there is only nothingness. There is no substance in all the cubed light years of infinity.

What types of thoughts are there, and how do they work? There are as many types of thoughts as there are people to think them. And they work in as many different ways as the relationships one can make between them. So I can only relate personal experience and put forth some basic concepts.

One's primary pattern of thinking will be molded by what he experiences in his environment. Since no two environments are exactly alike, no two people's thinking will be exactly alike. There will be only basic similarities and differences. If a certain set of circumstances affects one repeatedly, it will become part of his environment and influence his life. Whether he feels hostile towards or pleased by the occurrence deter-

mines how he handles it. It also determines what feelings he will experience when faced with a similar circumstance which he identifies with the primary one. We therefore think instinctively and not objectively much of the time. Man far too often chooses one thing over another, not with regard to relative merit, but because of subconscious feelings and associations. This is seldom realized for such feelings are sub-surface emotions whose exposure makes their master uncomfortable. The seed of prejudice sown here. The common attribute of conformity begins when the mind finds it convenient to adhere firmly to the dictates of that with which it identifies. Nonconformity evolves when one identifies himself with that which is popularly unaccepted, again regardless of merit.

But as much as our processes of thinking are governed by feeling, we try to combat it with unemotional reasoning. For we have found that when man divorces his personal feelings from an argument and thinks in terms of facts, an accurate analysis will have been made. Logic is an exercise in which man draws his thinking outward where the biased and prejudiced will be dissipated in the clear light of reason. But since man cannot help being a composite of all he has experienced, it is impossible to completely separate logical thinking and personal feeling. What wiser men try to do is use their constructive personality traits to help launch their thinking as an objective vehicle. At the same time they try to realize that which is unhealthy in their psyches and disassociate themselves from it. Such a man we might call an individualist. But this is just a label given to he who has achieved the most venerable station in intellectual life. For in this manner his thinking will be clear and logical, while not detached and impersonal. He can be very much involved in a situation or discussion, but knowing his shortcomings apply the more beneficial side of his personality and not impose a bigoted judgment upon his unfortunate associates. I mean this to be a column of advice pointed directly at such contemporary heroes as Barry Goldwater, Howard Cosell, James Baldwin and Mike Wallace, to name a few. But more importantly, I want these views to form a set of values to be taken into the sincere consideration of you, the reader.

## NEW ADVISOR'S IMPRESSIONS OF CAMPUS

Against the high hill and the white sky,  
The buildings of the old estate,  
Boscobel armored against assault,  
(asphalt moat)  
Stabb poised against Main,  
And the Chapel unwilling to turn  
its back on Fleischmann Library.  
And everywhere the students grow,  
Blossoming into pain and knowl-  
edge,  
Even as, around them, the world  
bursts in red flares on the hills  
And dies,  
The blossoming and the dying  
Each births of pain,  
And for both the long dark winter  
ahead:  
Dining hall odors and the faint  
mustiness of the Chapel,  
The slow crowding agony on the  
knees of the morning,  
And the brilliant charge of uni-  
orms and helmets  
Against phantom defenses in the  
afternoon,  
Training for the real frangi-  
bility,  
The vivid morning songs and ex-  
pired murmurs of evening pray-  
ers,  
And the slow nightly death of  
buildings and whispering stu-  
dents,  
(Faint glow of those still study-  
ing),  
Sudden unreal lights of a fire drill,  
Burst of life down the stairs,  
To shiver outside in the cold,  
Dying in noise, silence, and  
whispers,  
And again the dorms await quietly  
The dawn, the siren, and the  
bells  
Of a day more cold than the  
last.  
The students put their hands in  
their pockets  
And shrink into themselves.  
But the act of death  
Is the act of a flower,  
Reaching without knowing,  
Without feeling,  
For the fire and the spring,  
The useless fire that does not give  
Because there is no dark,  
The fire for the sake of fire,  
And one or two  
Who have also burned.

## CHANGES IN SCHOOL

In October of last year, a committee was appointed to plan a better schedule for the school. Father Nordeck was chairman; Mr. Kenyon and Mr. Atkins were the other members. It figured they'd come up with something, and they did. They spent the whole winter term studying the schedules of over seventy private schools, and we still get up at six-thirty! Oh well.

The most obvious change, from the students' point of view, is that of free time in the fair city of Peekskill. Whereas last year the student body was allowed to spend all of Monday afternoon in town, now they are allowed only part of Saturday morning. All classes on Saturday morning have been shortened in order to accommodate this, as well as more convenient team departures. The committee felt that to start off a week with a half holiday contributed an undesirable psychological effect. Student reactions are mixed on this point.

Besides an obvious improvement in the sustenance, there has been a switching of the heavy meal from lunch to supper. Lunch has also been moved up an hour to accommodate two afternoon classes and promote the "finalization" of digestion before athletics. Breakfast is more substantial, to the astonishment of the older students. The main reason for the improvement of the food is probably because of the new kitchen staff. But there is little doubt that the increased tuition is a major factor. Better be.

## NEW MASTERS

Faculty turnover seeming to be an annual function, each October issue of the Dragnet contains brief biographies of the new teachers. This year we have two new teachers on our staff. Both have graduated from college within the past three years and both seem to show a great interest in S.P.S.

Mr. Sterling Louthan was born in New York and graduated from the Pingry School in Elizabeth, N. J. Mr. Louthan graduated from Kenyon College where he majored in English. After studying architecture at Columbia for two years, Mr. Louthan made his debut here at S.P.S. He is presently coach of the soccer team and anticipates a highly successful season. When not in the classroom, Mr. Louthan is usually seen scooting around campus on his Vespa. His zeal for travel has taken him throughout Scandinavia and Europe for three years before returning to teach in the States.

Mr. Michael Regan hails from Neenah, Wisconsin, where he attended Campion Jesuit High. He then spent four years at Cornell, majoring in English. Although he boxed at Cornell, he has never boxed professionally, contrary to popular belief. Mr. Regan taught at Gow School for one year before coming here where he teaches English 3rd & 6th forms, and history for the fifth form. Mr. Regan is interested in starting a school literary magazine which will presumably start publication sometime this winter.

## VARSITY SOCCER

On Wednesday, October 7, the varsity soccer squad met the Yorktown High team in their first game of the season. In a well played game from start to finish, St. Peter's lost the opener, 3-0.

Tom Torrey, co-captain of the team, played a beautiful game although suffering from a foot ailment, and was quite pleased with his team even in defeat. Tom mentioned that the line could be shaped up to better condition, and he seemed confident that the team would excel in future meets.

Ball control played an important part in deciding the outcome of the game. Yorktown, having three games under its belt, showed impressive ball handling from the start, while St. Peter's waited until the latter part of the game before showing form.

In future games St. Peter's will meet N.Y.M.A., P.M.A., and Scarborough.

## VARSITY FOOTBALL

On Saturday, October 3, the Saint Peter's varsity football team played their first game of the season. In this first endeavor, Saint Peter's lost to Oakwood Prep School, 20-0. After the game, I asked Coach Tom Adkins questions concerning his team's defeat. He replied that the reasons were many but centered around no one figure. The two fumbles resulting in touchdowns for Oakwood in the first half made it difficult for Saint Peter's to come back in the second half. Also the team was unable to propel an organized drive or an effective passing attack.

Captain Ed Welch had this to say: "Nervousness of the first game and lack of enough contact in practices promoted much of the confusion in the first game."

Whatever the cause of their defeat, it is in the past; and the best thing that the team could do would be to organize a determined drive in future games against Wooster, Storm King, etc.

## ALUMNI NEWS

William C. A. Moulder '56, Lt., USN, and Frances Futio L'Engle were married in St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Jacksonville, Florida, on Saturday, October 17.

Richard K. Relyea '60 and Evelyn Moffett were married on June 27 in Schenectady, New York.

George J. Creed III '59, Lt., USAF, and Lee Adair Haring were married on Sunday, Aug. 9, in Peekskill Presbyterian Church, Peekskill, New York.

Lee Terrell Frederick '55 and Constance L. Ranney on Saturday, June 27, at St. Luke's Chapel, New

York City, were married.

Richard D. Warrington '59 and Elena C. S. Pacheco were married on June 27 in Reading, Pennsylvania.

William H. Pearn '60 and Margaret Otty were married on June 27 in Westminster Presbyterian Church in Rensselaer, N. Y.

Theodore R. Enz '57 and Linda E. Schumacher on Saturday, September 12, were married in St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church in the Bronx, New York.

Lee Harris '64 writes back that the social life at Hillsdale College, Mich., is great, but the work is tough.

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DRAGNET

## NEW BOYS

To pass on some general information, this is a list of all the new boys and their home towns:

R. Reed Coles — Glen Cove, N. Y.  
 Christopher W. Corbin  
 Peekskill, N. Y.  
 Christopher E. Foulsham  
 Bethlehem, Pa.  
 Richard G. Foulsham  
 Bethlehem, Pa.  
 Robert L. Gedney — Peekskill, N. Y.  
 George A. Histan, Warrington, Pa.  
 Charles E. Lombardo  
 New York, N. Y.  
 Pierre L. Lorillard, New York, N. Y.  
 Bernard J. Mack — New York, N. Y.  
 Jeffrey C. Mitton — Harrison, N. Y.  
 E. LeRoy Parker, III  
 Plainfield, N. J.  
 John R. Patterson, Jr., Peekskill, N.Y.  
 Bruce F. Reynolds, Scarsdale, N. Y.  
 Benjamin C. Rowles — Wayne, Pa.  
 Robert G. Schofield, Jr.  
 Jenkintown, Pa.  
 Gregg R. Segnit — Buchanan, N. Y.  
 Arthur H. Slack, III  
 West Caldwell, N. J.  
 James C. Sprung, Broadalbin, N. Y.  
 Albert C. Thomas, III  
 Hartford, Conn.  
 George S. Turner — Yarmouth, Me.  
 Alfred C. Ulmer, III  
 London, England  
 Benjamin S. Vincent, III  
 Little Silver, N. J.  
 Stephen P. Watson, Ossining, N. Y.  
 Vlad Wilhousky, Wallingford, Conn.

## PARENTS' DAY SCHEDULE

Here is the order of the day on Saturday, October 17 for your convenience:

11 A.M.—Registration at Main House (on the porch, if fair; in the Parents' Room if not).

11:30—10-minute classes, on your son's schedule, to meet the masters and to make appointments for later in the day, if you want to talk with any of them privately. The big bell will ring at 11:25 and you are off to school. During classes, members of the varsity teams will have lunch at the Gym.

12:45 P.M.—Parents and all other boys can purchase hamburgers, etc. at the senior concession at the Gym.

2 P.M.—Football Game.

2:30—Soccer Game.

5:15—Parents' meeting in the Study Hall.

6:00—Buffet Supper for all who wish to stay.

## ST. MARY'S DANCE

It is always interesting to note a participant's reaction to a certain function. Here's how a freshman saw the dance with S.M.S. on October 3:

"At St. Mary's, the dance was very good. First we met another boys' school, Trinity Pawling, and then our blind dates. Sixty-five percent of the girls looked natural enough to dance with. The music to which we danced was supplied by albums of the Beach Boys, the Beatles, and the Dave Clark Five.

"When you first walked into the dance hall (a gymnasium), you would meet the Head Sisters and a few Fathers of St. Mary's. The dance was not very long, only from eight o'clock to eleven o'clock. The dance hall was nicely decorated with strips of colorful paper and balloons.

"When the dates started to dance, the Sisters would walk around to make sure that everyone was dancing a proper distance between each other.

"For refreshment, there were doughnuts and apple cider. At the end, you would walk your date up to where she departed, and be on your way."

## ODE TO A STUDY HALL CLOCK

—by Duke Ellis

Minutes going  
 slow, Each second  
 slower than the

next. The machine  
 of time is  
 stopping, placing

endless intervals  
 between infinite  
 spacings, The

dial, grains, the  
 face, measure by  
 standardized

markings. Yet eyes  
 give to the  
 human workings

a stretched or  
 slowed, start or  
 stop elasticity.

The minute is  
 pulled taut  
 to its longest

dimensions, the  
 second is more  
 time than the

temples of Ur  
 have aged And  
 I feel the

straining of  
 clock stopped  
 impulses.

## SNATCH A HISTORICAL BATCH

The dual naming of the combined headmaster's house and administration building has long puzzled some. In all the official school literature it is referred to as "McFadden Hall." But on campus it is always referred to as Boscobel. Setting straight this confusion became an interesting task.

The building was constructed in the 1860's under the personal supervision of Henry Ward Beecher. It was to be his summer home. Living now in his house, I was interested when I heard a radio biography of his life. One gets a strange sensation hearing a dead person's life presented to him by a sophisticated variable condenser, while sitting in a room where the man himself once sat. Henry Ward Beecher was a minister born into a long line of preachers. His sister was H. Beecher Stowe. His parish for most of his life was centered at Plymouth Church in Brooklyn. He was a great priest and preacher in his church. He was gifted with an eloquent oratorical style. His sermons were delivered in such a stirring manner that it was often said he was meant to be an actor, not a clergyman. He loved his parish. And his parishioners loved him. But this is not to say he was without enemies: enemies who tried to have him dismissed from his parish because they felt he was paid an exorbitant salary. To this Beecher replied before a weeping congregation that he cared not what he was paid as long as he could serve the people of his church. He traveled to England just at the outbreak of the Civil War. His speeches and sermons there were largely responsible for turning British sentiment to the cause of the Union. He had a strong influence on American society of that period and

is a fairly important figure in American religion.

But getting back to his summer home (the one in which he was rumored to have several scandalous affairs), he called it Boscobel which is Italian for "beautiful woods." It was erected, he said, "to express himself in an idealized American Home." In his biography the house was described by a contemporary thusly: "While there are assuredly costlier houses imperiously and loudly demanding admiration, it is doubtful if there was ever one which by exquisite harmony of proportion and treatment more modestly invited it."

In 1929 the house was purchased by the McFaddens. It was stripped of some gabels, gingerbread, and other 19th century clutter. Its brick outer structure was refaced with stone. It lost his quaint country look, and gained a quite stately appearance, which it still retains today. It was the McFaddens' personal residence for some time. St. Peter's at that time was located on both sides of Main St. But when its land on the south side of Main St. was purchased for the building of the Beach Shopping Center, the school needed more property for expansion. So we bought the McFadden property which was adjacent to the previously purchased Canfield property, where School House and Main House are located. Since their property included their house, we acquired Boscobel. Fr. Leeming renamed and dedicated it McFadden Hall. But the building with its beautiful grounds and regal appearance fits the name Boscobel, and no one has ever stopped calling it that. So if you want to cling to a technicality, it is now correctly called McFadden Hall; but it will take a little while before people understand what you are talking about.

